



issues were designed by Gentleman. As well as the Churchill and Battle of Britain sets, in collaboration with his then wife Rosalind Dease, he designed two stamps for the Commonwealth Arts Festival for which he engraved Trinidadian and Canadian folk dancers.

Looking like an action comic, the set marking the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Britain revolutionised the look of British postage stamp design. Gentleman had initially tried to put just one Queen's head on

the se-tenant block of six stamps. The idea was defended by the new Postmaster General Tony Benn but Sir Kenneth Clark, chairman of the Stamp Advisory Committee, considered postage stamps to be heraldic devices. The Queen had to remain on each 4d stamp, and of course swastikas on tailplanes created a storm of press publicity.

From Shakespeare's Bottom to dogfights landing on the doormat, Gentleman's new stamps were getting talked about.