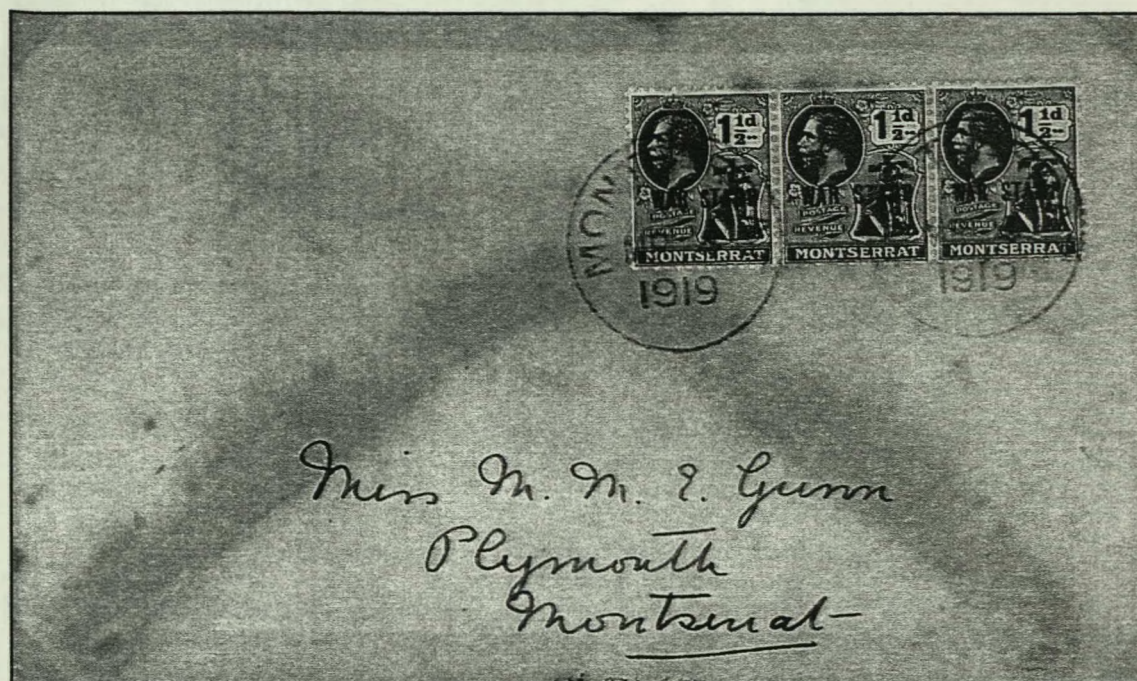


BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Vol. 44, No. 4 October - December 2004 Whole No. 213



1919 Internal Cover to Plymouth, Montserrat.

An internal cover to Plymouth franked with a strip of three of the 1 1/2d. orange stamps overprinted WAR STAMP in black. The stamps are cancelled MR 4 1919 with single ring circular datestamps (March 4, 1919). The usage of stamps on this cover predates the reported first day of issue (March 6, 1919) by two days. To add to the interest with this cover, the stamp on the left has the variety showing the 1 and 1/2d. closer together.

See page 13 for details.



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A Book Review

Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately

Volume 9: Military, Censorship and Patriotic Mails

Review by Edward "Tim" Tweddell
Treasurer

*Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately Volume 9:
Military, Censorship and Patriotic Mails*
By Frank Sutcliffe, FRPSL

This is the latest publication of the British West Indies Study Circle and is full of valuable data covering the whole of the history of Jamaica to the present day. The first four chapters, which occupy about half of the 350+ pages, deal with the early days in Jamaica and operations of the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. Definitive lists of regiments, ships and squadrons present in Jamaica are given for every year from 1655, in addition to the markings used.

The next two chapters address the handling of Prisoner of War mail and civil censorship, the latter being based on the 1976 work by Foster. The nomenclature is much improved and easier to follow than its predecessor. The remaining chapters address Canadian and American

Forces in Jamaica, primarily during World War Two; Provincial Forces; and patriotic mail.

The book is well laid out, and easy to read, with excellent illustrations of all handstamps and labels. Numerous covers are shown, and there are also many relevant photographic reproductions. I unreservedly recommend this book for any collector interested in Jamaican philately. It is hardbound in a ring folder, and is available through David Druett, our International Director, whose address is given inside the front cover, for about \$70.

**The 2005 AGM
is July 8-10
at INDYPEX
Indianapolis, Indiana
Plan on attending!**

For details:
<http://indianastampclub.org>

British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

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Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 719 Moosehead Lake Rd., Greenville, ME 04441-9727 USA
Telephone: (207) 695-2909 or (207) 695-3163; FAX: (207) 695-3163; email: eparker@midmaine.com

AWARDS EDITOR: Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA; email: 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: Edward T. Tweddell, 846 Silver Ln., Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-9321; email: north4e@earthlink.net

CONTENTS

FEATURES

Trinidad Numeral Cancels, <i>Ed Barrow</i>	4
British Honduras (Part II), <i>Dr. Ian Matheson</i>	5
Early use of Montserrat War Stamp, <i>John Davis</i>	13
Mail Forwarding, <i>Ramkissoon & Conrich</i>	14
Bahamas War Tax specimen, <i>Charles Freeland</i>	17
BVI Registration markings, <i>Giorgio Migliavacca</i>	18

COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others ..	2
Book review, <i>Edward "Tim" Tweddell</i>	3
BVI brings high price, <i>Giorgio Migliavacca</i>	21
President's Message, <i>Jack Harwood</i>	28
Membership Director's Report, <i>Tom Giraldi</i>	29
Our faithful advertisers	24-25, 29-32

CHART OF DEADLINES

January issue: Deadline November 15, mailing December 30; **April issue:** Deadline February 15, mailing March 30; **July issue:** Deadline May 15, mailing June 30; **October issue:** Deadline August 15, mailing September 30.

Trinidad Numeral Cancels: Two Discoveries!

By Ed Barrow
Of the USA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

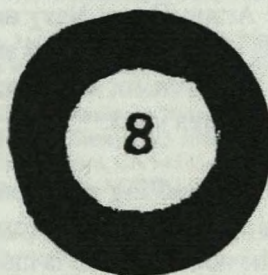
In the past year, I came across two unrecorded Trinidad numeral cancels that may be of interest to fellow Trinidad collectors. The first is a Marriott type 0.1a, number 8 on a brownish grey imperforate Britannia (SG 6). This number was assigned to Turure Settlement, which was formed in 1816 by ex-soldiers of the First West India Regiment in northeast Trinidad near Matura.

This is a very heavy strike and the ink is caked with fibers in parts (probably from the stamp pad). The holes in the outer ring, which characterize this cancel type, are visible when the stamp is held up against the light. The outer diameter is 24mm and the inner is 14mm.

The second cancel is much weaker, but it is clearly a Marriott type 0.4 number 27. The stamp is an 1876 6d green Britannia (SG 77). This number was assigned to Monos, one of the larger islands off Trinidad's northwest tip.

Marriott, John. *The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862*. London: British West Indies Study Circle, 1963.

Aleong, Joe Chin and Edward Proud. *The Postal History of Trinidad & Tobago*. Heathfield, England: Proud Bailey, 1997.



Miscellaneous handstamps, cachets and other endorsements

By Dr. Ian Matheson
Of South Africa

Part II
Part I was in the July issue

Type DA-4 60mm x 11mm handstamp. Recorded from a cover from California to Belize. The cover also bore a US handstamp inscribed "DAMAGED IN HANDLING / IN THE POSTAL SERVICE" and a USPO resealing label.

ERD = 10/3/66

LRD = ---

Type DA-5 70mm x 11mm boxed handstamp. The only recorded copy is ex Addiss and Proud, (who reports that the cachet was sent out on 12 July 1909 - this is unlikely!)

ERD = 17/5/68

LRD = ---

RECEIVED IN THIS CONDITION

Type DA-5

5. SLOGAN HANDSTAMPS.

The marks listed here were all applied by the Post Office. It is known that some of the marks were issued to District Post Offices. In some cases several examples of a particular handstamp were prepared for use at different post offices, but as most of the recorded letters passed through GPO Belize, it is usually nearly impossible to determine with 100% certainty where the mark was applied.

Type S-1 "British Empire Exhibition". 65mm x 33mm. Purple. Recorded on letters emanating from Belize, Corozal, Monkey River, Orange Walk, Punta Gorda, and Stann Creek. Struck in purple.

ERD = 8/4/24

LRD = 3/10/24

Type S-2 "Buy British Goods". Lettering 8 mm and 4 mm high. Cachet is 58mm long. Recorded used on mail from Belize, Corozal, Orange Walk, Punta Gorda and Stann Creek. Struck in purple.

ERD = 9/10/25

LRD = 2/5/28

VISIT
BRITISH HONDURAS
COURT
BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

Type S-1

BUY BRITISH GOODS
AND GET THE BEST

Type S-2

Type S-3 "Prevent Pine Forest Fires". Boxed cachet of 62mm x 13mm. Used at GPO Belize and Stann Creek. Struck in purple.

ERD = 28/1/27

LRD = 2/5/28

Type S-4 "Eat British Honduras Grapefruit". Mark is 82mm x 11½mm. Violet.

ERD = 13/4/35

LRD = 2/10/36

Type S-5 "Prevent Forest Fires". Boxed cachet of 50 x 22½mm. Struck in violet.

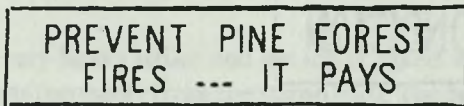
ERD = 4/5/53

LRD = ---

Type S-6 "Princess Alice Appeal". Boxed cachet of 54½mm x 11mm. Purple.

ERD = 19/4/55

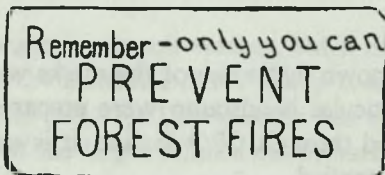
LRD = ---



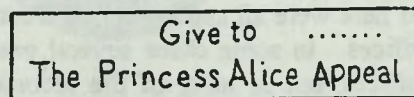
Type S-3



Type S-4



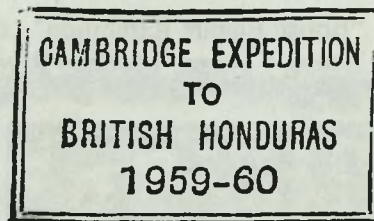
Type S-5



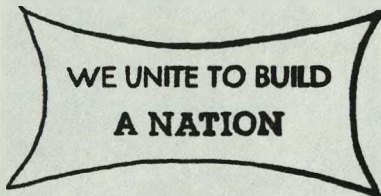
Type S-6



Type S-7



Type S-8



Type S-9

REMEMBER
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW
13th and 14th NOVEMBER

Type S-10

REMEMBER
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW
13th and 14th NOVEMBER

Type S-11

Type S-7 "Royal Visit". Dimensions 50mm x 30mm. Struck in violet.

ERD = 5/5/58

LRD = 6/5/58

Type S-8 "Cambridge Expedition To British Honduras 1959-60". Dimensions 50mm x 30mm. Struck in violet.

ERD = 7/9/59

LRD = ---

Type S-9 "We Unite to Build a Nation". Dimension 53mm x 28mm. Struck in violet or black. Used in Stann Creek, Cayo and Belize.

ERD = 23/12/64

LRD = 26/1/65

Type S-10 "Remember/National Agricultural Show / 13th and 14th November". Recorded used in Stann Creek and Orange Walk. Struck in violet.

ERD = 27/7/71

LRD = 27/10/71

Type S-11 "Remember/National Agricultural Show / 13th and 14th November". A similar mark to Type S10, but with the first line moved a little to the left. Used in Barranco. Struck in black.

ERD = 10/8/71

LRD = ---

REMEMBER
National Agricultural Show
13th And 14th NOVEMBER

Support The Belizean
Green Revolution

Type S-12

Type S-13

Type S-12 "Remember / National Agricultural Show / 13th And 14th November". Only recorded used at Baking Pot P.O. Struck in dull violet.

ERD = 31/7/71

LRD = 4/8/71

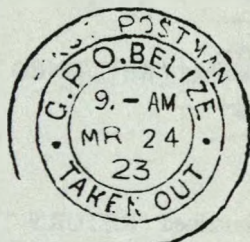
Type S-13 "Support the Belizean / Green Revolution". Only recorded used at Baking Pot P.O. Struck in dull violet.

ERD = 31/7/71

LRD = ---

8. "TAKEN OUT"

This mark is obviously an official GPO Belize handstamp, but the purpose it served is not known.



Type TO-1



Type TO-2

Type TO-1 Triple circles of diameter 33mm, 26mm and 17mm. The only recorded strike is on an incoming cover from Guatemala to Belize. The wording appears to be "FIRST POSTMAN" between the two outer rings.

ERD = 24/3/23

LRD = ---

Type TO-2 Triple circles of diameter 33mm, 26mm and 17mm. The only recorded strike is also on an incoming cover from Guatemala to Belize. The wording between the two outer rings is "SECOND POSTMAN". The font of the "P" in "G.P.O." differs from type TO-1 and the "K" in "TAKEN" differs significantly.

ERD = 12/2/23

LRD = ---

9. UNDELIVERED MAIL

When the Post Office could not or would not deliver any piece of mail, the letter or package had to be returned to the sender. Such pieces of mail were generally endorsed with the reason for non-delivery. In most countries a "Dead Letter Office" was established to deal with such letters. In this office the mail would be examined to find a return address if possible, even if this entailed opening the letter under controlled conditions. The letter would then be sent back, either in its original cover or in a new larger envelope. Many countries employed a "Dead Letter Office" handstamp to explain the delay. GPO Belize used such a mark only for a short period.

Several letters have been recorded sent to British Honduras or returned from British Honduras with a handstruck pointing hand, and inscribed "RETURN TO" or similar. Whether these were used in British Honduras or elsewhere, and whether they were official Post Office marks or private instructions is unclear, but the types illustrated here appear to be GPO issue.

9.1 RETURN TO SENDER / UNCLAIMED / REFUSED MARKS.

Type RTS-1a 40mm x 5mm type. Struck in black.

ERD = 10/6/04

LRD = ---

Type RTS-1b 36mm x 5mm type. Used in conjunction with type RTS-2 pointing hand. Struck in purple. Although types 1a and 1b have been grouped together, it is unlikely that they were supplied at the same time, as type 1a was probably lost in the 1909 GPO fire and type 1b supplied afterwards. The recorded example is on a postcard from Honolulu.

ERD = 15/4/10

LRD = ---

Type RTS-2 53mm long pointing hand (to right) handstamp inscribed "RETURN TO WRITER". Struck in purple.

ERD = 15/4/10

LRD = ---

Type RTS-3 35mm long pointing hand (to left) handstamp inscribed "RETURNED TO WRITER". Struck in purple.

ERD = 4/1/30

LRD = 14/6/30

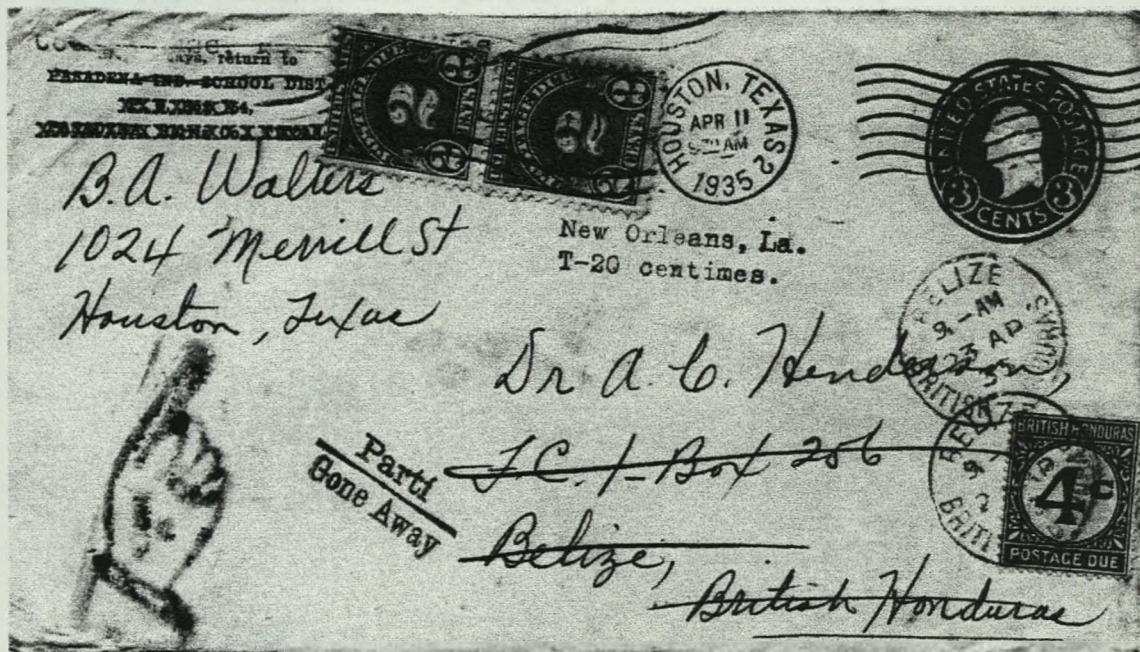
Type RTS-4 45mm long pointing hand (to right) handstamp inscribed "RETURN TO". Struck in purple.

ERD = 6/12/31

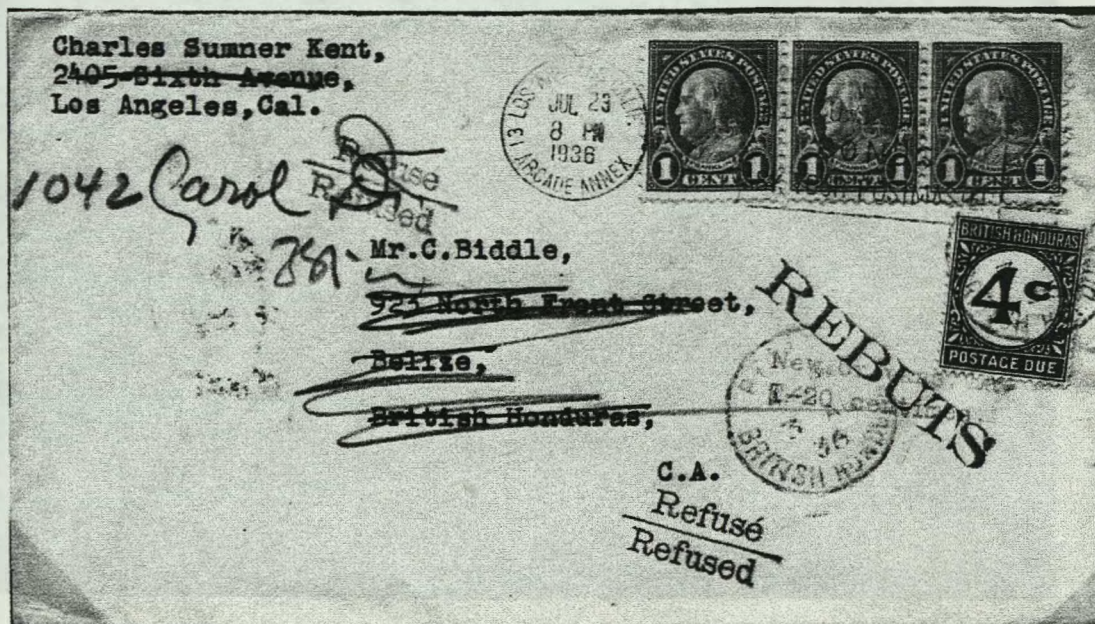
LRD = 2/8/36

KG V cachets on undelivered mail to British Honduras

23 April 1935. 3c postal stationery envelope sent from Houston to Belize on 11 April 1935. New Orleans tax handstamp ("New Orleans, La. / T - 20 centimes.") applied and, on arrival in Belize, a 4c British Honduras postage due added, cancelled Belize 23 April 1935 (rate to Belize was 5c). Cover is endorsed with GPO Belize "Parti / Gone Away" type RTS 5b and pointing hand type RTS-4, then returned to USA, where the two US 2c postage dues were applied.

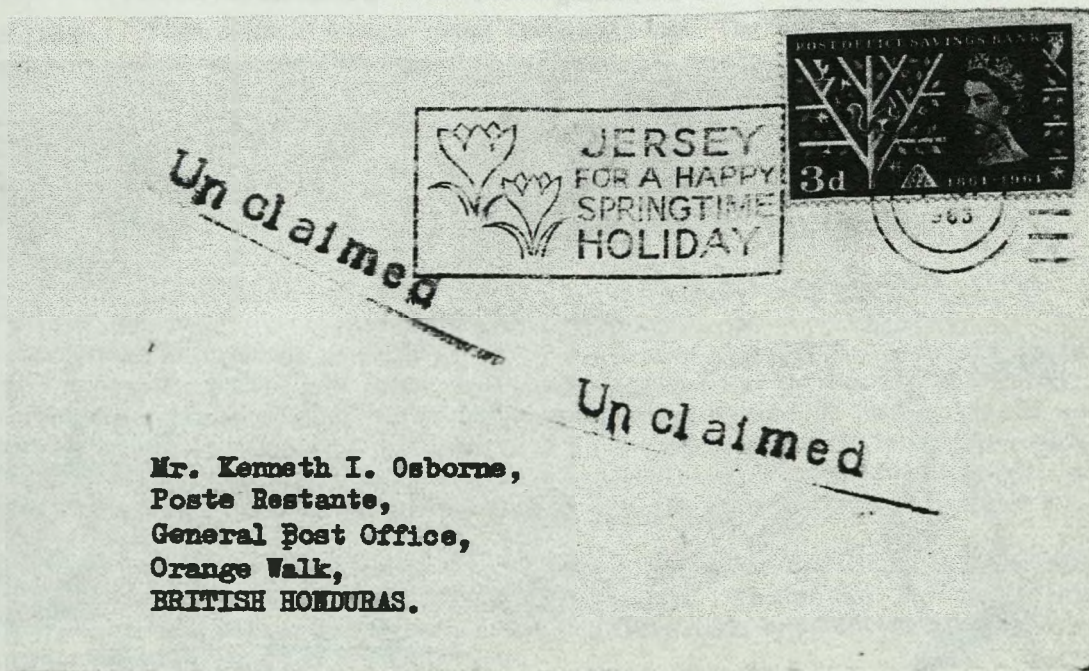


23 July 1936. Cover sent from Los Angeles to Belize franked with 3c in postage (postal rate was 5c). New Orleans tax handstamp ("New Orleans, La. / T - 20 centimes.") applied and, on arrival in Belize, a 4c British Honduras postage due added, cancelled Belize 3 August 1936. In Belize a "Refusé / Refused" type RTS-5a, "REBUTS" type RTS-7 and pointing hand type RTS-4 handstamps were applied prior to returning the letter to USA.

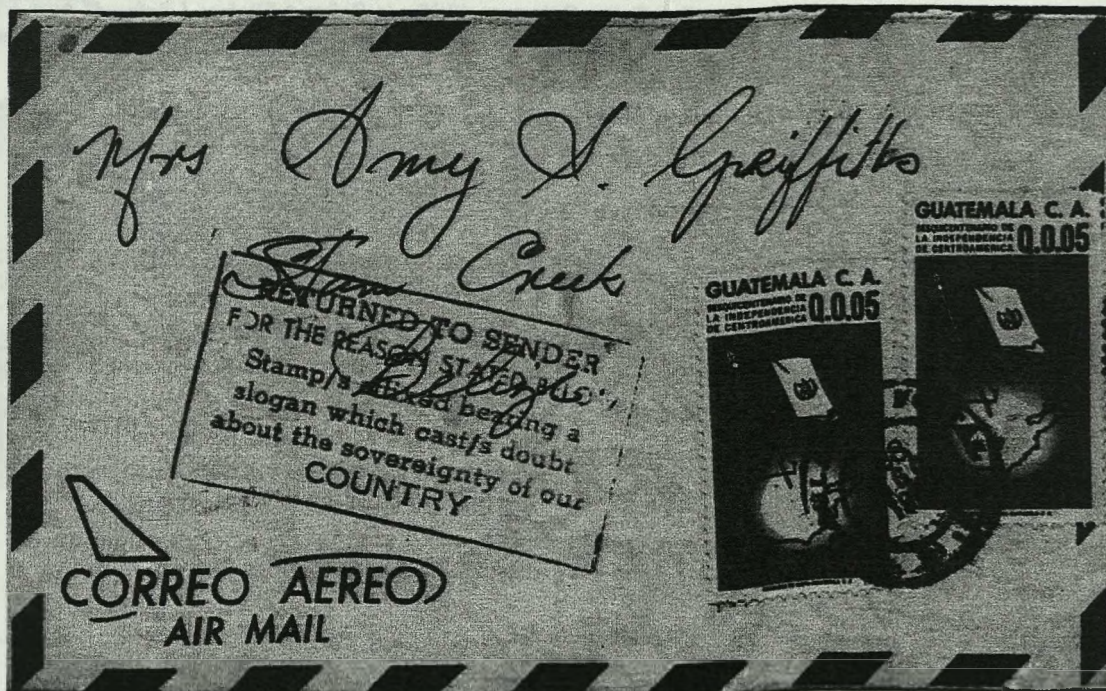


QE II cachets on undelivered mail to British Honduras

1 November 1963. Envelope from Jersey to Orange Walk (Poste Restante) with a crude, probably local, "Unclaimed" cachet (RTS-10).



28 August 1972. Envelope from Guatemala to Belize, franked with two 1971 Guatemalan adhesives which show the Guatemalan national boundary including British Honduras territory. The adhesives were deemed offensive and the letter was returned, after being struck with a type RTS-12 cachet.



Type RTS-5a Two line mark inscribed "Refuse / Refused", recorded on three covers from USA franked 3c and bearing 4c British Honduras postage due labels. Used in conjunction with a type RTS-7 "REBUTS" cachet and a type RTS-4 pointing hand (see photo). Struck in purple.

ERD = 27/4/35*

LRD = 2/8/36

Type RTS-5b Two line mark inscribed "Parti / Gone Away" in a type similar to type 5a, recorded on a cover from USA franked 3c and bearing 4c British Honduras postage due label and 4c in US postage due labels (see photo). Used in conjunction with a type RTS-4 pointing hand. Struck in purple.

ERD = 23/4/35

LRD = ---

UNCLAIMED

REFUSED

Type RTS-1a

Type RTS-1b

Refusé
Refused

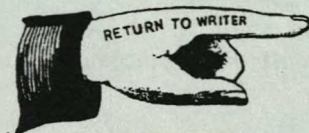
Parti
Gone Away

INCONNU
UNKNOWN

Type RTS-5a

Type RTS-5b

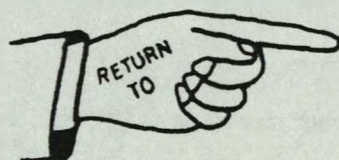
Type RTS-6



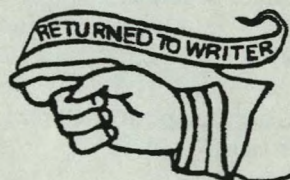
Type RTS-2



Type RTS-3



Type RTS-4



Type RTS-8

REBUTS

UNCLAIMED

Un claimed

Type RTS-7

Type RTS-9

Type RTS-10





RETURNED TO WRITER
REASON CHECKED
Unclaimed _____ Refused _____
Unknown _____
Insufficient address _____
Moved, left no address _____
No such office in Colony _____
Deceased _____

RETURNED TO SENDER
FOR THE REASON STATED BELOW
Stamp/s affixed bearing a
slogan which cast/s doubt
about the sovereignty of our
COUNTRY

Type RTS-11**Type RTS-12****Type RTS-6**

Two line mark inscribed "INCONNU / UNKNOWN" in a different type from 5a and 5b, recorded on a cover posted at sea (United Fruit Company) bearing Belize Paquebot, and subsequently returned to Illinois.

ERD = 3/4/36

LRD = ---

Type RTS-7

44mm x 6mm "REBUTS" handstamp. Used in combination with type RTS-4 on all three recorded examples of type RTS-5a. Struck in purple.

ERD = 27/4/35*

LRD = 2/8/36

Type RTS-8

38mm long pointing hand (to left) handstamp inscribed "RETURNED TO WRITER". Struck in purple.

ERD = 4/11/46

LRD = ---

Type RTS-9

32mm x 4½mm. Proofed in London on 20/6/61. Not yet recorded used.

ERD = ---

LRD = ---

Type RTS-10

39mm x 5mm (excluding underlining). Believed to have been used in Orange Walk. Struck in purple.

ERD = 1/11/63*

LRD = ---

Type RTS-11

General purpose "Returned to Writer" cachet. Spelling error "SCUH" for "SUCH". Struck in violet.

ERD = 30/9/71*

LRD = 14/2/72*

Type RTS-12

35mm x 65mm. Recorded used from Guatemala. Stamp featured a Guatemalan map incorporating the territory of British Honduras into Guatemala. (see photo). Struck in violet.

ERD = 28/8/72*

LRD = ---

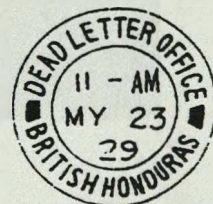
* Date of posting, not date of handling at GPO Belize.

9.2. DEAD LETTER OFFICE**Type DLO-1**

Double circular (27mm/17mm) datestamp. Struck in black or violet (LRD).

ERD = 31/12/24

LRD = 11/3/36

**Type DLO-1**

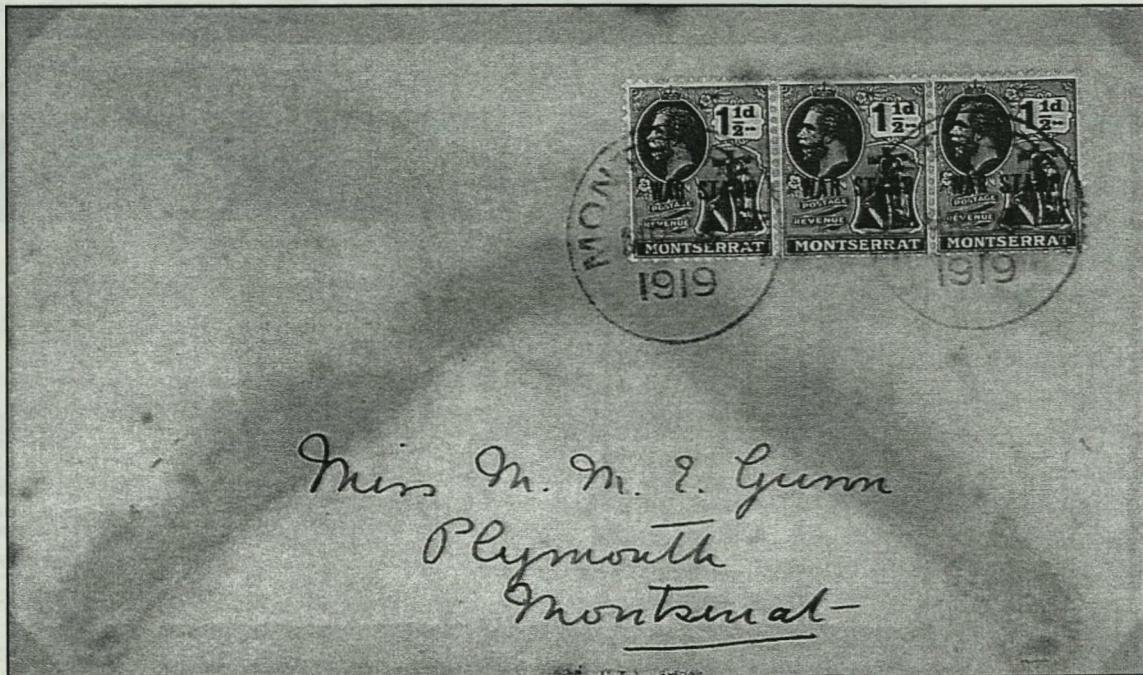
New early usage of Montserrat War Tax stamp?

By John Davis

Of the United Kingdom

Messrs. Ewens received their first consignment of the Montserrat "War Tax" stamp on April 4, 1919. They reported that the despatch date from Montserrat was March 6, and assumed that this was the day of issue. This date has been perpetuated by other philatelic commentators, including Britnor, and more recently Stanley Gibbons. My guess is that Ewen's assumption has been interpreted by others as fact. However, I have not seen any government or Post Office records that report an official first day of issue. Can any members enlighten me?

It just so happens that I have an internal cover mailed to a Miss Gunn of Plymouth, Montserrat which was franked with a strip of three of the 1 1/2d. war tax stamps cancelled with a date stamp for March 4, 1919, two days earlier than all reported dates. I am claiming this to be the earliest known date of usage, (and probably the real first day of issue) unless any members can claim earlier known dates.



1919 Internal Cover to Plymouth

An internal cover to Plymouth franked with a strip of three of the 1 1/2d. orange stamps overprinted WAR STAMP in black. The stamps are cancelled MR 4 1919 with single ring circular datestamps (March 4, 1919). The usage of stamps on this cover predates the reported first day of issue (March 6, 1919) by two days. To add to the interest with this cover, the stamp on the left has the variety showing the 1 and 1/2d. closer together.

Mail Forwarding Service Inaugurated by the Anguilla Postal Service

By Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL, DTP, and Robert S. Conrich

The Anguilla Postal Service has implemented a mail forwarding service that subscribers may utilize for correspondence as well as business transactions in the United States. Named "Home Shopping" by the Postal Service, it has been in operation since early 2003. The service is a response that relieves the long delays in the delivery of mail and merchandise to Anguilla and other Caribbean destinations from the United States. Further, many American vendors simply refuse all foreign orders.

The service allows a subscriber to order a broad range of items from the United States and have these delivered directly to the subscriber's letterbox -- all these, at very competitive rates. A multicolored trifolded information brochure from Anguilla Postal Service outlines the details of the offering. An introductory statement indicates recognition of the inconvenience to patrons ordering items from catalogs and mail order companies.

The principal benefits of the "Home Shopping" may be summarized in the ease and availability of obtaining correspondence and merchandise. These include: opportunity to order from sources in the United States: television promotions, mail order, and catalogue companies; lower incoming postal rates for correspondence (domestic mail rates from the United States); greatly reduced conveyance charges; convenient delivery of items directly to a customer's letterbox; 24-hour access to subscriber's mail; convenience of clearing items without completing Customs Entry (non-commercial) forms; waiving of handling fee.

The greatest benefits are the reduced conveyance charges and not having to complete a Customs Entry Declaration, take it to the Customs Department, return to Customs a few days later, stand in line to see if the shipment was approved, pay the duty to the Customs cashier, return to the GPO and pay for the privilege of having them inspect the goods for contraband. For non-commercial residents of Anguilla, it is easier to go to neighboring St. Martin on the ferry, and buy what they need.



Figure 1

The service, as set in operation, performs in the following manner:

- Anguilla Postal Service has set up a Dallas, Texas post office box access address; all patrons of "Home Shopping" share this post office box number.
- Anguilla patrons desiring to utilize the service must complete the application form and remit the required fees.
- When the application form with the required fees is submitted, the Dallas, Texas post office box access address is provided by Anguilla Postal Service. The subscriber must indicate his Anguilla letterbox number with his name when utilizing the service; e.g., John Doe - 1655, followed by the Dallas, Texas post office box address.

• "Home Shopping" customers must exercise the shipping option of the United States Postal Service (other courier services do not deliver through the post office).

HOME SHOPPING NOTICE

Name of Addressee Bob Conrich ORIGIN USA
 Address/P.O. Box # 666 POST OFFICE
 Date received 20/10/03
 NO. HS 1015, 1016

Dear Valued Customer

A parcel/~~small packet~~ awaits your claim at the Parcel Post Section of the General Post Office. Please travel with this notice when claiming parcel(s), between the hours of 8:30 am - 4:45 pm, Monday to Friday.

Charges will be levied on parcels remaining at the Parcel Post Window uncollected over a period of two weeks, EC\$1.00 per day.

Thank you for using the Home Shopping Service!

Figure 2

Access Fees and Deposit Account Services


For United States access address: EC\$100.00 per annum (\$37 US); deposit to activate the account: EC\$100.00; the deposit is intended to pay the cost of conveyance, with the exception of letters. A notice is left in the letterbox to replenish the account when the balance falls below EC\$10.00

Rates are charged according to the following schedule: magazines EC\$2.00; packages (up to 39.9 lbs) EC\$5.50; packages (40-70 lbs) EC\$6.50; letters: free. Upon the receipt of each item by the post office, the appropriate deduction is made to a customer's account, and a statement reflecting the deductions and remaining credit balance is placed in the appropriate letterbox. Balances are carried over annually.

Mailing restrictions and prohibitions: Restrictions: items over 70 pounds. The prevailing prohibitions reflect the current legislation in effect on Anguilla. Items prohibited: pornography, radioactive material, illegal drugs, witchcraft-related material, alcohol, firearms.

The following illustrations present the workings of "Home Shopping." An actual shipping label (Figure 1) from a supplier shows a Priority Mail package (\$5.50 with De-

Continued on page 16



Home Shopping Service

DELIVERY STATEMENT

NAME Bob Conrich
 P.O. BOX # 666
 ACCOUNT # 119

No. of Pcs.	Category	Rate	Weight of package (s)	Cost per lb	Air conveyance on package(s)	ECS
	Magazines	EC\$2.00				
1	Packages		2.6	5.50 6.50	14.30	
					Deposit	
					Credit Balance	103 90
					Amount Deducted	14 30
					Balance on hand	94 60

Prepared by: [Signature]
 Date: 16/03

Figure 3

livery Confirmation) directed to the U.S. access address at P.O. Box 616007, Dallas, TX 75261-6007. Upon delivery to the access address, the package is re-addressed to the Postmaster General, Anguilla Post Office, utilizing a G-10 USPS Postage Paid label, further endorsed in manuscript, "Int'l Priority Paid / Dallas ISC." The examples studied are all in the same handwriting

When the package arrives at the GPO, Valley, Anguilla, a "Home Shopping Notice" (*Figure 2*) is placed in the customer's letterbox. The customer takes the notice to the Parcel Post Section of the GPO, reviews and accepts the "Home Shopping" service "Delivery Statement" (*Figure 3*) and collects the package, after postal inspection and payment of customs duty, if applicable.

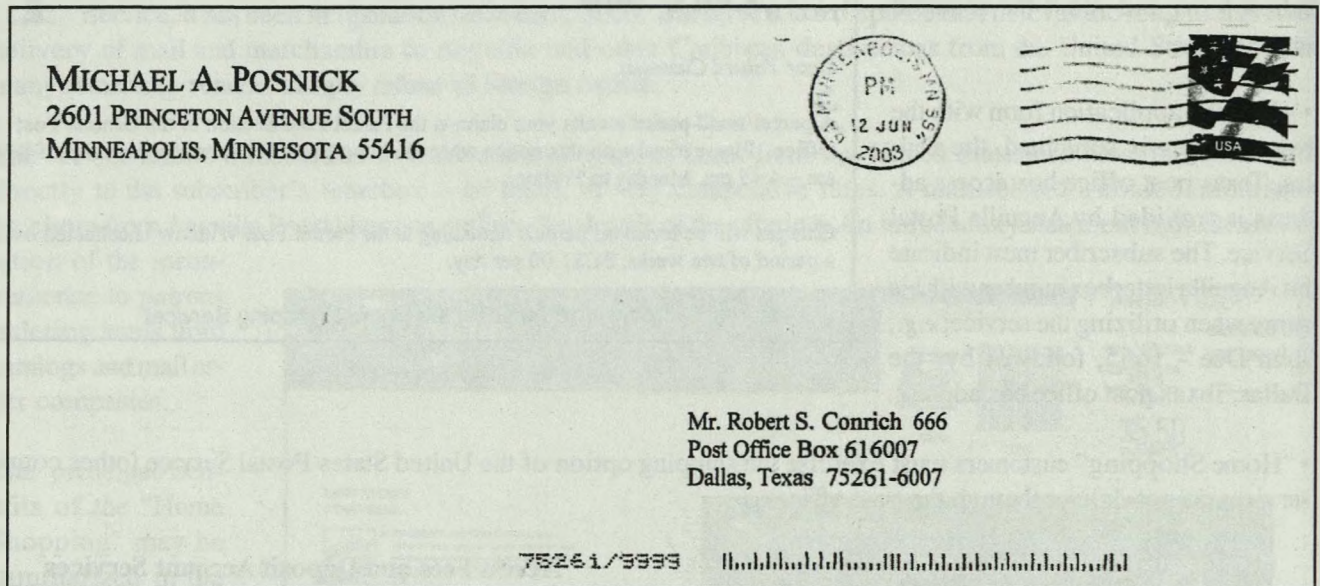


Figure 4

The net positive results which accrue from "Home Shopping" include rapid turn-around time, savings of international shipping fees by the traditional carriers and couriers, ease of obtaining delivery, avoidance of customs office interaction, since all of these services are provided by the postal service. Further, deliveries now may be several times a week, compared to several weeks or months of elapsed time before the service was introduced.

An added benefit is that all letters received through the "Home Shopping" service are free of additional postage fees for international mail. Letters intended for delivery to Anguilla travel in the United States as domestic mail to the access address in Dallas, Texas, and on arrival at the GPO, Valley, Anguilla, are placed in the appropriate letterbox without payment of any additional postage. (*Figure 4*).

The disadvantages of "Home Shopping" service are the weight limitation of 70 pounds and the inability to utilize other carriers, such as United Parcel Service (UPS). Neither of these ordinarily would cause any difficulty for patrons. The authors would welcome information relative to similar services being offered by other postal administrations in the Caribbean region or elsewhere.

Acknowledgments

I (RAR) am indebted to BCPSG resident Anguilla member, Bob Conrich for providing the materials used in this communication.

References

1. *Home Shopping—From your supplier in the USA directly into your local Letterbox*, brochure from the Anguilla Postal Service, General Post Office, The Valley, Anguilla, B.W.I.
2. USPS Priority Mail shipping label from a package shipped by a supplier at Hesperia, CA 92340-2221 to "Home

Continued on page 17

Bahamas War Tax specimen; "missent" cover

By Charles Freeland
Of Switzerland

Bahamas specialists who have read the literature are aware that the De La Rue specimen of the 3d. staircase overprinted with the two line War Tax (SG #105 and Scott #MR14) exists with an inverted watermark. The frequency with which this variety occurs is not reliably known but I can shed a bit of light on it from observation of the flaws. Some years ago, I was pleased to find this stamp with the double tree trunk flaw (pos. 56) and initially thought it would prove to be the only

known copy. However, in the recent sale of our member Graham Hoey's marvellous Bahamas collection at the British auction house Cavendish, there was a second copy

Mail forwarding to Anguilla

Continued from page 16

Shopping" Customer, at P.O. Box 616007, Dallas, TX 75261-6007; then re-directed for delivery to Anguilla, using a USPS First Class Mail / Postage & Fees Paid/ USPS / Permit No. G-10, and endorsed in manuscript; "Int. Priority Paid, Dallas, ISC" addressed to the: Postmaster General, Anguilla Post Office, General Post Office, The Valley, Anguilla, British West Indies.

3. "Home Shopping Notice," May 25, 2003.

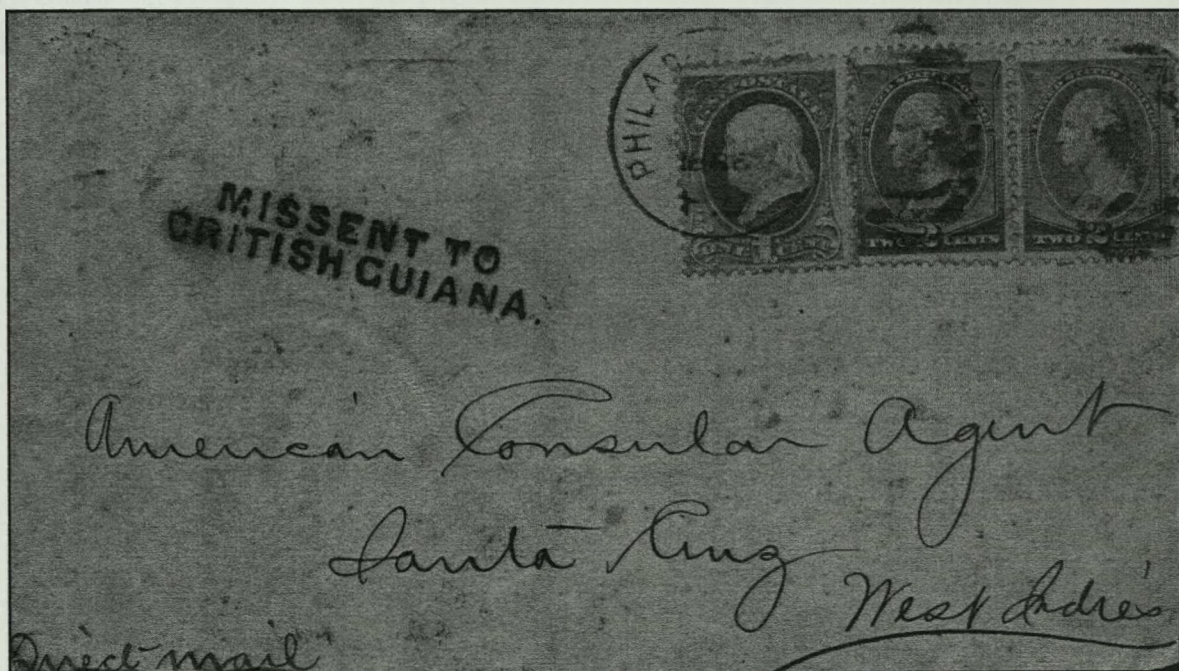
4. Anguilla Postal Service, "Home Shopping" Service, Delivery Statement, June 2, 2003.

5. Letter from U.S.A. delivered to subscriber's letterbox without additional postage to Anguilla.

6. Information Service Center (ISC), USPS web site, July 2003.

lying unrecognized in a mixed lot of staircase 3ds. Marcus Samuel states that between 369 and 423 Specimens were prepared at this date, which means a maximum of only seven sheets of 60. So at least two of these seven sheets had the watermark inverted. Can any member report another sighting of this rare flaw to add to the total?

An additional way of learning more about the frequency



"Missent to British Guiana"

of these watermark placements is to conduct a census of the 56 flaw (or alternatively the 12 flaw) on the upright watermark stamps too. I have one example of each of these flaws on an upright watermark Specimen. Can anyone report additional examples? My contact details are inside the front cover.

Missent to British Guiana

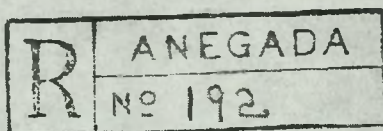
Fred Seifert was one of the Grand Old Men who founded the Group and served as our president when I first joined. I was therefore excited to have the opportunity to bid for his British Guiana collection when it appeared at the Victoria Stamp Company auction back in February this year. The collection was a large one with a marvellous array of cancellations in particular and one spectacular usage that I was fortunate to acquire. This was the first recorded use of the illustrated missent marking, a strong and clear strike on an 1889 cover from the US. Sadly the reverse of the cover is missing but this does not detract from its stunning visual appeal.

Registered Mail Postmarks and Labels of the British Virgin Islands: 1950-2004

By Giorgio Migliavacca
Of the British Virgin Islands

This is the first attempt to provide a listing as complete as possible of registered mail postmarks and labels of the British Virgin Islands during the last 54 years. This listing is by no means complete and I invite readers and specialists to contact me to communicate additions and amendments.

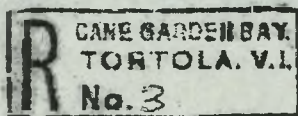
ANEGADA



All registration postmarks are struck in black unless otherwise stated.

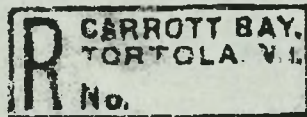
1990s to date -- 50mm width.

CANE GARDEN BAY, TORTOLA



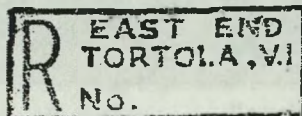
1980s to date -- 40 mm width.

CARROT BAY, TORTOLA

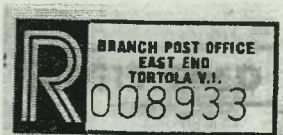


1980s to date -- 40 mm width.

EAST END, TORTOLA



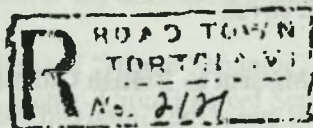
1980s to date -- 40 mm width.



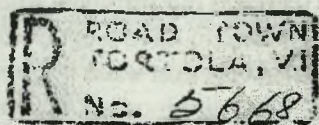
All labels are various shades of blue unless otherwise stated: they are normally used as a modern and practical replacement of the registration postmarks of the old days.

1990s to date

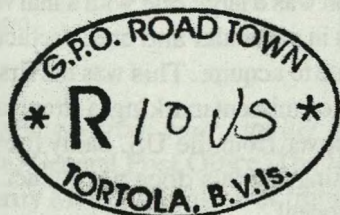
ROAD TOWN G.P.O. TORTOLA



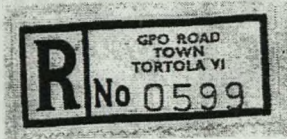
1950 (and earlier, of course!) to 1960s -- about 40mm width.



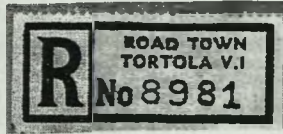
Mid-1960s to 1970s -- about 41mm width; differs from earlier type (there is no solid line under TORTOLA, V.I., the font is larger; the "R" is thinner).



Temporary Registration Rubber Postmark; used for 15-20 days end of December 2002 - early January 2003. The device caused delays in processing registered mail and was unsuitable to a high volume counter such as the one at the General Post Office; 44mm. diameter.



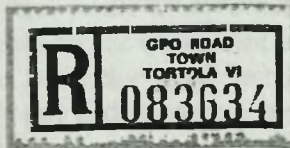
1970s -- rectangle about 38mm. width, perforated.



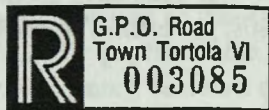
Late 1970s -- rectangle about 38mm. width, perforated.



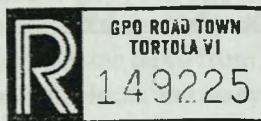
Mid-1980s -- rectangle about 38mm. width, imperforate.



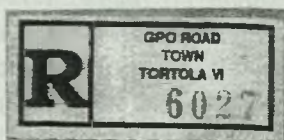
Mid-1980s -- rectangle about 38mm. width, perforated.



Mid-1980s -- rectangle about 38mm. width, imperforate.



Mid-1990s -- rectangle about 38mm. width, imperforate.



Late 1980s -- the number is in red, rectangle about 38mm. width, imperforate. Revived in 2003 when the gum was no longer sticking; the first remedy was to use tape, which brought about the introduction of the G.P.O. oval registration postmark shown earlier.



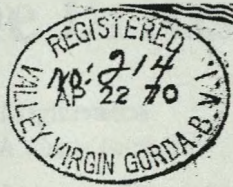
Seeing the difficulties in obtaining new registration labels, the G.P.O. introduced in late 2003 locally made computer generated, self-sticking registration labels; the registration number is in red.

TERRENCE B. LETTSOME
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
BEEF ISLAND



Registration Rubber Postmark, 2003 to date; 39mm. diameter.

THE VALLEY, VIRGIN GORDA

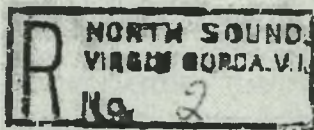


1970s to 1990s; 32mm. diameter.



1990s to date; 38mm. width.

NORTH SOUND, VIRGIN GORDA

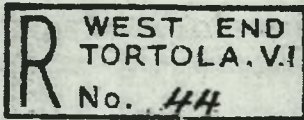


1980s to date; 40mm. width.

WEST END, TORTOLA



WEST END -- Use goes back about 100 years, still in use in the 1980s, sometimes struck in colors other than black.



1950s to 1990s; 40mm. width.



Registration Rubber Postmark, 2003; struck in red ink, 38mm. in diameter.

PRIVATELY PRODUCED LABELS



Privately Produced Cinderella Registration Labels were used on registered mail in addition to the Road Town registration labels during the late 1990s and 2000-2002. The use was limited.



BVI collection brings very high price

By **Giorgio Migliavacca**
Of the *British Virgin Islands*

What is described as the best collection of British Virgin Islands stamps ever formed was auctioned by Spink of London on May 20, 2004 and netted £233,000, or well over US\$430,000. No lot of the celebrated William Frazer Collection of BVI Stamps and Postal History remained unsold, many of the stamps and covers attracting fierce bidding resulting in items being hammered down at three to 10 times their estimates.

Attending the historic sale was Secretary of the BVI Philatelic Society, Roger Downing, who said, "Those were the fastest three hours in my life. My adrenaline was at the maximum for the excitement and the bidding was unbelievable. Partly due to the fact that BVI material is intrinsically rare and in no small measure because the *Specialised Stamp Catalogue of the BVI* (a joint effort of the BVI Philatelic Society and BVI Government) has promoted local stamps like no other publication before raising the philatelic profile of the Territory at its highest level ever." Downing said that there were four bidders on the telephone and those in the auction room were very determined to get what they wanted.

It has since been learned that at least three BVI collectors have secured several star items from the Frazer Collection, including unique pieces and many pedigreed rarities from collections formed by the Swiss billionaire Maurice Burrus and the Duke of Argyll. Quite a few items were bought by a London dealer who was in attendance and some collectors were surprised at the high prices paid by this gentleman. Some of the better items acquired by a dealer were sold in less than 10 days and this was equally surprising. In chatting with this dealer, I learned that some of his buyers of BVI material were not necessarily specialists. He explained that early Virgin Islands stamps and covers have always been difficult to acquire and many Commonwealth or general collectors are quite happy to have just a small representation of rare or high quality items.

The highest price paid for a pre-adhesive letter was Lot 502, an 1815 entire letter from Tortola to Kendal showing the circular PAID TO ENGLAND handstamp in red. It fetched £1,900 (all realizations quoted here do not include the 15% premium paid by the buyer). This lot was estimated at £800-1,000 and if my memory serves me right, it was first offered in a lot of about 300 Tortola covers sold by Robson Lowe in the late 1960s for a few hundred pounds. I must admit that I have no knowledge as to where this handstamp was applied. Was it in tran-

sit? It would be very strange that the only occurrence of an accessory handstamp of this kind struck in red ink originated in Tortola. At the time and for many, many years to come, no red ink was used at the Road Town post office, or at least there is no evidence of it whatsoever. I hope the lucky buyer of this letter can provide a well researched answer explaining where the red handstamp was applied.

The only two Great Britain stamps used at Tortola with an "A13" cancellation from the Frazer Collection went to the same buyer. Lot 510, the unique 4d. rose (SG #Z2) cancelled "A13" fetched £3,000; it originally sold for a tiny fraction of this amount in 1968 at another Robson Lowe auction. Die proofs did extremely well and color trials proved equally popular. Lot 526, 6d. vermilion 1866 unissued transfer, block of 22 went from an estimate of £1,200 to a final bid of £2,700. Although this is a very impressive realization, it still means that the buyer paid less than £150 for each stamp, a rather low price considering the intrinsic rarity of this material.

Lot 527, a similar block of six in blue estimated at £300 found a new home for £1000, still a rather low price for a multiple of this kind. A surprise to many in attendance was Lot 534, a block of 12 of the 6d. first issue with huge unsevered margin at the bottom; estimated at £300, the rare or possibly unique block found a new home at £2,400.

Lot 549, the mint 1d. green perf 15x12 (SG #5a, £4,250) with part gum (as expected) and a few customary shortish perfs went from an estimate of £2,000 to a successful bid of £5,500. This is well above the Stanley Gibbons' price and it would be reasonable to expect that the catalogue editor will be busy revising many of the BVI prices for next year's edition of the red book. Lot 500, the used counterpart of the compound perforation rarity, sold for £5,500, or full SG price. Yet, it is a give-away when you consider that only two SG #5a are known in used condition -- rarer than many West Indian rarities and possibly much more elusive than some of their Mauritius "distant cousins."

All the stamps on cover did very well, although a large proportion was philatelic in nature. Given the limited supply and the scarcity of this material, collectors and exhibition jurors must close one eye when they see a philatelically inspired cover of the late 1800s. The highest price for a cover was Lot 551 (£7,000), a May 1869 cover with a horizontal pair of the 1d. green, one 6d. rose and one 4d. lake-red on pale rose to make up a 1/- postal rate at a time when 1/- stamps should have been readily available at the Road Town Post Office. The three-color franking

Continued on page 22

Treasurer Tweddell to step down after 6 years

After six years as Treasurer of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, Edward "Tim" Tweddell has decided it's time for someone else to assume the position.

In thanking Mr. Tweddell for serving as Treasurer over the years, President Jack Harwood asked that anyone interested in filling the position to contact him immediately. It is also possible to contact the Secretary, Duane Larson. The address for each of these officers can be found on page 2 of the *Journal*.

The new treasurer will take office beginning in January 2005. Tweddell said his decision to resign the position was not taken lightly nor was it an easy one. "This is something I have been considering for several months," he said.

BWISC to host 50th anniversary meeting

There is still time to take part in the 50th anniversary of the founding of the British West Indies Study Circle. An event will be held in London on October 30 and 31 to celebrate the event. A meeting will be held on October 30 at the Royal Philatelic Society with two major displays and several smaller ones. On Sunday, October 31, there will be a meeting at the Spinks' salesroom in Southampton Row (almost opposite the Bonnington Hotel) with dealers' tables, a members table and a Golden Jubilee Sale of 50 rarities from the West Indies.

Members of the BCPSG who happen to be in London for PHILATEX are invited to attend the event. You may learn more at the BWISC web site: www.bwisc.org.

Important BVI auction at Spink

Continued from page 21

has high eye appeal despite some marginal imperfections of the cover and a toned perf on the pair, which explains why the item went from an estimate of £3,000 to a hammer price of £7,000. The successful and proud buyer told me that the item transited in his collection for less than two weeks and eventually found a new home.

For all the excitement that the sale generated, there was also one unbelievable anticlimax and this had to affect no less than the most famous Virgin Islands rarity -- the "Missing Virgin." Lot 604, 1/- 1867, variety "Figure of Virgin Omitted" (SG #18b £70,000) did not generate much enthusiasm and was sold to a telephone bidder for £28,000. A copy of this great rarity was hammered down by Spink in March 2003 for £60,000 (not inclusive of the 15% premium). It is difficult to say who was the smart buyer. For instance, if the buyer is the same person, then he has accomplished a major philatelic coup by cornering the market for there are not many Missing Virgins around. The impressive Frazer copy of this rarity originally belonged to the legendary Ferrary Collection and was later acquired by C.J.L. Snowden.

Lot 625, 1d. green 1878, watermark Crown CC, a complete and possibly unique sheet of 24 plate proofs on white glazed card, estimated £2,500 and mentioned in the Migliavacca catalogue, was hammered down for £5,800. Speaking of the surprises, in the segment of the Frazer Collection devoted to the 1888 4d. overprint on 1/-, one cannot but wonder why such a knowledgeable and acquisitive collector had not secured at least one copy of the double overprint. He certainly must have consoled himself with the two sheets of the same stamp, one on

toned paper (Lot 674, estimate £1,000) and one on white paper (Lot 676, estimate £1,500). They sold for £6,500 each. And both sheets found a new buyer a few weeks later. Truly amazing.

The late Victorian issues included many fought over highlights. For example, Lot 682 (estimate £2,500), 1899 Virgin of the Lilies, imperforate color trials set in the issued colors affixed to two Appendixes said to be unique, sold for £6,500.

"The intensity of the competition for this collection was unbelievable and reflects the historical importance of BVI stamps," Downing said. He had spent two days at Spink prior to the auction to view every item of the Frazer Collection and make notes on quality and technical aspects. This information will be very valuable for the upcoming companion volume to the *BVI Specialised Stamp Catalogue*.

The William Frazer exhibition collection had disappeared from sight since the death of its owner many years ago. Mr. Frazer was a renowned stamp dealer specializing in British Commonwealth stamps. His philatelic estate is being auctioned by the Bloomsbury-based Spink of London and has already netted several millions of sterling pounds. In the 1970s Frazer's BVI collection won the Gold medal at the Munich World Stamp Exhibition (IBRA) and he managed to visit Tortola in September 1980 together with his wife and was interviewed by *The Welcome* magazine editor, Cyril Woodfield. In a letter to Woodfield, Frazer stated, "My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Tortola, and found everyone so friendly, which is perhaps reflected by the fact that the local prison was short of clients."

New issue survey

100th anniversary of shipping registry

Every member of our group has a favorite Caribbean island, I'm certain. For me, there are many such islands which stand out, but the Cayman Islands is one country that is a true favorite of mine. From Hell to the East End, there's something for everyone on Grand Cayman, and Little Cayman and the Brac each has its special qualities. The islands were seriously damaged by Hurricane Ivan as it tore through the Caribbean in September, and by the end of the month, still little has been heard about damage. Likely there has been significant damage to the country's infrastructure, and that brought to mind a set of stamps issued by the Caymans in January. The set of four stamps recognized the 100th anniversary of Shipping Registry, and it combined views of ships from olden days with more recent vessels.

The Cayman Islands have a rich seafaring history and following centuries of regional trading, Caymanians ventured to sea in merchant ships. They were well known for their excellent seamanship and were therefore highly sought after as crew. By the early part of the 20th century, over one-fifth of the population earned a living at sea as merchant mariners, and this continued for several decades. As a result of the global slump in shipping during the late 1960s, the economy diversified into tourism and banking. However, Caymanians have retained their maritime tradition, which today is demonstrated by the provision of a first class international shipping registry. As a "Category 1 British Registry," the Cayman Islands are qualified to register vessels of all sizes and classes, from yachts to supertankers, and have a reputation for quality, efficiency and a responsiveness to owners' requirements.

On January 29, 2004, a set of four stamps was issued to recognize the 100th anniversary of shipping registry. There is, of course, a story with each stamp. Here are the values and those stories:

15¢ - *Lady Slater*. The *Lady Slater* was named after the wife of the then Governor of Jamaica, and was built by Captain Royal B. Bodden, MBE, JP, at his yard in North

Church Street, George Town for the Cayman Islands and Gulf Motorboat Company Ltd. in 1934. She was one of the many ships built there, but at just over 109 feet long and more than 273 tons, was the largest motor vessel ever built in the Caymans. Sadly, the Shipping Registry records show that she was destroyed by fire off Plumb Point Lighthouse (Jamaica) on the night of July 30, 1940. It is interesting to note that Captain Bodden's talents were not limited to shipbuilding, as the Elmslie Memorial Church that he also built overlooking George Town Harbour forms a more enduring memorial to one of the Cayman Islands' great heroes.

20¢ - *Seanostrum*. There are presently around 1,500 vessels registered with the Cayman Islands Shipping Registry. The types of vessels include general cargo ships, passenger ships, oil tankers, chemical tankers, bulk carriers, submersibles, tugs, fishing vessels and yachts. Among these is the oil tanker *Seanostrum*, which is 236 meters long with a breadth of 42 meters. She was built in Japan in 2002 and has accommodations for 28 crew and a carrying capacity of 122,858 cubic meters of oil.

30¢ - *Kirk Pride*. The *Kirk Pride*, a 490 ton cargo ship owned by Kirk Pride Shipping Company, served the Caymans for a decade by providing a regular freight service from Florida until the night of January 10, 1976 when she was pushed onto shore by the wind and sea, resulting in damage. She was towed off the rocks, but nevertheless lost.

\$1.00 - *Boadicea*. The yacht *Boadicea* is 60 meters in length and was constructed in the Netherlands in 1998. The normal complement on board is a crew of 24, and the vessel is licensed to carry up to a dozen passengers on worldwide voyages. The yacht is equipped with a cinema, gymnasium and much more.

If you are interested in purchasing these stamps, contact The Philatelic Bureau, Seven Mile Beach Post Office, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands. The email address is: cistamps@candw.ky.



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BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen
Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member exhibit participants and awards:

TEXPEX 2004, April 2-4, Dallas Texas

Peter Elias
4 Rings - the History of Audi
Bronze

Jerome Kasper
SCADTA Postal Stationery (one frame)
Grand Award, Platinum

Plymouth Show, April 24-25, Plymouth, Michigan

Paul Larsen
Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands 1890-1911
Reserve Grand, Gold

WESTPEX 2004, May 7-9 San Francisco, California

Jerome Kasper
Illustrated W.W. II British Military Air Letters
**Gold, India Study Circle Award
for best India Material**

ROMPEX 2004, May 14-16, Denver, Colorado

Jerome Kasper
Illustrated W.W. II British Military Air Letters
Gold, APS 1940-1980 Medal

Southern Rhodesia Military Air Letters (one frame)
Platinum

ESPANA 2004, May 20-31, Valencia, Spain

George Bowman
Victoria Barred Oval Cancels (one frame)
Silver

Raymond Ireson
The Panama Canal Story
Vermeil
Peter McCann
Turks and Caicos Postal History
Gold

Dan Walker
Barwani-A Princely Indian State
Gold

Reuben Ramkissoon
Development of the United States Lunar Exploration
Gold

NAPEX 2004, June 4-6, McLean, Virginia

Giorgio Migliavacca
*Virgin Islands vs St. Thomas: How Tortola lost its Battle
for Postal Supremacy in the West Indies (Lit.)* **Vermeil**

*Specialized Stamp Catalog of the British Virgin Islands
(Lit.)*
Vermeil

INDYPEX 2004, July 9-11, Indianapolis, Indiana

Paul Larsen
*Caroline Islands to 1914:
The Spanish and German Periods*
Gold

Minnesota Stamp Expo 04, July 23-25 Crystal, Minnesota

Rueben Ramkissoon
Air Letter Sheets of Trinidad & Tobago 1943 -1988
Gold, APS 1940-1980 Medal

Letters

To the Editor:

With all due respect and longtime personal friendships, and with some surprise, I noted that my article re "Sombrero Island, W.I." Lighthouse has been largely repeated with my research (plus the Presidential visit mention, most interesting). Apparently someone failed to know my article, description, cover, illustration, or Rev. C. Leonard Carty, myself, lighthouse history, construction, postal chop, mail, Anguillan staff, foodstuff and supplies, overlooking the earlier publication (BCPJ Feb-Mar 1972, pages 53-54). Hey, no problem! "We all someday make mistakes: my decease is in error." sez Mark Twain.

Gale Raymond
Sugarland, Texas

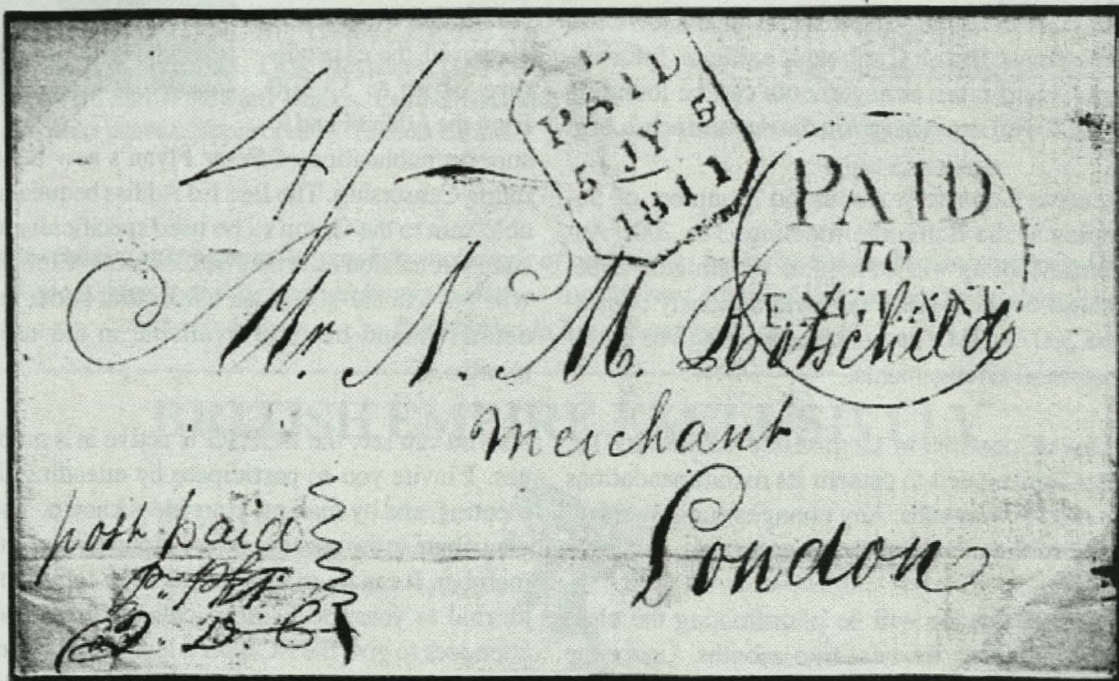
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President's Message

By Jack Harwood

The Group has just concluded a very successful Annual Meeting at BALPEX in Baltimore, with 25 members in attendance. In addition to members from all over the country, we were joined by Charles Freeland from Switzerland, and Mary Gleadall from Barbados. Preparations are already under way for next year's meeting at INDYPEX in Indianapolis, July 8-10, 2005. If you have never attended the annual meeting, I urge you to consider joining us next year. INDYPEX is an excellent show, and we should have a good turnout. This is your opportunity to meet a number of other members who share your collecting interests. It also showcases many of the finest British Caribbean exhibits. Information on hotels and other arrangements can be found on the INDYPEX web site at <http://indianastampclub.org>.

Your Executive Committee discussed a number of important topics at the Baltimore meeting. The 2006 Annual General Meeting will be held at Washington 2006, and the island of St. Vincent is being seriously considered for the 2007 AGM. Our contacts there will be investigating potential arrangements.

The By-Laws/Constitution Committee headed by Dr. Peter P. McCann expects to present its recommendations within the next few months. Any changes suggested will be presented to the membership for approval.

Secretary Duane Larson will be coordinating the election of officers within the next two months. Under the current Constitution, our Trustees are empowered to elect the officers. Treasurer Tim Tweddell has asked to be replaced, and Jerone "Jerry" Hart has agreed to stand for election to that position. Tim has served with distinction for the past six years, and we owe him a tremendous vote of thanks for his many contributions to the efficient functioning of the Executive Committee and the Group. Of the appointed positions, Vice President Ed Waterous will retire as Auction Manager, and Howard Austin has been appointed to assume that function. Ed has served us extremely well as Auction Manager, one of the more demanding positions in the Group.

In other administrative matters, the Committee reviewed our financial statements, concluding that we are in sound financial condition. No increase in membership cost is anticipated at this time. Our Publications Officer, David Wilson, will be investigating ways to reduce the current holding of books and monographs. If we can return a large

number of excess copies of several books, sufficient space to house the society reference library may be made available. This subject will be discussed further in coming months.

Last but by no means least, the Committee approved the expenditure of up to \$3,500 from the Addiss Fund to

support publication of Peter Flynn's new book on Bermuda Censorship. The late Ed Addiss bequeathed a sizeable sum to the Group to be used specifically to assist in such publication efforts. The Collectors Club of Chicago will publish the 200-page hardbound book, and further details should become available in the next several months.

As you can see, the BCPSG is active in a number of areas. I invite you to participate by attending the annual meeting, and by making your ideas known. You can also contribute to the success of the group by recruiting a new member. It can be as easy as taking a copy or two of the journal to your local stamp club meeting, and inviting attendees to give the BCPSG a look. Our continued good health depends upon each of us, and upon assuring a supply of new members in future years. You might also consider writing an article about your area of interest. Our Editor is always seeking new authors and articles on any British Caribbean subject. This is your Group. Please don't be afraid to join in. ☒



**The 2005 AGM
is July 8-10
at INDYPEX
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<http://indianastampclub.org>

Membership Director's Report — By Tom Giraldi

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

Douglas W. Blythe, 6 Penn House, Mallory Street, London NW8 8SX UNITED KINGDOM. Philatelic Interests: Caribbean and Pacific islands postal history, airmails, Pan Am history. Sponsored by David Druett.

Richard Corbett, 60 Blue Hen Dr., Newark, N.J. 07113-3406 USA. Philatelic Interests: Bermuda. Sponsored by Horst Augustinovic.

David Warren, 9308 5th St., SE, Calgary, AB T2J 1K5 CANADA. Philatelic Interests: DLR Keyplates 1870-1912 from the Leeward and Windward Islands, Cayman Islands, Tobago and Turks islands. Sponsored by Thomas Giraldi.

Change of Address

Robert J. Anderson, 1626 Harbor Dr., Vista, CA 92081-8705 USA

John Blouch, 20 Jordan Ln., Glenville, NY 12302 USA

Harold Hollander, Zip Code should be 7806 not 8705.

David Horry, 201-45 Splendid City, 588 Jing Hui Lu, Hong Qiao, Shanghai 201103 PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Dr. Peter P. McCann, 6660 St. James Crossing, University Park, FL 34201-2238 USA

New Email Address

David Horry: horry@talk21.com

Dr. Ben Ramkissoon: rramkissoon@mysite.com

Deceased

Dr. Quintus Fernando

Resigned

Nigel Dickinson

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 email, at TEG43@aol.com Thank you.

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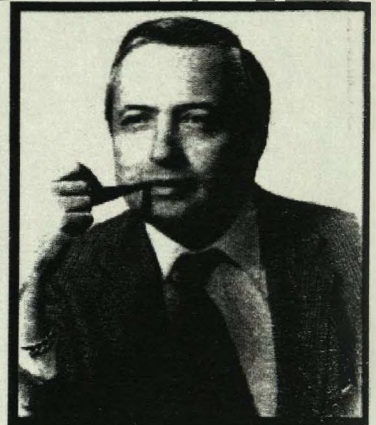
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