

Dummy Stamps



Issue 45

A Newsletter Covering British Stamp Printers' Dummy Stamp Material

Christmas, 2016

Christmas Bonus Edition

Lots of new information results in a fifth issue for 2016

The past quarter has seen a lot of activity in the British dummy stamps area of collecting, with new 'discoveries' being made almost daily, it feels.

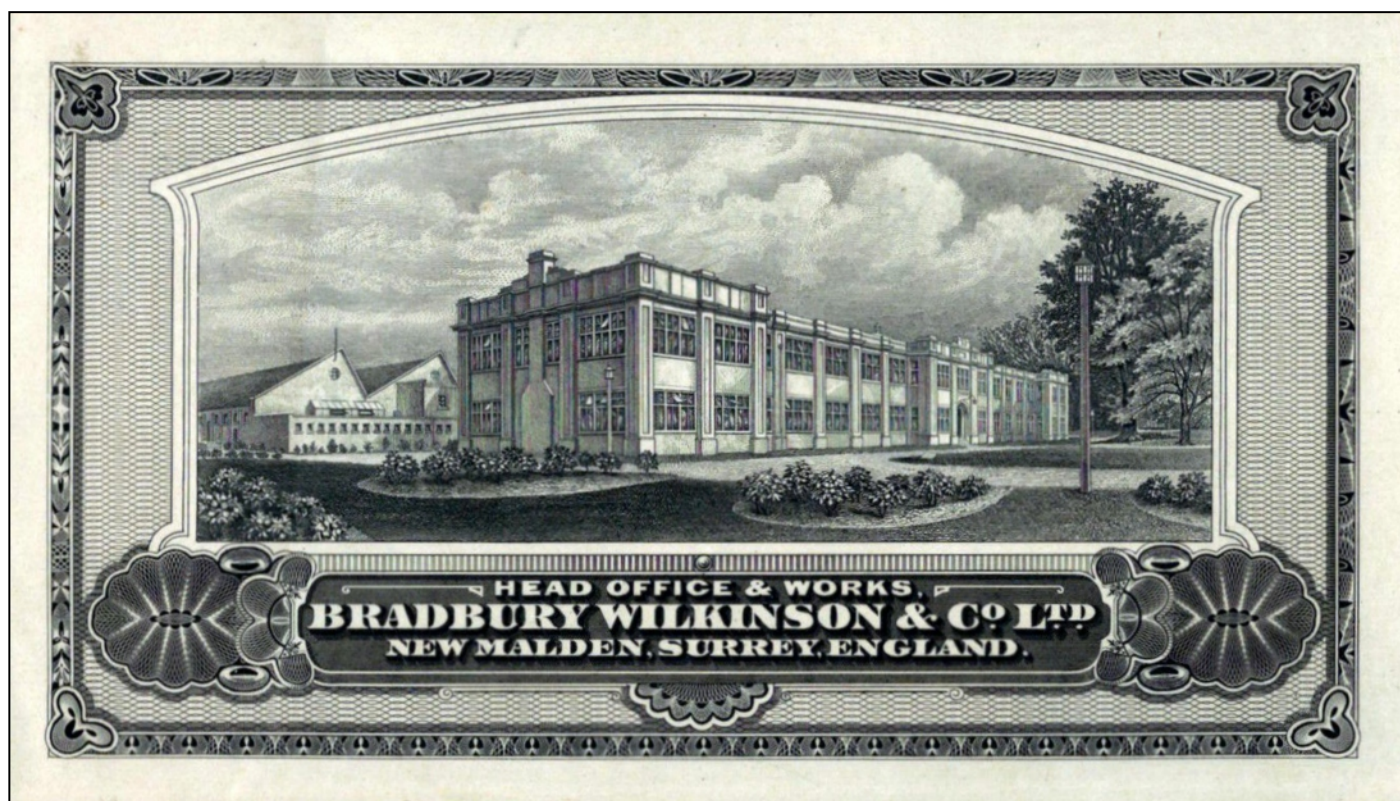
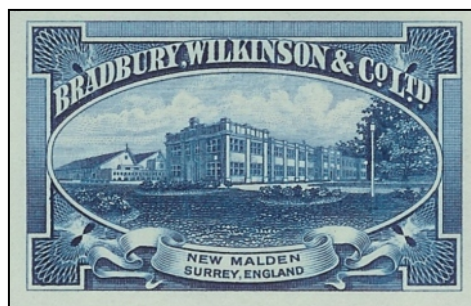
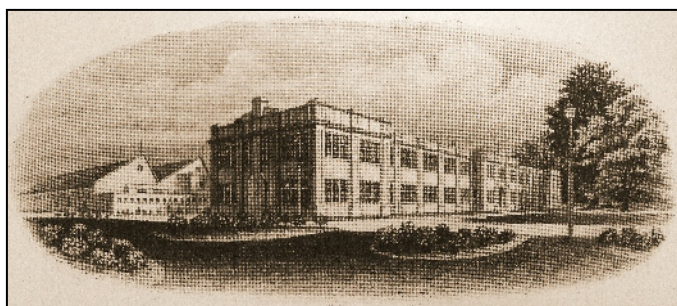
A decision was therefore made to produce an extra 'bonus' issue to clear the decks of material. ☒

Bradbury, Wilkinson Banknote

Dummy note matches dummy stamp vignette

A lovely BW banknote sold for £245 recently. The image used is that of the stamp design, i.e. the factory premises at New Malden.

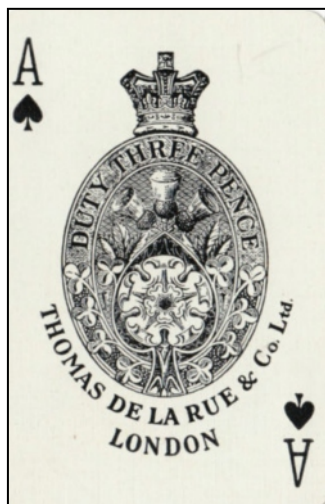
The 1927 source photograph used for the dummy stamp and banknote is shown at far left, below. ☒



Dummy Playing Cards?

Why not expand collecting interests

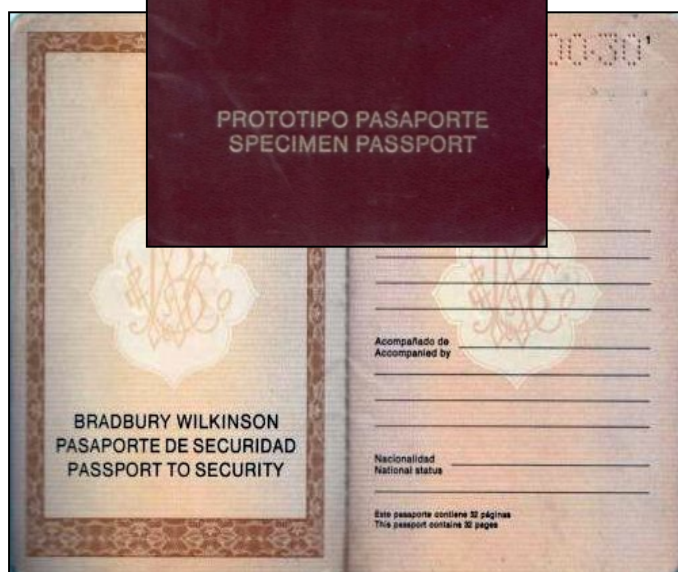
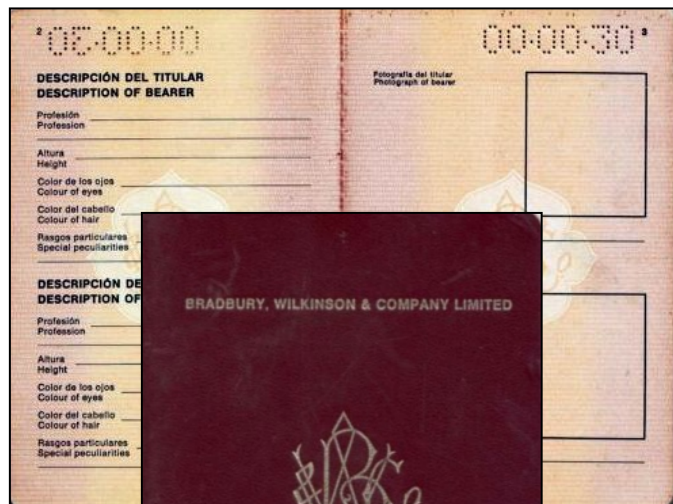
If dummy stamps and banknotes are not enough, why not consider playing cards, as well! Many types of De La Rue cards exist, plus, it is suspected, Waddington and probably one or two other security printers, too, certainly from abroad. ☒



How about Passports, then?

If playing cards don't appeal, then passports might

Bradbury, Wilkinson were producers of passports at one time in their history and produced at least one specimen version in maroon, vaguely reminiscent of a modern passport for those countries in the EU. It sold recently for a healthy £122. ☒



eBay 'creations' still surfacing

Nice item for sale, but sadly it's made-up by a collector


The five Post Office decimal training stamps below are genuine. They are also cancelled by a genuine 'SPECIMEN / DATESTAMP' marking, but it is when the two items are put together that they become questionable. The collector who was allowed(?) to acquire the handstamp (featured previously in *DS*) continues to create new items.

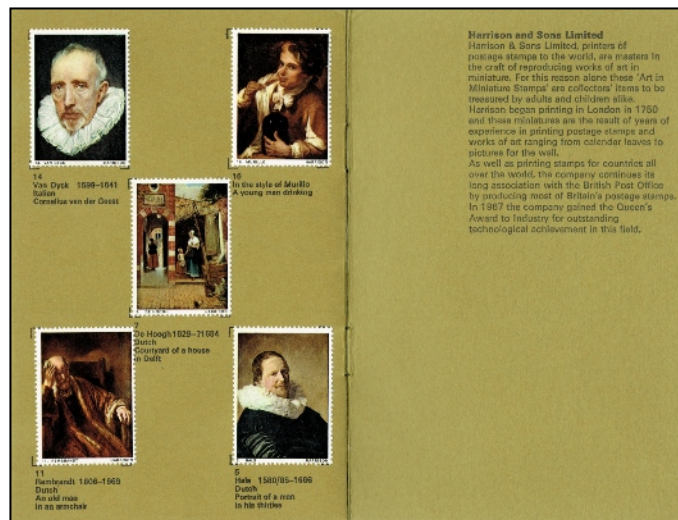
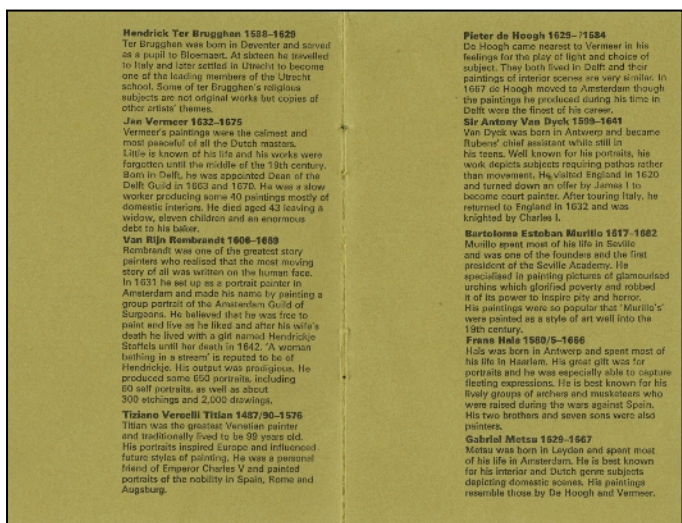
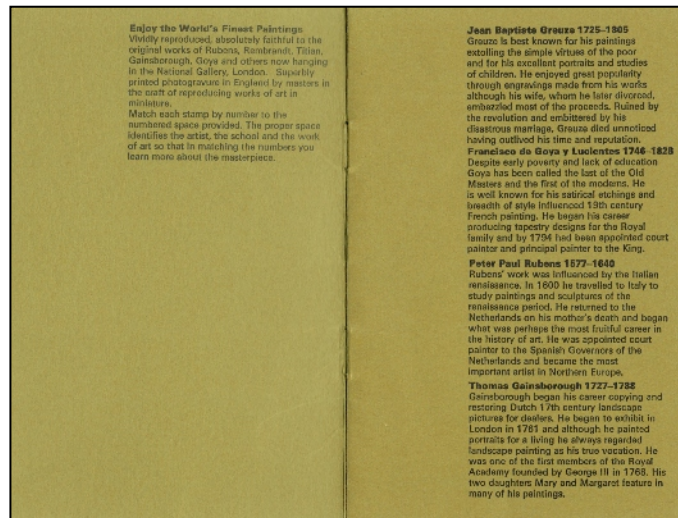
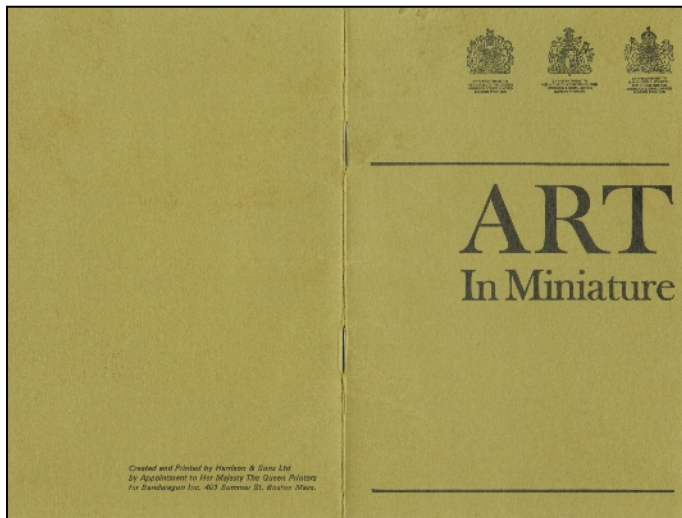
Its purchaser realised its status before buying but, understandably, liked it. He is quoted as wishing that such a cover genuinely existed. Indeed. ☒



ART in Miniature by Harrison

A new use found for the paintings dummy stamps


Created originally for a Dutch promotion, then for London 1980, the sheets of 25 paintings dummy stamps have been much admired down the years. A recent Cinderella Stamp Club auction had a previously unrecorded example of a sheet broken into singles and used within a promotional booklet for the American market. It measures 4" wide by 6" tall and was produced for Bandwagon Inc. 

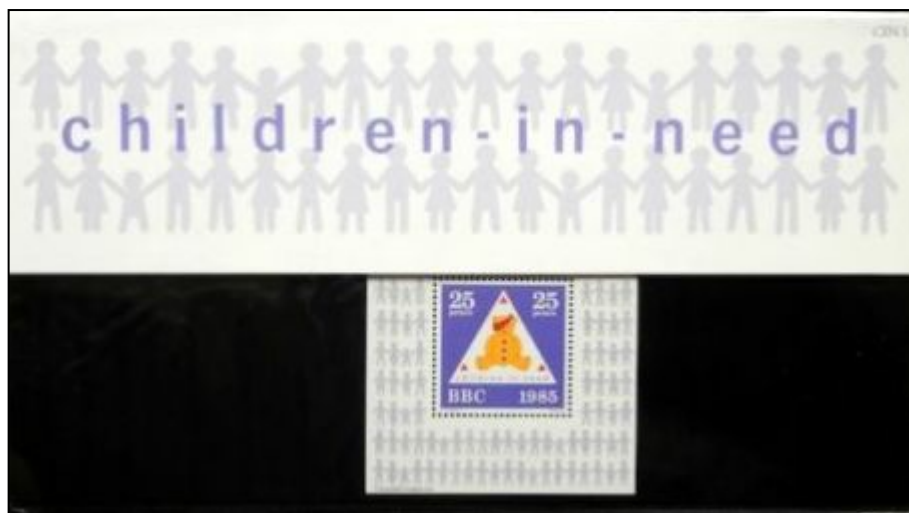


Children in Need Pack

High price recently attained


The attractive presentation pack created for the Children in Need campaign has recently sold for £50.

With the festive period around the corner, you may consider donating to this worthy cause by going to <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraisinghub> 



Photogravure 'Essay' sheet from Cartor discovered, but all is not what it seems....

A potentially confusing sheet appeared in 1991

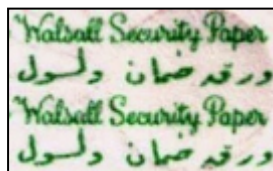
Cartor produced a sheet of labels promoting a rally cross event. The sheet includes the word 'Essay' (which is how your compiler first came across the item), but the word actually relates to a French town in Normandy of that name, and, anyway, the French language uses an 'i' not an 'e' when discussing philatelic essays. Additionally, the foot of the sheet states 'Photogravure', but this word appears to be linked to 'Europimages', presumably the provider of the rally imagery, as the sheet is clearly printed in offset, as Cartor did not have (indeed, still does not have) this printing process. All set to confuse the unwary! The promotional text and imagery in the top margin is all that shows this sheet emanated from the printworks of Cartor. Sold for €5. 



Walsall's 'Lithembos' follow-up

Mystery use discovered

A series of French and British medals were once produced by Walsall using its special security paper usually reserved for postage stamps. Why? Perhaps it was for a special promotion, but it was not stamp related for sure despite the paper used. ☒

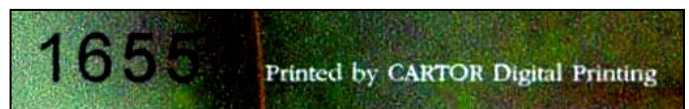
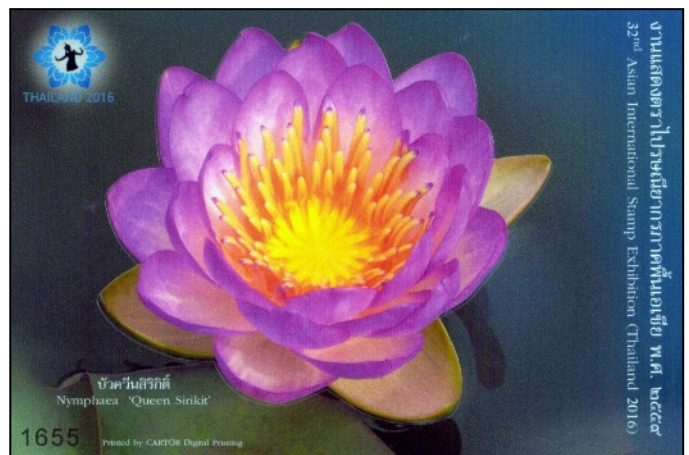


Cartor attends the 32nd Asian Philatelic Exhibition, 2559 (2016)

Sheet for visitors stopping by Cartor's stand in Bangkok

A new name has appeared on a recent Cartor dummy sheet, namely 'CARTOR Digital Printing'. Whether this is a new brand name, or a new company name is unclear. It may, of course, simply be stating the printer and process used.

The design represents a stamp issued for this exhibition, namely the 'Queen Sirikit' lotus flower. Sheets of the issued stamp have a CSP set of traffic lights, BUT these letters do NOT stand for 'Cartor Security Printing', who did NOT print the stamps. Instead they represent the initials of local company 'Chan Wanich Security Printing' of Thailand. ☒



<<< CSP: the initials also used by Chan Wanich Security Printing

▽ Issued stamp

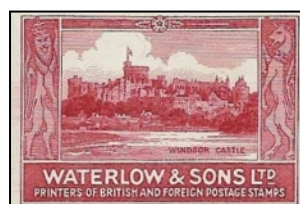
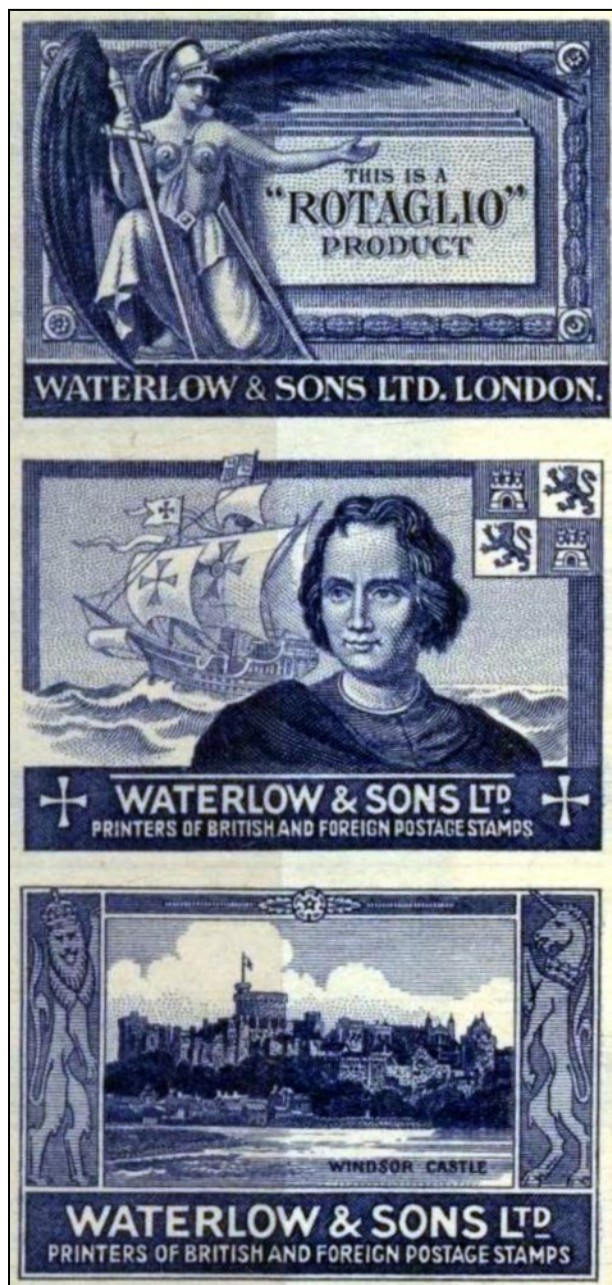


Waterlow and Rotaglio

New colour found

Waterlow had a brand-name for its rotary intaglio system, namely 'Rotaglio'.

A brown-ochre and a red versions of the strip of three designs below have been recorded and now a navy blue strip can be added to the colour range. ☒



Oh dear!

More eBay rubbish....

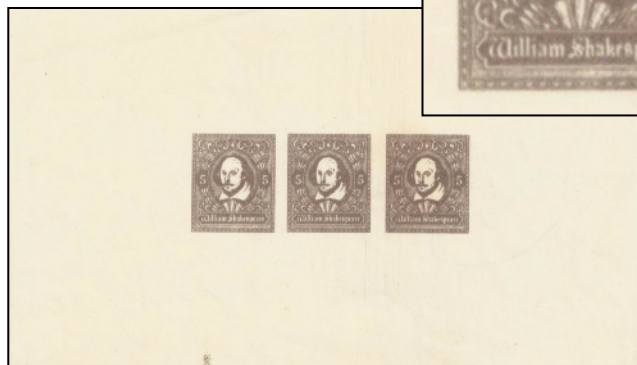
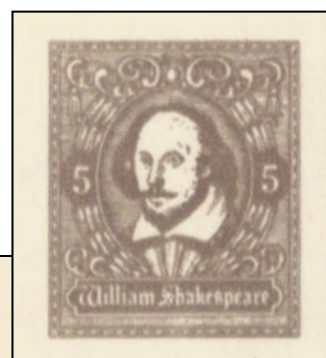


While the SPECIMEN handstamp at the foot of each stamp is genuine, the **SCHOOL / SPECIMEN** handstamp is not understood to be of Post Office origin. ☒

Harrison and Shakespeare

UNDEFACED version found

This label is well known, but not without a defacing cross... until now that is. ☒



'Save the Stubbs' Campaign

Harrison helps save paintings for The Tate

Back in 1977, the nation was in danger of losing two major works by George Stubbs to an overseas buyer. A major campaign was launched and the paintings are to this day on view at Tate Britain, Millbank, London. Harrison played its part by printing, for free, 'Save the Stubbs' promotional stamps. They are still only 50p

each label when seen and are a useful addition when attempting to tell the history of Harrison & Sons.

The traffic light block viewed online is in a format not normally seen for Harrison, but files seen at the Tate prove beyond doubt that Harrison was the printer. ☒



Enschedé has printed postage stamps for 150 years

A limited edition booklet celebrates this fact

A somewhat strange booklet in a most cumbersome format was recently released to celebrate 150 years of postage stamp printing by Royal Joh. Enschedé of the Netherlands, a Royal Mail supplier of stamps, of course.



The outside spread.



A typical stamp.

'An 'accordion' stamp booklet designed to express the history of 150 years of stamps, based on a comic, shows various life stages (from egg to adult) of a carrier pigeon in strip form.

Here the various print techniques are also processed from old to hyper-modern.'



The designer, at left.

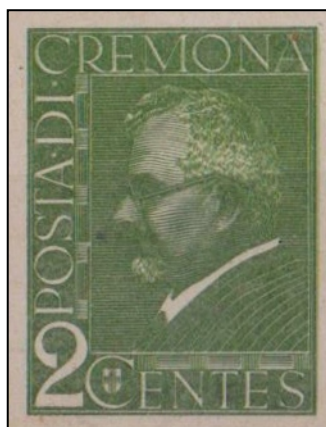


The inside spread.

Cremona

New colour found...

The Victory Kidder printing press dummy featured in DS44 has been found in a 'new' colour, namely yellow-green. The vendor dated the item as from 1928/30. ☐



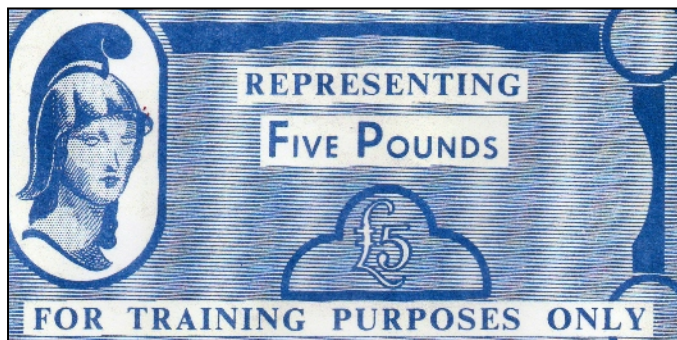
Cartor creates FTMP Overprint

Gift of a pair of labels for 14 Friends of The Postal Museum (FTPM) who recently visited Cartor's factory



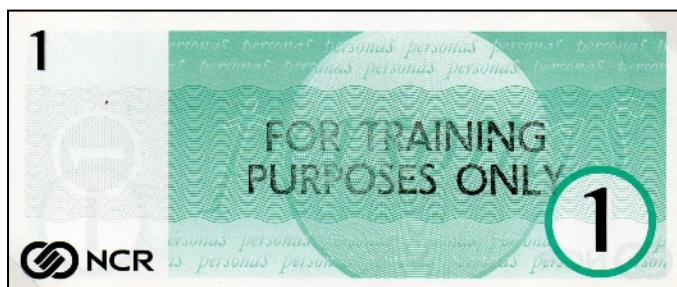
Post Office Dummy Banknotes: An Update

More examples advised by reader



(above) Post Office examples, for sure.

(below) Post Office usage is questionable.

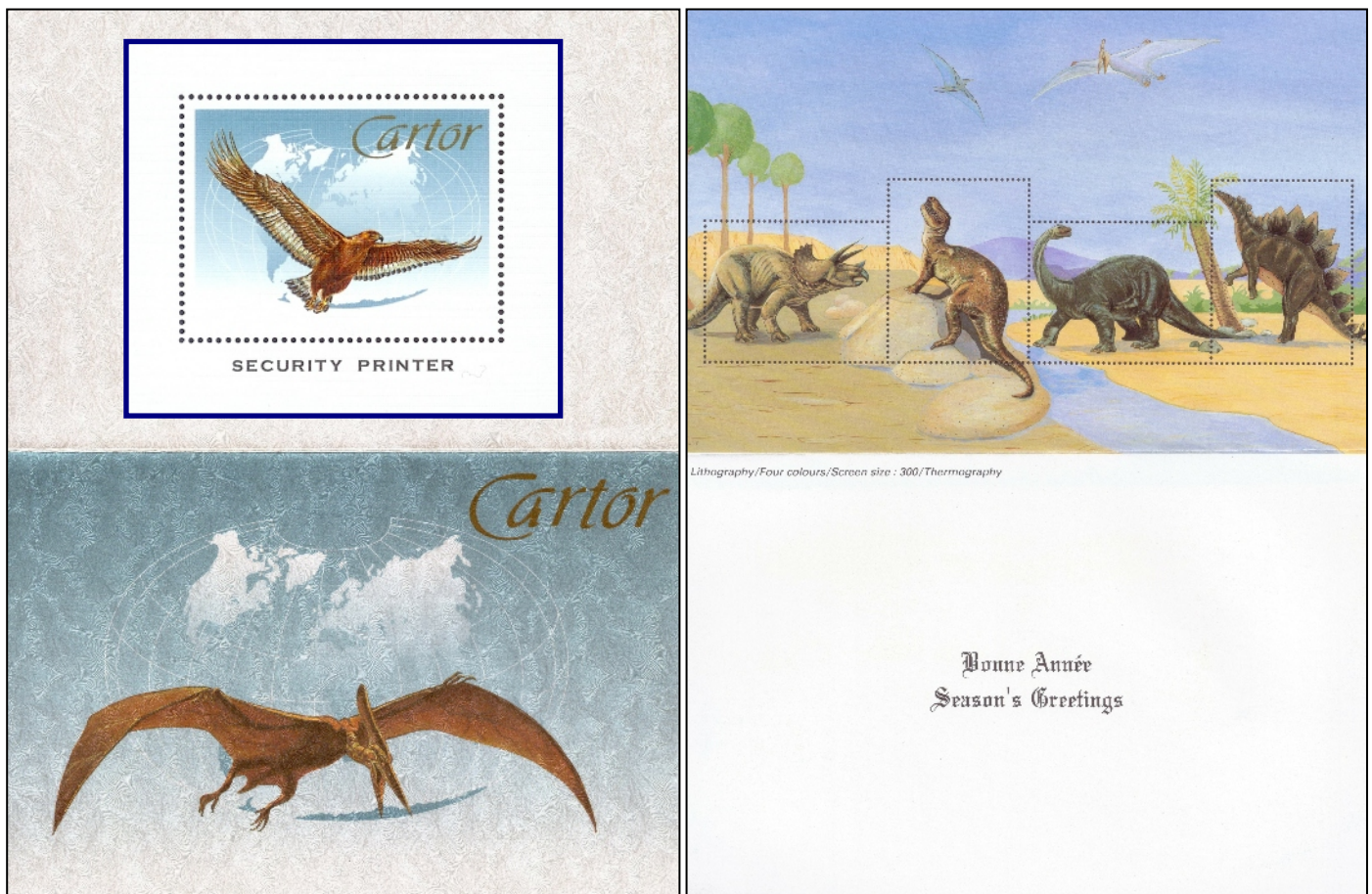


These notes represent further examples to those shown last time for the £1 value. The top two are from the same series, while the bottom two are of a generic nature produced by De La Rue and NCR respectively.

The lower two are in need of confirmation that the Post Office actually used these, as the handstamp struck on them both has been called into question when used on stamp booklets. Can anyone confirm, please? ☐

Cartor went back in time to the age of the dinosaur in 1994

There was an odd celebration of Christmas that year

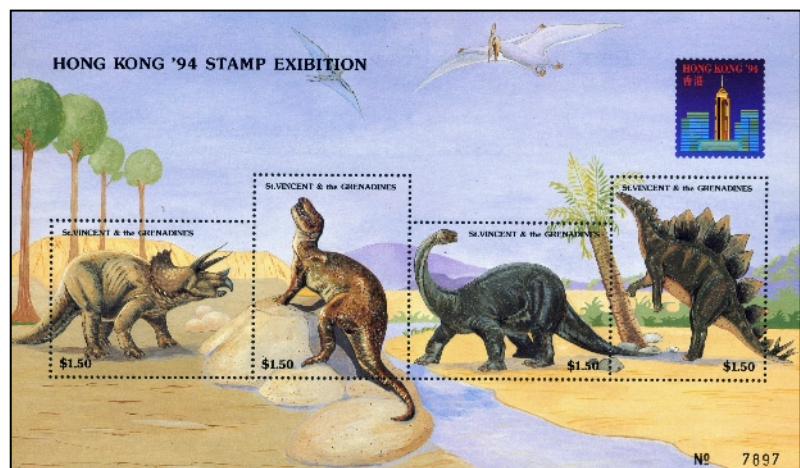


When thinking of the festive season, the first thing that comes to mind is dinosaurs, of course. OK, perhaps not! The only reason for this strange choice can be that the company had produced a sheet for St Vincent and the Grenadines and its 'support' for the Hong Kong 94 stamp **exibition** (and, yes this is an intentional spelling mistake, while 'support' is a polite way of saying 'money-spinner'! Read on.)

The issued sheet is very large, as is the dummy sheet, and it uses thermography, or 'Cartorelief' as the company had branded this raised feature that is more usually seen on business cards. The proof-reader failed to spot that there was no 'h' included in the word 'exhibition' and this careless spelling mistake was forever immortalised on the sheet. The cover of the card features a Pterosaur, which is actually not a dinosaur at all but a flying reptile around at the same time. Used here, it is a 'take' on the eagle normally used in the early 1990s. The company was then based in the town of L'Aigle, which translates into English as 'the eagle'. (See inset dummy Eagle MS, top left above.) ☒

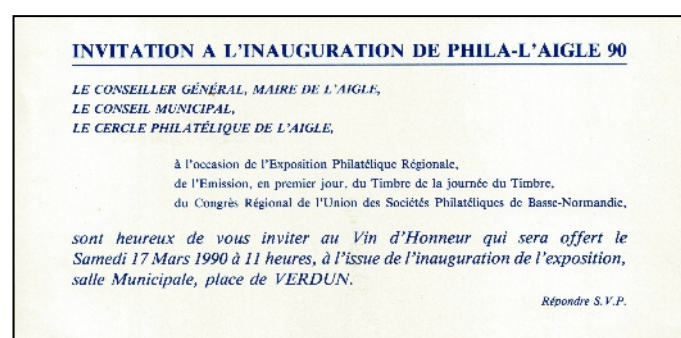
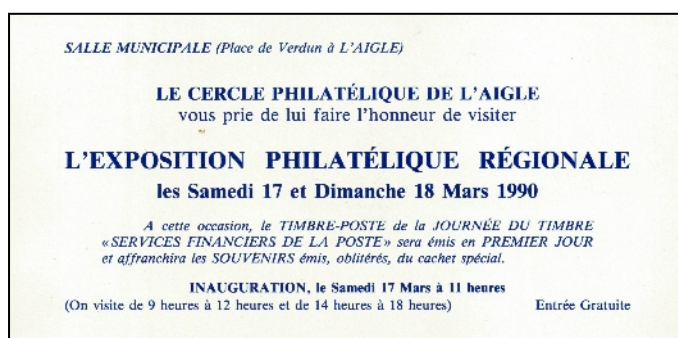
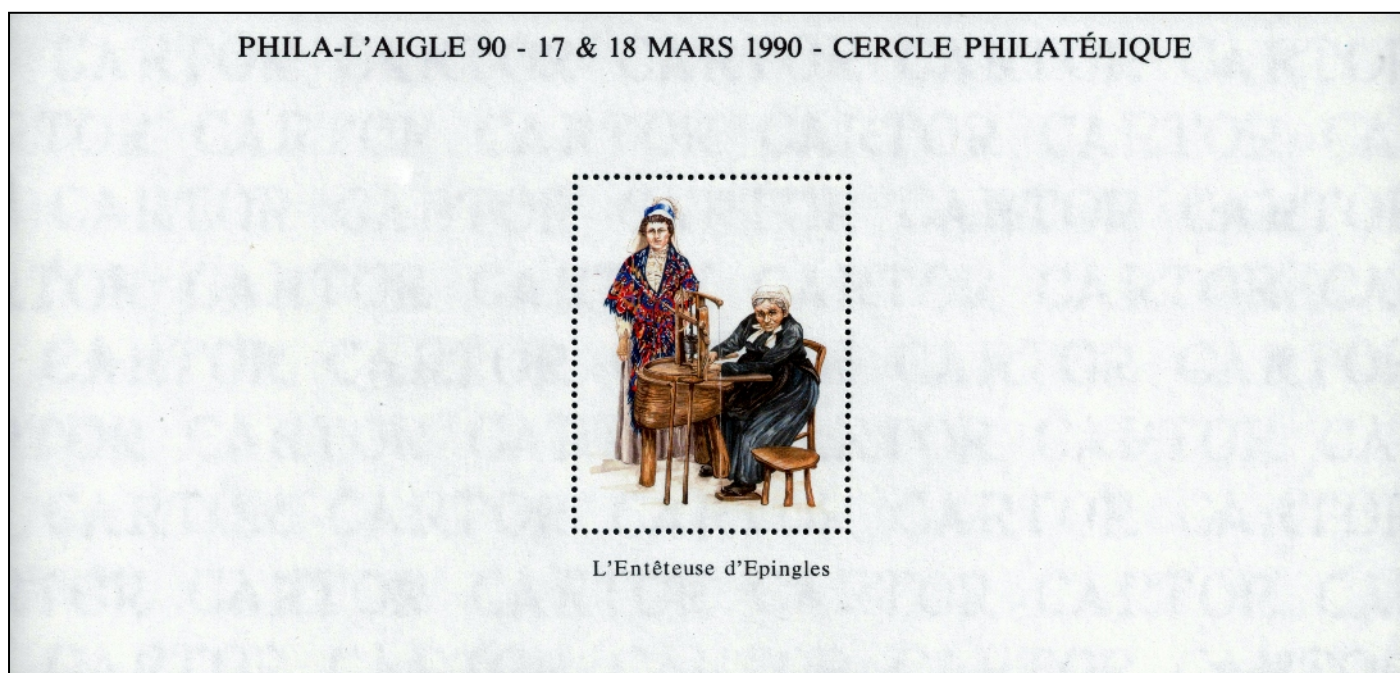
Looking from left to right, the dinosaurs featured on both the dummy and issued miniature sheets are:

- Triceratops,
- Tyrannosaurus,
- Apatosaurus, and
- Stegosaurus.



Cartor supports local stamp club at PHILA-L'AIGLE 90

Previously unrecorded dummy stamp recently discovered on souvenir sheet

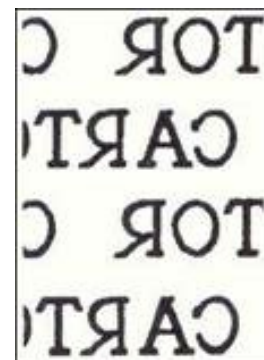


On the 17th and 18th March 1990, the local stamp club at L'Aigle, France, held a two-day philatelic show and local stamp printer Cartor assisted with publicity by producing an attractive DL-sized sheet (one-third A4), presumably free of charge.

Aside from the obvious connection with Cartor being indicated on the reverse of the blue carrier invite, if anyone doubted whether they printed and perforated the item they only have to hold it to the light, as the sheet is printed offset on a Cartor watermarked substrate.

Watermark >>>

The wording below the dummy stamp seems to translate as "The Pinsetter". ☒



Stamp Feast in Taipei

A chance to meet with eight production companies....

The stamp exhibition recently held in Taipei had an impressive array of stamp production stands. It is noted that three such companies had a British philatelic connection, namely:

- Cartor Security Printing, France.
- Tullis Russell, Great Britain.
- Royal Joh. Enschedé, The Netherlands.

For the record, also in attendance were:

- Cardon Enterprise Co. Ltd, Taiwan.
- Central Engraving and Printing Plant, Taiwan.
- China Color Printing Co. Ltd., Taiwan.
- Southern Colour Print, New Zealand.
- Stamperija, Lithuania.

Your compiler has always looked out at stamp shows for those businesses involved in stamp production and he does not think that he has ever, in 46 years of visiting exhibitions, known of so many such companies at the one philatelic event. Oh to have been there!

Tullis Russell never had anything of a dummy nature on offer, but Cartor and Enschedé each gave away souvenirs for the duration of the show, as will be recorded below. ☒

Enschedé at Philataipei 2016

Chinese Zodiac themed labels on offer

Taiwan still uses postage vending machines of the Klüssendorf type, i.e. the sort that bear two half moon cuts at the top and bottom of single labels.

Two strips of six (sight unseen) were made available, along with sets of 12 singles in a plastic zipped bag.

A set was soon on eBay at £85, thankfully without a buyer. A month later? £25.

These strips of six have not been seen "in the flesh", or for sale, but they clearly exist as this imagery was seen online. >>>>



The staff at Enschedé on their stand displaying the *Chinese Zodiac* dummy stamps, as kindly taken by a DS reader.

It is apparent that the company did not have a vending machine on-site and these labels were cut into strips and into singles off-site, presumably pre-exhibition. ☒



Cartor at Philataipei 2016

Blue Magpie themed labels on offer

The latest generation of *Post and Go* machines, numbered **A012** and **A014**, were in Taiwan for the International Stamp Exhibition, Philataipei 2016, which ran between 21-26 October.

There were two distinct rolls of labels in use, i.e. the two designs were not both on the same roll. Additionally, there were two 'location IDs', namely '**CSP1**' for demonstrations and '**TAIP**' for distribution to customers. The latter imprint has been seen for every day of the show and for both machines, but the '**CSP1**' version has not been seen every day and this is probably because your compiler has simply not seen examples.

The charts below record sightings at 1 Dec. 2016.

Machine A012. Magenta + Green + Cartor logo.



	Location ID CSP1	Location ID TAIP
21st	X	X
22nd	X	X
23rd		X
24th		X
25th		X
26th	X	X

Machine A014. Green + Cartor logo.



	Location ID CSP1	Location ID TAIP
21st	X	X
22nd	X	X
23rd		X
24th		X
25th		X
26th	X	X

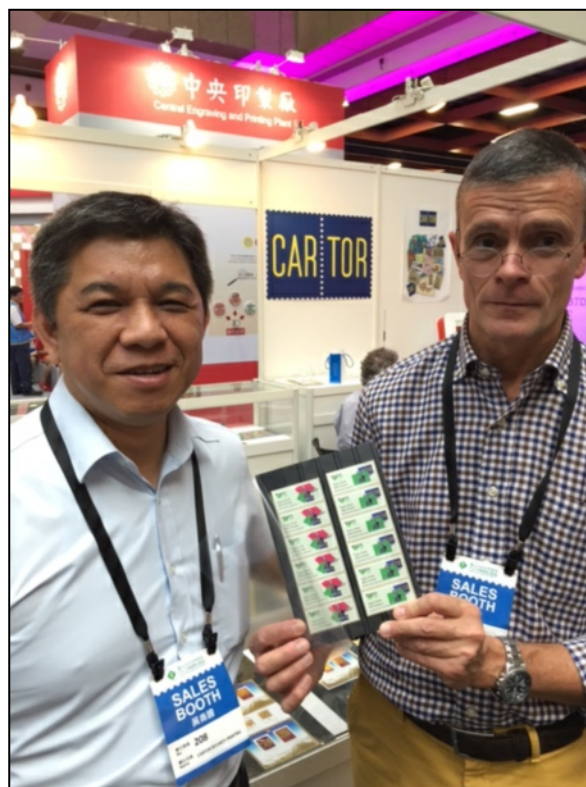
It is apparent that singles, pairs and strips of six exist, but no attempt has been made to record all potential combinations for every day.

Blank copies in strips of six have also been seen as images online and VOID examples similarly exist, but possibly not in the hands of collectors...unless you can indicate otherwise.

Receipts were issued, with labels having a nominal cost of 1p, although no charge was levied. ✉



Typical receipt.

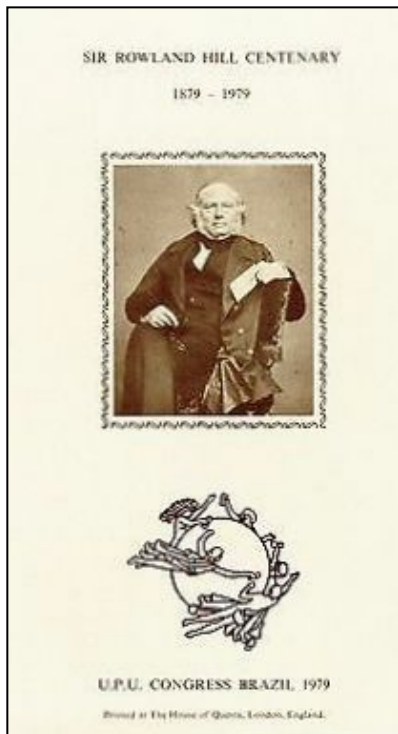


The staff at Cartor by their stand displaying the *Blue Magpie* dummy stamps, as kindly taken by a DS reader.

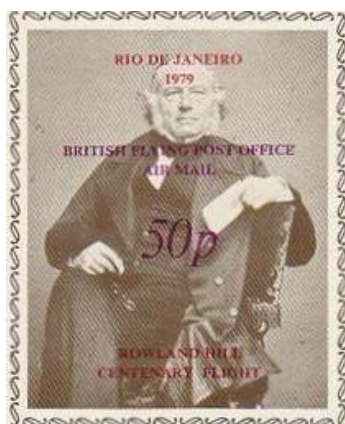
Questa UPU Souvenir

Issued by the printer, or by a customer of theirs?

The sheet below has been seen in the past and given little thought. However, your compiler now wonders whether this was a private production produced by Questa for, perhaps, a stamp dealer, or if it might be an item produced by Questa for use by Questa. It could conceivably have been given away by them at the 18th Universal Postal Union Congress held in Brazil during 1979.



The scan above is not very good, but gives a flavour of what the sheet is all about.



Copies are also known overprinted with a "British Flying Post Office" overprint, of a dubious nature! As it seems unlikely that Questa would have made available large stocks for this overprint, it seems increasingly likely that the entire stock was a private production. Do you know either way? ☒

Cartor at Bangkok 2010

Mint card discovered online

It has previously been stated within these pages that mint copies of the Cartor show postcard do not exist for this souvenir item. Well, an example has recently been seen illustrated online, so it appears that they do exist! ☒



Graphics Philately Association

Why not treat yourself!

With Christmas just around the corner as this issue of *Dummy Stamps* is being circulated, why not consider treating yourself to a subscription to this worthwhile American organisation?

Featured here previously, details can be found online at www.graphics-stamps.org ☒

...and finally

I always welcome details of new dummy finds from printers past and present, and so invite you to write via my Guest Book at stampprinters.info/guestbook.htm, where requests to subscribe to *DS* can also be made.

Business, family and other commitments to the hobby mean that I cannot guarantee that I can rigidly stick to a publishing programme and therefore suggest that you 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 to download and print-off.

Thank you. ☒

