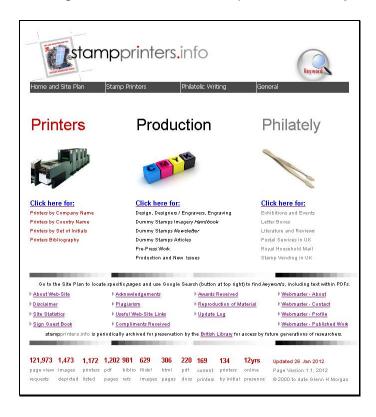
stampprinters.info was established by Glenn Morgan in 2000 as a free worldwide philatelic resource designed to bring together information gleaned about the fascinating subject of stamp **Printers**, and of **Production** techniques, etc. Writing beyond this, much additional information on diverse subjects produced by the compiler has also been brought together in a separate **Philately** section.

The site is regularly updated and 2012 has seen a major re-launch, including the addition of Google Search 'on the fly', enabling HTML and PDF text content across the whole site to be found by keywords in fractions of a second. The division of the site into **Printers**, **Production** and **Philately** with its colour coding and matching imagery on the Home Page and Site Plan has helped enormously with navigation.



Screen grab of Home Page as of late January 2012.

Sometimes the compiler is approached by stamp printers wishing to enhance their database entry, or even by postal administrations wishing to have further details of specific printers to place a stamp order with. Collectors are also a tremendous help when it comes to supplying new data, but the content is 99.9% compiled from the webmaster's own efforts.

The site frequently comes before printer's own websites in search engine rankings, as befits the extent of its coverage and use of appropriate HTML Meta Tag data. Glenn is especially proud that The British Library periodically archives the site for preservation and access by current and future generations of researchers, having chosen it several years ago for its Arts and Humanities collection.



Printers

A worldwide record of printers from 1840 to the present day who were/are entrusted with the printing of postage stamps for nationally recognised postal administrations.

Sources for information has included new issue stamp reports, philatelic and print trade articles, catalogues, handbooks, company literature and the Internet. The compiler also undertakes considerable private correspondence with printing companies to ensure accuracy of information.

Wherever possible and relevant, entries for countries include the national flag, date of first stamp issued and details of the current stamp printers used. Printers based in the particular country are then recorded alphabetically, indicating location, date and details of when its first stamps were traced and for what country, translation of company name into English if needs be, and a record of the set of initials that might be used by way of an abbreviation. Where feasible a company history will follow, together with images of any printer imprints traced and premises used.

The listings do not include every place known to have issued stamps, for it would resemble a mere catalogue of countries, mostly without stamp printer's names against them. So, places like Bremen, Nabha and dozens more one-time issuers are excluded. However, if stamp printing, overprinting or surcharging did occur in the place named, then they will be listed.

Current non-stamp printing countries are included and changes to the status and flags of countries are also constantly monitored, with cross-referencing links to previous / new country name.

A separate listing enables sets of printer initials to be traced back to the country of origin, as these are often recorded on stamp imprints (e.g. 'BDT' based in Ireland on a Cayman Islands stamp), while other sections cover a bibliography of major articles and books alphabetically by printer within country.

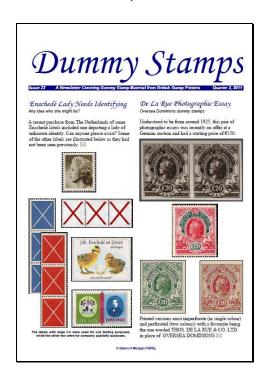
Completeness - that often elusive dream of collectors – is not claimed, but it is hoped that this section will continue to be a useful resource, especially to those with a special interest in the history of security printers and printing processes, or to those collectors who specialise in the stamp output of one particular country or group of countries.



Production

This part of **stampprinters.**info takes the visitor beyond the individual stamp printers who will have been awarded the contract to print the stamps and covers all other aspects of stamp production from commissioning of designers and/or engravers through pre-press, processes, inks, papers, separation, etc., and on to waste destruction once the stamp issue has finally been withdrawn from use.

The compiler has a fascination with 'dummy stamps' and produces a free quarterly newsletter on the subject of British issues. All editions are downloadable from this section of the site, amounting to 24 issues with appendices (288 PDF pages of A4 text/imagery as of January 2012), covering subjects rarely written about elsewhere, but often of such importance to the development of actual issued stamps.



Scan of the cover of a recent issue of Dummy Stamps.

The most recent addition here is an embryonic imagery handbook of dummy/testing stamps and of issued stamps relating to the production process for non-British** countries. Over time, extensive supporting text will accompany the increasing amount of imagery to form what is hoped will be a valuable addition to philatelic literature.

^{**} A new major work is underway by Glenn on British stamp printers and this will detail in great depth the dummy stamps that they have created down the years. This will not be uploaded to the website, but will be a separately published PDF e-book. It already exceeds 700 pages of A5 text and imagery and has much work to be done to it before it can be put into circulation.



Philately

The compiler of **stampprinters.info** was, until recently, a freelance philatelic writer. Before, during and after this time, he has written many articles, plus the occasional book and monograph on primarily British philatelic subjects close to his heart. These often went beyond printing, relating especially to stamp exhibitions and events, book reviews, the postal service, letter boxes, Royal Household mail and postal vending.

While recognising that these 230+ items of philatelic literature are not print-related, they are included on the website by way of a 'bonus' section as part of the compiler's strongly held belief that philatelic knowledge is for sharing with others.

stampprinters.info at a glance in numbers...

- **121,973** page view requests since launch in 2000.
 - **1,473** images, excluding the additional 629 hosted by flickr.
 - **1,172** worldwide stamp printers listed, 1840 to date.
 - **1,202** PDF text and imagery pages.
 - **981** worldwide stamp printing bibliographic references.
 - 629 images hosted by flickr.
 - **306** HTML text and navigational pages.
 - 234 non-printing related items of philatelic literature.
 - **220** PDF text and imagery documents.
 - 169 current worldwide stamp printing companies.
 - 134 stamp printers identified by their set of company initials.
 - 12 years continuous online presence.
 - 1 compiler.

Glenn H Morgan FRPSL, compiler of stampprinters.info, January 2012.