

British Radio Broadcast and Television License Revenues

- A Tax and its Curious Enforcement

This four frame exhibit presents the British Radio Broadcast and Television License revenue documents and stamps used to pay those taxes. Photos and related ephemera are added to describe enforcement.

Revenue collected financed radio and later television broadcasts, primarily the B.B.C. The tax began with radio broadcast in 1926, stamp for use on the licenses began in 1972 and were discontinued in 1998.

10/- 1926 Broadcast
Receiving License

FEE
s.
10/-

RECEIVING
WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ACTS, 1904-1925.
(This Licence expires on the 31 Aug 1927)

Mr. Kate A OWE N
(Name in full)
of 30 a algers Rd
(Address in full) is hereby
authorised (subject in all respects to the conditions set forth on the back hereof) to
establish a wireless station for the purpose of receiving messages at above
(address of Station)
for a period ending on the date shown above.

The payment of the fee of ten shillings is hereby acknowledged.

Dated 22 day of Sept 1926
Issued on behalf of [Signature]
the Postmaster-General } [Signature]
for Postmaster.

Signature of Licensee [Signature]

If it is desired to continue to maintain the station after the date of expiration a fresh Licence must be taken out within fourteen days. Heavy penalties are prescribed by the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1904, on conviction of the offence of establishing a wireless station without the Postmaster-General's Licence.

Stamp of Issuing Office
22 SEPT 1926



Exhibit Plan

1. Pre-Stamp Licenses
2. The Annual TV License Stamps
3. Licenses for Monochrome TV
4. License Savings Stamps
5. Licenses for Color TV
6. End of TV License Stamps

Rare items are red boxed

←Not everyone paid...

Enforcement was needed.

First Detector Van, 1931 Model A. Library file: BBC, press photo