

Detailed Information about:-

XMAS 1984 ISSUE

By J. Farrugia

Date of issue.....	5th. October 1984.
Values	2c + 1c, 8c + 2c, 20c + 3c.
Stamp Size	2c + 1c = 39.5 x 48mm. 8c + 2c, 20c + 3c = 48mm. x 39.5mm.
Art Designer	Luciano Micallef
Printers	Printex Limited.
Process	Lithography.
Perforation.....	14 x 14.
Watermark.....	Maltese Crosses pointing upright in 2c + 1c and sideways in 8c + 2c and 20c + 3c.
Paper.....	Chalk Surfaced.
Gum	P.V.A.

Colours:

These stamps were printed in multicolour using five different colours for each value.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter are seen in the right hand margin next to the last stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of each value. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from right to left on all Panes of all values.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns if stamps are seen in top and bottom margins printed in black.

The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of two Panes A and B. Each Pane has forty stamps. In the 2c + 1c they are made up of five rows of eight stamps. The 2c + 1c stamp is of the vertical format and the other two values are of the horizontal format.

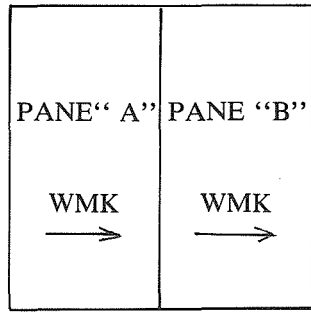
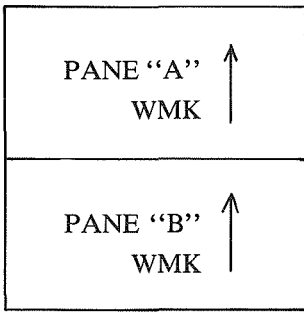
Plate/Pane Numbers:-

These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values.

$$\begin{aligned}2c + 1c &= 1A \times 5, 1B \times 5. \\8c + 2c &= 1A \times 5, 1B \times 5. \\20c + 3c &= 1A \times 5, 1B \times 5.\end{aligned}$$

Perforations of Margins:-

In the 2c + 1c value, the right hand margins of Panes A and B are imperforate whilst the top, bottom and left hand margins of these same Panes are fully perforated. In the 8c + 2c and 20c + 3c values, the top margins of Panes A and B are imperforate, whilst the bottom, right hand and left hand margins are all fully perforated.



From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of the 2c + 1c value before cutting into Panes would look as shown on top left, whilst that of the 8c + 2c and 20c + 3c values would look as shown on top right.

Looking at the Printed Sheet as shown, stamps would be seen the right way up hence why watermark in the 2c + 1c is upright in the 2c + 1c value and from top to bottom in the other two values.

Imprint Blocks:-

"Printex Limited Malta" is seen under the last stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks. A special hand postmark incorporating a motif symbolizing the Xmas on the first day of issue amounted to Lm24,494,. This set remained on sale up to Wednesday, 20th. February, 1985.

FORESTALS
 CATHEDRAL ST
 SLEEMA
 Tel: 32180

Fakir
 Vacuum cleaners

Capister Vacuum Cleaner
 \$ 20 super.

It's the new one
 with a super performance
 and super features!