

1966 POSTAGE DUE LABELS

Issued 15th December, 1966

The second post-Federation postage due labels were printed by Mardon Printers using the lithographic printing process. The design of the labels is fairly simple with the Zimbabwe Bird in an oval to the right, the large value to the left, 'Postage Due' to top banner and 'Rhodesia' below. This design was used again following decimalisation for ten years and also for the first five years of Zimbabwe. The main difference between the 1966 and subsequent issues is the size of the label.

The 1966 labels had a life of just over 3 years from December 1966 until they were replaced by decimalisation in February 1970. The published information available for this issue is very limited.

The paper used for these labels was the JH4, described as white with clear gum, this was about the last time that this paper was used by Mardon for the printing of any stamps/labels. If these labels had been reprinted during the three year period, it is very likely that they would have been on chromo paper with brown gum. No labels with this paper has been found, so it can be safely assumed that there were no reprints.

In the first three years of the 1970 postage due labels, there were three reprints of the 1c and 2c values and two of the 5c value. The average number printed for this period was about 4,000 sheets or 200,000 labels. It is likely that the requirement for the 1966 postage due labels would be in the order of 200,000 labels or about 1,700 sheets of 120 labels. This would probably be true of the four lower values, with smaller volumes of the two higher values.

THE ISSUED LABELS



Catalogue listings

| SG | RSC ² | Value | Description |
|-----|------------------|-------|--------------|
| D12 | D18 | 1d | Bright green |
| D13 | D19 | 2d | Dark violet |
| D14 | D20 | 4d | Emerald |
| D15 | D21 | 6d | Purple |
| D16 | D22 | 1s | Brown |
| D17 | D23 | 2s | Black |


Technical details

| Label size: | 26 x 22 mm | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|----|--------|--------|------------|------------|--------|------------|------------|--------|--------|
| Sheet Size: | 120 labels (15 rows of 8 labels) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Artist: | Rose Martin (see 1970 postage due labels) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Printer: | Mardon Printers, Salisbury | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paper: | Toned JH3 paper, clear white gum | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Print colours: | Single colour for each value, as described. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Perforations: | Comb Perf 14½ (SG & RSC) <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>Top</th><th>Right</th><th>Bottom</th><th>Left</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1d</td><td>1 perf</td><td>Imperf</td><td>Perforated</td><td>Perforated</td></tr><tr><td>Others</td><td>Perforated</td><td>Perforated</td><td>1 perf</td><td>Imperf</td></tr></tbody></table> | | Top | Right | Bottom | Left | 1d | 1 perf | Imperf | Perforated | Perforated | Others | Perforated | Perforated | 1 perf | Imperf |
| | Top | Right | Bottom | Left | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1d | 1 perf | Imperf | Perforated | Perforated | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Others | Perforated | Perforated | 1 perf | Imperf | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Printer's Imprint: | Bottom margin below R15/3 & 4, in colour of stamp (Type PI 4) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cylinder numbers: | Bottom margin below R15/1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Colour register: | Left margin opp. R1/1, single round light, unboxed (Type TL3) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sheet Value: | Top margin above R1/8, in colour of stamp | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sheet Number: | Right margin, opp. R1/8, number without prefix (Type SN2) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Print numbers: | Unknown | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Issue date: | 17 th June, 1965 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Withdrawal: | No official date, as these labels were for use by the post office itself in accounting for surcharges arising from deficient postage. Essentially when a post office runs out of the labels more were ordered from the stock held at that time. However, if these labels had not run out by the date of decimalisation on 17 th February, 1970, it is probable that they would not be used. The Rhodesia stamp Catalogue states that these labels were withdrawn on this date. ² | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Demonetarisisation: | Unnecessary, however the Rhodesia Stamp Catalogue states they were invalidated on 1 st July, 1971. ² | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Listed Varieties

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

The Mashonaland Guide lists a number of white ring flaws, these are litho flaws and are found in batches, this variety has been removed from the listed varieties below.

| Row | Col | | |
|------------------|-----|---|--|
| One Penny | | | |
| 6 | 4 | White dot inside 'D' of Due | |
| 6 | 8 | The right top and bottom corners of the "Postage Due" panel are square cut instead of being rounded | |
| 11 | 8 | The right top and bottom corners of the "Postage Due" panel are square cut instead of being rounded | |
| 14 | 3 | Short white vertical stroke between 'I' and 'A' in Rhodesia | |
| 14 | 7 | Black mark above the letters 'D' and 'E' in Rhodesia | |
| Two Pence | | | |
| Multipositive | | White dot in top panel at 7 o'clock from 'P' of Postage. 4/3, 4/8, 9/3, 9/8, 14/3, 14/8 | |
| 1 | 2 | Small nick in the top of the "Postage Due" panel above 'E' in Postage | |
| 1 | 3 | Small white mark above 'PO' of Postage | |
| 1 | 6 | White dot above 'D' in Rhodesia | |
| 1 | 7 | Nick in top panel above 'E' in Postage | |
| 2 | 4 | Small white mark under 'D' of Due | |
| 5 | 5 | White flaw under 'AG' of Postage |  |
| 6 | 1 | Dot in top of 'S' in Postage and white mark just above | |
| 6 | 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small nick in the top of the "Postage Due" panel above 'E' in Postage • Nick in top panel above 'E' in Postage | |
| 7 | 4 | Nick in top panel above 'E' in Postage | |
| 7 | 5 | Dot in the bottom of 'S' in Postage | |
| 8 | 7 | White vertical stroke in 'O' of Rhodesia | |

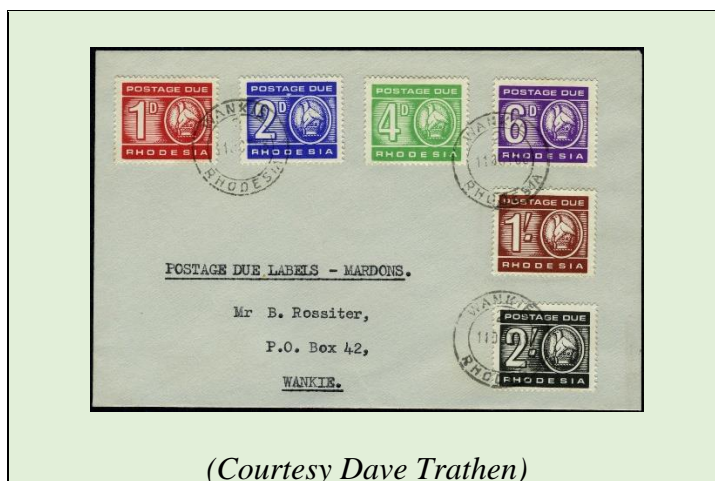
| Row | Col | | |
|-------------------|-----|---|--|
| 10 | 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White flaw of horizontal lines under 'A' in Postage. • Left bottom - corner of the "Rhodesia" panel broken off | |
| 10 | 7 | White mark on left edge of design at Th D1 | |
| 11 | 2 | Same as 1/2, 1/7 and 6/2 | |
| 12 | 2 | White flaw above right leg of 'H' in Rhodesia | |
| 12 | 4 | Same as 2/4 and 7/4 | |
| 14 | 7 | White ring above 'A' in Rhodesia | |
| 15 | 5 | White flaw under 'A' in postage | |
| 15 | 8 | White spot between 'U' and 'E' of Due | |
| Four Pence | | | |
| 1 | 2 | Green spot in Oval at 1 o'clock | |
| 5 | 8 | Spot in frame of portrait between 6 and 7 o'clock | |
| 10 | 7 | White mark above 'E' of Due | |
| Six Pence | | | |
| Multipositive | | Short white horizontal mark in top left corner of centre panel: 3/3, 3/8, 8/3, 8/8, 13/3, 13/8. | |
| 1 | 5 | White dot on extreme right edge of "Rhodesia" panel | |
| 1 | 7 | Nick in left edge of design eight horizontal lines of shading from the top | |
| 2 | 4 | Kite flaw in top panel to the right of Due | |
| 3 | 4 | Small white flaw just outside the Oval at 7 o'clock | |
| 6 | 2 | Purple spot on frame of Oval at 10 o'clock | |
| 9 | 3 | White spot between 'E' and 'S' in Rhodesia | |
| 12 | 2 | Faint white flaw under 'T' in Postage | |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--|
| One Shilling | | |
| 9 | 4 | Nick in top of design above 'E' in Postage |
| Two Shillings | | |
| 1 | 3 | Small white mark under 'O' in Rhodesia |
| 6 | 1 | Black dot in Oval at 3 o'clock |
| 12 | 6 | Large nick at bottom of design under 'S' in Rhodesia |
| 12 | 8 | Black mark on portrait frame at 3 o'clock |

First Day Covers

The Post Office did not produce first day covers. The purpose of the labels is for making up deficiencies in the payment of postage on mail. It could be suggested that a true first day of use of the postage due labels should be as payment of deficient postage.

No printed first day covers for this issue have been found with only the labels. Taxed covers with first day of use have also been found, however these are philatelic and have no real evidence that they passed through the post prior to 15th December, 1966.



Bibliography

1. "A Guide to the Postage Stamps of Rhodesia", supplement No 3, issued 1968, published by the Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group
2. "The Rhodesia Stamp Catalogue", 1983/84, published by Salisbury Stamp Company
3. Ministry of Posts information booklet, released early 1965