

Under the Magnifying Glass: No.2 A Bid for Heijtz Catalogue Listing? **by Malcolm Barton and Kim Stuckey**

With the publication of the Stefan Heijtz catalogue due in 2013, 'Under the Magnifying Glass' this time looks at some varieties that are suitable candidates for inclusion next time. As usual we give each variety a reference for ease of communication. We welcome comments and additions to the list, to build up the reference documentation on modern varieties (and in the case of this article, one not-so-modern).

But first – a request for information from members. The 1978 Mail Ships issue 1p has the well-known variety "Three extra hawsepipes" on Position 1, which can also be found in booklets. Has anyone seen this variety on the 1982 reprints of the Mail Ships set (which have imprint date "1982"). In particular, do you have top left corner blocks of Plate 1A of the 1982 1p and are they with or without the variety (seen here in Figure 1)?

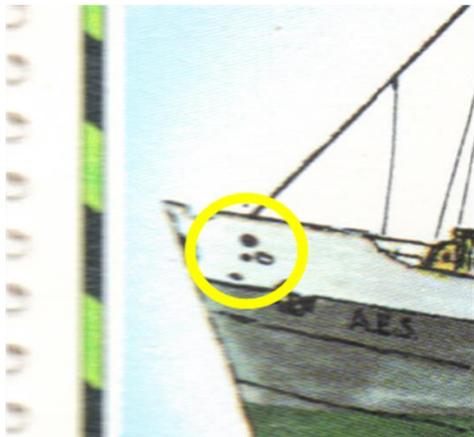


Figure 1 – The Extra Hawsepipes Variety

Now we turn to the candidates for catalogue inclusion, the first of which helps clarify an existing entry.

(Variety B1) 1971 Flowers Decimal Overprint 25p Value –Broken "2" - Illustrated in Figure 2

This is included to clarify the entries in the Heijtz catalogue and the Flower Definitives Part II (Monograph 13). In Monograph 13 an illustration is given of a "Rounded foot to the "2" at Row 2/4 (Pos.9). Stefan mentions SH204v1 "Bottom of 2 sliced off" but without a position reference. This is an illustration of a sliced bottom to the 2 at Row 4/1 (Pos. 16) that should be the catalogue entry.



Figure 2 – Flowers 25p Overprint with Broken "2"

(Variety B2) 1973 Royal Wedding of H.R.H. Princess Anne 5p and 15p Value – Pink Thread - Illustrated in Figure 3

A flaw on the dress looks like a pink strand of cotton. This is constant on Row 3/2 (Pos.12) on the Plate 1B sheets on both values of the issue. It is a good variety to look out for, and worth catalogue inclusion.



Figure 3 – 1973 Royal Wedding Pink Thread Flaw

(Variety B3) 1997 Return of Hong Kong to China Miniature Sheet – Crab Flaw - Illustrated in Figure 4

A black flaw around the “Cra” of “Crab” exists on many of the miniature sheets and is another worthy contender for inclusion in the next Heijtz catalogue.



Figure 4 – 1997 Return of Hong Kong to China Crab Flaw

(Variety B4) 1904/1906 King Edward VII 3/- – Triangle over “L” of “SHILLINGS” Flaw - Illustrated in Figure 5

This is a real old-timer variety that has not made it into catalogue inclusion previously. However it is constant at Row 3/3 (Pos. 18) on the sheet on both printings, is visible while searching through examples and is also as visible to the naked eye as the well-known “Hockeysticks” variety.



Figure 5 – Triangle over “L” Flaw

Footnote: Thanks to Carl Varnam, who displayed the Victory errors from the first article at our Swinpex meeting in June. Carl also put forward the theory of a re-entry on Row 3/2 (Pos.14) of the Falkland Islands 1d Victory. This is certainly visible as a strengthening of the design at the left hand side of the stamp (Westminster Abbey and the large tower), although no doubling of the design is easily detectable. We have checked our stamps as well and confirm similar findings. We welcome any other input to what we will designate variety A11, which makes a nice pair with A3, the flag on tower at Row 3/1 (Pos.13).