

Introduction

In June 1955 De La Rue celebrated their Stamp Centenary – to mark this event an exhibition was held at the RPSL premises showing 400 pages of material taken from the DLR archives. A full report on the exhibition can be read in the *London Philatelist* Volume 64, Number 751, June 1955 (other articles can be identified through the Catalogue search function).

These pages (containing drawings, essays, proofs and stamps etc) were a selection from the De La Rue Collection which had been created (and continued to be enlarged, into the 1960s) by their Archivist, Mr Leslie Newman.

Mr Leslie Newman dedicated a great part of fifteen years searching, page by page, through the 129 volumes in which the Company's correspondence and works records had been filed since 1866, sifting the information, selecting the most interesting material, mounting and writing up until eighty-two volumes had been filled.

Note: Earlier items from the Day Books also seem to be included.

In 1966 this collection was transferred to the British Museum.¹

In 1973 the collection was transferred on long term loan to the National Postal Museum² (recorded as 83 Volumes).

In the late 1970s/80s De La Rue sold this archive collection through Robson Lowe but before dispersal 35mm films were taken as a record.

These films have been generously lent by Spink to the RPSL who have arranged for digitisation and the results (over 3000 pages) can be viewed in the RPSL Catalogue.

Unfortunately, Volumes 30 (GB George V, George VI and Elizabeth II) and 42 (TransJordan and Kedah) are missing (but hopefully will turn up).

Colour reproduction is not accurate, as the films are over 30 years old and conversion to digital format may have introduced further variation.

At full quality, these pdf files are rather large and so quality has been slightly reduced for posting on the www. The number of images in each pdf file is generally limited to 10, to keep download times reasonable.

This document contains all the pages for: DeLaRue.

Descriptions for each image are being progressively developed.

Please submit contributions to RPSL by following these instructions:

Copy the inventory table below into MSWord or MSEXcel, this should provide a tabular form.

Complete the column description and save the resultant file, and email; to dirc@rpsl.org.uk,

Note: Page numbers were printed on the sheets for the first 49 volumes and these are included as the reference number in the index, for later volumes a unique number has been generated.

¹ *London Philatelist*, Volume 75 #881, May 1966

² *London Philatelist* Volume 82 Number 972, December 1973

DeLaRue Index

View	Vol	Page Ref	Item	Date Range	Era	Set	Paper	Denominations / Colour	Description
View pdf	17	645a	A	1901-1903	KEVII	Dummy stamp	Thick card	1d, black	Album page states: "De La Rue Experimental 1901. At the beginning of the Century the Italians engraved a head of the King of Italy for typographical reproduction by the intaglio method. This was not a success and we tried to improve upon it. The head of King Edward was chosen, because we we were then relief engraving the head of His Majesty by EmilFuchs for the British and Colonial issues. The result, as will be seen, was a failure and relief-engraving, introduced by Joubert with our 4d of 1855 has been followed ever since for the letterpress printing of stamps." Dummy stamp incorporates the wording "DE LA RUE [crown] & COMPY", three-quarter face head and shoulders image of King Edward VII set in oval, and "1d" value at bottom left and bottom right corners within shields. This head of KEVII was used for Canada on its 1903 stamps. Imperforate die proof with large margins. Heavily struck.
	17	645a	B	1901-1903	KEVII	Dummy stamp	White wove	1d, red	For album page wording see page V17-0645a_DeLaRue item A. Dummy stamp incorporating the wording "DE LA RUE [crown] & COMPY" at top, three-quarter face head and shoulders image of King Edward VII set in oval, and "1d" value at bottom left and bottom right corners within shields. Perforated single from (presumably) counter-sized sheet of perhaps 240 copies. This head of KEVII was used for Canada on its 1903 stamps.
	17	645a	C	1901-1903	KEVII	Dummy stamp	Thick card	1d, black	For album page wording see page V17-0645a_DeLaRue item A. Dummy stamp incorporating the wording "DE LA RUE [crown] & COMPY" at top, three-quarter face head and shoulders image of King Edward VII set in oval, and "1d" value at bottom left and bottom right corners within shields. This head of KEVII was used for Canada on its 1903 stamps. Imperforate die proof with large margins. Less heavily struck than similar items on same page resulting in a more pleasing result.

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	17	645a	D	1901-1903	KEVII	Dummy stamp	Thick card	1d, black	For album page wording see page V17-0645a_DeLaRue item A. Dummy stamp incorporating the wording "DE LA RUE [crown] & COMPY" at top, three-quarter face head and shoulders image of King Edward VII set in oval, and "1d" value at bottom left and bottom right corners within shields. This head of KEVII was used for Canada on its 1903 stamps. Imperforate die proof with large margins. Heavily struck.
	17	645a	E	1922	KGV	Not attributable	Not stated	Not applicable	For album page wording see page V17-0645a_DeLaRue item A. Additional wording for this item states: "1922 Not attributable to any particular postage stamps." Roughly cut-out head of KGV in black with black solid background in oval shape on small piece. Pencil note: "2.1.22"
	17	645a	F	1922	KGV	Not attributable	Not stated	Not applicable	For album page wording see page V17-0645a_DeLaRue item A. Additional wording for this item states: "1922 Not attributable to any particular postage stamps." Roughly cut-out head of KGV in black with black solid background in oval shape on small piece. Pencil note: "5.1.22", with the 5 crossed out by an X. Also includes (unidentified) pencilled initials at bottom right.
View pdf	17	645b	A	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof, lacking "NEW ZEALAND / ONE PENNY" text.
	17	645b	B	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	C	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof, lacking "NEW ZEALAND / ONE PENNY" text.
	17	645b	D	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	E	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, red	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	F	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.

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	17	645b	G	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, red	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	H	1907-8	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1907-8 Issue. Plates by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	I	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, red	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	J	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	K	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	L	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, red	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	M	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, red	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	N	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1d, red	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Penny Universal stamp. Die proof.
	17	645b	O	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage one of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: Head of KGV, plus outer frame line and circle around head.
	17	645b	P	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage two of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: Two shields, crown, KGV's uniform and text frame lines.
	17	645b	Q	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage three of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: Background shading and "HALFPENNY" text.

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	17	645b	R	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage four of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: "1/2d." values in both shields.
	17	645b	S	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage five of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: Unprinted instead of inked marginal area on all four sides of stamp. Area beyond stamp still heavily inked.
	17	645b	T	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage six of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: "DOMINION OF", "POSTAGE &" and "REVENUE" text.
	17	645b	U	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. Stage seven of seven that slowly builds-up the whole design. This impression adds: Curved "NEW ZEALAND" text. Design now complete.
	17	645b	V	1909	KGV	F W Pearce Experiments	Not stated	1/2d, black	Album page states: "F.W.Pearce Experiments (Continued). 1909 issue dies by Perkins Bacon." New Zealand Half Penny stamp. Die proof. This impression depicts the complete design, apparently differing from the previous item on the page only by the area beyond the size of the stamp die now being uninked.

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View	Vol	Page Ref	Item	Date Range	Era	Set	Paper	Denominations / Colour	Description
View pdf	17	646	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Unwatermarked, creamy	No value expressed. Red.	Album page states: : "De La Rue Centenary Exhibition Commemorative labels. Despite the fact that these were handed to visitors in envelopes emphasizing that they were of no postal value, as specimen shewn, the "stamped" envelope hereunder reached us three days after the close of the Exhibition, duly franked by the Post Office! We hope that it is unique." Envelope from Hutchinson's Advertising Agency using a dummy stamp for postage. Successfully machine cancelled at Ilkeston on 21 July 1955 and addressed to De La Rue in Regent's Street, London where the exhibition was held. Dummy stamp design features monogram on globe, stamps in echelon either side with dates 1855 1955. Inscribed Postage Stamp Centenary, referring to DLR's first contract for printing British stamps – the 4d. carmine of 1855 (SG 62). Perf 13.
	17	646	B	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Unwatermarked, creamy	No value expressed. Red.	Glassine envelope worded in black: "THESE SOUVENIRS ARE OF NO POSTAL VALUE". Contains block of four dummy stamps commemorating De La Rue's postage stamp centenary. Given to visitors to DLR Stamp Centenary Exhibition at RPSL, 6-20 Jun 1955. Dummy stamp design features monogram on globe, stamps in echelon either side with dates 1855 1955. Inscribed Postage Stamp Centenary, referring to DLR's first contract for printing British stamps – the 4d. carmine of 1855 (SG 62). Perf 13.
	17	646	C	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Red, black, blue.	Front of stamp competition envelope addressed to De La Rue at its Bunhill Row premises in London. The three dummy stamps have been hand cancelled at Paddington, along with a 3d Wilding definitive, on 26 April 1958. Intaglio. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866".
View pdf	17	647	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Black.	Album page states: "Plate proof of label specially engraved and printed in three different colours for the Exhibition celebrating this Centenary." Imperforate sheet of 32 (4 rows of 8). Intaglio. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866". Plate number 1, printer imprint and reversed die number appear in margins.

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View	Vol	Page Ref	Item	Date Range	Era	Set	Paper	Denominations / Colour	Description
View pdf	17	648	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Appears to possibly be dark blue.	Album page states: "De La Rue Centenary Stamp Exhibition Souvenirs. Die proof." Imperforate die proof. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866".
	17	648	B	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Pencil, black and white ink.	Album page states: "De La Rue Centenary Stamp Exhibition Souvenirs. Original rough sketch." Ornatly drawn, only the left half of design is present, as right half would be mirror image. Various hand written notes in margin.
	17	648	C	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Appears to possibly be dark green.	Album page states: "De La Rue Centenary Stamp Exhibition Souvenirs. Die proof." Imperforate die proof. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866".
	17	648	D	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Red, blue and black.	Album page states: "Three of the stamps received through the post without comment." Three dummy stamps on a piece of white envelope, the red being wavy line cancelled and the other two uncanceled.
View pdf	17	649	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Red.	Perforated sheet of the specially engraved label, which was divided into blocks of four as a gift to visitors to the exhibition. Sheet of 32 (4 rows of 8). Intaglio. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866". Plate number 1 and printer imprint appear in bottom margin.
View pdf	17	650	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Dark blue.	Perforated sheet of the specially engraved label, which was divided into blocks of four as a gift to visitors to the exhibition. Sheet of 32 (4 rows of 8). Intaglio. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866". Plate number 1 and printer imprint appear in bottom margin.
View pdf	17	651	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Black.	Album page states: "Three perforated sheets of the specially engraved label, which was divided into blocks of four as a gift to visitors to the exhibition." Sheet of 32 (4 rows of 8). Intaglio. Head and shoulders portrait of Thomas De La Rue in decorative oval frame with text reading "THOMAS DE LA RUE 1793-1866". Plate number 1 and printer imprint appear in bottom margin.

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View pdf	17	654	A	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Predominantly grey-green with black and red.	Album page states: "De La Rue centenary advertising stamps. Photogravure." In sheet of 25 (5x5). Line drawing of Thomas De La Rue with long-stemmed red rose and text reading: "1793-1955 DE LA RUE PRINTERS OF STAMPS SINCE 1855".
	17	654	B	1955	QEII	Dummy stamp	Not stated	No value expressed. Predominantly dark green with orange, red and black.	Album page states: "De La Rue centenary advertising stamps. Lithography." In sheet of 25 (5x5). De La Rue logo, cylinder and engraver's burin and text reading "PLAYING CARDS, BANKNOTES, STAMPS BY DE LA RUE".