

Connoisseur Catalogue

Online Edition ©2008

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Acknowledgments

The publishers are most grateful to Douglas G. A. Myall (2 Elizabeth Avenue, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 5BA) for his help and continued agreement of the use of his Deegam system copyright material for: (a) the Machin Head Type designations; (b) cross-references to his Type numbers in descriptions of value settings; (c) the S series for coding of short phosphor bands, the I series for inset bands and the N series for notched bands; and (d) the universal coding system for sheet and cylinder block perforation types.

We also acknowledge the use, with permission, of copyright material of the Modern British Philatelic Circle (Membership Secretary – A.J. Wilkins, 3 Buttermere Close, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 3SD) covering: (a) the DB system for numbering decimal stamp booklets with the exception of ‘window’ stamp booklets; (b) the DP & SP numbering systems for all decimal booklet panes; (c) the perforation coding system for decimal booklet panes; and (d) the Type numbering system for ‘window’ stamp booklets.

SECTION 4

Decimal Stamps (non-Harrison)

Enschedé



In 1979 Enschedé was contracted by Royal Mail to print the then second class rate value following difficulties at Royal Mail's main printer, Harrison & Sons. However, in 1991, their status as official back-up printer for definitives was confirmed with a five year contract. The first fruit of this was the 18p value listed below.

Enschedé 8p printings are from sheets, printed on Harrison FCP/DEX paper. All issues from 1991 onwards including the 18p and those with security features as detailed in Chapter 4A are printed on Coated Papers Paper OFNP/PVA stock. The gum on the 18p has a greenish blue additive, similar to that used in Harrison dextrin gum, but should not be confused. It is computer-engraved by a Klischograph machine. The result of this is a much finer image, due to a combination of traditional photogravure methods where the depths of the rectangular cells which build up the image, vary to give darker and lighter tones, and of a new style, where the cells themselves become larger or smaller. This may lead to some confusion with the lithography which also uses the latter process to create tints and tones into its printing.

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Phos Bands</i>	<i>Phos Type</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	
(a) Enschedé printings. Photo. FCP/DEX (8p) or OFNP/DEX (18p), perf 15 x 14.							
E80	8p	Red	CB	Old	12.12.79	cyl 1	0.35
		E80NP		Missing phosphor		cyl 1	225.00
E180	18p	Bright green	CB	A(C)	19.11.91	cyl 1	0.60

Questa

Questa had been bought by Waddingtons in 1984 but from 1986 it became the sole printer for both. Until 1988 Questa printings were single-colour litho and only from sheets. With the 2p and 75p issued on 23 February, however, two-colour printing was adopted, one plate for the head and one for the background. The redrawn numerals (of Section 3) were also introduced for these values. Though in line with the Post Office's modernisation of definitives, the project was short-lived; in July 1988 production reverted to Harrison's photogravure.

The first booklet of lithographed stamps was produced by Questa, the *Financial Times* prestige booklet issued on 9 February 1988. The se-tenant pane gave four entirely new Questa values. Since then every prestige booklet, with the exception of London Life in 1990, has had its definitive and regional panes printed by Questa. The Machin Head is somewhat smaller in size than the corresponding Harrison (photogravure) printings; all the numerals are the redrawn types already in use by Harrison. The phosphor bands are reported as typographed, so have no screen. Questa plate numbers are given in Section 14.

CC	Value	Phos Bands	Tbl	Paper/ Gum	Perf	Source	Issued	Price
(b) Questa printings. Litho. Perfs as shown. O (original) or R (redrawn) value tablets.								
Q20	2p	Green	O	PCP/DEX	13½ x 14	sheets	21.5.80	0.30
Q21	2p	Green	O	PCP/DEX	15 x 14	sheets	10.7.84	0.50
Q22	2p	Green	O	ACPB/DEX	15 x 14	sheets	25.2.86	0.30
Q23	2p	Deep yellow-green	R	ACPB/DEX (HLS)	15 x 14	sheets	23.2.88	0.50
Q40	4p	Peacock blue Q40DI	R	ACPB/DEX Double impression	15 x 14	sheets pl.—	13.5.86	0.50 £1000
Q50	5p	Pale lilac	O	PCP/DEX	13½ x 14	sheets	21.5.80	0.30
Q51	5p	Pale lilac Q51IM	O	PCP(FBO)/PVA	13½ x 14	sheets pl. Q5, Q6	10.81	0.50 500.00
Q52	5p	Claret	O	PCP/DEX	13½ x 14	sheets	27.1.82	0.40
Q53	5p	Claret	O	PCP/DEX	15 x 14	sheets	21.2.84	0.50
Q54	5p	Claret	O	ACPB/DEX	15 x 14	sheets	25.2.86	0.40
Q130	13p	Chestnut	CB R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	FT pane DP106	9.2.88	0.70
Q131	13p	Chestnut	SBL R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	FT pane DP107	9.2.88	1.00
Q132	13p	Chestnut	SBR R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	FT pane DP107	9.2.88	1.00
Q140	14p	Deep blue	CBr R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	£1.40 Window pane DP118	11.10.88	1.75
		Q140BD		Bar displaced down (S1)		pane DP118		7.50
		Q140BU		Bar displaced up (S2)		pane DP118		7.50

CC	Value	Phos Bands	Tbl	Paper/ Gum	Perf	Source	Issued	Price	
Q170	17p	Deep blue	CB	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	Christie panes DP167, 170	19.3.91	0.70
		Q170NP			Missing phosphor		panes DP167, 170		225.00
Q180	18p	Grey-green		R	ACPB/DEX	15 x 14	FT panes DP105, 108	9.2.88	0.80
Q181	18p	Grey-green	2B	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	FT pane DP107	9.2.88	3.75
		Q181DI			Double impression *		pane DP107		£3000
		Q181EC			Error of colour blackish olive **		pane DP107		95.00
Q182	18p	Bright green	CB	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	Tolkien pane DP185	27.10.92	1.20
Q183	18p	Bright green	SBR	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	Tolkien pane DP186	27.10.92	1.50
		Q183AB			Short additional band at upper-left		pane DP186		10.00
Q190	19p	Orange-red		R	ACPB/DEX(HLS)	15 x 14	£1.90 Window pane DP119	11.10.88	1.50
Q200	20p	Dull purple		R	ACPB/DEX	15 x 14	sheets	13.5.86	1.00
		Q200DI			Double impression†		pl. –		£1000
Q220	22p	Yellow-green	2B	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	FT pane DP107	9.2.88	5.00
Q221	22p	Orange-red		R	ACPD/PVA(CPP)		15 x 14 Christie panes DP168, 169	19.3.91	1.00
Q240	24p	Red-brown		R	ACPD/PVA(CPP)		15 x 14 Tolkein panes DP184, 187	27.10.92	1.00
Q241	24p	Red-brown	2B	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	Tolkien pane DP186	27.10.92	1.20
			2B (S10)				pane DP 186	27.10.92	10.00
Q330	33p	Light emerald		R	ACPD/PVA(CPP)		15 x 14 Christie pane DP169	19.3.91	2.00
Q331	33p	Light emerald	2B	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	Wales pane DP181	25.2.92	1.25
		Q331NP			Missing phosphor		pane DP181		500.00
Q340	34p	Olive-sepia	2B	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	FT pane DP107	9.2.88	4.40
Q390	39p	Bright mauve	2B	R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	Tolkien pane DP186	27.10.92	1.25
			2B (S16)				pane DP186	27.10.92	10.00
Q750	75p	Black		O	FCP/DEX	13½ x 14	sheets	30.1.80	3.00
		Q750IM			Imperf betw stamp & RH margin (hor. pair)		pl.Q8, Q10		375.00
Q751	75p	Black		O	FCP/PVA	15 x 14	sheets	28.2.84	3.00
					Low OBA (Inveresk Paper Co.)				
Q752	75p	Black		O	FCP/DEX	15 x 14	sheets	??2.85	3.75
Q753	75p	Black		O	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	sheets	7.10.86	3.00
Q754	75p	Black		R	FCP/PVA(CPP)	15 x 14	sheets	23.2.88	8.00

* Make-ready sheet with single impression used in error during production run, one pane known.

** Darker shade from increased ink viscosity.

† Two horiz rows at centre of sheet; ghost image picked up after machine restarted.

Waddington

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>Paper/Gum</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Price</i>	
(c) Waddington printings. Litho. Perf 13½ x 14. From sheets.						
WD40	4p	Peacock blue	2B	FCP/PVA	30.1.80	0.25
			2B (S16) (pl 1A1B ph1)		30.1.80	125.00
		WD40IM Imperf betw stamp & RH margin (pl. 4A3B ph4) (hor pair)				£1500
		WD40NP Missing phosphor (pl. 3A3B)				£1250
WD41	4p	Peacock blue		PCP/DEX	11.81	0.30
WD42	4p	Peacock blue		ACP/DEX	2.86	7.50
WD200	20p	Deep purple & purple	2B	FCP/PVA	21.5.80	0.90
		WD200EC Error of colour: purple & purple (pl. 1A1B)*				475.00
WD200A	20p	Deep purple & pale purple, pale Queen's head (pl. 1A1B & 2A2B)	2B	FCP/PVA	5.80	3.75
WD201	20p	Deep purple & purple		PCP/DEX	11.81	1.00
WD202	20p	Deep sepia & purple		PCP/DEX	10.85	2.00
WD203	20p	Deep sepia & purple		ACP/DEX	2.86	5.00

* Normally, plate 1B supplied the deep purple to shade the Royal portrait. In error, 1B was printed in the same (purple) colour as 1A, making the stamp monocoloured instead of bicoloured.

Walsall

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos Paper/Gum</i>	<i>Perf</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>	
(d) Walsall printings. Litho. From booklets. Coated Papers Paper [PVA] or Harrison Paper [DEX].								
WL20SEL	2p	Deep green, s/e left	ACPB/DEX	14	9.2.93	£1 pane DP190	0.75	
WL20SER	2p	Deep green s/e right	ACPB/DEX	14	9.2.93	£1 pane DP190	0.75	
WL140SEL	14p	Deep blue, s/e left	SBR	FCP/PVA	14	25.4.89	£1 pane DP125	1.25
		WL140SEL/2B	SBR (S7)				pane DP125	7.50
		WL140SEL/DPI	Additional narrow band at left				pane DP125	40.00
		WL140SEL/NP	Double phosphor impression				pane DP125	125.00
			Missing phosphor				pane DP125	250.00
WL190SEL	19p	Orange, s/e left	2B (S10)	FCP/PVA	14	25.4.89	£1 pane DP125	2.00
			2B (S22)				pane DP125	8.00
		WL190SEL/DPI	Double phosphor impression				pane DP125	250.00
		WL190SEL/NP	Missing phosphor				pane DP125	400.00
WL190SER	19p	Orange, s/e right	2B	FCP/PVA	14	25.4.89	£1 pane DP125	1.25
			2B (S16)				pane DP125	7.50
			2B (S17)				pane DP125	8.00
			2B (I2)				pane DP125	10.00
			2B (N2)				pane DP125	20.00
		WL190SER/DPI	Double phosphor impression				pane DP125	85.00
		WL190SER/NP	Missing phosphor				pane DP125	200.00

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos Paper/Gum Perf</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
WL240SEL 24p	Red-brown, s/e left		ACPB/DEX 14	9.2.93	£1 pane DP190	0.75
WL240SER 24p	Red-brown, s/e right		ACPB/DEX 14	9.2.93	£1 pane DP190	0.75
WL290SET 29p	Purple, s/e top	2B	FCP/PVA 14	2.10.89	£1.16 Window pane DP134	2.75
WL290SEB 29p	Purple, s/e bottom	2B	FCP/PVA 14	2.10.89	£1.16 Window pane DP134	2.75
WL290SRT 29p	Purple, s/e right & top	2B	FCP/PVA 14	2.10.89	£1.16 Window pane DP134	2.75
WL290SRB 29p	Purple, s/e right & bottom	2B	FCP/PVA 14	2.10.89	£1.16 Window pane DP134	2.75
WL291SET 29p	Purple, s/e top		ACPB/PVA 14	17.4.90*	£1.16 Window pane DP144	3.25
WL291SEB 29p	Purple, s/e bottom		ACPB/PVA 14	17.4.90*	£1.16 Window pane DP144	3.25
WL291SRT 29p	Purple, s/e right & top		ACPB/PVA 14	17.4.90*	£1.16 Window pane DP144	3.25
WL291SRB 29p	Purple, s/e right & bottom		ACPB/PVA 14	17.4.90*	£1.16 Window pane DP144	3.25
WL310SET 31p	Ultramarine, s/e top		ACPB/PVA 14	17.9.90	£1.24 Window pane DP164	1.40
WL310SEB 31p	Ultramarine, s/e bottom		ACPB/PVA 14	17.9.90	£1.24 Window pane DP164	1.40
WL311SET 31p	Ultramarine, s/e top		ACPD/PVA 14	17.9.90	£1.24 Window pane DP164A	1.75
WL311SEB 31p	Ultramarine, s/e bottom		ACPD/PVA 14	17.9.90	£1.24 Window pane DP164A	1.75
WL330SET 33p	Light emerald, s/e top		ACPD/PVA 14	16.9.91	£1.32 Window pane DP175	1.20
WL330SEB 33p	Light emerald, s/e bottom		ACPD/PVA 14	16.9.91	£1.32 Window pane DP175	1.20
WL331SET 33p	Light emerald, s/e top		ACPB/DEX 14	8.9.92	£1.32 Window pane DP175A	1.40
WL331SEB 33p	Light emerald, s/e bottom		ACPB/DEX 14	8.9.92	£1.32 Window pane DP175A	1.40
WL332SET 33p	Light emerald, s/e top		ACPD/DEX 14	28.9.93	£1.32 Window pane DP175B	2.00
WL332SEB 33p	Light emerald, s/e bottom		ACPD/DEX 14	28.9.93	£1.32 Window pane DP175B	2.00

* Pre-released 28.2.90

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos</i> <i>Paper/Gum</i>	<i>Perf</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
WL390SET	39p	Bright mauve, s/e top	ACPD/PVA	14	16.9.91	£1.56 Window pane DP176	1.50
					28.7.92	78p Window pane DP183	
WL390SEB	39p	Bright mauve, s/e bottom	ACPD/PVA	14	16.9.91	£1.56 Window pane DP176	1.50
					28.7.92	78p Window pane DP183	

Postal Forgery

24p



In May/June 1993, copies of a forgery of the 24p brown Machin, then the first class value, started to appear on commercial mail. These forgeries were clearly designed to defraud the Royal mail of revenue and apparently became available through very small retail outlets, such as newsagents, corner shops, etc. The change in Royal Mail policy of allowing almost any type of retailer to offer postage stamps enabled the forgers the opportunity to offer their “stamps” at a greater discount than was obtainable through the Royal Mail retail units, and unsurprisingly, and unknowing of their status, shopkeepers took the opportunity to make a little more profit than usual.

The forgeries were produced by offset litho and the image is convincing enough to pass as the genuine item to the unsuspecting. The perforations, though, are very rough, approximating a line perf. gauge of 11. This is an obvious sign to the most rudimentary of stamp collectors that these were not officially produced. They were printed in sheets of 200, without any sheet markings, and top and bottom margins are very much wider than normal. The gum on the back is very shiny, possibly GA or a derivative. Two types of paper have been seen, one a low OBA type with a glossy surface, the other a brightly fluorescent paper with a duller surface.

There are reports of further types, which are considered philatelically produced forgeries of the original postal type and are very much more crude in appearance. To aid identification of the original postal forgeries some copies have been handstamped “FAUX POSTALE” in a black box on the reverse. Despite the wide philatelic interest in this item, it must be stressed that it is strictly illegal to use these forgeries to prepay postage.

Soon after their discovery mint copies were circulating amongst collectors with a retail price of £20.00, and philatelically produced covers bearing one genuine 24p and one forgery were selling for £40.00. These covers are usually cancelled by a 1994 slogan postmark and bear no address, having had an address label removed by the producer (presumably to avoid incrimination). Examples used on genuine commercial covers, prior to the 1st November 1993 rate rise, are rare and fetch prices from £100 upwards.

For NVI 1st and 2nd Machin postal forgeries see end of chapter 5A.