

Dummy Stamps

Issue 24

A Newsletter Covering British Stamp Printers' Dummy Stamp Material

Quarter 1, 2012

Further Bruckmann Sheet Surfaces

Margins trimmed at some point by a philatelic vandal!



A further sheet of the watermarked Bruckmann of Munich KEVII One Penny Blue trial has recently surfaced on eBay. The vendor claims that it is additional to the Rushstamps haul and was bought directly from the original German archive discovery made back in 2005. It was re-offered in November 2011 for a "Buy it Now" price of £3,459.95.

The vendor justifies his price by stating: "*The rest of the archive was bought by RUSHSTAMPS and they have sold out of the original key watermarked gum trials. Almost all of the sheets were broken up and sold as individual stamps, which sold upwards of £295.00 per stamp. Therefore the retail value of this sheet in 2009 would have been £7,375.00. Therefore an extraordinary investment holding!!!*"

Readers of *DS* can decide if they agree with the comments, but it was unsold as of 18 December. ☒

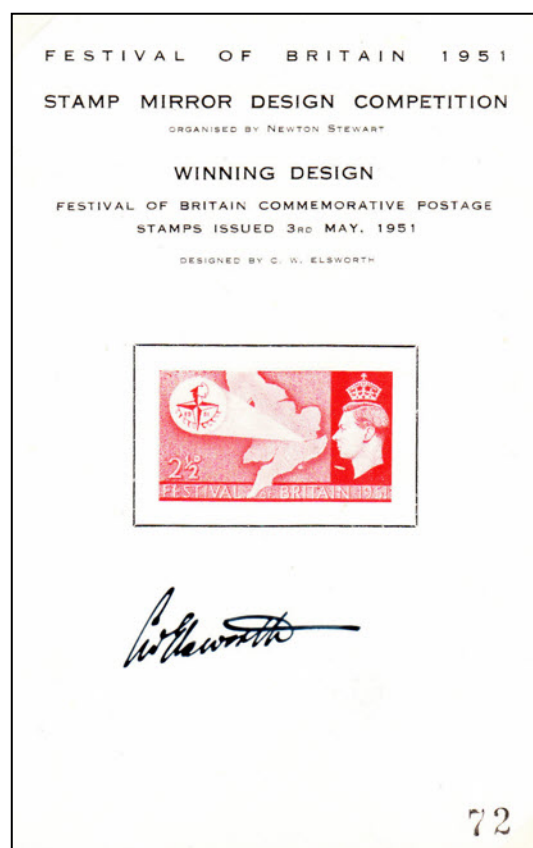
Waterlow Rotaglio Dummy Design

A further colour recorded by DS reader



Festival of Britain Design

Not strictly dummy, but interesting. Any info, please?



Cartor at Bangkok 2010

Dummy stamp created on a silk substrate



The postcard face used as a maxi-card.



The handstamp used. (Substantially enlarged.)



Reverse of postcard, with silk dummy stamp at bottom of card. The other dummy stamp at top left is pre-printed on the postcard and has mock perforations.



Unknown in any format other than pre-affixed to the postcard. Mint copies appear not to exist. (Substantially enlarged to help reveal the silk fibres.)

The Stamping Department and the Late Harry Dagnall

'Experimental - No Duty' Dummy Stamps



As a tribute to the recently deceased Harry Dagnall FRPSL, I illustrate a label design that he had made me aware of. He wrote: "The head is that of Britannia, as in the embossed revenue stamps, but the dolphins would suggest that the design might have come from the Royal Mint." Any more information, please? ☒

De La Rue 'Advertising Stamps' - Sheet Sizes Revealed in Archives

Royal PS digitises archive slides for members to access

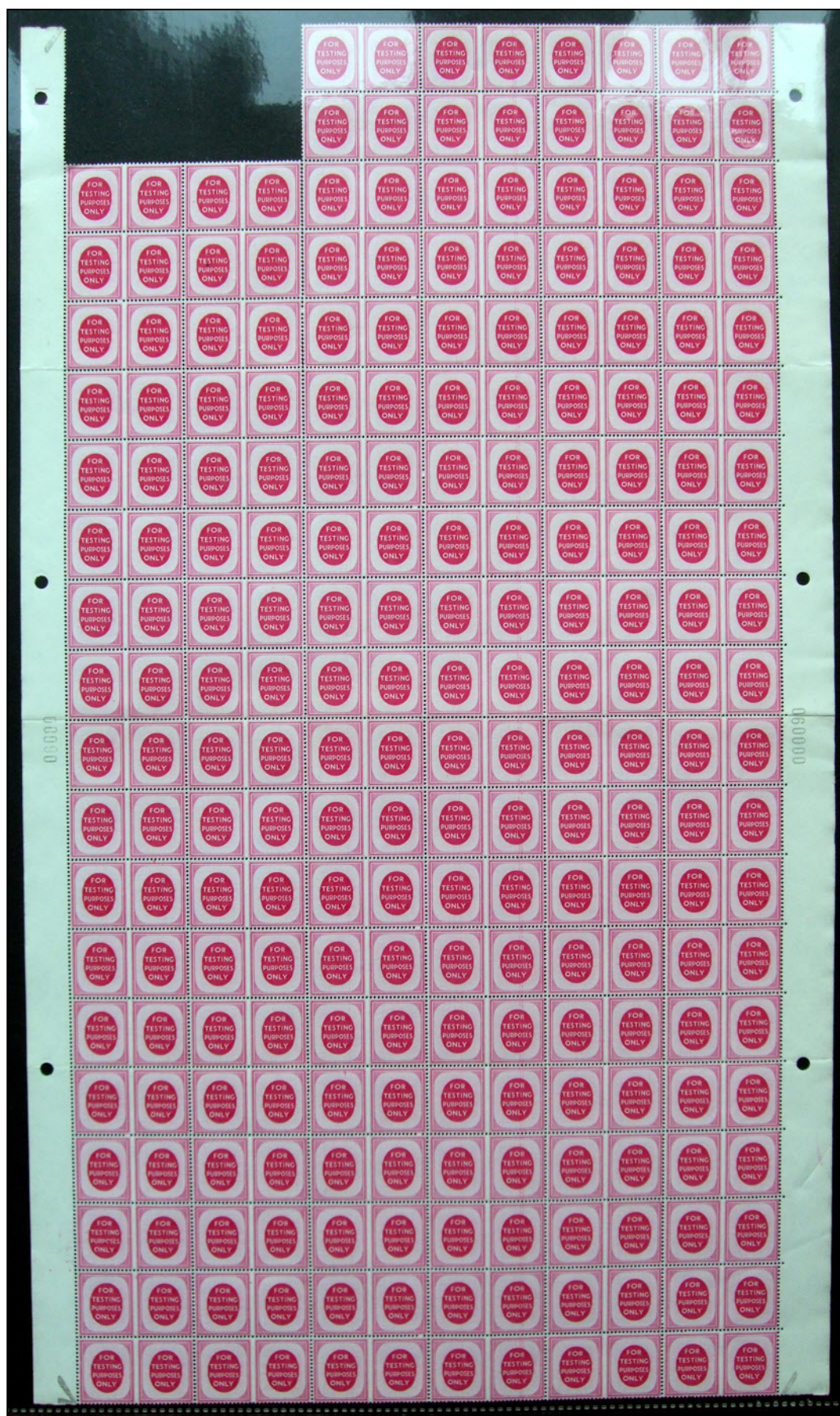


The above items are shown in full sheets within the De La Rue Archive of digitised images held at the Royal Philatelic Society (page ref: V17-0654_DeLaRue). The left dummy stamp is printed by lithography, while the right is in photogravure, both in sheets of 25 (5 x 5). ☒

*Sorry for poor image quality.

Pink "For Testing Purposes Only" Sheet Surfaces

Previously unrecorded in anything larger than a block of six that had been used to simulate a booklet pane



It had been hoped that a quality scan of the sheet alongside could be made before this issue of *DS* was issued, but other commitments have prevented this. However, I wanted to share it with you as soon as possible for it is a fascinating item.

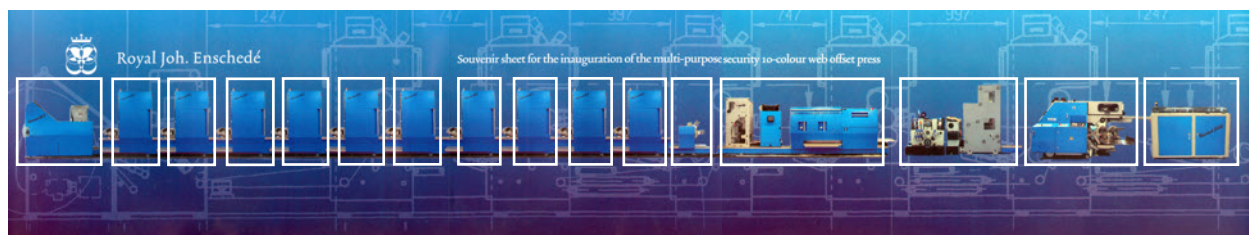
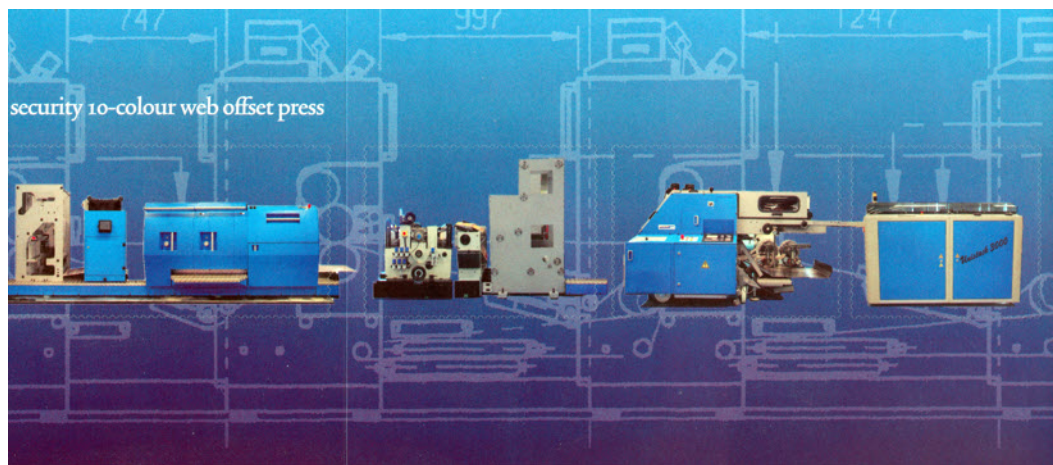
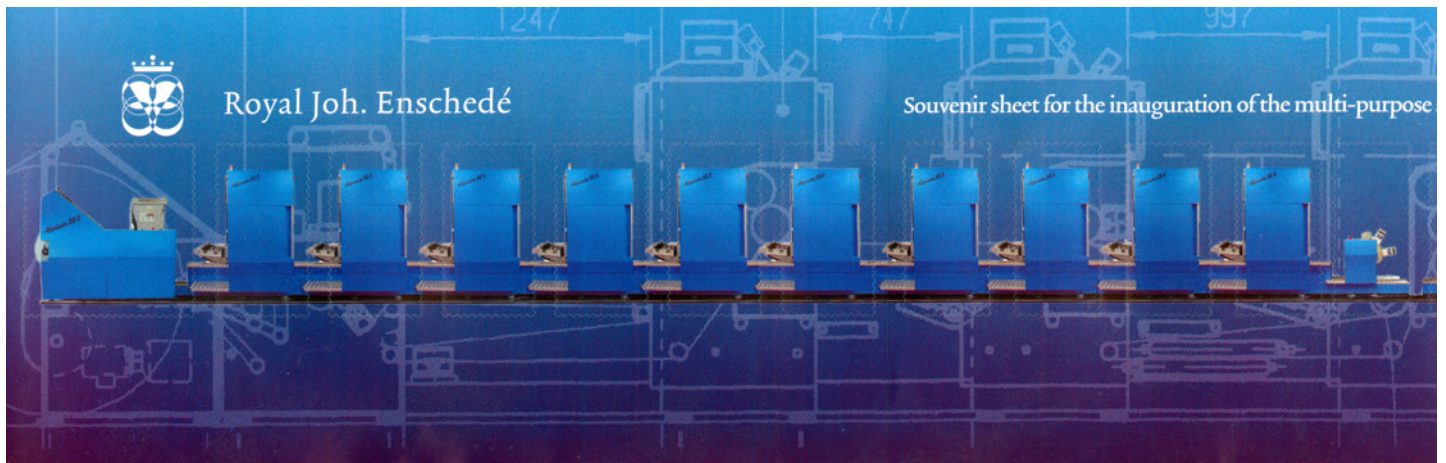
The story was told in your compiler's coil paper entitled "*1962 QEII Multiple Crown Double-sized Pink FT-PO Labels*" (go to [www.stampprinters.info/1962-64 Red Testing Label.pdf](http://www.stampprinters.info/1962-64%20Red%20Testing%20Label.pdf) to read about it). That paper will be updated to reflect this find when time permits and will also incorporate the improved scan.

The BPMA records indicate that the GPO was willing to accept sheets of 240 (or rather 120 double-sized) dummy stamps without top and margin margins and this clearly happened, as the black overprinted arrows show where the sheets were to be torn from the web-printed roll, i.e not cut.

It is a shame that the sheet has four stamps removed, but at least the margin has been retained. Anyone seen large multiples of the grey version? ☒

Enschedé Press Launch Revisited

A quality scan reveals 16 die-cut labels



A Dutch friend very kindly sent a high-resolution scan of the Enschedé souvenir sheet depicted in DS23. It is an extremely long sheet, as befits the real printing press, and therefore it could not be scanned in one piece.

The lower image has been electronically "stitched" together and depicts the sheet in its entirety. Your compiler has then overlaid a series of white rectangular frame lines over the areas where die-cut perforations appear. There a total of sixteen labels

created of varying widths, but all of the labels are of a constant height.

It will be noted that the text reads: "**Royal Joh. Enschedé / Souvenir sheet for the inauguration of the multi-purpose security 10-colour web offset press**".

There is an overall background image consisting of a schematic line drawing of the printing press and it clearly made a fine souvenir of the launch. ☐

Similar Engraved Image to the Bradbury, Wilkinson Farringdon Road Factory Dummy Stamp Found

Can any reader identify the engraver of the image below?



The day after DS23 was circulated your compiler came across his copy of an undated, but possibly 1970's, booklet by Bradbury, Wilkinson that gave a detailed profile of the company.

While reacquainting himself with the content one image jumped off the page, as it appeared at first glance to be the engraving that had been used for the Farringdon Road factory dummy stamp.

When putting the engraving and the dummy stamp together it quickly became apparent that there were actually several differences. For example, the dummy stamp has more people, a dog, a different car and horse and carts, while the adjacent buildings are a different height, etc.

The engraver is not credited, but it is probably reasonable to assume that it is the same person who engraved both of these similar images. ☒



More on the Samuel Jones Range of Papers

Poster stamps were so popular at one time that they even formed a collectors club



Forceful Concentrated Economical Publicity

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A heavy duty Sealing Machine 3/4" AUTO-CUT TAPESHOOTER For use with BALESTRIP

spread up your despatches with The LABELLER For dampening GUMMED LABELS

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Sell the POSTER STAMP IDEA to your Clients and always remember to use BUTTERFLY BRAND NONCURLING GUMMED PAPER

Made by **SAMUEL JONES & COMPANY LIMITED**
NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.4. GRAMS: NONCURLING 'LUD' LONDON. TEL: CENTRAL 6500

At the height of their popularity, Samuel Jones & Co set-up a collectors club for those interested in poster stamps. At right is a 1950's advertisement from the Penrose Annual depicting six dummy stamps promoting products, while at left is what appears to be a page from an album designed to house SJ poster stamps. ☒

Tullis Russell Fundraising at The Stamp Show 2000

£1,000 raised at TSS2000, as contemporary press release reveals, plus it adds new details about the press used



"07.07.2000 Promotional stamp sheetlet raises money for the NSPCC

Tullis Russell Coatings Ltd raised one thousand pounds for the NSPCC at the recent international Stamp Show 2000. The money was raised through donations made from the printing of promotional stamps at the show in London. On the stand was an antique, hand intaglio press from 1857, owned by specialist intaglio printers Bacon & Bacon, which was used to print over a hologram on a stamp paper sheetlet.

Tullis Russell Coatings is a world leader in the production of papers for postage stamps and supplies over 120 countries worldwide, including the UK. The company was delighted to be able to put its promotional material to use for a good cause and thanks all those who contributed." ☒

Waterlow Brothers and Layton - Forgeries Revisited

New information surfaces

WATERLOW. BROS. & LAYTON M.P. $\frac{102}{10}$

1818 G. or B Stamp. (GERMAN) also Austrian

Dimension Taken across sheet (longway)

$\frac{22}{5}$
18

1 Stamp of 18 perforations = $.98" \times 100 = \frac{98}{1800}$

$\frac{98}{1800} \times \frac{4}{1} = \frac{392}{1800} = \frac{49}{225} = \text{whels} = \frac{42 \text{ into } 90}{35 \text{ into } 75}$

Dimension Taken way sheet Travels (Shortway)

1 Stamp of 15 perforations = $.84" \times 100 = \frac{84}{1500}$

$\frac{84}{1500} \times \frac{4}{1} = \frac{336}{1500} = \frac{168}{750} = \text{whels in front.} = \frac{28 \text{ into } 50}{40 \text{ into } 100}$

$.035" \text{ pins.} \times 20\% = 10 \text{ Pins in all}$

P.S. Waterlow. B. & L. could not wait while
M.P. was made so used M.P. $\frac{102}{2}$. EDWARD VII,
worked from dowl pin holes & centre stamp
& put extra hole each way in each stamp

perforations
 16×18

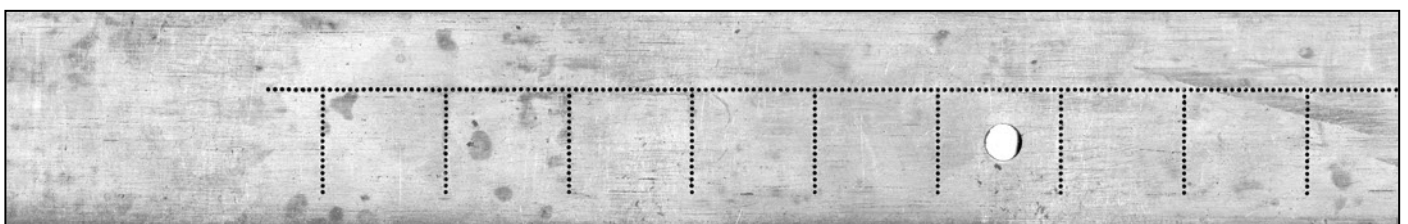
As soon as DS23 appeared, a regular reader wrote concerning the wartime forgeries recorded in that issue.

He wrote: "I started reading and suddenly realised that some photocopies that Len (from Grover's) had given me years ago, now made sense. He said they were GB related but I assumed he had made a mistake as they seemed to be for German and Austrian stamps even though it is headed G and B!!

"Fortunately I still have the bits of paper (my flat is full of bits of paper which might come in useful one day!!) and attach scans which you might find of interest.

"The metal Master Plate is ten stamps across with nine extension holes at the left end and eight at the other."

This story goes to prove that nothing should ever be thrown away just because it does not make immediate sense, as it might do one day! ☒



Chambon Iranian Label Update

Translation of text allows identification to be made



In issue 19 of *Dummy Stamps*, your compiler had illustrated a label produced by Chambon's London premises at Hammersmith requesting a translation of the text at the foot of the label.

A friend and reader recently advised that he had examples of colour progressives for the labels and generously gave a set in blocks of four (*see next page*). This made me determined to get to the bottom of this particular dummy stamp. Contact with the UK specialist society for Iran proved fruitless and several other attempts also failed. Never one to give up, I finally tried an English-speaking collector in Teheran who had a website and invited correspondence. Within 24 hours I had the answers that had eluded me for so long!

I had previously written that the company of Chambon had been founded in France in 1877** and that an album of sample stamps from the UK offices had recently been found. Inside it stated "...90 years of experience...", indicating that it must have been produced in 1967. That said, some of the labels included were certainly printed well before that year and had probably simply remained in stock at the Hammersmith premises.

** It has since become clear that the year 1877 was incorrect, despite the reliable source used. The Komori-Chambon website indicates an establishment date of 1887, which makes more sense to this story, as the sample album would therefore have been produced in 1977, not 1967. Closer examination of the contents of the album also reveals that there is a sheet dated 1975 within.

The correction of the date helps to more accurately determine when the Iran label might have been produced, as my new contact is of the opinion that it would have been a 1970's creation and not as early as the 1960's, making it a better fit.

I am told that the single line of text on the label says 'Ayatollah Alamme Seyed Mohammad Hosein Tabatabae'. Ayatollah is his title and it is an Arabic

word meaning 'The sign of God'. It is the most important degree in Islamic education and reaching such a standard takes many years of education. 'Alamme' means 'scientist', while 'Seyed Mohammad Hosein' are his given names. (Coincidentally my contact's three given names are also the same.) 'Tabatabae' is the Ayatollah's family name, although strictly speaking his real family name was 'Ghazi Tabatabae', but on the label it appears just as 'Tabatabae' for brevity.

I am advised that he was not involved in politics, but was instead a great Islamic scientist and a major researcher and a master of teachers in the Islamic university and, like all Ayatollahs, was very popular with the Iranian people.

Ayatollah Tabatabae died in 1981 and the Post Office issued two stamps, one that year to mark his passing and another in 1986 for the 5th anniversary of his demise. Both stamps appear below at 50%.



The original Ayatollah label is in photogravure and would have been designed in England and printed on the newly constructed press manufactured for Chambon's client, presumably the state stamp printer in Iran, before being taken apart and shipped to Teheran.

I see on an Internet blog that a reel-fed Chambon photogravure press had been ordered by Iran in the 'early 70-ies / late 60-ies; a press very similar to the one used in the Note Printing Branch of Australia, or the Israeli State Printers (there aren't that many of these presses around)".

Upon receipt in Teheran the press would have been reassembled and trials made before putting it into use on the stamps of Iran. Based on other Chambon press installations, it is likely that the Ayatollah design printing plates (and sample progressive sheets?) would have been shipped with the press to facilitate and compare printing results.

So, to summarise, these labels were printed in London on a Chambon photogravure press and so fit perfectly into a collection of British dummy stamps, albeit with a strong overseas slant. ☒

Chambon Iranian Label Update

...(continued from previous page)

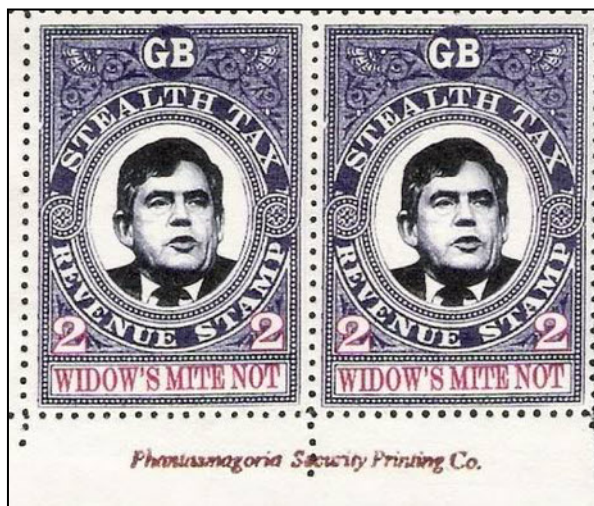


All scans above are at 70% of life-size.

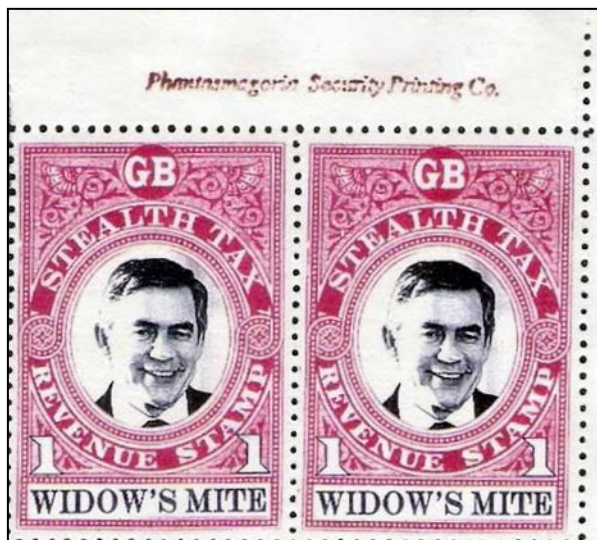
The Phantasmagoria Security Printing Company Labels

No comment!

Keeping politics out of *DS* and focusing solely on the philatelic aspects, the artist has a clear talent for creating artworks with a period feel to them. It is possible that they are the work of Gerald King, renowned for generating "spoof" type label designs, such as those for Snark Island and Wonderland.



Widow's Mite Not....



....or Widow's Mite

The Rt Hon. Dr James Gordon Brown MP
(title 1996–present day)

Philately need not be a totally serious hobby, as the creator of the above two labels clearly believes.

Ok, so the Phantasmagoria Security Printing Co does not exist and the labels are not really dummy stamps, but they are fun whoever you vote for. ☒

Care - Training CDS in circulation

Continued vigilance needed with eBay purchases

Two days after circulation of *DS23* with its warning about testing stamps bearing a Postman Higher Grade cancellation, the actual handstamp was on sale by a different vendor on eBay! So, at the risk of repeating myself, take care when buying testing material, especially via online auction sites. ☒



...and finally

Details of new finds from printers past and present are welcomed and so feel free to write via the Guest Book at stampprinters.info/guestbook.htm, where you can also subscribe (it's free) to *DS*.

Other commitments mean that a rigid publishing programme may be difficult, to achieve so be sure to visit stampprinters.info/dummystamps.htm every so often where PDF files of this and all future and previous issues of *Dummy Stamps* will be available for downloading and printing-off. ☒

