



House of Windsor and Saxe-Coburg-Gotha concludes the Kings and Queens series

The sixth issue of **Kings and Queens stamps** is to be released on 2 February, the last in the series that has charted all the Royal Houses since the first pictorial representation of Henry IV in the 14th century, as shown on

Kings & Queens I, Houses of Lancaster & York.

The House of Windsor set features nine stamps: five with portraits of our monarchs since 1901 and four on a Miniature Sheet that highlight significant individuals and events during their reigns. Strictly speaking, the monarchs of the 20th century belong to the House of Windsor *and* Saxe-Coburg-Gotha – because Edward VII, shown on the 1st Class stamp, took the dynastic title of his father Prince Albert. Edward was the longest serving Prince of Wales, as the son of the long-reigning Queen Victoria, until Prince Charles surpassed his record in April of this year. By the time he came to the throne in 1901, at 60, Edward VII was a popular man of the world and a keen sportsman. He reigned for ten years and on the last day of his life, in 1910, is said to have uttered his last words – ‘I am glad’ – on hearing that his horse had just one at Kempton Park.

It was Edward’s son George V (1910-1936), featured on the 68p stamp, who changed the family name from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha to Windsor in 1917, in response to anti-German public sentiment and to clarify his position at the head of the burgeoning British Empire. George’s reign was dominated by World War One and a radically changing political landscape; his private life by shooting and stamp collecting. His son Edward, on the 76p value,

House of Windsor Stamps Specifications

Issue date	2 February
Number of stamps	Five
Design	Atelier Works
Illustrations	Edward VII, 1902, and George V, c.1911, Sir Luke Fildes; Edward VIII, c.1920, Reginald Grenville Eves; George VI, c.1949–52, Denis Quintin Fildes; Elizabeth II, 1954, Pietro Annigoni
Stamp format	Portrait
Stamp size	27mm x 37mm
Printer	Cartor Security Printing
Print process	Lithography
Number per sheet	25/50
Perforations	14 x 14
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA
Sheet format	Sheets of 25/50, single designs

House of Windsor prices

Stamp Set	£4.00
Miniature Sheet	£2.90
Presentation Pack	£7.40
First Day Cover – Stamps	£5.28
First Day Cover – Miniature Sheet	£3.96
Miniature Sheet Press Sheet	£66.99
Cachet Cover	£9.99
Stamp Cards (10 in set)	£4.50

succeeded him. Despite having been well prepared for kingship, Edward reigned for only 11 months before he abdicated, having caused a constitutional crisis by proposing marriage to the American socialite and twice divorced Wallis Simpson.

Somewhat reluctantly, Edward's brother Albert took his place on the throne. He chose to use his middle name and be known as George VI, as shown on the £1 value. He came to the throne at a moment when its public reputation was at a low ebb, but his qualities of quiet courage and loyalty restored the standing of the monarchy. When George VI died in February 1952, his young daughter Elizabeth flew back to London from Kenya as Queen Elizabeth II, shown on the £1.10 stamp. Next year marks the sixtieth year of her reign and to mark the Diamond Jubilee Royal Mail is releasing a definitive stamp issue on 6 February and a special stamp issue on 31 May.

Four new stamps on the Miniature Sheet show the members of Scott's 1912 expedition to the South Pole; Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother evoking the work of the Home Front in World War II; Bobby Charlton in the World Cup winners line-up of 1966; and an image celebrating the long-awaited opening of the Channel Tunnel in 1994. This Miniature Sheet is included with the five monarch stamps in the Presentation Pack. Details of the Cachet Cover will appear in your January *Bulletin* ●

Below: the Miniature Sheet is made up of four new stamps featuring events and individuals from the period of the Windsor and Saxe-Coburg-Gotha monarchs

House of Windsor Miniature Sheet Specifications

Issue date	2 February
Stamps	1st, 68p, 76p, £1
Design	Atelier Works
Illustrations	British Antarctic Expedition, photographed by Henry Bowers in January 1912; Royal tour of bomb-damaged London, October 1940; England football team, Wembley 1966; Channel Tunnel, November 1990
Stamp format	Portrait
Stamp size	27mm x 37mm
Sheet size	123mm x 70mm
Printer	Cartor Security Printing
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	14 x 14
Phosphor	Bars
Gum	PVA

THE AGE OF THE **WINDSORS** AND SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA

SCOTT EXPEDITION 1910-1912

SECOND WORLD WAR 1939-1945

FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1966

CHANNEL TUNNEL 1994

EDWARD VII 1901

GEORGE V 1910

EDWARD VIII 1936

GEORGE VI 1936-1952

ELIZABETH II 1952

1st SCOTT EXPEDITION 1912 SOUTH POLE

68p SECOND WORLD WAR 1939-1945 THE HOME FRONT

76p FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1966 ENGLAND WINS

£1.00 CHANNEL TUNNEL 1994 NATIONS LINKED