

DR. DAVID LIVINGSTONE

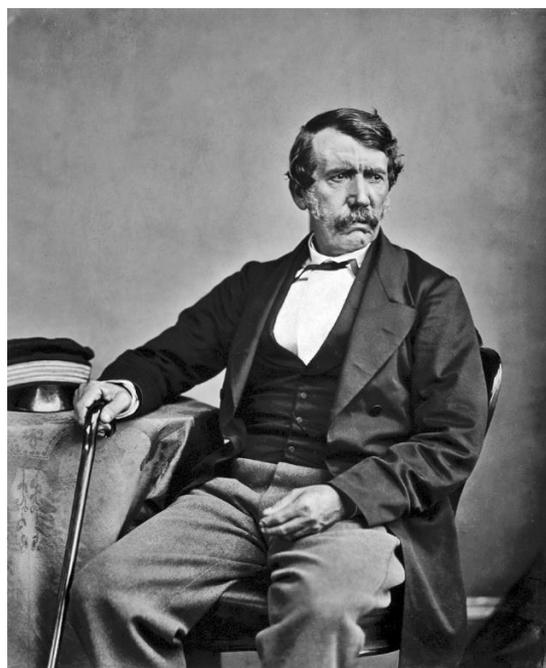
Issued 12th April, 1973

This issue was the seventh in the Famous Figures Series, and depicted the missionary and explorer Dr. David Livingstone. The only part of Zimbabwe that was ever visited by him was when he “discovered” the Victoria Falls. His work and notoriety was in respect of his visits to what is now Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Angola, Tanzania and others.

The following biography was included in the PTC bulletin No 1 of 1973.

David Livingstone was born in Blantyre, Scotland, on 19th March, 1813. By the time he had attained the age of 10 years he was working in a cotton mill, where he remained until he was 23. However, his ambition was to become a medical missionary to China, and he qualified as a doctor at Glasgow University in 1840, but never achieved his aim of going to China; he met Robert Moffat and this meeting turned his thoughts to Africa. He sailed for Cape Town in December, 1840.

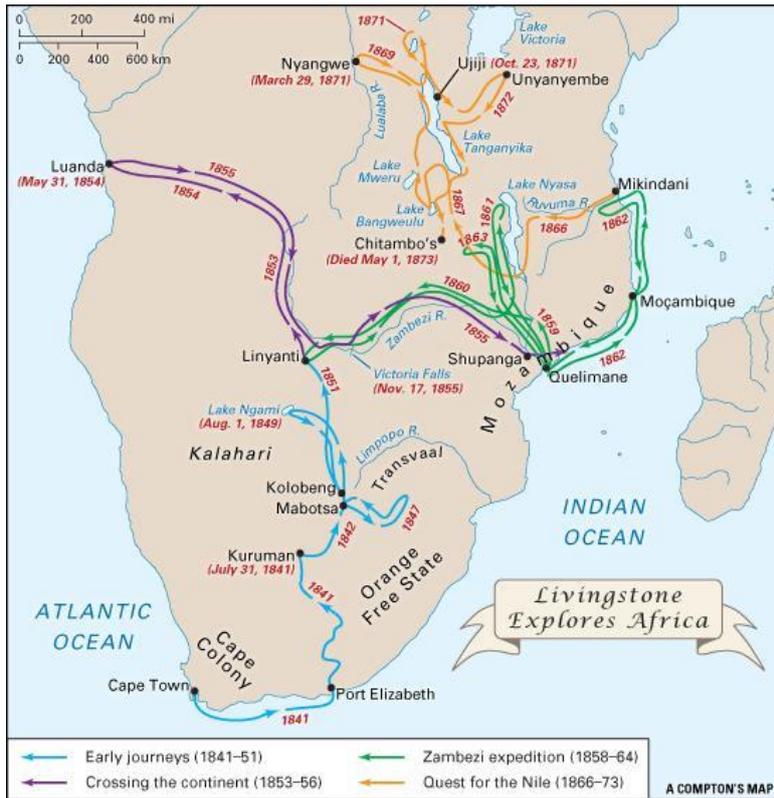
He remained in southern Africa from 1841 to 1856, during which time he carried out mission work at Kuruman and Mabotsa. He married Mary, the daughter of Robert Moffat, in 1844, but found it difficult to settle down to the routine life of a missionary. He believed that the most effective way to carry out his missionary work was to travel among the inhabitants and to leave behind him native teachers who would carry on his work. He also had an urge to travel. He made several journeys across the Kalahari and was the first white man to see Lake Ngami. In 1851, he reached the Zambezi at Sesheke. After this he took his family to Cape Town and sent them home in order that he could be free to undertake his next journey, which took him from Linyanti, near Sesheke, in 1853 right across to Luanda in Angola, and then back across Africa to Quelimane in Mozambique, which he reached in 1856 after travelling over 3000 miles.



Formal portrait of Livingstone, probably taken during his last visit to the United Kingdom

It was during this journey that he “discovered” and named the Victoria Falls on 16th November, 1855. He returned to England after completing this journey.

Dr. Livingstone returned to Africa in 1858 and remained there until 1864, during which time he was engaged in the Zambezi expedition, organized by the British Government to ascertain whether the Zambezi was navigable, to promote commerce, and to investigate the possible ending of the slave trade. In the course of this expedition he “discovered” Lake Nyasa and explored Nyasaland, and re-visited the Victoria Falls. The expedition was marred by the death of his wife in 1862 and achieved very little other than to focus attention on the slave trade.



He again returned to Africa in 1866 and remained there until his death in 1873. During this period, he explored the Great Lakes, and tried to find the source of the River Nile. It was during this period, when there was no news of him and rumours of his death were rife, that the "New York Herald" sent out Henry Morton Stanley to find Livingstone, and this resulted in the famous meeting at Ujiji, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, on 9th November, 1871. Livingstone refused to return with Stanley and continued his search, but died on 1st May, 1873.

Dr. Livingstone was a missionary, an explorer and a pioneer in opening up Africa, and he played a significant role in the elimination of slavery. In spite of his humble beginnings, he was one of the great men whose work led to the opening up of Central Africa and its settlement, and the betterment of African life.



Statue of Dr David Livingstone overlooking his most famous discovery – Victoria Falls

THE ISSUED STAMP



Catalogue listings

SG	RSC ²	Value	Description
480	C127 a.	14c	Dr David Livingstone “Broken ‘D’ of Rhodesia” variety R1/2 Cyl 1A

Technical details

Stamp size:	42 x 28 mm
Sheet Size:	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes within printed sheet
Artist:	Artist unknown, taken from the pictorial edition of the “Life and Discoveries of David Livingstone, L.L.D., F.R.G.s.” by J Ewing Ritchies. ⁴
Paper:	Type 10 - Chromo, creamy/brown gum
Print colours:	Blackish brown, flesh, orange brown, grey
Perforations:	Comb perf: SG 14½, RSC 14¼ Top margin: Perforated through Side margins: One perf hole Bottom margin: Imperforate
Printer’s Imprint:	Type 6a, bottom margin, below columns 2 to 4 – blackish brown printing
Cylinder numbers:	Cyls. 1A & 1B bottom margin under R10/1, colours reading across from left – blackish brown, flesh, orange brown, grey.
Colour register:	Type TL 4 – round boxed - left margin opposite R10/1, colours reading down – blackish brown, flesh, orange brown, grey.
Sheet Value:	Bottom margin, below R10/5, blackish brown printing
Sheet Number:	Type SN 4 with ‘PTC’ prefix, right margin opposite R10/5, reading down

Print numbers: 400,000 stamps (4,000 1A & 1B sheets each)

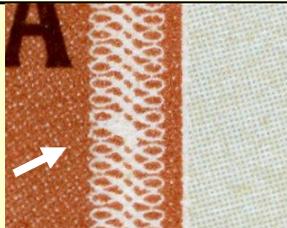
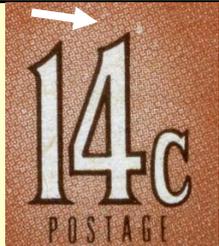
Issue date: 2nd April, 1973

Withdrawal from sale: 31st December, 1973

Demonetarisaton: 1st March, 1977

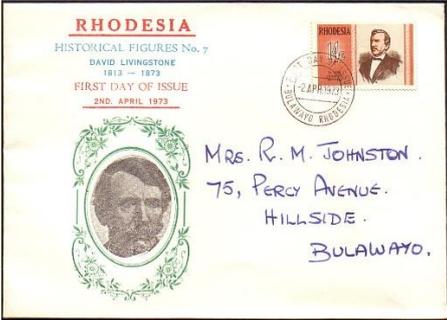
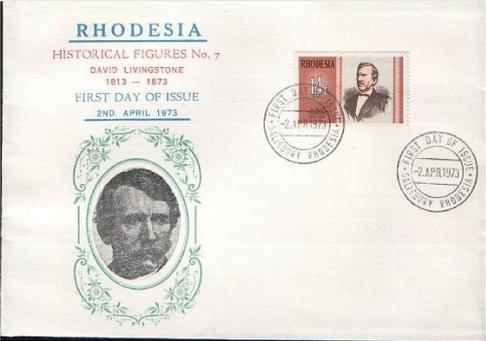
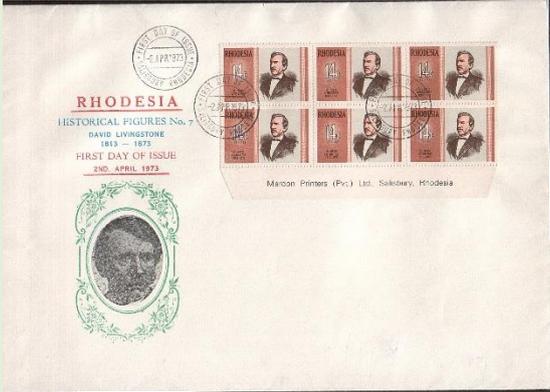
Listed varieties

Below are varieties documented or seen for each of the values, starting with the listed varieties within the Mashonaland Guide¹, and those listed in the RSC², shown in yellow shaded tables. The varieties listed in bold are considered by the authors of the Guide to be more important.

Row	Col		
Cyl 1A			
1	2	Broken upright of 'D' in Rhodesia RSC c127a – broken 'D' of Rhodesia	
1	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagonal scratches through 'H', 'D' and 'E' of Rhodesia. • Also in righthand upright of '4' in value broken. (not constant) 	
1	5	Large white dot in left-hand lacework near top	
8	1	Left leg of 'A' of Rhodesia indistinct (weak entry). Weak entry also partially affects 'S' and 'I'.	
Cyl 1B			
4	2	Black dot under button of jacket	
9	2	Large white dot at top of 4 of value	
9	4	Break in bottom left of 'C' of value	

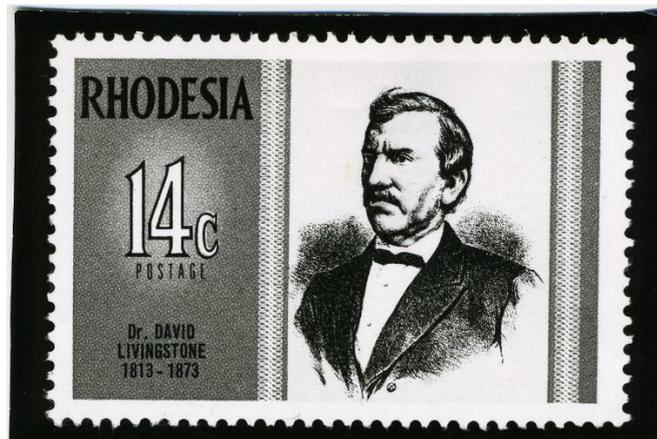
First Day Covers

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear

<p style="text-align: center;">Cover 55.1 PTC</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">162 x 114 mm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cover 55.2.1</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">175 x 156 mm 1st, 5th & 6th lines printed in red 2nd to 4th lines printed in light blue</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cover 55.2.2</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">175 x 156 mm 1st, 5th & 6th lines printed in light blue 2nd to 4th lines printed in red</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cover 55.2.3</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">175 x 156 mm 1st, 5th & 6th lines printed in black 2nd to 4th lines printed in light green</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cover 55.2.4</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">250 x 178 mm (larger) Colours as cover 55.2.2</p>	

Related Material

The Post Office photographed stamps that had been, or were about to be, issued. The enlarged black and white photographs were then sent to philatelic publications, or the local papers, for publicity purposes.



Bibliography

1. "A Guide to the Postage Stamps of Rhodesia", supplement No 5, issued 1978, published by the Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group
2. "The Rhodesia Stamp Catalogue", 1983/84, published by Salisbury Stamp Company
3. Post & Telecommunications Corporation Bulletin No 1 of 1973, published by the Philatelic Bureau
4. "Rhodesia in Stamps", second supplement to "Rhodesia – A Postal History", R C Smith, published by Salisbury Stamp Company, 1978
5. Encyclopaedia Britannica, biography on David Livingstone website – for map on page 2 - www.britannica.com/biography/David-Livingstone