

Connoisseur Catalogue

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Acknowledgments

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SECTION 8

High Values

(a) Machin Head

From 1977 to 1988 Harrisons printed stamps of £1 and above by photogravure in the same large vertical format as many of the commemoratives. The paper/gum is FCP/DEX. Boxed 'traffic lights' appear twice on the sheet, in the central gutter and in the bottom margin: these are check dots in the colours of the two colour cylinders used for each value.

Stamp colours are given in the order: (1) background, (2) Head. Cylinder numbers, found in the top margin, are given in Section 13(n).



'Traffic Light' Gutter pair

Harrison printings. Photo. Perf 14 x 15.

CC	Value	Issued	Prices		
			Single	Gutter Pair (GP)	
L1000	£1	Olive & green L1000IMP Imperforate (horiz pair)	2.2.77	2.50 £1000	6.25
L1001	£1	Pale olive & green		10.00	22.50
L1300	£1.30	Blue-green & drab	3.8.83	5.00	12.50
L1330	£1.33	Blue-black & mauve	28.8.84	6.00	15.00
L1410	£1.41	Blue-green & buff	17.9.85	7.00	16.00
L1500	£1.50	Blue-black & lilac	2.9.86	5.00	12.00

CC	Value		Issued	Prices	
				Single	Gutter Pair (GP)
L1600	£1.60	Blue-black & buff	15.9.87	5.00	12.00
L2000	£2	Brown & green L2000IMP Imperforate (horiz pair)	2.2.77	4.25	11.00 £2500
L2001	£2	Pale brown & green	4.77	15.00	35.00
L5000	£5	Blue & pink L5000IMP Imperforate (horiz pair)	2.2.77	10.00	25.00 £4000
L5001	£5	Deep blue & pale pink	6.80	17.50	40.00

(b) Castles – First Issue



The large photogravure version of the Machin Head was superseded in 1988 by a new series of high values depicting castles. The stamps were recess-printed, for the first time in Britain on a Giori press. The sheets of 100 are divided by horizontal and vertical gutters into four panes of 25 (5 x 5), the stamp-size centre gutter containing a 'Jubilee line' of colour. Plate numbers appear by the second stamp up on the bottom left-hand corner. The paper is FCP/DEX.

New photographs of the four castles were taken for these stamps by H. R. H. The Duke of York and these were published in the *British Philatelic Bulletin* for September 1988. Christopher Matthews of Harrisons based his engravings on them and at the same time made two new master engravings of the Machin Head (left and right facing). These he interpreted so that they resembled the original relief sculpture rather than a photographic portrait.

Highly glazed paper. Two values found early in 1990 were printed on paper outside the normal range of tolerance. The £1.50 and £2 occurred on a highly glazed, fairly opaque paper in noticeably paler shades; the gum is white and UV fluorescence is weak. This paper was substituted for normal stock because of a temporary shortage.

Glazed paper. The £1 value, issued around the same time as the £1.50 and £2 mentioned above, exists on a slightly less glazed paper. This is distinctive in its yellowish green colour, and also shows a reduced O.B.A. content, although not as lacking in fluorescence as the highly glazed paper. It is also assumed that this paper was a stop-gap for normal paper due to a shortage.

Harrison printings. Recess. Perf. 15 x 14.

Gutter pairs occur horizontally and vertically; gutter blocks of four come from the central cross-gutter position. For plate blocks see Section 13(o).

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Castle</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Hor GP</i>	<i>Vert GP</i>	<i>Cross Gutter Block</i>
LR1000	£1	Deep green	Carrickfergus	18.10.88	2.50	6.00	6.00	15.00
LR1001	£1	Yellowish green, glazed paper with reduced OBA	Carrickfergus	?1990	40.00	90.00	90.00	250.00
LR1500	£1.50	Plum LR1500EC	Caernarfon Bright reddish purple, colour error* (pl. 2D)	18.10.88	3.25 35.00	7.50	7.50	17.50
LR1501	£1.50	Pale plum, highly glazed paper, low OBA	Caernarfon	?1.90	8.00	17.50	17.50	40.00
LR2000	£2	Indigo LR2000EC	Edinburgh Light bright blue, colour error (pl. —)	18.10.88	5.50 50.00	12.50	12.50	30.00
LR2001	£2	Pale indigo, highly glazed paper, low OBA	Edinburgh	?1.90	165.00	375.00	375.00	800.00
LR5000	£5	Sepia	Windsor	18.10.88	11.00	25.00	25.00	60.00

* Paper toned pink from defective plate wiping; some examples also show design offset on reverse.