

## The Queen's Golden Jubilee Five portraits



### Technical details

**Printer** De La Rue

**Process** Gravure

**Stamp size** 35 x 37mm

**Sheets** 100

**Perforation** 14.5 x 14

**Phosphor** One band 2nd class, two bands others

**Paper** Watermarked '50' (sideways)

**Gum** PVA

**Gutter pairs** Vertical

### Cylinders and colours

1A silver ● 1B pale turquoise-green ● 1C black ● 1D grey-black (deep grey 2nd class) ● Phosphor P10 2nd class, P11 others

FIVE STAMPS to mark the 50th anniversary of the accession of HM The Queen will go on sale at post offices, Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 6 February. The stamps, designed by Kate Stephens, feature studies of The Queen by the following photographers or photographic studios: 2nd class – official portrait by Dorothy Wilding (1952); 1st class – official portrait by Cecil Beaton (1968); E (European rate, 37p) – portrait by Lord Snowdon taken at Windsor Castle (1978); 45p – portrait by Yousef Karsh of Ottawa (1984); and 65p – portrait by Tim Graham taken at banquet at Prague Castle during visit to Czech Republic (1996). The stamps will be included in a prestige book (see p146) as well as in normal counter sheets.

Designs were submitted to the Stamp Advisory Committee, including contributions from Jeffery Matthews. The Committee selected the photographic-based work of Kate Stephens, which uses classic formal and informal portraits from the five decades of her reign. Each image has been cropped so that all are connected by eye-line.

**FIRST DAY FACILITIES** Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 6 February, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House or Windsor must reach Tallents House by the day of issue. Price £2.69 UK (including VAT) or £2.29 overseas (no VAT).

Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, Wexham Road, Slough SL1 1AA (Windsor postmark), marking the outer envelope 'F0205' (Tallents House), or 'F0206' (Windsor). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the Windsor postmark. A non-pictorial Windsor postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centre, request 'F0206 FD'.

Details of sponsored handstamps for 6 February will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House (£10 UK/Europe; £21.75 elsewhere). For a free sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

# to mark the 50th anniversary of the accession



Portraits of HM The Queen by Dorothy Wilding, 1952; Cecil Beaton, 1968; Lord Snowdon, 1978; Yousef Karsh, 1984; and Tim Graham, 1996.



6 February first day postmarks FD0205 and FD0206



Postmarks for the coin cover, top, and banknote cover.

**PHILATELIC PRODUCTS** A well-illustrated pack (above, price £2.30) and stamp cards (25p each) will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets. There will also be coin, bank note, and ingot covers, available from Tallents House, price £15.95, £44.95, and £49.95 respectively. The ingot cover (available from 20 March) will carry a replica 1952 2½d definitive stamp. The coin and banknote covers will be serviced with special GOLDEN JUBILEE/LONDON SW1 postmarks (right) ●