

Journal of

THE MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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THE MPS JOURNAL

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Silver USA. NEW YORK 2016 ~ Silver PHILATAIPEI 2016

Silver BANDUNG 2017 ~ Silver BRAZIL 2017

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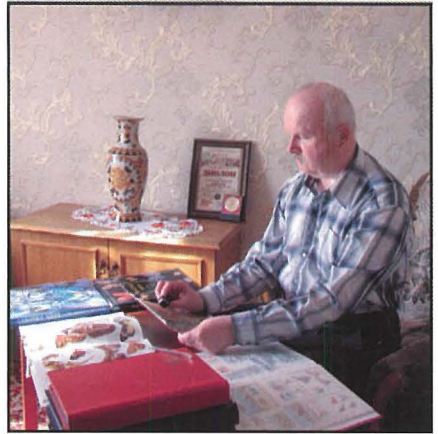
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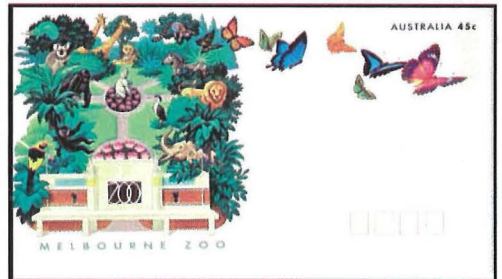
FANTASTIC PALETTE OF NATURE ON THE WINGS OF BUTTERFLIES: SILVER, GOLD, RUBY, TURQUOISE, EMERALD, BLUE SAPPHIRE AND MANY OTHER COLORS

Vladimir Kachan, Belarus



In the course of the past 100 million years, nature has formed diverse colours, forms and structures that resemble one another and/or repeat themselves in animate and inanimate nature. Thus many butterfly wings have the same colour and design as minerals and crystals from all over the world - also shimmering and gleaming in the same way. Therefore, we can confidently say that butterflies are flying

jewels (**Figure 1 – Entire postal of Australia 1994 with flying colorful butterflies**). In butterflies, wing colour is determined almost without exception by the scales that imbricate each wing surface. They are already well recognized for their advanced photonic ultrastructural designs. Despite their very limited thickness, relatively minor



elaborations of the common architectural elements present in this generic scale will produce the many forms responsible for structurally generated colour in butterflies.

Butterfly *Argyrophorus argenteus* with wingspan about 40 mm and the unusual silvery color is found on the lower slopes of the Andes in Chile and Argentina



(**Figure 2 – Stamp of Grenada 2006 with butterfly *Argyrophorus argenteus***). Butterfly wings display structural colors, which are the result of light reflection from chitinous nanostructures that adorn the wing scales. Wings of the butterfly *Argyrophorus argenteus* creates silver color via submicron thick scales that scatter light and create a range of periodicities parallel

to the scale surface. It is this range that results in the scatter of a broad band of wavelengths and the production of its macroscopic silver hue through additive (folding) colour mixing. Scientifically, this *Argyrophorus argenteus* scale design offers the basis for ultra-thin synthetic broadband reflectors, across a range of wavelength bands not limited only to visible wavelengths.

A breathtakingly beautiful mountain butterfly *Heodes virgaureae*. The burning red-orange male upperside makes this one of the most strikingly coloured butterflies (**Figure 3 – Proof of Serbia and Montenegro 2004 with butterfly *Heodes virgaureae***). Male butterflies *Heodes virgaureae* are colored bright gold-red on the upper side of wing, while the females have broader orange wings with a dark design. Small-sized butterfly *Heodes virgaureae* with iridescent wings lives preferably on flower-rich, dry and damp meadows in Central Europe. It can be found as far east as Mongolia. The butterfly is found at elevations of 1,000 to 2,000 meters, although in Armenia it inhabits meadows up to 2,700 meters above sea level.



Butterflies in the family *Lycaenidae* also are known as ‘the blues’ and are a small, metallic blue butterflies. Butterfly the Adonis Blue with scientific name *Lysandra bellargus* is found throughout most of the warmer parts of Europe. Beyond Europe it also occurs in Turkey, and eastward to the Black Sea. The wingspan is about 3 cm. Only the males have the beautiful overall electric blue colouration (**Figure 3 - Proof of Serbia and Montenegro 2004 with butterfly *Lysandra bellargus***). In a photograph it is impossible to convey the brilliance of the blue, which glints in the sunshine and changes hue according to the angle of view. Females by comparison are dark chocolate brown, with a dusting of deep blue scales across the basal and median areas of the wings.

With wingspans that can reach 20 cm, morphos are among the largest and most dazzling iridescent Central and South American butterflies. The apparent bright blue color of butterfly wings makes it breathtaking to see. Its wings are not actually colored blue. Rather, the scales on its wing tops reflect the blue light and make the wing tops appear vivid blue. The butterfly *Morpho cypris* (**Figure 4 - Artist drawing of Lebanon 1965 with butterfly *Morpho cypris***) from Central America outshine even the other morphids in their incomparable gloss and is a true gem, unequalled in its brilliance



throughout the whole of nature. According to the fall of the light the blue of this incomparable insect shows a more violet or more greenish gloss and the delicate white band a yellowish tone or more of a tinge of rose colour. The blue is of such ethereal purity and such intensive lustre that all the other colours appear faded or dull in comparison.

The Golden Birdwing with scientific name *Troides aeacus* is large and spectacular butterfly is found throughout the southeastern region of Asia. The male has black fore wings with white-bordered veins and bright yellow hind wings; the underside is similar to the upperside. The female is larger, with dark-brown wings and with a different, more intricate yellow pattern on the hind wings. With a wingspan of 16 cm, the Golden Birdwing is a large butterfly and a very beautiful one too, with a red head and thorax. This beauty is a sight to behold (**Figure 5 - Original hand-painted artwork with fascinating Golden Birdwing butterfly used for the design of the 1998 UN-New York 32c stamp issue**). The Golden Birdwings are huge, spectacular butterflies, as a result of which they are very popular with collectors. The dramatic contrast of golden yellow hind-wings and glossy black forewings



gives this species a striking appearance, and serves as a protection mechanism by warning potential predators that it is distasteful. The adult feeds on nectar-bearing flowers and is an important pollinator. One of their stranger features is that they have thermoreceptors on the veins of their wings and their antennae. Thermoreceptors are sensitive to sudden increases in temperature and prevent the butterflies from overheating when basking in the sun.

Real living diamonds can be seen fluttering in the rainforests of Southeast Asia. The Orange Birdwing or *Ornithoptera croesus lydius* is a large butterfly that can only be found in the Maluku Islands of Indonesia. This rare birdwing lives in the forests of the swampy lowlands. It is the only orange member of the group and its magnificent color cannot be found anywhere else in the butterfly kingdom (**Figure 6 - Stamp of Papua New Guinea 2011 with butterfly Ornithoptera croesus lydius**). The rich orange color on the males has made this a much sought after species. The wingspan of this butterfly was ranging from 16 cm for males to 19 cm for females. This butterfly was comes originally in Solomon Islands and in insignificant numbers on some islands of Papua New Guinea. This is one of most rare butterflies.



The Green Birdwing or *Ornithoptera priamus* is a widespread species of

birdwing butterfly found in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Solomon Islands and north-east Australia (Figure 7 – Stamp of Papua New Guinea 2011 with butterfly *Ornithoptera priamus*). This is a very spectacular butterfly. The wingspan is about 14 – 19 cm. The upper side of the male’s forewings are mainly black with emerald green around the leading and trailing edges and a narrow green stripe in the centre of the black area; the hindwings are emerald green with black dots. The wing scales of a green birdwing butterfly help regulate body heat by using a honeycomb structure to enhance black pigments found in the wings.



The Blue Birdwing or *Ornithoptera urvillianus* to occur in eastern Papua New Guinea and in the Solomon Islands (Figure 8 – Stamp of Papua New Guinea 2011 with butterfly *Ornithoptera urvillianus*). This stunning blue birdwing butterfly have wingspan 16 – 20 cm. The showy coloration of this butterfly attracts collectors very much. The Blue

Birdwing is considered endangered, and threatened by their beauty.

Ornithoptera aesacus is a rare species of birdwing butterfly, endemic to the Island of Obira, Indonesia (Figure 9 – Stamp of Indonesia 2007 with butterfly *Ornithoptera aesacus*). The male *Ornithoptera aesacus* has a brilliant turquoise-blue sheen of the wings, sometimes turning into the color of the “sea wave”, combined with black “inserts” on the forewings. Butterfly inhabits tropical rainforest. Due to extensive logging on the Island the conservation of the species is a concern, and has been classified as ‘Vulnerable’ by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Twenty years ago it was the rarest birdwing species in the world. It remains threatened, but is



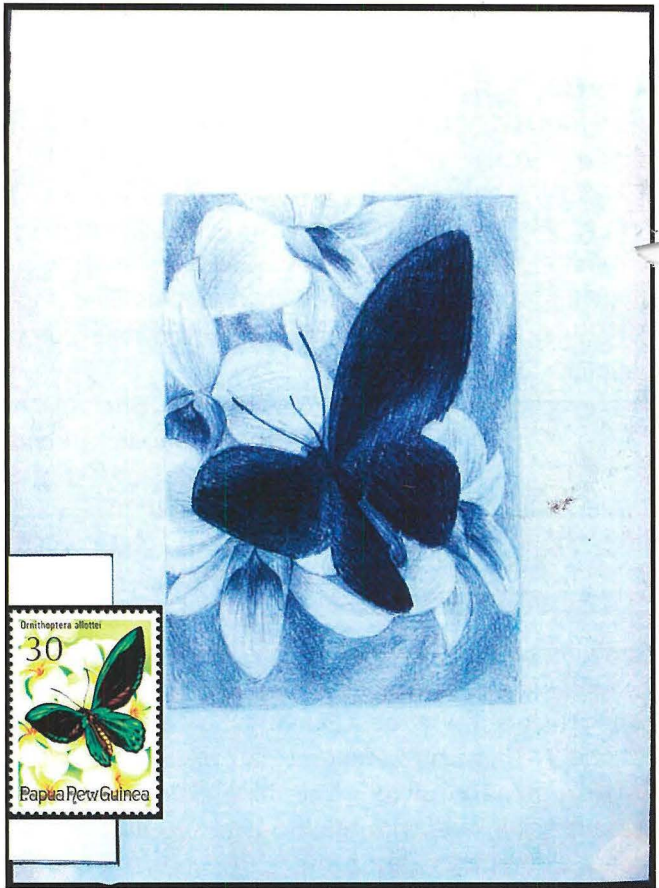
commercially bred.



The Goliath Birdwing or *Ornithoptera goliath*, is one of the largest species of butterflies in the world. It is the second largest butterfly in the world with wingspan up to 28 centimetres (for female). The males have the brightly colored yellows, golds and greens dominating their wings (Figure 10 -Stamp of Indonesia

1993 with butterfly *Ornithoptera goliath*), while the females have a lot of brown, with cream or yellowish areas and some brighter yellow markings. They live in New Guinea and some smaller nearby islands of Indonesia.

Fantastically iridescent green on the black velvet wings of the male butterfly *Ornithoptera allotei* make it fabulously beautiful (**Figure 11 – Artist’s drawing and normal stamp of Papua New Guinea 1975 with rare butterfly *Ornithoptera allotei***). Butterfly is known from Bougainville Island of Papua New Guinea and Malaita Island of Solomon Islands. The wingspan of the males is approximately 15 cm. The *Ornithoptera allotei* is considered to be one of the rarest and most coveted butterflies on the planet. This lifeform is endangered and could quickly become extinct.



The wingspan of the males is approximately 15 cm. The *Ornithoptera allotei* is considered to be one of the rarest and most coveted butterflies on the planet. This lifeform is endangered and could quickly become extinct.



The Southern Tailed Birdwing or *Ornithoptera meridionalis* is the smallest species of the genus *Ornithoptera*. Butterflies is known from a handful of localities in southeast Papua New Guinea (**Figure 12 – Stamp of Papua New Guinea 2002 with butterfly *Ornithoptera meridionalis***). The wingspan is about 12 – 14 cm. Males are remarkable in that they

have an extremely small amount of wing area relative to its rather bulky body. In particular, the hindwings are very reduced and tetragonal in shape, tapering into a single pair of filamentous tails that are easily broken. The males has green and golden areas on the wings. The females are dark-brown and have some white and

yellow spots. They are significant-larger than the males. It is very remarkable and beautiful species.

The Chimaera Birdwing or *Ornithoptera chimaera* butterfly found in mountain areas of New Guinea, 1200 - 1800 meters above sea level (**Figure 13 - Stamp of Papua New Guinea 1975 with butterfly *Ornithoptera chimaera***). The wingspan is about 18 cm in females and about 15 cm in males. The wings of the male have a delightful pattern of green and yellow, lined with black. His body displays a pattern of black and bright green. Though larger, the wings of the female stay much less colorful than the male. Her wings predominantly show tan or brown shades, with white spots while her body shows a combination of black and brown. This striking butterfly are most commonly encountered flying over ridges several metres above the ground or feeding at the flowers of tall forest trees. This butterfly is strictly protected.



The Richmond birdwing or *Ornithoptera richmondia* is one of Australia's largest butterflies, with a wingspan of up to 16cm in females and 13cm in males (**Figure 14 - Souvenir sheet of Micronesia 2014 with butterfly *Ornithoptera richmondia***). Males and females differ in appearance. Females have dark brown or black wings with extensive white, cream or, in the hindwing, yellowish markings. The upper forewing of males is black with a distinctive iridescent green leading edge, while the upper hindwing is predominantly iridescent green with black spots.



The underside of the male's forewing is black with extensive green or blue-green markings, whereas the hindwing is largely blue, green and yellow with obvious black spots. The Richmond birdwing butterfly mainly lives in subtropical rainforest where its larval host plants grow. Adult Richmond birdwings are very strong fliers usually active in the early morning and near dusk, when they can be easily observed.

The Cairns Birdwing butterfly or *Ornithoptera euphorion* is the largest of all Australian endemic butterflies and found along northeastern Australia from Mackay to Cooktown (**Figure 15 - Stamp of Australia 2016 with tab and butterfly *Ornithoptera euphorion***). The wingspan can be up to 18 cm in females, and 13

cm in males. The male birdwing is green, gold and black and is very colourful, compared to the female which is black and white, with some yellow. Its favoured habitat is rainforest of the Queensland wet tropics region, including riverine forest, and particularly near the coast.

A very beautiful Rothschild's birdwing or *Ornithoptera rothschildi* is a large birdwing butterfly, endemic to the Arfak Mountains in Western New Guinea

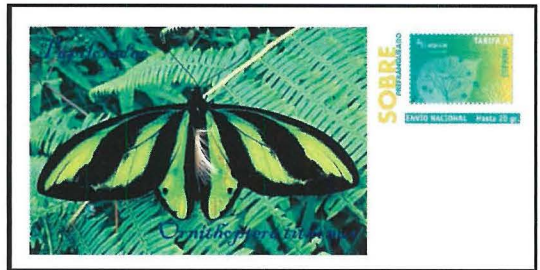
(Figure 16 – Imperforated stamp of Vietnam 1991 with butterfly *Ornithoptera rothschildi*).

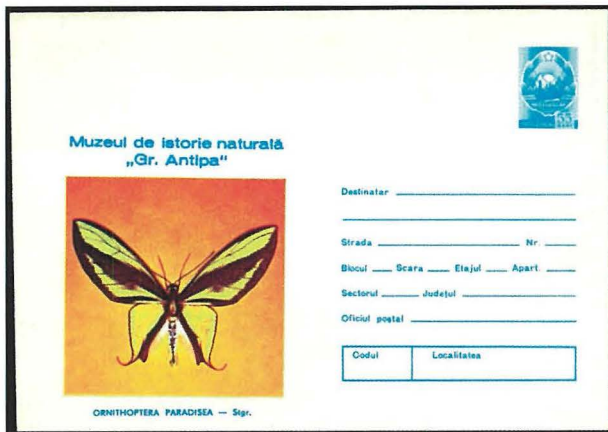


The wingspan of the males is approximately 13 cm. The forewings of the males are surrounded with black scales and in the central area with blackish, yellowish-green and yellow scales. The hindwings have black scales on the edge. The central patch is yellow with black tips abutting with smaller spots which are coloured lime green. The abdomen is golden. The females can reach a wingspan up to 15 centimetres. The forewings are dark brown to blackish brown with creamy white to greyish spots. The hindwings rimmed with black scales and have a central patch of golden with black tips. Rothschild's Birdwing has the most restricted distribution of all birdwings. Its habitat are flowering meadows in an altitude of 2,000–2,700 metres above sea level.

Ornithoptera tithonus, the Tithonus birdwing, is a species of birdwing butterfly found on New Guinea and other neighbouring islands (Figure 17 - Entire postal of Spain 2013 with butterfly *Ornithoptera tithonus*). The wingspan of males is up to 14.5 cm and of females - up to 19 cm. *Ornithoptera tithonus* is one of the most spectacular of the birdwings, with it's huge beautiful green wings, and large dramatic black bands that cascade across it's forewings. For the female butterflies, their wings have got black, white and yellow colours. This species breeds in primary rainforest in valleys of the Arfak mountains in Irian Jaya.

Among the most beautiful butterflies in the world the Paradise Birdwing or *Ornithoptera paradisea* from New Guinea stands out with its impressive appearance (Figure 18 - Entire postal of Romania 1974 with butterfly *Ornithoptera*

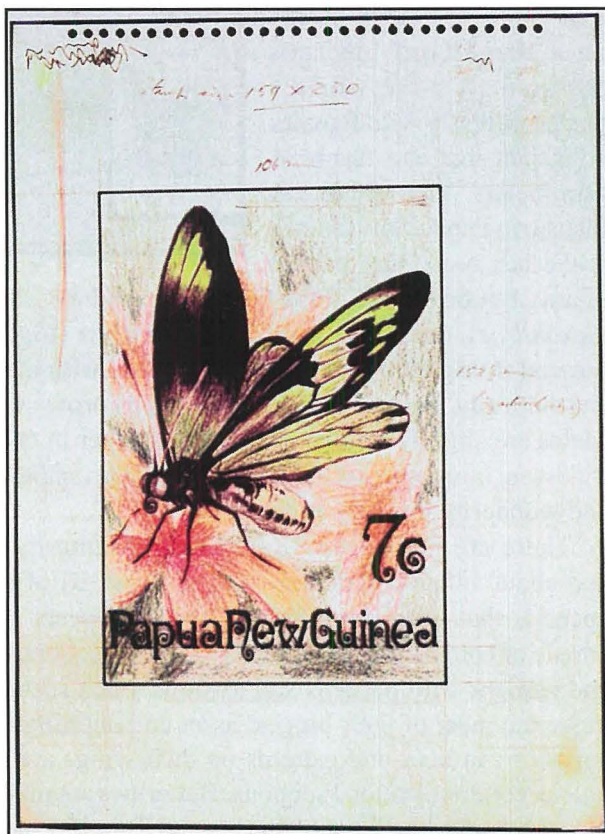




paradisea). The Paradise Birdwing is a large butterfly with a wingspan ranging from 14 cm to 19 cm. Males have black forewings. The costal edge is black and there are two large, yellow gold and green bands. The hindwings have tails of uncertain selective origin. The significantly larger female covers the upper range of the wingspan. The

basic colour is dark-brown. The habitat is lowland or montane primary forest. Adult males fly high around trees rarely descending to the ground. The Paradise Birdwing is a particularly attractive butterfly and for the present, it remain protected in Papua New Guinea.

The Queen Victoria's Birdwing or *Ornithoptera victoriae* with wingspan 15 – 18 cm found in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea (Bougainville Island only) (**Figure 19 - Original artwork for 1975 Papua New Guinea male *Ornithoptera victoriae*, what became the 10t stamp**). Queen Victoria's Birdwing is one of the loveliest butterflies on the planet. Its size, its colouring and the shape of its wings all make it an exceptional insect. Males are valued by collectors for their dazzling coloration, females for their immense size. Males displays different shades of brilliant green and gold.



The females are coloured inconspicuously brown and are slow fliers that mostly stay inside the forest. *Ornithoptera victoriana* is a true miracle of nature.

The butterfly's silhouette is sharply outlined against the morning sky. It flies high up into the air, beating its wings slowly, more like a bird than a butterfly. Its long, narrow wings are reminiscent of a swallow's, as they shimmer in the sunlight like iridescent sequins. The insect makes a wide circle and lands on a bright red hibiscus blossom. It's the world's largest butterfly with females wingspan that can reach 31 centimeters. The Managalas Plateau in Papua New Guinea is the last remaining habitat



of any significant size of the Queen Alexandra's Birdwing butterfly (*Ornithoptera alexandrae*), one of the world's rarest insects (**Figure 20 - Artist's drawing and normal stamp 1975 of Papua New Guinea with male *Ornithoptera alexandrae*.** Aesthetically, females are distinguished by brown wings marked with cream spots. Males are slightly smaller and much brighter in color. Their wings splashed with iridescent turquoise and blue. The Queen Alexandra's Birdwing is the most majestic and wonderful butterfly in the world.

There are more than 18,000 named butterfly species on the planet today, and about 140,000 different moth species. All of them evolved from a common ancestor that lived more than 225 million years ago. From that one ancestor, a parade of colours and shapes have burst forth, populating forests, savannahs, fields and gardens with patterns and textures. Each species has developed a strategy to make the most of their biggest asset and defining feature: their scaly wings. The variations in hues and patterns on their wings are not just for show but perform crucial communication functions. Butterflies are much prized not only for their size, but also for their brilliant colouring and beautiful shape. Butterflies are amongst the

most captivating and attractive flying creatures on the planet. As a manifestation of its beauty and elegance, there are hundreds of thousands of butterflies collectors from around the world.

I hope that my article about fascinating butterflies will be of interest to readers of the magazine and will be help for philatelists in creating bright philatelic collections about wonderful nature. The author is ready to help for philatelists in creating of philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths. His address: Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus, E-mail: vladimirkachan@mail.ru

Payment of Yearly Membership Fees

1. Notes for Local Members by John A. Cardona

This year there are no adverse comments to make since all the subscriptions which were due in 2022 have been received and duly deposited at the Bank.

It will be recalled that the Central Bank of Malta issued Directive 19 which disallowed the issue of cheques below or equal to 20 Euros. That created a problem for us since our current fees are 10 Euros per annum.

The Society suggested that members pay in advance the fees for years 2023 and 2024 and that the extra payments be credited to the accounts of the members concerned. Several members availed themselves of that suggestion which could be picked up from the individual receipts rendered to each member.

If any member would wish to check how his account stands, please contact us on 2189 2141 and the information will be given there and then.

2. Future payments

In future, payments of subscription fees are to be deposited directly in our bank account using the following details:-

2.1 Bank of Valletta Ltd.

2.2 Account name: The Malta Philatelic Society.

2.3 IBAN (if required) MT85 VALL 2201 3000 0000 4002 6085 661.

95 VIRTUAL DISPLAY

BY U.K. MALTA STUDY CIRCLE

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

by Jesmond Borg

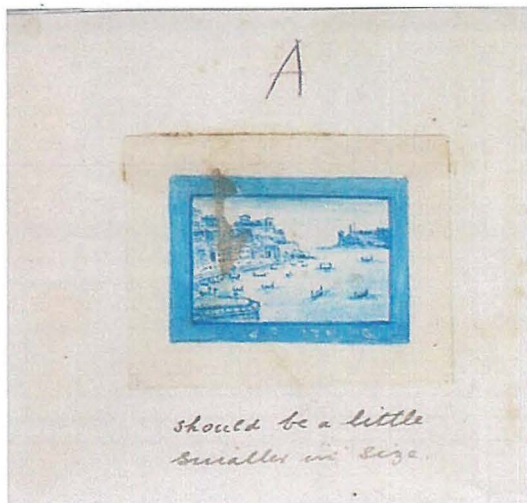
Definitive 1885 January 1st

Set of seven values printed in different frames and Colours

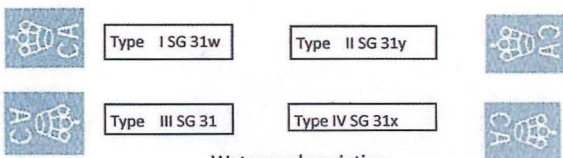
Common features		printer	De La Rue
		process	typography
		paper	White
		perforation	14 comb
		gum	arabic
		Watermark:	Crown over CA
Standard Colours	Frame description		
	Same as N° 1		
	Arched boxes inscribed MALTA ONE PENNY With four maltese crosses on the corners		
	Oval inscribed MALTA TWO PENCE HALFPENNY with four maltese crosses on the corners		
	Straight boxes inscribed MALTA and dots at sides And the values for each stamp TWO PENCE FOUR PENCE ONE SHILLING with four maltese crosses on the corners		
	Straight boxes inscribed At top: MALTA with two Maltese cross at sides At bottom the value: FIVE SHILLINGS Queen's Head in the center of the Maltese Cross with four maltese crosses on the corners		

The 1899 - 1922 Pictorials The ¼d Value

Scan of the original watercolour believed to have been designed by an unnamed Post Office clerk in 1896.



Colour Trials



Watermark varieties



The file proof recorded each day that engraving work was done on the die.

The brown and red brown stamps were both overprinted SPECIMEN, in black. The size of the overprint was 14.5 x 2.5mm and was vertical reading upwards on the brown stamp and downwards on the red brown.

The initial quantity invoiced by De La Rue on 3rd October 1900 was 572,640 stamps and 722 specimens.

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

ONE FARTHING – Brown – 1st jan 1901

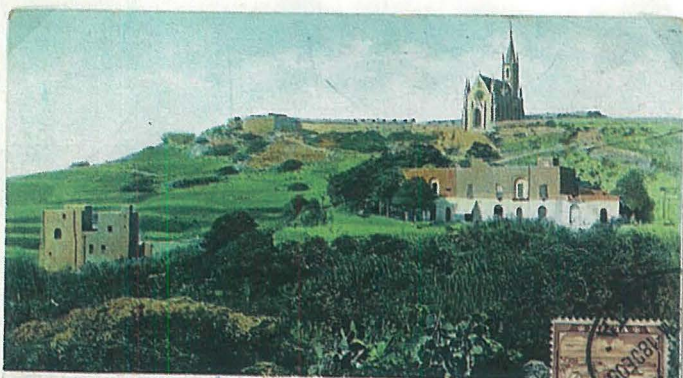


Plates	1
Sheet	120 – two panes of 60 (6x10)
No. printed	572640
Process	recess
Designer:	De La Rue
subject	Malta Harbour



Face value	perforation	True colour	Date of Issue
ONE FARTHING	14 line	Red brown	1st jan 1901

Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	31a	Red brown
Said 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	21a	Red brown
Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	17a	Red brown
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro	12a	brun rouge
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	15b	dunkelrotbraun
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	12a	Rosso bruno
Scott	USA	\$ USD	19a	Red brown



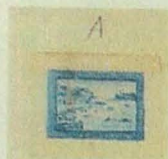
Fort Chambray, Gozo. 10.12.05

John Critten, Malta, 34 Strada Reale, *Idem malta*



Malta - The 1899 - 1922 Pictorials

The ½d value



Scan of original
1896 design



Scan of die proof




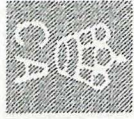
1901 -Brown issue with
Crown CA watermark



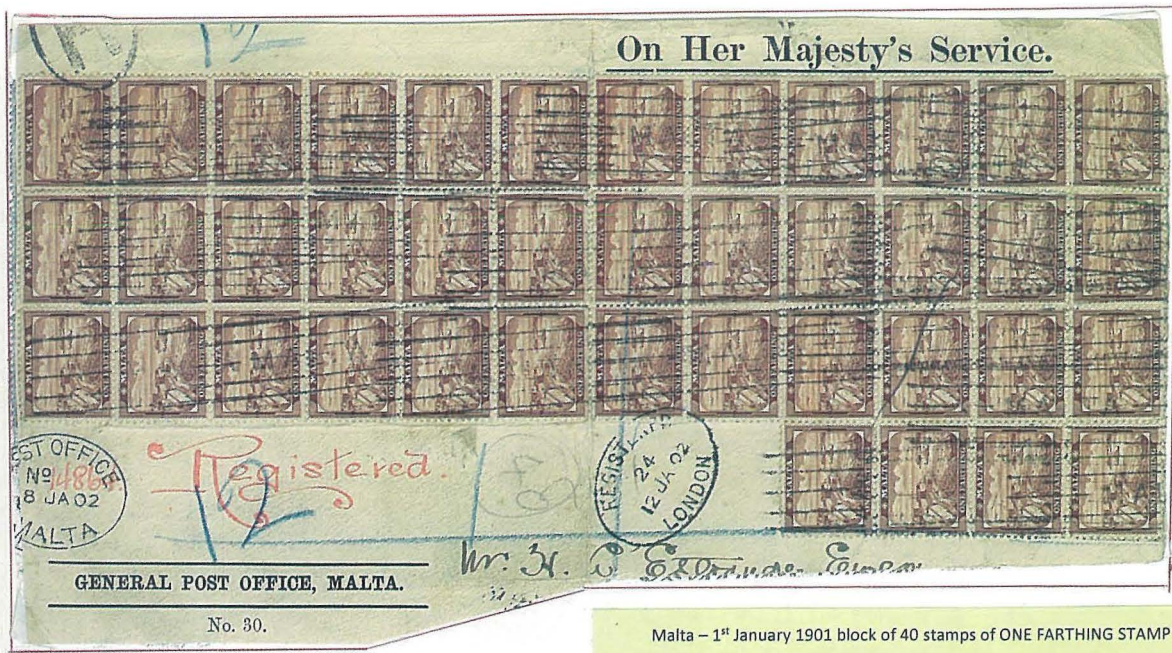
37

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

ONE FARTHING – Brown – 1st January 1901

	Plates	1		
	Sheet	120 – two panes of 60 (6x10)		
	No. printed	572640		
	Process	recess		
	Designer:	De La Rue		
subject	Malta Harbour			
Face value		perforation	True colour	Date of Issue
ONE FARTHING		14 line	brown	1st jan 1901
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	31	brown
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Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	17	brown
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro	12	brun
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	15a	dunkelbraun
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	12	bruno
Scott	USA	\$ USD	19	brown





Malta – 1st January 1901 block of 40 stamps of ONE FARTHING STAMP No.31A



On Her Majesty's Service printed envelope.

Registered OVAL POSTMARK (POST OFFICE MALTA 8 JAN 1902)

NO. 18461 GENERAL POST OFFICE, MALTA NO. 30

Arrival Registered OVAL (LONDON POSTMARK 12 JAN 1902)

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

ONE HALF PENNY - Green			
	Plates	1	
	Sheet	240 - 4 panes of 60	
	No. printed	165,120	
	Imprint	No indication	
	Designer:	Jean Ferdinand Joubert de la Ferté	
	Marginal inscription	Malta - Postage One Half Penny	
			
nickname	Face value	True colour	
half penny green	½ d	green	

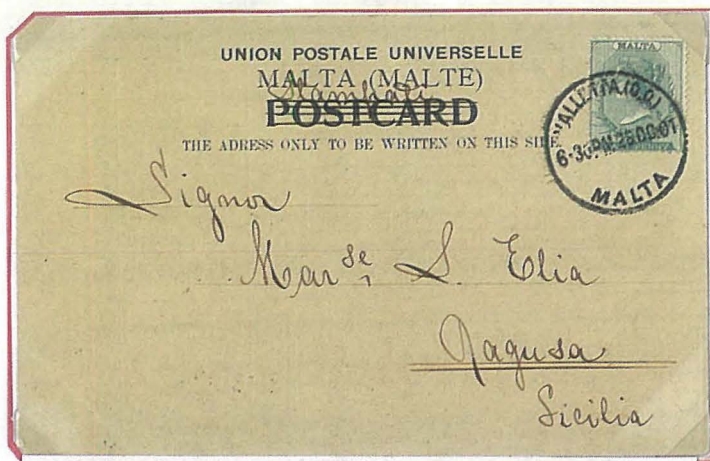
½d GREEN

Plate No. 1, which had been used for the ½d yellow stamps, was utilised for the printing of the ½d green. The shades vary from a very deep green to a very pale "washed out" green. Perforation 12 is known but it is thought to be a trial.

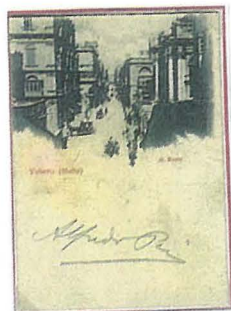
A piece exists bearing stuck down copies of the ½d yellow and ½d green (perforation 12) comparing the existing and proposed colours, the green stamp being endorsed "Proposed colour being that established by the International Postal Convention for this duty," (see colour plate on page xv)

The first printing was possibly the deep green with shades and can be identified by brownish gum and yellowish paper. The second printing appeared in 1890 and was deep to light green (shades) on white paper and white gum. No other printing dates have been recorded but it is thought that it would be most unlikely that there were only two printings.







MALTA – HALF PENNY GREEN STAMP
 UNDIVIDED POSTCARD OF ST.LUCIA STREET
 TO SICILIA, VALLETTA CIRCLE POSTMARK 1900



MALTA – HALF PENNY GREEN STAMP
 UNDIVIDED POSTCARD OF VALLETTA
 TO ROMA, VALLETTA OVAL POSTMARK 1901

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

ONE PENNY – Red			
	Plates	1	
	Sheet	240 – 4 panes of 60	
	No. printed	257,280	
	Imprint	No indication	
	Designer:	De La Rue	
	Marginal inscription		
			
nickname	Face value	True colour	
One penny red	ONE PENNY	red	

1d CARMINE



The artist's original drawing in carmine on thin yellowish paper exists dated 26 SEP 83; the 14 crosses in the design have four points instead of eight. (see colour plate on page xvi)

Recorded die proofs are as follows:—

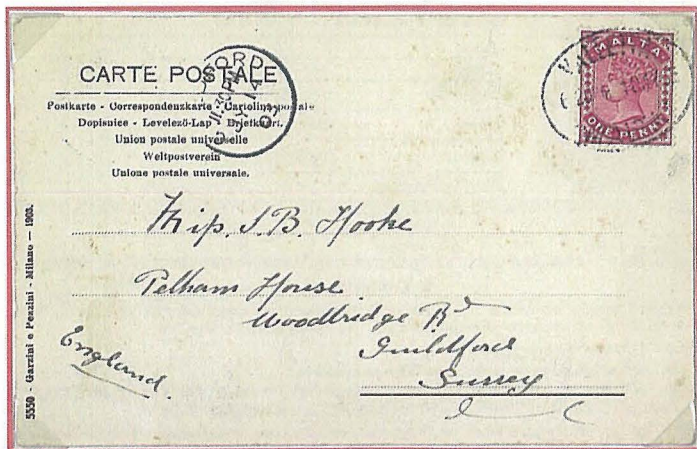
- (a) In black on glazed paper without the value expressed and
 (b) In black on card at various stages of production: (i) Unmarked, (ii) 5 MAR 84 AFTER HARDENING, (iii) 11 MAR 84 AFTER STRIKING and initialled "G.M."

The 1d and 2½d die proofs in black, on glazed card, exist mounted on the same card struck on 12th and 7th March 1894 respectively.

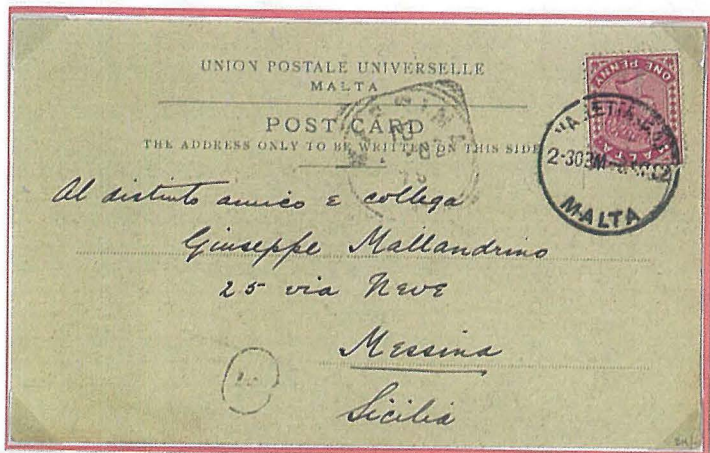
It is also known, in black, on glazed card dated on reverse "7/3/84".

ONE PENNY – Rose				
	Plates	1		
	Sheet	240 – 4 panes of 60		
	No. printed	257,280		
	Imprint	No indication		
	Designer:	De La Rue		
	Marginal inscription			
				
nickname	Face value	True colour		
One penny rose	ONE PENNY	red		
		Image from www.emmsaid.com		
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	21	rose
Sald 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	11 a	rose
Sald price list	Malta	€ Euro	11 a	rose
JB	Malta	€ Euro	11	rose
Yvert & Teller	France	€ Euro		
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	5a	rosa
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	6a	rosa
Scott	USA	\$ USD	9a	rose
Image from : Emmanuel Sald Ltd – web site				







MALTA – ONE PENNY RED STAMP
 UND. POSTCARD TO SURREY ENGLAND
 VALLETTA OVAL POSTMARK 1903



MALTA – ONE PENNY ROSE STAMP
 MALTA UNDIVIDED POSTCARD
 TO MESSINA, VALLETTA ROUND POSTMARK 1902

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

TWO PENCE – Grey

	Plates	1	
	Sheet	60 – 6 panes of 10	
	No. printed	244,280	
	Imprint	No indication	
	Designer:	De La Rue	
	Marginal inscription		
nickname	Face value	True colour	
Two and half penny blue	TWO PENCE	grey	

2d GREY

Shades

- (a) Grey (b) Slate grey (c) Bluish slate

The first printing (issued 27th December 1884) was grey with yellowish paper and gum. The second printing (1890) was slate grey with white paper and gum. No other printing dates of issue have been recorded; the existence of the bluish-slate shade suggest at least one further printing.

Varieties

- (a) The value "TWO PENCE" in thicker type (first printing)
 (b) "O" of "TWO" broken (plate flaw)
 (c) Lower margin imperforate on last row of pane

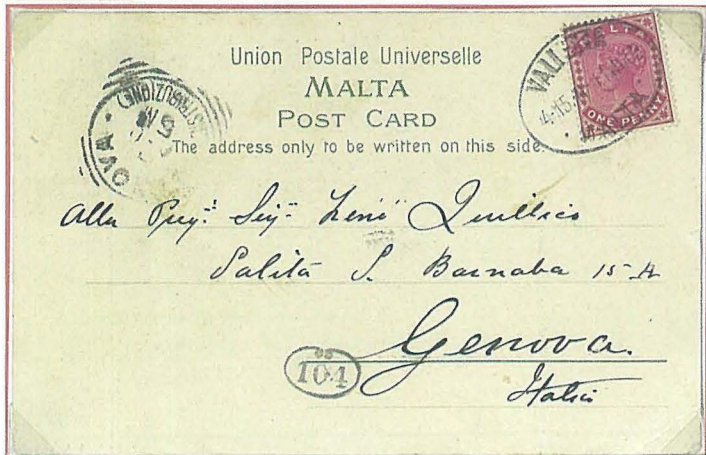


Malta-1885-registered -security envelope 23 SP 97 to Genoa Italy





TWO PENNY GREY AND TWO PENCE 1/2 STAMPS
 (R)REGISTERED ENVELOPE TO ITALY with 5 STRAIGHT
 LINES MALTA & REGISTERED POSTMARKS 1894



MALTA – ONE PENNY ROSE STAMP
 MALTA UNDIVIDED POSTCARD
 TO GENOVA, VALLETTA OVAL POSTMARK 1902

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

TWO PENCE HALF PENNY- Dull Blue



Plates	1
Sheet	240 - 4 panes of 60
No. printed	510,720
Imprint	No indication
Designer:	De La Rue
Marginal inscription	



nickname	Face value	True colour	
Two and half penny blue	Two pence half penny	dull blue	

Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	24	dull blue
Said 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	13	dull blue
Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	13	dull blue
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro		
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	7a	dunkelblau
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	8b	blu
Scott	USA	\$ USD	11b	grey



Fragment with Malta - 1885 - Two and half penny blue vertical pair handstamped duplex type AD2a- cds MALTA (arched) H - MR 8 97 - A25





1895 POSTAL COVER TO SUNDERLAND UK

TWO PENCE HALFPENNY BLUE DEC 1895 COSTPICUA CDS CANCEL

ADDRESSED NELSON STREET SUNDERLAND

NEAT MALTA CDS THROUGH AND CDS SUNDERLAND RECEIVER TO RARER



ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO TORQUAY U.K.

Registered envelope with MALTA strait lines postmark

MALTA STAMP 2 ½ Definitive stamp S.G. 26

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

TWO PENCE HALF PENNY- Bright Blue



Plates	1
Sheet	240 - 4 panes of 60
No. printed	510,720
Imprint	No indication
Designer:	De La Rue
Marginal inscription	



nickname	Face value	True colour
Two and half penny blue	Two pence half penny	bright blue

2½d BLUE

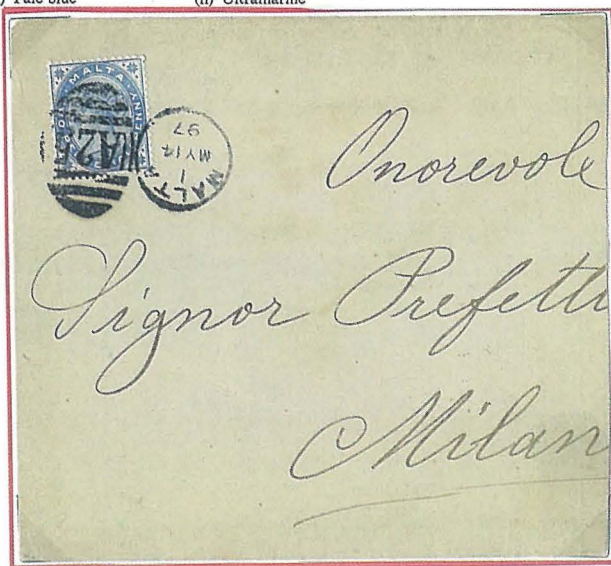
The artist's original drawing in blue on thin yellowish paper dated 26 SEP 83 exists.

The following die proofs are recorded in black on glazed card:—

- (i) 18 FEB 84 BEFORE HARDENING
- (ii) 19 FEB 84 AFTER HARDENING
- (iii) 11 MAR 84 AFTER STRIKING (and initialled)
- (iv) Dated, on the reverse, "12/3/84"

Shades

- (a) Dull blue
- (b) Cobalt
- (c) Pale bright blue
- (d) Dull ultramarine
- (e) Bright ultramarine
- (f) Bright blue
- (g) Pale blue
- (h) Ultramarine



Fragment (partially cut envelope) with
Malta - 1885 - Two and half penny blue

hand stamped duplex type AD2a-
cnds MALTA (arched) H - MY 14 97 - A25





ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO SUSSEX

MALTA OCTOBER 13 1888 Postmark



MALTA STAMP 2 ½ Definitive stamp S.G. 25



MALTA VICTORIAN REGISTERED ENVELOPE to UK 1897 UPRATED WITH EXTRA 2 STAMPS of 1902 No. 36A 2 ½ Penny

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

TWO PENCE HALF PENNY- Ultramarine

	Plates	1	
	Sheet	240 - 4 panes of 60	
	No. printed	510,720	
	Imprint	No indication	
	Designer:	De La Rue	
	Marginal inscription		
nickname	Face value	True colour	
Two and half penny blue	Two pence half penny	ultramarine	

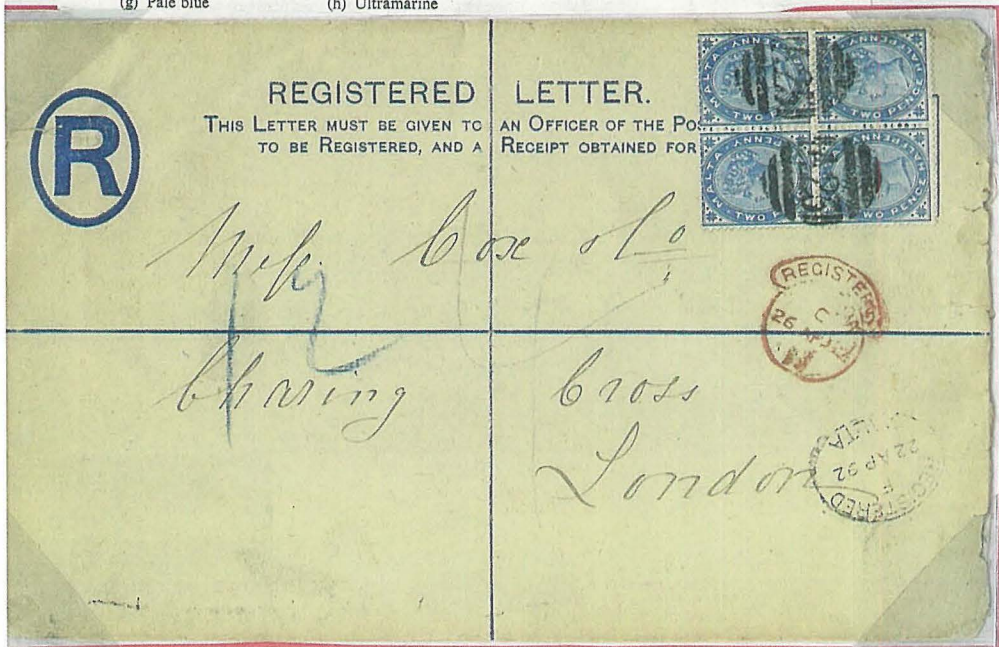
The artist's original drawing in blue on thin yellowish paper dated 26 SEP 83 exists.

The following die proofs are recorded in black on glazed card:-

- (i) 18 FEB 84 BEFORE HARDENING
- (ii) 19 FEB 84 AFTER HARDENING
- (iii) 11 MAR 84 AFTER STRIKING (and initialed)
- (iv) Dated, on the reverse, "12/3/84"

Shades



- (a) Dull blue
- (b) Cobalt
- (c) Pale bright blue
- (d) Dull ultramarine
- (e) Bright ultramarine
- (f) Bright blue
- (g) Pale blue
- (h) Ultramarine



Malta-1888 - on registered embossed - bo4 - to London
 Handstamp "Valletta" REGISTERED apr 22, 1892 MALTA in oval and Oval A25 on the stamps

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

FOUR PENCE – Brown

	Plates	1		
	Sheet	80 – 6 panes of 10		
	No. printed	163,200		
	Imprint	No indication		
	Designer:	De La Rue		
	Marginal inscription			
nickname	Face value	True Colour		
FOUR PENCE – brown	Four pence	brown		
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	27	brown

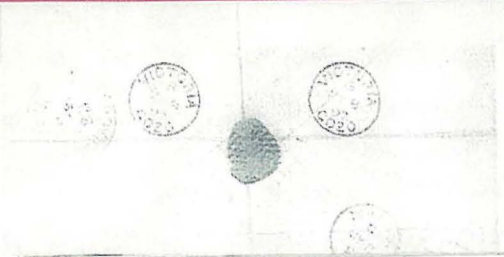
4d BROWN

Shades

- (a) Brown — pale to medium shades (b) Chestnut brown (c) Chocolate brown


Differences in the shades of the key plate design and the value lettering are known.

The first printing (issued 27th December 1884) is in various shades of brown on yellowish paper and gum. The second printing consists of both chestnut brown and chocolate brown and is on white paper and white gum. It is not known if there were any other printings.



Malta – 1885 – Sg 20 pair and 23 and 27 - on registered from VICTORIA B MY 8 97 GOZO – to Milan Italy
On back cds o MALTA G MY 8 97 and Milan Arrival

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

ONE SHILLING – Pale Violet				
		Plates	1	
		Sheet	60 – 6 panes of 10	
		No. printed	60,000	
		Imprint	No indication	
		Designer:	De La Rue	
Marginal inscription				
nickname		Face value	True colour	
ONE SHILLING – violet		One Shilling	Pale violet	
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	29	Pale violet

Shades

(a) Violet — This deeper shade includes stamps in which the head and frame are somewhat lighter and the lettering deeper violet and vice versa.

(b) Pale violet — a true “delicate” shade, the stamp being the same colour throughout. Care must be taken not to confuse faded copies of the violet shade.

The first printing (issued 27th December 1884) has violet shades from medium to deep on yellowish paper and gum. The second printing (1890) has pale to medium shades on white paper and gum. It is not known whether other printings were made.

1/- VIOLET

I. e. R. Consolato d' Austria - Ungheria - Malta

N.º CLXXII



All' Eccelso

*I. e. R. Ministero della Casa Imp.
e Reale e degli Esteri*

(Ex offi.)

Vienna

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

ONE SHILLING – Violet



Plates	1
Sheet	60 – 6 panes of 10
No. printed	60,000
Imprint	No indication
Designer:	De La Rue
Marginal inscription	



nickname	Face value	True colour	
ONE SHILLING – violet	One Shilling	violet	
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	28
		colour described	
		violet	

Shades

- (a) Violet — This deeper shade includes stamps in which the head and frame are somewhat lighter and the lettering deeper violet and vice versa.
- (b) Pale violet — a true “delicate” shade, the stamp being the same colour throughout. Care must be taken not to confuse faded copies of the violet shade.

The first printing (issued 27th December 1884) has violet shades from medium to deep on yellowish paper and gum. The second printing (1890) has pale to medium shades on white paper and gum. It is not known whether other printings were made.



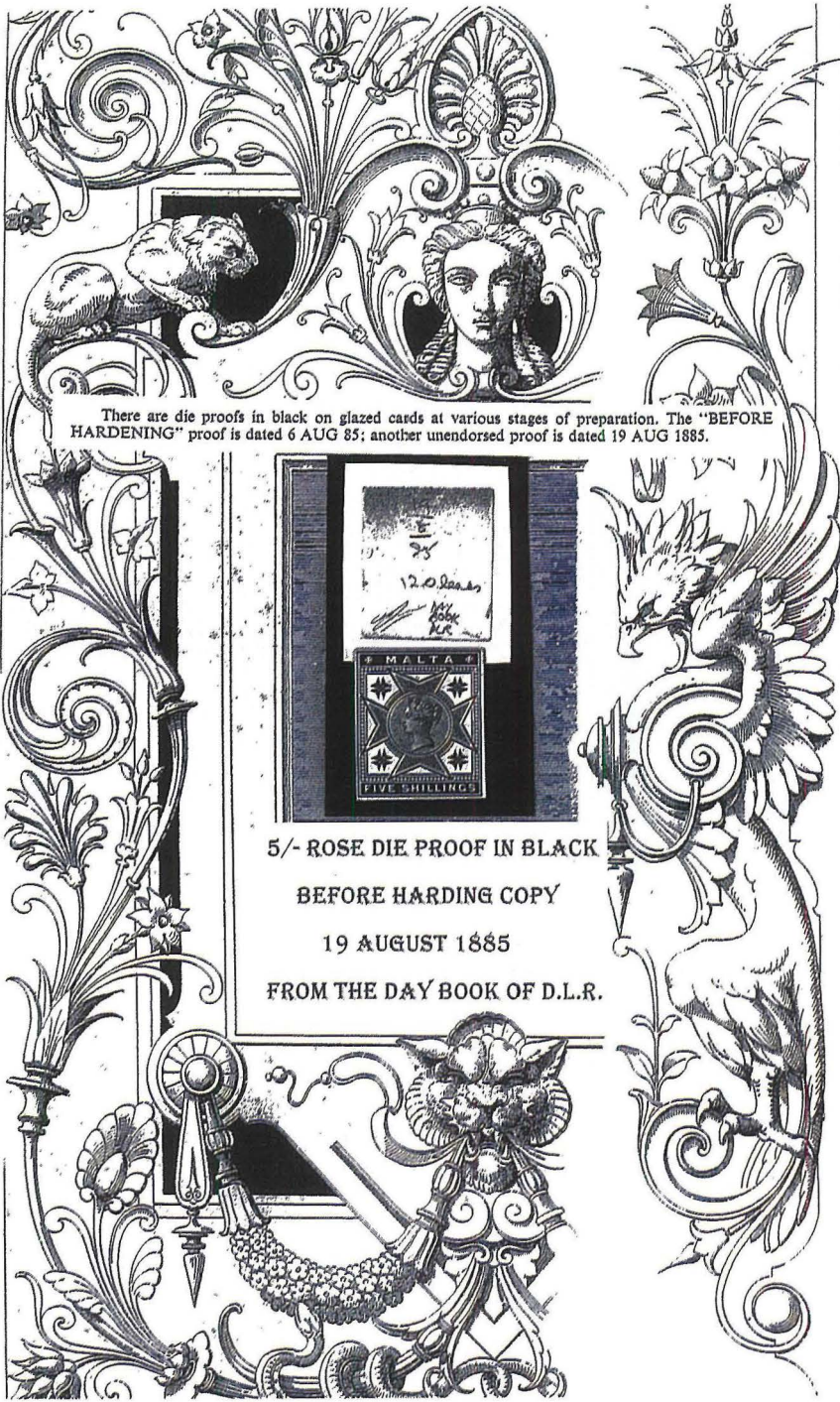
Malta – 1885 – Sg 28 and 32 and 23 and 27 - on fragment of registered



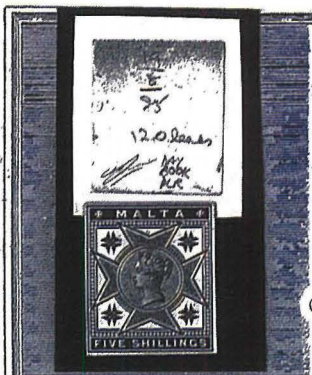
MALTA - ONE SHILLING VIOLET and PALE VIOLET
OVERPRINTED REVENUE USED



PALE VIOLET AND ONE SHILLING
AND ONE PENNY ROSE STAMPS ON PIECE





There are die proofs in black on glazed cards at various stages of preparation. The "BEFORE HARDENING" proof is dated 6 AUG 85; another unendorsed proof is dated 19 AUG 1885.



5/- ROSE DIE PROOF IN BLACK
BEFORE HARDING COPY
19 AUGUST 1885
FROM THE DAY BOOK OF D.L.R.

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

FIVE SHILLING -- Rose - 1885

	Plates	1	
	Sheet	120 - 12 x 10	
	No. printed	15,000	
	Imprint	No indication	
	Designer:	De La Rue	
Marginal inscription			

nickname	Face value	True colour	Date of issue
FIVE SHILLING -- rose	Five Shilling	rose	1st January 1885

Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	30	rose
Said 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	16	rose
Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	16	rose
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro	11	rose
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	10	rosa
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	11	rosa
Scott	USA	\$ USD	14	rea

5/- ROSE

In 1886 a 5/- stamp was issued which was much larger than previous values, the medallion being 12½ mm diameter as Malta had asked for a "distinctive design, which should be larger than those already supplied, clearly exhibiting the Cross of Malta".



A25 POSTMARK



CDS "Malta"



PARCEL POSTMARK

1886 QVI FIVE SHILLINGS - SG 30 used



Silver Gilt Stamp Ingot - British Colonies Queen Victoria Malta 5 Shillings 1886

4. February 1899

WM: 2

Sheet size: 240

Design: Official du Bureau de poste Engraving:

Perforation: 14



Type	D	Colour	Description
E	4½P	dark brown	Dghajsa tal-Latini (Gozo boat)
G	5P	orange red	Maltese galley

WM: 1

Sheet size: 60

Engraving: Gustave Dore (St-Paul)

Perforation: 14



Type	D	Colour	Description
H	2'6sh'P	olive	Melita
J	10Sh	dark blue	St Paul's Shipwreck

1901 Jan 1901 - Valletta Harbour

WM: 2 Sheet size: 240

Design: Official du Bureau de poste Engraving

Perforation: 14



No.	Type	D	Colour
15	J	1F	reddish brown



Description
Grand Harbour, Valletta

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

FOUR PENCE HALF PENNY - 1899

	Plates	No indication		
	Sheet	120 – two panes of 60 (6x10)		
	No. printed	120000		
	Imprint	No indication		
	Designer:	Malta Post Office - official		
	subject	Gozo Boat		
Face value		perforation	True colour	Date of Issue
FOUR PENCE HALF PENNY		14 line	sepia	Feb 4 th 1899
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	32	sepia



1896 - Sept. The original design showed 10s but was changed to 4½d when De La Rue sent the first designs back to Malta.

1898 - April - Artists photographic essay in grey black.



Colour Trials



1898 Die Proof



Specimen grey-brown





Scan of experimental 4d overprint

The 4½d issue on Single Crown CA paper was issued on 4th February 1899 and is known in 2 shades — grey-brown and black brown from a second printing in 1900

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

FIVE PENCE - VERMILLION - 1899

	Plates	No indication	
	Sheet	120 - two panes of 60 (6x10)	
	No. printed	119040	
	process	recess	
	Designer:	Malta Post Office - official	
	subject	Galea	

Face value	perforation	True colour	Date of Issue
FIVE PENCE	14 line	VERMILLION	4 TH FEB 1899

Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	33	vermillion
Said 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	19	vermillion
Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	19	vermillion
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro	14	vermillion
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	12	braunlichrot
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	14	vermiglio
Scott	USA	\$ USD	16	Brown red



Malta - 1899 - 5d - on registered - oval REGISTERED G 12 sp 99 MALTA bearing also an R in oval and the MALTA in five lines handstamp - to Cagliari



The 2s 6d Value



In the original drawings sent to the Crown Agents in 1896 there was a drawing showing Melita but no value. This was developed by De La Rue into the 2s 6d value.



1898 Die proof showing the various dates when work was carried out on the die.



Scan of Die proof



750 Specimen stamps were overprinted



There were 3 shades printed a) Olive grey b) Olive brown c) Grey green and were issued on 4th February 1899, on Crown CC paper.

Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

TWO SHILLINGS AND SIX PENCE - 1899



Plates	No indication
Sheet	50 – one pane of 60 (12 x 5)
No. printed	30000
printer	De La Rue
process	recess
Designer:	unknown
subject	Allegory of Melita



Face value	Perforation	True colour	Date of Issue	
TWO SHILLINGS AND SIX PENCE	14 line	Olive	4 th Feb 1899	
Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	34	
Said 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	19	Olive gray
Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	20	Olive gray
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro	15	olive
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	13	grauoliv
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	15	oliva
Scott	USA	\$ USD	17	Olive gray



2/6 Olive Gray on registered to Paris – hs oval - Registered F – 13 MR 14 - MALTA

Arrival on back – cds PARIS Distribution date at centre

Late date of use ?



Malta - The issues of Kings and Queens -1860 -1964

10 SHILLINGS Blue Black- 1899



Plates	No indication
Sheet	80 – one pane of 80 (12 x 5)
No. printed	60000
Process	recess
Designer:	De la Rue
subject	Saint Paul shipwreck - adapted from an engraving by Gustav Doré



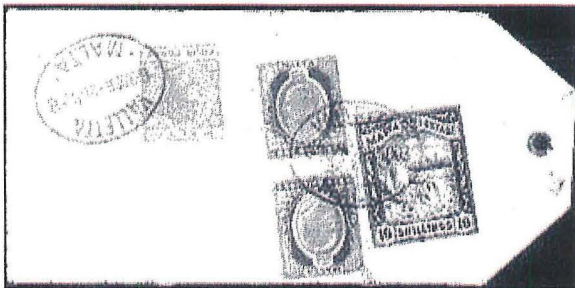
Face value	Perforation	True colour	Date of issue
10 SHILLINGS	14 line	Blue black	4 th feb 1899

Catalogue	Country	Currency	Number	colour described
Stanley Gibbons	UK	£ GBP	35	blue black
Said 1982	Malta	£M maltese Lira	20	blue black
Said price list	Malta	€ Euro		
JB	Malta	€ Euro	21	blue black
Yvert & Tellier	France	€ Euro	16	bleu noir
Michel	Germany	€ Euro	14	blauschwarz
Unificato	Italy	€ Euro	16	azzurro nero
Scott	USA	\$ USD	18	blue black

Overprinted
SPECIMEN



Overprinted
REVENUE
For fiscal use



1903 November 26 printed OHMS parcel label to "THE SENIOR BRITISH NAVAL OFFICER, HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AND VESSELS" at Suda Bay, Canea, Crete, franked with 1885-90 4d, 1899-1901 10s, and 1903-04 1s (2) tied by two Valletta oval datestamps, adhesives with a few short perfs and toned perf tips and label with minor imperfections but very scarce

From Stanley Gibbons – Sale 736 – 12_13jun13

POSTAL DIARY

1ST JANUARY – 10TH MAY 2022

Compiled by John V. De Battista

18th January

MaltaPost today informed the public that the letterbox located in Triq ix-Xatt, Marsaskala, has been permanently removed.

The public was advised that if it so wishes it may use the letterbox located at Triq Sant Antnin or the one located in Pjazza Dun Tarcis Agius as close alternatives.

26th January

It was announced that the Sub Post Office at 'D Spiral' Stationery, located at 'D-Spiral', Triq il-Vitorja, Birkirkara BKR 2691, will be temporarily closed until Thursday 3rd February.

During this period, the public was advised to use the postal services provided from the Birkirkara Post Office located at 58, Triq il-Wied, Birkirkara BKR 9013 as a close substitute.

28th January

The letterbox located in Triq Censu Xerri, Sliema has been temporarily removed. In view of this the public was advised that it may wish to use the letterbox located at Triq Tigne', Sliema in its stead.

11th February

It was announced that on the 12th February, MaltaPost will be issuing another set in the series "Maltese Buses". The series illustrates Malta's iconic coloured buses of past years, which were characterised by their high level of customisation and detailing. Individual owner-drivers would add their personal touch throughout the vehicle. They would add chrome accessories to their 'trucks', paint messages using the elaborate local 'tberfil' calligraphy, hang objects associated with specific village patron saints and of course, horseshoes for luck!

The four stamps in the set will be issued in a sheet of ten stamps format, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, having a comb perforation of 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets themselves measure 118mm x 185mm and were produced by Printex Ltd through the offset process. The issue consists of 500,000 of the €0.30 stamp, 40,000 of the €0.51 stamp, 48,000 of the

€0.59 stamp and 80,000 of the €1.00 stamp. The stamp set was designed in-house by MaltaPost based on photographs by Frans Galea, Richard Stedall, Manuel Cutajar and Leo Grech.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.1/2022). The single-ring hand stamp is inscribed “MALTESE BUSES” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/12-02-22” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the front of a Maltese bus positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 420.



25th February

MaltaPost today informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Step in’, Misraħ ir-Rebħa, Birgu BRG 1300, will be temporarily closed on Monday 28th February until Wednesday 2nd March.

On these days the public was advised that it may wish to use the postal services provided from the Bormla Post Office located at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910.

1st March

MaltaPost informed the public that as a result of the Russia-Ukraine crisis and the increasing number of European countries banning Russian airlines from their skies, all postal services to Russia are now suspended until further notice.

All postal items destined to Ukraine will now be diverted through Poland. The Polish mail operator will handle the exchange of these postal items, both imports and exports, at their offices located close to the Ukrainian borders.

2nd March

MaltaPost customers were informed that all outbound mail services to Russia and Belarus are being suspended until further notice due to unavailable means of transport.

9th March

MaltaPost informed that the letterbox located in Dawret It-Torri, Santa Luċija has been temporarily removed and advised the public that it may wish to use the letterbox located in Triq Il-Lellux, Santa Luċija as a close alternative.

11th March

Today, MaltaPost launched the 2021 Year Pack; which includes all stamp sets issued during 2021 in mint condition. The sets included are: Malta Healthcare Heroes - COVID-19, Act Now United Nations Campaign For Individual Action, 200th Anniversary Death Of Napoleon Bonaparte, Europa 2021 - Endangered National Wildlife Of Malta, SEPAC - Historical Maps Of Malta, 100th Anniversary of the Birth Of HRH Prince Philip - The Duke Of Edinburgh, EUROMED - Handcraft Jewellery In The Mediterranean, Olympic Games 2020, Maltese Festa Series V, Maltese Buses, 100th Anniversary of the Malta Senate And Legislative Assembly and Christmas 2021. The Year Pack is presented in a specially designed folder which includes all technical details related to all the 2021 stamp issues.

In its second media communication for the day, MaltaPost notified the public that a commemorative hand stamp will be issued to commemorate Richard England's Exhibition at Il-Ħaġar Museum in Victoria Gozo. This hand stamp will be in use on Saturday 12th March at the Victoria Post Office, located at 5, Triq Sir Adrian Dingli, Rabat VCT 1441.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed "RICHARD ENGLAND AT IL-ĦAĠAR" along the outside bordering the ring, and "* MALTAPOST – VICTORIA, GOZO - MALTA *" bordering the ring on the inner side. The issue date "12-03-22" in a straight line is to be found below an outline image depicting the façade of Victoria's St. George's Basilica, the parish in and building next to which the "Il-Ħaġar Museum" is located.



24th March

In commemoration of the programmed visit to the Maltese Islands by Pope Francis, MaltaPost announced that on the 2nd April it will be issuing a stamp in miniature sheet format to mark the event.

The papal visit was announced by the office of the Holy See on 10th February 2022, the feast of St. Paul, quoting the verse "They showed us unusual kindness" from the bible. This refers to the hospitality extended to the shipwrecked apostle Paul in AD.60 by the Maltese; also applicable nowadays in respect of those migrants who traverse the Mediterranean on perilous journeys in rickety overloaded "boats" in search of a safe haven in Europe.

The stamp measures 31 mm x 44 mm, and has a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0. It was printed on paper bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The miniature sheet

itself measures 120 mm x 80 mm and was produced through the offset process by Printex Ltd. The issue, designed in-house by MaltaPost, consists of 30,000 miniature sheets with each sheet bearing a face value of €5.00. The miniature sheet will be also reproduced in a metal plate version, which will be housed within a black velvet foldable stand.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No.2/2022). The single-ring hand stamp is inscribed “POPE FRANCIS IN MALTA” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring.



The words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/02-04-22” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting the Pope’s Mitre and staff positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 421. It is to be noted that the facsimile hand stamp depicted on



the said bulletin (right) does not fully match the actual design finally used for the postal branch hand stamps (left) as it varies slightly and is also missing the words “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ”

In addition to the standard items, three official occasion cards bearing numbers 60, 61 and 62 were also issued by the Philatelic Bureaus. Besides in the mint version, the philatelic bureau also issued them cancelled with different commemorative hand stamps depending on the event commemorated on the respective card. All views feature one of the different venues which Pope Francis visited on his tour of the islands and in which he held singular events during his visit.

The first highlight in the programme was the crossing over to the island of Gozo which took place in the evening on Saturday 2nd April. This was marked by the use of a single-ring circular hand stamp inscribed “POPE FRANCIS IN MALTA – TA’ PINU SHRINE” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – GHARB, GOZO - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is a drawing of the Ta’ Pinu Basilica beneath which was placed the issue date in a



straight line “02-04-22”. This cancellor was used both at the Għarb Post Office and on occasion card number 59. The Gozo Philatelic Society too issued a Card in a limited edition of 100 to commemorate this event. This card (GPS No. 152) is franked with a personalised se-tenant stamp and the Title ‘POPE FRANCIS VISIT TO GOZO’ is printed in gold.

The second highlight of the Pope’s visit commemorated was that to Saint Paul’s Grotto in Rabat, Malta which took place early in the morning of Sunday 3rd April. The single-ring circular hand stamp marking this event is inscribed “POPE FRANCIS IN MALTA ST. PAUL’S BASILICA - RABAT” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA *



bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the torso of the statue of Saint Paul, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line “02-04-22”. This cancellor was only used philatelically by the MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau on occasion card number 60 and on philatelic covers sold to hand stamp collectors.

The third major event commemorated was the Holy Mass, also celebrated in the morning of 3rd April, his second and final day of the visit. This was marked by a single-ring circular hand stamp inscribed “POPE FRANCIS IN MALTA – THE GRANARIES, FLORIANA” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – PHILATELIC BUREAU - MALTA *



5th April

MaltaPost announced that the €0.30 stamp of the Buses 2022 Issue has been reprinted. The reprint consists of 600,000 stamps, in sheets of ten stamps bearing sheet numbers 050001-110000, both numbers included. The stamps measure 44.0 mm x 31.0 mm with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and have been printed through the offset process by Printex Limited on watermarked paper bearing Maltese Crosses. In the media communication announcing the reprint it was stated that as from Wednesday 06th April, the reprinted stamps would be made available from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo. However, as it has now become customary when

it comes to the issue of reprints, disappointingly for collectors the great majority of Post Offices did not have these stamps in stock on the advised release date, rendering it impossible to make FDI covers from the individual PO branches.

14th April

In three separate media communication releases, MaltaPost informed the public that several Sub Post Offices will be temporarily closed during the month of April. The first communication noted that the Sub Post Office at ‘Step in’, Misraħ ir-Rebħa, Birgu BRG 1300, will be closed between Saturday 16th and Monday 25th April.

On these days the public was advised that it may wish to use the postal services provided from the Bormla Post Office at Block No 14, Flat No. 12, Fuq San Pawl, Bormla BML 1910.

In a similar media communication release, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Many Things’ Stationery, Triq il-Knisja il-Qadima, Siġġiewi SGW 1704, will be closed between Friday 15th and Wednesday 20th April.

On these days, the public was advised to use the postal services provided from the Żebbuġ Post Office located at Triq Sciortino, Żebbuġ ŻBG 1962.

In the third, MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office located at ‘Electroit Stationery’ at Fredrick Meample Square, Qormi QRM 1011, will be closed between Thursday 14th and Saturday 16th April.

In this case, on these days the public was advised that it may use the postal services provided from the Qormi Post Office located at 343, Triq il-Vitorja, Qormi QRM 2504.

18th April

MaltaPost notified that on Monday 18th April a commemorative Se - Tenant stamp and a Commemorative Cover were issued by the Philatelic Bureau to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Award of The George Cross to Malta. In addition to these philatelic mementos, a commemorative hand stamp was also commissioned to cancel purely philatelic products related to the event issued by the Bureau, all of which could only be obtained through the placing of orders directly from the Philatelic Bureau at MaltaPost.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed “AWARD OF THE GEORGE CROSS TO MALTA – 80TH ANNIVERSARY” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – PHILATELIC BUREAU



- MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand stamp is an outline drawing of the George Cross, set above the Siege Bell Monument, beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line “18-04-22”.

22nd April

Today MaltaPost informed the public that the Sub Post Office at ‘Needs Stationery’, located at 1, Triq il-Vajrita, Marsaskala MSK 3306 will be temporarily closed on Saturday 23rd April.

On this day, Marsaskala residents were advised that they may wish to use the postal services provided from the Marsaskala Post Office, located at Triq Sant’ Antnin, Marsaskala MSK 9059.

26th April

It was notified that the Sub Post Office at ‘Willand Bargain Store’, Triq Dun M Mifsud, Santa Lucija SLC 1440, will be temporarily closed on Thursday 28th April.

The public was informed that on this day it may wish to use the postal services provided from the Post Office located at the Paola Civic Center, Pjazza Antoine De Paule, Paola PLA 1266.

29th April

MaltaPost today notified that a commemorative hand stamp will be used to celebrate the Public Service Week. This hand stamp will be in use on Monday 2nd May only at the Malta Postal Museum in Valetta.

The single-ring circular hand stamp is inscribed “ĠINGĦA GĦAS-SERVIZZ PUBBLIKU 2022” along the outside bordering the ring, and “* MALTAPOST – POSTAL MUSEUM - MALTA *” bordering the ring on the inner side. At the centre of the hand Stamp is a drawing of the public services logo beneath which was placed the issue date in a straight line “02-05-22”.



5th May

MaltaPost announced that on 9th May, it will join other European postal administrations by way of the issue of a stamp set in the Europa Series. Malta’s stamps depict two popular local legends – one relating to Calypso Cave and the other to the cave located at Speranza Valley in Mosta. The stamps were designed by Fabio Agius, the co-creator of Wicked Comics and a long-standing MaltaPost staff member who also designed the popular “Peppi Pustier” postman character.

The stamp designs are a marked departure from more traditional ones and focus on the flat bold colouring so typical of comic art.

The theme “Stories & Myths” was selected by PostEurop - an association that since 1993 represents the interests of European postal operators. It was then that PostEurop assumed responsibility for issuing EUROPA stamps. The Malta stamps will be issued in sheets of eleven stamps, each stamp measuring 31mm x 44mm, with a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets themselves measure 150 mm x 160 mm and were produced by Printex Ltd



through the offset process. The total issue consists of 44,000 of the €0.59 stamp and 46,200 of the €2.00 stamp. The €0.59 stamp will also be Malta’s entry for the ‘2022 EUROPA Online Stamp Contest’. This is an annual online event where EUROPA stamp designs from across Europe compete for the best entry of the year’s Europa stamp releases.

MaltaPost prepared an occasion hand stamp to cancel the stamps on their first day of issue (on FDC No.3/2022). The single-ring hand stamp is inscribed “EUROPA 2022 – STORIES AND MYTHS” along the outside bordering the ring and “* MALTAPOST ----- - MALTA *” on the lower inner side of the ring. The words and issue date “JUM IL-ĦRUĠ/09-05-22” in straight lines are to be found below an outline image depicting a Corinthian column set above the bow of a boat sporting “The eye of Osiris”, positioned at the top centre of the hand stamp. MaltaPost’s Philatelic Bureau featured the issue in its Stamp Bulletin No. 422. The Gozo Philatelic Society, as has by now become customary when themes with a Gozitan connection come up, has issued an attractive post card in a limited edition of 100 individually numbered cards.

10th May




The public was today informed that the letterbox located at Dawret it-Torri, Santa Lucija is now back in service. (*Reference entry dated 9th March 2022*)

MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

31 December 2021

by John A. Cardona

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	€	€
CURRENT ASSETS		
Fixed Deposit Account	4,000	4,000
Current Account	<u>8,536</u>	<u>7,095</u>
	12,536	11,095
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Subscriptions paid in advance	<u>(1,052)</u>	<u>(422)</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>11,484</u>	<u>10,673</u>
REPRESENTED BY		
Excess of Revenue over Expenses <i>(Brought forward from Page 2)</i>	<u>11,484 (Adj)</u>	<u>10,673</u>
 John A. Cardona Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.	 Mr. Joseph Fenech. Internal Auditor.	
	 Mr. Josie Franco. Internal Auditor.	

MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

31st December 2021

<u>2020</u>			<u>2021</u>
£ INCOME	Notes	€	€
1,881 Subscription receivable	(1)	1,593	
61 Interest received	(2)	0	
0 Donations	(3)	<u>82</u>	
1,942 Total Income			1,675
EXPENDITURE			
65 Journal distribution costs	(4)	41	
153 Newsletter distribution costs	(5)	119	
190 Sundry administrative expenses	(6)	243	
0 F.I.P. renewal membership fee	(7)	582	
112 Capuchin Friary - rental contribution	(8)	0	
211 Christmas "Get-Together"	(9)	0	
46 Bank Charges	(10)	32	
0 Membership Fees - Reminders	(11)	6	
0 Suffrages	(12)	30	
83 AGM Expenses	(13)	<u>0</u>	
(860) Total Expenditure			<u>(1,053)</u>
1,082 Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure for Year			622
9,573 EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES b/f			<u>10,673</u>
10,655 FUND BALANCE AT YEAR END *			<u>11,295</u>
*c/f to the Balance Sheet at Page 1)			

Printex



**Security printers since 1971,
producing stamps for Maltapost and the
Vatican Philatelic Bureau, amongst others.**

HM Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee 1952-2022

Marking this significant occasion, MaltaPost has issued a special miniature sheet depicting the Queen and Prince Philip on their 1954 Royal visit to Malta.

HM Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh visiting the Maltese Parliament - 1957

HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE 1952 - 2022

This year the United Kingdom celebrates
to mark 70 years of

HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II
PLATINUM JUBILEE 1952 - 2022



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