

# St Valentine's Day



Sadly, the sending of heart-strewn cards has no connection with the 3rd century saint martyred by the Romans, whose name was given to the custom by historic accident. The 14th century poet, **Geoffrey Chaucer**, wrote that birds chose their mates on **St Valentine's Day**. Subsequent poets enlarged on the romantic theme by linking the day with love and courtship. By the 17th century, the romantic verses had become hand-decorated cards and it was part of the fun to deliver these tokens anonymously to the object of your desire