

# Anniversaries 1998-----X

## Christmas 1998-----Y

*by J. Farrugia*

	X	Y
<b>Date of Issue</b>	<b>17-9-98</b>	<b>19-11-98</b>
Values	1c, 6c, 11c, 19c, 26c	6c, 6c+2c, 16c+3c, 26c+3c
Stamp Size	27mm × 33mm	39.5mm × 48mm
Art Designer	Harry Borg	Maltapost p.l.c.
Printers	Printex Ltd.	Printex Ltd.
Process	Lithography	Lithography
Perforation	13.8 × 13.7	14 × 14
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Sideways	Crosses Upright
Paper	Chalk Surfaced	Chalk Surfaced
Gum	P.V.A.	P.V.A.

### Colours:

These two issues were printed in the four colour process using the standard CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) process colours for each value. The progressive sheets, for all values, in issues X and Y, were printed in the following order: Black, Cyan, Magenta and Yellow.

Colour Checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter were printed in four different positions on the margins, of each Pane, of each value. They are seen next to the first and last stamps, of the top and bottom rows, in issues X and Y. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right in all positions.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps are seen in the bottom margin only, in all Panes, of all values, printed in black, in issues X and Y.

### Printed Sheets:

Issue X – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of three Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has fifty stamps made up of ten rows of five stamps. All values are of the vertical format.

Issue Y – The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of two Panes A and B. Each Pane has forty stamps made up of five rows of eight stamps. All values are of the vertical format.

### Perforation of Margins:

Issue X – The top margins of Panes A, B and C, of all values are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes are all perforated. The usual registration mark was seen at each corner of the Printed Sheet, and unless eliminated during cutting, they may be seen at the top and bottom of the left hand margin of Panes A and at the top and bottom of the right hand margin of Panes C, of each value. Another printing mark, the Maltapost p.l.c. logo, is seen in the left and right hand margins of each Pane, of each value, next to the first and last stamps, of the fifth row.

Issue Y – The left hand margins of Panes A and B, of all values, are imperforate. The other three margins of these same Panes, are all perforated. The usual registration mark was seen at each corner of the printed sheet, and unless eliminated during cutting, they may be seen at each end of the top margin of Panes A, and at each end of the bottom margin of Panes B, of each value. Another printing mark, the Maltapost p.l.c. logo, is seen in the left and right hand margins of each Pane, of each value, next to the first and last stamps of the third or middle row.

### Plate/Pane numbers:

These like the colour checks, were printed in four different positions, on the margins of each Pane, in all values of issues X and Y. They are seen above the first and last stamps of the top row and also under the first and last stamps of the bottom row, in each Pane.

Issue X    1c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4  
               6c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4  
               11c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4  
               19c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4  
               26c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4, 1C × 4

Issue Y    6c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4  
               6c + 2c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4  
               16c + 3c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4  
               26c + 3c = 1A × 4, 1B × 4

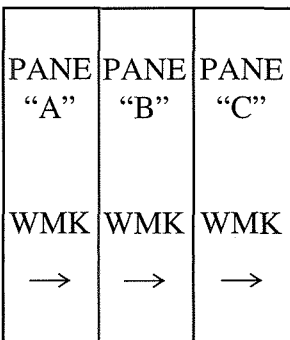


fig. (a)

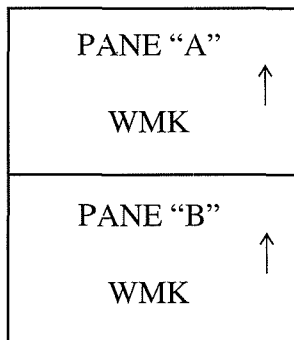


fig. (b)

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheets of all values before cutting into Panes would look as shown in figure (a) for all values of issue X, but as shown in figure (b) for all values of issue Y. Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps would be seen the right way up, hence

why, watermark in all values of issue X is sideways but upright in all values of issue Y. Perforator ran from top to bottom in figure (a) but from left to right in figure (b).

### **Imprint Blocks:**

The Imprint "PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA" is seen under the middle stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values of issue X, but under the fourth stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, of issue Y. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will contain only the Imprint.

A special hand postmark was used for cancellation on the first day of both issues. Stamps of these issues were withdrawn from sale on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 (issue X) and on the 17<sup>th</sup> March, 1999 (issue Y), unless stocks were previously exhausted.

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