

## MACHIN PRINTING CHARACTERISTICS CONTINUE

### PHOTOGRAVURE PRINTING

Photogravure stamps (two different methods of preparing the plates were employed for Machins, camera and computer) show more tones than those printed by lithography. This is due to the different printing methods. Photogravure plates use recesses of various depths to give different colour tones. Photogravure stamps have a "bumpy" edge to the value (it is actually the colour 'cells' from the printing process that "intrude" into the white space).



### PHOSPHOR BANDS

The phosphor bands on some stamps can be spotted by the naked eye, either by a quick glance at the stamp or by tilting the stamp at an angle towards the light.

However, an ultraviolet light will be required to check the tagging on other stamps.

Four different phosphor bands were positioned at different places on the machin stamps e.g.: 2 x bands at both sides of the stamp, left band at the left side of the stamp, right band at the right side of the stamp and centre band in the middle of the stamp.



Left Band



2 x Bands



Centre



Right Band

### ELECTRO MECHANICALLY ENGRAVED PRINTING

In 1997 a new profile of the Queen was used, due to computerization of the printing process. The new Electro-Mechanically Engraved (EME) image offers better detailing of the Queen.



18p Myrtle green with EME Machin stamp Right



18p Olive Grey with EME Machin stamp Right



### VALUE SETTINGS

For cosmetic reasons, around 1983 the width of the value was narrowed to allow the profile of the Queen to show better as some of the values were getting too wide to fit nicely, such as 20½p.



2p Myrtle Green with narrow 2 numeral Left and wider 2 numeral



3p Magenta with 3 numeral with serif Left and 3 numeral without serif Right.



75p Grey Black with narrow 75 numeral Left and wider 75 numeral

