

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 5A

NVI (No Value Indicated) Stamps with Security Features



A new version of the Machin series began in 1989 without specific denominations but marked instead by class of service “1st” or “2nd”. These are termed NVI or No Value Indicated stamps. They prepay items up to 60g in weight, but may also be used as part postage for heavier items. Initially they only had validity on inland mail, but this was gradually extended, first to mail to the EC and finally to all overseas destinations. In 1999 they were joined by a further NVI value, “E”, which prepaid postage to Europe up to 20g at the current rate.

Most early NVI stamps were issued in window booklets, but more recently, as the public have become more familiar with the NVI concept, “1st”, “2nd” and “E” stamps have all started to appear regularly from other sources, including prestige booklets, coil strips, greetings card sheetlets and in sheets of 200.

Standard Machin design NVIs were joined by Universal Airmail issues in March 2003 and discontinued in August 2006 when they were replaced by Pricing In Proportion types. As these are both non-standard designs, details of both can be found in Section 6A.

SECURITY PRINTED NVI VALUES AT POSTAL RATE CHANGES

(Dates given in bracket are those of initial NVI availability)

<i>Effective</i>	<i>1st Class</i>	<i>2nd Class</i>	<i>European</i>
	(22.8.89)	(22.8.89)	(19.1.99)
16.9.91	24p	18p	–
1.11.93	25p	19p	–
8.7.96	26p	20p	–
6.4.98	26p	20p	30p

<i>Effective</i>	<i>1st Class</i> (22.8.89)	<i>2nd Class</i> (22.8.89)	<i>European</i> (19.1.99)
26.4.99	26p	19p	30p
25.10.99	26p	19p	34p
27.4.00	27p	19p	36p
2.7.01	27p	19p	37p
8.5.03	28p	20p	38p
1.4.04	28p	21p	(40p) <i>E NVI Discontinued</i>
7.4.05	30p	21p	(42p)
4.4.06	32p	23p	(44p)
2.4.07	34p	24p	(48p)
7.4.08	36p	27p	(50p)
6.4.09	39p	30p	(56p)

CATALOGUE NUMBERING

Stamps are coded as S(econd), F(irst) or E(uropean) plus printer H(arrison), D(e La Rue), W(alsall), Q(uesta) or E(nschedé) and serially numbered. Security printed issues have S(ecurity) inserted between the denomination and printers codes. As all self-adhesive issues were printed in the security era, the “S” coding has been dropped. However, as early self-adhesives were printed landscape in format to identify them more easily whilst still being trialled, but later reverted to a more conventional portrait format, it is replaced by an H(orizontal) or V(ertical) to identify layout.

The number of stamps in the pane and the booklet initial selling price are quoted as, for example, 10 (£1.90). These prices will locate the respective booklet in Section 23 of the full catalogue. In some cases a dual price reference needs to be given (e.g. £1.90/£2.00) since the same pane appears in more than one booklet cover and tariffs had changed in the interim.

(A) Acid Etched Photogravure (Harrison) or Litho (De La Rue, Walsall, Questa & Enschedé) printed issues

Harrison

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos/ Fluor</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
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(a) Harrison. Photo. OFPP/DEX. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).

FSH1	1st	Orange-red	–	6.4.93	4 (96p/£1.00)	DP191	0.65
				6.4.93	10(£2.40/£2.50)	DP192	
FSH1A	1st	Orange-red, translucent paper	–	17.8.93	10(£2.40/£2.50)	DP192	4.75

(b) Harrison. Photo. OFNP/DEX. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).

Phosphor with yellow fluor additive

SSH1	2nd	Bright blue, translucent paper	CB	A(C)	7.9.93	4 (72p/76p)	DP201	0.50
							SSH1AOP AOP wash	

CC	Value		Bands	Phos/ Fluor	Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
SSH2	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	7.9.93	4 (72p)	DP201	1.75
FSH2	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(C)	4.4.95	10 (£2.50)	DP192A	0.60
FSH3	1st	Orange-red, translucent paper	2B	A(C)	4.4.95	10 (£2.50)	DP192A	1.75

(c) Harrison. Photo. OFNP/DEX. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).**Phosphor with blue fluor additive**

SSH3	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4mm)	A(B)	28.7.95	4 (76p)	DP201A	0.95
SSH4	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4.5mm*)	A(B)	11.11.95 12.12.95 8.7.96	4 (76p/80p) 10 (£1.90)	DP201B DP232 vert coil CNS1	0.80
SSH5	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB(4.5mm*)	A(B)	6.2.96	10(£1.90/£2.00)	DP232	1.00
SSH6	2nd	Bright blue, translucent paper	CB(4.5mm*)	A(B)	11.11.95	4 (76p/80p)	DP201B	2.25
SSH7	2nd	Deep bright blue, translucent paper	CB(4.5mm*)	A(B)	6.8.96	10 (£2.00)	DP232	1.75
FSH4	1st	Orange-red	2B(9.5mm)	A(B)	28.7.95 8.7.96	10 (£2.50/£2.60)	DP192B vert coil CNF1	0.90
FSH4SCR	1st	Orange-red, screened value	2B(9.5mm)	A(B)	8.7.96		vert coil CNF1	6.50
FSH4A	1st	Deep bright orange-red	2B(9.5mm)	A(B)	7.96	10 (£2.60)	DP192B	4.50
FSH5	1st	Orange-red	2B(8mm)**	A(B)	8.7.96		vert coil CNF2	2.25
FSH5SCR	1st	Orange-red, screened value	2B(8mm)**	A(B)	8.7.96		vert coil CNF2	10.00
FSH6	1st	Orange-red, translucent paper	2B(9.5mm)	A(B)	28.7.95	10 (£2.50)	DP192B	3.00

**4.5mm Phosphor Bands. The width of these bands vary by up to 0.25mm dependent upon source (4.75mm on panes of 4), but we do not differentiate between bands of less than 0.5mm in width. This is due to possible confusion with wider bands caused by "band spread", the result of an overinked phosphor cylinder.*

*** Stamps from coil rolls 1 & 10 have their external bands misplaced by 1.5mm outwards, leaving a wider gap of 12.5mm between the bands (normally 11mm). It may be possible to identify whether the stamp comes from roll 1 or 10 as in theory the narrower band comes from the outside edge of the primary sheet. However, as it is also possible (and we have seen such examples) that the phosphor across the entire uncut coil sheet is misplaced either to the left or right, it can be difficult or impossible to determine which is the narrow and which is the wider band. We therefore restrict our listing to just one of these with overall narrower bands, which remain constant irrespective of the phosphor positioning.*

(d) Harrison. Photo. OFNP/PVA Layflat. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).**Phosphor with blue fluor additive**

SSH8	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(B)	4.97	10 (£2.00)	DP232A	3.00
FSH7	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(B)	4.97	10 (£2.60)	DP192C	3.25

De La Rue

CC	Value		Bands	Issued	Source	Price
(e) De La Rue. Litho. OFNP/PVA cream gum. ES Elliptical (E1) perf.						
15 x 14. A2(B) Phosphor with blue fluor additive. No fluor in paper coating.						
FSD1	1st	Gold	2B	8.1.08	James Bond DP383	1.20
FSD2	1st	Deep yellowish gold	2B	12.2.09	Darwin DP402	1.20

Walsall

CC	Value		Bands	Phos/ Fluor	Gum	Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
(f) Walsall. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).									
Phosphor with yellow fluor additive									
SSW1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	Cream	6.4.93	4 (72p/76p)	DP193	0.55
						22.2.94	10 (£1.90)	DP212	
			CB (S2)			6.4.93	4 (72p/76p)	DP193	15.00
SSW1A	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	White	6.12.94	4 (76p)	DP193	1.50
FSW1	1st	Orange-red	2B (I3)	A(C)	Cream	6.4.93	10 (£2.40/£2.50)	DP195	0.60
						17.8.93	4 (96p/£1.00)	DP200	
			2B (S17) (I3)			6.4.93	10 (£2.40)	DP195	4.50
			2B (I2)			6.4.93	10 (£2.40)	DP195	15.00
		FSW1BB	Double broad band at right (L.£175)					DP195, 200	125.00
		FSW1BC	Single 4mm centre band (OR)					DP195, 200	190.00
		FSW1BL	Single band at left					DP195	—
		FSW1NP	Missing phosphor					DP195	175.00
		FSW1TB	One band at left, two bands at right					DP195	40.00
FSW2	1st	Orange-red	2B (I1)	A(C)	Cream	6.4.93	10 (£2.40/£2.50)	DP195/A	1.95
						22.4.94	4 (£1.00)	DP200A	
						16.5.95	4 (£1.00)	DP228	
			2B (I2)			6.4.93	10 (£2.40/£2.50)	DP195/A	1.95
						22.4.94	4 (£1.00)	DP200A	
						16.5.95	4 (£1.00)	DP228	
FSW3	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(C)	Cream	1.7.94	10 (£2.50)	DP195A	0.75
						22.4.94	4 (£1.00)	DP200A	
FSW3A	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(C)	White	8.94	10 (£2.50)	DP195A	1.00
						9.94	4 (£1.00)	DP200B	
						16.5.95	4 (£1.00)	DP228	
			2B (S16)			14.2.95	10 (£2.50)	DP195A	10.00
						16.5.95	4 (£1.00)	DP228	
			2B (I1)			8.94	10 (£2.50)	DP195A	6.50
						8.94	4 (£1.00)	DP200B	
						16.5.95	4 (£1.00)	DP228	
			2B (I2)			8.94	4 (£1.00)	DP200B	6.50
						16.5.95	4 (£1.00)	DP228	
		FSW3A/BB	One broad band at right (L.£—)					DP195A, 200B	—
		FSW3A/BC	Single 4mm centre band (OR) (OL £—)					DP195A, 200B	—
		FSW3A/NP	Missing phosphor					DP195A, 200B	150.00

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos/ Fluor</i>	<i>Gum</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>				
(g) Walsall. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1). Phosphor with blue fluor additive												
SSW2	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(B)	White	12.12.95	4 (76p/80p)	DP193A	0.80			
SSW3	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4mm)	A2(B)	White	20.12.96	4 (80p)	DP193B	2.50			
SSW4	2nd	Pale bright blue*	CB(4.5mm)	A2(B)	Dull	White	18.9.08	RAF Uniforms	DP390	1.15		
FSW4	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(B)	Dull	White	28.7.95	4 (£1.00/£1.04)	DP200C	0.75		
							22.8.95	10 (£2.50/£2.60)	DP195B			
									16.4.96	4 (£1.00)	DP236	
									28.7.95	4 (£1.00/£1.04)	DP200C/D	4.00
									22.8.95	10 (£2.50/£2.60)	DP195B	
									16.4.96	4 (£1.00)	DP236	
									28.7.95	4 (£1.00/£1.04)	DP200C/D	4.00
									22.8.95	10 (£2.50/£2.60)	DP195B	
				FSW4PEa	Additional application of phosphor over both bands					DP195B	7.50	
				FSW4PEb	Additional application of phosphor over left band					DP195B	12.50	
		FSW4PEc	Additional application of phosphor over right band					DP195B	12.50			
FSW4A	1st	Orange-red	2B	A2(B)	Dull	White	19.12.96	10 (£2.60)	DP195C	2.00		
							8.1.97	4 (£1.04)	DP200E/F			
									12.2.97	4 (£1.04)	DP248	
									8.1.97	4 (£1.04)	DP200E	6.50
									12.2.97	4 (£1.04)	DP248	
									8.1.97	4 (£1.04)	DP200E	6.50
									12.2.97	4 (£1.04)	DP248	
		FSW5	1st	Orange-red	2B	A2(B)	Bright	White	1.8.97	4 (£1.04)	DP200E	1.00
21.10.97	4 (£1.04)								DP259			
14.11.98	4 (£1.04)								DP274			
									21.10.97	4 (£1.04)	DP259	6.00
									21.10.97	4 (£1.04)	DP259	
									21.10.97	4 (£1.04)	DP259, DP274	10.00
									21.10.97	4 (£1.04)	DP259, DP274	4.50
FSW6	1st	Gold	2B	A2(B)	Dull	White	18.9.08	RAF Uniforms	DP390	1.25		

* These stamps use a fine-line litho screen process producing an enhanced image with more detail, similar in appearance to gravure printed issues.

Questa

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos/ Fluor</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>		
(h) Questa. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14. C-phosphor									
SQ5	2nd	Bright blue	SBL	A(C)	10.8.93	Potter	DP198, 199	1.25	
		SQ5ABa	Short additional band at lower-right					DP199	2.75
		SQ5ABb	Short additional band at upper-right					DP199	2.75
		SQ5NP	Missing phosphor					DP199	325.00
FQ7	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(C)	10.8.93	Potter	DP198	1.50	
			2B (I1)			10.8.93		DP198	9.50

Questa Thick Values. Initial printings of Questa 1st from booklets came with a much thicker value tablet than seen on sheet or Boots sheetlet printings. Questa standardised on the thinner type with booklet printings from October 1994.



Thick

Thin

Ellipse Shape. See page 4A/7

CC	Value	Bands	Phos/ Fluor	Ellipse	Gum	Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
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(i) Questa. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).

Phosphor with yellow fluor additive

SSQ1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	ER	Cream	6.4.93	10(£1.80/£1.90)	DP194	0.60	
							6.9.93*		Sheets Q1, Q2		
			CB (S1)					6.4.93		DP194	2.75
			CB (S2)					6.4.93		DP194	2.75
			SSQ1BL			Side band at left (displaced)				DP194	—
			SSQ1BR			Side band at right (displaced)				DP194	—
			SSQ1NP			Missing phosphor		DP194	150.00		
			SSQ1PE			Very weak phosphor		DP194	4.00		
SSQ1A	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	ES	Cream	10.94		Sheets Q3, Q4	15.00	
			CB (S2)				10.94		Sheets Q3, Q4	20.00	
SSQ2	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	ER	Cream	19.5.94	10 (£1.90)	DP194A	0.60	
			SSQ2BL			Side band at left (displaced)			DP194A	—	
SSQ3	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	ES	White	7.10.94		Sheets Q3, Q4	1.35	
			CB (S1)				7.10.94		Sheets Q3, Q4	5.00	
			CB (S2)				7.10.94		Sheets Q3, Q4	7.50	
SSQ4	2nd	Bright blue	CB	A(C)	ER	White	11.94	10 (£1.90)	DP194A	1.50	
			SSQ4BL			Side band at left (displaced)			DP194A	200.00	
			SSQ4NP			Missing phosphor			DP194A	150.00	
SSQ5	2nd	Bright blue, fluor strength reduced by half**	CB	A(C)	ER	White	22.2.95	10 (£1.90)	DP194B	1.75	
SSQ5A	2nd	Bright blue, fluor strength reduced by half**	CB	A(C)	ES	White	22.2.95	10 (£1.90)	DP194B	30.00	
FSQ1	1st	Orange-red, Thin value	2B	A(C)	ER	Cream	6.9.93*		Sheets	0.60	
							17.8.94		Boots m/s MFQ1		
			2B (S17)				6.9.93*		Sheets	15.00	
							17.8.94		Boots m/s MFQ1		
			2B (I1)				17.8.94		Boots m/s MFQ1	15.00	
			2B (I2)				17.8.94		Boots m/s MFQ1	15.00	
FSQ1NP			Missing phosphor				Boots MFQ1	750.00			

* Official issue date was 5.10.93, but pre-released in trial areas (Birmingham, Coventry, Falkirk & Milton Keynes).

** In an effort to prevent the yellow fluor interfering with automatic sorting equipment, Royal Mail instructed Questa to reduce the level of fluor added to its phosphor to half the previous amount. As a consequence the fluor is much weaker in appearance.

CC	Value	Bands	Phos/			Issued	Booklet	Source	Price			
			Fluor	Ellipse	Gum							
FSQ2	1st	Orange-red, Thick value	2B	A(C)	ER	Cream	1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	1.00		
							27.7.94	4 (£1.00)	DP219			
		2B (S16)	2B (S16)(I2)	2B (S17)	2B (I1)	2B (I2)	1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	5.00
									1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	25.00
									1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	7.50
									1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	15.00
									1.11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	12.50
		FSQ2BB	Broad band at right							DP208	—	
		FSQ2BC	Single 4mm centre band (OR)							DP208	—	
		FSQ2NP	Missing phosphor							DP219	600.00	
FSQ2A	1st	Orange-red, Thin value	2B	A(C)	ES	Cream	10.94		Boots m/s	25.00		
									MFQ2A			
		2B (I1)				10.94		MFQ2A	30.00			
		2B (I2)				10.94		MFQ2A	30.00			
FSQ2B	1st	Orange-red, Thick value, filled-in serifs	2B	A(C)	ER	Cream	11.93	10 (£2.50)	DP208	5.25		
FSQ3	1st	Orange-red, Thin value	2B	A(C)	ER	White	4.10.94	10 (£2.50)	DP208A	1.00		
FSQ3A	1st	Orange-red, Thin value	2B	A(C)	ES	White	10.94		Boots m/s MFQ2	2.00		
							4.10.94		10 (£2.50)		DP208A	
		2B (S16)	2B (S17)	2B (I1)	2B (I2)	10.94	4.10.94	10 (£2.50)		Boots m/s MFQ2	20.00	
										DP208A	10.00	
										Boots m/s MFQ2	20.00	
				10.94			Boots m/s MFQ2	22.50				
FSQ3B	1st	Orange-red, Thin value, fluor strength reduced by half*	2B	A(C)	ER	White	2.95?	10 (£2.50)	DP208B	3.50		

* In an effort to prevent the yellow fluor interfering with automatic sorting equipment, Royal Mail instructed Questa to reduce the level of fluor added to its phosphor to half the previous amount. As a consequence the fluor is much weaker in appearance.

CC	Value	Bands	Phos/			Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
			Fluor	Ellipse	Gum				
(j) Questa. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).									
Phosphor with blue fluor additive, white gum									
SSQ6	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4mm)	A(B)	ES	28.7.95	10(£1.90/£2.00)	DP194C	0.90
SSQ6A	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4mm)	A(B)	ER	20.4.96	10 (£1.90)	DP194C	30.00
SSQ7	2nd	Deep bright blue	CBr	A(B)	ES	14.11.95		Sheets Q3, Q4	1.00
								CB(S2)	
SSQ8	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB(4mm)	A(B)	ES	6.2.96	10 (£1.90/£2.00)	DP194C	1.50
								SSQ8NB	
SSQ9	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4.5mm)	A(B)	ES	5.10.96		Sheets Q5, Q6	1.25
								CB(S2)	
SSQ10	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4mm)	A2(B)	ES	18.11.97	10 (£2.00)	DP194D	1.75
SSQ11	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4.5mm)	A2(B)	ER	16.2.98		Sheets Q7, Q8	8.50

5A : NVI Stamps – Questa & Enschedé Litho and Harrison/De La Rue Gravure Issues

FSQ4	1st	Orange-red	2B	A(B)	ES	28.7.95	10 (£2.50/£2.60)	DP208C	0.95	
						11.9.95				Card m/s MFQ4
						25.9.95		Boots m/s MFQ3		
						14.11.95		Sheets Q3, Q4		
			2B (I2)			25.9.95		Boots m/s MFQ3	15.00	
		FSQ4NP	Missing phosphor					Boots MFQ3	500.00	
FSQ5	1st	Orange-red	2B(8mm)	A2(B)	ES	7.9.98	10 (£2.60)	DP208D	0.80	
						10.98				Card m/s MFQ5
						16.2.99				Profile on Print DP284
			2B (S16)			16.2.99	Profile on Print DP284	20.00		
FSQ6	1st	Orange-red	2B(7mm)	A2(B)	ER	16.2.98		Sheets Q5, Q6	8.50	
FSQ7	1st	Orange-red	2B(8mm)	A2(B)	ER	16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP284	1.25	

Enschedé

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Fluor Strength</i>	<i>Fluor Colour</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
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(k) Enschedé. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14.
A2(B) longwave afterglow phosphor with blue fluor additive

FSE1	1st	Orange-red	2B	Dull	Violet	20.2.97	Card m/s MFE1	0.75		
FSE2	1st	Orange-red	2B	Bright	Violet	98?	Card m/s MFE2	7.50		
							2B (S16)	98?	Card m/s MFE2	20.00
							2B (S17)	98?	Card m/s MFE2	20.00
FSE3	1st	Orange-red	2B	Bright	Turquoise	98?	Card m/s MFE3	95.00		

(B) Computer Engraved Gravure Printed Issues

Harrison/ De La Rue (High Wycombe)

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
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(a) Harrison. CE Gravure. OFNP/PVA layflat gum unless otherwise stated.
Perf 15 x 14 (E1). A(B) phosphor with blue fluor additive

SCH1	2nd	Pale bright blue, trial issue, dextrin gum	CB			8.7.96		vert coil CNS2	2.00			
SCH2	2nd	Pale bright blue	CB			18.4.97	10 (£2.00)	DP232B	0.80			
						29.4.97				vert coil CNS3		
SCH3	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB			4.7.01		horiz coil CNS4	1.00			
SCH4	2nd	Bright blue, dull fluor	CB			2002		vert coil CNS3A	3.25			
FCH1	1st	Gold	2B			21.4.97	10 (£2.60)	DP249	1.00			
						23.9.97				BBC	DP256	
						23.9.97				BBC	DP256	17.50
						23.9.97				BBC	DP256	10.00
						23.9.97				BBC	DP256	17.50
			2B (N4)			23.9.97	BBC	DP256	10.00			

* A major phosphor shift of over 4mm to the right, results in either broad bands at left or single centre bands. However, each stamp shows a tiny sliver of phosphor at the extreme right, on the tips of the perfs.

CC	Value		Bands	Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
FCH2	1st	Orange-red	2B	29.4.97		vert coil CNF3	0.90
				18.11.97	10 (€2.60)	DP192D	
				4.7.01		horiz coil CNF4	
FCH3	1st	Deep orange-red	2B	16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	0.85
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	5.50
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	3.75
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	2.75
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	3.00
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	15.00
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	17.50
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	15.00
				16.2.99	Profile on Print	DP280	25.00
				FCH3BB	Broad band at left*	DP280	12.50
				FCH3OL	Single 4.5mm band off-centre to left*	DP280	12.50
FCH4	1st	Orange-red, dull fluor	2B	2002		vert coil CNF3A	3.25
ECH1	E	Deep blue	2B	5.10.99		Cyl. 1	0.70

De La Rue (Byfleet or Dunstable)

CC	Value		Bands	Issued	Source	Price
(b) De La Rue. CE Gravure. OFNP/PVA cream gum. ES Elliptical (E1) perf. 15 x 14. A2(B) Phosphor with blue fluor additive. No fluor in paper coating.						
SCD1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	26.9.03	vert coil CNS6	1.00
SCD2	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB	9.03	vert coil CNS7	2.25
SCD3	2nd	Very bright blue, pale Queen's head	CB	2004	vert coil CNS8	1.40
SCD4	2nd	Bright blue, deep Queen's head	CB	5.6.07	cyl D3	0.85
SCD5	2nd	Turquoise bright blue, pale Queen's head, dull fluor	CB	10.07	vert coil CNS9	1.65
FCD1	1st	Gold	2B	28.5.03	vert coil CNF7	1.20
				16.3.04	Letters by Night DP350	
				16.3.04	Letters by Night DP350	25.00
FCD2	1st	Gold, pale Queen's head	2B	1.6.03	cyl D1	0.80
				1.6.03	cyl D1	13.75
				1.6.03	cyl D1	25.00
				1.6.03	cyl D1	0.00
				FCD2IMP	Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)	cyl D1
FCD3	1st	Gold, pale Queen's head, no photo-negative effect*	2B	30.11.04	vert coil CNF8	1.75
FCD4	1st	Deep gold, pale Queen's head, dull fluor	2B	4.06	cyl D1	3.00
			2B (I2)	4.06	cyl D1	25.00
FCD5	1st	Deep yellowish gold, deep Queen's head, dull fluor	2B	30.4.07	cyl D2	1.05

* All previous versions of this stamp showed a clear photo-negative effect when held up to the light. These stamps from rolls of 1,000 are missing this effect.

Walsall



Head 1



Head 2

1st Gold Head Types. Two head types appear to have been used on the 1st gold issues, released to mark the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh's Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1997. Head 1, seen only on initial sheet printings, has a weak and poorly defined base, similar to pre-decimal Head Type A. Later sheet printings and all booklet issues use Head 2. This has a clearly defined base to the Queen's head.

Perforations. In most cases, Walsall have used an in line APS rotary perforating unit on their Chesnut gravure press. However, during a period where adjustment was being made to their bursting machines, this unit was not available. In this instance they resorted to using a stand-alone Bickel comb perforator. These two perforation types are readily identifiable, the easiest method of differentiation being as follows. Rotary finishes usually show swarfage or waste not perfectly ground away from the perforation holes on the reverse of the stamp. Comb perfs, in contrast, usually show a crisp and clean finish with no apparent wastage. In the listing, all perforations are Rotary unless otherwise stated.



**Walsall
ES Ellipse**

**Walsall
ER Ellipse**

Rotary finishes usually show swarfage or waste not perfectly ground away from the perforation holes on the reverse of the stamp. Comb perfs, in contrast, usually show a crisp and clean finish with no apparent wastage. In the listing, all perforations are Rotary unless otherwise stated.

Ellipse Shape. Similar to Questa litho issues, Walsall have used two shapes of ellipse. The standard type is similar to Questa ES types, with a straighter side. However, a proportion of the 2nd class sheet values from warrant 527 printing of October 1998, and stamps from 1999 label panes used an ER type with much more rounded sides. It also appears shorter than the standard ES versions.

Glossy Appearance. See page 4A/13.

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Perf</i>	<i>Fluor</i>	<i>Finish</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
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(c) Walsall. CE Gravure. OFNP/PVA. ES Elliptical (E1) perfs, gauge as indicated. Rotary perfs, unless otherwise stated. A2(B) Phosphor with blue fluor additive

SCW1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	29.4.97		Sheets W1	0.70
SCW2	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	26.8.97	4 (80p)	DP251	1.00
SCW3	2nd	Deep bright blue, comb perfs	CB	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	10.97	4 (80p)	DP251	1.40
SCW4	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	11.97?	4 (80p/76p)	DP251	0.70
SCW5	2nd	Deep bright blue, comb perfs	CB	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	11.97?	4 (80p)	DP251	1.50
SCW5A	2nd	Bright blue, comb perfs	CB	15 x 14	Bright	Matt	11.97?		Sheets W3	3.00

5A : NVI Stamps – Walsall Gravure Issues

CC	Value		Bands	Perf	Fluor	Finish	Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
SCW6	2nd	Bright blue	SBL	14	Bright	Glossy	13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP271	1.00
			SBL (S4)				13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP271	8.50
			SBL (S5)				13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP271	20.00
			SBL (I1)				13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP271	30.00
SCW7	2nd	Bright blue	SBR	14	Bright	Glossy	13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP270	1.10
			SBR (S7)				13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP270	20.00
			SBR (S8)				13.10.98	Breaking Barriers	DP270	20.00
SCW8	2nd	Deep bright blue, CB ER ellipse, very pale Queen's head*	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	13.4.99		Sheets W5	1.10	
SCW9	2nd	Deep bright blue, CB ES ellipse, very pale Queen's head*	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	13.4.99		Sheets W5	1.10	
SCW10	2nd	Bright blue, ER ellipse, deep Queen's head	CB	15 x 14	Bright Whitish	Glossy	2.6.03	Perfect Coronation	DP343	1.00
			SCW10AB (S1)	CB (S1) Short CB at top, two additional short side bands at top			2.6.03	Perfect Corontaion	DP343	5.00
								DP343	5.00	
SCW11	2nd	Deep bright blue, snowy print., ER ellipse, deep Queen's head SCW11/2B	CB	15 x 14	Bright Whitish	Glossy	2.6.03	Perfect Coronation	DP343	1.75
				Additional narrow band at right						DP343
SCW12	2nd	Turquoise blue, ER ellipse, pale Queen's head	CB	15 x 14	Bright Whitish	Glossy	24.2.05	Bronte Sisters	DP355	1.15
			SCW12/2B	CB (S2) Additional narrow band at left			24.2.05	Bronte Sisters	DP355	25.00
								DP355	32.50	
FCW1	1st	Pale gold, head 1	2B	15 x 14	Dull	Shiny	21.4.97		Sheets W1	1.00
FCW2	1st	Pale gold, head 2	2B	15 x 14	Dull	Shiny	30.5.97	10 (£2.60)	DP250 (W2)	1.95
FCW2A	1st	Pale gold, head 2, comb perfs	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Shiny	10.97	10 (£2.60)	DP250 (W2)	17.50
FCW2B	1st	Pale gold, head 2	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Shiny	30.5.97	10 (£2.60)	DP250 (W2)	2.50
FCW3	1st	Deep gold, head 2	2B	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	21.4.97	10 (£2.60)	DP250 (W1)	1.50
FCW4	1st	Deep gold, head 2	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Matt	21.4.97	10 (£2.60)	DP250 (W1)	1.25
							21.4.97			
FCW5	1st	Deep gold, head 2, snowy print	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Matt	21.4.97	10 (£2.60)	DP250 (W1)	5.00
FCW6	1st	Pale orange-red FCW6NP	2B	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	26.8.97	4 (£1.04)	DP252	0.75
				Missing phosphor						
FCW6A	1st	Pale orange-red, comb perfs	2B	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	10.97	4 (£1.04)	DP252	3.00
FCW7	1st	Bright orange-red, comb perfs	2B	15 x 14	Dull	Matt	18.11.97	10 (£2.60)	DP262	1.20

* Pale Queen's head is the result of Walsall's use of a finer gravure screen – 300 line per inch as opposed to 250 lpi used for earlier printings. This enables the Queen's profile to be made up of finer dots/lines, which causes the paler effect and gives an image closer to Arnold Machin's original sculpture than was previously possible.

5A : NVI Stamps – Walsall Gravure Issues

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Perf</i>	<i>Fluor</i>	<i>Finish</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
FCW8	1st Bright orange-red	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Matt	18.11.97		Sheets W1	1.00
	FCW8NP	Missing phosphor				11.97?	4 (£1.04)	DP252	600.00
FCW9	1st Bright orange-red, comb perfs	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Matt	10.97	4 (£1.04)	DP252	1.50
	FCW9/MLB	Left band omitted						DP252	400.00
	FCW9/NP	Missing phosphor						DP252	600.00
FCW10	1st Bright orange-red	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	3.98	4 (£1.04)	DP252	0.80
						10.3.98	10 (£2.60)	DP262	
						12.5.99	10 (£2.60)*	DP291	
FCW11	1st Pale orange-red	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	3.98	4 (£1.04)	DP252	1.50
	FCW11/2NB (I1)	8mm phosphor, inset left band						DP252	25.00
	FCW11PEa	Additional application of phosphor over left band						DP252	10.00
	FCW11PEb	Additional application of phosphor over right band						DP252	10.00
FCW12	1st Pale orange-red, ER ellipse, thicker value tablet very pale Queen's head*	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	12.5.99	4 (£1.04)	DP289	1.10
						1.10.99	4 (£1.04)	DP298	
		2B (S17)				1.10.99	4 (£1.04)	DP298	15.00
		2B (I2)				12.5.99	4 (£1.04)	DP289	4.00
FCW13	1st Pale orange-red, ES ellipse, thicker value tablet very pale Queen's head**	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	25.5.99		Sheets W1	1.10
FCW14	1st Deep gold, ER ellipse, deep Queen's head	2B	15 x 14	Bright Whitish	Glossy	2.6.03	Perfect Coronation	DP343	1.10
		2B (S16)				2.6.03	Perfect Coronation	DP343	5.00
	FCW14AB (S16)	Short side bands at top, additional short CB at top						DP343	5.00
FCW15	1st Yellowish gold, ER ellipse, deep Queen's head	2B	15 x 14	Bright Whitish	Glossy	2.6.03	Perfect Coronation	DP343	1.75
		2B (I2)				2.6.03	Perfect Coronation	DP343	15.00
FCW16	1st Deep gold, ER ellipse, deep Queen's head	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	18.10.05	Trafalgar	DP360	1.15
		2B (S17)				18.10.05	Trafalgar	DP360	5.00
ECW1	E Deep blue	2B	15 x 14	Bright	Glossy	19.1.99	4 (£1.20/£1.44)	DP279	0.70

* Booklet contained 8 x NVI 1st Machins & 2 x 26p commemoratives

** Pale Queen's head is the result of Walsall's use of a finer gravure screen – 300 line per inch as opposed to 250 lpi used for earlier printings. This enables the Queen's profile to be made up of finer dots/lines, which causes the paler effect and gives an image closer to Arnold Machin's original sculpture than was previously possible.

Questa

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Perf</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
(d) Questa. CE Gravure. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).							
Phosphor with blue fluor additive, white gum							
SCQ1	2nd	Bright blue, patchy, uneven background	CB	14	1.12.98	10 (£2.00)	DP275 0.75
SCQ2	2nd	Deep bright blue, smooth, even background, added OBA paper	CB	14	7.99?	10 (£2.00)	DP275 1.45
SCQ3	2nd	Dull mid-blue, smooth, even background	CB	14	14.3.00	10 (£2.00)	DP275 0.90
SCQ4	2nd	Bright turquoise blue	CB	15 x 14	27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 0.60
			CB (S1)		27.4.00	£2 vending	DP312
					27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 4.00
					27.4.00	£2 vending	DP312
			CB (S2)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 15.00
		SCQ4/2Ba	Additional narrow band at left				DP311 25.00
		SCQ4/2Ba (S1)	Additional narrow band at left, short band top				DP311 10.00
		SCQ4/2Bb (S1)	Additional narrow band at right, short band top				DP311 10.00
		SCQ4BR	Narrow band at right, short at top				DP312 7.50
SCQ5	2nd	Bright blue, dull fluor	CB	15 x 14	17.4.01	£1 vending	DP311A 1.10
		SCQ5/2Ba	Additional narrow band at left				DP311A 30.00
SCQ6	2nd	Bright blue, pale Queen's head, bright fluor	CB	15 x 14	4.01	£1 vending	DP311A 2.00
			CB (S1)		4.01	£2 vending	DP312
		SCQ6/2Bb (S1)	Additional narrow band at right, short band top				DP311A 10.00
					4.01		DP311A 25.00
SCQ7	2nd	Bright blue, pale Queen's head, dull fluor	CB	15 x 14	4.01	£1 vending	DP311A 2.00
			CB (S1)		4.01	£2 vending	DP312
					4.01		DP311A, 312 10.00
FCQ1	1st	Orange-red	2B	14	1.12.98	10 (£2.60)	DP276 0.80
FCQ2	1st	Orange-red	2B	15 x 14	27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 0.80
					27.4.00	£2 vending	DP312
			2B (S16)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 4.00
			2B (S16) (I1)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 5.50
			2B (S16) (I2)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 6.00
			2B (S17)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 25.00
			2B (I1)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 25.00
			2B (N1)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 15.00
			2B (N2)		27.4.00	£1 vending	DP311 15.00
		FCQ2AB (S16)	Additional short band at centre, bands short at top				DP311, 312 4.00
		FCQ2BB	Broad band at left				DP312 15.00
		FCQ2BB (S16)	Broad band at left, short band at top				DP312 17.50
FCQ3	1st	Orange-red, dull fluor	2B	15 x 14	17.4.01	£1 vending	DP311A 1.15
			2B (I1)		17.4.01	£1 vending	DP311A 25.00

5A : NVI Stamps – Questa/Enschedé Gravure Issues

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Perf</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
FCQ4	1st Orange-red, pale Queen's head, bright fluor	2B	15 x 14	4.01	£1 vending	DP311A	1.50
				4.01	£2 vending	DP312	
		2B (S16)		4.01	£1 vending	DP311A	25.00
		2B (S16) (I2)		4.01	£1 vending	DP311A	20.00
		2B (N2)		4.01	£1 vending	DP311A	
	FCQ4AB (S16)	Additional short band at centre, bands short at top			DP311A	10.00	
FCQ5	1st Orange-red, pale Queen's head, dull fluor	2B	15 x 14	4.01	£1 vending	DP311A	1.50
				4.01	£2 vending	DP312	
		FCQ5AB (S16)	Additional short band at centre, bands short at top			DP311A, 312	9.00
FCQ6	1st Gold	2B	15 x 14	24.9.02	Across Universe	DP337	1.00
ECQ1	E Deep blue	2B	15 x 14	24.9.02	Across Universe	DP337	1.30

Enschedé

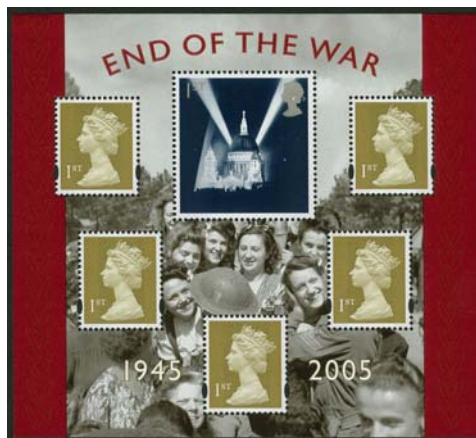
<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Fluor</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
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**(e) Enschedé. CE Gravure. OFNP/PVA gum with a bluish tint. Perf 15 x 14 (E1).
A(B) phosphor with blue fluor additive.**

SCE1	2nd Bright blue	CB	Bright violet	6.2.02	Accession pane	DP331	0.90	
		SCE1/2B	Additional narrow band at right			DP331	15.00	
		SCE1/2B (S2)	Additional narrow band at right, short band at bottom			DP331	5.50	
		SCE1AB (S2)	Short additional side bands at bottom, centre band short at bottom			DP331	6.50	
SCE2	2nd Pale bright blue	CB	Bright whitish	15.10.02	vert coil	CNS5	1.00	
FCE1	1st Gold	2B	Bright whitish	5.10.02	vert coil	CNF5	1.20	
		2B (I2)		5.10.02	vert coil	CNF5	7.50	
FCE2	1st Pale gold	2B	Dull violet	25.2.03	Microcosmos pane	DP340	1.35	
		2B (S16)		25.2.03		DP340	25.00	
		2B (I2)		25.2.03		DP340	10.00	
FCE3	1st Gold	2B	Bright violet	10.02	vert coil	CNF6	2.00	
		2B (I2)		10.02	vert coil	CNF6	10.00	
FCE4	1st Deep gold	2B	Dull violet	25.5.04	Garden pane	DP351	1.25	
		2B (S17)		25.5.04		DP351	17.50	
		2B (I1)		25.5.04		DP351	35.00	
FCE5	1st Gold	2B	Dull violet	5.7.05	End of War m/s		1.00	
		2B (S16)		5.7.05	End of War m/s		7.50	
		2B (S17)(I2)		5.7.05	End of War m/s		15.00	
		2B (I1)		5.7.05	End of War m/s		30.00	
		2B (I2)		5.7.05	End of War m/s		8.50	
FCE6	1st Deep yellowish gold, pale Queen's head	2B	Bright violet	23.2.06	Brunel	DP366	1.25	
ECE1	E Deep blue	2B	Bright violet	6.2.02	Accession pane	DP331	1.25	
		2B (S17) (I2)		6.2.02		DP331	5.50	
		2B (I2)		6.2.02		DP331	6.50	
		ECE1AB (S17)(I2)	Short additional band at centre, short bands at bottom, inset right band				DP331	6.50
							DP331	6.50

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Fluor</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
ECE2	E Deep blue	2B	Dull violet	25.2.03	Microcosmos pane DP340	1.50
		2B (S16)		25.2.03	DP340	25.00
		2B (I2)		25.2.03	DP340	22.50

End of War Miniature Sheet



FCEMS1	End of War Miniature sheet (contains 5 x 1st gold & 1 x Peace & Freedom 1st St Paul's cathedral)	2B		5.7.05		3.50
		2B (S16)		5.7.05		17.50
		2B (S17)(I2)		5.7.05		55.00
		2B (I1)		5.7.05		125.00
		2B (I2)		5.7.05		45.00

(C) Greetings Card Miniature Sheets



Layout 1

The first in a series of miniature sheets was issued in August 1994. Produced in response to an approach from Boots, the high street chemist chain, the sheet was designed to be sold shrinkwrapped inside the packing of a greetings card, creating a complete, ready-to-post package. The sheet, measuring 85mm x 43mm, contained a single NVI 1st stamp, printed by The House of Questa, with a selvedge all round. This selvedge had a Boots logo printed directly above the stamp and the wording “FREE First class stamp included in the price” alongside it. The sheet was rouletted diagonally from each bottom corner to the centre of the top edge, enabling it to be folded around the corner of the greetings card. On what would then form the flaps behind the card, there was a Royal Mail legend and a short message about NVI validity.

Aside from being available inside cards in Boots stores, the sheet also saw philatelic release in an unfolded form, which proved to be very popular and quickly sold out. To meet both Boots’ and philatelic demand, a reprint was released in October 1994. The reprint is distinguishable from the original in that it is approx. 1mm shorter (42 – 43mm).



Layout 2

In September 1995 Royal Mail released a revised version of the sheet. In an effort to market the idea to other retailers and also to prevent copyright complications, the Boots logo was removed. The layout was also revised so that the triangular portion of the sheet that shows at the front of the cellophane wrapped package bore no printing other

than the stamp. On the reverse one flap bore the NVI validity notice and the other a Royal Mail copyright line. The printing on the sheet surrounds was in a deeper grey-blue.

Enschede took over the printing of these sheets in 1997, producing a much improved looking version, albeit with the same layout, through their high resolution litho process. In 1998, Boots decided to discontinue this particular promotion, and apart from stores in the Kingfisher group, who used the sheets for a range of gift vouchers, no further retailers were interested in adopting the scheme, and production stopped in 1999.

As these were printed over a period of five years, different printings of the sheets show many of the production changes that were evident on booklet and sheet stamps, and form an interesting group. These were not made available philatelically and could only be found in greetings cards inside stores. In these instances examples are therefore only known folded along the rouletting. Where this is the case, it is indicated by a ❖.

Examples of the unbranded sheets are known overprinted to mark national international exhibitions or as dealers' promotional items. Although collectable, these overprints are unofficial and were not sanctioned by Royal Mail. Accordingly we do not list them here.

CC	Layout		Stamp		Phos/ Fluor		Stamp		CC No	Issued	Price
	Type		Contents	Bands	Ellipse	Gum					

(a) Questa. Litho. Rouletted folding. Selvedge wording in blue. OFNP/PVA.

Stamp perf 15 x 14 (E1), phosphor with yellow or blue fluor additive as indicated.

MFQ1	1	Boots, 43mm in height	1 x 1st	2B	A(C)	ER	Cream	FSQ1	17.8.94	2.00
				2B (S17)				FSQ1 (S17)		20.00
		MFQ1NP	Missing phosphor	2B (I1)				FSQ1 (I1)		15.00
				2B (I2)				FSQ1 (I2)		15.00
								FSQ1NP		750.00
MFQ2	1	Boots, 42mm in height	1 x 1st	2B	A(C)	ES	White	FSQ3A	10.94	2.00
				2B (S16)				FSQ3A (S16)		20.00
				2B (I1)				FSQ3A (I1)		10.00
				2B (I2)				FSQ3A (I2)		15.00
MFQ2A	1	Boots, 42mm in height	1 x 1st	2B	A(C)	ES	Cream	FSQ2A	10.94	25.00
				2B (I1)				FSQ2A (I1)		30.00
				2B (I2)				FSQ2A (I2)		30.00
MFQ3	1	Boots, 42mm in height❖	1 x 1st	2B	A(B)	ES	White	FSQ4	25.9.95	5.00
				2B (I2)				FSQ4 (I2)		15.00
		MFQ3NP	Missing phosphor					FSQ4NP		500.00
MFQ4	2	Unbranded, short roulette holes*	1 x 1st	2B	A(B)	ES	White	FSQ4	11.9.95	0.95
MFQ5	2	Unbranded, long roulette holes❖**	1 x 1st	2B	A2(B)	ES	White	FSQ5	10.98	9.50
										MFQ5EE

* Apart from the phosphor, it is possible to identify these two types by the length and spacing of the rouletting holes. Those on MFQ4 are shorter and further apart. Those on MFQ5 are longer and closer together.

** It appears that one of the ellipses on the perforator used for greetings card sheets suffered damage. When repaired, however, the ellipse applied was not the ES type as used on the remainder of the perforating comb, but instead an ER type was erroneously installed. It is likely that this occurred late in the print run, due to the scarcity of these items.



MFQ4 Roulette



MFQ5 Roulette

CC	Layout Type	Stamp Contents	Bands	Fluor Strength	Fluor Tint	CC No	Issued	Price
(b) Enschedé. Litho. Rouletted folding. Selvedge wording in blue. OFNP/PVA. Stamp perf 15 x 14 (E1), phosphor with A2 -blue fluor additive.								
MFE1	2	Unbranded	1 x 1st	2B	Dull	Violet	FSE1	20.2.97 0.75
MFE2	2	Unbranded❖	1 x 1st	2B 2B (S16) 2B (S17)	Bright	Violet	FSE2 FSE2 (S16) FSE2 (S17)	98? 7.50 20.00 20.00
MFE3	2	Unbranded❖	1 x 1st	2B	Bright	Turquoise	FSE3	98? 95.00

(D) Label Sheets

In an attempt to introduce the concept of using postally related products to commemorate important events and anniversaries to the general stamp using public, Royal Mail started to issue commemorative labels in counter booklets of 1st x 4 stamps in 1994. To ensure a comfortable fit inside a standard sized booklet, the label measured the size of six standard definitives, thus, with the stamps attached, creating a block the size of a standard pane of 10. It was perforated at its vertical edges where it was attached se-tenant to a block of four NVI 1st Machins, but was imperforate at top and bottom. As well as appearing in booklets, Royal Mail initially made loose unfolded label sheets available purely to aid preparation of first day covers, but after seeing the popularity of the first issue which rapidly sold out, they later sold them as collectable sheets in their own right.

The Questa printed Bank of England sheet had the label positioned between the selvedge at the left and the stamps at the right. However, when inserted in the booklet



**Format A
Questa
(LS1)**

**Format B
Walsall
(LS2)**



Both sheets illustrated at 70% of original size

this had the disadvantage of causing the label to be folded through. Subsequent issues, which have all been Walsall printed, have the label and stamps transposed, so that the fold coincides with the perforations joining them. In addition, Walsall produced labels are perforated around their entire perimeter.

We list plain and plate/cylinder copies of these sheets, and include a reference to the DP number for the same pane that appears in booklets. Where inset or short phosphor bands are listed, it should be assumed that the bands that are short or inset affect only the stamps on that edge, e.g. on an (I2) sheet only the left vertical pair of stamps will have their left bands inset. Inset and short band listings refer only to unfolded label sheets. It is quite possible that other short or inset bands occur in folded booklet panes, but this is outside the scope of this section of the catalogue. Prices listed are for unfolded panes that have undisturbed gum on the selvage – folded panes, removed from booklets, are commonly worth less. For technical details of the stamps contained in the sheets, please see the relevant pages of the Questa and Walsall listings, which can be obtained from the stamp contents cross reference. See also Section 6, page 53 for label sheets containing Millennium Machins.

<i>CC</i>	<i>Format</i>	<i>Plate or cyl</i>	<i>Stamp Contents</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Stamp CC No</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Pane</i>	<i>Price</i>
(a) Questa. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1)								
LS1	A	Bank of England Tercentenary	4 x 1st	2B	FSQ2	27.7.94	DP219	5.00
		Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 Q1 (Q1)		2B				7.00
(b) Walsall. Litho. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1)								
LS2	B	R.J.Mitchell Birth Centenary	4 x 1st	2B	FSW2	16.5.95	DP228	3.50
		W25 W33 W33		2B (I1)				5.00
				2B				4.25
				2B (I1)				6.00
LS3	B	Queen's 70th Birthday	4 x 1st	2B	FSW4	16.4.96	DP236	3.50
		W37 W45 W48		2B (I1)				12.50
				2B				4.25
				2B (I1)				15.00
		W38 W45 W49		2B				4.25
LS4	B	Hong Kong Stamp Exhibition	4 x 1st	2B	FSW4A	12.2.97	DP248	3.25
		W49 W52 W61		2B (I1)				12.00
				2B				4.25
				2B (I1)				13.00
LS5	B	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Original Printing*	4 x 1st	2B	FSW5	21.10.97	DP259	7.50
				2B (S17)				12.50
				2B (I2)				12.50
		W56 W59 W69		2B				10.00
				2B (S17)				13.00
				2B (I2)				13.00

* Royal Mail grossly underestimated the demand for this sheet, which sold out on the day of issue. Consequently they were forced to make a reprint, which is clearly distinguishable by the features on the label: Original printing – Inscription panel is printed in a shiny silver and the text is in a strong deep blue colour; Reprint – Inscription panel is printed in a matt, mottled silver and the text is in a weaker, paler blue colour. In addition the stamps are in a slightly paler shade and the fluor is somewhat brighter under UV.

CC	Format	Plate or cyl	Stamp Contents	Bands	Stamp CCNo	Issued	Pane	Price
LS5A	B	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Reprint*	4 x 1st	2B 2B (S17) 2B (I1) 2B (I2)	FSW5	3.11.97	DP259	6.00 11.00 20.00 10.00
		W56 W59 W69		2B 2B (S17) 2B (I1) 2B (I2)				6.00 12.00 20.00 11.00
LS6	B	Prince of Wales' 50th Birthday	4 x 1st	2B 2B (I1) 2B (I2)	FSW5	14.11.98	DP274	5.50 15.00 17.50
		W56 W59 W69		2B 2B (I1) 2B (I2)				7.50 17.50 17.50

(c) Walsall. Gravure. OFNP/PVA. Perf 15 x 14 (E1)

LS7	B	50th Anniversary of Berlin Airlift	4 x 1st	2B W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)	FCW12	12.5.99	DP289	2.50 3.50
LS8	B	Rugby World Cup	4 x 1st	2B 2B (S17)	FCW12	1.10.99	DP298	2.50 30.00 3.50
		W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)		2B				

(d) Walsall. Gravure. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 15 x 14 (E1).

LS11	C	Centenary of Queen Victoria's Death**	6 x 1st	2B W1 W1 W1 W1 (W1)	FWV2	29.1.01	SP7	4.50 5.25
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* See footnote on page 5A/18

** Due to the changeover to self-adhesive booklets it was necessary to change the format of label panes. As a consequence, instead of being attached se-tenant to the stamps, the self-adhesive label is printed on the inside of the front cover. This only proved to be a partial solution to what proved to be an insoluble problem and proved to be widely unpopular. As a result, this became the last of all label sheets. Strictly speaking, as a self-adhesive item, it should be included under the following sub-section. However, for simplicity it is included herewith other label sheets.

For label sheets LS9 and LS10 see Millenium issues on page 6A/11



illustrated at 70% of original size

**Format C
Walsall
(LS11)**

(E) Self-Adhesive Issues

First Horizontal Format Trial



In October 1993, a new format NVI stamp was introduced. This was in a horizontal or landscape format, which despite the potential design imbalance of using a smaller head type along with the existing size value tablet, works remarkably well, a testament to the skill of designer Jeffery Matthews. The landscape format was adopted as a means of readily distinguishing a self-adhesive trial from conventional NVI definitives, within the postal system. The initial trial ran for six months in the Tyne-Tees postal area and was introduced to gauge consumer reaction to self-adhesive stamps.

These self-adhesives emanated from booklets of twenty stamps, in which the booklet cover doubles as the backing card. The stamps, which are kiss die-cut to simulate perforations (including an ellipse) are removed by bending and peeling away from the cover. As considerable technological innovation was required to produce a workable product, the then current world-leaders in self-adhesive stamp production, Walsall Security Printers Ltd, were contracted to print the booklets. The stamps are offset litho printed, on CPL Chancellor grade paper. There are, in fact, two layers of gum used to aid the soaking of used stamps from paper, a matter considered of considerable importance by Royal Mail in giving these self-adhesives credibility as “real stamps”. The self-adhesive gum (a polymerised acrylic ester) is applied over a conventional layer of Polyvinyl Alcohol. This PVA sandwich layer prevents migration of the more volatile pressure sensitive acrylic gum into the stamp paper (a problem encountered in early self-adhesive stamps and labels, which eventually degrades and destroys the stamp) and acts as a water soluble barrier layer, enabling release from backing paper when soaked off in the conventional manner. Other features of the stamp are similar to those that were currently in use for other security printed issues.

The trial proved very popular with the majority of the public, but some problems were encountered. Reports in the national press at the time revealed that the cancellation ink could be easily removed from the surface of the stamp, leaving the stamps open to possible reuse by the unscrupulous. In fact there was a fugitivity problem with cancellation ink in the early stages of the trial, but this was rapidly resolved by the provision of a slightly reformulated ink. More fundamental was the difficulty encountered by postal users when trying to remove the stamps from the booklet. This was partly due to the thickness of the backing card, but mostly due to the adhesive itself. The situation grew worse as the booklets became older, as changes in the chemical composition of the acrylic made it more elastic, and, consequently, harder to extract from the backing paper without pulling the book to pieces.

As a matter of convenience, mint examples of these (and other) self-adhesives are best collected on rectangles of backing card or paper.

CC No.	Value		Bands	Date	Booklet	Source	Price
(a) Horizontal Format. Walsall. Litho. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 14 x 15 (E1). A(C) phosphor							
FWH1	1st	Orange-red	2B	19.10.93	20 (£4.80/£5.00)	DP202, 202A, 203	0.90
			2B (S16)				12.50
			2B (I1)				
			Phosphor bands printed twice				5.00
		FWH1DPI	Missing phosphor			DP202, 202A, 203	250.00
		FWH1NP					
FWH2	1st	Deep orange-red	2B	19.10.93	20 (£4.80/£5.00)	DP202, 202A, 203	1.75

Second Horizontal Format Trial



It was over 3 years before further self-adhesives were issued. Royal Mail had used the intervening time to absorb the lessons learned from the initial trial and taken advice from other major postal authorities round the world, such as France, USA and New Zealand who, by then, had already had considerable experience with self-adhesives.

Royal Mail decided to use a coil format for this issue. Although both 1st and 2nd values had been essayed for the 1993 trial, only 1st booklets were released. This time, however, both 1st and 2nd values were made available in coil strips of 100. Once again the trial took place within a restricted area – this time in the Scotland and Northern Ireland postal regions and then only to offices which had a high proportion of business users, Royal Mail's target market for this product.

Enschede were commissioned to print these new stamps in gravure, the process now preferred by Royal Mail. The horizontal format was again chosen as a method to easily assess volumes being used in the mail. The value tablets of these versions are appreciably larger in size when compared to the Walsall trial, the "ST" measuring 22.5mm x 40mm compared to 15mm x 28mm. The stamps are positioned approximately 30mm apart on a translucent silicone backing paper. To ease removal from the paper, the surrounding self-adhesive paper which doesn't form part of the stamp, was stripped away during the reeling and slitting process. As before the stamps have simulated perforations, die cut at the standard gauge of 14 x 15.

The coils were only sold in complete rolls of 100, boxed in a Royal Mail branded carton which doubled as dispenser for stamps. These boxes make an attractive adjunct to any collection, as they can be easily flattened and displayed on an album page.



B Phosphor/Fluor. Enschedé's horizontal format self-adhesive coil trials were produced during a year when their source of supply for blue fluor additive was changing regularly. The different tints of these fluors are readily identifiable under longwave UV and match the similar changes that were also taking place on their conventionally gummed sheet stamps simultaneously. Accordingly we use the same definitions for phosphor/fluor variants.

- (B2) Strong and solid blue fluor with a violet tint
- (B2b) Strong and solid very bright blue fluor with a violet tint
- (B3) Strong and solid blue fluor with a whitish tint
- (B4) Strong and solid blue fluor with a yellowish tint

Larger Image Area. Traditionally the image area (that is the printed design excluding the white unprinted border) of a Machin definitive measures 17.75 x 21.75mm, and the original intention was for these stamps to match that, even if rotated by 90°. However, due to problems in the computer manipulation of the image when creating the printing cylinders (similar to those encountered with the 19p and 38p values from the Special Design Book, WG190 & WG381), the image area was actually created 0.5mm too small in both width and height. It was therefore, a significant surprise when, some 5 years after it's initial availability a used example was found in kiloware which showed the standard Machin image area. The copy was handstamp with a 1997 datestamp, implying that it must have come from some of the earliest printings. How this, and the few subsequent mint and used examples that have since turned up, occurred is open to conjecture, but it would seem likely that these were some of the very first stamps printed, possibly as essays or trials, before the smaller design cylinders were created for full scale production.

<i>CC No.</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Bands</i>	<i>Phos/ Fluor</i>	<i>Fluor Tint</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
(b) Horizontal Format. Enschedé. CE Gravure. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 14 x 15 (E1). A2(B) blue phosphor, with tint colour as indicated.								
SEH1	2nd	Bright blue	CB CB (S1) CB (S2)	A2(B2)	Dull violet	18.3.97	coil CSAS1 coil CSAS1 coil CSAS1	0.90 2.95 15.00
SEH1A	2nd	Bright blue, larger image area*	CB	A2(B2)	Dull violet	1997	coil CSAS1	300.00
SEH2	2nd	Bright blue	CB CB (S2)	A2(B3)	White	98	coil CSAS2 coil CSAS2	25.00 20.00
SEH3	2nd	Bright blue	CB CB (S2)	A2(B4)	Yellow	98	coil CSAS3 coil CSAS3	4.00 10.00
SEH4	2nd	Bright blue*	CB	A2(B2b)	Bright violet	98	coil CSAS4	—
FEH1	1st	Orange-red	2B 2B (S16) 2B (S16) (I2) 2B (S17) 2B (I1) 2B (I2)	A2 (B2)	Dull violet	18.3.97	coil CSAF1 coil CSAF1 coil CSAF1 coil CSAF1 coil CSAF1 coil CSAF1	1.00 5.00 30.00 6.50 17.50 17.50

* It was initially believed that only used copies had been discovered. However, 24 mint copies were found in 2009

CC No.	Value		Bands	Phos/ Fluor	Fluor Tint	Date	Source	Price
FEH2	1st	Orange-red	2B	A2(B3)	White	98	coil CSAF2	2.00
			2B (S16)				coil CSAF2	20.00
			2B (S17)				coil CSAF2	12.50
FEH4	1st	Orange-red	2B	A2(B2b)	Bright violet	98	coil CSAF3	20.00
			2B (I2)				coil CSAF3	15.00
			2B (S16) (I2)				coil CSAF3	20.00

FEH3 was reserved for 1st with yellow tinted fluor, but, to date, this variant has not been discovered.

Flattened empty coil boxes of 100 for both 1st and 2nd values are often sold by dealers to display on album pages. These are commonly priced at £3.50 each.

Vertical Format Issues

By early 1998, the self-adhesive rolls of 100 had proven to be a huge success – over ½ million boxes were stated to have been sold (although the breakdown between 1st and 2nd values was never given). The next stage in their development was to make them available to a wider public by adding London and the South East to the areas where they were to be available. As the official trial period was now over, Royal Mail decided that there was no longer any need to identify when self-adhesive stamps were being used on mail, so the format reverted to the conventional vertical (or portrait) layout of other NVI Machins. The boxed coils had proven very popular with the public, but were expensive to produce. To counter this Royal Mail made the new vertical layout stamps available in two formats – in sheets of 100 and in boxed coil rolls but now of 200 rather than 100 (reducing the per stamp cost incurred by the dispensing box by half, and taking in twice as much revenue in advance of the stamps' use).



Enschede continued to print the coil stamps in gravure, much in the same way as before until their withdrawal in 2000. However, the sheet printing contract was awarded to Walsall Security Printers. Again aimed at the business user, and sold only in complete units, it was important that

the sheets were compact so they were simple and quick to despatch for direct postal sales and clearly branded for sales over the post office counter. They were folded, concertina fashion, into five separate panels so that just the top pane was visible when initially presented. Unfolded, a sheet measures approximately 195mm x 440mm. The four bottom panels each contain 3 rows of eight stamps, positioned approximately 3mm apart vertically and horizontally. Unlike coil issues, the unprinted paper between the die cut stamps has not been removed. No sheet markings or cylinder numbers appear on the lower four panels of these initial sheets. Acting as the title page or cover, the top panel is quite different in layout. It contains just four stamps in a horizontal strip, alongside a die cut label, approximately twice the size of a single stamp, giving details of the postcode hotline. Above this is a wide red printed band showing the stamp contents in the same typeface and much in the same way as on the covers of window booklets, along with

the Royal Mail cruciform logo, printer's imprint and NVI validity information. In fact, in some internal Post Office documents these sheets are referred to as "booklets" of 100. Subsequently several different layout and styles of business sheets have been produced by various printers and the top panels from these, which can be readily be separated along the rouletting which facilitates their folding, have become a collectible entities in their own right. These are illustrated, listed and priced in at the end of this section.

Following the widespread popularity of self-adhesives it was only a matter of time before all booklet printings also changed to the self-stick style, and the inevitable conversion took place in January of 2001. Since then, all Royal Mail issues, apart from prestige and vending machine booklets, have become self-adhesive.

Backing Paper. Mint stamps from coils, business sheets and booklets can most easily be identified by the style of backing paper on which they appear. Coil and business sheet issues have a translucent backing paper which is commonly yellowish or white in colour and is unprinted on the reverse. Booklet issues have an opaque backing which doubles as the booklet cover and is therefore printed on the reverse. The translucency or opacity only applies to the backing paper and not the matrix surround.

In our listing we refer to the two types by their initial letters:

T = Translucent

O = Opaque

Matrix Surround. The "matrix" is the term used for the unprinted waste self-adhesive paper area that appears around and between die-cut stamps. On initial business sheets and booklet issues, this matrix was left intact on the issued product. However, following discussions with various disability groups, particularly those with visibility and manual dexterity issues who found the stamps difficult to remove from their backing, from July 2002 all booklets and business sheets have been issued with the matrix stripped away during the printing process. All coil issues have always had the matrix removed.

Once again, in our listings we differentiate the two types as follows:

M = Matrix present

S = Matrix stripped away

Dagger Perfs. In 1998, when Royal Mail first issued vertical format stamps from business sheets, rather than expecting collectors to buy an entire sheet of each value to extract just one stamp for their collection, they were keen to enable collectors to obtain just a single copy. They therefore instructed Walsall Security Printers, in addition to complete sheets of 100, to supply them with single stamps. Instead of using the standard business sheets, simply guillotined down to singles to achieve this, instead they produced a special print run. Unfortunately, in error they used a different gauge die-cutter which simulated perforations of 14 x 13½ rather than the standard 15 x 14 as used on the complete business sheets. It was a few years after their withdrawal before they were



Standard Perf



"Dagger" Perf

discovered. What brought them to collectors attention was the unusually shaped corner perforations, nicknamed “dagger perfs”.the result of the unorthodox gauge. These stamps were only available as singles and, therefore, blocks do not exist. They were sold exclusively through the Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh and their availability was not widely advertised. Accordingly few are in circulation and they are much sought after.

Booklet Sources. The price given in brackets after the quantity of stamps the booklet contains is it’s face value when initially put on sale. Rises in postal rates may mean that the booklet increased in price later in it’s life. Those with “M/C” after indicate that this stamp emanates from a mixed Machin/Commemorative book.

Phosphor bands. Phosphor band widths vary on Walsall printed issue, dependent upon source. Unless otherwise stated, 2 band stamps measure 9.5mm in total width.

Enschedé

<i>CC No.</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Fluor</i>	<i>Matrix & Backing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
(c) Vertical Format. Enschedé. Gravure. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 15 x 14 (E1). A2(B) blue phosphor. Translucent or opaque backing paper							
SEV1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Bright violet	S/T	6.4.98 coil CSAS5	0.75
SEV2	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Dull violet	S/T	1998 coil CSAS6	1.50
SEV3	2nd	Bright blue	CB CB(S2)	Dull violet	M	7.3.02 sheets type 2A, 3	1.00
						4.7.02 sheets type 3	4.50
SEV4	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB CB(S2)	Dull violet	M	3.02 sheets type 2A	1.65
						3.02 sheets type 2A	4.50
SEV5	2nd	Pale bright blue	CB CB(S1)	Dull violet	M	4.02 sheets type 2A, 3	1.65
						4.02 sheets type 2A	4.50
SEV6	2nd	Pale bright blue, pronounced coarse phosphor screen	CB	Dull violet	M	9.02 sheets type 3	1.75
SEV7	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Bright violet	M	10.02 sheets type 3	1.65
SEV8	2nd	Deep turquoise blue	CB	Bright violet	M	10.02 sheets type 3	2.25
SEV9	2nd	Deep bright blue SEV9HB	CB Horizontal	Bright whitish phosphor across bottom of stamp	M	9.02 sheets type 3	4.50
						7.50 sheets type 3	7.50
SEV10	2nd	Pale bright blue, pronounced coarse phosphor screen	CB	Bright whitish	M	9.02 sheets type 3	4.50
SEV11	2nd	Pale bright blue, pale Queen’s head, yellowish backing	CB	Dull violet	S/T	10.05 coils CSAS7	1.75
FEV1	1st	Orange-red	2B	Bright violet	S/T	6.4.98 coil CSAF4	0.80
			2B (S17)				15.00
FEV2	1st	Orange-red	2B	Dull violet	S/T	1998 coil CSAF5	1.50
			2B (S16)				25.00

5A : NVI Stamps – Vertical Format Enschedé/Walsall Self-adhesives

CC No.	Value	Bands	Fluor	Matrix & Backing	Date	Source	Price	
FEV3	1st	Orange-red	2B	Dull violet	M	11.4.02	sheets type 2A	1.00
						4.02	sheets type 2A	5.00
FEV4	1st	Pale orange-red	2B (I2)	Dull violet	M	4.02	sheets type 2A	1.75
						4.02	sheets type 2A	6.25
FEV5	1st	Deep orange-red	2B (I1)	Dull violet	M	6.02	sheets type 2A	1.75
						6.02	sheets type 2A	4.75
FEV6	1st	Gold	2B	Dull violet	M	4.7.02	sheets type 3	1.00
						4.7.02	sheets type 3	5.25
						4.7.02	sheets type 3	4.00
						4.7.02	sheets type 3	6.50
						12.02	sheets type 3	5.25
						4.7.02	sheets type 3	19.50
FEV7	1st	Gold	2B	Bright violet	M	10.02	sheets type 3	2.25
FEV8	1st	Gold	2B	Bright whitish	M	10.02	sheets type 3	4.50
FEV9	1st	Pale gold	2B	Dull violet	M	12.02	sheets type 3	1.75
FEV9A	1st	Yellowish gold	2B	Dull violet	M	12.02	sheets type 3	4.50
FEV10	1st	Gold, yellowish backing	2B	Dull violet	S/T	12.6.06	coils CSAF6	1.75

Walsall

CC No.	Value	Bands	Fluor	Matrix	Date	Booklet	Source	Price		
(d) Vertical Format. Walsall. Gravure. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 15 x 14 (E1) unless otherwise stated. A2(B) blue phosphor. Translucent or opaque backing paper.										
SWV1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Dull	M	22.6.98	sheets type 1,2	0.90		
						29.1.01		6 (€1.14)	SP11	
						4.9.00			sheets type 2	15.00
						4.9.00			sheets type 1, 2	9.00
									SWV1IMP Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)†	sheets type 2
		SWV1IMPa Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)†	sheets type 1	150.00						
SWV1A	2nd	Bright blue, perf 14 x 13½*	CB	Dull	M	22.6.98	sheets type 1	225.00		
SWV2	2nd	Deep bright blue	CB	Dull	M	4.9.00	sheets type 2	1.00		
SWV3	2nd	Bright blue, paper with dull greenish fluorescent tint**	CB	Dull	M	12.00	sheets type 2	3.75		

† These pairs can be distinguished by spacing between stamp image areas. On SWV1IMP pairs the stamps are 4mm apart, on SWV1IMPa pairs they are 6mm apart.

* These stamps are sometimes known as “dagger perfs”, due to the shape of the corner perfs by which they can most easily be distinguished See note on page 5A/24.

** The greenish tint can be clearly seen when irradiated under shortwave UV and appears to be some sort of fluorescent additive to the surface coating of the stamp paper

5A : NVI Stamps – Vertical Format Walsall Self-adhesives

CC No.	Value	Bands	Matrix &			Date	Booklet	Source	Price	
			Fluor	Backing						
SWV4	2nd	Deep mid-blue	CB	Dull	M	1.01	6 (£1.14)	SP11	1.05	
SWV5	2nd	Bright blue, weak right edge to design	CB	Dull	M	8.01	6 (£1.14)	SP11	5.75	
		SWV5WSD	Weak and missing screening dots on Queen's shoulder					SP11	20.00	
SWV6	2nd	Deep turquoise blue	CB	Bright	S/T	18.3.03		sheets type 3A	1.00	
			CB (S1)			18.3.03		sheets type 3A	4.50	
			CB (S2)			18.3.03		sheets type 3A	4.50	
SWV7	2nd	Deep turquoise blue	CB	Bright	S/O	27.3.03	12 (£2.28)	SP42	0.85	
			CB (S2)			27.3.03		SP42	6.00	
SWV8	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Bright	S/T	6.03		sheets type 3A, 3B	1.65	
SWV9	2nd	Pale bright blue SWV9IMP	CB	Bright	S/O	5.04	12 (£2.52)	SP42	1.10	
			Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)						SP42	375.00
SWV10	2nd	Pale bright blue	CB	Bright	S/T	7.04		sheets type 3A, 3B	1.50	
			CB (S1)			7.04		sheets type 3B	5.50	
			SWV10Mca	Missing pale bright blue, side band at right*					sheets type 3B	150.00
			SWV10Mcb	Missing pale bright blue, two bands*					sheets type 3B	150.00
SWV11	2nd	Pale bright blue SWV11PE	CB	Dull	S/O	10.04	12 (£2.52)	SP42	1.75	
			Weak and patchy phosphor band						SP42	6.00
SWV12	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Dull	S/T	10.04		sheets type 3B	1.75	
SWV13	2nd	Pale bright blue, snowy print	CB	Bright	S/O	9.04	12 (£2.52)	SP42	3.25	
SWV14	2nd	Bright blue, snowy print	CB	Dull	S/T	4.05		sheets type 3B	7.00	
SWV15	2nd	Pale bright blue	CB	Dull	S/T	6.07		sheets type 7	1.45	
			CB (S2)	Dull	S/T	8.05		sheets type 3B	5.00	
SWV16	2nd	Bright blue, "perforated" around backing paper, unprinted on reverse†	CB	Dull	–	4.9.05		Pres. pack	2.00	
SWV17	2nd	Bright blue, patchy background	CB	Bright	S/O	11.05	12 (£2.52)	SP42	2.75	
SWV18	2nd	Pale bright blue, pale Queen's head, coarse phos. screen, snowy print	CB	Dull	S/T	3.06		sheets type 3B	5.00	
SWV19	2nd	Rich bright blue, deep Queen's head	CB	Bright	S/T	16.5.06		sheets type 4	1.10	

† These stamps come from a special coil printing made so that values only known self-adhesive could be accommodated in a definitive presentation pack (Pack no. 71). The backing paper has been punched out of the coil in the shape of the perforations and is unprinted on the reverse.

* One business sheet of 100 stamps was discovered missing the bright blue colour. This leaves an apparently blank stamp bearing no image. However, it does bear phosphor, albeit displaced to the right, creating a side band on about half the known stamps or two band versions on the other half.

5A : NVI Stamps – Vertical Format Walsall Self-adhesives

CC No.	Value		Bands	Matrix &			Booklet	Source	Price	
				Fluor	Backing	Date				
SWV20	2nd	Bright blue	CB CB (S2)	Very dull	S/O	5.6.07	12 (£2.88)	SP42	1.10	
						5.6.07			8.50	
SWV21	2nd	Pale bright blue, pale Queen's head, snowy print	CB	Dull	S/O	25.4.06	12 (£2.76)	SP42	11.00	
SWV22	2nd	Very deep bright blue, deep Queen's head, coarse phosphor screen, snowy print	CB	Dull	S/T	2006		sheets type 4	4.75	
SWV23	2nd	Bright blue, pale Queen's head	CB CB (S2)	Very dull	S/O	5.08	12 (£3.24)	SP42	3.25	
						5.08			7.25	
SWV24	2nd	Pale bright blue, pale Queen's head	CB CB (S2)	Very dull	S/O	6.08	12 (£3.24)	SP42		
						6.08			7.25	
SWV25	2nd	Bright blue	CB	Dull	S/O	11.08	12 (£3.24)	SP42	2.00	
FWV1	1st	Orange-red FWV1/IMP	2B (7mm) Imperforate (hor. pair)	Dull	M	22.6.98		sheets type 1 sheets type 1	1.00 225.00	
FWV1A	1st	Orange-red, perf 14 x 13½**	2B (7mm)	Dull	M	22.6.98		sheets type 1	225.00	
FWV2	1st	Orange-red	2B (9mm)	Bright	M	29.1.01	6 (£1.62)	SP6	1.00	
						29.1.01	6 (£1.62)			SP7
						29.1.01	12 (£3.24)			SP10
						29.1.01		SP6, SP7	3.00	
						29.1.01		SP6, SP10	3.50	
						FWV2IMP	Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)	SP6, SP10	195.00	
FWV2NP	Missing phosphor	SP10	125.00							
FWV2A	1st	Orange-red, paper with dull greenish fluorescent tint***	2B (9mm)	Bright	M	5.02	6 (£1.62)	SP6	3.75	
FWV3	1st	Orange-red	2B (8mm) 2B (I1)	Bright	M	13.2.01	Cats & Dogs M/C	SP15	2.00	
						13.2.01				6.50
FWV4	1st	Orange-red, snowy print	2B (9mm)	Bright	M	8.01	12 (£3.24)	SP6	2.50	
FWV5	1st	Deep orange-red, pale Queen's head	2B (9mm)	Bright	M	21.5.02	World Cup M/C	SP25	0.90	
						21.5.02				SP25
						21.5.02	SP25	25.00		
						21.5.02	SP25	8.50		
						21.5.02	SP25	25.00		
						21.5.02	SP25	25.00		
						21.5.02	SP25	30.00		
						21.5.02	SP25	8.50		
						21.5.02	SP25	2.25		

** These stamps are sometimes known as "dagger perms", due to the shape of the corner perms by which they can most easily be distinguished See note on page 5A/24.

*** The greenish tint can be clearly seen when irradiated under shortwave UV and appears to be some sort of fluorescent additive to the surface coating of the stamp paper

5A : NVI Stamps – Vertical Format Walsall Self-adhesives

CC No.	Value	Bands	Matrix &			Date	Booklet	Source	Price
			Fluor	Backing					
FWV6	1st	Gold	2B(9mm)	Dull	S/O	5.6.02	6 (£1.62)	SP27	0.90
						5.6.02	12 (£3.24)	SP28	
						5.6.02		SP27,28	5.50
						5.6.02		SP27	4.50
	FWV61B	Interrupted bands at top of stamp					SP27	75.00	
FWV7	1st	Deep yellowish gold	2B(9mm)	Dull	S/O	7.02	12 (£3.24)	SP28	1.65
			2B (S16)			7.02		SP28	10.00
FWV8	1st	Gold	2B(9mm)	Bright	S/O	10.02	6 (£1.62)	SP27	1.25
						10.02	12 (£3.24)	SP28	
						10.02		SP28	4.50
						10.02		SP28	5.25
						10.02		SP27	7.50
	FWV81MP	Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)					SP27	900.00	
FWV9	1st	Gold	2B	Bright	S/T	6.03		sheets type 3A,3B	1.00
FWV10	1st	Pale gold	2B(9mm)	Bright	S/O	5.04	6 (£1.68)	SP27	1.25
						5.04	12 (£3.36)	SP28	
						15.6.04	6 (£1.68)	SP54	
						27.1.05	Hello	SP59	
						26.7.05	6 (£1.68)		
							Love	SP60	
							6 (£1.80)		
	2B (S16)		5.04	SP27	7.25				
	2B (S17)		5.04	SP27, SP28	5.50				
	FWV10/IBa	Interrupted phosphor bands at bottom of stamp					SP27	65.00	
	FWV10/IBb	Interrupted phosphor bands at top of stamp					SP59	125.00	
	FWV10NP	Missing phosphor					SP28	150.00	
FWV11	1st	Pale gold	2B(9mm)	Dull	S/O	10.04	6 (£1.68)	SP27	1.50
							12 (£3.36)	SP28	
							4.06	SP27	7.50
			2B (S17)		10.04		SP27	8.50	
FWV12	1st	Gold, snowy print	2B	Bright	S/T	4.05		sheets type 3B	7.50
FWV13	1st	Gold	2B	Dull	S/T	4.05		sheets type 3B	2.50
FWV14	1st	Pale gold, snowy print	2B(9mm)	Dull	S/O	8.05	6 (£1.80)	SP27	7.50
FWV15	1st	Pale gold, pale Queen's head	2B(9mm)	Dull	S/O	8.05	12 (£3.60)	SP28	1.75
FWV16	1st	Gold, "perforated" around backing paper, unprinted on reverse††	2B	Dull	–	4.9.05		Pres. pack	2.25

†† These stamps come from a special coil printing made so that values only known self-adhesive could be accommodated in a definitive presentation pack (Pack no. 71). The backing paper has been punched out of the coil in the shape of the perforations and is unprinted on the reverse.

* The bands on these stamps are slightly narrower than those from business sheets and FWV18 and 19. They actually measure 9.3mm but as we do not list differences of tenths of a millimetre they are rounded up to the nearest half millimetre, and are therefore listed as having 9.5mm phosphor.

5A : NVI Stamps – Vertical Format Walsall/Questa Self-adhesives

CC No.	Value	Bands	Matrix &		Date	Booklet	Source	Price
			Fluor	Backing				
FWV17	1st	Yellowish gold, deep Queen's head	2B	Bright	S/T	16.5.06	sheets type 4	1.10
FWV18	1st	Pale gold, pale Queen's head	2B	Dull	S/O	3.06? 20.9.07	12 (£3.60) 6 (£2.04) SP28 SP86	1.75
FWV19	1st	Pale gold	2B	Dull	S/O	05?	12 (£3.60) SP28	6.00
FWV20	1st	Gold, pale Queen's head	2B*	Bright	S/O	5.6.07	Machin SP81 6 (£2.04)	1.20
						5.6.07	6 (£2.04) SP82	
						5.6.07	12 (£4.08) SP28	
						28.8.07	Harry Potter SP85 6 (£2.04)	
			2B (S16)			28.8.07	SP85	11.00
			2B (S17)			5.6.07	SP82	15.00
			2B (I2)			5.6.07	SP28	11.00
FWV21	1st	Pale gold	2B	Bright	S/T	5.6.07	sheets type 7	1.60
FWV22	1st	Pale gold, pale Queen's head	2B*	Very dull	S/O	11.07	12 (£4.08) SP28	3.00
FWV23	1st	Yellowish gold	2B*	Dull	S/O	15.1.08	Valentines 6 (£2.04) SP89	1.30
			2B (S17)			15.1.08	SP89	19.50
FWV24	1st	Pale yellowish gold, pale Queen's head	2B*	Bright	S/O	13.5.08	Ice Cream 6 (£2.16) SP91	1.30
			2B (S16)			13.5.08	SP91	9.50
			2B (S17)			13.5.08	SP91	15.00
FWV25	1st	Yellowish gold, pale Queen's head	2B*	Bright	S/O	10.6.08	Carry On 6 (£2.16) SP92	1.30
						6.08	6 (£2.16) SP82	
FWV26	1st	Pale gold, pale Queen's head, weak background, frame doubled at bottom	2B*	Very dull	S/O	2.08	6 (£2.04) SP86	8.25
FWV27	1st	Pale gold	2B*	Bright	S/O	7.08 10.08	6 (£2.16) 12 (£4.32) SP86 SP28	2.75
			2B (S16)			10.08	SP28	13.75
		FWV27I/B	Interrupted phosphor bands at top of stamp				SP28	90.00
FWV28	1st	Yellowish gold, coarse phosphor screen	2B*	Dull	S/O	1.09	Valentines 6 (£2.16) SP89	5.00
FWV29	1st	Gold	2B*	Dull	S/O	4.09	Harry Potter 6 (£2.16) SP85	3.50
			2B (S17)			4.09	SP85	14.00
EWV1	E	Deep blue	2B		S/O	4.7.02	6 (£2.22) SP31	0.95
			2B (S17)			4.7.02	SP31	4.75
		EWV1IB	Interrupted phosphor bands at bottom of stamp				SP31	125.00

* The bands on these stamps are slightly narrower than those from business sheets and FWV18 and 19. They actually measure 9.3mm but as we do not list differences of tenths of a millimetre they are rounded up to the nearest half millimetre, and are therefore listed as having 9.5mm phosphor.

Questa

CCNo.	Value	Bands	Fluor	Matrix &		Date	Booklet	Source	Price
				Backing	Date				
(e) Vertical Format. Questa. Gravure. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 15 x 14 (E1). A2(B) blue phosphor. Opaque backing paper.									
SQV1	2nd	Bright blue	CB(5mm)	Bright	M	29.1.01	10 (£1.90)	SP12	0.85
SQV2	2nd	Pale bright blue SQV2IMP	CB(5mm) Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)	Bright	M	29.1.01	12 (£2.28)	SP13 SP13	0.85 800.00
SQV3	2nd	Pale bright blue	CB(5mm)	Dull	M	29.1.01	12 (£2.28)	SP13	1.35
SQV4	2nd	Bright blue	CB(4mm)		S/O	4.7.02	12 (£2.28)	SP13A	0.85
FQV1	1st	Orange-red	2B(9mm)	Bright	M	4.9.00 29.1.01 17.4.01 1.8.01 4.9.01 22.10.01 2.5.02 27.5.02	6 (£1.62)	SP34 sheets type 2 SP8 Submarines M/C SP16 SP9 Punch & Judy M/C SP17 Flags & Ensigns M/C SP18 Airliners M/CSP22	1.00
			2B (I1)			4.9.00		SP34	4.25
			2B (I2)			4.9.00		SP34	3.50
		FQVIIMP	Imperforate (hor. or vert. pair)					SP16	100.00
FQV2	1st	Orange-red	2B 2B (I1)	Dull	M	29.1.01 29.1.01	12 (£3.24) 12 (£3.24)	SP9 SP9	0.95 4.50
FQV3	1st	Pale orange-red	2B	Dull	M	29.1.01	12 (£3.24)	SP9	1.50
FQV4	1st	Pale orange-red	2B	Bright	M	12.01	12 (£3.24)	SP9	1.50
FQV5	1st	Gold	2B		S/O	5.6.02 10.9.02 4.3.03	6 (£1.62)	SP26 Bridges M/C SP35 Hello M/C SP38	0.90
			2B (I1)			10.9.02		SP35	30.00
			2B (I2)			4.3.02		SP38	35.00

De La Rue

CCNo.	Value	Bands	Fluor	Matrix &		Date	Booklet	Source	Price
				Backing	Date				
(e) Vertical Format. De La Rue. Gravure. OFNP/SA. Kiss die-cut to simulate Perf 15 x 14 (E1). A2(B) blue phosphor. Opaque backing paper.									
FDV1	1st	Gold	2B	S/O		29.4.03 15.7.03 18.9.03 16.4.04 15.6.04 18.9.03 18.9.03	Extreme Endeavours M/C Journey – Scotland M/C Transports M/C Journey – N.Ireland M/C Journey – Wales M/C Transports M/C Transports M/C	SP45 SP46 SP47 SP50 SP53 SP47 SP47	0.80
			2B (I1)			18.9.03		SP47	25.00
			2B (I2)			18.9.03		SP47	22.50
FDV2	1st	Deep gold	2B 2B I1)	S/O		13.4.04 13.4.04	Liners M/C Liners M/C	SP52 SP52	1.75 30.00

Business Sheet Top Panels

When Business sheets of 100 were first introduced in 1998, the top panel, containing 4 stamps and acting as a cover for the booklet, immediately became sought after by collectors. To facilitate the concertina folding of the sheets, the five panels were rouletted between, making it straightforward to remove the top panel. This was a neater, cheaper and easier format to collect, and displayed all the relevant information, rather than the entire sheet. The size, layout and printers have varied over the years, creating significant varying types and sub-types.

We list five main types for NVI issues (and a further two types under the PIP section on page 6A/21 and one for Improved security issues on page 5A/40), where the design of the panels varies significantly. We then list a further 4 sub-types, where the basic layout remains unaltered, but detail on the panels changes. Every type and sub-type is illustrated for easy of identification and we also include a cross reference for each to the Modern GB Circle's SP notation, where these are considered 'panes'. Illustrations appear at 40% of the original size. Printers are referred to by their initials – W for Walsall, Q for Questa, E for Enschedé and D for De La Rue. Types 1 and 2 have the large coloured area printed in Post Office red, in types 3, 4 & 7 these areas are colour coded to match the stamp contents.

Type 1



**Top Panel Type 1
– 1998 Walsall sheets**

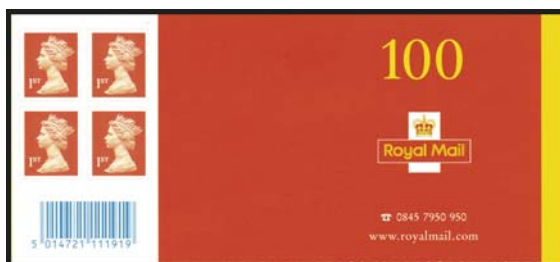
<i>CCNo.</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Sheet Type</i>	<i>Printer</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Pane</i>	<i>Price</i>
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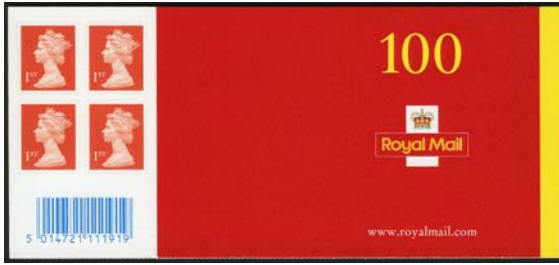
(a) Large format (195 x 88mm) – Stamps in strip – Matrix intact. Printed by Walsall in gravure

BSS1	2nd	Bright blue	1	W	SWV1	22.6.98	SP3	25.00
BSF1	1st	Orange-red	1	W	FWV1	22.6.98	SP2	30.00

Type 2

**Top Panel Type 2
– 2000 Questa &
Walsall sheets
Helpline telephone number**





Top Panel Type 2A
– 2002 Enschedé sheets
Helpline number removed

CCNo.	Value	Sheet Type	Printer	Contents	Date	Pane	Price	
(b) Small format (183 x 83mm) – Stamps in block, helpline telephone number – Matrix intact. Type 2 Printed in gravure by Walsall (2nd) or Questa (1st), type 2A in gravure by Enschedé.								
BSS2	2nd	Bright blue	2	W	SWV1, 2, 3	4.9.00	SP5	20.00
BSS3	2nd	Bright blue	2A	E	SEV3, 4, 5	9.5.02	SP24	14.00
BSF2	1st	Orange-red	2	Q	FQV1	4.9.00	SP4	20.00
BSF3	1st	Orange-red	2A	E	FEV3, 4, 5	9.5.02	SP23	15.00

Type 3

Top Panel Type 3
– 2002 Enschedé sheets
Matrix present



Top Panel Type 3A
– 2003 Walsall sheets
Matrix stripped
“The Real Network”
added below logo



Top Panel Type 3B
– 2004 Walsall sheets
Matrix stripped
“The Real Network”
removed

CCNo.	Value	Sheet Type	Printer	Contents	Date	Pane	Price	
(c) Small format (183 x 83mm) – Stamps in strip, Type 3 Matrix present, printed by Enschedé in gravure. Types 3A & 3B matrix stripped, printing date on reverse, printed by Walsall in gravure.								
BSS4	2nd	Bright blue	3	E	SEV3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	4.7.02	SP30	12.50
BSS5	2nd	Bright blue	3A	W	SWV6, 8, 10	18.3.03	SP40	11.00
BSS6	2nd	Bright blue	3B	W	SWV8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18	15.6.04	SP56	11.00
BSF4	1st	Gold	3	E	FEV6, 7, 8, 9	4.7.02	SP29	12.50
BSF5	1st	Gold	3A	W	FWV9	18.3.03	SP39	11.00
BSF6	1st	Gold	3B	W	FWV9, 12, 13	15.6.04	SP55	11.00

Type 4

Top Panel Type 4
– 2006 Walsall sheets
Matrix stripped
PIP Validity & added
textphone number



CCNo.	Value	Sheet Type	Printer	Contents	Date	Pane	Price	
(d) Small format (183 x 83mm) – Stamps in strip, matrix stripped, printing date on reverse. Printed by Walsall in gravure.								
BSS7	2nd	Bright blue	4	W	SWV19	16.5.06	SP65	10.00
BSF7	1st	Gold	4	W	FWV17	16.5.06	SP64	10.00

For business sheet top panels Types 5 (BSS8, BSF8) & 6 (BSSL1, BSFL1) containing PIP stamps see page 6A/21.

Type 7



Top Panel Type 7
– 2007 Walsall sheets
Matrix stripped
PIP Validity but with no
date of starting notice

<i>CC No.</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Sheet Type</i>	<i>Printer</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Pane</i>	<i>Price</i>
(e) Small format (183 x 83mm) – Stamps in strip, matrix stripped, printing date on reverse. Printed by Walsall in gravure.							
BSS9	2nd	Bright blue	7	W SWV15	5.6.07	SP84	10.00
BSF9	1st	Gold	7	W FWV21	5.6.07	SP83	10.00

For business sheet top panels Types 8 (BSS10, BSF10) containing Improved Security issues see page 5A/40 & 6A (BSSL2, BSFL2) containing Improved Security PIP stamps see page 6A/24.

Improved Security Issues



In an attempt to counteract the increasing trend of loss of revenue through postal forgery and illicit re-use of stamps that had already passed through the mail, in February 2009, Royal Mail introduced new Improved Security features to a range of their definitives, including all NVI issues. Improved Security NVIs were initially issued in sheet format, closely followed by booklets and business sheets. Coil strip issues were also scheduled for simultaneous release, but were postponed for an unknown period and have yet to appear, although it is expected that they will occur at some future date, if only in bulk rolls of 10,000.

For the first time the business sheets were printed by De La Rue, although there is no longer any printer designation in the top panel of the sheets to indicate this change. Business sheets exist in sheets of 100 for 1st and 2nd values and sheets of 50 for 1st Large and 2nd Large. To date all booklet printings have been made by Walsall Security Printers. Booklets that include improved Security issues are 6 x 1st, 12 x 1st and 12 x 2nd, 1st Large x 4 and 2nd large x 4. They have also appeared in mixed commemorative/definitive booklets of 1st x 6. The 1st Large and 2nd Large from both business sheets and booklets are PIP types and their listings, along with regular sheet printings, can be found in Chapter 6A from page 6A/22.

Further details on their introduction and descriptions of the Improved Security features as they appear on sheet issues can be found in Chapter 3A on page 3A/18. However, Royal Mail have added a further security innovation to stamps from booklets and business sheets and the requirement for production by different printers has inevitably added small variations in print process which require further explanation.

Security Slits. The “U” shaped security slits on the Walsall printed booklet stamps have a small interruption at the base of both of the “U”s, (to ensure that the stamps don’t tear when being removed from their backing paper), whereas De La Rue printings from sheets and business sheets have a continuous and uninterrupted slit. The two types of slit are designated as **Type 1** for the uninterrupted version and **Type 2** for the version showing the small break. Booklet stamps come in 1st books of 6 and 12, 2nd books of 12 and 1st Large and 2nd Large books of 4.



Type 1 Slits
(*De La Rue*)



Type 2 Slits
(*Walsall*)

Security Coding. A further unannounced security innovation appears on booklet and business sheets. Cunningly hidden in the top right corner of every stamp amidst the iridescent security overprint is a code letter indicating the source of the stamp. Each source has a different code letter which replaces another in the wavy “ROYAL MAIL” wording overprint. On small format stamps it replaces an “A” in “MAIL”. The code letters adopted are fairly intuitive and are listed below:

- = business sheet
- = custom (mixed commem/definitive) booklet
- = Definitive booklet of our (*Large format only*)
- = Definitive booklet of six
- = Definitive booklet of twelve

The location of these codings are illustrated in the diagrams below. (Illustrations of the code letters “B” and “F” on 1st Large and 2nd Large values, appears in the PIP section on page 6A/22). The code letter is highlighted in darker type and the word it is contained in slightly paler lettering, but this is enhanced to show the positioning – on the actual stamp it is simply part of the normal iridescent overprint. This is a very interesting development and as they are readily identifiable with the naked eye, each will be treated as a basic new stamp. Stamps from conventional sheets of 50 have no code letters and retain the correctly spelled “ROYAL MAIL” in that position.



Code B
Business sheets

Code C
Com/Def books

Code S
Books of Six

Code T
Book of 12

De La Rue

CC	Value		Phos. Bands	First Issued	Source	Price	
						Single	Gutter

(a) De La Rue. Gravure, sheet printings. OFNP/SAN. A2(B) Phosphor with blue fluor additive. Iridescent security overprint. Type 1 security slits. Kiss die-cut to simulate perf. 15 x 14 (E1) . Translucent backing paper, rouletted on edges to facilitate separation.

SID1	2nd	Bright blue	CB	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	0.60	1.30
				CB(S1)	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	11.00
FID1	1st	Gold	2B	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	1.75	3.75
				2B (S16)	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	14.00

CC	Value	Code	Phos. Bands	Fluor	First Issued	Source	Price
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(b) De La Rue. Gravure, business sheet printings. OFNP/SAN. A2(B) Phosphor with blue fluor additive. Iridescent security overprint. Type 1 security slits. Kiss die-cut to simulate perf. 15 x 14 (E1) . Translucent imperforate backing paper.

SID2	2nd	Bright blue	B	CB	Dull	31.3.09	sheets Type 8	0.95
FID2	1st	Gold	B	2B	Dull	31.3.09	sheets Type 8	1.15
				2B (I2)	Dull	31.3.09	sheets Type 8	11.00
FID3	1st	Gold	B	2B	Bright	31.3.09	sheets Type 8	2.25

Walsall

CC	Value	Code	Bands	Fluor	First Issued	Booklet	Source	Price
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(c) Walsall. Gravure. booklet printings. OFNP/SAN. A2(B) Phosphor with blue fluor additive. Iridescent security overprint. Type 2 security slits. Kiss die-cut to simulate perf. 15 x 14 (E1) . Opaque backing paper.

SIW1	2nd	Bright blue	T	CB	Dull	31.3.09	12 (£3.24)	SP100	0.80
				CB(S2)		31.3.09		SP100	8.50

5A : NVI Stamps – Improved Security Walsall Issues

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Code</i>	<i>Bands</i>	<i>Fluor</i>	<i>First Issued</i>	<i>Booklet</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
FIW1	1st	Gold	C	2B	Bright	4.3.09	Design Classics 1	SP97	1.00
						21.4.09	Design Classics 2		
	FIW1AOP	All over phosphor wash	2B (I1)	21.4.09	SP107	7.50			
					SP107	35.00			
FIW2	1st	Gold	S	2B	Bright	31.3.09	6 (£2.16)	SP102	1.00
FIW3	1st	Gold	T	2B	Bright	31.3.09	12 (£4.32)	SP98	1.00
FIW4	1st	Yellowish gold, deep Queen's head	C	2B	Bright	31.5.09	NAFAS	SP108	1.40
		FIW4IST(S16)					Iridescence short at top, phosphor short top		SP108

Business Sheet Top Panels

Top Panel Type 8
– 2009 De La Rue sheets
Matrix stripped
Improved Security Machins
Barcode in panel,
no printer's imprint,
label bearing Postcode notice



Type 8

<i>CC No.</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Sheet Type</i>	<i>Printer</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Pane</i>	<i>Price</i>
(a) Small format (183 x 83mm) – Stamps in strip, matrix stripped, printing date on reverse. Printed by De La Rue in gravure.								
BSS10	2nd	Bright blue	8	D	SID2	31.3.09	SP105	10.00
BSF10	1st	Gold	8	D	FID2, 3	31.3.09	SP103	10.00

Postal Forgeries

NVI 2nd



In spring of 1994, copies of an NVI 2nd “stamp” in bright blue, subsequently termed a postal forgery by the Royal Mail, appeared on the philatelic market. This was a much more convincing replica of a litho printed security type 2nd class stamp, showing very clean perfs, along with security ellipses on each vertical edge. At first glance it has all the appearances of being a House of Questa printing. However the printed image was not as clear as on normally issued 2nd values, and other features including the gum, which is of a matt, tropical type, the paper, which was coarser and with very poor surface coating, and the band, which shows the normal yellow-green fluorescence but exhibits no phosphor afterglow whatsoever, indicated that this was not a normal Questa issue. At first these were sold on the philatelic market by non-specialist dealers, who claimed them to be rare new printings. Initially they were offered loose, but later in booklets with covers showing the Questa imprint. Further tell-tale signs of their illegitimacy were revealed in the booklets, however. The pane had an unused selvedge perforation style, perforated through at top and bottom, with a single extension hole in the centre. It was affixed to the cover by the gum on the back of the selvedge, rather than Questa’s usual two spots of wax, and the covers appeared to be on a sub-standard board.

When doubts about the genuineness of these “stamps” was raised, a full scale investigation was launched by the Revenue Protection arm of the Post Office. After several months they were declared to be postal forgeries, although whether the perpetrators of this crime were ever brought to justice was not revealed. This and some of the other incongruous facts have lead to further speculation as to their true status. Despite supposedly being postally inspired forgeries, very few seem to have been sold over corner shop counters and filtered through into commercial kiloware, as was the case with the 24p. Some genuinely used copies have been seen, but most of these emanated from a mailshot of a philatelic auctioneer, who claimed he bought the stamps for postage at below face value (although at least one copy has been seen on mail which has no likely philatelic connection). It is also surprising that the forgers were able to so faithfully reproduce the stamp, almost to the very last detail, fooling all but specialist dealers. Doubts, therefore, have arisen as to whether these are forgeries, and suggestions have been made that they may even be printers waste, removed illegally from Questa. Due to this uncertainty, and to the hard-line that has been pursued by Royal Mail on this, confiscating copies that they come across, it is not considered prudent to handle or possess these items.

NVI 1st



In early 2005, books of 1st x 12 gold NVI stamps started appearing that at first glance were very convincing. However, some features of the booklets and the stamps in them, immediately raised suspicions about their validity. The booklets had the matrix between the stamps still intact and, at first glance, a few stamps in each book appeared to show an all over phosphor coating. Closer examination, however revealed their true pedigree to be forgeries, albeit the most convincing yet produced.

Instead of being gravure printed, as was the case with all 12 x 1st gold booklets of that era, these were litho printed. This was not immediately obvious as the stamps appeared to show the familiar gravure screening dots. Only close scrutiny under high magnification revealed the familiar litho features. It would seem that a gravure printed version of a Walsall printed stamp was photographed or scanned at very high resolution and reproduced on printing plates “dot for dot”. What had initially been thought to be phosphor bands, showed no reaction under ultraviolet light. In fact a varnish strip, approximately 12mm wide, had been printed down the centre of each stamp, suppressing the natural bright fluorescence of the paper in this position, leaving the areas at the sides where phosphor bands would normally appear, with a fluorescent but no phosphor reaction. What had been thought to be an all-over phosphor wash was, in reality, an area where the varnish had failed to print on the stamps surface. As these were self-adhesive, the stamps were in booklet format with a fully printed cover (although subsequently unprinted cover versions turned up, with the matrix stripped) simulating the then current type bearing the imprint of Walsall Security Printers. The cover board, however, was something of a give away, being a rather rough uncoated type giving a very flat image in contrast to the normal punchy semi-gloss style.

These forgeries were produced in very large quantities and were certainly targeted for postal use. Initial copies came into philatelic hands when they were innocently bought by dealers in postage lots at below face value. Commercially used examples are also known. Who printed them is unknown at this stage. Initially, due to their high quality, it was thought that these must have been produced on Walsall’s own presses in a “moonlighting” operation. Subsequently, this theory has been discredited with an overseas source now seeming to be the most likely. Again, although there has been significant interest in these items within philatelic circles, Royal Mail have pursued them very aggressively as they pose a significant threat to their revenue streams.