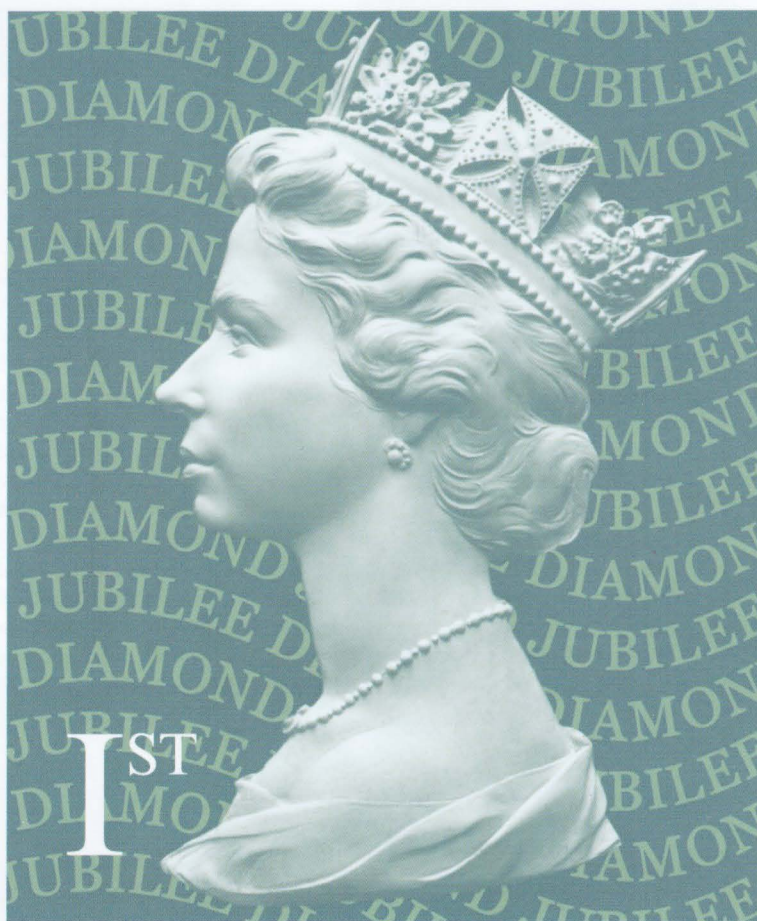


BRITISH PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee

SOUVENIR EDITION 2012





In celebration of this historic Diamond Jubilee year, Royal Mail has issued a number of commemorative stamps:

◆ **The Jubilee Definitives**

Miniature Sheet, released to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the accession on 6 February. This sheet brings together portraits of The Queen used on stamps, banknotes and coins, and also a new Diamond Blue Machin Definitive.

On 7 February 1952 Elizabeth II stepped from a plane onto the tarmac of Heathrow to be greeted by Winston Churchill as The Queen of the United Kingdom and her dominions of Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Ceylon. She was just 25 years old, with two small children and only five years into her marriage with the Duke of Edinburgh.

Having been called back from an official trip to Kenya on the news of her father King George VI's death, she was clearly grieving, but showed a dignity and maturity beyond her years: 'My heart is too full for me to say more to you today than I shall always work as my father did,' she said in her accession declaration at St James's Palace on 8 February.

It was a quiet declaration of both her strength of character and her willingness to serve the nation – qualities which The Queen has demonstrated time and again to provide a sense of stability and continuity through six decades of tumultuous change.

As Queen Elizabeth II celebrates 60 years on the throne, this *British Philatelic Bulletin* Diamond Jubilee souvenir presents a brief philatelic history of Her Majesty's reign.

◆ **A set of eight pictorial Diamond Jubilee stamps**, issued on 31 May. This stamp set uses archive photography to show the breadth of The Queen's official duties across six decades.

◆ **The Age of the Windsors and Saxe-Coburg-Gotha stamps**, the sixth and last in the Kings and Queens stamp series that celebrates 600 years of British history. The latest set features a 1954 portrait of The Queen alongside those of her royal forebears, as well as a miniature stamp sheet showing key events of her reign ●

Cover: the new Diamond Blue Jubilee Definitive is included in the Diamond Jubilee Miniature Sheet and also in a 12 x 1st Class book, replacing the gold definitive throughout 2012.

Above: a 1952 photograph by Dorothy Wilding.

Back cover: the Jubilee Definitives Miniature Sheet.

The Diamond Jubilee Pictorial stamps were released on 31 May and are shown on pages 3, 5 and 9. Moya Greene, chief executive of the Royal Mail, says: 'We are proud to mark the Diamond Jubilee by celebrating the official roles of The Queen with distinctive and memorable images, many of which have not been widely seen before.' You can order stamps online at www.royalmail.com/stamps or by phone on 08457 641 641 (from overseas +44 131 3167483).

New stamps for a new Queen

Wilding definitive stamps recall a gentle era of post-war optimism, before the sea-change of public perceptions of the 1960s



On 13 February 1952, a week after The Queen's accession and according to official procedure, the process of creating postage stamps featuring the new monarch began

promptly. The Postmaster General, Earl de la Warr, recommended a schedule to The Queen's Private Secretary, Sir Alan Lascelles. Sir Alan's assistant had already suggested to the Royal Mint the photographer Dorothy Wilding, who had been working at the Royal Court since 1937. A portrait session with The Queen was booked for Wilding on 26 February, and her official brief for the stamp portrait stated that 'for printing by the photogravure process, it is undesirable to have heavy shadow on one side of the face'.

Wilding's photographs reached the Post Office on 7 March. The portrait numbered S6 was chosen as the best. A new version was requested with The Queen facing right, as is the tradition for stamps, this time wearing a coronet instead of the tiara chosen for the first session. Wilding took a second set of photographs, which was approved, with the

proviso from The Queen that the coronet be retouched to sit a little further forward. Meanwhile, the illustrative elements were also commissioned. National floral emblems of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales (rose, shamrock, thistle and daffodil) were to be included as well as a frame in the style of Edmund Dulac's design, used during King George VI's reign. Some 75 designs were considered and those selected for the five stamp values were by Dulac, Enid Marx, Mary Adshead, Michael Farrar-Bell and George Knipe.

UK definitive stamps carried the Dorothy Wilding portrait from 1952 to 1967. They were the only British stamps printed with graphite lines (between 1957 and 1960) and the first to be printed with phosphor bands (from 1959).

Philatelic tributes to the Wilding stamp series have since included: the 'Definitive Portraits' Prestige Stamp Book of 1998, using Knipe's design; a 'Gracious Accession' Book in 2002, which had Marx's and Farrar-Bell's; and a 2003 Miniature Sheet contained Wilding stamps. This year the Wilding design was used to create the Jubilee Definitive that features on the cover of this booklet. ►



1st Class Trooping The Colour 1967
The monarch's official birthday in June is celebrated every year in the ceremony of Trooping The Colour. The Queen took the salute on horseback every year until 1986



77p Christmas speech 1957 Queen Elizabeth II was the first UK monarch to give the traditional Christmas address on television. Most who saw it were watching on their first television set



£1.28 United Nations address 1957
Consolidating her position as a world figure, The Queen addressed the General Assembly of the UN in New York in October 1957. Her next UN address was on 6 July 2010

Enter the Machin

In an era of new social perspectives, The Queen's portrait was modernised. Result: a timeless favourite

The Wilding series of definitive stamps remained valid for postage until 1 March 1972. They had been well received at the beginning of Elizabeth II's reign, when the philatelic press wrote of 'the beauty of these charming designs' and their 'high standard of technical excellence'. Ten years on, however, public perceptions of monarchy had changed radically, as had popular techniques of portraiture. The Stamp Advisory Committee (SAC) acknowledged the need for a definitive stamp image that symbolised the monarchy

rather than an image of the person of The Queen. In early 1965 the Postmaster General, Anthony Wedgwood Benn, announced that The Queen had consented to a new profile portrait and at the end of the year the SAC looked to Arnold Machin for a new effigy.

Arnold Machin was an established sculptor and painter and a member of the forward-looking Royal Academy. He was already at work on an effigy of The Queen to be used on new coinage planned to prepare the public for decimalisation in 1971. His coinage portrait, based on photography by Lord Snowdon, is featured in Royal Mail's Diamond Jubilee Definitives Miniature Sheet (see page 12).

As Machin set to work on a bas-relief sculpture, partly based on the coinage portrait, he surely could not in his wildest dreams have predicted its longevity or the devotion it was to inspire in the philatelic world from that day to this. As Cyril Parsons, Editor of the British Royal Portraits Stamp Group, observes: 'The simplicity of design of the resultant stamps and the lack of intrusive lettering beyond the figures of value have contributed to the design continuing in use for 45 years and counting.'

The first Machin definitives, 4d, 1s and 1s 9d, were issued in 1967 (pre-decimal values were valid to 29 February 1972). And by May 1970 *Stamp Collecting* magazine had reassessed the Wilding image as a 'tenderly glamourised drawing-room portrait'. A total of 240 Machin stamps have been issued since 1967 (see table left), making the Machin portrait of The Queen one of the most reproduced images in history •

Number of Machin definitives/Country definitives issued per year

1967:	6	1989:	10/12
1968:	8	1990:	15/12
1969:	6	1991:	8/12
1970:	3	1993:	7/12
1971:	13/16	1994:	1
1973:	3	1995:	1
1974:	1/15	1996:	7/12
1975:	2	1997:	3
1976:	6/9	1999:	11/2
1977:	4	2000:	8/5
1978:	1/9	2002:	4
1979:	3	2003:	7
1980:	8/9	2004:	5
1981:	6/12	2005:	3
1982:	6/12	2006:	10
1983:	8/9	2007:	5
1984:	6/12	2008:	3
1985:	3	2009:	6
1986:	1/3	2010:	9
1987:	1/3	2011:	4
1988:	12/12	2012:	5

Totals Machin definitives: 240
Machin Country definitives: 188

Source: 40 Years of Machins - a Timeline by D Myall



Above left: the first 4d Olive Sepia Machin. This colour obscured postmarks and was replaced by the 4d vermilion in January 1969.

Left: 'Diamond Blue' Machin, one of the six new definitives created to mark The Queen's Diamond Jubilee



Silver Wedding (left) and Silver Jubilee stamps (above) carry images of The Queen and so require no silhouette. The 25th Anniversary of the Coronation was commemorated with illustrations of royal regalia

Celebrations on stamps

With more commemorative stamps came more personal portraits

In the 1970s The Queen literally took steps towards a more informal public image by beginning the now well-established tradition of the royal 'walkabout'. Pictorial stamps celebrating events in the Royal Family became the norm with the Royal Silver Wedding stamps

of 1972, Princess Anne's Wedding in 1973, and The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

These pictorial stamps came about because of a change in stamp policy that had occurred in 1965, when an alternative design approach, proposed by artist David Gentleman, resulted in royal approval for the use of a small silhouette of The Queen, to leave space for other images on special stamps. While stamps celebrating the Silver Jubilee and 25th Anniversary of the Coronation still focused on ceremonial roles, those celebrating birthdays and weddings were likely to include less formal photography ●

For The Queen's 60th birthday in 1986 it was felt appropriate to show personal portraits



87p Silver Jubilee Walkabout 1977
The nation celebrated 25 years of The Queen's reign in 1977. This Diamond Jubilee stamp shows one of the many official royal walkabouts



£1.28 Commonwealth Games 1982
The Queen, as Head of the Commonwealth, is seen here at the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, smiling at Prince Philip

Portraits of our times

Cyril Parsons selects some of his personal favourites from the many portraits of The Queen that have appeared on British stamps



In making my choice of portraits I have tried to select original images in a range of media – paintings, drawings, sculpture and photographs – embracing the work of different artists and representing all phases of The Queen's life since her childhood.

Photograph by Marcus Adams (1875-1959)

Between 1926 and 1956 Adams created a unique photographic record of two generations of royal children. The charming study of the young Princess Elizabeth (above) is one of a series that Adams took in July 1928, shortly after her second birthday. It featured as one of the six images on The Queen's 60th birthday stamps of 1986, designed by Jeffery Matthews.

Photograph by Cecil Beaton (1904-1980)

In 1942, at the age of 16, Princess Elizabeth became Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, an appointment held until her accession when she became Colonel-in-Chief of all the Guards regiments. In October 1942 Beaton took a photograph of the Princess wearing a cap bearing the Grenadiers cap badge, featured on The Queen's 60th birthday stamps (left).

Drawing by Edmund Dulac (1882-1953)

For his contribution to the Coronation stamps (the 1s 3d value shown below, of the set released on 3 June 1953, the day after the ceremony), Dulac chose to draw his image of The Queen wearing her Coronation robes and the St Edward's Crown. The same design of stamp, but with a face value of £1, was issued on 23 May 2000 in a miniature sheet for Stamp Show 2000. This image is important to me, as viewing the Coronation on television was my first experience of this medium.

Photograph by Dorothy Wilding (1893-1976)

As I attended the World Scout Jubilee Jamboree in 1957, I have chosen the 2½d stamp from that event (issued on 1 August 1957) as my favourite example of the Dorothy Wilding portrait of the young Queen wearing the George IV Diadem, which featured on all definitive stamps issued between 1952 and 1967.

Plaster cast by Arnold Machin (1911-1999)

Much has been written about the evolution of the stamps incorporating Machin's iconic head, which shows Her Majesty wearing the



From far left: Edmund Dulac's drawing of The Queen in her Coronation robes; Dorothy Wilding's portrait on the World Scout Jamboree stamp of 1957; and the classic Machin image printed using the intaglio process

George IV Diadem, as did the earlier Wildings. I have chosen one of the high values issued on 17 June 1970 because it was printed by the intaglio (recess or line-engraved) process, a quality process little used in recent years.

Portrait by Pietro Annigoni (1910-1988) This full-length portrait in oils (right) dates from 1954-1955. The Queen wears the robes of Sovereign of the Order of the Garter, the most senior order of chivalry in England, created in 1348 by King Edward III. The portrait has featured on stamps of many Commonwealth countries since the late 1950s, but it did not appear on a UK stamp until 2 February 2012, in the final set of the Kings and Queens series. This romantic portrayal of the young Queen provides links to England's history; it is also the only oil painting of The Queen to feature on a British stamp.

Photograph by John Shelley The Trooping The Colour ceremony is held on Horse Guards Parade in London on Her Majesty's official birthday on a Saturday in June. The ceremony, which dates from the reign of King Charles II, presents British pageantry at its best. Regiments of the Household Division take it in turn to troop their colour. The Queen, as Colonel-in-Chief of all the Guards regiments, wears the uniform of the regiment whose colour is being trooped. In 1983 John Shelley took the photograph of Her Majesty in Grenadier Guards uniform. It features in the Trooping The Colour series issued on 7 June 2005.

Photograph by Tim Graham On 27 March 1996, while on a state visit to the Czech Republic, Her Majesty attended a banquet



in Prague Castle. A photograph taken by Tim Graham at that banquet featured on the 65p stamp that was released on 6 February 2002, as part of The Queen's Golden Jubilee set. So many images featured on British stamps show The Queen on a serious occasion, but on this one Her Majesty is smiling and clearly enjoying the occasion •

Cyril Parsons is the editor of the British Royal Portraits Stamp Group, which was founded in The Queen's Silver Jubilee year. Anyone interested in learning more about the Group is invited to contact its Treasurer, Mr Allan Rendle, 23 More Close, St Paul's Court, London W14 9BN. Or e-mail: allanrendle@hotmail.com



Left: John Shelley's photograph of Her Majesty in Grenadier Guards uniform features in the Trooping The Colour stamp series of 2005. Tim Graham's photograph of The Queen in the Czech Republic features in the 2002 Golden Jubilee Stamp set

The Queen in her many roles

John Holman remembers the 1992 stamp issue that marked the 40th Anniversary of the Accession

Five stamps entitled 'Happy and Glorious' were issued on 6 February 1992, the 40th anniversary of The Queen's accession to the throne. These stamps are, I think, a very interesting issue, as they portray Her Majesty in her various roles as Head of State, the Church of England, the Royal Family, the

Armed Forces and of the Commonwealth.

The first stamp shows The Queen as Head of State, wearing the Coronation robes, an image from a series of photographs by Cecil Beaton. The background image is the Portcullis emblem of the Houses of Parliament. The second portrays The Queen as head of the Church of England, wearing the robes of the Order of the Garter in a photograph by Tim Graham. The Archbishop of Canterbury and York form the background motif. The family side of The Queen's life is shown in the third

stamp; she is holding baby Prince Andrew (now Duke of York) in another Cecil Beaton image that was first used on a magnificent £1 stamp from St Helena in 1961. The heraldic emblem of the House of Windsor forms part of the background design.

The Queen's long association with the armed services is portrayed on the fourth stamp, where she is shown at the Trooping The Colour, photographed by Anwar Hussein, in the uniform of Colonel-in-Chief of the Grenadier Guards (also shown on the first class stamp in the Trooping The Colour issue of 2005). The badge of HM Armed Forces forms the background motif. The final stamp in the strip pays tribute to The Queen as Head of the Commonwealth and the many tours and visits she has undertaken. The image is by Anwar Hussein. The young children shown to the right of The Queen were photographed in the crowds welcoming Her Majesty during a visit to Mid Glamorgan in 1989. One of the children was publicly identified as Kieran Gardner (wearing a bobble hat) as he wrote to The Queen when the stamp was issued.

The 'Happy and Glorious' set was designed by Why Not Associates and printed in offset-lithography by The House of Questa in six colours. Seven sets of plates were used in the production of the stamps, numbered 1A to 5A, 7A and 8A. The stamps were well received by collectors and voted the second most popular of the ten issues of 1992 by *British Philatelic Bulletin* readers. No errors of colour or perforation were recorded, although stamps are known with missing phosphor lines. In addition to the official Royal Mail 'First Day of Issue' postmarks, some 18 sponsored handstamps were used on first day covers ●



Happy and Glorious: this set of five pictorial stamps marked The Queen's 40th year on the throne in 1992 – a year which Her Majesty described as her 'annus horribilis'



Left: marking the Golden Jubilee, The Queen's Golden Wedding Anniversary and 60th Wedding Anniversary. Below: pictorial stamp sheet marking the 100th year of The Queen Mother

Stamps of our smiling sovereign

Catharine Brandy recalls royal highlights of her work as Royal Mail Design Manager

Over the past ten years, in my role as design manager, I have had the privilege of working on several stamp sets featuring The Queen. All were designed with great care by some of the finest creative talents in the UK, including Kate Stephens, Sedley Place and David Hillman.

When I started my job, the designs for the Golden Jubilee stamps were nearing completion and it was a memorable experience to see those iconic portraits made into beautiful stamps. Each royal issue since then has represented a different facet of the Queen's life. The Queen's 80th birthday



stamps focused on her smile, in images from each decade of her life. In commemorating her 60th wedding anniversary, each stamp conveyed the affection between Her Majesty and Prince Philip, as well as the bond with her family. The recent Diamond Jubilee definitives show her as official signifier for the country, as portrayed on banknotes, coins and stamps.

And for the pictorial Diamond Jubilee stamps, it seemed fitting to show the Queen at work in her many roles over the past 60 years, reflecting the dedication and passion that our monarch brings to her work •



1st Class Golden Jubilee 2002

The Queen is seen here in the 50th year of her reign, with Prince Philip at the Golden Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's Cathedral in London



77p The Royal Welsh 2007

The Queen is head of the UK's Armed Forces. She is seen on this Diamond Jubilee stamp inspecting the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Welsh at Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth



87p Garter Ceremony 1977

Every June a procession and service takes place at Windsor Castle for the Order of the Garter. The Queen invests new Companions of the Order in the Throne Room



Palatial postmarks



Marks from residences of The Queen make a rare royal niche for collectors, explains John Newcomb

Buckingham Palace

Throughout The Queen's reign Buckingham Palace post office

has been open to members of the Royal Household, and only they are allowed to use it. They can post registered (latterly classified as Priority Service items) letters at the counter, such items being postmarked on the spot (see illustrations).

In more recent years, ordinary mail from eligible senders is taken from the royal

residences in London to the South London Mail Centre at Nine Elms to be postmarked there. The coloured mark, below right, is an example. The 'ER' cachet illustrated denotes the official status of 'royal' mail.

The sub-post office at Buckingham Palace was established in 1904, and before then it had existed for telegraph business. A Court Postmaster was appointed and put in charge of the Buckingham Palace office and the one at Windsor Castle, both of which were open all the year round. The Court Postmaster also controls the Court Post Offices at

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE	EDWARD VII 1901	GEORGE V 1910
	EDWARD VIII 1936	GEORGE VI 1936
	ELIZABETH II 1952	
	22.2.2012	

BUCKINGHAM PALACE LONDON, SW1
1/MS1

Left: unique postmark, featuring the family tree of The Queen, for The House of Windsor Cachet Cover. Right: red meter mark of Buckingham Palace

Balmoral Castle and Holyrood Palace (Edinburgh) and, from 1968, Sandringham House whenever the Royal Court is in residence there. The story goes that when some of the Princes were children they liked to go to the Court Post Office to have a 'wristwatch' stamped on them with one of the handstamps – quite possibly to the annoyance of the nanny who had to wash off the ink later.

Sandringham House Until 1968, the post office at Sandringham House was a conventional sub-office with public access, with official mail being dealt with only when the Court was in residence. Eventually it became a closed Court Post Office. An Official Paid handstamp is also in use there.

Balmoral Castle The handstamps at Balmoral Castle have for many years featured a Crown at the base of the die. The Balmoral Castle post office has been in existence since at least 1905.

Holyrood Palace The Court Post Office has date-stamp dies that have a Maltese Cross at the base. However, postmarks of these are rather rare, as the Holyrood post office has been used relatively infrequently since it was first opened in 1911. Only priority service items are postmarked there.

A few short-term royal occasions have resulted in one-off 'royal' postmarks – for example Frogmore, Dublin Castle and Royal Pavilion, Aldershot.

The earliest Court Post Office was opened in 1897 at Osborne House, Queen Victoria's

residence on the Isle of Wight. After Victoria's death, this office was moved outside the house and made open to the public.●

John Newcomb is a member of the British Postmark Society. Enquiries about membership may be made to John Strachan, The Hon. Secretary, BPS, at 12 Dunavon Park, Strathaven, ML10 6LP. Enquiries by post are preferred!

The 'British Postmark Bulletin', a bi-monthly journal published by Royal Mail, has lists of all forthcoming special postmarks and is available by subscription at www.royalmail.com.

Note: this article shows marks that have been made in the course of normal business at post offices of royal residences and are of interest to collectors. They are not shown to scale.



Left: the ER cachet that denotes 'royal' mail. Right, from top: handstamps used at Holyrood Palace, Balmoral and Sandringham



Above: postmark from Osborne, Isle of Wight – a postmark with a royal history, and the mark of Windsor Castle in Berkshire



ROYAL MAIL

POSTAGE PAID GB
W7047

1952



2012



HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE

2012 Diamond Jubilee Definitives show six of the most iconic images of The Queen from banknotes, coins and stamps issued during her reign. Above, left to right: Wilding Definitive first issued in 1952; £1 note design by Robert Austin, 1960; £5 banknote design by Harry Eccleston, 1971; pre-decimal coinage head by Mary Gillick; 1968 Arnold Machin decimal currency head; and the new Diamond Blue Machin definitive, which has replaced the gold definitive since 6 February. Designed by Sedley Place and printed gravure by Walsall Security Printing.

2012 Diamond Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II pictorial stamps are shown on pages 3, 5 and 9. Designed by Kate Stephens and printed gravure by De La Rue.

British Philatelic Bulletin special publications: The Early Days of the Postal Service, British Special Stamps 1985-86, British Stamp Design 1993, Burns Bicentenary 1996, British Victorian Stamps, An Introduction to Thematic Collecting, British Empire Exhibition Stamps 1924-25, New Technology for Stamp Collectors, Alternative Ways of Collecting, The Wildings: The First Elizabeth II Definitives, The Travelling Post Office 1838-2004, The First Elizabeth Castle High Value Definitives, British Stamp Printers, 40 Years of Machins – a Timeline, The Pre-decimal Regional Stamps, The George V Royal Cypher Issue 1912-24. For information on their availability and prices, email bulletin.enquiries@royalmail.com

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