



BERMUDA

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CORONATION OF H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Following on from the issue commemorating Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee in 2012, Bermuda Post Office is now releasing a very special series of stamps to celebrate the next milestone in Her Majesty's life which is the 60th Anniversary of her Coronation.

The new set of commemorative stamps consist of five new stamps each showing items and packaging released during the reigns of Victoria, Edward VII, George V, George VI and Elizabeth II all based on images supplied by Robert Opie.

Robert is known worldwide as a collector of Advertising Memorabilia and the curator of Opie's Museum of Memories which contains tens of thousands of examples of advertising and packaging material.

The five stamps are produced in sheetlets of eight stamps with a label and a decorative border showing a number of contemporary examples taken from the Robert Opie Collection. Additionally, this commemorative series includes a souvenir sheet containing a single \$2.50 stamp bearing an official portrait of Queen Elizabeth II.



Victoria (**10c**) was born at Kensington Palace, London, on 24 May 1819. Her father died shortly after her birth and she became heir to the throne. On William IV's death in 1837, she became Queen at the age of 18 and a year later in 1838 was crowned. Queen Victoria is associated with Britain's great age of industrial expansion, economic progress and, especially, empire. At her death, it was said, Britain had a worldwide empire on which the sun never set. In the early part of her reign, she was influenced by two men: her first Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, and her husband, Prince Albert, whom she married in 1840. After Albert's death at the age of 42, Victoria sank into depression. She had lost a devoted husband and her principal trusted adviser in affairs of state. For the rest of her reign she wore black. Victoria died at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight, on 22 January 1901 after a reign which lasted almost 64 years, the longest in British history. She was buried at Windsor beside Prince Albert, in the Frogmore Royal Mausoleum, which she had built for their final resting place.



Edward VII (**35c**) was born on 9 November 1841 in London, the eldest son of Victoria and her prince consort, Albert. Edward VII was brought up strictly under a very rigorous educational regime by his parents, who had unrealistic expectations of his abilities. During his mother's reign, he undertook public duties (including working on Royal Commissions in the field of social issues), but he was excluded by his mother from acting as her deputy until 1898. In January 1901, Victoria died and Edward succeeded to the throne as Edward VII. He was crowned in August 1902. He was 59 when he became king, having been heir apparent for longer than anyone else in British history. The Edwardian era, which covered Edward's reign and was named after him, coincided with the start of a new century and heralded significant changes in technology and society, including powered flight and the rise of socialism. In the last year of his life, Edward was involved in a constitutional crisis brought about by the refusal of the Conservative majority in the Lords to pass the Liberal budget of 1909. He died on 6 May 1910, before the situation could be resolved.



George V (**70c**) was born on 3 June 1865 in London, the second son of the Prince of Wales. When George was 18 he went into the Royal Navy, but the death of his elder brother in 1892 meant he had to leave a career he enjoyed, as he was now heir to the throne. On his father's death in 1910, he succeeded as King-Emperor of the British Empire. He married his elder brother's fiancée, Princess Mary of Teck, and they had six children. Public respect for the king increased during World War One, when he made many visits to the front line, hospitals, factories and dockyards. In 1917 anti-German feeling led him to adopt the family name of Windsor, replacing the Germanic Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. George started the annual Christmas Broadcast by the sovereign to the Empire (more recently to the Commonwealth), the first being transmitted in 1932. In 1935, the king celebrated his Silver Jubilee, an occasion of great public rejoicing. He died on 20 January 1936 and was succeeded by his son Edward.



George VI (**85c**) was born on 14 December 1895 at Sandringham. He was christened Albert after his great-grandfather, Prince Albert. In 1920, he was created Duke of York and began to take on royal duties. In 1923, he married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon and they had two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret. He became King unexpectedly following the abdication of his brother, King Edward VIII, in 1936 and was crowned a year later in 1937. His greatest achievements came during the Second World War, when he remained for most of the time at Buckingham Palace. He and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, visited severely bombed areas in the East End of London and elsewhere in the country, gained him great popularity. Recognising the total nature of modern warfare, in 1940 the King instituted the George Cross and George Medal, to be awarded for acts of bravery by citizens. From 1948, his health deteriorated, and he died on 6 February 1952.



Elizabeth II (**\$1.10**) was born on 21 April 1926 in London. In November 1947, she married distant cousin, Philip Mountbatten, who was then created His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. She became heir to the throne after her father, George VI died on 6 February 1952 while she and Prince Philip were touring Kenya. Elizabeth II was crowned in Westminster Abbey on 2nd June 1953. It was a solemn ceremony conducted by Dr Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury. Crowds of people viewed the procession all along the route, despite heavy rain. The ceremony was also broadcast on radio around the world and, at The Queen's request, on television for the first time. This televised event brought home to hundreds of thousands of people around the Commonwealth the splendour and significance of the Coronation in a way never before possible. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012 was marked by celebrations across the country, illustrating the public's appreciation of her unwavering commitment during her reign.



TECHNICAL DETAILS

DESIGNER	CASCO Studio
PRINTER	BDT International Security Printing
PROCESS	Lithography
STAMP SIZE	28.45 x 42.58mm
PERFORATION	14 per 2cms
SHEET LAYOUT	8 stamps plus a central label
SHEET SIZE	166 x 185mm
S/S STAMP SIZE	48.26 x 32.4mm
S/S SIZE	110 x 70mm
RELEASE DATE	21 February, 2013