

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

INTRODUCTION

Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen by her privy and executive councils shortly after the death of her father George VI on 6 February 1952. The Coronation was held more than a year later because of the tradition of allowing an appropriate length of time to pass after a monarch dies. Elizabeth was anointed and crowned Queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ceylon.

The South African post office issued a 2d bilingual stamp issued to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. As the Coronation date was a Public Holiday, it was not on sale until the following day 3rd June 1953.



Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh on the day of the coronation, Buckingham Palace, 1953.

STRUCTURE AND FLOW OF EXHIBIT

The exhibit is presented in Five main sections representing the two cross-lined screened printings.

Section 1 - Representing the set, Blocks, Sheet Size and Cylinder Numbering, other interesting items.

Section 2 - Represents, Various Listed and unlisted varieties, from first Printing, sheet No 98.

Section 3 - Represents, Various Listed and unlisted varieties, from Second Printing, sheet No 66.

Section 4 - Various First Day of Issue Covers, other interesting covers.

REFERENCES

- 1) Stamps of South Africa, Union Handbook, by Dr: Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield (1st Volume - Issue 14th March 1952).
- 2) Stamps of South Africa, Union Handbook, by Dr: T.B Berry, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield, S J Haggis (3rd Volume 1960).
- 3) Internet.
- 4) Fellow Philatelists

THE CORONATION

The coronation of Elizabeth II took place on 2 June 1953 at Westminster Abbey, London. She acceded to the throne at the age of 25 upon the death of her father, George VI, on 6 February 1952, being proclaimed queen by her privy and executive councils shortly afterwards. The coronation was held more than one year later because of the tradition of allowing an appropriate length of time to pass after a monarch dies before holding such festivals. It also gave the planning committees adequate time to make preparations for the ceremony. During the service, Elizabeth took an oath, was anointed with holy oil, invested with robes and regalia, and crowned Queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan, and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka).

Celebrations took place across the Commonwealth realms and a commemorative medal was issued. It was the first British coronation to be fully televised; television cameras had not been allowed inside the abbey during her father's coronation in 1937. Elizabeth's was the fourth and last British coronation of the 20th century. It was estimated to have cost £1.57 million (c. £43,427,400 in 2019).



Strip of 3 Unmounted Mint (\*)



Postal used (U)



Coronation 1953

THE CORONATION

The 2d bilingual stamp issued to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. As the coronation date was a Public Holiday, it was not on sale until the following day, 3rd June 1953. The design measured 21 x 37 1/2 mm and portrayed the head and shoulders of Her Majesty. The stamps were perforated 14 x 15.



Block of 4 unmounted Mint



Block of 4 Postal Used

The coronation of Elizabeth II took place on 2 June 1953 at Westminster Abbey, London. She acceded to the throne at the age of 25 upon the death of her father, George VI, on 6 February 1952, being proclaimed queen by her privy and executive councils shortly afterwards.



SHEET STRUCTURE, SHEET NO LOCATION and CYLINDERS

Two different cylinders were employed for these stamps. No 98 for the first sheets printed and then No 66 for those that followed. Both were cross-lined screened and produced from the same Multipositive. The numbers '98' or '66' appear on the bottom margin of the sheets under the last and also 11th stamp of the row.



Issue 1 \*No '98' without dot in right are of 'O' of South on right-hand stamp



Issue 1 \*No '66' with dot in right are of 'O' of South on right-hand stamp



Issue 2 \*No '98' without dot in right are of 'O' of South on right-hand stamp

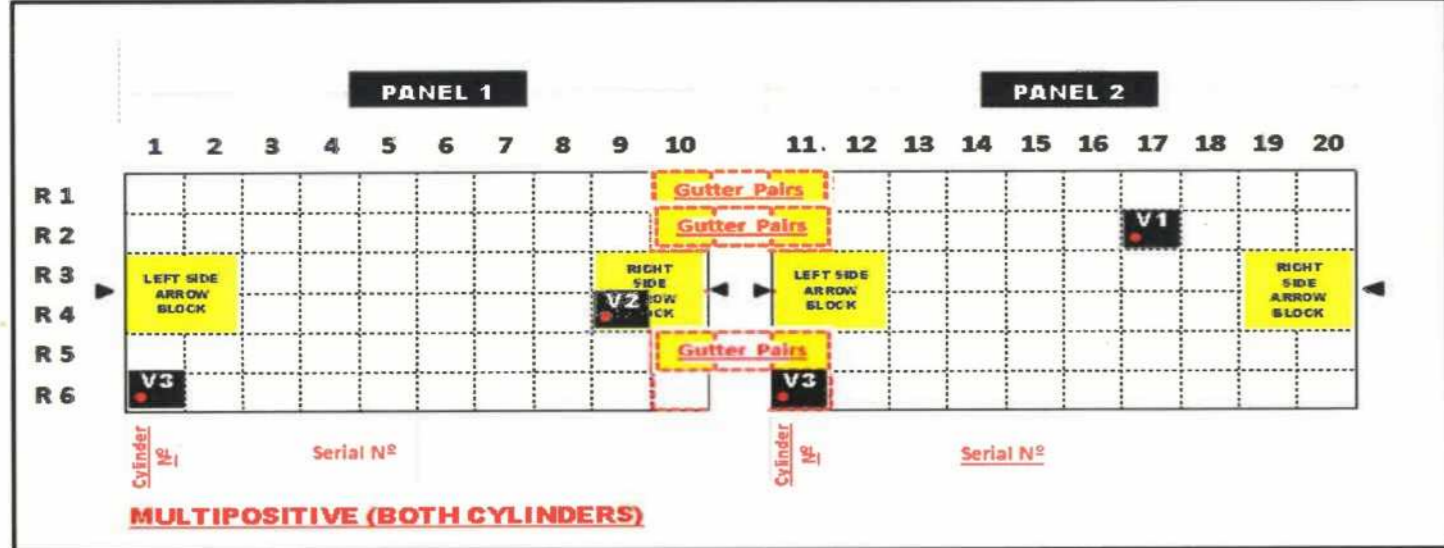


Issue 2 \*No '66' with dot in right are of 'O' of South on right-hand stamp

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

SHEET STRUCTURE, SHEET NO LOCATION and CYLINDERS

The 120 stamps per sheet were divided into two 60-stamp panes by a central gutter equal in width to that of a stamp, and like the edging at the left and right hand ends of the sheet, had blue marginal arrows at the centre line for the guidance of officials. Four figure red serial numbers were printed twice on the bottom margin - once under each pane.



Block of 4 Gutter panes with Centre Arrow Blocks (Between Panels) (Row 3 and 4)

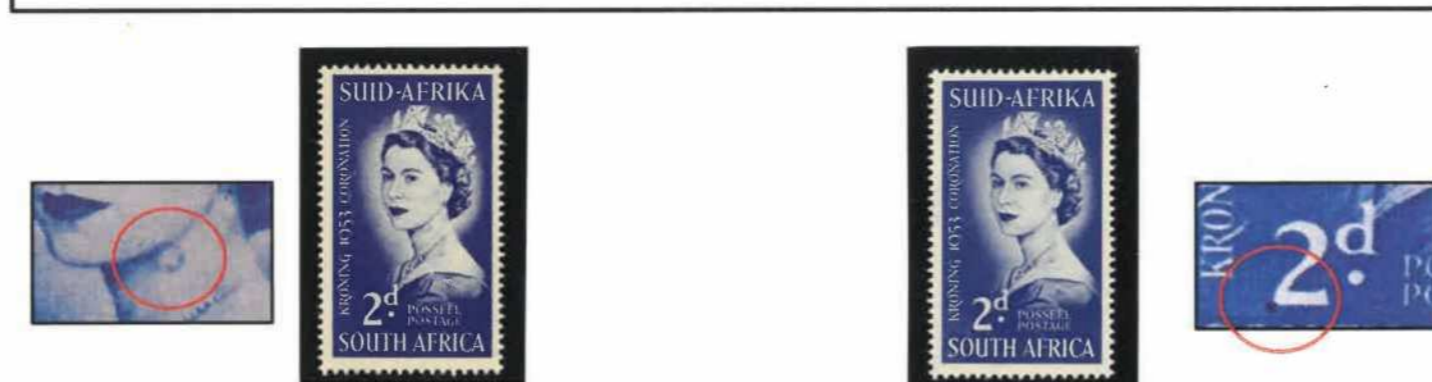
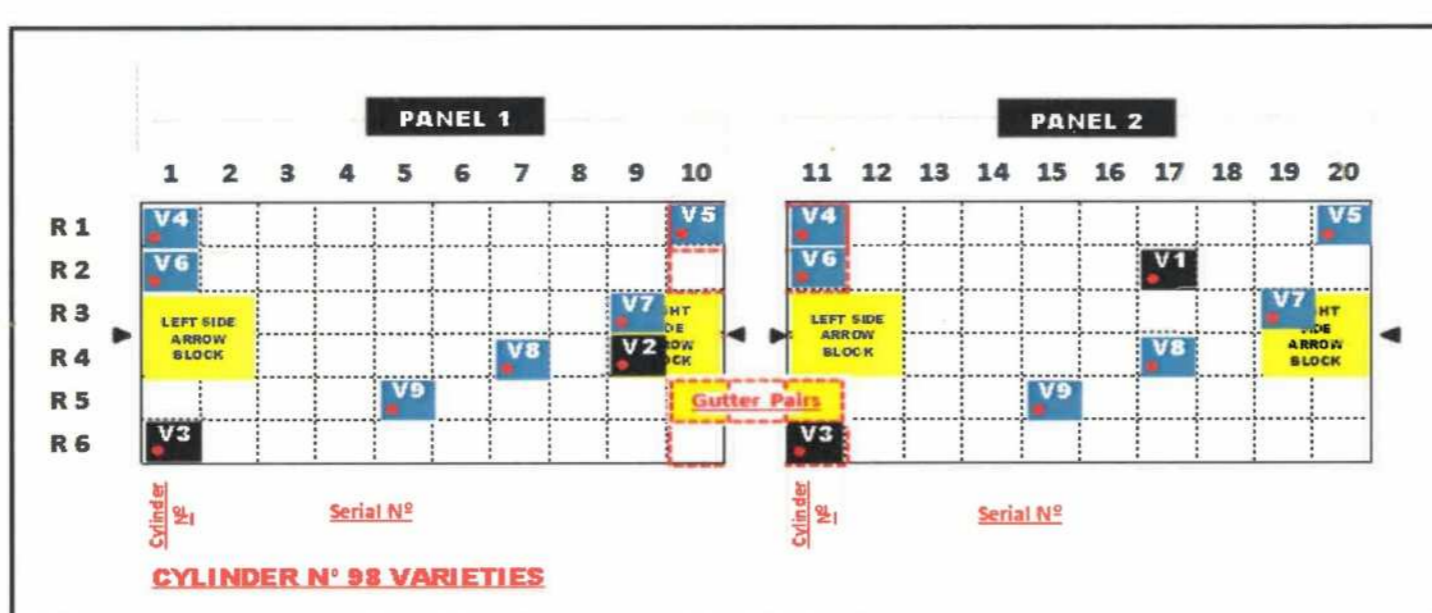


Variety V1 \*Violet Mark under chin (Row 2/17) (Multipositive)  
Variety V2 \*White Spot touching upright of 'F' of Africa (Row 4/9) (Multipositive)  
Variety V3 \*Dot in Right Arc of 'O' of South (Row 6/11 or 6/11) (Multipositive)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

CYLINDER NO 98 VARIETIES

The stamps of both the '98' and '66' printings were available on the first day of issue, and though withdrawn from sale to the public on the 31 August 1953, the remainders were not destroyed, but instead were used up internally by the post offices.



Variety V8 \*Round Violet mark on Neck touching line of cheek. (Row 4/7 or Row 4/17) - (Cylinder No 98)  
Variety V9 \*Violet spot on Bottom left of '2' (Row 5/5 or Row 5/15) - (Cylinder No 98)



Complete sheet of 120 stamps from Cylinder No 98. Consisting of 2 panels of 60 Stamps with same Serial number

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

VARIETIES LISTED NOT LISTED IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



Variety Not Listed \*Broken 'C' of 'KRONING' - (Row 1)



Variety Not Listed \*Darker blue dot to right of '5' 1953. (Row 5/6)  
Variety Not Listed \*Small Dark Spots above Queen's Left Eye (Row 2/7)



Variety Not Listed \*Extra Perf Hole above 'R' in 'AFRIKA' \*Small Blue dot on Edge of Frame

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

VARIETIES LISTED AND NOT LISTED IN BLOCKS OF 4 IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



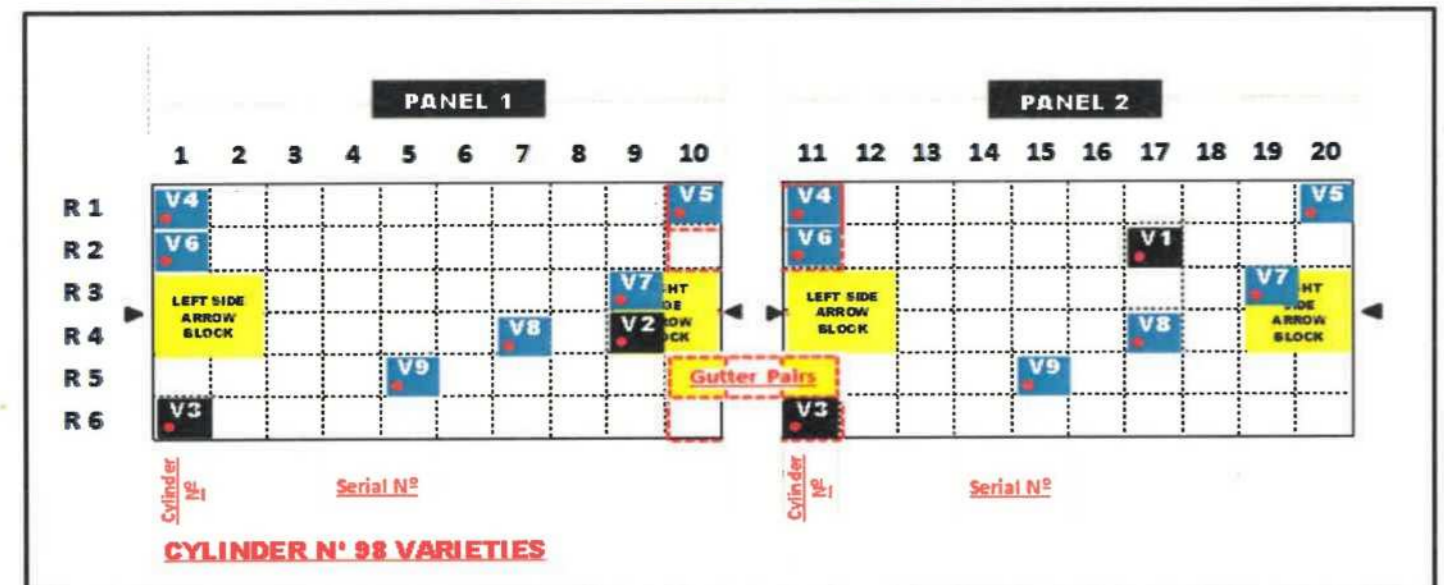
Variety V3 \*Dot in Right Arc of 'O' of South (Row 6/11 or 6/11) - (Multipositive)  
Variety V8 \*Round Violet mark on Neck touching line of cheek - (Row 4/7 or Row 4/17) - (Cylinder No 98)



Variety V10 \*Mark on Upper Lip. (Row 1/2 or Row 1/12) (Cylinder No 66)  
Variety Not Listed \*White Spots left of Eye and back of neck - (Row 3/13)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

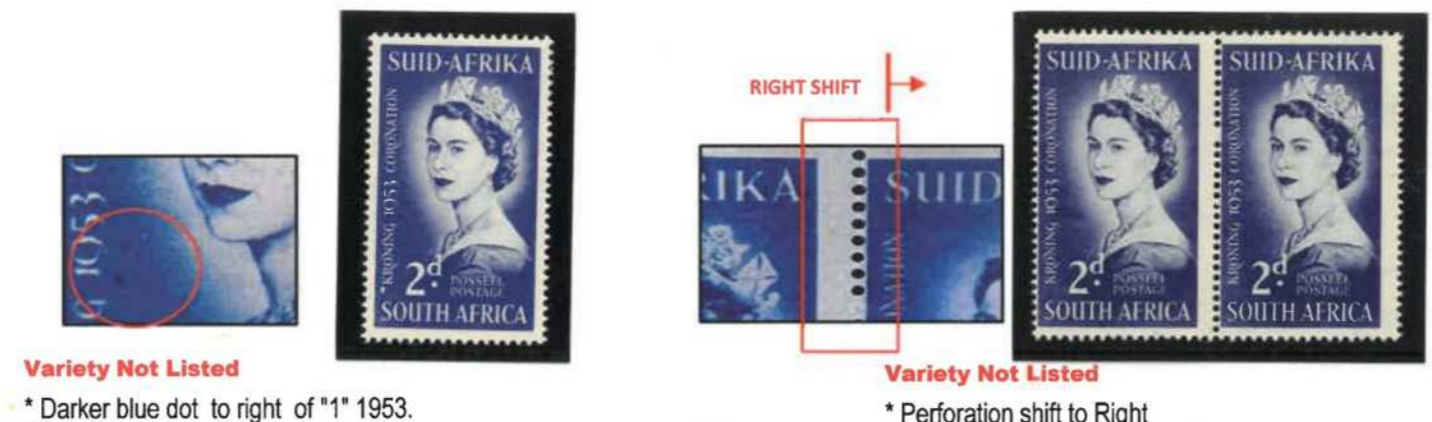
VARIETIES LISTED AND NOT LISTED IN BLOCKS OF 4 IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



Variety V7 \*'O' for 'O' in CORONATION (Row 3/9 or Row 3/19) - (Arrow Block - Cylinder No 98)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

VARIETIES LISTED NOT LISTED IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



Variety Not Listed \*Darker blue dot to right of '1' 1953. (Row 1/2 or Row 1/12)  
Variety Not Listed \*Perforation shift to Right



Variety Not Listed \* (1) Black dot right of Ear (Row 1/16)  
\* (2) Black dot upper side of Right Eye (Row 1/16)  
\* (3) Black dot on shoulder of Queen (Row 2/16)  
\* (4) Black dot (Beauty spot) on Upper Lip and above Right Eye - (Row 2/17)



Variety V11 (Corner Block of 4) \*Defective letters of POSSEEL and POSTAGE (Row 2/8 or Row 2/18) - (Cylinder No 66)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

VARIETIES LISTED NOT LISTED IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



Variety Not Listed \*Perforation shift to Right With Red Sheet Number and Right Arrow Block.



1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVER SINGLE STAMP COVER

HAND DRAWN WITH FIRST DAY OF ISSUE - UNIQUE



Original Hand Painted Pictorial First Day Cover Dated in Boksburg 3 JUN 1953 - Unique Item

ADDRESSED TO SAM LEGATOR (ONE OF THE AUTHORS OF THE UNION HANDBOOK (UHB))



Stamps of South Africa. Handbook catalogue. Golden Jubilee edition. Editors: W.N. Sheffield, S.J. Haggis, Dr. T.B. Berry, Sam Legator. Author: B. BERRY; S.J. HAGGIS; Sam LEGATOR; William N SHEFFIELD; Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa (AFRICA, South)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVERS BLOCK OF FOUR STAMPS ON COVER



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover with Block of 4 - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Wellington Date Stamp on the Reverse side)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVERS SINGLE STAMP COVER



Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Pretoria 3 star Canceller)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVERS SINGLE STAMP COVER



Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 Addressed to New York (U.S.A) (with Pretoria 3 star Canceller)

1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

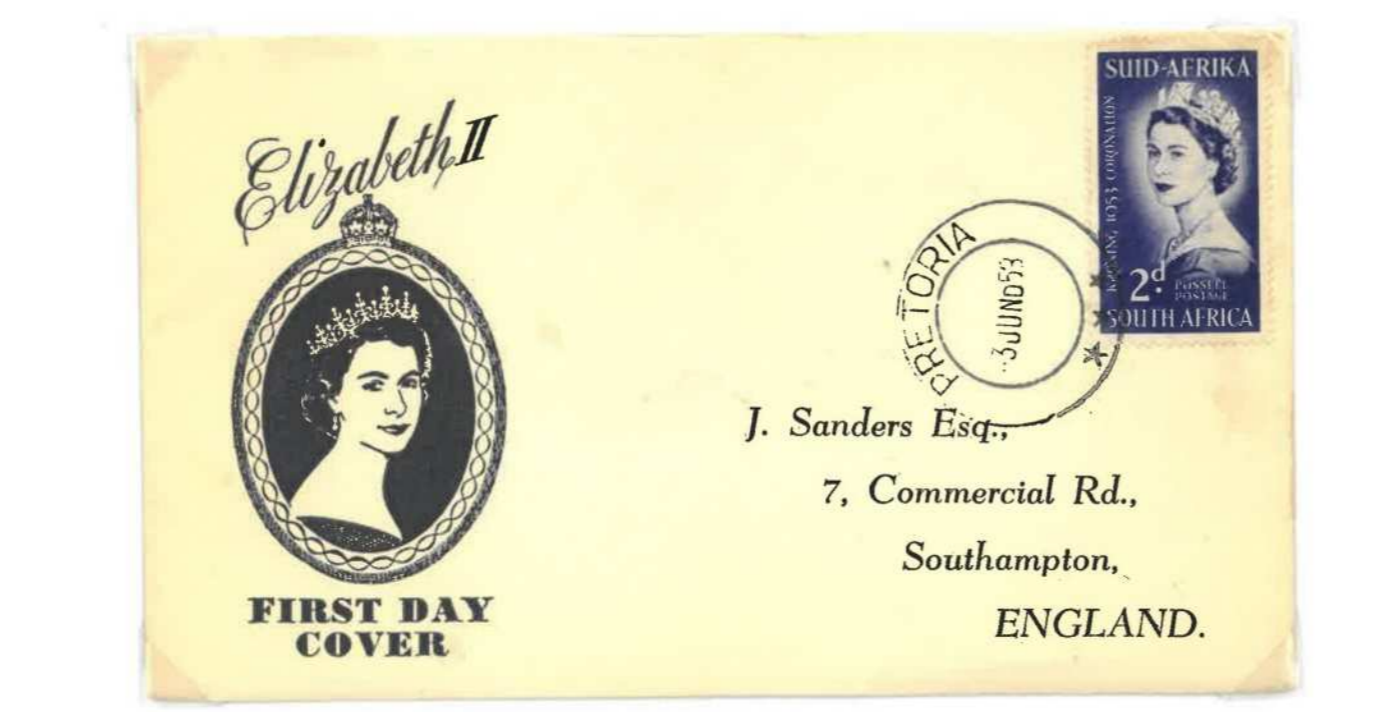
PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVER THREE STAMPS ON COVER



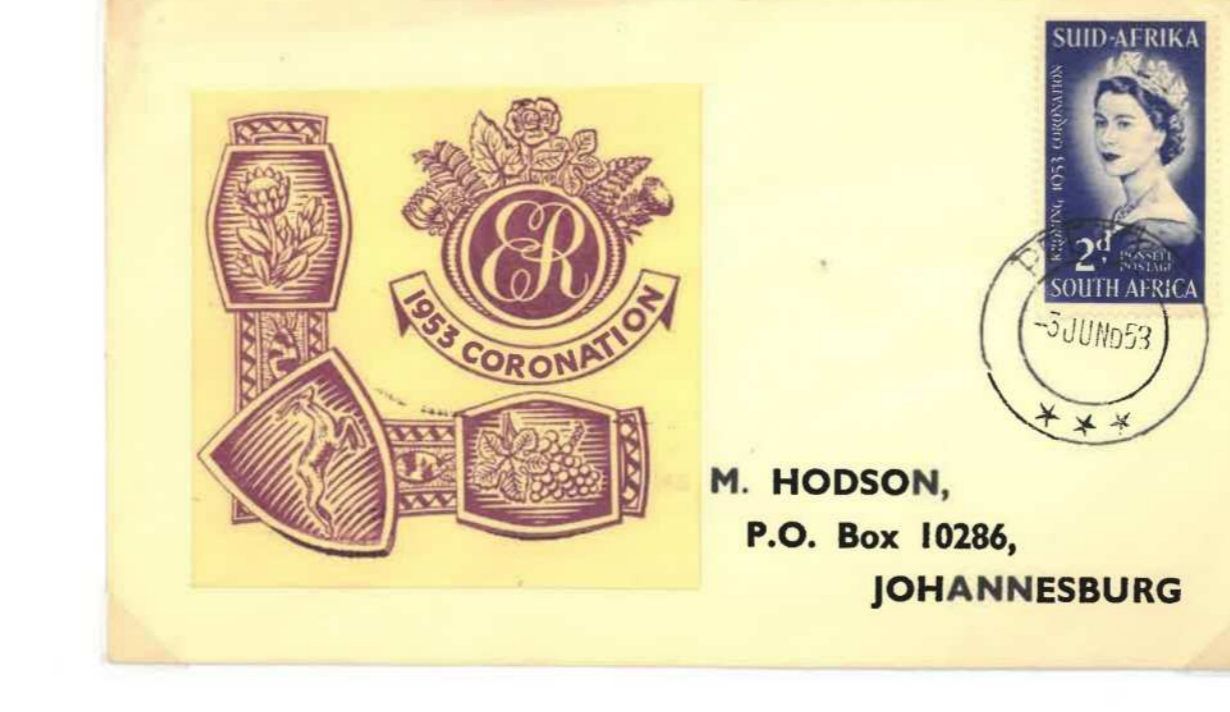
Registered Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (North Port - Port Elizabeth)



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover with Block of 4 - Dated 3 JUN 1953 - Addressed to Northern Rhodesia



Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 Addressed to Southampton (England) (with Pretoria 3 star Canceller)



Pictorial First Day Cover on the pictorial picture - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Pretoria 3 star Canceller)



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Pretoria 3 star Canceller)

# UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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## 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

### INTRODUCTION

Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen by her privy and executive councils shortly after the death of her father George VI on 6 February 1952, The Coronation was held more than a year later because of the tradition of allowing an appropriate length of time to pass after a monarch dies. Elizabeth was anointed and crowned Queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ceylon.

The South African post office issued a 2d bilingual stamp issued to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, As the Coronation date was a Public Holiday, It was not on sale until the following day 3rd June 1953.



Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh on the day of the coronation, Buckingham Palace, 1953.

### STRUCTURE AND FLOW OF EXHIBIT

The exhibit is presented in Five main sections representing the two cross-lined screened printings.

**Section 1** - Representing the set, Blocks, Sheet Size and Cylinder Numbering, other interesting items .

**Section 2** - Represents, Various Listed and unlisted varieties, from first Printing, sheet No 98..

**Section 3** - Represents, Various Listed and unlisted varieties, from Second Printing, sheet No 66.

**Section 4** - Various First Day of Issue Covers, other interesting covers.

### REFERENCES

- 1) Stamps of South Africa, Union Handbook , by Dr: Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield (1st Volume - Issue 14th March 1952).
- 2) Stamps of South Africa, Union Handbook , by Dr: T.B Berry, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield, S J Haggie (3rd Volume 1960).
- 3) Internet
- 4) Fellow Philatelists

# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## THE CORONATION

The [coronation](#) of [Elizabeth II](#) took place on 2 June 1953 at [Westminster Abbey](#), London. She acceded to the throne at the age of 25 upon the death of her father, [George VI](#), on 6 February 1952, being [proclaimed queen](#) by her privy and executive councils shortly afterwards. The coronation was held more than one year later because of the tradition of allowing an appropriate length of time to pass after a monarch dies before holding such festivals. It also gave the planning committees adequate time to make preparations for the ceremony. During the service, Elizabeth took an oath, was anointed with holy oil, invested with robes and regalia, and crowned Queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, [South Africa](#), [Pakistan](#), and [Ceylon](#) (now Sri Lanka).

Celebrations took place across the [Commonwealth realms](#) and a [commemorative medal](#) was issued. It was the first British coronation to be fully televised; television cameras had not been allowed inside the abbey during [her father's coronation](#) in 1937. Elizabeth's was the fourth and last British coronation of the 20th century. It was estimated to have cost £1.57 million (c. £43,427,400 in 2019).



Strip of 3 Unmounted Mint (\*\*)



Postal used (U)



# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## THE CORONATION

The 2d bilingual stamp issued to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

As the coronation date was a Public Holiday, it was not on sale until the following day, 3rd June 1953.

The design measured 21 x 37 ½ mm and portrayed the head and shoulders of Her Majesty. The stamps were perforated 14 x 15.



Block of 4 unmounted Mint



Block of 4 Postal Used

The coronation of Elizabeth II took place on 2 June 1953 at Westminster Abbey, London. She acceded to the throne at the age of 25 upon the death of her father, George VI, on 6 February 1952, being proclaimed queen by her privy and executive councils shortly afterwards.



# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## SHEET STRUCTURE, SHEET N<sup>o</sup> LOCATION and CYLINDERS

Two different cylinders were employed for these stamps, No 98 for the first sheets printed and then No 66 for those that followed. Both were cross-lined screened and produced from the same Multipositive. the numbers "98" or "66" appear on the bottom margin of the sheets under the 1st and also 11th stamp of the row.



### Issue 1

\* No "98" without dot in right are of "O" of South on right -hand stamp



### Issue 1

\* No "98" with dot in right are of "O" of South on right - hand stamp



### Issue 2

\* No "66" without dot in right are of "O" of South on right -hand stamp



### Issue 2

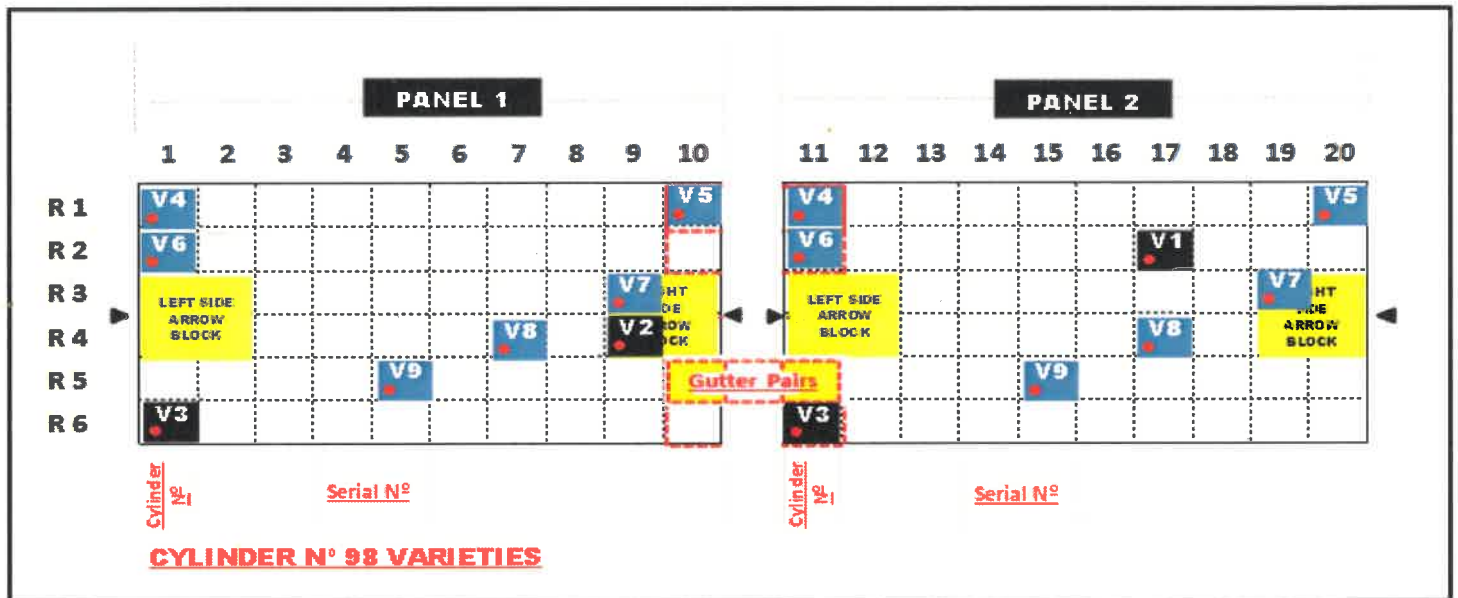
\* No "66" with dot in right are of "O" of South on right - hand stamp



# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## CYLINDER N° 98 VARIETIES

The stamps of both the "98" and "66" printings were available on the first day of issue, and though withdrawn from sale to the public on the 31 August 1953, the remainders were not destroyed, but instead were used up internally by the post offices.



### Variety V8

\* Round Violet mark on Neck touching line of cheek.  
 (Row 4/7 or Row 4/17) - (Cylinder N° 98)



### Variety V9

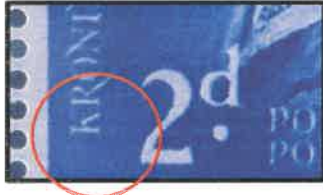
\* Violet spot on Bottom left of "2"  
 (Row 5/5 ) or Row 5/15) - (Cylinder N° 98)



Complete sheet of 120 stamps from Cylinder N° 98 Consisting of 2 panels of 60 Stamp with same Serial number

# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## VARIETIES LISTED NOT LISTED IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



**Variety Not Listed**

\* Broken "K" of "KRONING" - (Row 1)



**Variety Not Listed**

\* Darker blue dot to right of "5" 1953.  
(Row 5/9)



**Variety Not Listed**

\* Small Dark Spots above Queen's Left Eye  
(Row 2/7)



**Variety Not Listed**

\* Extra Perf Hole above "R" in "AFRIKA"  
\* Small Blue dot on Edge of Frame



# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## VARIETIES LISTED AND NOT LISTED IN BLOCKS OF 4 IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



**Variety V3**

\* Dot in Right Arc of "O" of South (Row 6/1) or 6/11) - (Multipositive)



**Variety V8**

\* Round Violet mark on Neck touching line of cheek. - (Row 4/7 or Row 4/17) - (Cylinder N° 98)



**Variety V10**

\* Mark on Upper Lip. (Row 1/2 or Row 1/12) (Cylinder N° 66)

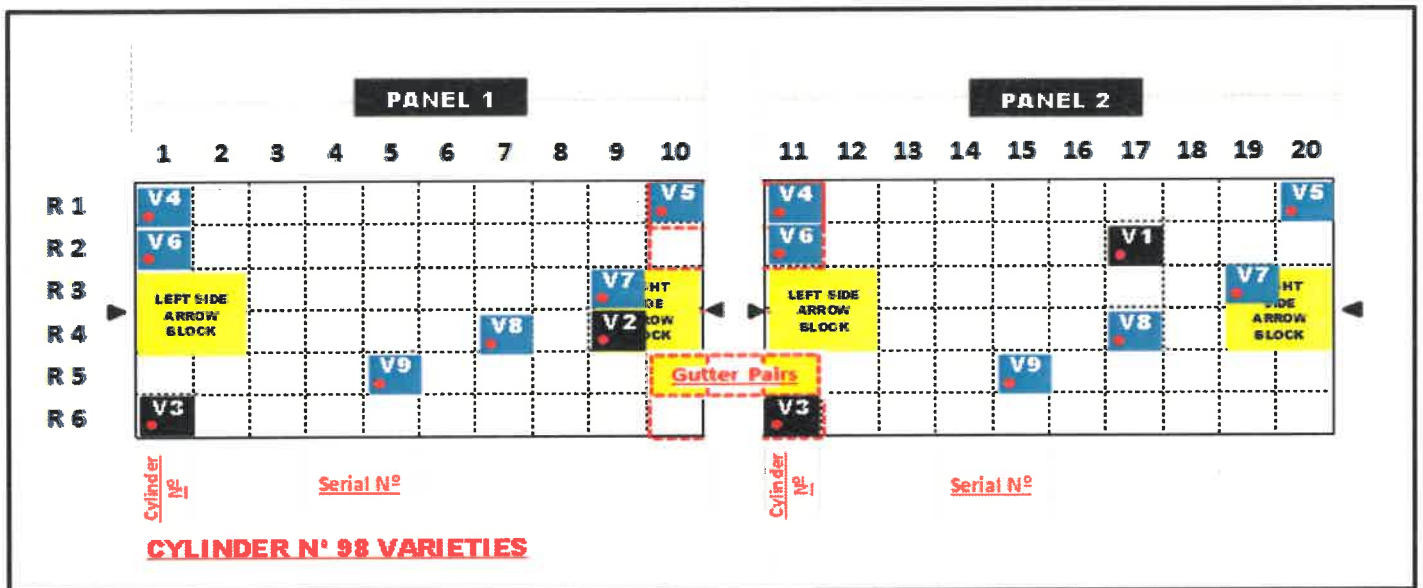


**Variety Not Listed**

\* White Spots left of Eye and back of neck - (Row 3/13)

# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## VARIETIES LISTED AND NOT LISTED IN BLOCKS OF 4 IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



### Variety V7

\* "Q" for "O" in CORONATION  
(Row 3/9 ) or Row 3/19) - (Arrow Block - Cylinder N° 98)



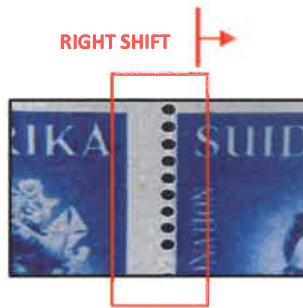
# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## VARIETIES LISTED NOT LISTED IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)



### Variety Not Listed

- \* Darker blue dot to right of "1" 1953.  
(Row 1/2 or Row 1/12)

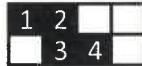


### Variety Not Listed

- \* Perforation shift to Right



### Variety Not Listed



- \* (1) Black dot right of Ear  
(Row 1/15)
- \* (2) Black dot upper side of Right Eye  
(Row 1/16)
- \* (3) Black dot on shoulder of Queen  
(Row 2/16)
- \* (4) Black dot (Beauty spot) on Upper Lip  
and above Right Eye) - (Row 2/17)



### Variety V11 (Corner Block of 6)

- \* Defective letters of POSSEEL and POSTAGE.  
(Row 2/8 ) or Row 2/18) - (Cylinder N° 66)



# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## VARIETIES LISTED NOT LISTED IN UNION HANDBOOK (UHB)

### Variety Not Listed

\* Perforation shift to Right  
With Red Sheet Number and Right Arrow Block.



PERFORATION  
RIGHT SHIFT



# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVER

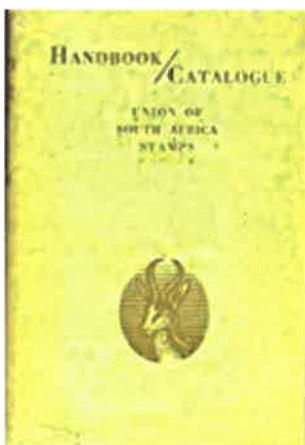
### SINGLE STAMP COVER

### HAND DRAWN WITH FIRST DAY OF ISSUE - UNIQUE



Original Hand Painted Pictorial First Day Cover Dated in Boksburg 3 JUN 1953 - Unique Item

**ADDRESSED TO SAM LEGATOR  
(ONE OF THE AUTHORS OF THE UNION HANDBOOK (UHB))**



**Stamps of South Africa. Handbook catalogue. Golden Jubilee edition. Editors: W.N. Sheffield, S.J. Hagger, Dr. T.B. Berry, Sam Legator.**

**Author: T B BERRY; S J HAGGER; Sam LEGATOR; William N SHEFFIELD; Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa (AFRICA, South)**

# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVERS

### BLOCK OF FOUR STAMPS ON COVER



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover with Block of 4 - Dated 3 JUN 1953  
(with Wellington Date Stamp on the Reverse side)



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover with Block of 4 - Dated 3 JUN 1953 - Addressed to Northern Rhodesia

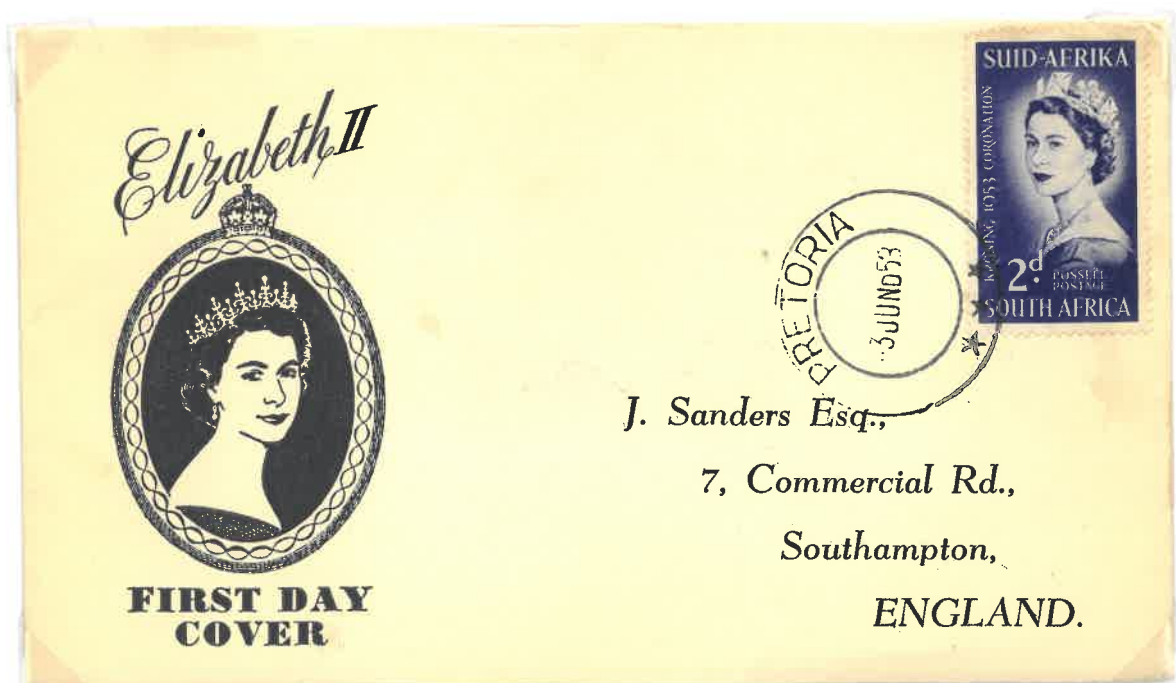
# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVERS

### SINGLE STAMP COVER



Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Pretoria 3 star Cancellor)

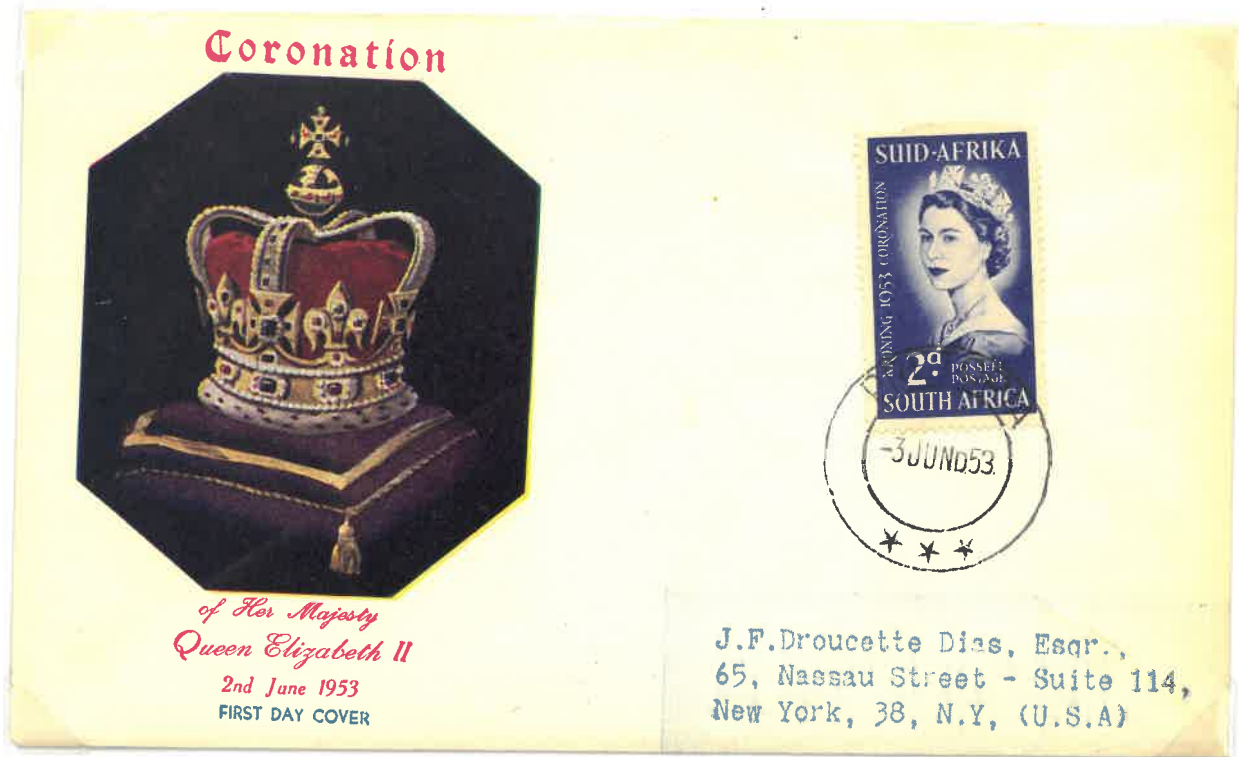


Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 Addressed to Southampton (England) (with Pretoria 3 star Cancellor)

# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVERS

### SINGLE STAMP COVER



Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 Addressed to New York (U.S.A) (with Pretoria 3 star Cancellor)



Pictorial First Day Cover on the pictorial picture, -Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Pretoria 3 star Cancellor)

# 1953 - CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

## PICTORIAL FIRST DAY COVER

### THREE STAMPS ON COVER



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (North End - Port Elizabeth)



Registered Pictorial First Day Cover - Dated 3 JUN 1953 (with Pretoria 3 star Cancellor)