

PUTTING THE 'BOOTS' TO MACHIN

In 1994 I, the 'Boots' label, first appeared upon the British Postal Scene. This exhibit is my story from that date through to the end of 2011. It is a fascinating tale (of course I'm prejudiced about that).

The Plan and Purpose: To present my story from creation through a number of iterations. Of course, I must discuss the many abuses (overprints) that have occurred to me. Even after the British Post Office discontinued printing me there were so many of me in the hands of dealers (especially one who I'll name later) and collectors that even at the end of 2011 my story may not be over but that's for another day.

Definition: I, the 'Boots' label, am a product of a joint venture between the 'Boots Chemists' and the British Post Office. Originally, the intent was for me, as a mini-sheet containing a single first class (orange) stamp to be sold through the 'Boots Chemists' stores. Well I must have caught the imagination of a lot of philatelists and dealers for my evolution was something to behold.

The Order of the Exhibit:

1. In the beginning and the major issues.
2. The different printings
3. Private Philatelic Overprints by issue
4. Other over-prints
5. Covers and postally used
 - a. For Stamp Exhibitions (very limited numbers)
 - b. A few commercial covers
 - b. A few used examples off cover
6. Promotional items and cards
7. Conclusion



Above are the two easily identified major versions of me 'Boots'. These were available from the Post Office either singly (or multiples thereof) or in packages of 100.