

King George V And the Royal Collection

For the
*Philatelic Society of Lancaster
County*

13 October 2010

Paul Petersen



Start of the Royal Collection



- 1839 Postal Reform
 - Uniform Penny Post
- 8 APR56 de La Rue
 - #7 6d Violet blk/20
- Royal Reprints (PB)
- DOE's Naval Career
- Jubilee Phil Exposit'n
- Phil Soc, London
 - 1st Hon President

More on Uncle Alfred/DOE



- Reputation as Philatel
- CDR of Med Fleet
- Balkans, Baltic, WI
- Collecting interests
Some U.S.
- Encouragement of hobby
- Fundraising
 - Correspondence
 - Introductions
 - Sale of Collection

Some of Alfred's Holdings



GRV & Uncle Alfred

- GRV Born 1865
- Second Son/Navy
- Govt'l. Print. Off.
 - 19 July 1881
- Early Naval Cruises
 - With older brother & tutor
- Collected with Alfred
 - General foreign
- London Philatel Expo
 - Introduced 5/91
- Early & Later philatelic interests



GRV-Downey Head

Collecting Interests Overview

- Mint, unused
- West Indies, Pacific, UK, gen'l foreign
- Stamp design, technology, research
- Only the finest
- Exhibitor
- “The Empire Only” (1906) Second to none
- Etc. (Sketches, bisects, new issues)
- Purchased much of collection

GRV: Early Life-1

- Character
- Philatelic influence of Uncle Alfred
- First Cruise as skipper of gun boat '91
 - To Caribbean, special Trinidad surcharges
- Older brother dies in 1892; No great loss
- Retires from Navy; More free time & £££
- Philatelic goal: Build a country collection
- John Tilleard, 1st Keeper of the Royal Coll

John Tilleard

First Keeper of the Royal Collection



- Served 1893-1913
- Attorney
- Work: Home > Palace
- Influence: Alfred & George
- Good taste, Connections
- Scientific; Condition
- Buy>Mount & Write up
- An ideal tutor
- Honorary Sec of PS,L

GRV: Early Life-2

- Joins Phil. Soc., London ← John Tilleard
- Engaged to Mary (May of Tek), 5/93
- Wedding Gift from Philatelic Soc., London
 - U.S., UK, Canada among others (15 C stamps)
- First exhibition of GRV's West Indies
- Learns stamp technology at De La Rue
- First views the Mauritius "Post Offices"
- Elected pres of Phil. Soc., London, 5/96

Numbers

“The Formula”

**“ Colonies X Variations X all denominations X
Products X 170 years = ∞ varieties \rightarrow £££ ”**

Varieties

- Perf. Varieties
- Color trials
- Essays
- Die proofs
- Plate Proofs
- Surcharges
- Overprints
- Back of Book
- Etc.
- Bisects
- Specimens
- Corner Pairs
- Blocks
- Registration Marks
- Revenues
- Reprints
- Unissued, retouches
- Artwork, sketches

Products

- Booklets
- Envelopes
- Wrappers
- Postal cards
- Letter paper
- Telegraphs
- Etc.

GRV: Early Life-3

- Victoria Dies (1/01); Now Duke of Cornwall
- Australian Cruise March to November '01
 - Stamp Collecting
 - Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania
- Promoted to Prince of Wales 11/01
- Ludovic Lindsay (AKA Earl of Crawford)
- ERVII's order to BPO & Crown Agents

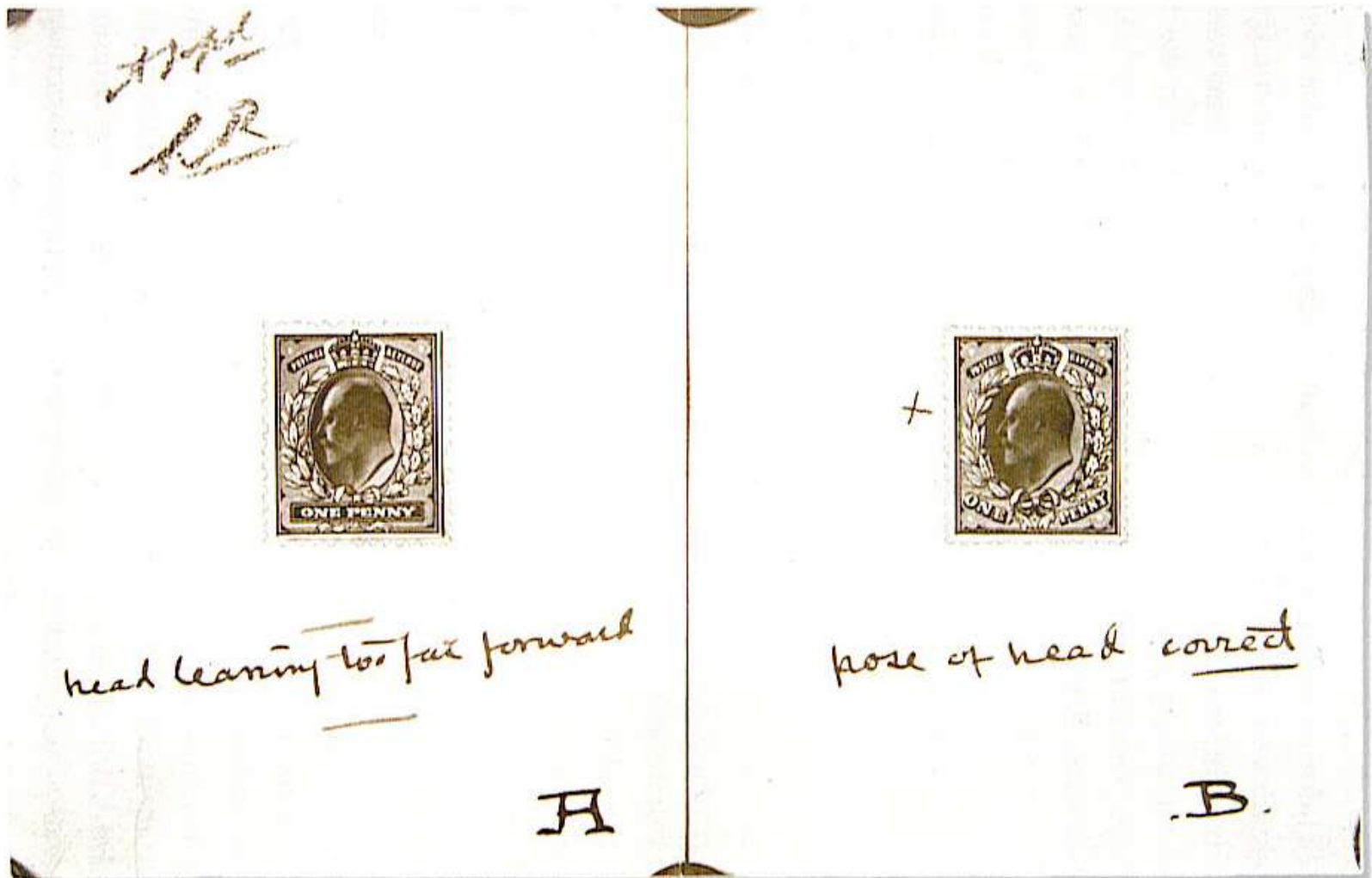
GRV:Holdings



More on Trinidad Surcharges

- Navy cruise to West Indies
- Prince scours each island for stamps
- Trinidad PO Honors the prince
- All stamps surcharged 9d in his honor
- (Includes post due, envelopes, PCs, etc.)
- A set is cancelled: Trinidad, Fe 23 1891
- Prince now has 5000 stamps, age 26

ERVII's Approval of Proof



Victoria Locals



More on Victorian Locals

- Opening of the Australian Parliament-1901
- 1851 new colony of Victoria
- Special gifts of remaining dies and proofs
- 1d vermillion/3d blue dtd 11 January 1850;
Earliest recorded date and cover

Tasmania



More on the Tasmanians

- Printed 1863-1880
- Acquired during George's 1901 cruise
- 3d, 2/-, 6d postal fiscals and more
- Vignette of St. George and the dragon
- Four plate proofs and some complete sheets given to George

Pigeon Post (1898-1899)



More on the Pigeon Post

- Isolation of those on Great Barrier Island
- Weekly mail only
- Trial run eventually → two competitors
- Δ name from *Pigeon Post* → *Pigeon Gram*
- Service from to 1908 when replaced by telegraph
- £5 fine for shooting carrier pigeons
- George has all 1/- and 6d triangular overprints and more

Canada 12¢ Black of 1851



More on Black 12¢ Canada

- Printed 6/1851
- Highest denomination of Canada to date
- Limited practical use
- 51.4K printed; 1.5K sold
- One of earliest stamps classed as rarity
- Cabin fire, submerged, & salvaged
- Blown out window; Accidentally thrown out
- '07 Scott cover price: \$275K/U.S.

The Charles Connell Issue

1860-1863 Series



More on the Connells

- Chas. Connell, PMG
- Change to decimal
- New ABNC contract
- Chooses designs
- Needed design: 5¢
- 50K Sheets of 100
- Connell's portrait
- Replaced by V-R
- Cost him £56 15s
- Destroyed all but 200
- Why his image?
- Vanity
- Please his daughter
- Provided by secretary
- On banquet menu
- Many known examples
- Die & plate proofs and specimens are more rare

GRV: Early Life-4

- GB stamp design for new sovereign
- Colonies > GB
 - First ERVII issue: Sep/Oct 1901
 - Varieties of products
 - First booklets
 - Unique items
- Mauritius Post Offices 1d & 2d (20th Sept 1847)
 - 500 each printed (15-1d & 12-2d today)
 - then revised as “Post Paid”
- 13 Dec 1904 Auction (£1,450 for unused 2d)
- “I was that damned fool.”

GRV and Research

- President of PS,L; around 1896 ('till 5/10)
- GRV more than just a figurehead
- Debate of color of 2 Rigsbank Skilling blue & shape of the “2” in 1851-4 Danish issue
- To the Copenhagen post office
- Original die, documents, proofs
- Solution in paper and *London Philatelist*

GRV the Exhibitor

- May, 1906 **Int'l Phil. Expo**, London
- 1-Bronze: GB Postage, Officials, & Fiscals
- 2-Silver: Mauritius collection
- 3-Silver: Hong Kong collection
- Pleased with tangible results but also disappointed and let down
- Good quality stamps; Poor text if any, crowded pages
- No more competitive exhibiting. Loans continued

GRV: Early Life-5

- The Mauritius 2 “penoe” issue
- The 06th May 1910-ERVII Dies
 - “On a Friday”
- George promoted to King (5/10)
- Resigns as President of RPS,L
 - Becomes ordinary member at £2/yr
- Sets about the new GRV issues
 - With John Tilleard

Mauritius “Post Office” 2d



More on Mauritius Issues

- Governor's Ball; Lady Gomm's invitations
- "Post Office" $\Delta \rightarrow$ "Post Paid" soon after with new engraving plate of 12. All different (? 1848). Used +/- ten years
- Many varieties; Plates worn by 1858
- Attempts at replacement
- "Greatest libel on VR ever perpetrated on a postage stamp"

1d Mauritius Remains in the News

Mauritius 'Post Office' ball invitation cover sold through Feldman to Singapore collector ↓

By Rick Miller

The only Mauritius Lady Gomm ball invitation cover franked with the rare 1-penny "Post Office" Queen Victoria stamp (Scott 1) in private hands was sold by private treaty to Vikram Chand of Singapore.

David Feldman Co., of Geneva, Switzerland, announced the sale of the cover in late October.

The cover is addressed to "H. Adam Esq Junr." The stamp is tied to the cover by a "Paid" in rectangle handstamp. The cover also bears a "Penny Post" in rectangle handstamp at upper right.

The cover was once owned by King Carol II of Romania and was part of the Mauritius collection of Hiroyuki Kanai. It was last sold at auction by Feldman for \$1,469,700 on Nov. 20, 1997. That realization is in the top 10 on *Linn's* list of all-time auction realizations.

The 1d orange and 2d blue Mauritius "Post Office" stamps (Scott 1-2) were engraved and printed locally in Port Louis, Mauritius, in 1847. Subsequent issues were inscribed "Post Paid" instead of "Post Office."

Lady Gomm, the wife of the island's governor, was preparing invitations to a fancy dress ball at the time that the stamps were issued. The first use of the stamps was to pay postage on Lady Gomm's invitations.



The Mauritius ball invitation cover bearing a 1-penny "Post Office" stamp was recently sold by private treaty. Of the three covers known to exist, this is the only one in private hands.

Three covers survive, only one of which is in private hands. In addition to the cover now owned by Chand, the British Library Museum holds one cover and the third is in the Royal Collection of Queen Elizabeth II.

Details of the sale were not disclosed, but the cover is insured for \$4 million, according to Feldman.

Chand plans to display the cover in the British Library Museum. ■

BLUE STAMPS

ely

PORT



BLUE
MAURITIUS
THE HUNT FOR
THE WORLD'S
MOST VALUABLE
STAMPS



HELEN MORGAN

Mauritius “Post Office” 1d on Cover



Mauritius Two “Penoe” error



Replacements, Retouches



Mauritius: 1859 (March–November)
TWO PENCE deep blue, early impression, unused
engraved by Jules Lapirot. The result known as
'the TWO PENCE Mozambique', was described
as 'the greatest libel on Queen Victoria ever
perpetrated on a postage stamp'.



Mauritius: 1859 (October) TWO PENCE
deep blue, unused. Barnard's original worn
TWO PENCE plate was re-engraved by Robert
Sherwin, Keeper of the Prison and
sometime engraver.



Mauritius: 1848–59 ONE PENNY colour worn
impression, unused. After 10 years, the plates of
both the ONE PENNY and the TWO PENCE wore
out to render the stamps virtually
unrecognisable.



Mauritius: 1859 (December) ONE PENNY deep
red, unused. This lithographed issue by Louis
Dardenne was the last of the Mauritius locally
printed stamps.

Mafeking Siege

- 217 day Boer siege in Bechuanaland
- Cadets over age 9 delivered local mail and that to outposts. Donkeys → Bicycles
- Africans able to smuggle out mail
- Overprinting stamps of Bechuanaland
- 1 & 3d stamps on blueprint paper
 - 1d= Cadet; 3d= Robert Baden-Powell
 - Queen Victoria not amused

More on Mafekings

- N=9476 1d bicycle
- N=9100 3d Powell
- Other towns besieged
- British sieges
- Numerous overprints
- Errors, reprints, surcharges
- Foundation of Boy Scouts in 1907



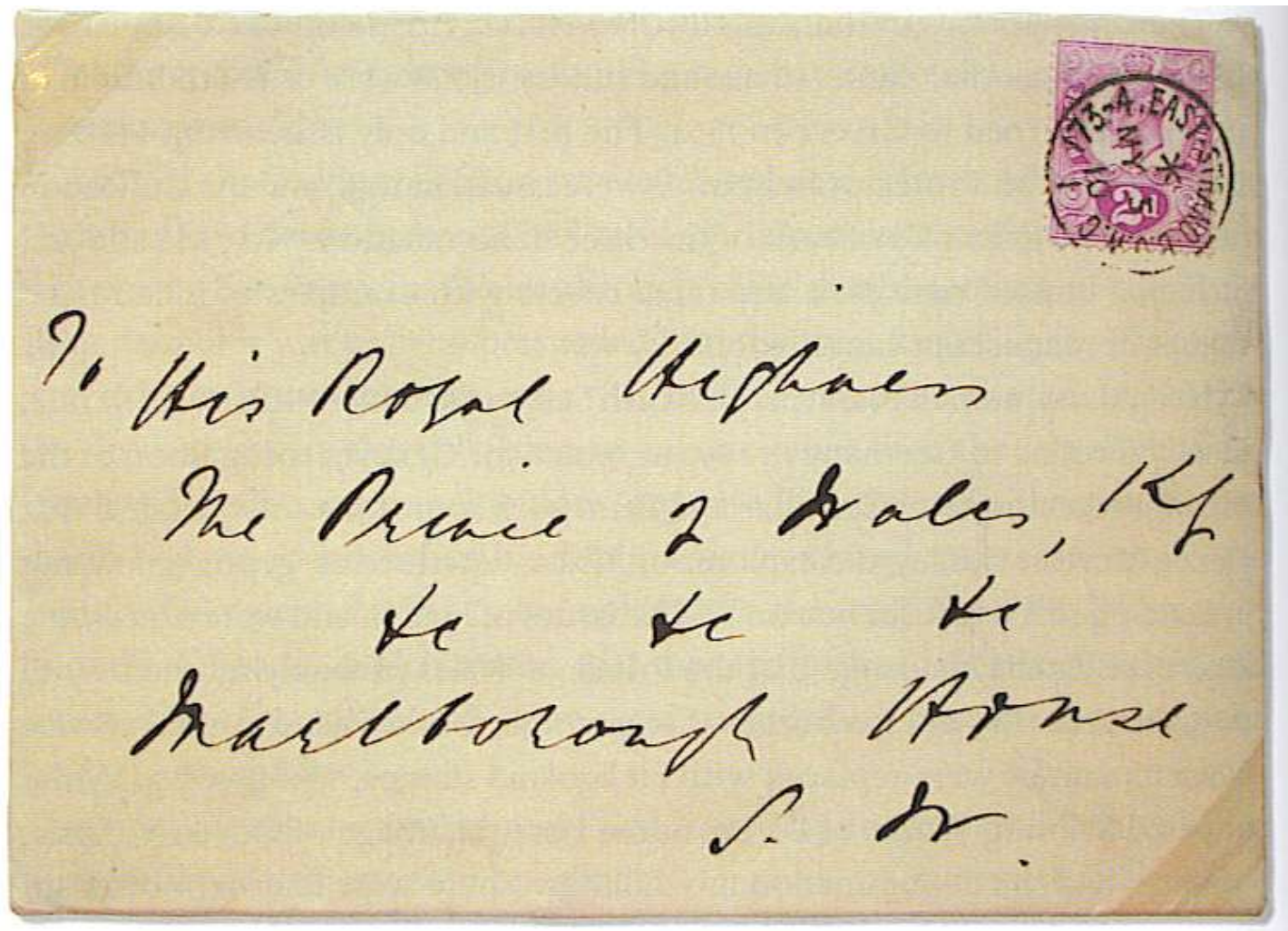
World Famous 2d Tyrian Plum

1910

- Replace bi-colors
- 1K Sheets printed
- Delayed distribution
- The 6th May 1910
- Stamp stock destroyed
- A few singles extant
- One cover got out!
- Auction, Summer, 2009 for £29K



The 2d Tyrian Plum on Cover



GRV's Own Image on Stamps-1

The Definitives

- Call for Bids
- Mackennal-sculptor
- The Downeys-photographers
- The Lion frame
- The Dolphin frame
- De La Rue dis'ed
- New Contract
 - To Harrison & Son



GRV's Own Image on Stamps-2

- Printer inexperience
- The Result (½d & 1d)
 - 22nd June 1911 coronation
- Nationwide criticism
- “Stuffed Monkey”
- (South Africa & DLR)
 - November 1910
- GRV Pays DLR



GRV's Own Image on Stamps-3

- Mackennel to rescue
- Downey profile
- Mackennel's medal
- Reworked image
- De La Rue-new die
- Back to Harrison/Son
 - 1912-'13 Engraved
 - '24-'26 Typography
 - '34-'36 Photogravure



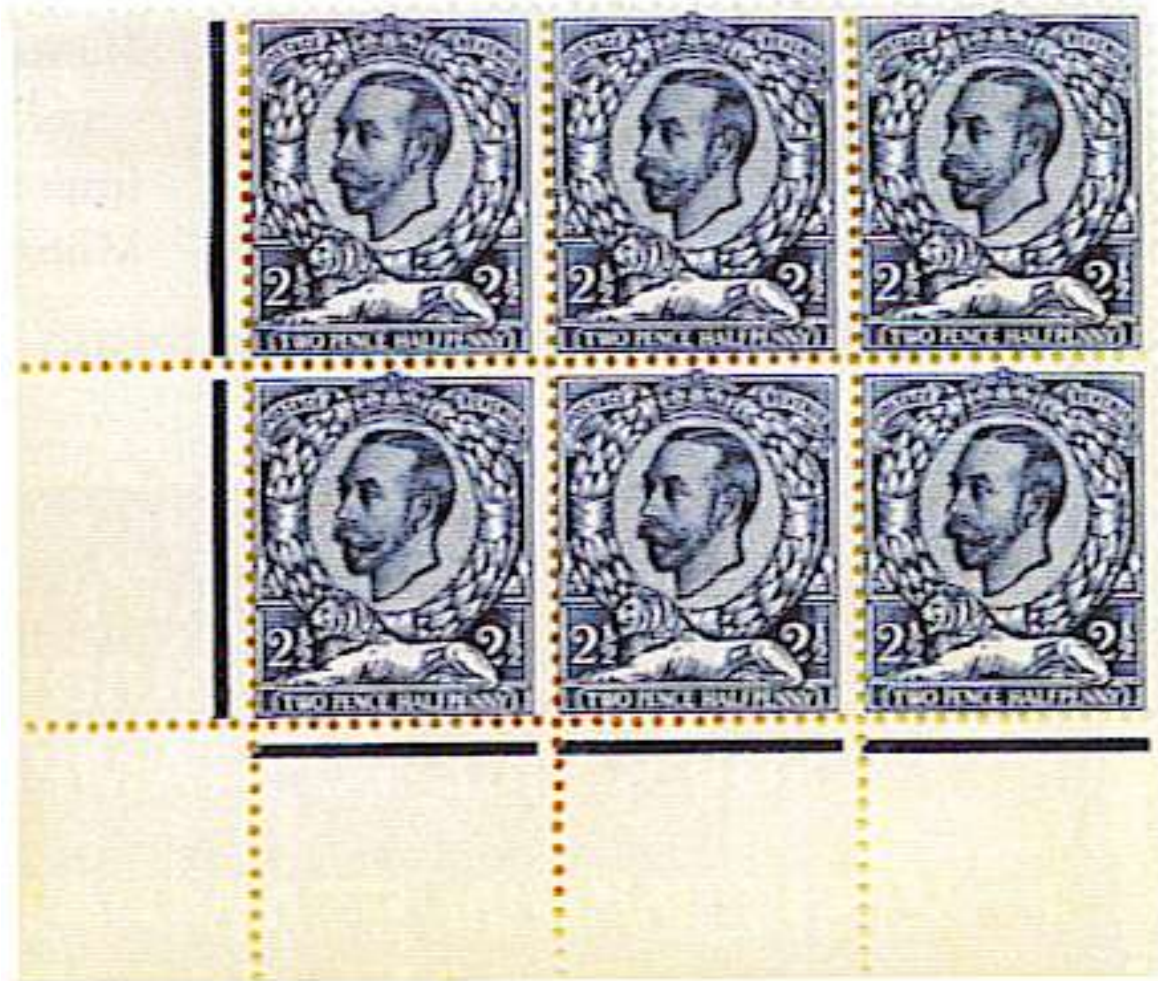
GRV's Own Image on Stamps-4



*App'd
G. R. V.
Feb 21st 1912.*



Unissued KGV 2½d Downey



Half Rim Specs



- The 1934 9d Southern Rhodesia non-issue was short lived once the half-rim glasses were noticed & the stamp withdrawn by GRV.

Sir Edward Denny Bacon

Second Keeper of the Royal Collection

- Served 1913-1938
- Family Business
- Commuter 3/Week
- Assembled Collection
- Many Accolades
- RPSL President-6/yrs
- *Bette noir*
 - Heavy on Hinges



During GRV's Reign

- First Coils
- Surface→Engraved printing (43 Years)
 - Seahorses (High Values of 1913-1935+)
- First GB Commemoratives (n=3 only)
 - British Empire Exhibition (1924-1925)
 - Universal Postal Union (1929)
 - GRV Jubilee Issues of 1935
- Added “Royal” to the Philatel. Soc, London
- Royal Collection

Wembleys & Seahorses



The Great War

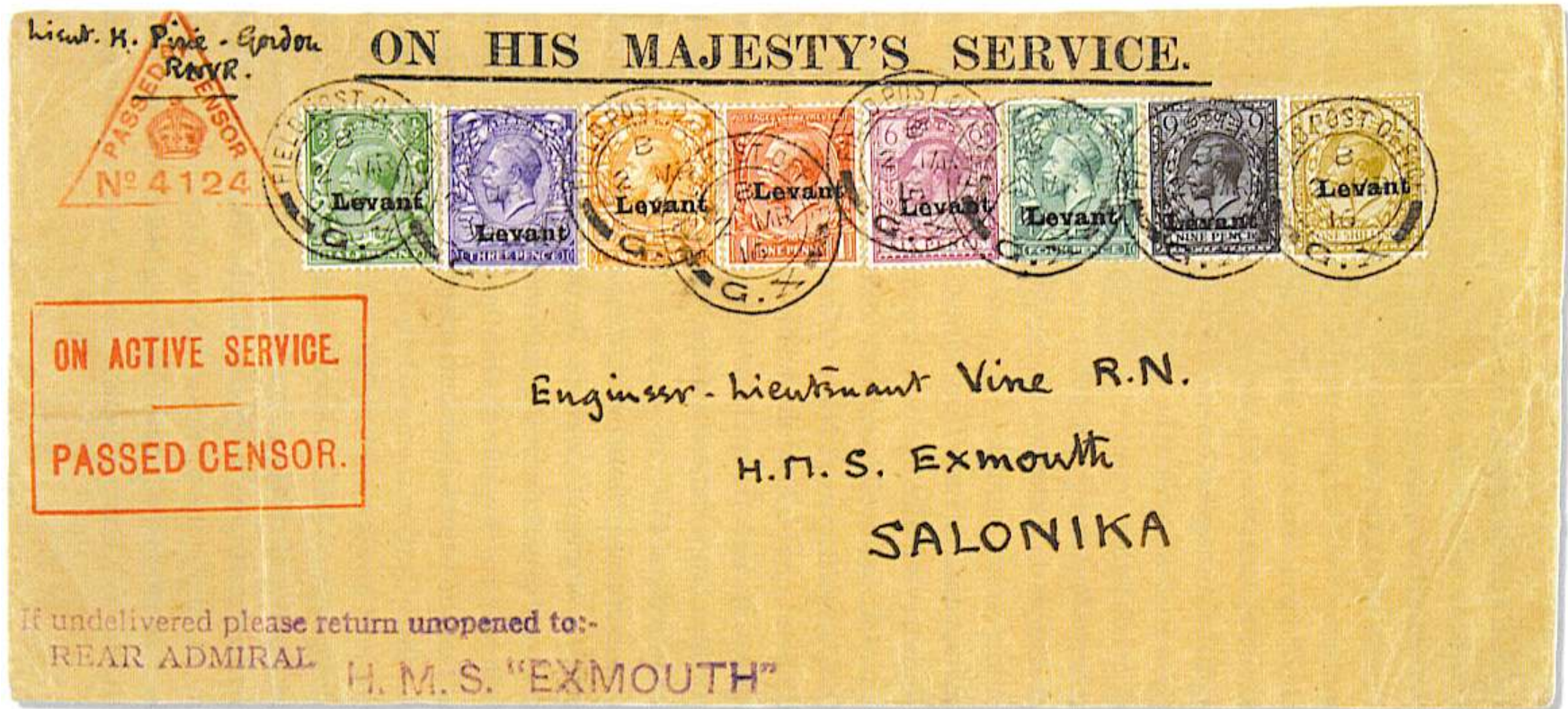
- New varieties
- Occupation issues
- War Tax/surcharges
- Philatelic usages
- Special gifts to GRV
- Post war advent of airmail philately***



During the War

- Military rations for the family
- KGV Donned uniforms for the duration
- Front line visits to troops
- ‘My stamps kept me alive during the war...’
- Philatelic opportunities

Set of Levant Overprints



Army-Navy Game Ball

- Did GRV sign the game ball for Woodrow Wilson after the game?

What Others Said

- “For 17 years he did nothing but kill animals and stick in stamps.”
1946 Harold Nicolson
- Gifted armature
- Alfred Hind

Major Evans Collection-1917

The Mulreadies



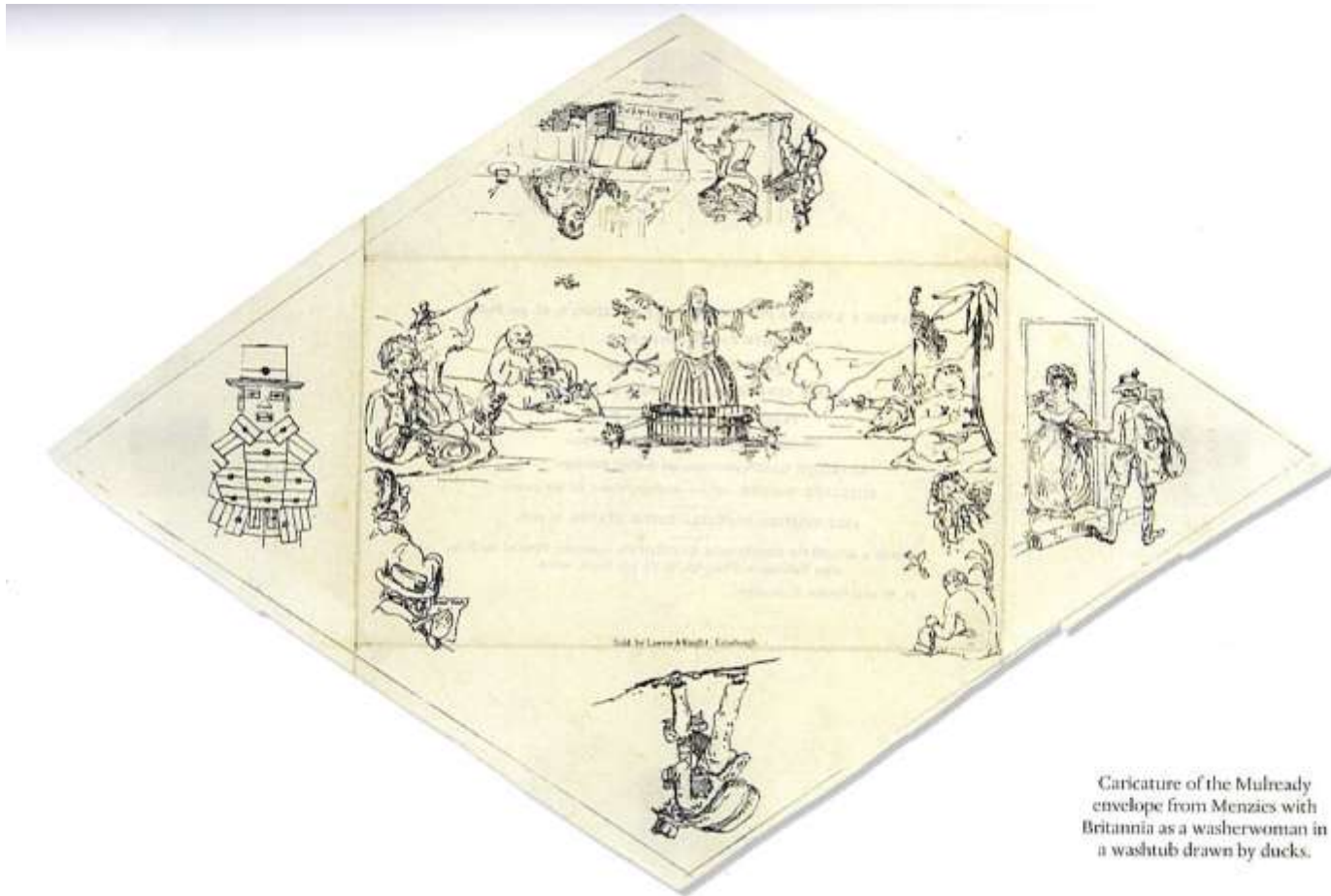
Great Britain: Postal Stationery:
rd. Mulready envelope, double
printed, from the Evans' Collection.

Mulready Caricature-1



Caricature of the Mulready envelope with Britannia portrayed as a scarecrow, seated on a pig in a cover by R. W. Hume of Leith first used in May 1840.

Mulready Caricature-2



Poor Man's Holy Grail



St. Geo & Dragon 1£ Color Trials



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



THE EXPERTS

Francis Kiddie *All World*



A past president of the Royal Philatelic Society London and a world authority on cinderellas

Tom Pierron *Modern Errors*



Editor of a comprehensive catalogue of Queen Elizabeth II British and Commonwealth errors

Dickon Pollard *King George VI*



Co-owner of Murray Payne, one of the world's foremost KGVII specialist dealers and expertisers

James Skinner *Queen Elizabeth II*

What's the value of the Royal Collection?

Q I will be doing a presentation to my stamp club on King George V as a collector, and I anticipate the first question will be 'How much is the Royal Philatelic Collection worth?' Do you know the answer?

Paul Petersen, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA

A We asked Michael Sefi, the Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection, for a response, and he kindly responded as follows:

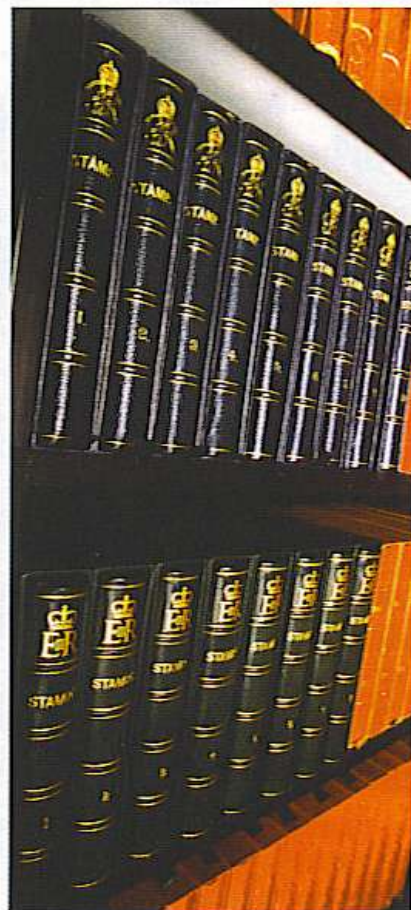
'Although there have been various estimates published in the philatelic and general media over the years, we have never discussed the value of the Collection.

'For one thing, any figure would be fairly meaningless. Would one value it on the basis of a forced one-off sale, or a measured disposal over a number of years, or on how much money it would cost to replace?

'While many of the major pieces can be valued on one of those bases, much material has never been on the open market. Items such as artwork, die proofs and colour trials are virtually impossible to value.'

To take Michael's comment further, it is worth emphasising that some elements of the collection are quite literally priceless, in the sense that they are unique but not for sale, so their potential price tag has never been tested on the market.

Michael makes a further interesting point: 'We have never even counted how many stamps there are in the Collection. However, up to 1936 alone it comprises 328 albums of about 50 pages each, making around 16,000 pages or so, plus unmounted material that would add up to more than that.'



100th Year Celebration

GB COLLECTOR

Edited by Julia Lee. Tel: 020 8726 8242. E-mail: julia_lee@ipcmedia.com

NEW ISSUE

The glorious accession of the philatelist king



Tristan Da Cunha GRV & London 2010 Stamp Show



London 2010 Publications



LONDON 2010 FESTIVAL OF STAMPS

buy George!

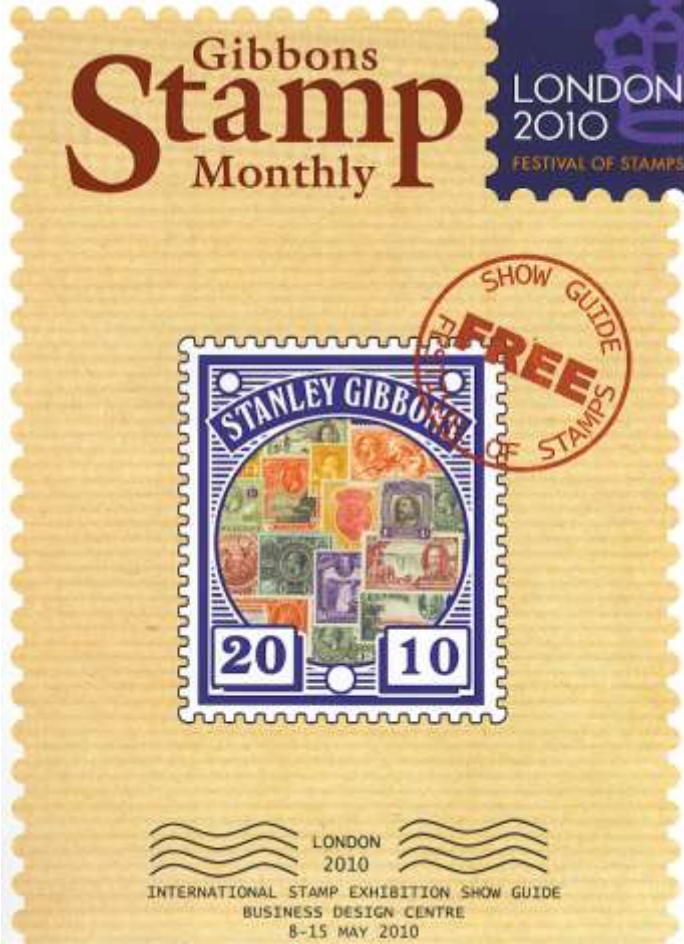
GEORGE V
ACCESSION
6th MAY 1910

LONDON 2010 FESTIVAL OF STAMPS

The philatelist King acceded to the throne 100 years ago this year. We are proud to mark that Centenary with two Miniature Sheets which are now exclusively available to London 2010 visitors on Stand G. You'll also find a wide range of Special Stamp products designed to enhance your collection there.

 **Royal Mail**

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SHOW GUIDE
FREE
OF STAMPS

STANLEY GIBBONS

20 10

LONDON
2010

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION SHOW GUIDE
BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE
8-15 MAY 2010

Sample Medal for London 2010



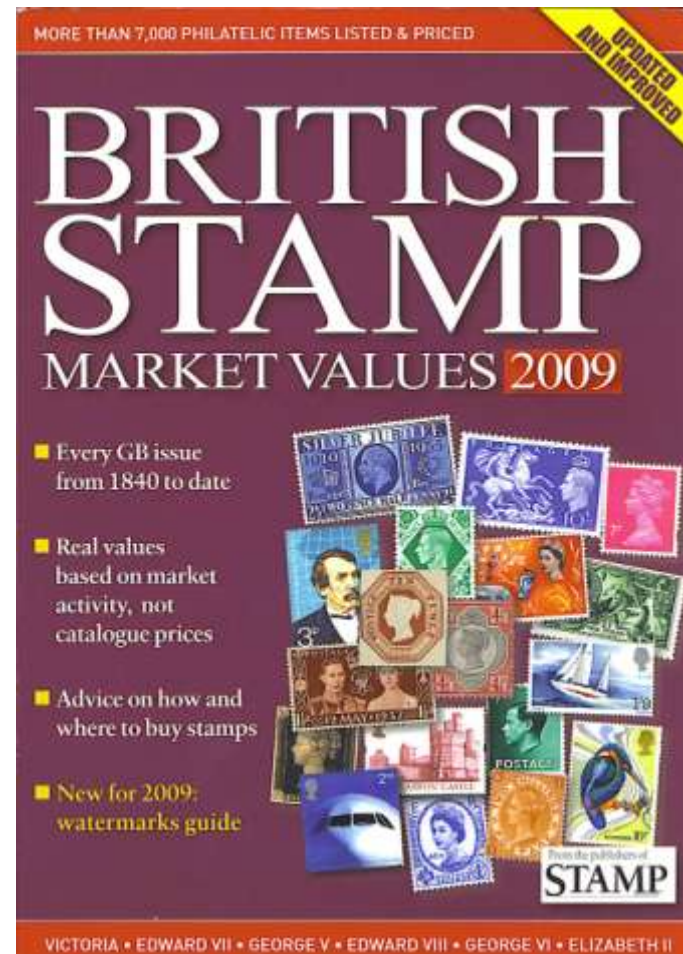
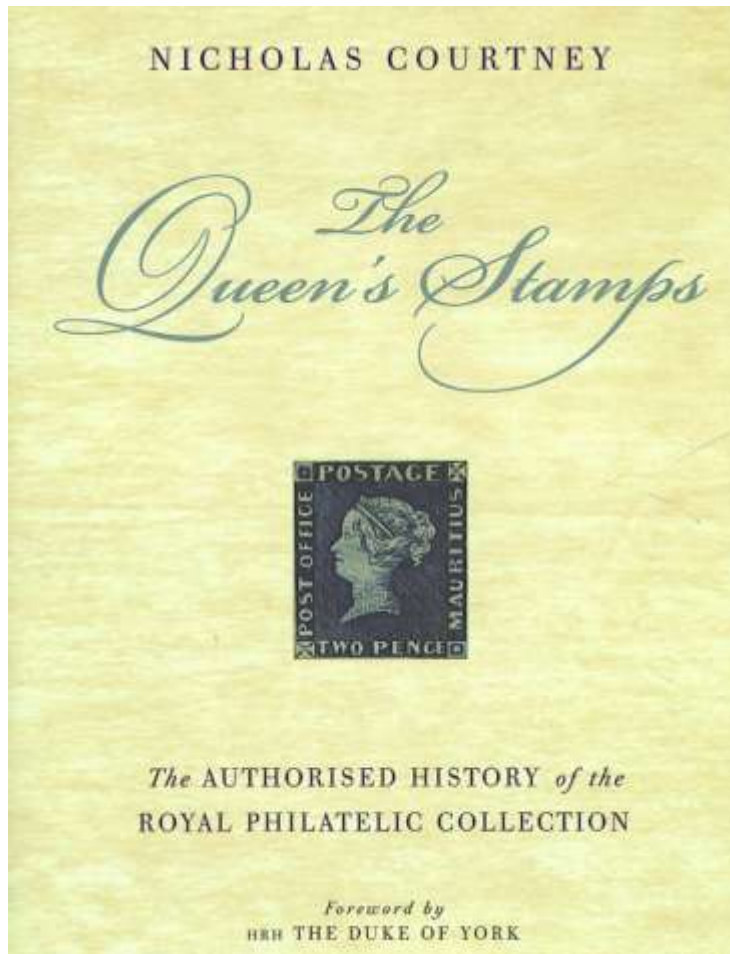
Comparison of GRV vs. FDR-1

<u>Topic:</u>	<u>GRV</u>	<u>FDR</u>
Influence on Collectors	****	*****
Money Spent	*****	**
Knowledge of Phil.	****	***
Dedication	*****	*****
Yachting	***	***
Hunting	****	
Organized Philately	****	**

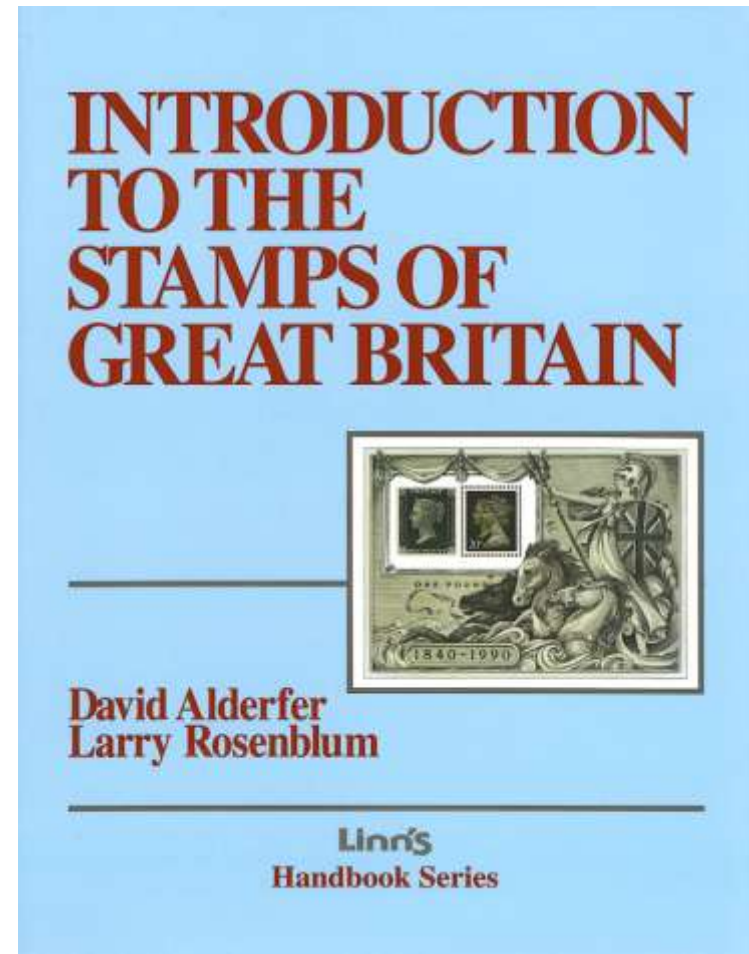
Comparison of GRV vs. FDR-2

<u>Topic:</u>	<u>GRV</u>	<u>FDR</u>
“Hobby saved my life”	*****	*****
Publishing/Exhibiting	***	*
Influence on stamp design	*****	*****
Used stamps politically	**	*****
Stamp friends	*****	**

References-1



References-2



References-3



Coming Attractions Hearts On Stamps 10th November 2010 To be Presented by Diane Meek

