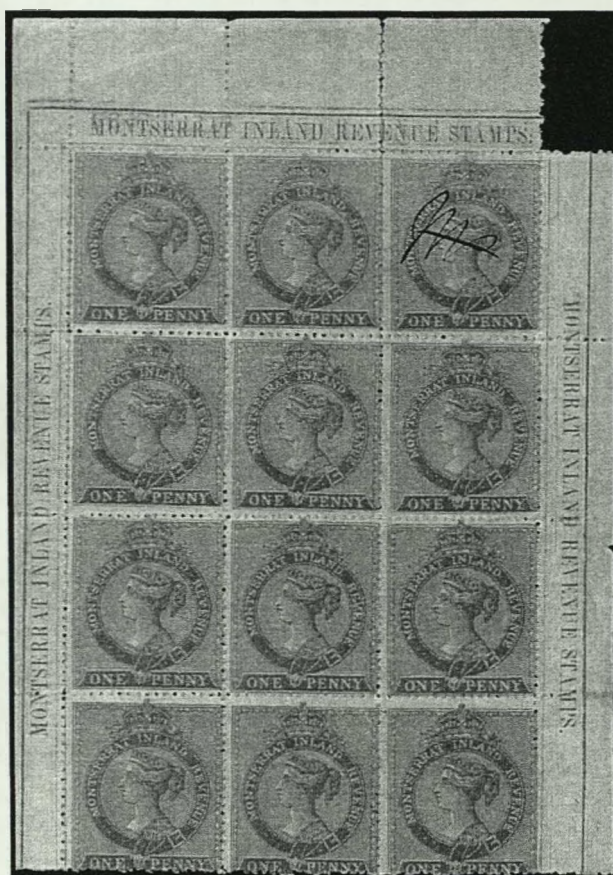


# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP  
Unit No. 27 of the American Philatelic Society

October 2001    Whole No. 201    Vol. 41, No. 4



## Montserrat Inland Revenue Stamps

*Michael Hamilton's report  
begins on page 16.*





The *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* is published four times a year (January, April, July and October) by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. It is available only by subscription through membership in the BCPSG. Membership is based on the calendar year. Current dues are: \$18 per annum in U.S. funds for members in the United States and Canada, and \$21 (£15) for those in other areas. Life membership is available, with the following rates being applicable:

- Aged 50 or less, \$400, U.S. and Canada; \$475, other countries;
- Aged 51 to 60 years, \$300, U.S. and Canada; \$350, other countries;
- Aged 61 and over, \$200, U.S. and Canada; \$225, other countries.

Membership application forms and additional information (including Sterling rates) may be obtained from the Secretary or the International Director.

BCPSG Website: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/BCPSG/>

### The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Officers and Trustees

PRESIDENT	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra, 1104 S. Garfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801-4936. Tele: (217) 367-9802; fax (217) 333-2614; e-mail: wynstra@uiuc.edu
VICE PRESIDENT	<i>Currently vacant</i>
SECRETARY	Mr. Peter J. Kaulback, 108 Byron Ave., Ottawa, ON K1Y 3J2 Canada. Tele: (613) 728-7863; e-mail: kaulbackpe@home.com
TREASURER	Mr. Edward T. Tweddell, 358 Silver Rd., Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-9321. Tele: (304) 258-3958; e-mail: north4e@earthlink.net
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR	Mr. David N. Druett, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. Yorkshire, HG5 8AZ, U.K. Tele & fax (01423) 865962; e-mail: pennymead@aol.com
EDITOR	Dr.(c) Everett L. Parker, HC 76, Box 32, Greenville, ME 04441-9727. Tele: (207) 695-2909; fax (207) 695-3163; e-mail: eparker@moosehead.net
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Mrs. Marge Doran (2001), 114 Aucoot Rd., Mattapoisett, MA 02739 USA
	Mr. David Druett (2001), <i>address above.</i>
	Mr. Barry Friedman (2005), 4280 Galt Ocean Dr., #3F, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308 USA
	Mr. Darryl Fuller (2005), 10 Arabana St., Aranda, ACT 2614, AUSTRALIA
	Ms. Mary Kerr (2003), 103 Sea Breeze, Atlantic Shores, Christ Church, BARBADOS
	Mr. Ian Matheson (2001), P.O. Box 533, Kelvin 2054, SOUTH AFRICA; e-mail: ianmatheson@icon.co.za
	Mr. Derek Nathan (2005), 7 Cromford Way, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3BB, UNITED KINGDOM
	Mr. James F. Stern (2003), 3040 Grand Bay Blvd., #252B, Longboat Key, FL 34228 USA
	Mr. Edward W. Waterous (2003), P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 USA

*Past Presidents of the Group are honorary members of the Board. They include: Mr. George W. Bowman, Mr. Charles E. Cwiakala, Mr. J.L. Fredrick, Mr. Paul A. Larsen, Dr. Peter P. McCann, Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, Dr. Gale J. Raymond, Col. Fred L. Seifert, Mr. Mark W. Swetland, Mr. Robert Topaz, and Mr. W. Danforth Walker.*

### Study Group Leaders and Other Appointees

ATTORNEY	Mr. Thomas F. Olson, 2320 Shattuck Ave., Suite B, Berkeley, CA 94704 USA. Tele: (510) 644-1352; fax (510) 644-1354; e-mail: kriegsmar@aol.com
AUCTION MANAGER	Mr. Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 USA. Tele: (219) 769-2840 ; e-mail: ewwaterous@hotmail.com
AWARDS CHAIRMAN	Mr. Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 747-1444; e-mail: PALStamp@aol.com
HISTORIAN AND ARCHIVIST	Mr. Robert Topaz, 13960 Crosspointe Ct., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 USA. Tele: (407) 627-7731
LIBRARIAN	Mr. W. Danforth Walker, P.O. Box 99, Lisbon, MD 21765 USA. Tele: (410) 442-1034; fax (410) 489-5318; e-mail: danforthwalker@excite.com
PUBLICATIONS CHAIRMAN	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, 3011 White Oak Ln., Oak Brook, IL 60523-2513 USA. Tele: (630) 963-1439; fax (630) 856-7819; e-mail: rramkissoon@juno.com
PUBLICATION ORDERS	Mr. Cyril Bell, 4445 Riverside Dr., Lilburn, GA 30247 USA. Tele: (770) 978-8948; fax (770) 978-7547
PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN	Mr. R.J. Wynstra, 1104 S. Garfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801-4936 USA. Tele: (217) 367-9802; fax (217) 333-2614; e-mail: wynstra@uiuc.edu
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	Mr. Tom Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355 USA. Tele: (209) 571-1345; e-mail: teg43@aol.com
WEBMASTER	Mr. Edward Barrow, Top Flat, 79 Madeley Road, Ealing, London, W5 2LT, United Kingdom; e-mail: ed98102@yahoo.com
ANGUILLA	Dr. Gale J. Raymond, P.O. Box 228, Sugar Land, TX 77478 USA; Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon ( <i>address above</i> )
ANTIGUA	Mr. Mark W. Swetland, 13 Raymond Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910 USA; e-mail: 73314.1634@compuserve.com
BAHAMAS	Dr. Gale J. Raymond ( <i>address above</i> )
BARBADOS	Mr. Edward A. Bayley, P.O. Box 61, Bridgetown, BARBADOS, W.I.; e-mail: gustav@sunbeach.net; Mr. Keith H. Bayley ( <i>same address</i> )
BARBUDA	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra ( <i>address above</i> )
BERMUDA	Bill Charles Gompel, P.O. Box 120367, West Melbourne, FL 32912; e-mail: billg@ss-fl.com. Tele: (321) 783-2600.
BR. GUIANA/GUYANA	Col. Fred L. Seifert, 7201 Prospect Pl., N.E., Apt. 412, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4231 USA; e-mail: W5FS@yahoo.com
BR. HONDURAS/BELIZE	Mr. Ian Matheson ( <i>address above</i> )
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	Mr. J.L. Fredrick, 3241-1G San Amadeo, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 USA; e-mail: jlfredrick@fea.net
CAYMAN ISLANDS	Mr. T.E. Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA; e-mail: teg43@aol.com
CENSORED MAIL	Mr. E. T. Tweddell, 358 Silver Rd., Berkeley Springs, WV 25411 USA
DOMINICA	Mr. W.B. Ashley, P.O. Box 416, Hadley, MA 01305 USA
GRENADA	Mr. W.D. Walker ( <i>address above</i> )
JAMAICA	Mr. Duane Larson, 270 Cunningham Dr., Park Forest, IL 60466-2063 USA; e-mail: dl Larson283@aol.com
LEEWARD ISLANDS	Mr. Michael N. Oliver, Back Lane Cottage, Great Salkeld, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 9NA, UNITED KINGDOM
MARITIME MAIL	Mr. M.R. Rego, 24 Wentworth Dr., Crofton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire W4F 1LH, UNITED KINGDOM
MONTSERAT	Mr. C.A. Freeland, P.O. Box 2258, CH-4002, Basle, SWITZERLAND; e-mail: charles.freeland@bis.org
NEVIS	Mr. John N. Tyacke, 1 Ottawa St., Toronto, ON M4T 2B5 CANADA; e-mail: jtyacke@the-wire.com
ST. CHRISTOPHER/ST. KITTS	Mr. Mariano (Mike) B. DeLise, P.O. Box 64, Riverside, IL 60546 USA; e-mail: samuel@enteract.com
ST. LUCIA	Mr. John Gardner, Staddles, Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset BS27 3AH, UNITED KINGDOM; e-mail: jandpgardner@aol.com
ST. VINCENT	Mr. Joe Chin Aleong, P.O. Box 4434, St. Anns, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, W.I.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Dr. R.A. Ramkissoon ( <i>address above</i> )
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	Dr. Peter P. McCann, 1669 Chinford Tr., Annapolis, MD 21401-6607 USA; e-mail: 103226.706@compuserve.com



# Discovering Forgeries of the De La Rue Stamps Designed for St. Christopher, Dominica, and Tobago

By **Thomas A. Anderson**  
*Of the USA*

I recently bought my first stamp forgery through a popular on-line auction. Although this stamp was purchased as genuine, and the seller was more than willing to take it back, I felt the need to keep it and search out others that I might have. After looking at every aspect of the forgery, I decided to take notes on the faults I had observed. Once familiar with both the genuine stamp and the forgery, I checked approximately 500 more stamps in my collection and found that I had more forgeries. I recognized the additional forgeries and immediately knew that I had also gotten these from Internet sellers.

I have reviewed the literature on the subject and combined with my own findings to produce a brief study on the subject. The stamps that are the subject of this study were those produced by Thomas De La Rue in 1870 for St. Christopher. This design was the first attempt at standardization and was repeated with slight changes in 1874 in Dominica and in 1879 in Tobago. Examples of forgeries of all three colonies will be examined. A repeated design made it easier for De La Rue to produce stamps

for the colonies but it also facilitated the forging of the same stamps.

The initial motive of stamp forgers presents a bit of a puzzle. Would a stamp forger concentrate on rare high value stamps in the model of the art forger; or would a stamp forger concentrate on volume by producing large quantities of stamps to be used for postage in the model of the currency counterfeiter. Tyler states that "Just fourteen years after the appearance of the first postage stamp in 1840, counterfeits of stamps intended to defraud the government appeared in Spain."<sup>1</sup>

It has been suggested to me by a forgery specialist that many forgeries were sold to early stamp collectors as space fillers. The reasoning being that the forgery was a good facsimile at low price. Fernand Serrane, forgery specialist, observes that "Our forefathers' collections comprised a great many stamps that were in bad condition and forgeries that were knowingly acquired when authentic stamps were unavailable or too expensive."<sup>2</sup>

It seems then that some stamps were produced to fool

*Continued on page 4*

## British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

Vol. 41, No. 4

October 2001

Whole No. 201

© British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

**Editor: Dr.(c) Everett L. Parker, HC 76, Box 32, Greenville, ME 04441-9727 USA**

**Telephone: (207) 695-3163 or (207) 695-2909; FAX: (207) 695-3163; e-mail: eparker@moosehead.net**

AWARDS EDITOR: Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA; e-mail: PALStamp@aol.com

CARIBBEAN ROUND-UP EDITOR: John F. Bethell, P.O. Box N-7061, Nassau, Bahamas

NEW ISSUES EDITOR: Raymond Ireson, 86 Cartier St., Roxboro, QC H8Y 1G8 Canada

REPORTER-AT-LARGE: Dr. Gale J. Raymond, P.O. Box 228, Sugar Land, TX 77478

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Charles E. Cwiakala, 1527 S. Fairview Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068; e-mail: CECwiakala@aol.com

### CONTENTS

#### FEATURES

Discovering De La Rue forgeries, <i>Thomas A. Anderson</i> ...	3
A primer on scanning watermarks, <i>Mike Galinski</i> .....	10
BVI Philatelic Society: carving its niche .....	11
Cameron Trophy: the First 20 Years, <i>Paul Larsen</i> .....	15
Monserrat Inland Revenue Stamps, <i>Michael Hamilton</i> .....	16
Monserrat unrecorded imperf, <i>Charles Freeland</i> .....	20
National Agricultural Show, Belize, <i>Ian Matheson</i> .....	22
New Monserrat three-line marking, <i>Charles Freeland</i> .....	24

#### COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others ..	2
Webmaster's new address .....	14
Publishing Schedule .....	20
BCPSG Exhibits and Awards, <i>Paul Larsen</i> .....	21
Auction Manager's Report, <i>Ed Waterous</i> .....	25
President's Message, <i>Rob Wynstra</i> .....	26
Membership Director's Report, <i>Tom Giraldi</i> .....	27



or cheat either collectors or postal authorities. Others were meant as facsimiles to fill in gaps in album pages. No matter the reason that they were originally produced, these forgeries are now floating around. The online auctions give collectors access to many sources with which they would not otherwise come in contact. The problem is that some of these online sellers are inexperienced at selling stamps and are bound to make the mistake of passing on a forgery for the genuine stamp they believe it to be.

### Methodology

A systematic approach was needed to examine stamps and determine their legitimacy. The methodology is developing as the author is using it. Writing on the subject of sports cards, David Rudd says, "Even if unable to pinpoint the exact problem, most experienced collectors sense something different in the look and feel between a fake and a genuine card. The more you are willing to learn the better. If you are an expert in your field you will probably know more than the forger."

The purpose of this article is to review some of the steps that can be used for protection against forged copies of the St. Christopher/Dominica/Tobago stamp design. Two things were needed: knowledge and equipment. Of the latter, I found that I already had most of what I needed:

- Tray and fluid for watermark detection;
- Perforation guide;
- Magnifying instruments from 2 power to 10 power;
- Computer scanner;
- Low Power Microscope (50 to 100 power) [a recent purchase].

Checking the watermark and perforation of the stamp paper is not only important for classifying a stamp, it often reveals if the stamp is a forgery. Forgers are rarely working with genuine watermarked paper, nor can they afford to possess the range of perforation equipment necessary to make the correct perforations for each stamp. Carefully checking these two items can uncover forged stamps.

### Stamp Design

The literature is invaluable both in describing the stamp design itself, and in listing and describing known forgeries. Thomas De La Rue succeeded in taking over a significant piece of the British stamp printing business around 1850. De La Rue had been printing revenue stamps with a relief process that was essentially the reverse of the line engraving process that Perkins Bacon had been using.<sup>3</sup> The relief printing process had proved to be more efficient to meet the growing demand for postage stamps.

The designs produced by De La Rue both for Britain and the Colonies were mostly based on the Queen's portrait as it appeared on Wyon's Medal that was engraved when Victoria was a 15 year old princess. This same likeness was used in Great Britain through the Jubilee Issues and was also very visible in the colonies. The engraver that made the original plates for these stamps was Jean Ferdinand Joubert de la Ferte. Joubert made seven distinctly different portraits. The major difference in each case was the crown or diadem.<sup>4</sup>

With the increased demands for producing stamps in quantity, it became necessary to redesign the presentation of the Queen's face in a way that considered the efficiency and security of the letterpress printing methods. The sixth diadem design, therefore, also found the shape of the Queen's face created by using thicker shading lines, which are curved to portray the shape. The diadem, itself, consists of balls on the crown points. Between the ball ornaments are alternately found a thistle and a shamrock. Ridges run down each of the points to the band where they form the jewel boxes. A diamond shape jewel is directly below the shamrock; oblong jewels are directly below the two thistles. Figure 1 shows the center design



*Figure 1*

of Joubert's sixth diadem taken from a St. Christopher Scott #15, illustrating both the diadem and the lines contouring the face.



### Listed Forgeries

Three sources were consulted to obtain descriptions of forgeries for St. Christopher, Dominica, and Tobago. These are *The Serrane Guide*<sup>5</sup>, *The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol. VI*,<sup>6</sup> and *Album Weeds, Vol. VI*.<sup>7</sup> Not all of the forgeries to be discussed in this article are described in these resources. *Album Weeds* discusses each forgery in detail and it includes a catalog of postmarks. Each forgery is matched with the postmarks observed by its author, Reverend Earee. Robson Lowe's *Encyclopedia* gives detailed descriptions and illustrations of the works of "clever" forgers such as Sperati and Panelli. In the case of Dominica, the forgeries of the Spiro Bros. are mentioned: "Spiro Bros. of Hamburg made crude lithographed forgeries of all three values in sheets of 25, canceled with an oval of bars ... All are on unwatermarked paper."<sup>8</sup>

Examples of these will be shown. Unfortunately, Mr. Lowe did not compile a part of the *Encyclopedia* for the Windward Islands; so there is no Tobago information from this source. The work of Serrane, while covering a vast number of early forgeries, gives only the briefest descriptions for the three colonies covered by this article. Serrane is the only one of my resources to touch on Tobago, but all that he mentions are the "fakes" created by cleaning fiscal cancels from the early stamps and replacing them with forged "A14" obliteration.

It became necessary for the author to catalog the details of the forgeries as they were found. The basic areas that are compared in this catalog are the Queen's portrait; the background and frame; lettering in the name frame and value tablet; printing methods; paper; and separation.<sup>9</sup> For this the tools mentioned earlier were used in their usual way. The scanner (used at very high resolution) allowed for an image of a stamp that would fill the screen of a 17-inch computer monitor. This in turn allowed for viewing the genuine and forgery either one after the other or side-by-side on the same screen.<sup>10</sup> Some sharpness is lost in this process, but it is excellent for pointing to areas that can then be examined with a 10-power magnifier. If the scanner is a way of viewing the "forest" and the magnifier is a way to examine the "trees," then the microscope is for examining individual "leaves." The author is using a microscope with both 10-power and 43-power objective lens and a 10-power eyepiece. The 10-power objective lens results in 100-power magnification. This is more than enough to examine paper and printing. The microscope shows the "ink squeeze" in the relief method used by De La Rue for printing the genuine stamps of St. Christopher, Dominica, and Tobago. Under magnification, one can see that the ink is pushed

to the sides of line or shape, creating a darker outline around the line or shape. This is not found in lithography, which is the most common method of printing forgeries.



*Figure 2*



*Figure 3*



### St. Christopher Forgeries

Figure 2 is a forgery of the 1890 six-penny olive brown. The figure shows the portrait only and in so doing focuses on that part of the stamp that is not as easily expressed verbally. Chart 1 on page 7-8 provides a comparison of this forgery with the genuine.

The errors that are easiest to detect with Figure 2 are the lack of a white oval around the center design and the contour line running from the diadem all the way down the front of the face. Comparing the fronts of the genuine and forgery, one notices the overall crispness in the execution of the design on the genuine and also the faults in the lettering, particularly in the value tablet. Turning the stamps over, one finds Crown CA design added, as if by rubber stamp, to the forgery.

The second St. Christopher forgery simply looks rough from the perforations to the design shading and lettering. An example of the unfinished look is a small line that runs from the top right spandrel to the outer frame of the stamp. This forgery is shown in Figure 3 (previous page). This figure shows the whole stamp in order to show the extra line in northeast corner of the stamp. See also Chart 2 on page 9.

In many ways, the second St. Christopher forgery is more accurate. It fails with its rough look and feel. It is not likely to fool many experienced collectors.



Figure 5

The remaining examples from Dominica and Tobago are each different from the St. Christopher and from each

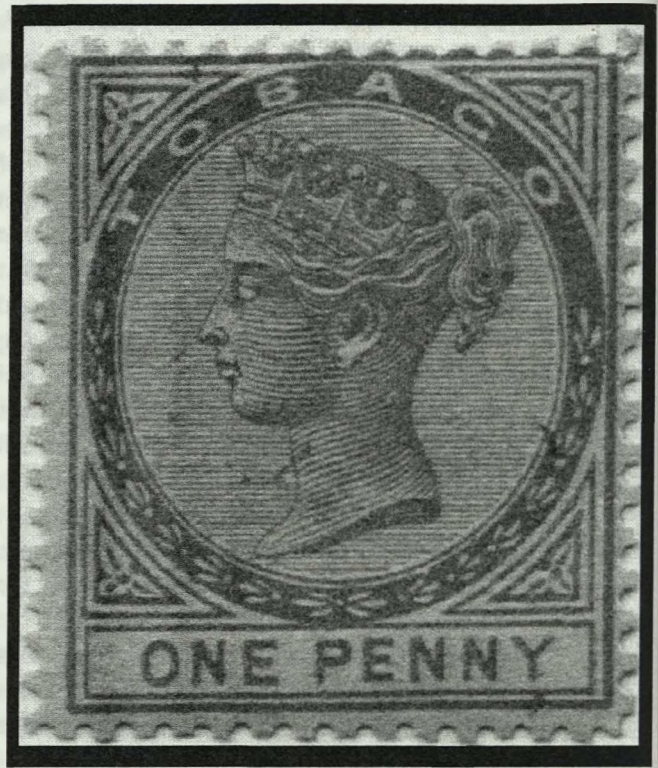


Figure 4

other. This suggests that there were many trying their hands at forging postage stamps. For the remaining stamps, the Figures will be shown along with a summary of the flaws. There is no need to repeat the genuine. Figure 1 will serve the purpose since the center designs are all the same and are also where most of the forgers' errors are found.

### Tobago Forgery

The Tobago example (Figure 4) is an attractive stamp although the centering is a bit high and the color is clearly not the usual rose of the 1879 one penny. Unlike previous forgeries the lettering is well done. By comparing Figure 1 and Figure 4, it can be seen that the portrait is not tangent to the frame at the hair chignon (the chignon itself is not executed correctly). The white oval around the background is missing in the forgery. The shading lines on the face are well done but missing from the earlobe. There is an outline drawn on the front of the face from the diadem to the base of the neck. Perforations on the forged stamp measure at 14.5 instead of 14 for the genuine stamp. Finally, the back of the stamp has a Crown CC impressed on the paper (not a watermark).

### Dominica Forgeries

The Dominica example is similar but, upon examina-



tion, definitely different from the Tobago (Figure 4). The author has accumulated seven of this particular Dominica forgery all canceled "A07." Some of these also contain the "REVENUE" overprint. Figure 5 is such an example. The resulting stamp is very busy and confusing unless compared one part at a time. First the obliterator exists in both a tall version and a broad version. The genuine broad version is 20mm in height, making it nearly circular. The forgery is only 16mm high. The cancel is jet black and almost shiny where most cancels from this period appear

as if they were made from watery ink -- dull to begin with and turning somewhat brown over time. The revenue surcharge is the correct size and appearance. The best proof that the surcharge is bogus is that the stamp on which it appears is a forgery. The portrait is like the Tobago (Figure 4), generally good work with the exceptions of the hair chignon, the white earlobe, and the outline of the front of the face. The Queen has a Roman nose in this forgery. A hint of the white frame oval exists between 6 o'clock and 9 o'clock, but it is thin and incom-

CHART 1

FEATURE	SIX PENCE GENUINE	SIX PENCE FORGERY
BACKGROUND	Even shading lines throughout. Sharp border.	Shading lines less sharp. Raggedy border.
CENTER DESIGN	Profile Bust of Queen Victoria covered throughout with shading lines. Facial contours are accomplished by curves in the lines. Outlines runs from the tip of the nose to the bottom of the chin. Portrait is tangent with the white oval frame at three places: the foremost call on the diadem between the "C" and "H;" the foremost of the breast between the "O" and "S;" the hair chignon at area on either side of the "P."	Profile bust of Queen Victoria. While the breast and diadem are tangent with the edge of the background, there is clear background shading between the hair chignon and the frame.
Diadem	Diadem is shaded with uniform shading lines.	Shading lines are fewer and broken.
Hair	Hair bun consists of an intricate series of curls with thick hair combed up from the back of the neck. Crown of head has wavy hair.	Hair bun is drawn with far less detail and with little hair combed up from back of neck. Appears to have thinner hair. Crown of head has straight hair.
Forehead	Appears unshaded but has 6 thin shading lines.	Appears to have more shading, but has the same number of lines which become thicker moving away from the front of the face.
Nose	The appearance is a thin straight nose. The outline is created by a break around the nose shading and the background shading.	The appearance of a Roman nose. The outline of which is a color line that starts at the Diadem and runs down to the tip of the nose.
Ear	Largely covered by hair.	Ear is not covered with hair. Edge of ear and lobe are unshaded, making them predominate features of the middle of the design.
Chin	The face and neck have even shading lines throughout.	The area around the mouth (the chin and under the nose) has no shading (also true of an area under the eye).



plete. The "A" in Dominica is imperfect. The perforations at 14.25 are closer together than the genuine. Finally, the stamp has no watermark but does have an impressed Crown CA. In summary, it is hoped that this article suggests a methodology for examining for stamp forgeries. Specifically, it is hoped that the examination of the stamp designs from St. Christopher, Dominica, and Tobago and their forgeries will provide some benchmarks for collectors of these colonies.

#### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Varro E. Tyler, "Introduction to the Serrane Guide," *The Serrane Guide: Stamp Forgeries of the World to 1926*. (State College, Pennsylvania: American Philatelic Society, 1998).

<sup>2</sup>Fernand Serrane, *The Serrane Guide: Stamp Forgeries of the World to 1926*, p. xiii.

<sup>3</sup>L. N. Williams, *Fundamentals of Philately*. (State College, Pennsylvania: American Philatelic Society, 1990). Chapters 9 through 12 cover the various stamp printing processes in great detail and provide microscopic photo-

graphs showing the results of the different approaches.

<sup>4</sup>John Easton, *British Postage Stamp Design*. (London: Faber and Faber, 1943), 64. Diadem IV is composed of a fillet of bay leaves and was used exclusively in Jamaica.

<sup>5</sup>Serrane, *op. cit.* This guide includes Dominica, St. Christopher, and Tobago.

<sup>6</sup>Robson Lowe, *The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Volume VI: Leeward Islands*. (London: Christie's Robson Lowe, 1990). Covers Dominica and St. Christopher.

<sup>7</sup>Reverend E. B. Earee, *Album Weeds: How to Detect Forged Stamps: Part VI Norway through St. Christopher*. Third Edition Reprint. (Canberra, Australia: The Manuka - Ainslie Press). This part covers only St. Christopher.

<sup>8</sup>Lowe, *op. cit.*, 54.

<sup>9</sup>In building this comparison, ink colors have been omitted, simply because my eye for color is not that good.

<sup>10</sup>For an excellent article on the use of scanners in philately see David Horry, "How Computers Can Help the Postmark Collector," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 40, No. 1 (March 2000), 27. ☒

CHART 1 (Continued)

FEATURE	SIX PENCE GENUINE	SIX PENCE FORGERY
CENTER FRAME	Consists of an oval Name Tablet tangent with the outer frame at 9 o'clock and nearly so at 3 o'clock. Inside the name tablet oval is a narrow colorless oval followed further in by a narrow color oval line and finally a narrow colorless line which separates the background of the center design from the center frame.	Consists of an oval Name Tablet tangent with the outer frame at 9 o'clock and nearly so at 3 o'clock. Inside the name tablet oval is a narrow colorless oval followed further in by a narrow color oval line and finally a narrow colorless line which separates the background of the center design from the center frame. The latter is not accomplished on the forgery because the shading lines endings are too close to the narrow color line and too uneven to produce the colorless frame line.
NAME TABLET	SAINT CHRISTOPHER - POSTAGE -	Misshaped letters. "A"s are squared off on top; "S" looks like lazy serpents.
Ornament	Between St. Christopher and Postage	Very much like genuine.
VALUE TABLET	"SIX PENCE" fills the value tablet leaving 1mm on either side (slightly more on the right).	"SIX PENCE" does not quite fill the value tablet leaving over 2mm on either side (slightly more on the right).
SEPARATION	Perf. 14	Zigzag roulette 12.5.
PAPER	Thin and smooth	Slightly thicker and less smooth.
WATERMARK	Watermark Crown CA	Impressed Crown CA. Gentle scraping with a stamp tong removed some of the mark.



## CHART 2

FEATURE	SIX PENCE GENUINE	SIX PENCE CRUDE FORGERY
BACKGROUND	Even shading lines throughout. Sharp border.	Uneven shading lines throughout. Sharp border.
CENTER DESIGN	Profile Bust of Queen Victoria covered throughout with shading lines. Facial contours are accomplished by curves in the lines. Outlines runs from the tip of the nose to the bottom of the chin.	Shading lines are missing completely from the forehead and are thin around the mouth, edge of the ear, and base of the neck. Color outline runs from diadem to base of neck.
Diadem	Diadem is shaded with uniform shading lines.	Overall image of the diadem is fairly accurate, but the rough lines with which it is drawn are a strong clue to this stamp's illegitimacy.
Hair	Hair bun consists of an intricate series of curls with thick hair combed up from the back of the neck. Crown of head has wavy hair.	The hair is thin. It is straight rather than wavy on the crown and is swept clear of the eyebrow. This chignon is fairly accurate. Again rough lines spoil it.
Forehead	Appears unshaded but has 6 thin shading lines.	There is a front contour line, but no shading, leaving the forehead as a straight white area.
Nose	The appearance is a thin straight nose. The outline is created by a break around the nose shading and the background shading.	The nose is thin and straight. The contour line follows from the forehead along the front of the nose.
Ear	Largely covered by hair.	The hair over the ear is thin. The edge is unshaded leaving another white area to catch the eye. The lobe is shaded.
Mouth and Chin	The face and neck have even shading lines throughout.	The mouth and chin area are sparsely shaded. The Queen's mouth appears as if she were whistling.
CENTER FRAME	Consists of an oval Name Tablet tangent with the outer frame at 9 o'clock and nearly so at 3 o'clock. Inside the name tablet oval is a narrow colorless oval followed further in by a narrow color oval line and finally a narrow colorless line which separates the background of the center design from the Center Frame.	This aspect of the design is carried out well. The forger has managed to leave the colorless oval around the center design, but a bit too wide.
NAME TABLET	SAINT CHRISTOPHER - POSTAGE -	Letters (except for "I" are all poorly shaped.
Ornament	Between St. Christopher and Postage	Very much like genuine
VALUE TABLET	"SIX PENCE" fills the value tablet leaving 1mm on the left side and 1.5mm on the right side.	"SIX PENCE" fills the value tablet leaving 1.5mm on the left side and 1mm on the right side. Letter "X" and "C" are poorly shaped.
SEPARATION	Perf. 12.5	Pin Perfs. 12.5
PAPER	Thin and smooth	Thick and rough
WATERMARK	Watermark Crown CC	No watermark
CANCELLATION	St. Kitts cds was used in the early 1870s.	Cancelled with an oval of bars



# A primer in scanning watermarks on stamps

By Mike Galinski  
Of Canada

Using a scanner and Photoshop, I have been able to get very good scans of the watermarks on various BWI stamps. The method is simple enough, and here is how to do it.

Place the stamp face up on the scanner plate (we want to scan the back of the stamp). Apply just enough watermark fluid to make the stamp wet right through. Place a black plastic card over the stamp (I use a black stockcard). Press down lightly on the card to remove any air bubbles. Next, scan the stamp. Edit the image by first removing the black frame around the stamp by changing it to white.

Next, increase the brightness and contrast gradually until the watermark becomes as clear as possible. It should be fairly easy to get an image similar to one of the examples pictured here. Now you have an image of the watermark that you can study at your leisure, print out as a record, or add to your exhibit. This method makes it easy to reconstruct a large papermaker's watermark from single stamps. Also, repairs and creases show up well.

Experiment with different settings to find what works best on your scanner. For example, scanning in color and then converting the image to black and white gives better results. Most of the special features, such as those that are supposed to remove fuzziness or make a sharper image, actually make it worse. Try using backgrounds of different colors. After removing the stamp, leave the scanner open to allow the fluid to evaporate.

Some stamps, such as those that are on a very thick paper with a shallow watermark, will still present some problems. Also, be sure that no watermark fluid actually enters the interior of the scanner. I have not tried to experiment with that! ☒

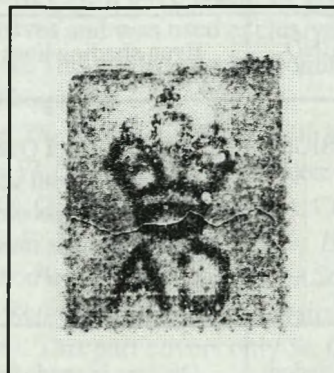


Figure 1: Tobago

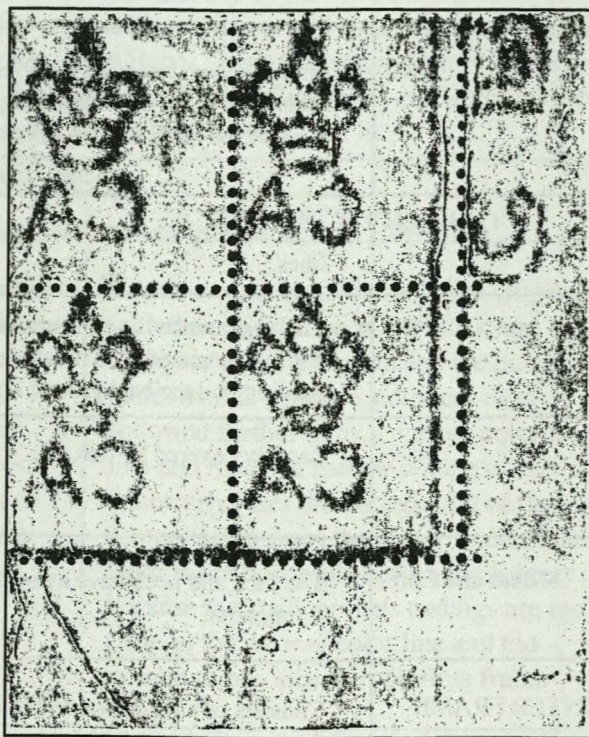


Figure 2: British Honduras

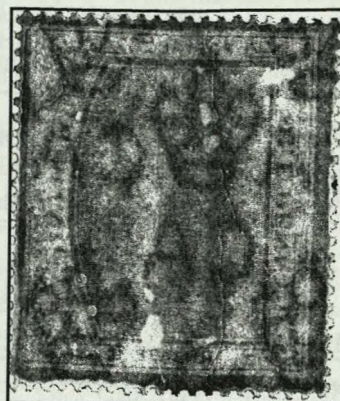


Figure 3: Dominica





# The BVI Philatelic Society: carving its niche

Having staged nine successful exhibitions and taken a number of initiatives that have quickly projected a very positive image, the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society has been described as one of the best organized stamp clubs in the Caribbean region. The Society, which was founded in 1985 to cater for the needs of collectors in general, be it stamps, coins or phone cards, has consistently promoted the various cultural aspects of the hobby.

"BVI stamp shows highlight the educational facet of stamp collecting and have truly become a fully fledged cultural experience," American Philatelic Society (APS)

President Peter P. McCann, Ph.D said recently. The local club has promoted the hobby in the schools, including the Althea Scatliffe and Enis Adams primary schools, and the St. George's School.

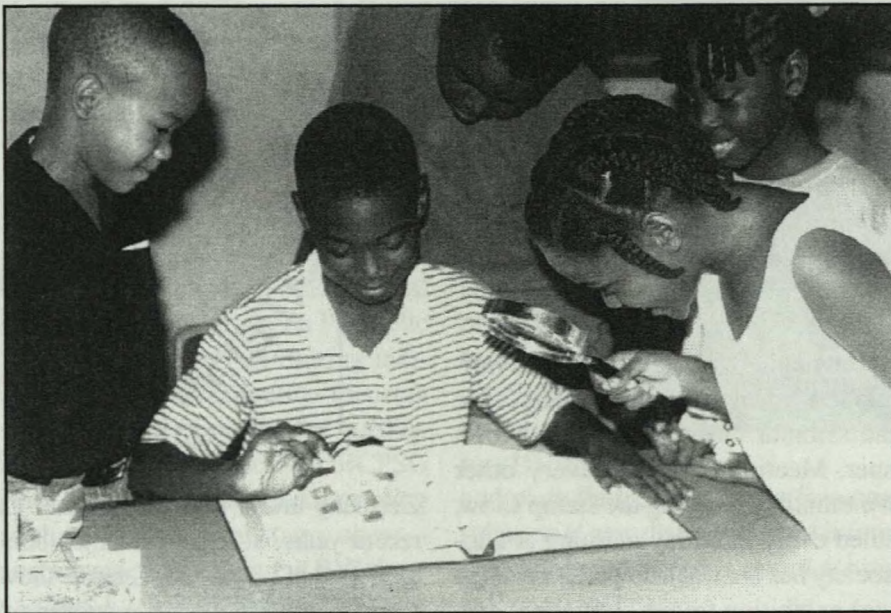
From an international perspective the society has had many illustrious visitors, including postal

historian Edward Proud; president of the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Associations (IFSDA) of the mid-1990s, Mr. Paolo De Rosa; American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA) president, Mr. Phil Bansner; noted expert of Iran philately, Dr. John Ultee; Disinfected Mail Study Circle Chairman Mr. V. Denis Vandervelde, and *American Philatelist* Editor Mr. Bill Welch.

In the early years the society contributed two philatelic exhibits to the local museum (the Virgin Islands Folk Museum) and held two very successful slide shows presented by Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca and the-then President of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, Mr. Jay Fredrick. The subject was the postal history of the Virgin Islands as part of a series of lectures of the Virgin Islands Historical Society.

In 1990 the BVI Philatelic Society staged its First An-

nual Stamp Exhibition commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Penny Black; the show was well attended and similar and more successful shows were held in the years that followed, culminating in the 7th Annual BVI Stamp Show in 1998. This was at the new and spacious premises of Barclays Bank in Road Town, the capital of the BVI. Prior to that, philatelists participating in the 1995 APS Stamp Cruise had visited Tortola and the local club gave a memorable welcome cocktail party. On May 1 and 2, 1999, the BVIPS hosted the international meeting of the Italy & Colonies Study Group in celebration of their 25th Anniversary. Some 50 ICSG members enjoyed the exotic outing immensely. So far, for each of the nine



*Children enjoying looking at stamps at a BVI Philatelic Society event.*

Tortola stamp shows the Society has published a booklet averaging 80 pages and featuring interesting articles on philately and postal history. Many of these articles have then been reprinted in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, the *Stamp Lover*, *Topical Time* and other popular stamp maga-

zines in Switzerland, Italy, Canada, India and Australia.

"These lavishly produced booklets have won medals and awards in Canada, Argentina, and in the USA, including Chicagopex '93; the 1993 American Philatelic Literature Fair hosted by the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum in Weston, Massachusetts; and in 1998 at OKPEX, Oklahoma City," said secretary Roger Downing. The BVI Postal Administration has also authorized a special postmark for each of the nine shows held to date.

## CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL

Since 1997 and with the collaboration of *The Island Sun* newspaper, the society has conducted a BVI Stamp Popularity poll whereby the public can vote for the best and the worst BVI stamp set of the year. Additionally in 1995 and 1998 the society, in a joint effort with the postal

*Continued on page 12*



authorities and the Department of Education & Culture, launched a "Design a Stamp" competition for students of the local schools. Winners in various age brackets have so far successfully contributed designs for the stamp sets devoted to Christmas 1995 and Festival 1998. The competition was generously sponsored by Barclays Bank.

"The positive aspects of the competition were quite obvious: the students' focus on traditional values of BVI cultural heritage, combined with the enhancement and furtherance of artistic skills, produced an extremely desirable type of educational experience. Additionally, the students became acquainted with stamp collecting as a highly educational hobby," said Attorney-at-Law and society member, Mr. Edgar Hewlett.

The Society's president has been a member of the BVI Stamp Advisory Committee since 1987, thereby contributing a valuable input and collectors' perspective to the islands' new stamp issues. The society has a membership of some 45, including quite a few overseas members from the USA, UK and the Caribbean. Members receive a bulletin outlining upcoming activities and minutes of the meetings, as well as the stamp show booklet. The membership annual fee is US\$25.

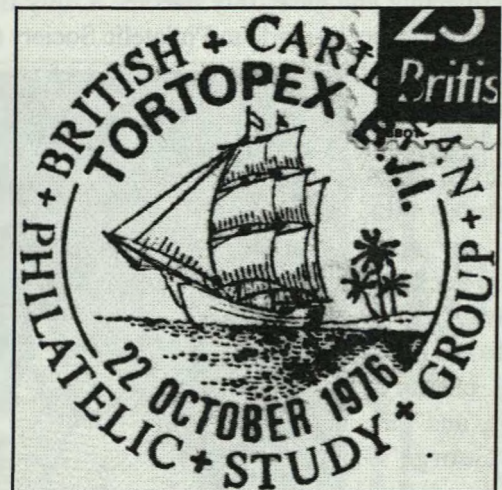
Once a year the Society holds a seminar to discuss various topics and to help new members present a display at the stamp show; the seminar customarily ends with a popular buffet dinner. Meetings are held every other month, but in the two months preceding the stamp show, meetings are scheduled every Saturday morning at a local restaurant. The society has been able to purchase some 25 standard (16-page) exhibition frames. Important collections have been displayed at BVI stamp shows. For three years in a row the doyen of postal history, Robson Lowe, sent very impressive exhibits (Chalon Heads, Napoleonic letters and autographs, World War II in Africa) and APS President Dr. Peter McCann exhibited his gold-medal collection of Virgin Islands Postal History. Additionally, Gustav Pohlig exhibited a selection of his POW collection, and in 1998 and 1999 the Liechtenstein Postal Museum participated with some very impressive exhibits.

### CARIBBEAN & INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

The society has become an APS chapter in an effort to expand its overseas membership and to boost interest in British Virgin Islands and Caribbean philately. BVIPS is also a member of the Inter-American Federation of Philately (FIAF).

With a population of only 24,000, some of the major challenges of the BVI Philatelic Society are to keep interest alive by staging shows that have a broad appeal, and to make sure that membership becomes stabilized and, if possible, to increase it.

In many respects the BVI Philatelic Society has unique features that make it different from the average stamp club. These include the tropical setting, consistent support from the local government and business community, and a resident membership (as opposed to overseas members) which is rather cosmopolitan, including natives as well as nationals of Britain, Italy, USA, Panama, Canada,



*TORTOPEX '76 cancel*

Germany and a number of other Caribbean islands. In recent years, at least three members of the society have exhibited at major USA stamp shows winning a total of some eight gold medals, countless vermeil medals, four APS Research Awards, three APS Medals of Excellence, four AAPE special awards, a grand award in literature class, and a grand award in display class at Americas '99. This was achieved over a span of 24 months and goes to show the high standard achieved by the society. Another challenge is to cultivate members who have collections with a potential for exhibiting at many American stamp shows; efforts are being made in this direction and it is quite possible that by 2002 a group of five members will be jointly exhibiting at USA and overseas stamp events.

There are also some unusual rewards in the Society's activities aimed at promoting the BVI in the stamp world. As a result, the BVI has attracted the attention of the moguls of the stamp industry and we have learned that one of the 400,000 International Business Companies (IBCs) registered in the Territory is Philatelic Rarities Limited, BVI. This company trades in rare stamps using the services and management of the Geneva, Switzerland, based



David Feldman S.A. "A few years ago Feldman auctioned the famous Mauritius Collection formed by Japanese tycoon Hiroyuki Kanai for a grand total in excess of US \$14 million. Other important IBCs linked with the international stamp market are also registered in the BVI," said BVIPS president Giorgio Migliavacca.

In the President's Column published by America's premier stamp magazine, the *American Philatelist*, (March 2001 issue), Dr. McCann noted that the BVI Philatelic Society "is a model for an active, vibrant stamp club. What makes the BVI society such an outstanding model to emulate is the way it involves the local community in its activities ... the public comes to the two-day exhibition in droves ... and the annual program is always filled with articles about the philately of the BVI. The local group, headed by sparkplugs Giorgio Migliavacca, Roger Downing and Joanna Warner, is well aware that for their stamp club to be dynamic and grow and survive over the long term they must involve the whole community as part of the process," Dr. McCann wrote.

The local club has a busy calendar and is booked up to 2003 for international events. In early November 2002 the BVI Philatelic Society will host the international meeting of the 500-member British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG). There are very promising indications that a selection of the Royal Collection focusing on BVI and Caribbean rarities will be on display in 2002. This will not be the first BVI experience for BCPSG members as in 1976 they held their international meeting in Tortola and staged the very first local stamp show -- Tortopex. However, organized philately in the BVI dates back to 1971 when a short-lived BVI Stamp Club was launched.

In 2003 the BVI Philatelic Society will host a similar convention and show for the 30th anniversary of the London-based Disinfected Mail Study Group. It is anticipated that a large number of British and European postal historians will be in attendance. In view of these very important and absorbing events, the society has decided to downsize its activities for 2001. According to the BVI Philatelic Society Secretary, Roger Downing, the club plans a small show and stamps and phonecard flea market next October. Details, venue and date will be announced in the not too distant future.

### NEW BOOKS

The BVI Philatelic Society, under the aegis of the Millennium Project Committee, has just published the first ever *Specialized Stamp Catalogue of British Virgin Islands*, to be followed soon by its companion volume of

over 300 pages that delves into all aspects of BVI philately and postal history. The *Specialized Stamp Catalogue of British Virgin Islands* and its companion volume will be of interest to many philatelists including postal historians and thematic collectors. Printed on archival-quality paper, both publications have many color plates, and hundreds of illustrations. The hardbound catalogue (312 pages including 16 color plates, A4 size, hardbound) provides compact, easy-to-follow, exhaustive technical data, most of which is the result of 30 years of research, making this attractively produced catalogue a standard reference for many years to come. Specialists will be pleased to find an unprecedented number of detailed illustrations of positional and plate flaws, including a five-page bibliography and substantial new discoveries and information. This impressive catalogue includes postal stationery, and a detailed listing of postmarks.



The companion book, *The Fascinating World of BVI Stamps*, includes general and specialist information concerning BVI stamps, and is written for both the collector and the layperson. It includes valuable historical notes, postal history from the 1600s to date, and very useful information for the thematic and specialized collector. The various stamp issues of the philatelic era, from Queen Victoria to Queen Elizabeth II, are discussed in great detail. Collectors with interest in Caribbean stamps will find both books indispensable and an invaluable source of information on British Virgin Islands philately and related subjects. They are simply a must for every student and collector of West Indian stamps.

Both publications are bound to become the standard reference for collectors of BVI stamps and postal historians. A 20-page chapter is entirely devoted to the local coinage of the 1800s with lots of previously unpublished information and a truly exhaustive bibliography.



## PHONE CARDS TOO

"It is not just stamps, the society has held in the past slide shows on ancient and Renaissance coins, and the standard reference worldwide on BVI phone cards is a lengthy article published by society in its 1995 stamp show booklet. The article, written by renowned expert Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca, has been instrumental in promoting BVI phone card collecting locally and internationally," said society member and avid phone card collector Astrid Wenzke. The society was the first to welcome phone card collectors locally and in recent years phone card exhibits were successfully displayed at BVI stamp shows.

## THE MANY CHARMS OF BVI STAMPS

The stamps of the BVI belong to the extremely, and deservedly, popular group of West Indian stamps. Commenting about the classic issues of the islands, Fred Melville, one of the most famous philatelists of all time, said, "Among all the fascinating pages of the well-filled stamp album, few are so arresting to the collector and to the profane alike as those devoted to the stamps of the Islands of Virgins." Modern issues have also attracted many more collectors. In fact, some design elements of BVI stamps issued during the last 30 years are unique in the world because they include either the Queen's cameo (or alternatively the Royal Cipher) and at the same time show a currency expressed in U.S. dollars, while the inscriptions clearly read British Virgin Islands.

Anyone who has travelled through the Caribbean will have found the BVI to be a delightful haven. Stamp issues have remained moderate both in the number each year and in face value, yet the designs are always very attractive and have a relevance to the people of the BVI, and what is somewhat surprising the stamps show a regular appreciation in value on the international philatelic market.

British Virgin Islanders are proud of their stamps and believe that these little bits of perforated paper have far more value than face value. They are both a testimony and reminder of their history, traditions, folklore and culture. When natives and residents send a letter abroad, they know that the first image foreigners have of their country is the little vignette depicted on the stamp. These stamps are the ambassadors of the British Virgin Islands.

Always popular with collectors the world over, the BVI stamp issues have captured the true identity of these paradise islands, combined with historical and important world events. These idyllic islands, a highly regarded and re-

nowned Caribbean tourist attraction, have also stamped their presence in philatelic albums for over 135 years and in the future will continue to develop as one of the leading stamp issuing countries of the West Indies.

## A FRIENDLY ORGANIZATION

The BVI Philatelic Society is a friendly organization and no formalities are required to become a member. Membership fees are easily compensated by the many advantages offered by the society such as availability of stamp, coin and phone card albums and accessories at very low prices.

"Since we have become a Chapter of the American Philatelic Society, many of our members can derive great benefits from their membership in APS such as insuring their collections at very competitive rates, accessing the American Philatelic Research Library, benefitting from translation services and a host of other advantages," said Society Treasurer Jo Warner. The Society has its own library and collectors may contact Librarian and Vice-President Ione Cox to borrow catalogues and books.

"For the past 16 years, the Society has made its presence felt in our community and has laid solid foundations for the continued progress of the hobby," said society member Thelma Swain. The society has its own Constitution and Bylaws and the present board of directors includes Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca, president; Roger Downing, secretary; and Ione Cox, vice president.

To contact us, write to the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 704, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands 00108-8000 (only by airmail please). Our e-mail is: [issun@candwbvi.net](mailto:issun@candwbvi.net). The telephone is (284) 494-7789; Fax (284) 494-3510. ☒

## *New address for webmaster*

Our new webmaster, Edward Barrow, has recently relocated to the United Kingdom to work on his master's degree. During his stay, his address will be Top Flat, 79 Madeley Road, Ealing, London, UK W5 2LT. His temporary e-mail address will be [ed98102@yahoo.com](mailto:ed98102@yahoo.com).

Ed can also be contacted by e-mail through his stamp business at [e.barrow@tradewinds-co.com](mailto:e.barrow@tradewinds-co.com). His previous e-mail address will still work but will be forwarded to the new address. ☒



# BCPSG Cameron Trophy: the First Twenty Years

By Paul A. Larsen

Awards Chairman

**B**yrone Cameron was a founding member of the BCPSG and an enthusiast of Jamaican philately. I knew Byron as a bit of a character, a Caribbean area "entrepreneur," a Miami penthouse dweller, an exhibitor of pre-stamp Jamaica, and a loyal study group supporter.

At the end of 1977, while wearing the BCPSG president's hat, I received a letter from Byron Cameron enclosing a check for \$1,000. He stipulated the money should be used to purchase a long-term Certificate of Deposit (CD) and that the yearly interest was to be used to purchase a "single and unique" award for presentation to the best B.W.I. exhibit shown during our annual convention. He hoped that the presentation of this award would become a major event for our group at each convention and that the interest and desire created would help insure the survival of our organization for many years to come. Byron specified that after ten years the Trustees could direct that the CD be cashed and the funds used for any other purposes. That didn't happen. Frankly, I never reminded the Trustees of this option. I subsequently introduced two limitations: (1) the Cameron can only be awarded once to an exhibit and (2) considered exhibits must achieve a minimum of a national level Vermeil medal.

Byron's bequest grew substantially during the inflationary 1980s so we are still blessed with sufficient funds to keep the Cameron viable. From the beginning, my wife Joan has been the primary consultant in the award selection. Our criterion is simple: it must be tasteful, have some class and be spouse/partner friendly. Orrefors Crystal has predominated. The Cameron awards for international shows in London during 1980, 1990, and 2000 were procured by contemporary BCPSG International Directors using these same criteria. We have yet to hear a complaint.

I felt that Byron's vision of supplying a carrot to entice our exhibitors to show their Caribbean area material has been very successful. Not everyone chooses to exhibit but we all like to see and appreciate exhibits up close and personal. Exhibits are also an obvious focal point in drawing members to our Annual Group Meetings. Awards help to stir the competitive urges of exhibitors. We need 'em and will continue to supply the Cameron along with our Medal awards for those willing to "show the flag."

The table below summarizes the exhibits which have been awarded a Cameron Trophy from its inception in 1979 through 1999. Shown are the exhibit area, the number of exhibits by area, and the home country of the exhibitors. Jamaica and the Leeward Islands were the largest groups with four exhibits each. A total of ten different colonies are represented. United Kingdom exhibitors have won 25% and the remaining 75% went to U.S. exhibitors. Although details have not been noted, traditional, postal history, and postal stationery are all included. More areas and more exhibitors are welcome for the future. We need continuing exhibit participation to keep interest alive. ☒

## Cameron Trophy Winners 1979-1999

Exhibit Area	No.	U.K.	U.S.
Jamaica	4	1	3
Leeward Islands	4	1	3
Bahamas	2	1	1
British Guiana	2	2	-
Cayman Islands	2	-	2
Grenada	2	-	2
Bermuda	1	-	1
Nevis	1	-	1
Trinidad	1	-	1
Trinidad & Tobago	1	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>

## "Liquidation of the Empire" forgeries fetch high prices

For the record, a complete "unused" F-VF set of six of the Bermuda version of the "Liquidation of the Empire" series recently fetched \$210.00 (\$231.00 with the auction house surcharge) from a floor buyer at public auction.

It was offered as Lot No. 1109 in the October 25-26, 2000 Cherrystone Auction in New York. It was listed using the Michel Catalogue as reference: "Mi 9g-14g/ Bermuda 900 DMk, estimated value \$200."

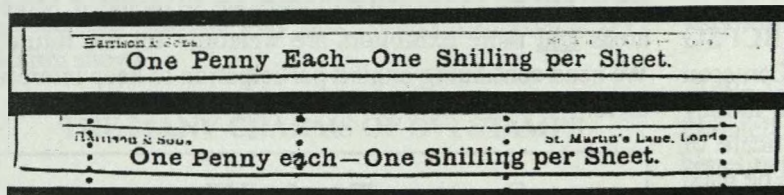
-- Thanks to Charles ("Chuck") E. Cwiakala  
for the information



# Montserrat Inland Revenue Stamps

By Michael Hamilton  
Of the United Kingdom

It would seem to be almost unimaginable that some 130 years have elapsed without mention that the Queen Victoria 1d Inland Revenue issue, printed in sheets of 12, has lower marginal inscription in two different settings (*Figure 1*). The most obvious change is



*Figure 1*

from “One Penny Each” to “One Penny each.” Less obvious changes are that the hyphen is shorter between “each - One” and that the printer’s address of “St. Martin’s Lane, Londn” is no longer set immediately above “per sheet.”

Only three sheets are currently known to have the original “Each” setting, and these are numbered at top left as sheets 256, 257, and 258. Sheet 257, originally in the Victor Toeg collection, is illustrated in the recent Charles Freeland update of Len Britnor’s *Montserrat* handbook on page 84. The three sheets are imperforate and printed on vertically laid paper.

Morley in 1910 reported that these stamps, normally on horizontal laid paper, could also be found on vertically laid paper, but both Britnor (1965) and Robson Lowe (1990) were unable to confirm their existence.

Three further full sheets (and a positional block of nine stamps), printed in the same color shade as the imperforate sheets, have also survived printed on vertically laid paper. These sheets are fully perforated and on gummed paper and the intact sheets are numbered 251 and 253 but the third sheet is without sheet numbering.

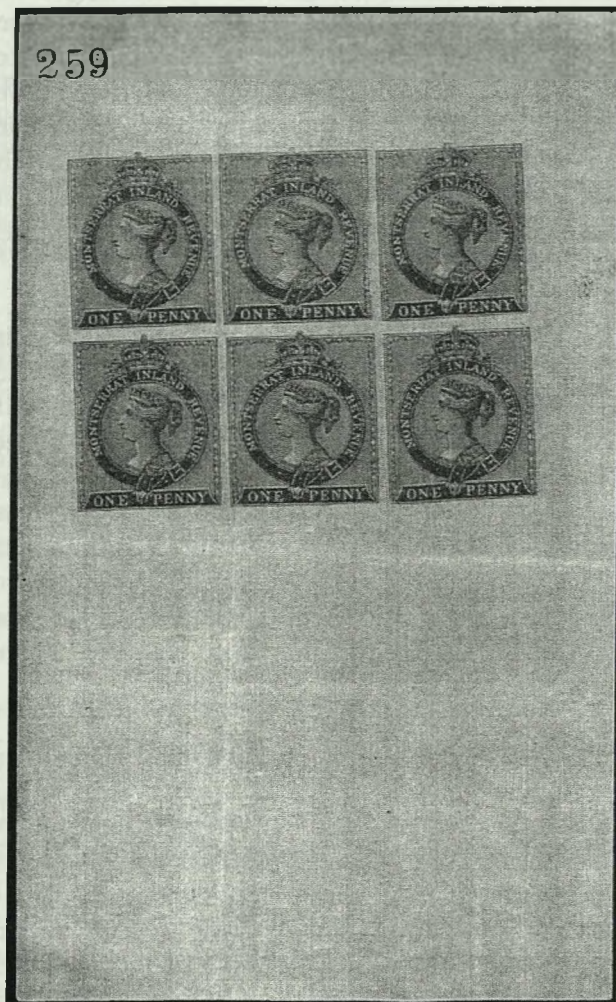
Imperforate Sheet 257 is pencil marked “Feb/66 in Journal” on reverse. The stamp was prepared from a lithographed stone in a unit of six stamps (3x2) and printed color pulls from this unit are well known. Two such color pulls show partial watermark of “T H SAU/18” (T H SAUNDERS) on one, and “66” on another.

Not previously mentioned is a further imperforate sheet, numbered 259 (*Figure 2*), on vertically laid paper,

which only shows a misaligned printed impression of the unit of six stamps on the provided cut ungummed and unwatermarked paper to be used for the printing of the initial completed sheets of 12 stamps.

At this point we reach the real excitement; and where the story to be unraveled begins. Collectors with a printing background will be better placed to determine the sequence of events, and we certainly look forward to any input you may be able to offer. In the meantime, I will describe these sheets fully and draw some interim and final conclusions.

Sheets 251 to 259 are the printer’s preparatory or set-up sheets and the stamps thereon, with vertically laid lines, were never issued. Today we would call them “printer’s waste” but their survival represents a near unique opportunity to see how a classic issue was born.



*Figure 2*



Logic suggests that sheets 1 to 250 were good and constituted the first delivery of 3,000 stamps.

Imperforate sheet 256 (*Figure 3*) shows the two units of six stamps laid down and badly aligned. Stamp 3 en-

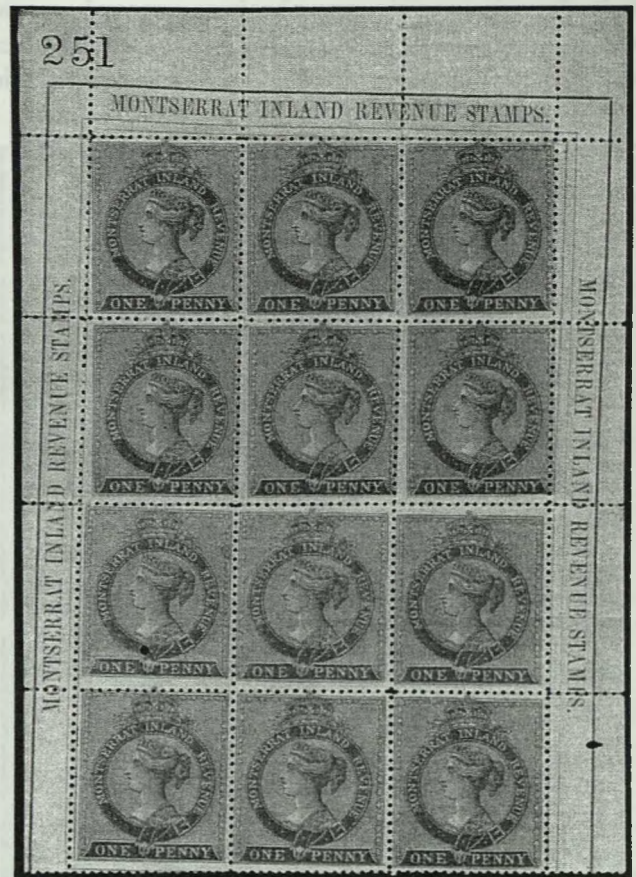


*Figure 3*

croaches into the newly added marginal surround. This sheet, together with sheet 257, are the only sheets with rough edge at left. Traces of a rusty paper clip might suggest that this "first complete sheet" had an appended instruction to register the two units of six stamps squarely within the marginal surround.

Perforated and gummed sheet 251 (*Figure 4*) shows the top unit of six moved farther to right but the two units are still misaligned even though stamp three no longer enters into the marginal surround. Ink blobs are noted on stamp seven and to the right of stamp 12. The lower selvedge has been removed -- perhaps intentionally to indicate spoilage.

Handbook illustrated imperforate sheet 257 (*Figure 5*)



*Figure 4*

shows the top unit correctly registered against the marginal surround but the lower unit leans down at right, the distance between upper and lower units being too wide.

Imperforate sheet 258 (*Figure 6*) would appear to have all components correctly registered.

Perforated sheet 253 (*Figure 7*) shows correct registration of components with portion "MAN" watermark (presumed part of "J. WHATMAN") reading downwards on Stamps 1 and 4. The watermark lettering is approximately 18mm high in double lined serifs and does not correspond with my only reference to papermaker's watermarks as found on pages 170-171 in the Townsend and Howe handbook on British Guiana. The lower selvedge is again fully removed, and we might ask if this was the point at which the printers, Harrison & Sons, decided on the marginal change of "One Penny Each" to "One Penny each"?

The correctly registered perforated sheet without numbering (*Figure 8*) shows lower selvedge fully removed and a printing bounce to the top marginal inscription of "MONTSERRAT INLAND REVENUE STAMPS" -- could this have anything to do with the changed setting to "each"? The third stamp is boldly defaced in manuscript ink. Perhaps significantly the small piece of sel-



vedge from the top right corner has been removed -- could we even think that this sheet was numbered in the sideways position? The top six stamps show a near full single

for the first "Each" setting or the changed "each" second setting?



Figure 5

large Crown with additional lower ornamentation watermark (Figure 9).

The block of nine stamps (Figure 10) from the three lower rows with lower selvedge fully removed (marginal inscriptions at both left and right) is to be split into five mint singles and a single mint block of four. These five items perhaps represent the only opportunity for collectors to acquire a specimen of the unissued vertically laid paper variety.

Eight "preparatory" sheets are now accounted for, but were there originally 10? We might assume that an imperforate sheet showing only the two units of six without marginal surround exists; and is it plausible that an imperforate, or even perforated, sheet was struck off showing only the marginal surround? But, if so, would it be



Figure 6

My ventured conclusions are that the lower selvedge was deliberately removed to separate the "Each" setting sheets from those required to fill the initial supply of 3,000 stamps; that all issued stamps will be found on horizontally laid paper and these sheets will show the "each" second setting. Only three unissued sheets, imperforate numbers 257, 258, and 259, are likely to show the original "Each" setting. ☒

## REFERENCES

Britnor, L.E. *Montserrat*, published by the British West Indies Study Circle, Paper No. 4, 1965.

Britnor, L.E. Incorporating supplementary information by Charles Freeland, *Montserrat to 1965*, published by the British West Indies Study Circle, 1998.

Lowe, Robson. *Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage*



Stamps, Volume VI, Leeward Islands, 1990.

Morley, Walter. *Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of the British Colonies*, 1910.

Townsend, W.A. and F.G. Howe, *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*, 1970.

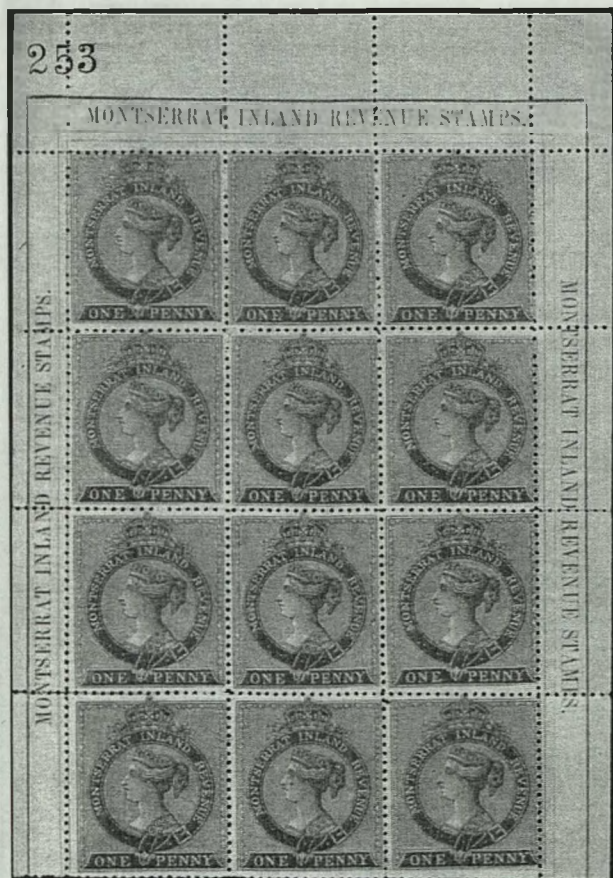


Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 10



Figure 9

See Charles Freeland's companion article on following page.



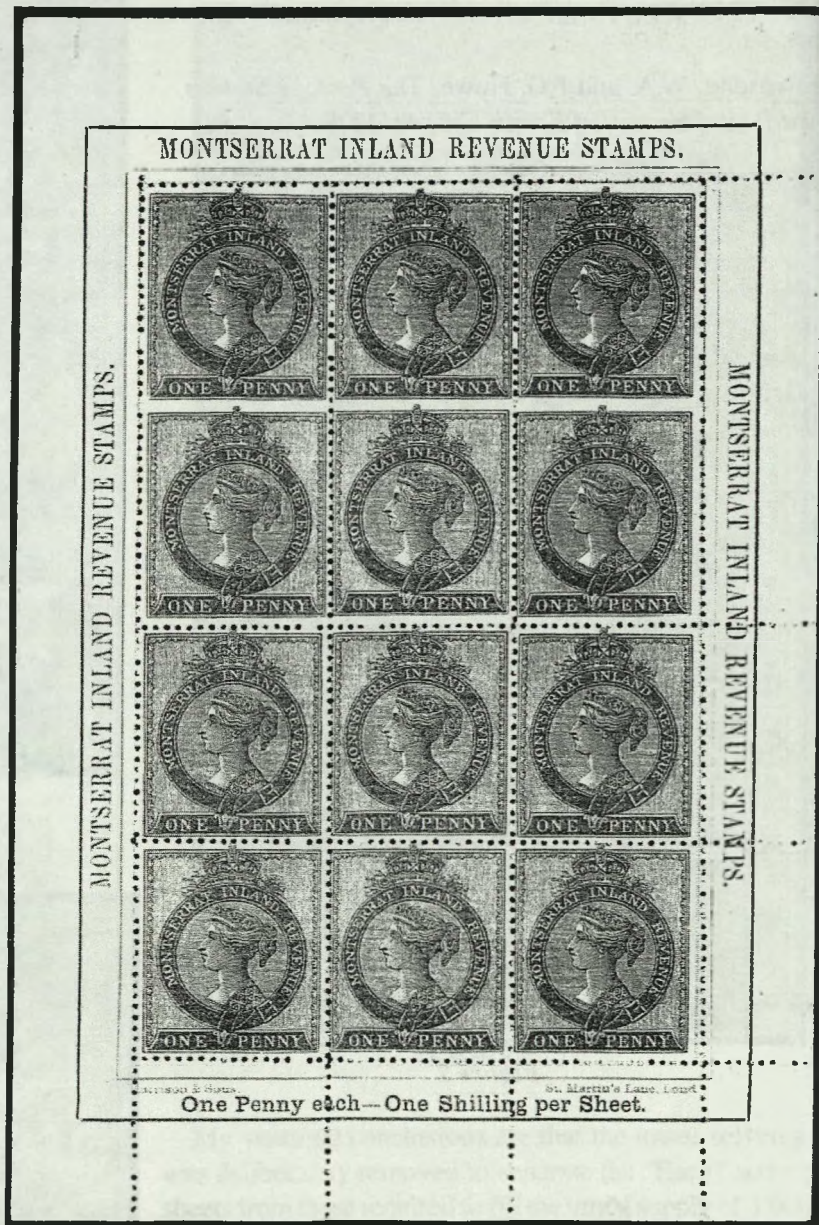
# Montserrat unrecorded imperf between

By Charles Freeland  
Of Switzerland

**I**mperf between varieties not only arouse considerable excitement among collectors as major errors, but in nearly all cases they are rare. Gibbons catalogues imperf between varieties, and by their count, less than 50 West Indian stamps can be found where the perfs between two rows or columns of stamps are missing.

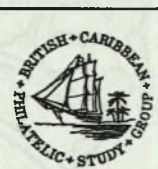
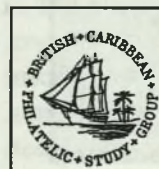
About one-half of these were printed by Perkins Bacon, whose quality standards were never of the highest. The sheet of 1866 revenues illustrated here was offered by a well-known United Kingdom dealer at the London Stampshow in May of 2000. This does not appear to be one of Harrison's trial sheets that Michael Hamilton wrote about in his postal auction catalogue 53 (February 1999). It does not have any sheet number nor is it on vertical laid paper as in Michael's "set" of waste material. Rather, the paper is thick opaque and has a papermaker's watermark (Harrison Superfine), exactly the same as an issued sheet in the writer's collection, pen-numbered "55" in the margin.

My conclusion is that this was an issued sheet showing a spectacular variety. ☒



## Publishing Schedule for BCPSG Journal

Following is a listing of important yearly dates for publishing of the *Journal*. The dates should remain the same year to year. While the deadline date is firm, date to printer and actual mailing date may fluctuate.



ISSUE COVER DATE	DEADLINE TO RECEIVE MATERIAL	JOURNAL TO PRINTER	ANTICIPATED MAILING DATE
January	November 15	November 30	December 30
April	February 15	February 28	March 30
July	May 15	May 30	June 30
October	August 15	August 30	September 30



# BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen  
Awards Chairman

Following is a current list of BCPSG members who have received philatelic awards of various levels at the stamp shows listed:

## COLOPEX '01, March 9-11

Columbus, Ohio

Reuben Ramkissoon

*Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago 1857-1891*

**Grand Award, Gold, UPSS Marcus White Award**

*Numeral Cancels of Trinidad 1851-1891 (Single Frame)*

**Gold**

## MARCH PARTY '01, March 23-25

Cleveland, Ohio

Paul Larsen

*German Togo 1885-1914*

**Gold, Best Foreign Award**

Ann Triggler

*Sanitary Inspection Fee Stamps, Argentina (Single Frame)*

**Vermeil**

## POSTAGE STAMP MEGA-EVENT '01,

March 29-April 1

New York, New York

Richard Maisel

*Cayman Islands (1889-1926)*

**Grand Award, Gold**

## PLYMOUTH SHOW '01, April 28-29

Plymouth, Michigan

Paul Larsen

*German Togo 1885-1914*

**Reserve Grand, Gold**

## ROMPEX 2001, May 18-20

Denver, Colorado

David Herendeen

*Postage Dues of the British Empire and Commonwealth*

**Gold, American Philatelic Congress Award**

## NAPEX 2001, June 1-3

Tysons Corner, Virginia

Regis Hoffman

*Allied Forces in East Africa, World War One*

**Vermeil**

*Stars and Strife (One Frame)*

**Silver Bronze**

## INDYPEX 2001, July 13-15

Indianapolis, Indiana

George Bowman

*Railroad Traveling Post Offices in Colonial Victoria*

**Vermeil**

Paul Larsen

*German Caroline Island 1899-1914*

**Reserve Grand, Gold,**

**Indiana Stamp Club 20th Century Award**

Duane Larson

*U.S. National Parks and Farley Issues 1934-1936*

**Silver**

*The Postage Stamps of Jamaica 1860-1921*

**Vermeil**

Rob Wynstra

*Leeward Islands Village Mail: 1734-1932*

**Gold, APS 1900-1939 Medal, BCPSG Medal**

## MINNESOTA STAMP EXPO 2001

July 20-22

Crystal, Minnesota

Paul Larsen

*Ubangi-Shari-Chad 1900-1938*

**Grand Award, Gold**

## BVI one step closer to new postal facilities

A \$620,000 contract was recently signed with the architectural firm Onions Bouchard and McCullough Ltd. to provide architectural and engineering services for the new post office at Port Purcell in the British Virgin Islands.

The new postal facility will have a minimum of 13,000 square feet of floor space to house the postal headquarters, as well as extensive parking. The facility will house mail processing and express mail facilities and is expected to have space for an additional 1,500 new post boxes.

The design work should take about six months and the construction phase should begin before the end of the year, according to an article in the *Island Sun*. The article quoted Chief Minister and Minister of Finance the Hon. Ralph T. O'Neal as saying there is a "very urgent need" to upgrade the postal department, its products and services.

-- Thanks to Marjorie A. Doran for the information



# The National Agricultural Show, Belize

By Ian Matheson  
Of South Africa

at a few pence each. Keep your eyes open!

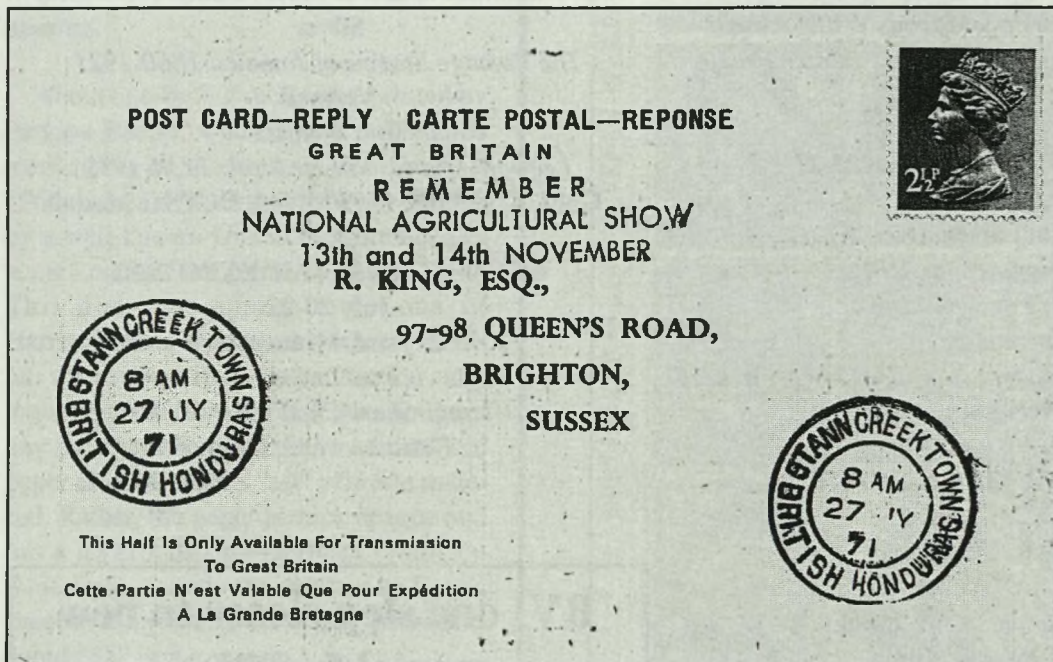
The first National Agricultural Show in Belize was held in 1970. I have no information regarding the dates, and have no idea whether the event was celebrated in any philatelic manner. In the following year (1971) the show was held on Saturday the 13th and Sunday the 14th of November. The Ted Proud collection contained copies of National Agricultural Show cachets from both Baking Pot and Stann Creek, used in July 1971.

The 1972 annual report of the Department of Agriculture in British Honduras reads, "The third National Agricultural Show was held on 10th, 11th and 12th November at the Showgrounds at Belmopan. The Show climaxed a week of activities throughout the country. The Show was opened by the Premier, the honourable George Price, and the main address was delivered by the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Fred Hunter." This extension to three days embraced a Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I have yet to see any cachet for the event.

The 1973 event was described thus in the Annual Report: "A very successful National Agricultural Show was held at the Showgrounds in Belmopan on August 4th and 5th. Farmers from all districts participated with a wide variety of crops and livestock exhibits. The Department of Agriculture also exhibited crops and stock. Prizes were awarded to the best exhibits in the respective classes. Ag-

riculture Week was declared open by the Minister of Agriculture one week before the date of the show and during this week various activities and radio talks were scheduled, culminating with the show itself." No mention was made of cachets on mail. The show had been reduced to a two day event again, this time a Friday and Saturday. In 1974, it was a similar story as 1973. The event was held on Saturday the 20th and Sunday the 21st April.

In 1975 there was again a special cachet for the show. BCPSG member Eric King was there in his professional capacity as the country's Chief Agricultural Officer and obtained self-addressed covers bearing a violet cachet (see illustration). The mark is inscribed "National Agricultural Show/ BELMOPAN-BELIZE/ APRIL 20th, 1975" and features fruit and livestock. Eric described the mark in a



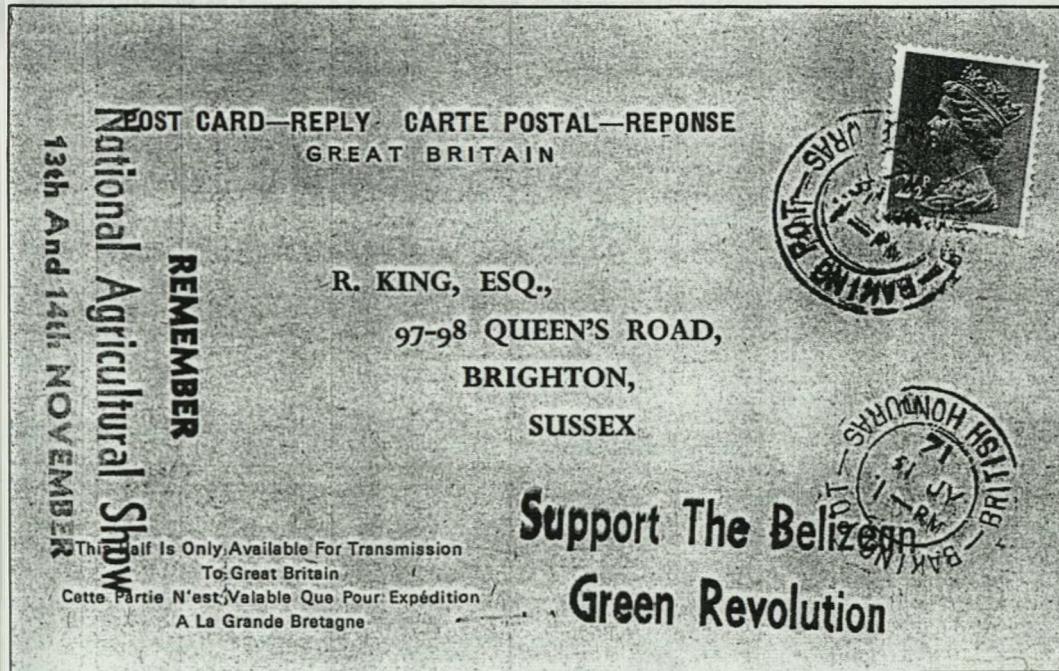
July 27, 1971: Reply portion of reply paid postcard, sent from Stann Creek to United Kingdom, bearing special cachet "REMEMBER/NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW/ 13th and 14th NOVEMBER"

I was fortunate to be able to acquire these items from Ted and illustrate them here. Why had they passed unnoticed for almost 30 years? The first thing that comes to mind is that they were not GPO marks! However each of the post cards was sent from the postmaster at the office of dispatch in response to a request from England reading "We would appreciate it if you could post the attached reply card to us and impress on it a clear impression of the date stamp used at your Post Office, also it would be appreciated if this half is left attached by refolding and, if possible, use examples of any other date stamps or instructional marks in use." It would therefore appear to be an official GPO-sanctioned mark. The Baking Pot card also bears a cachet reading "Support The Belizean Green Revolution." I have never seen any other examples of these cachets. Maybe copies exist in dealers' scratch boxes



letter to me as "...a one day postmark of the Agric. Show -- the pmk. is genuine GPO believe it or not!" Interestingly, the 20th was a Sunday! Once again I have never seen mention of this mark before in the philatelic press.

even more occasions, but the cachets have not yet come to light. It is also interesting to note that the first recorded cachets were advertising marks issued months before the show, but the latest example was actually postmarked at the show.



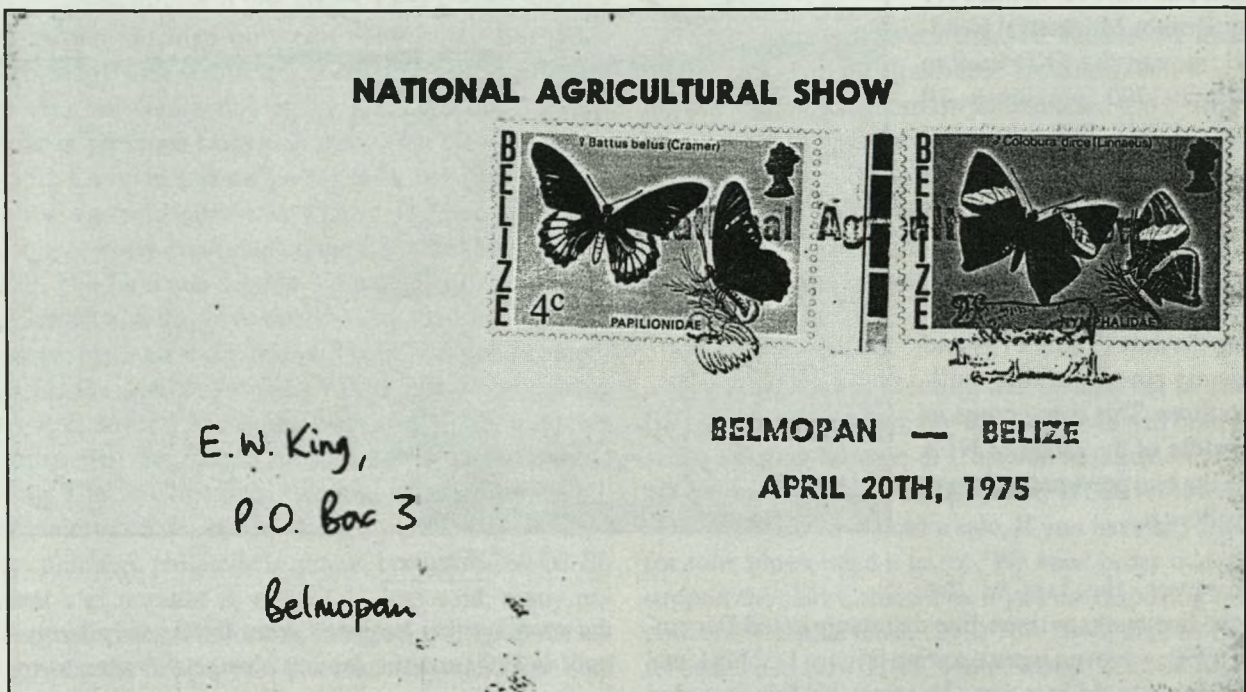
July 31, 1971. Reply portion of reply paid postcard, sent from Baking Pot to United Kingdom, bearing special cachets "REMEMBER/ National Agricultural Show/ 13th And 14th NOVEMBER" and "Support The Belizean Green Revolution"

Such modern items are frequently much harder to obtain than classical rarities as they sit unnoticed in collections by owners who have no idea of their significance. When they are sold they fetch nothing. Tomorrow's postal historians will have a tough time if they collect a country without an active local philatelic study group.

I would love to hear from any collectors who have material to add to our body of knowledge on this hitherto unknown

The descriptions of the show in the annual reports certainly do not sound like typical philatelic gatherings, so it is possible that the event was marked with a cachet on

topic. My address is P.O. Box 533, Kelvin 2054, South Africa, and my e-mail address is: ianmatheson@icon.co.za. ☐



April 20, 1975: Local cover with special cancellation reading "NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW/ BELMOPAN - BELIZE/ APRIL 20TH, 1975"



# Montserrat: a new three-line marking found

By Charles Freeland  
Of Switzerland

The pre-adhesive markings of Montserrat always have been a challenge for students, with very little material surviving from the first half of the Nineteenth Century allied to a surprising variety of different marks. Last summer I wrote about the emergence of two examples of a hitherto unrecorded horseshoe mark (BCPJ 195, page 52). Since then, the discovery and sale by Sotheby's in April of the remarkable Batt correspondence has provided five more fine examples of this striking marking and brought the earliest date forward to 23 January 1804 (the LRD remains 8 June 1809).

In addition, the Batt correspondence contained 18 examples of straight line marks of various kinds, more than doubling their total recorded numbers. Sixteen of these were the most frequently encountered straight line mark designated N1 in the Britnor Montserrat hand-book<sup>1</sup>, moving the EKD back to 22 March 1790 (previously 10 January 1791). But two other markings were of special interest. One was an example of the rare N2 with two T's at the end (i.e., MONTSERRATT). This was stated in the catalogue as having the date 13 July 1794 and brings my records of this spelling to three. This date comes in the middle of the range of N1's unlike the two previous sightings that follow it.

However, the last of the straight-line marks, a three-line datestamp dated December 9, 1799, was even more exciting (Figure 1). This looks at first sight like the rare three-line mark N3 first recorded by John Willem in BCPJ 109 (Figure 2). But it happens to be a new mark altogether, with slightly wider but more

closely spaced lettering and two T's at the end. The overall height is 23.5mm as opposed to 21mm for N3. The larger size means it is not a variant of the Willem mark and it predates the earliest of the four recorded N3's by 18 months. This is the first and so far only example of

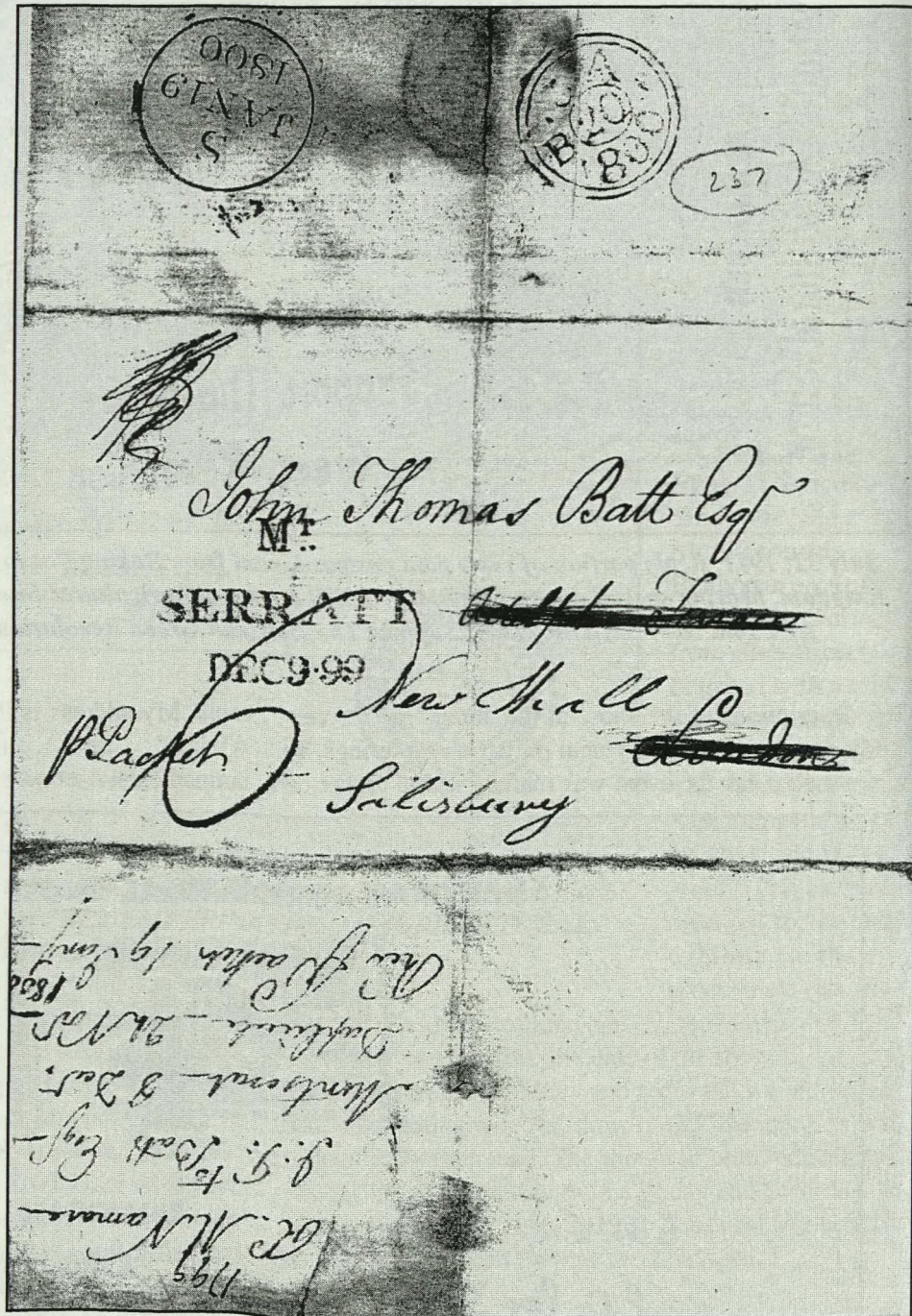


Figure 1

the marking that has been seen. It was very likely used only in 1799 and the century change was seen as requiring a new handstamp (the 19th century equivalent of Y2K?).

Continued on page 27





# The Auction Manager's Report

By Ed Waterous

The 2001 BCPSG Auction was held following the Annual Group Meeting on April 6 in Dallas, Texas. The sale was called in front of 16 floor bidders, a rather smaller showing than last year's sale held in conjunction with the British West Indies Study Circle preceding LONDON 2000. However, the lots that drew floor bids often drew attention from multiple bidders. I would like to personally thank all who consigned material to the sale or bid on the auction lots. Special thanks to Peter Kaulback and Duane Larson who assisted by recording bids and accounting for sales on site.

This sale was marked by a good cross-section of British Caribbean material. Not only were stamps, covers and postal stationery offered but also a section of reference books followed by a grouping of auction catalogs with prices realized. Although there were no Peruvian Vale cancellations to set records this year, there were many solid items sold.

A Bahamas Special Delivery stamp, Lot 28, with overprint inverted and an expertization certificate fetched \$400.00, the top price in the sale. Lot 23, a rare Bahamas Ship Mail CDS postmark brought the reserve price of \$225.00, even though it was struck on a postal card to a well-known German collector. The early Barbados stamps, many with certificates, were slow sellers although most were very collectible items. Bermuda always very popular in previous sales was somewhat slow this year. Lot 153, Cayman Islands postal card, realized £52 last year but was refused by the winner. Offered again this year, it was hotly contested on the floor and bought in at \$90.00. The Grenada section did well as all but one lot sold. Jamaica, with more than 50 lots, had its moments but more than half went unsold. There was good competition for the scarcer Jamaica World War II censorship items with several exceeding estimates. Also, a double overprint War Tax stamp brought \$80.00 after spirited bidding. The St. Christopher section, stronger than usual, drew attention from our bidders. A partial cover with a bisect, although philatelic in nature, brought \$260.00. St. Vincent was popular as nine of 11 lots sold, many exceeding estimates. Trinidad & Tobago proved popular especially in the World War II censorship material with many items exceeding estimates.

In the literature section, a partial run of the BCPJ brought \$100.00 vs. estimate of \$85.00. The excellent four volume reference set, *The Complete Caribbeana; 1900-1975* was sold on the floor to a fortunate and, I might add, very happy bidder. The auction catalogs were the stars of the sale with 59 of the 66 lots selling. The Montserrat sales, Lots 432 and 433, brought \$33.00 each against estimates of \$12.00 and \$5.00 respectively. The floor bidder was happy to get them. Lots 457 and 458, featuring De La Rue archive material, sold well at \$60.00 and \$32.00 respectively.

There were five additional lots consigned the day of the sale and viewed only in the sale room just prior to the sale. All were sold on the floor. One of our Jamaica collectors is very happy he attended the sale.

The auction was a success. Excluding the auction catalog section, 63% of the material was sold. The auction catalogs pushed up the overall sales to just over 67% of the lots. In terms of dollar sales, the total exceeded \$8,000.00. Expenses were covered and some money went into the treasury thanks to the members who donated material to the auction.

Vendor payments were delayed because of miscommunication with the Honorable Treasurer. Tim was visiting the United Kingdom on an extended trip by the time I was ready to have the sellers paid. I apologize for this delay. One more comment about the delaying payment to the Group. Remember that when you fail to settle promptly, you are delaying the close of the sale and timely payment to the sellers. Please settle your account promptly.

The 2002 Annual Meeting will be next fall in Tortola, BVI. At this time I have not decided if we will hold a sale at the meeting because of Customs requirements. I may have a mail-only sale in September. Whatever is decided, we need material to hold a sale. If you have any material for sale, please send it to me. We need better material to support the sale. Consider us if you are disposing of your collection. Phone me at (219) 769-2840, mail to Ed Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430-1105, U.S.A. or e-mail at [ewaterous@hotmail.com](mailto:ewaterous@hotmail.com) if you have any questions or require a direct-shipping address. ☐



# President's Message

By Rob Wynstra

I was especially gratified during our recent group meeting in Dallas to receive compliments from some of our members who attended for the first time. Several of them had the unique opportunity of sharing knowledge with other collectors with similar interests. Throughout the meeting, knots of people from the group could be seen pouring over exhibit pages and photocopies in the lobby area outside the exhibition area. Others who were exhibiting for the first time had the chance to gain invaluable feedback on both exhibiting at the national level in the U.S. and on their own areas of philatelic interest. Many of them were especially struck by the friendly social events held during the meeting.

The compliments also came from some of the judges and organizers from other shows who were in attendance at Dallas. With a good turnout of members and more than 75 frames of outstanding exhibits on display, the group attracted several invitations for future meetings. As usual, the exhibits showed a stunning array of philatelic knowledge and garnered many of the top awards. It was also very satisfying to have members in attendance from all over the country, as well as from Canada and the Caribbean islands.

With that said, it is not too soon to mark your calendars for the upcoming BCPSG meeting in Tortola, British Virgin Islands which is set for October 31 to November 4, 2002. Although the details are still not finalized, the meeting promises to be one of the best we have ever had. Both Giorgio Migliavacca and Roger Downing from the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society will be rolling out the "red carpet" for us in the sunny Caribbean.

The meeting will be centered around the Society's annual exhibition which will be held in the Barclay's Bank facility in Roadtown. The highlight there will be a number of BWI rarities on display from the Royal Collection. The agenda also will include several sightseeing trips and philatelic adventures around the island, as well as a number of social gatherings. We also will be holding our annual general meeting, with several philatelic displays and the presentation of our major group awards. Reasonable rates will be arranged in a local hotel.

I would especially urge our overseas members and members who have never attended a group meeting to think about joining us in Tortola. All the final details will be available in upcoming issues of the *Journal*. If for some

reason you can't make it to the British Virgin Islands, think about joining us at Chicago in 2003, Baltimore in 2004, Indianapolis in 2005, or the U.S. International Exhibition at Washington, D.C. in 2006. ☒

## New BWI stamp and postal history website listed

BCPSG member Michael Hamilton has recently launched a new website and net-price sale internet site. The new site can be located at

[www.michael-hamilton.com](http://www.michael-hamilton.com)

<<http://www.michael-hamilton.com/>>

on the worldwide web. Contents currently available include scanned images of over 300 covers and 2,000 stamps primarily spanning the British West Indies but with coverage for areas within British Africa and elsewhere (Cyprus, Malta, Fiji etc).

Further updates with new inclusions will be added periodically. Additional information is available on the website or from Michael Hamilton, 5 Winbrook Fold, Winfrith Newburgh, Dorset, DT2 8LR, United Kingdom; e-mail: [michael@michael-hamilton.com](mailto:michael@michael-hamilton.com); telephone: +44 (0)1305 854398. ☒

### *A note from the Editor:*

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of many members who heard the plea for material almost a year ago, I am swamped with material for publication. That's a great position for an editor to be in, but I know that several of you are concerned about when your items will appear in print. It's only human nature that once someone prepares an article and sends it off in the post, the clock starts clicking, and we're anxious to see it published.

But I would ask that you be patient. I would rather publish 32 page journals and have a steady supply of material than one or two 48 page issues and deplete all the material on hand. I have a policy of never promising anyone an article will be printed in a specific issue, and that's a good policy to follow because circumstances may prevent an article in a particular issue (too long, too short, etc.). But don't stop sending articles because the well will soon run dry. The best way to send an article is by e-mail WITHOUT attachment or mail. I cannot open most attachments.

-- Everett L. Parker



# Membership Director's Report — By Tom Girdi

## New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

---

## New Applicants

Ric CADENAS, 6404 Store House Ct., Centreville, VA 20121 USA. Philatelic interest: Bahamas. Sponsored by: Thomas Girdi.

Gerald E. HAAS, 5425 Havenhill Dr., Columbus, OH 43235-3420 USA. Philatelic interest: Cayman Islands (major), BC's before 1960 (minor). Sponsored by: Thomas Girdi.

## Change of Address

Edward Barrow, Top Flat, 79 Madeley Rd., Ealing, London, W5 2LT UNITED KINGDOM

Michel Forand, P.O. Box 20145, RPO Rideau East, Ottawa K1N 9P4 CANADA

James H. Gordon, P.O. Box 1118, Bristol, TN 37621-1118 USA

W.C. Messecar, P.O. Box 7750, Covington, WA 98042-7750 USA

Chris Rainey, P.O. Box 1060, Swindon SN3 1JJ UNITED KINGDOM

*If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by e-mail, at TEG43@aol.com. Thank you.*

## Montserrat: a new three-line marking found

*Continued from page 24*

Britnor tells us that the dated straight-line marks were introduced in the several BWI colonies in 1799 as a defense against insurance fraud. I have checked my holdings and records of 1799 marks to see whether any of them are different sizes from the 1800 versions. My records for Jamaica are incomplete, but I am sad to report that in no other case does the datestamp change size. But I suggest

that specialists look at their holdings. Who knows what other variants may be nestling somewhere? ☒

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Britnor, L.E. *Montserrat to 1965*, revised edition, BWISC 1998.

Willem, J.M. "Exciting new Montserrat discoveries," BPPJ 109 (August 1979).

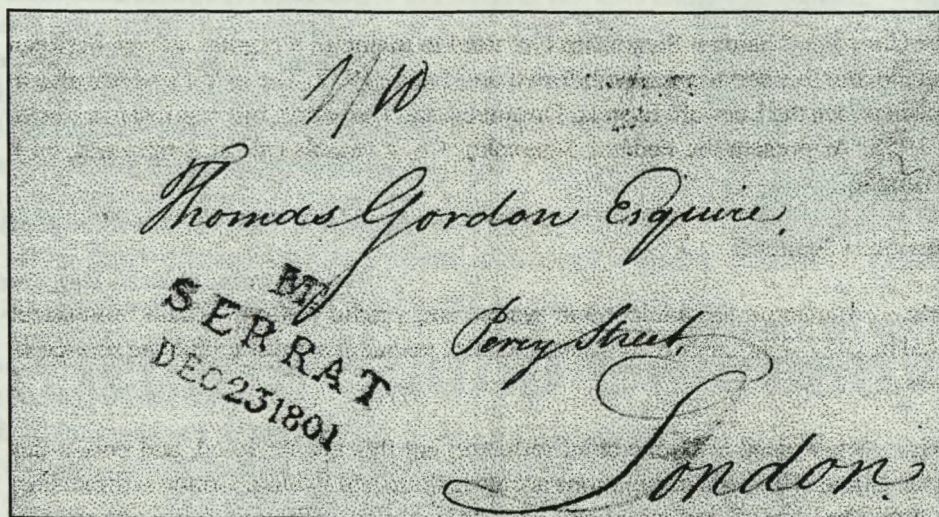


Figure 2



## 'THE UNISSUED STAMPS OF KING GEORGE VI' BY DAVID HORRY

It must have been over 10 years ago when Horry, younger and slimmer than now, first showed us some of his ideas at Stampex. Mild hysteria gripped us immediately, and spread rapidly to fascinated customers. It has yet to abate.

Philatelic books can, on occasion, be a bit on the dull side. This lavishly-illustrated casebound publication is certainly never dull and is replete with inspired absurdity, usually (apparently) justified by the text. There appears to be one 'main' creation per colony, with lots more in the surrounds. Exceptions include the Fiji 1½d: the exclusive story of the many dies is now revealed.

Horry's enjoyment of his own jokes is extremely infectious. It's backed up by his wonderful full-colour illustrations, making this a book which surely has appeal beyond the philatelic market and has a place on every coffee table. If you as a stamp collector have ever been shy about admitting to your hobby, this book justifies stamp collecting - its author's humour and creativity communicate enjoyment of the hobby in a universal fashion.

If you want to make your spouse laugh, this is about the only philatelic book we can recommend.

This book has 170+ pages and is available exclusively from Murray Payne Ltd, at £24.95, plus postage £2 Europe and £5 rest of the world.

This publication has a limited print run.

P. O. Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset, England,  
BS26 2EW

Tel: +44 1934 732511 Fax: +44 1934 733498

Email: murraypayne@dial.pipex.com

[www.murraypayne.com](http://www.murraypayne.com)

## CONSULAR MAIL

In 1949 the Universal Postal Union dreamt up a plan to allow all foreign embassies and consulates to have their own postage stamps. The stamps bore no currency value as such, instead an *Equitable Currency Unit* value, so that all countries could partake in the scheme without the problem of currency fluctuation. Needless to say, no-one could agree on the idea, Great Britain being particularly against. However, the Crown Agents did commission a design from Bradbury Wilkinson, based on the 1948 Silver Wedding high value. It inevitably ended up at the bottom of the Foreign Office in-tray.



## MUST READING FOR THE KGVI SPECIALIST



Judge for yourself.  
Write us for a FREE sample issue.

GVI Publishers • P.O. Box 7170  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-7170 USA  
Email: editor@kg6.com

## ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY

Volume 6

Great Britain Stamps Used in Jamaica

by

Steve Jarvis

350+ pages contained in a

Customised Multi-ring Binder.

A catalogue of all known examples both on and off cover of these elusive issues.

Hundreds of illustrations culled from current collections and past auction catalogues.

Contact: W. Clary Holt, Post Office Drawer 59,  
Burlington, North Carolina 27216 (if paying in US\$)

or

Peter C. Ford, 22, Tudor Way, Congleton,

CHESHIRE, CW12 4AS, UK

(if paying in UK£)

E-mail enquiries to: pccford@hotmail.com

Price: US\$80.00 (£44.00)

Post & Packing included

(US & Rest of World - Surface Mail)



## Do you collect British West Indies Postal History?

Our stocks consist of British Commonwealth Postal History (with post cards from some colonies). If you would care to inform us of your collecting interests, we would be delighted to send you photocopies of any relevant items we obtain.

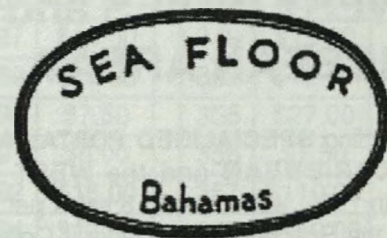
Besides being members of the BCPSG, we are members of the PTS (London).  
Prices in sterling or US dollars.

## CHRIS RAINEY

P.O. Box 1060  
Swindon SN3 1J1, UK

TELEPHONE: 01144 268 726687  
FAX: 01144 268 590781

## WANTED SEA FLOOR - BAHAMAS



Buying covers, cards, cancels, and collateral material relating to the P.O. and expedition that operated there from 1939 to 1942. Pay minimum of \$75 each for items I can use.

Also buying artists' drawings, essays, proofs, errors, freaks, etc. of Bahamas Scott nos. 106, 122, 168, 168a, 216, 242 and 264.

All offers acknowledged.

Fred Schmitt

P.O. Box 67

Woodbury, NY 11797

(631) 367-4030 (24 Hours)

Member: ASDA, APS, PTS, CSDA, etc.

## VICTORIA STAMP COMPANY PUBLIC AUCTION #13



### THE CHARLES FREELAND COLLECTION OF CAYMAN ISLANDS

Our Fall, 2001 British Commonwealth Public Auction will feature the Charles Freeland Collection of Cayman Islands. Highlights include pre-stamp and incoming covers, over 20 lots of Jamaica used in the Caymans (including covers), several Manuscript Provisional covers, Rural Post markings on and off cover, proofs, Glover flaws, Specimens, blocks, postal stationery and a wealth of postal history.

*Request your copy of the catalogue.*

## Victoria Stamp Company

PHOEBE A. MACGILLIVARY

P.O. BOX 745, RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07451, USA

PHONE (201) 652-7283 FAX (201) 612-0024

Email: [VictoriaStampCo@aol.com](mailto:VictoriaStampCo@aol.com) Website: [VictoriaStampCo.com](http://VictoriaStampCo.com)





## Do you Collect

### the WEST INDIES and the CARIBBEAN AREA?

As the leading **SPECIALISED POSTAL AUCTION** for the **CARIBBEAN** and the **WEST INDIES**, founded in 1976, we hold 6 to 8 sales per year and cater for the Specialist, the General Collector and the Beginner. We offer quality in **POSTAL HISTORY, STAMPS, PROOFS, SPECIMENS, BOOKS, POSTAL STATIONERY, & EARLY MAPS** from the 16th century onwards.

Write or telephone for **FREE CATALOGUE**.



Dept. BCPJ  
P.O. Box 17  
Thirsk, N. Yorks  
YO7 1TT  
ENGLAND

Telephone: Thirsk (0845) 523942  
Member: BCPSG, BWISC

# Caribbean

**Always the Unusual,  
Esoteric & Inimitable...**

We offer Mail Sales with extremely interesting material in the \$25 - \$150 range. In addition, our Public Auctions offer appropriately rare and specialized material.

We are always interested in buying specialized items or collections.

Our Mail Sale and Public Auction catalogs are sent free to members of The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group on request. Please specify which catalog you wish.



2800 28th Street, Suite 323  
Santa Monica, California 90405  
Telephone: 213/450-2543  
Cal. Auc. Lic. No. A1229

**NEW FROM THE BWISC!**

## NEVIS

by  
**FEDERICO BORROMEO**

The latest in the 'Classic Collections' series, this booklet is based around Federico's display at the Bonnington Hotel, London last May. For those who were lucky enough to witness this display, the booklet should provide a lasting memento of what was a very memorable event. For those who weren't, it will enable them to taste the flavour of the occasion.

Price: UK - £13.00; Europe & Overseas - £15.00  
US - US\$24.00

Contact: W. Clary Holt, Post Office Drawer 59,  
Burlington, North Carolina 27216 (if paying in US\$)

or

Peter C. Ford, 22, Tudor Way, Congleton,  
CHESHIRE, CW12 4AS, UK (if paying in UK£)

**E-mail enquiries to:**

pccford@hotmail.com

# COMMERCIAL M A I L

We have recent commercial mail, many with local usages, including meters, inter-island, registered governmental stampless, etc. from many of the Caribbean countries (including Bermuda).

Prices start from \$US 2. Limited supply.  
Please write/fax for details.

We also carry earlier material.  
US\$ or GB£ checks accepted.

## STEVEN G. ZIRINSKY

Box 49, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 USA  
Tel: 212-665-0765 FAX: 718-706-0619  
e-mail: szirinsky@cs.com

Member: APS PTS



# THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH O • F N • A • T • I • O • N • S



We are active buyers and sellers of stamps and postal history of all areas of pre-1960 British Commonwealth, including individual items, collections or estates.

Want lists from all reigns are accepted with references.

L. W. Martin, Jr.

CROWN COLONY STAMPS

P.O. BOX 1198

BELLAIRE, TEXAS 77401

PH. (713) 781-6563 • FAX (713) 789-9998



"VISIT OUR BOOTH AT  
MOST MAJOR SHOWS"

## AUCTION NEWS

VISIT

[www.pennymead.com](http://www.pennymead.com)

TODAY

Last sale was on September 25. Next sale scheduled for late November.

On my website I have recently offered some fine classic Trinidad and will upload shortly the E.V. Toeg collection of Lady Boat covers.

These will be offered individually at fixed prices on a first come first served basis.

I will also be offering some more revenues of Barbados, Bermuda, Cayman Is. and St. Vincent.

Go to [www.pennymead.com](http://www.pennymead.com)

### PENNYMEAD AUCTIONS

1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough  
England HG5 8AZ

Tel/Fax/Ansa (0044) 1423 865962 Fax: (0044) 547057

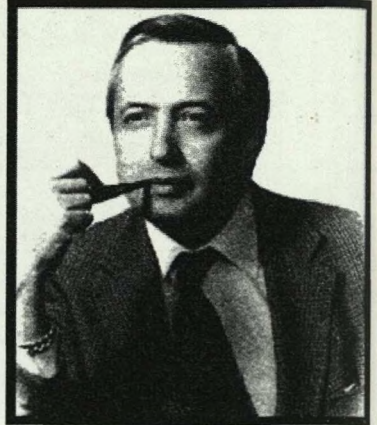
eMail: [Pennymead@aol.com](mailto:Pennymead@aol.com)





# The British Empire

A-Z 1840-1935 Mint and Used  
**The Largest and Most Valuable  
 Stock in America**



## WANT LISTS

For decades we have had the great pleasure of working closely with our clients in the formation of many fine private and international exhibition standard collections. I will be pleased to place our expertise at your disposal.

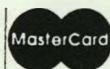
- 30 Volumes in all price ranges, individually stocked!
- You may acquire exactly those items that you need!
- Receive on approval (references please) or per quotation!
- Scott or Stanley Gibbons numbers!
- Prompt, expert service!



*George W. Holschauer*

**COLONIAL STAMP CO.**

5757 WILSHIRE BLVD., PH#8  
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90036  
 Ph: (213) 933-9435  
 Fax (213) 939-9930  
 eMail: gwh225@aol.com



Visit our Web Site: [www.colonialstamps.com](http://www.colonialstamps.com)



CCNY, CSDA, IFSDA,  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 SOCIETY APPRAISERS