

RHODESIA DOUBLE HEADS

A DISPLAY BY PATRICK FLANAGAN, RDPSA, FRPSL, OF HIS
LARGE GOLD, GRAND PRIX EXHIBIT
TO
THE RHODESIAN STUDY CIRCLE
ON LINE

ON
7TH APRIL 2025

The so called DOUBLE HEAD stamps of RHODESIA were issued to commemorate the Royal Visit of Arthur, the Duke of Connaught to Rhodesia in November 1910.

The portraits were taken by W & D Downey at their studios At 56 Ebury Street London.

Waterlow & Sons Limited of London prepared Essays that formed the basis for the design of the issue



Progressive essay Die Proofs were then prepared by Waterlows, later reduced to the primary Master Die Proofs of the heads, followed by the the Frame Duty dies. A 7 1/2d die was produced but was not produced. Eighteen duties from 1/2d to GBP 1 made up the set

The issue was printed from the original Plate number 5555 from two electroplates on unwatermarked paper

The Dirty Book Dies

Working frame plate die proofs for the 5/- (number 4521) and 10/- (number 4519) duties.

From the Waterlow Day Books



The “SPECIMEN” overprints. Overprinted Samuel Type 7

These are examples from the full set of strips of 3 as issued by the UPU – UNIQUE as each strip of the Bi-coloured stamps has the prominent “Gash in ear” flaw – postion 2

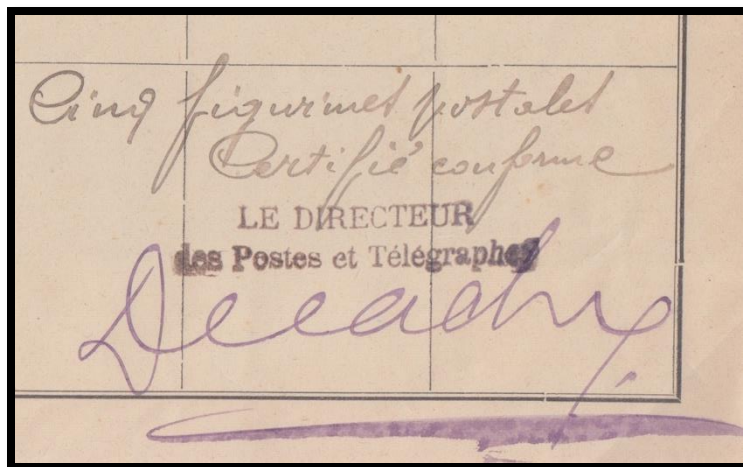


The unissued 1 Pound stamp. Some regard this as a SPECIMEN



The Madagascar Specimens

From the UPU distribution and pasted into their record books by
the recipient companies



The Waterlow File Proofs

1/2d –

Requisition 260963

Security punch holes



Most of the file proofs
are water damaged due
to the flooding of the
Waterlow premises
during the war

A “Benson “ cover – imperforate stamps. Apparently, an imperforate sheet was bought over the counter and Benson made a number of covers with the variety thereon



They”Double Dot” variety – constant printers flaw

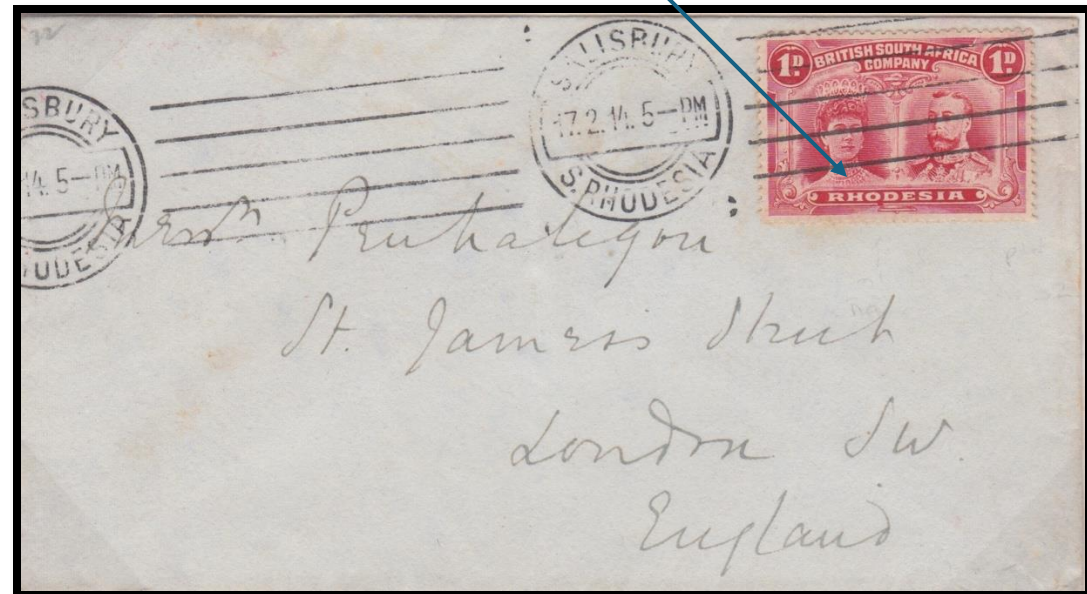


This exhibit only covers the Perf14 printings.
The Perf 15 printings are a study on their own

Waterlow File proofs with punch holes



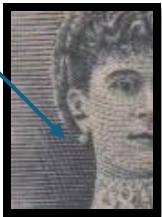
The “O-D” flaw.
The constant plate flaw



Waterrow File Proofs – Req
192238 for 12,850 stamps



Gash in right ear – position 2



First day of issue
11 NOV 1910
BATTLEFIELDS MINE



Pair with RSC “B” and RSC
“C” se tenant



The heads of the King on
the two stamps are
distinctly different – Pos
1 and Pos 2 - the left
stamp with a light head –
“THE GHOSTLY HEAD”
against the right head
which is dark.

A phenomenon where
Pos 2 head has been re-
entered giving darker
impression

Magenta & Yellow ochre
A great variety of hues and shades
exist across all printings



Oxidisation of fugitive inks renders
“RHODESIA” tablet green



Single 3d franking
from
“PFENHALONGA”
to Cape Town –
“F” instead of “E”



Combination
cover,
registered to
USA



Lake brown & Olive



Brown & purple



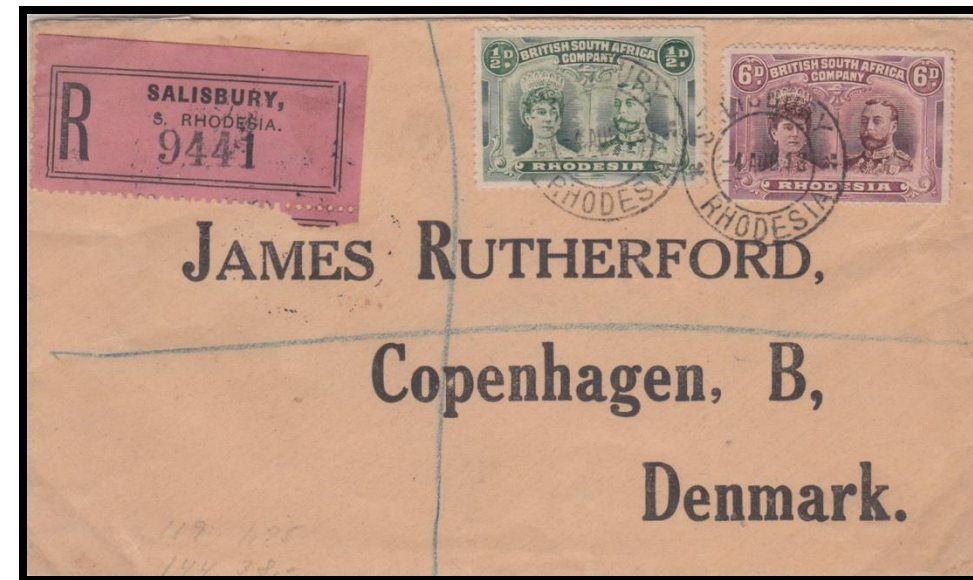
Brown & purple
Pos 34-35
Reversed gash
in ear



“Roman Ochre”
Reddish brown
and ochre

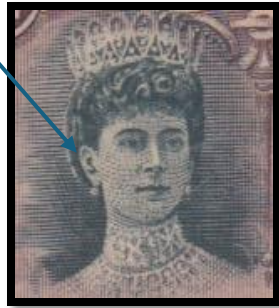


Error of colour
Printer's mark at Pos 2/1



The 2 1/2d
UPU rate, plus
4d registration
to Denmark

Long gash in Queen's right ear
Dull purple & purple



The Mid Gash printing

Greenish black & purple to dull purple



Black & purple
Very rare



Scarlet & maroon Pos 24-30
Lines by Kings cheek Pos 25



The flawed thick ear
headplate



A key stamp in the
Double Head issue
1 of 4 known
(Deverell)

Long gash in Queens right ear
Scarlet & reddish mauve
Pos 2



Thick ear
headplate

Pos 4 – Queens
cheek and King's
temple flaw



Queens thick ear – Position 2
 Printer's file proofs – Requisition 85877
 of 19.11.1911 – 30,000 stamps



No gash head
 plate – Pos 2



Long gash in Queens right ear
 Position 2



Mid gash 2 headplate
 Third printing



Printer's file proofs
Positions 37-38; 42-43
Full printer's marks



Black & China blue
Pos 4-9; 5 - 10



Black & China blue
Arcturus to France
Philatelically contrived



Remaindered
17 July 1911



Long gash in
Queens right ear –
Position 2



Remaindered
6 May 1913



The RSC has done a lot of work on what has been known as the CTO (“Cancelled to order”) copies.[See Remainders Memoir] which has seen the move away from the CTO label to that of “Remainders” – which is what the excess stamps are (ie the Remainder unsold) and they were cancelled by c.d.s to avoid misuse

13 August 1923- Long gash in Queens ear
Philatelically contrived cover



Only the 5555 Plate was used to print the high values from 2s 6d to 1 Pound.
Printer's frame plate marks were added at the top of the plate, unlike the lower values where such marks were not used

Parcel fragment franked 3s
– contained pipe, cigarettes
& shaving soap. Circa 1915



Printer's file proofs with
Punch holes
Positions 2-3, 7-8
Long gash in Queen's right ear



King's eye brow flaw Pos 15
Black & Rose carmine



Long gash 1
head plate
Blackish
brown & rose
red

Possibly
oxidised



Blackish brown
& deeper rose
red



Mid gash in
Queens right ear
Pos 2
Yellow brown shade



Yellowish deep brown
& brown lake



Hook 3 head
plate
Brownish
black & deep
rose red



Shade



Long gash
Queen's right ear



Deep bluish green &
purple
Long gash Queen's right
ear Pos 2



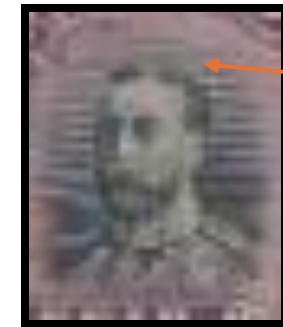
Short gash 1 headplate
Printer's file proofs
Pos 44-45, 49-50
Deep bluish green & deep purple



Bright green &
magenta



King's wisp Pos 44



Remaindered
17 JULY 1911
SALISBURY



Brown red & deep green



Lake brown & pale
green
Long gash in Queen's
right ear Pos 2



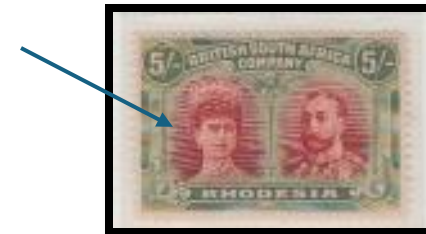
First day of issue
11 Nov 1910
Salisbury



Deep crimson heads



Scarlet vermilion & deep
green . Long gash in
Queens right ear – Pos 2



Long gash in Queen's right
ear – Pos2. Deep rose red &
yellow green



Positions 7-13
Full printer's mark at center



Hook 3 head plate
Deep rose & bright grey blue shades

Printer's file proofs – Pos 11-12, 16-17



Paler red



Deep rose red & bright grey
blue



Deep shade



Long gash 1 head plate
Carmine & paler turquoise blue
Aniline heads



Bright carmine & deep
turquoise blue



Long gash 2 head plate
Bright carmine & blue shades



Long gash 2 head plate
Bright rose red & blue



Multiples are
very scarce

Hook 3 head plate
Olive black (deep myrtle) and red orange
Printer's file proofs. Pos 4-5, 9-10



Remaindered
Bulawayo. 3 Dec 1912



Long gash 1 head plate



Hook 3 head plate



Mid gash head plate



The so called
“ERROR OF COLOUR”



Long gash 2 head plate .
Brown lake & slate black



Long gash 3 head plate. Bright
carmine & bluish slate



Long gash 3 head plate
Printer's file proofs – Requisition 185855
of 9.01.1911 for 1000 stamps



False gash in ear. Line on Queens
left cheek Overinked Queens lips



Hook 2 head plate Lake
brown & pale greenish slate



Mid gash 2 head plate.
Deep rose red & bluish indigo



Long gash 3 head plate.
Long gash in Queens ear. Pos 2



Mid gash 2 head plate.
Deep carmine red (sooty blackish) & indigo



REMAINDERS

Deep rose red & bluish indigo
3 DEC 1912 BULAWAYO



This duty only
known postally
used on a
parcel label.
“ex Uria”

Rose scarlet & bluish black
17 APR 1913 SALISBURY



This duty was
quite extensively
used for revenue
purposes