

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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

Vol. 52, No. 1

January - March 2012

Whole No. 242

Postmarks of the British West Indies: DOMINICA, KGVI

See David Horry's article beginning on page 17.





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: \$25 per annum in U.S. funds for members in the United States and Canada, and \$28 (£17) for those in other areas. Life membership is available, with the following rates being applicable:

- Aged 50 or less, \$450, U.S. and Canada; \$550, other countries;
- Aged 51 to 60 years, \$400, U.S. and Canada; \$500, other countries;
- Aged 61 and over, \$300, U.S. and Canada; \$400, other countries.

Membership application forms and additional information (including £ Sterling rates) may be obtained from the Secretary or the International Director. Membership renewals and donations may be made through PayPal (www.PayPal.com), and follow the easy instructions).

BCPSG Website: <http://www.bcpsg.com>

(Opinions expressed in articles in this journal are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group or its officers.)

The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Officers and Trustees

PRESIDENT	Mr. Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 USA. Tele: (219) 769-2840; email: ewwaterous@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Mr. Duane Larson, 2 Forest Blvd., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 503-9552; email: dl Larson283@aol.com
SECRETARY	Mary Gleadall (2012), P.O. Box 272, Brevard, NC 28712 USA; email: gleadallm@telus.net
TREASURER	Mr. John Seidl, 4324 Granby Way, Marietta, GA 30062 USA. Tele: (404) 229-6863; email: jseidl@mindspring.com
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR	Mr. David N. Druett, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. Yorkshire, HG5 8AZ, U.K. Tele & fax (01423) 865962; email: pennymead@aol.com
EDITOR	Dr. Everett L. Parker, 249 NW Live Oak Place, Lake City, FL 32055-8906 USA. Telephone & fax: (386) 754-8524; email: eparker@hughes.net
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Mr. Peter C. Elias (2012), P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427 USA; email: peter@pcelias.com
	Mr. Tom Giraldi (2015), 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA; email: teg43@aol.com
	Mary Gleadall (2012) (<i>address above</i>)
	Mr. Paul A. Larsen (2013), 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 747-1444; email: PALStamp@aol.com
	Dr. Peter P. McCann (2013), 6660 St. James Crossing, University Park, FL 34201-2238 USA; email: P103226706@cs.com
	Mr. Nigel Mohammed (2013), 1900 Windette Dr., Montgomery, IL 60538 USA; email: triniBuoy@yahoo.com
	Mr. Bob Stewart (2015), 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA; email: stewartlbi9@comcast.net
	Mr. David A. Wilson (2012), P.O. Box 1135, Great Falls, VA 22066; email: wilsondajx@cox.net
	Mr. Stephen D. Schumann (2015), 2417 Cabrillo Dr., Hayward, CA 94545-4535 USA; email: sdsch@earthlink.net

Past Presidents of the Group are honorary members of the Board. They include: Mr. George W. Bowman, Mr. Charles E. Cwiakala, Mr. Paul A. Larsen, Dr. Peter P. McCann, Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, Mr. Mark W. Swetland, Mr. Robert Topaz, Mr. W. Danforth Walker, Mr. Robert J. Wynstra, Mr. Jack Harwood.

Study Group Leaders and Other Appointees

APS REPRESENTATIVE	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, Linda Valley Villa #236, 11075 Benton St., Loma Linda, CA 92354-3182; email: rramkissoon@juno.com
ATTORNEY	Mr. Thomas F. Olson, P.O. Box 937, Berkeley, CA 94701-0937 USA. Tele: (510) 558-6939; fax (510) 527-7152; email: kriegsmar@aol.com
AUCTION MANAGER	Mr. Howard Austin, 6040 N. Alberta Ln., Glendale, WI 53217 USA. Tele: (414) 963-1903; email: haustin@wi.rr.com
AWARDS CHAIRMAN	Mr. Paul A. Larsen (<i>address above</i>)
HISTORIAN AND ARCHIVIST	Mr. Robert Topaz, 11381 Prosperity Farms Rd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 USA. Tele: (407) 627-7731
LIBRARIAN	Mr. Dale Wade, P.O. Box 491, Hayesville, NC 28904 USA; email: rxfire@frontier.com
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	Mr. Bob Stewart, 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA; email: stewartlbi9@comcast.net
PUBLICATIONS CHAIRMAN	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon (<i>address above</i>)
PUBLICATION ORDERS	Mr. David A. Wilson (<i>address above</i>)
PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra, 1104 S. Garfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801-4936 USA. Tele: (217) 367-9802; fax (217) 333-2614; email: wynstra@uiuc.edu
U.K. REPRESENTATIVE	Mr. Ray Stanton, The Old Rectory, Salmonby, Lincs. LN9 6PX United Kingdom; email: rjstanton@tiscali.co.uk
WEBMASTER	Mr. Edward Barrow, 16704 Briardale Rd., Derwood, MD 20855 USA; email: e.barrow1@gmail.com
ANGUILLA	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon (<i>address above</i>)
ANTIGUA	Mr. Mark W. Swetland, 13 Raymond Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910-4526 USA; email: markws@hargray.com
BAHAMAS	Mr. Edward W. Waterous, (<i>address above</i>)
BARBADOS	Mr. Edmund A. Bayley, P.O. Box 61, Bridgetown, BARBADOS; email: edmund@kent-chambers.com; Mr. Keith H. Bayley: stamps@sunbeach.net
BARBUDA	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra (<i>address above</i>)
BERMUDA	Mr. Bill Charles Gompel, P.O. Box 547183, Orlando, FL 32854-7183 USA; email: BGOMPTEL@cfl.rr.com.
BR. GUIANA/GUYANA	Mr. Bernie Beston, P.O. Box 6315, Halifax Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000 AUSTRALIA; email: bernieb@alrm.org.au
BR. HONDURAS/BELIZE	Dr. Ian Matheson, P.O. Box 10066, Fourways Crossing 2055 SOUTH AFRICA; email: ian@cdi.biz
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	Mr. Roger Downing, Rushit Inc., Box 11156, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, USVI 00803; email: downing@surfbvi.com
CAYMAN ISLANDS	Mr. T.E. Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355 USA. Tele: (209) 571-1345; email: teg43@aol.com
CENSORED MAIL	<i>Vacant</i>
DOMINICA	Mr. W.B. Ashley, P.O. Box 2956, San Rafael, CA 94912 USA
GRENADA	Mr. W.D. Walker, P.O. Box 99, Lisbon, MD 21765 USA. Tele: (410) 442-1043; email: danforthwalker@comcast.net
JAMAICA	Mr. Duane Larson (<i>address above</i>)
LEEWARD ISLANDS	Mr. Michael N. Oliver, 7, Ancliffe Lane, Bolton-le-Sands, Lancashire LA5 8DS, UNITED KINGDOM
MARITIME MAIL	<i>Vacant</i>
MONTSERRAT	Mr. C.A. Freeland, Ob Batterieweg 45, CH-4059, Basle, SWITZERLAND; email: charles.freeland@hotmail.com
NEVIS	Mr. Federico Borromeo, Via Torquato Taramelli 32, 1-00197 Rome, ITALY; email: comneno@tiscali.it
ST. CHRISTOPHER/ST. KITTS	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra (<i>address above</i>)
ST. LUCIA	Mr. Robert Devaux, P.O. Box 525, Castries, St. Lucia; email: robjdev@yahoo.com
ST. VINCENT	Mr. Peter C. Elias (<i>address above</i>)
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon (<i>address above</i>)
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	Dr. Peter P. McCann (<i>address above</i>)

British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

Vol. 52, No. 1 January - March 2012 Whole No. 242

© British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 249 Live Oak Place, Lake City, FL 32055-8906 USA

Telephone: (386) 754-8524; FAX: (386) 754-8524; email: eparker@hughes.net

Please address correspondence regarding articles in this publication to the Editor.

Membership Director: Mr. Bob Stewart, 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA

Telephone: (609) 492-4379; email: stewartlbi9@comcast.net

Please address membership questions to the Membership Director (this includes address changes).

Advertising Manager: Mr. Tom Girdaldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA

Email: teg43@aol.com

Please address advertising questions to the Advertising Manager.

Awards Editor: Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA; email: PALStamp@aol.com

Please address information about show awards to the Awards Editor.

CONTENTS

FEATURES

Earliest Recorded Use of Grenada Postage Dues, <i>by Hap Pattiz</i>	4
The Post Offices of Eleuthera, <i>by Jack Harwood</i>	5-6
St. Vincent closes 27 village post offices in austerity move, <i>by Peter Elias</i>	6-8
Updating the "real" Cayman Islands first flight, <i>by Tom Girdaldi</i>	9-13
British Guiana Picture Postcards, <i>by John Wynns</i>	14
An adventure discovering Trinidad Numeral Cancels, <i>by Edward Barrow</i>	15-16
High denomination stamps on older BWI covers, <i>by Dr. Eric M. Bateson</i>	16
Postmarks of the British West Indies: DOMINICA, KGV1 1937-1954, <i>by David Horry</i>	17-20
Jamaica World War II Censor Notes #2, <i>by Hap Pattiz</i>	23
Updating <i>The Postal History of the Cayman Islands</i> book, <i>by Tom Girdaldi</i>	25
Addendum to Cayman Islands postal rates, 1936-69, <i>by Graham Booth</i>	26
Interesting philatelic material in The Tobago Museum, <i>by John Seidl</i>	27

COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others	2
BG Bits and Pieces, <i>by Dr. Raj Ramphal</i>	21-23
Former president receives Lifetime Appreciation Award from Trinidad & Tobago	24
BCPSG Exhibits and Awards, <i>by Paul Larsen</i>	27
Membership Director's Report, <i>by Bob Stewart</i>	28
President's Message, <i>by Ed Waterous</i>	29
Our faithful advertisers	28-32

DEADLINES FOR THIS PUBLICATION

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

Earliest Recorded Use of Grenada Postage Dues

By Hap Pattiz

In April 1892, Grenada became the second British colony to issue postage dues (Trinidad was first, in 1885). These distinctively designed issues, printed by De La Rue, remained in use with only slight modifications until 1950, when they were replaced by decimal issues.



FIGURE 1
*Postage due dated
June 13, 1892.*



FIGURE 2
*Postage due dated
June 1, 1892.*

In August 1892, Grenada began using regular issues overprinted "SURCHARGE POSTAGE" and these are found in the catalogues under postage due issues (as example, Scott #J4-7, Stanley Gibbons #D4-7). The initial issue (Scott #J1-3; SG #D1-3), consisting of values 1d, 2d, and 3d, remained in use until 1906 to 1910. As may be noted in the catalogues, nearly all of the first issue



FIGURE 3
Single usage cover, November 29, 1892.



FIGURE 4
Single usage cover, December 12, 1892.

dues are known used, with unused examples commanding significantly higher values.

Over the years, I have collected these first issues and have seen or owned several hundred. However, until now, I had not seen any used before August 1892, when the overprinted issues came into use.

Figures 1 and 2 show the first examples I have found showing usage on June 13, 1892 for the 1d, and June 1, 1892 for the 2d. For those readers conversant with Grenada cancellations, this form of cancel is frequently found on the overprinted issue. I have not been able to trace any covers showing usage of the first issue before August 1892. In fact, any usages of the first issue on cover are quite rare. The earliest cover (actually a front only) I know of shows a 3d along with a second issue (2d on 8d) used in September 1892.

The earliest known use of a full cover for the first issue is November 1892, after the overprinted issues were withdrawn. See Figures 3 and 4 for single usage cover of the 1d (November 29, 1892) and the 2d (December 12, 1892).

The Post Offices of Eleuthera, Bahamas

By Jack Harwood
Past President

A visit to Eleuthera is always a welcome escape from the hectic world of computers, cell phones, television, etc. Very little seems to change from year to year. August 2011 marked my ninth or 10th visit to the island, one of the most beautiful and peaceful in the Bahamas.

Our small group rented a house in North Palmetto Point, near the center of the 110-mile long island. While exploring the island, I took the opportunity to photograph some of the post offices I encountered. Most post offices are open for only limited hours during the week. So even though I passed by the Palmetto Point Post Office almost daily, it was not until my third visit that I found it open for business. Postmistress Teresa Thompson was kind enough to pose for a photo in front of her office.



FIGURE 1
The Palmetto Point Post Office on Eleuthera.



FIGURE 3
James Cistern post office.



FIGURE 2
Governor's Harbour Post Office and administration building.

Ten miles north of Palmetto Point is Governor's Harbour, where the post office is housed in the administration building for the Central Eleuthera District. This building, with cannons in the front, is one of the most attractive and beautifully maintained in Eleuthera.

Twenty-five miles north of Governor's Harbour is the small settlement of James Cistern. Service at this post office has been significantly curtailed. The office no longer has its own canceling device, and provides very few postal services. Mail may be dropped off, and is sent once or twice a week to Governor's Harbour for canceling and processing. The office is open only a few hours per week, and a small selection of postage stamps is available for purchase.

Fifteen miles north of James Cistern is the community of
Continued on page 6

St. Vincent closes 27 village post offices in austerity move

By Peter Elias
St. Vincent Study Group Leader

On October 31, 2009, the St. Vincent Postal Corporation closed 27 of its village post offices. The reasoning was that it was not economically viable to continue running these smaller village post offices that only had a small mail volume. This closure represented approximately one half of all St. Vincent post offices.

After the closure, mail to and from these post offices was handled through a newly developed “hub & spoke” system. Luckily I found out about these closures just in time to prepare some SASE’s which I mailed to the St. Vincent Postal Corporation which in turn passed the en-

velopes on to each village post office for a “Last Day of Usage” postmark.

I prepared two sets of SASE’s (just in case) and additionally a separate slip of paper on which I requested that a good strike of the postmark be placed (after all, I did not really want to have to crop out stamp images from the SASE’s when scanning the postmarks that you can see illustrated in this article).

The SASE’s were all returned to me several weeks after the last day. I was hoping that they would all see real postal duty (and receive U.S. Postal Service barcode markings on the front and back), but the St. Vincent Postal Corporation sent them back to me under cover

Continued on page 7

The Post Offices of Eleuthera, Bahamas

Continued from page 5

Alicetown/Hatchet Bay. The post office shares a building with the police department, and appears to be relatively busy. It is one of the few post offices with a drop box for letters and cards.

My final stop was at the post office in Gregory Town, 10 miles north of Alicetown. The post office (at the top of the outside stairway on the right side) shares a building with the Gregory Town Clinic, the police station and the local government office.

Even though I visited each of these post offices on a weekday afternoon, none except Palmetto Point was open. As I noted, hours of operation can be sporadic, since most offices are staffed by a single individual. If the office doesn’t happen to be busy, the individual in charge may decide to go home for a while, or run errands. Posted hours of operation don’t seem to mean that the office will actually be open. But such is life in Eleuthera, laid back and peaceful. If you need assistance at a post office, and it doesn’t happen to be open, there is always tomorrow (or the next day!).



FIGURE 4

Alicetown/Hatchet Bay Post Office and police station.



FIGURE 5

Gregory Town post office, clinic, police station and administrative office.

in a big bundle. There were some minor surprises in all of this. First of all, there's "Coull's Hill." I had never heard of this village before and was not even aware that this post office existed nor when it opened (my guess is sometime during the early 2000s). [Ed.: "Coull's" is seen with and without the apostrophe.]

In searching the internet at <http://www.stvincent.com.vc/map/map.asp>, I found that Coull's Hill is located in the northwestern part of the island between Troumaka (also known as "Troumaca," and still open as a hub post office) and Belmont (now also closed). The Coull's Hill post office is approximately one-quarter mile from either Troumaka or Belmont. To put this in perspective, that would mean I would have two post offices in the eight minute walk (.4 mile) between my house and the elementary school down the road! Or having at least four post offices in my own neighborhood!

I can see where having this many post offices on an island that is only 18 x 11 miles in size (despite being very hilly) is justifiable in the long run. The main island of St. Vincent has about the same population as the city that I live in here in the greater Dallas/Ft. Worth metro area. Yet we only have three actual U.S. Post Offices, while St. Vincent had over 50 on the main island (plus seven on the Grenadines).

The last time that I did a study of the current postmarks in use on St. Vincent was many years ago (it always has been a struggle to get samples of current postmarks in use ...) and was surprised that some villages still used the original style of postmark (*i.e.*, a smaller, single circle type), while others had upgraded to a large "double-circle" style (which was still made of metal), and some villages had switched to rubber-based narrow double-circle or rectangular style postmarks. A technical listing of the postmarks in use is in the grid below. (Actual postmarks of closed post offices is found on page 8.)

And thus closes another chapter in St. Vincent postal history. Please feel free to contact me at info@stvincentstamps.com if you have any questions.

Also please remember that if you collect or specialize in St. Vincent, be sure to join the St. Vincent YahooGroup. Go to Internet website <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stvincentstamps/> for more information and to join. I do approve all members, so please be sure to comment that you are a BCPSG or BWISC member.

Once I have approved you as a member, you are free to post messages, etc. I don't moderate the group messages, and just ask that you keep messages related to St. Vincent philately.

Postmarks of the closed St. Vincent post offices will be found on the next page.

Post Office	Status	Code	Closed	Postmark - Style	Postmark - Upper	Postmark - Lower	Diameter	Pmk Comment
Arnos Vale	Closed	VC0280	10/31/2009	Circle-Single	ARNOS VALE	ST. VINCENT W.I	24.5	
Belmont	Closed	VC0284	10/31/2009	Circle-Single	BELMONT ST. VINCENT	WEST INDIES	23.5	
Calder	Closed	VC0264	10/31/2009	Rectangle	CALDER P.O.	St. Vincent & ?? Grenadines W.I.	32 x 26	
Campden Park	Closed	VC0390	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl N	CAMPDEN PARK P.O.	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	29.0	
Clare Valley	Closed	VC0378	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	CLARE VALLEY	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	
Coull's Hill	Closed	VC0316	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl N	COULL'S HILL P.O.	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	29.0	
Enhams	Closed	VC0270	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	ENHAMS	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	
Fancy	Closed	VC0200	10/31/2009	Circle-Single	FANCY ST. VINCENT	W.I.	23.0	
Greggs	Closed	VC0258	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	GREGGS	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.9	
Lauders	Closed	VC0256	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	LAUDERS	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	
Lodge (Village)	Closed	VC0160	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl N	LODGE VILLAGE P.O.	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	29.0	
Mt. Grennan (and Diamonds)	Closed	VC0250	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	MT. GRENAN	ST. VINCENT W.I	26.9	
New Grounds	Closed	VC0252	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	NEW GROUNDS	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.9	
O'Briens Valley	Closed	VC0210	10/31/2009	Circle-Single	O'BRIEN'S VALLEY	ST. VINCENT W.I.	24.2	
Orange Hill (Overland)	Closed	VC0206	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	ORANGE HILL	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.8	
Owia	Closed	VC0202	10/31/2009	Rectangle	OWIA P.O.	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	33 x 28.5	
Park Hill	Closed	VC0218	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	PARKHILL	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	Park Hill one word
Peniston	Closed	VC0374	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	PENISTON	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	
Peruvian Vale	Closed	VC0262	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	PERUVIAN VALE	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	
Petit Bordel	Closed	VC0302	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	PETIT BORDEL	ST. VINCENT W.I.	26.5	
Prospect	Closed	VC0272	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl N	PROSPECT P.O.	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	29.0	
Richland Park	Closed	VC0294	10/31/2009	Circle-Single	RICHLAND PARK	ST. VINCENT W.I.	24.0	Period before W.I.
Rose Bank	Closed	VC0310	10/31/2009	Rectangle	ROSE BANK	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	32.5 x 29.5	
Sion Hill	Closed	VC0110	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	SION HILL	ST. VINCENT W.I	26.5	
South Rivers	Closed	VC0216	10/31/2009	Rectangle	SOUTH RIVERS	ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES W	32 x 26.5	
Paget Farm (Bequia)	Closed	VC0402	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	PAGET FARM	ST. VINCENT W.I.	27.0	
Ashton (Union Island)	Closed	VC0472	10/31/2009	Circle-Dbl Wd	ASHTON UN.IS.	ST. VINCENT W.I.	27.0	

Postmarks of 27 closed St. Vincent post offices



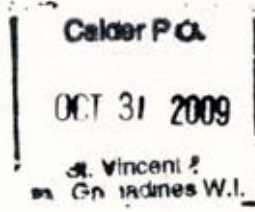
Arnos Vale



Ashton,
Union Island



Belmont



Calder



Campden Park



Clare Valley



Coull's Hill



Enhams



Fancy



Greggs



Lauders



Lodge Village



Mt. Grennan



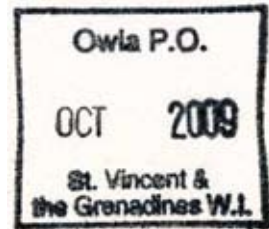
New Grounds



O'Brien's Valley



Orange Hill



Owla



Paget Farm



Parkhill



Peniston



Peruvian Vale



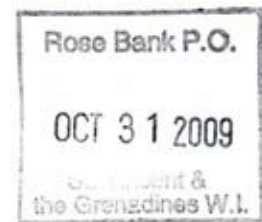
Petit Bordel



Prospect



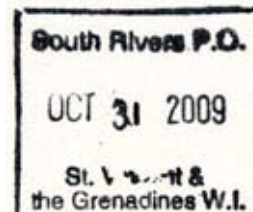
Richland Park



Rose Bank



Sion Hill



South Rivers

Updating the “real” Cayman Islands first flight

By Tom Giraldi

Cayman Islands Study Group Leader

Back in 1982, the late King Parker Jr., Dr. Peter P. McCann, and I authored a *Journal* article titled “The Real Cayman Islands First Flight.”¹ Since then, additional material has come to light, and thus the reason for this update. But first, some background for context.²

Although it has been generally accepted that the Cayman Islands had its first airmail service in late 1947 when Wing Commander Owen Roberts inaugurated air service, in reality this is not true. This version of the story was perpetuated in various published accounts.³ The cover in **Figure 1** is similar to a cover shown in the original article, but with the two boxed cachets in reverse locations. This is an example of a 1947 Caymans flight that never actually took place on the date shown in the Cayman Brac circular datestamp (October 18, 1947).

This cover is interesting for several reasons, one of which being the small rectangular cachet with the wording “Jamaica Air Transport” crossed out. This cachet, and the title “Jamaica Air Transport,” was revealed in 1982 as being major clues in the puzzle of the true story of the Caymans’ first airmail flight. As revealed in that 1982 article, King Parker Jr., a BCPSG member, was owner of Jamaica Air Transport and pilot of the actual first flight, which took place November 23, 1946.

King Parker Jr. flew with the Royal Air Force Transport Command for four years, and after release from World War II active duty in June 1945, he went to Tampa, Florida, where he and several other ex-RAF pilots formed an airline. They purchased from the Canadian government 20 war surplus Canadian Vickers Supermarine Stranraer seaplanes. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond their control, only six were delivered to Tampa.

They made several trips into the Amazon jungle of South America to bring back tropical fish for a New York aquarium. During this time, they also bought seven DC-3 aircraft to fly freight into Columbia, where they had established excellent relations with the Columbian government. However, after several months of this operation, they discovered that the major airlines were not liking the competition. At this point, Parker saw an interesting opportunity in Jamaica.



FIGURE 1

October 18, 1947 cover from Cayman Brac to Jamaica commemorating what was supposed to be the first flight. Notice the cachet at left with “Jamaica Air Transport” struck through in blue crayon. There is a pencil notation at top, “This came by surface boat.”

On all of their freight flights out of Florida, Parker and his partners had refueled in Kingston, Jamaica, and on one of these flights, they were offered an exclusive airline franchise, using their flying boats to operate from Kingston Harbour to Montego Bay. Parker moved his family to Kingston in October 1946, and started operating with four of the flying boats he had purchased from his former partners. In November, he was asked to explore the possibility of providing weekly flights to the Cayman Islands, and was promised a mail and freight subsidy if he could operate on a regular schedule. Although a contract was not executed until June 1947, he started flying his Cayman Islands run on November 23, 1946.

Continued on page 10

On the original Jamaica Air Transport flights, Parker flew a daily schedule from Kingston to Montego Bay. The Canadian Vickers Stranraers carried 17 passengers as well as mail and freight. The planes were affectionately known as the “greasy clippers” because the engines threw a lot of oil, and at the completion of a trip the tails usually had a very greasy look.

PBYs. His first PBY is pictured on a Cayman Islands stamp (Scott #130). This was really a one-man airline, as Parker was the pilot and his wife was the stewardess. They usually carried a full load of passengers and cargo on their one round-trip per week to Georgetown on Grand Cayman Island. On many of their trips, they stopped at Cayman Brac, an island with no natural harbor. They

had to land in the open sea, and when the water was too rough, they simply flew over the post office and dropped the mail sack out the window.



FIGURE 2 (above) and FIGURE 3 (below)

Cover above is first flight from Jamaica (westbound), addressed to Georgetown, Grand Cayman. Cover below is first flight from Georgetown (eastbound) to Kingston, Jamaica.



Parker was not a collector at the time, but when he extended his route to the Cayman Islands in November 1946, his agent in Kingston, Roy Macdougall, a long-time philatelist, suggested that they prepare several first flight covers. Our original 1982 article indicated that no covers were prepared for the westbound flight, but 12 were datestamped in Georgetown for the eastbound flight. In actuality, covers were prepared for both legs of the flight (see **Figure 2** and **Figure 3**), and that fact was noted in a follow-up.⁴

Parker continued to operate the Stranraers for about a year until they were replaced by amphibious Catalina

The transition from Jamaica Air Transport to Cayman Islands Airways came in 1947 when Parker formed the new company with a PBY flying boat he purchased from the Canadian government on June 28, 1947, and which he later sold in December of that year during difficult times. The difficulties started the previous September when Parker received a hurricane warning on the 15th and was advised not to leave Florida for the Caymans. The hurricane had already struck the Caymans with destructive force and was approaching

the southern coast of Florida. On September 17, Parker was forced to fly his plane north as far as Little Rock, Arkansas to escape the hurricane's path.

It was not until October that the first complete flight of the PBY was made to Georgetown, then to Cayman Brac and on to Kingston, Jamaica. The second full flight was not until November 17, and was delayed by governmental red tape and political pressure in Washington from the major airlines. This second flight almost came to grief when one engine quit between Key West and Havana, and Parker was forced to turn around and land at Key West, and then go up to Miami for repairs. He put his passengers on scheduled airlines to Kingston, and then

to the Caymans, which was still being served by the Stranraers operated by Parker's reserve crew.

Finally, it was December 1947 when Parker made a deal to sell his control to Bahamas Airways, represented by Wing Commander Owen Roberts. Soon afterwards, Parker left for California to enter the contracting and real estate development business. Wing Commander Roberts' role in the airline, which had been changed to New Caribbean International, continued until a fatal accident in April 1953. Owen Roberts International Airport on Grand Cayman is named in his memory.

I recently purchased a second example of the first flight AM3B of Jamaica Air transport return flight covers from Georgetown, Grand Cayman to Kingston, Jamaica (see **Figure 3**). It was sent to Roy Macdougall, who is now known to have prepared 12 of these covers. We illustrated one of the AM3B covers in the Caymans book Peter McCann and I published in 1989.⁵ Bob Swarbrick also discovered the single (to this day) westbound flight cover, also prepared by Roy Macdougall, and shown in **Figure 2**.

I now have additional material acquired over the years since the original 1982 article, including several photographs of the PBYS used for the air service (see **Figure 4** through **Figure 7**), two covers with the Jamaica Air Transport handstamp (**Figure 1** and **Figure 8**), and examples of two different 25th anniversary cacheted cov-



FIGURE 4
One of the PBYS used by the air service.



FIGURE 5
Another view of one of the PBYS used by the air service.



FIGURE 6
View of one of the PBYS used by the air service on the tarmac.

ers prepared by Parker (**Figure 9** and **Figure 10**).

Only 100 of the 25th anniversary covers were prepared. Only six were franked with definitives in use in 1946 (see **Figure 9**). One special cover (**Figure 10**) is autographed by Parker, the only one ever found. Also included in paper ephemera is an invitation from the Commissioner of

Continued on page 12



FIGURE 7
Another view of one of the
PB4Ys used by the air service.

the Cayman Islands to Mr. and Mrs. Parker to meet the governor of Jamaica on January 9, 1947 (**Figure 11**), and an invitation (**Figure 12**) to attend a dance at the town hall on the same day.



FIGURE 8
First flight cover dated January 11, 1947 from
Cayman Brac to Jamaica.

FOOTNOTES

¹ King Parker Jr., Peter P. McCann & Thomas E. Girdali, "The Real Cayman Islands First Flight," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 22, No. 4 (October 1982), 107-109.

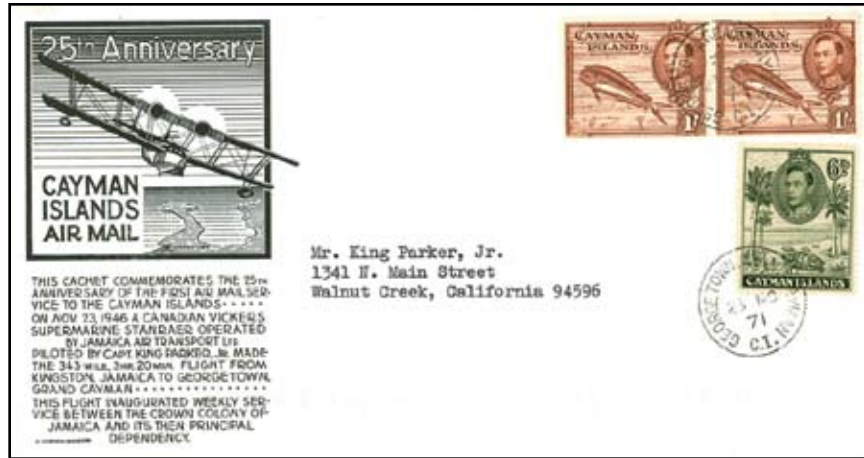
² Material here is extrapolated from the original article as published in October 1982.

³ See, for example, Everard F. Aguilar and Philip T. Saunders, *The Cayman Islands: Their Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks* (Folkestone, England:

F.J. Parsons, 1962).

⁴ The factual error was corrected in a follow-up article in the July 1984 *Journal*. The author has the actual letter dated January 6, 1947 to George W. Bowman, then *Journal* editor, in which Parker said he did not know Macdougall had prepared covers for the eastbound flight.

⁵ Thomas E. Girdali and Peter P. McCann, *The Postal History of the Cayman Islands* (Weston, Massachusetts: Triad Publications), 1989.



FIGURES 9 & 10

Two different cachets were prepared in 1971 for the 25th anniversary of the first flight. Only six were franked with definitives in use in 1946 (above). One cover (Figure 10, below) was signed by King Parker Jr.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE CAYMAN ISLANDS

His Honour the Commissioner

requests the pleasure of the Company of

Mr & Mrs King Parker

to meet His Excellency the Governor of

Jamaica, Sir John Huggins, K.C.M.G., M.C.,

at the Landing Stage at 9:30 a.m. and at

the Town Hall at 10:15 a.m. on

Thursday 9th. January, 1947.

FIGURE 11

An invitation for "Mr. and Mrs. King Parker" to greet His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica on January 9, 1947.

Georgetown,

4th January 1947.

You are cordially invited to attend a Dance at the Town Hall on Thursday the 9th inst., at 8. P. M. His Excellency the Governor has graciously consented to attend at about 8.30. P. M. and Guests are requested to be present when His Excellency and Party arrive

Capt. & Mrs Parker

This includes your crew please

Parker

FIGURE 12

Similar invitation to a dance on January 9, 1947.

British Guiana Picture Postcards

By John Wynns

At last year's ROMPEX in Denver, I picked up two interesting British Guiana picture postcards. The first card shows a photo of Middle Street, Georgetown and has a one-cent stamp canceled by a Type D35 postmark "GEORGETOWN, B. GUIANA, 12 PM, ? SEP, 1904" (*Figure 1a*). The address side (*Figure 1b*) has "POST CARD" lined out and "Printed Mat-



FIGURE 1a

View of Middle Street in Georgetown, British Guiana.

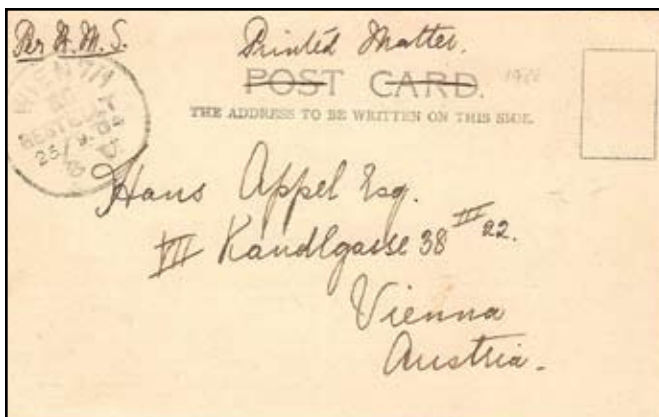


FIGURE 1b

Address side of postcard shown in Figure 1a.

ter" written above, also a Vienna receiving postmark of 25/9.04. Because there was no message, the printed papers rate of one-cent was used.

The next postcard has a picture of a "Railway Side Line Market" (*Figure 2a*) with a very nice TPO cancel Type D7 "E.C. RAILWAY, B. GUIANA, 3 OC 28." This East Coast Railway TPO was used from June 28, 1926 to December 27, 1935. The address side (*Figure 2b*) has an overpayment of one cent, the three-cent postcard rate came into effect on July 1, 1940. The postmark is Type D54 "GEORGETOWN, B. GUIANA 6 30 PM, 3 OC 28."



FIGURE 2a

Postcard showing "Railway Side Line Market."

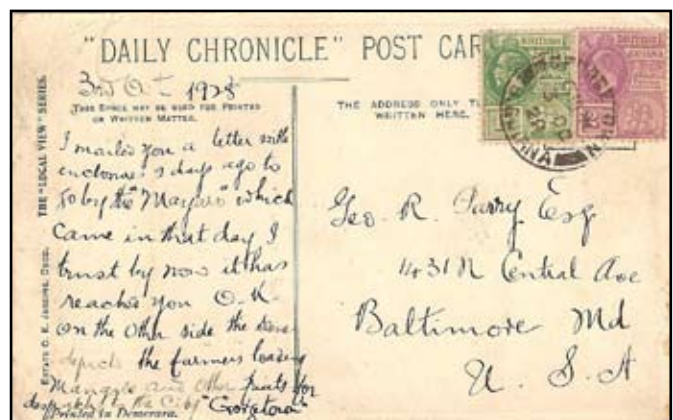


FIGURE 2b

Address side of card shown in Figure 2a.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Proud, Edward B., *The Postal History of British Guiana*, Heathfield, East Sussex, England: Proud Bailey Co. Ltd., 2000.

Nuggets from the past ...

In the March 1986 issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Michael Wilson wrote about an early airmail flight from Turks Island. Michael Vokins wrote about the King George VI booklets of Jamaica, and M.H. Ludington discussed the Bermuda Aquarium slogan used at St. Georges. Several pages of the *Journal* were devoted to the "Antigua Monograph."

An adventure discovering Trinidad Numeral Cancels

By Edward Barrow
Webmaster

Both Nigel Mohammed's article in *Journal* No. 238 (January - March 2011) and Bruce Walker's reply in *Journal* No. 239 (April - June 2011) were very interesting and I thought I might join the conversation. Concerning the "16" numeral -- it may well be the case that it was never used to cancel stamps. The previous cancel, a Type 7, is recorded up to March 27, 1882 and the Type 9 is recorded from May 23, 1882. This leaves at most only two months for use.

I had a similar experience as Bruce Walker's when visiting the Manzanilla post office in 1997 to take impressions of their datestamps. Tucked away in a little used old wooden box were two numerals: the Type 6 "9" which was heavily worn, and a positively fresh Type 4 "11" (see *Figure 1*). It makes sense that

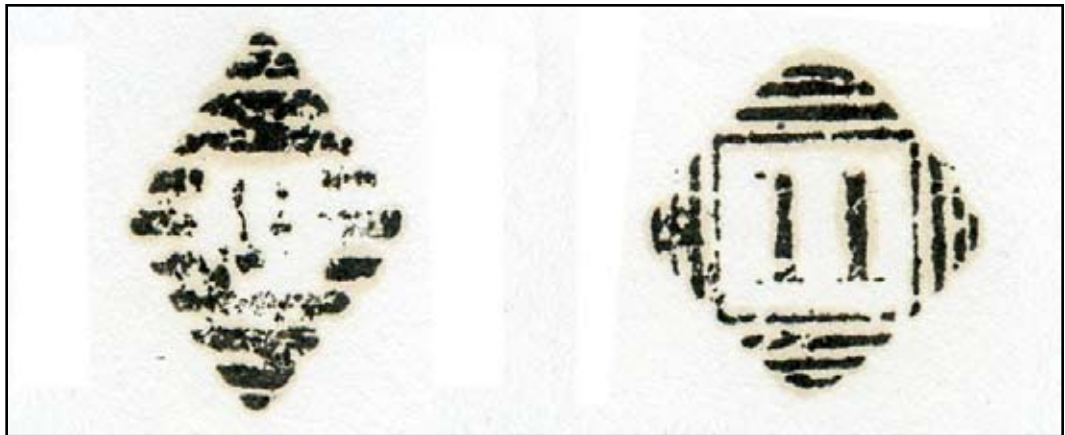


FIGURE 1
Impressions of the numerals held at Manzanilla in 1997.



FIGURE 2
The Manzanilla Post Office before the bats moved in.

the "9" would be at Manzanilla, it was assigned this number back in the mid to late 1800s. But where did the "11" come from?

The number "11" did not have the stable history that "9" had. It was itinerant, being first assigned to Nariva in 1851 and then to Blanchisseuse-Toco, (taken to mean Blanchisseuse), *circa* 1861. It was then re-assigned to Nariva *circa* 1867 before finally doing service at Tunapuna *circa* 1878.

Continued on page 16

High denomination stamps on older BWI covers

By Dr. Eric M. Bateson
Of Australia

In an April 2009 article in the *Journal*, I made the comment that I had not found any of the high denomination stamps of the older issues of the BWI on philatelic covers from Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis, or the separate issues of Tobago or Trinidad. I can now eliminate Antigua because I recently acquired a marginal example of the 1922 £1 stamp (Multiple Crown CA watermark) on a philatelic cover (*Figure 1*). Incidentally, it cost me a little more than the Stanley Gibbons' price of the used stamp. McMichael of Scotland was the addressee. His covers are similar to those of Berdoz of Switzerland, and Marsh of London which often bear single high denominations of uncommon stamps.

It would be of interest to know if others from the remaining four colonies exist. In relation to this, the *Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth and Empire Stamps* (2008) does not give values for any of these £1 stamps on cover.



Figure 1
Antigua £1 on 1925 cover to Scotland.

Trinidad Numeral Cancels

Continued from page 15

Little is known about Nariva post office but it is thought that it was not far from Manzanilla. It is my belief that when this post office closed, its cancels must have been transferred to Manzanilla where it sat for over 100 years untouched by any spring cleanings. If this is true, it raises two points. First, the Type 4 "11" was either never used at Tunapuna or a second similar instrument was later assigned to that post office. Second, Marriott¹ states that the Type 4 "11" was used on 1901-09 issues. Unless there was a second instrument or this cancel was itinerant somewhere else, these must have come from the Manzanilla Post Office legitimately or via "an enterprising collector," to use Bruce Walker's term.

There is a postscript to this story, (no pun intended). When the management of the Trinidad & Tobago postal system was privatized, many post offices were closed, Manzanilla among them. Being "closed" was not an orderly process; abandoned might be a better description. Staff never returned and premises left for the elements and the wildlife (humans included) to do their work. A couple years ago I was passing the old Manzanilla post office and being an optimist thought I would go and see if there was a termite eaten wooden box with the discarded numeral cancels.

The Manzanilla post office was an old fashioned raised wooden building with a multi-gabled roof adorned with

fretwork (see *Figure 2*). In the 1980s, many of these graceful post offices were replaced by square Soviet style concrete bunker post offices. Manzanilla, however, survived the purge.

Like the formula that links dog years and human years, for buildings, one year in the tropics must equal seven years in temperate climates. And so, the intervening 12 years had not been kind to the old building. The front concrete stairs were intact but the wooden floor boards at the top had been eaten by termites, so the stairs led to a space surrounded by walls but with no floor. Scooting around the back I managed to climb through a hole in the side of the building, disturbing the resident population of bats and cockroaches in the process. I felt a bit like Indiana Jones, sidling along the edges of the rooms as boards were rotten or absent in the middle of the floor. I made it to the main counter, where the card stamp books lay abandoned; no stamps inside anymore but plenty of insects. But looking around there was no guano-covered box of cancels. Where they ended up I do not know, perhaps a neighborhood child on an adventure picked them up as a souvenir. Next time I am passing through I will canvass the neighbors!

FOOTNOTE

¹ Marriott, John B. *The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862*. British West Indies Study Circle, 1963.

Postmarks of the British West Indies: DOMINICA, KGVI 1937-1954

By David Horry of China

As the weather is none too conducive to tourism, Dominica is a fairly unspoilt Caribbean island. In the *British Colonial Stamps in Current Use* handbook of 1949, author R. Courtney Cade (MBE of The Colonial Office), notes that Dominica is pronounced “Dom-in-eek-a” and not “Dominck-a” or “Domin-ica”¹ and the population at the end of 1946 was 47,706.

In the second edition, he usefully informs that at 305 square miles, Dom-in-eek-a is, “say, twice the size of Rutlandshire.”² Rutlandshire!! Now you get the picture! For those in doubt, how about 65,678 football pitches? All 22 post offices of the King George VI period are to be found hugging the coast as the interior is a volcanic and very mountainous rainforest (*Figure 1*). Sadly, I have never been to Dominica but recently, I did the next best thing and stayed with William B. Ashley (W.B.A. as he calls himself – he is unmistakably American but was deceptively educated at an English Public School, so he is *au fait* with the English way of life) up in leafy San Rafael in California.

Among other interests, Bill collects QSL cards (ham radio cards) and has a longstanding friendship with Tom Giraldi, “the Cayman Islands King” – these two remind me of Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau at their finest! Bill is the Dominica Study Group Leader of BCPSG and maybe this burgeoning society might just hold their annual meeting in Roseau in a couple of year’s time. There isn’t much Bill doesn’t know about the island, especially the postmarks and offices. Two years ago he discovered the possibility of a short opening of the Blenheim office in the very north of the island. I then discovered a proof strike of the Blenheim Birmingham postmark, but whether it was ever used in anger is unknown (*Figure 2*). We sorted out several new items which he had queried in my new book, *The Encyclopaedia of British West Indies Postmarks – King George VI*.² The only other books worth noting on Dominica are Ted Proud’s *The Postal History of The Leeward Islands 2005*³ and Michael Oliver’s *Leeward Islands. Notes for Philatelists*.⁴

After Columbus’s discovery in 1493, Dominica was held by the French until 1759 and was formally ceded to the British at the Treaty of Paris in 1763. The French then recaptured the island in 1778 only to see it restored to the British in 1783. Thus many of the



Figure 1

Map of the Post Offices of the KGVI period.

village names are *très française* -- Delices, Dublanc, La Plaine, Marigot, Pointe Michel, Petite Savanne, Soufrière and Vieille Case. English names are Castle Bruce, Grand Bay, Portsmouth, Salisbury and Wesley.

Some 19 different small single circles (sSCs) are found within the period with sSC*(6) G.P.O. Dominica (*Figure 3*) missing from my book as it is now found as early as October 1951 not April 1954 as previously recorded. The G.P.O. at Roseau has many sSCs* both as G.P.O. Dominica and as Roseau. It is worth noting that the village of Rosalie also has a sSC* which is often mistaken for Roseau as it is usually fairly light and smudgy in appearance but is far, far more scarce. (*Figure 4*)

Continued on page 18

378 OFFICIAL GAZETTE, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1936.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

INLAND MAILS

DURING the period December 24th - January 1st, 1937, the undermentioned temporary changes, owing to Bank Holidays, will be made in the despatch of Inland Mails:-

Day	Date 1936.	Time of Departure	Leave	Place via	Arrive	Time of Arrival.	
Thur.	Dec. 24	7 a.m.	Marigot	Wesley &c.	Portsmouth	9.30 a.m.	
		10 ..	Portsmouth	Colihaut &c.	Roseau	1 .. p.m.	
		3 p.m.	Roseau	Maibot &c.	Portsmouth	6 ..	
		6 a.m.	Grand Bay	Soufriere &c.	Roseau	Noon	
		1 p.m.	Roseau	Pte. Michel &c.	Grand Bay	6 .. p.m.	
Fri.	.. 25	- NO MAIL SERVICE - Except Rosalie / Roseau, Friday 5 p.m.					
Sat.	.. 26	- NO MAIL SERVICE - Except Roseau / Rosalie, 8 a.m.					
		.. Rosalie-Grand Bay Route.					
	 Marigot					
Mon.	.. 28	6 a.m.	Portsmouth	Colihaut &c.	Roseau	9 ..	
		11.30 ..	Roseau	Maibot &c.	Portsmouth	2.30 p.m.	
		8 p.m.	Portsmouth	Wesley &c.	Marigot	6 ..	
		7 a.m.	Vielle Case	Blenheim	Portsmouth	10 ..	
		3 p.m.	Portsmouth	Do.	Vielle Case	6 ..	
Tues.	.. 29	Mail Service as on December 24th.					
Wed.	.. 30 per Schedule.					
Thur.	.. 31 on December 24th.					
	1937.						
Fri.	Jan. 1	- NO MAIL SERVICE - Except Rosalie / Roseau, 5 p.m.					
Sat.	.. 2	Resumption of Mail Service as per Schedule.					

NOTE - Mails close as follows :-
Dec. 24 - For Rosalie, &c., at 2.30 p.m.

General Post Office, Dominica, 16th November, 1936. R. S. MERRILL, Postmaster.

Figures 2 & 2a
G.P.O timetable, November 1936 (above) and
The Blenheim "Birmingham" proof strike.



Wesley has two sSCs; the first one was issued at the turn of the century -- the office then closed in July 1903. This rare postmark is then recorded late October 1940 by Joe Chin Aleong. Proud gives the second sSC's earliest recorded date as May 13, 1940 but I think this may be sSC*(1) as the earliest recorded date is Ashley's two Roger Wells 23 12 46. This strike has, uniquely, four dots instead of an asterisk and on this the ERD, the dots and year are dramatically transposed. Does anyone have Wesley strikes between No-



Figure 3
G.P.O. Dominica sSC*(6) 15 OC 51

vember 1940 and December 1946 (especially on cover)? None have ever surfaced, even in Asheyville, California!

The rare items here are Vielle Case which is last recorded



Figure 4
The Rosalie sSCs

in late 1937; St. Joseph sSC*(1) which is not found used after May 1939 -- it was replaced by St. Joseph sSC*(2) which has slightly smaller type and asterisk; Grand Bay sSC is last recorded in June 1935 and has never been recorded within the KGVI period even though the subsequent Birmingham's ERD is 25 7 37 -- I wonder what was used on the 1937 Coronation issue at this office (**Figure 5**)? The sSC* for Pointe-Michel is very scarce and are not found after April 1938, while sSC*s for Delices and Castle Bruce are very hard to find within the period. The post office at



Figure 5
sSC*(2) Roseau, the rare Vielle Case sSC* 1937,
St. Joseph sSC*(1) 1939 and St. Joseph sSC*(2) 1954
with St. Joseph sSC*(2) 1939 cover.

Castle Bruce has a meticulously kept daybook/diary having one of the best kept records of any office in the Caribbean. Birmingham postmarks were introduced in late 1936 to six offices -- they are distinguished by their large type (*Figure 6*). The tough one here is Colihaut which only had a life-span of four years -- the office went back to using the small sSC* which last saw service in 1932, according to records



Figure 6
Soufrière Birmingham cover, 1948.

(*Figure 6a*). In mid-1937, a further four Birmingham were issued having distinctly smaller type at Castle Bruce (*Figure 7*), Mahaut, Portsmouth and Vieille Case (*Figure 7a*).

The last batch was issued from 1938 and have more

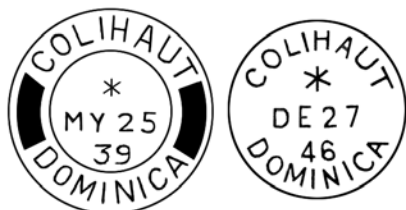


Figure 6a
Colihaut postmarks



Figure 7
Castle Bruce Birmingham 1951.



Figure 7a

Vieille Case, Mahaut and Portsmouth Birmingham.

elongated type. The canceller for Calibishie was apparently lost in a hurricane but later retrieved. Proud gives the ERD as "9 1 39" but Ashley notes an announcement in *The Gazette* showing the opening as February 1, 1949



Figure 8

Dublanc, Calibishie and San Sauveur Birmingham.

with new postmistress Miss Ammie Warrington. That's a 10 year discrepancy. I'm of the opinion that it is the latter, as no postmarks appear in the early 1940s and my two



Figure 9
Salisbury B cover, 1952.*

early 1950s strikes are quite crisp -- sorry Ted! (*Figure 8*). The offices at Dublang, Salisbury (*Figure 9*) and San Sauveur are relatively scarce. It would also appear that the re-opening date for Coulibistrie should be February 1, 1949, not 1939 as I previously stated in my book. There are Open Birmingham found at Delices, Pe-

Continued on page 20



Figure 10

The Open Birmingham – Delices, Petite Savanne and the elusive Salybia.

tite Savanne (which opened June 29, 1950), and Salybia (Figure 10) with two more at Roseau. There are no New Birmingham (with thinner side slugs) found within the KGVI period, but illustrated here is a cheeky late use Melville Hall NB* from 1965 (Figure 11). Shown alongside is an oval registration



Figure 11

A late use of KGVI 8c definitive with Melville Hall New Birmingham, 1965 and an Antigua registered oval on Dominica KGVI 5c.

mark which is almost certainly emanating from Antigua. Madame Joseph forgeries are noted for both the Roseau Birmingham. The first one is interesting in that it has “DOMINICA” at the base and is dated “3 1 42” -- the latter is dated “18 6 42” with “DOMINICA” correctly forged! Shown here is another possible



Figure 12

GPO Dominica -- APES advises against this postmark as a forgery.

forgery from W.B.A. as noted by the American Philatelic Expertising Committee – but I have my doubts and think this could well be genuine (Figure 12). There are two Temporary Rubber Circles, TRCs both used at the Postmaster’s Office -- the earlier one, recorded by Ashley between June and October 1937 -- is rare (Figure 13).

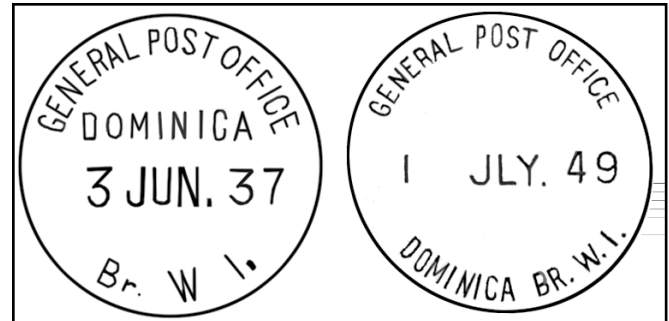


Figure 13

TRCs from the Postmaster.

Finally, there are three air mail cancellations -- “Air Mail via Antigua”; “AIR MAIL..... RATES” that runs from mid-1941 to late-1947 with the rate, on a scale of 1-4 depending on the destination, being added in red crayon and Bill Ashley has found a previously unrecorded boxed



Figure 14

Three airmail markings from the 1940s.

Air Mail TRB marking from July 1948 (Figure 14). The period ends with the introduction of the QEII definitives on October 1, 1954.

FOOTNOTES

¹ R. Courtney Cade, *British Colonial Stamps in Current Use*. (London: The Crown Agents, 1949), n.p.

² David Horry, *The Encyclopaedia of British West Indies Postmarks, King George VI (1937-1956)*. (Axbridge, Somerset, England: Murray Payne, Ltd., 2007).

³ Edward Proud, *The Postal History of the Leeward Islands*. (Heathfield, England: Proud Bailey, 2005).

⁴ Michael N. Oliver, *Leeward Islands: Notes for Philatelists* Second Edition. (Winchester, England: British West Indies Study Circle), 2011.



BG Bits and Pieces

With Dr. P.J. Ramphal
Of Canada



How a quest for premium postmarks spawned a system for grading them!

In the previous issue of this column, I offered a light-hearted alphabetical arrangement of 26 different British Guiana stamps, all bearing different types of cancellations and all emanating from different postal entities. Since I had first done that project years ago, I thought I should check to see if in the interim I had acquired any premium quality postmarks to enhance the presentation. To my delight, I found more than expected, and quite unintentionally I fell in love with my cancellation collection all over again, having neglected it for far too long.

I have always been fascinated by cancellations, even in my boyhood when my access to BG stamps was greater than from anywhere else, I was often amazed to find postmarks from places in my homeland totally unknown to me. Regrettably, I did not save those early finds, merely treated them as curiosities among the local stamps which I sold to a packet dealer for three and six cents per hundred!

I particularly remember spotting a Canje Launch, with much surprise, because I had travelled on that dilapidated boat a few times on picnic trips to my uncle's farm in the upper reaches of the Canje Creek and I could not imagine how any post office business could have been conducted on it. Much later on having left the West Indies, finding postmarks of long forgotten BG and Jamaican villages, stirred nostalgic memories and I soon afterwards started collecting them for their own sake and the passion has persisted. I came to regard a clear, complete, well-centered cancellation residing on a stamp as a kind of jewel enhancing the beauty of a miniature work of art.

Of course cancellations can, and often do, disfigure and deface the stamps on which they land but that is not the type of cancellation which collectors crave. So long as the postmark is legible and identifies the post office and the date, it may find a place in the collection but not necessarily one of high honor. The collector really seeks premium quality strikes with the ultimate goal of finding a perfect one. As I ransacked my collection, I

found many high quality examples and increasingly felt the need to be able to evaluate each one on a common scale which took cognizance of all of the many features and qualities which contribute to making a cancellation spectacular. However, being unaware that any such scale existed, I decided to create one to satisfy my own need. Given my already acknowledged near reverence of stamps and postmarks, it is hardly surprising that I almost automatically gravitated towards a system which paralleled the grading of precious stones.

Shamelessly borrowing from the nomenclature of that scale "Cut," "Color," "Clarity," and "Carat," I will propose that these qualities can be used to grade cancellations in the following manner.

The **CUT** of a cancel is defined as the geometrical relationship which exists between the cancellation and the stamp. There are two components: (a) **Centricity**: With perfect centricity, the geometric centers of both the stamp and the postmark would be the same, *i.e.*, in the middle of the stamp. Award 1 to 4 points for Centricity. And (b) **Alignment**: Perfect alignment requires the script in the central area of the postmark, usually time and date, to be parallel to either the horizontal or vertical borders of the stamp, so that a perfectly upside down cancel with the date and time in lines parallel to the top and bottom borders of the stamp, would score full points (4) for alignment. Therefore, **CUT** scores 1 to 4 points for Centricity, plus 1 to 4 points for Alignment, for a possible total of 8 points.

The **CLARITY** of the postmark is judged by both its completeness and legibility. Completeness requires both the written information of the postmark as well as the border of the cancellation to be complete. (Where the physical size of the cancel is greater than the stamp, allowances may be made for missing portions of the border.) Legibility of the postmark script often relates to the degree of inking, being too heavy or too light or blurred or smudged.

Continued on page 22

For both Completeness and Legibility, award 1 to 4 points for a total of 8 points. (N.B.: errors of omission or commission made by postal employees in the assembly of the hammer should not necessarily penalize the postmark valuation.)

The **COLOR** and **CONTRAST**. The color and the degree of competition arising from the background of the stamp where the postmark has landed may contribute to the legibility of the postmark information. Also, the ink of the cancel may blend or contrast with the stamp background. Black postmark ink on a black stamp is probably the worst of all combinations. For Color and Contrast, award 1 to 4 points.

COMBINED RARITY of both stamp and cancel: Obviously a rare cancel on a rare stamp is much more desirable than a common cancel on a common stamp. The following scoring system is suggested: Relatively Common Cancel, 1 point; Relatively Common Stamp, 1 point; Relatively Uncommon Cancel, 2 points; Relatively Uncommon Stamp, 2 points; Relatively Scarce Cancel, 3 points; Relatively Scarce Stamp, 3 points; Relatively Rare Cancel, 4 points; Relatively Rare Stamp, 4 points. (N.B.: The combined rarity of stamp and cancel is not to exceed a total of 4 points.) The terms “Scarce” and “Rare” are not expected to be used as rigidly as defined by Townsend and Howe.¹

CARAT. As with gemstones, the Carat of a cancellation is its total weight (in points). Therefore, any cancellation scoring full points, (*i.e.*, 24 points is a 24 carat gem and I suggest that it should be termed a “Nugget,” pure gold). I further suggest that 23 carat cancels be designated “Diamonds,” 22 carat be deemed “Sapphires” and 20 to 21 carat specimens be called “Rubies.” Examples are illustrated in Figures 1 to 4.

This appraisal system is suggested to put some uniformity into the valuation of cancellations. I do not suggest that geometry instruments need always be used to make determinations. The honest discerning eye should be all that’s needed to make a reasonably accurate assessment.



FIGURE 1

“Nuggets,” 24 carats. From left, Kitty Post Office, Type 30; No. 50 (Village), Type 18; Potaro, Type 10; Berbice River TPO, Type 19.



FIGURE 2

“Diamonds,” 23 carats. From left, Cornhill, Type 31; Essequibo Steamer, Type S7; Wismar PO, Type D11 (Proud) (EKD: December 1961).



FIGURE 3

“Sapphires,” 22 carats. From left, Enmore, Type 10; Cuyuni River, Type S3; Wismar PO, Type D11 (Proud) (EKD: December 19, 1961).



FIGURE 4

“Rubies,” 20-21 carats. From left, Leguan Type 31 (T); Lethem Rup. Type 42.

ADDENDUM

When I had completed the first draft of this article, I was contacted by the dealer responsible for finding me the best of my BG postal history. He reported having something which he was sure I would find irresistible because of its provenance. He was correct. I bought it and it is displayed in Figure 5, a “COTTON TREE” squared circle cancel dated “29 JUN (18) 87” which I rate to

Jamaica World War II

Censor Notes #2

By Hap Pattiz

During the period from May 1941 through 1945, an Imperial censorship unit operated in Jamaica. Originally staffed by about 20 Imperial censors recruited from Trinidad and Bermuda, they utilized the U.K. type censor tapes which they had brought with them. These tapes do not have an indication of the review by an Imperial censor. On rare occasions, manuscript endorsements were added to the tape to confirm the status of the examiner.

Such a cover is shown in Figure 1 below. The cover was sent from Barranquilla, Columbia to New York City on December 4, 1942, and was received and censored in Jamaica on December 7, 1942 by censor 3710 (U.K. Type "A" tape). The tape was handstamped (on the back) with datestamp "7 DEC 1942." The tape also has been marked in blue pencil, "I.D." (on the front) before the censor number. This is only the second such endorsement that I know of on the U.K. type tapes.



FIGURE 1 a & b

Cover from Barranquilla, Columbia to New York, dated December 4, 1942, censored in Jamaica "A" #3710, manuscript blue pencil "I.D." The tape is handstamped "7 DEC 1942" on reverse.

BG Bits and Pieces

Continued from page 22

be a "Ruby," 20 to 21 carats. Apparently in 1973 Mr. Townsend, co-author of *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*, published three years earlier in 1970, had been asked, at short notice, to stand in for an ill guest speaker who was scheduled to address a meeting of the BWI Study Circle. Mr. Townsend selected nine favorite items from his own collection for discussion and display and his "Cotton Tree" was one of the nine. That I could be so lucky to possess one of his



FIGURE 5
The "Cotton Tree" cancel, squared circle, dated "29 JUN 87" which is latest known date.

favorite specimens!! But, alas, I no longer believe that this was the stamp Mr. Townsend exhibited that night, simply because its clear date of "29 JUN 87" is later than the listed latest known date of usage (LKD) by Proud² and by Townsend and Howe. So what I lost in provenance, I somewhat regained in now possessing the latest known date of use of this very scarce Cotton Tree squared circle.

ENDNOTE

¹ Townsend, W.A. and F.G. Howe. *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. London: The Royal Philatelic Society London, 1970.

² Proud, E.B. *The Postal History of British Guiana*. Heathfield, Sussex, England: Proud Bailey, Co., Ltd., 2000.

Former president receives Lifetime Appreciation Award from Trinidad & Tobago

Dr. Reuben “Ben” Ramkissoon honored with Appreciation Award

Former President and current APS representative Dr. Reuben “Ben” Ramkissoon recently received an Appreciation Award from the Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago. The award was presented by John Chay, PSTT president. President Chay indicated that this is only the second time in its history that the PSTT has provided a lifetime achievement award.

The award consists of a plaque engraved in dark blue, captioned with the image of famous Trinidad “The Lady McLeod” issue, with the following text: “Appreciation



Dr. Reuben “Ben” Ramkissoon with his award.

Award presented to Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon in recognition and appreciation of a lifetime of service to the philately of Trinidad & Tobago. Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago.”

Dr. Ramkissoon is a life member of the Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago, and has contributed extensively to the body of philatelic literature of Trinidad & Tobago. Beside co-authoring *TRINIDAD -- A Philatelic History to 1913* (2010), Dr. Ramkissoon’s philatelic writings on Trinidad, Tobago and Trinidad & Tobago have appeared

in many journals and periodicals over the past 60 years. These include the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, *The London Philatelist*, *The American Philatelist*, *Postal Stationery*, *Airpost Journal*; and in handbooks including *The Congress Book*, the *COMPEX Directory*, and the BCPSG’s book *The Town and Village Postmarks of Trinidad & Tobago*.

In addition, Dr. Ramkissoon has exhibited many of his collections at exhibitions around the world, including: FIP Championship (Large Gold)--TRINIDAD 1797 TO 1913; FIP (Gold) -- Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago, and TOBAGO to 1913; FIP One Frame (Gold)--The Trinidad World War I Red Cross Label that Became a Postage Stamp for a Day, which also received the APS Champion of Champions Award.

National gold awards have been won for several multiple and single frame collections, including his Tobago Traditional exhibit, Air Mails of Trinidad & Tobago, Revenues of Trinidad & Tobago, 50-Years of BWIA Service, The Trinidad Connections of the 1931 DO-X South American Flight, The 1898 2d Columbus Discovery of Trinidad Issue, The George V Britannia Issues of Trinidad & Tobago, The King George V Silver Jubilee Issue of Trinidad & Tobago, The Numeral Cancellations of Trinidad, and the 1956 Elizabeth II One Cent on 2-cent Overprinted Issue of Trinidad & Tobago.

Nuggets from the past ...

Morris H. Ludington provided supplemental notes on Bahamas postal markings in the June 1970 issue of the *Journal*. He and Dr. Gale Raymond earlier published a book on the subject titled *The Bahama Islands, A History and Catalogue of the Handstamps and Cancellations, 1802-1967*. Also, Robert Topaz authored “Jamaica Jottings,” with news of several new post offices on the island. Dr. John M. Lockie wrote about airmails of the West Indies, and Eric H. Heyer contributed “Some Notes on Barbados.” William G. Cornell discussed Antigua stamps, and W.H. Matthews wrote about the Trinidad & Tobago 1914 Red Cross stamp/label.

-- BCPSG Journal
June 1970

Updating *The Postal History of the Cayman Islands* book

By Tom Giraldi

Official Markings

(Continued from July 2011 Journal; first installment was in July 2010 issue. Continues in April 2012 issue.)

UPDATES/NEW USERS OF EXISTING TYPES

	EKD	LKD
East End TYPE R6(C)		November 15, 2002
North Side TYPE R7		September 16, 2002
Seven Mile Beach TYPE R3 (L) TYPE R4 (L) TYPE R5 (C)		March 22, 2005 October 3, 2006 January 17, 2009
West Bay TYPE R6		October 4, 2006
CAYMAN BRAC Stake Bay TYPE R13 (L) (Code letter "L") TYPE R15 (L) (Bar Code) TYPE R16 (C)		October 24, 2003 January 25, 2005 September 7, 2005
Creek TYPE R6 (C)		September 7, 2005
Spot Bay TYPE R5 (C)	May 1, 1993	September 7, 2005
Watering Place TYPE R5 (C)		September 7, 2005
West End TYPE R6 (C) TYPE R6 (C) (New Type, 26mm)	September 18, 2002	September 8, 2005 January 21, 2004



Instructional markings

Updates/New Types

Georgetown (GPO)

Airmail

Sub-Type 11B

*Sorry for brevity due to lack of space.
The listing will continue in the April 2012 issue.*

May 9, 2006

Addendum to Cayman Islands postal rates, 1936-69

By Graham Booth
Of the United Kingdom

Since writing the article on Cayman rates (BCPSG *Journal*, Vol. 51, No. 4, 15-22), I have seen or acquired another 10 covers from the correspondence between Grand Cayman and Northern Ireland. This was between Veta Merren and Alfred Hogg. The latter had spent some years in Grand Cayman as a minister and wanted Miss Merren to go to Britain to marry him, but her father would not let her go. Like the earlier letters, these would appear to be correctly franked and in some cases have a date of arrival added in manuscript. All but the last were censored with a manuscript "O.K." and do not appear to have been opened. The last received the octagonal D/41 handstamp. Two were subject to additional censorship en route.

They are as follows:

- Georgetown, May 23, 1940, surface mail, franked 1d.
- Georgetown, October 11, 1940, surface mail, franked 1d, War Fund label.
- Georgetown, December 9, 1940, surface mail, franked 1d, endorsed "Card Only." Transit 49 days.
- Georgetown, December 31, 1940, surface mail, franked 1d. Transit 44 days.
- Georgetown, January 23, 1941, surface mail, franked 1½d.
- Georgetown, February 21, 1941, surface mail, franked 1½d.
- Georgetown, March 28, 1941, surface mail, franked 1½d. Transit 29 days.
- Georgetown, February 3, 1942, airmail, franked 1/9½d, War Fund label.
- Georgetown, November 30, 1942, surface mail, franked 1½d. Endorsed "Card Only."

Their principal interest is as follows:

1) The three covers sent at the beginning of 1941 were all franked with a 1½d War Stamp from 1917. This provides some supportive evidence for the theory advanced in my article that occasionally certain denominations were exhausted and could not be replaced in time because of the war. In this case, the post office may have dug into its vaults and found the War Stamps to replace the George VI 1½d adhesive.

2) As reported by Proud, the rate change from 1d to 1½d per half ounce was implemented on January 1, 1941.

3) Confirmation that the postcard rate increased from 1d to 1½d, probably on the same date as the letter rate changed – January 1, 1941.

4) Perhaps the most significant thing is the letter of February 3, 1942 which was shown on the front cover of the *Journal* (Vol. 51, No. 3, July-September 2011). Tom Giraldi rightly emphasizes its scarcity in connection with the War Fund label, but for me the real significance lies in the rate. It pre-dates by over a year the March 1943 post office notice which stated that the rate to be flown all the way across the Atlantic was 2/3½d. It is highly probable in the light of the accurate way that the entire sequence of 20 letters was franked that 1/9½d was the applicable rate 12 months earlier.

Attend AmeriStamp Expo and earn a year's free BCPSG dues!

It doesn't get any better than this! You can attend a premier stamp show and earn a free year's dues in the BCPSG at the same time!

AmeriStamp Expo is the American Philatelic Society's second largest annual event held every January/February in different states.



The 2012 event in Atlanta will be held jointly with the Southeastern Stamp Expo and will feature about 75 dealers, 300 plus frames of exhibits, and participation of about 25 national societies, including the BCPSG!

The event will be held at the Cobb Galleria Centre, Two Galleria Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30339. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, January 27; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, January 28; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 29, 2012. Admission will be free.

Please plan to come join us. And here's the best part: members working more than four hours at our table will receive free dues for one year!

-- John Seidl

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.

PHILANIPPON 2011
July 28 - August 2
Tokyo, Japan

Darrel Ertzberger
British Honduras Postal Stationery
Vermeil

Stephen Schumann
New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876 - 1940
Large Gold & Special Prize

STAMPSHOW 2011
August 11 - 14
Columbus, Ohio

APS World Series Competition

Peter McCann
Montserrat: Postal History of a Caribbean Island
Prix d'Honneur

Paul Larsen
*Caroline Islands to 1914:
The Spanish and German Periods*
Prix d'Honneur

Stephen Schumann
New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940
Prix d'Honneur

Open Competition

John Wynns
Peru: 1897 Lima Post Office Issue (SF)
Vermeil

Literature Competition

Peter Ford
Trinidad, A Philatelic History to 1913
Vermeil

INDYPEX 2011

September 30 - October 2
Indianapolis, Indiana

George Bowman
*The New Zealand Half-penny
Mt. Cook Issues 1898 - 1908*
Vermeil

Interesting philatelic material in The Tobago Museum

By John Seidl
Treasurer

There is a rather interesting stamp exhibit at The Tobago Museum in Scarborough. It is a page of Tobago stamps from 1883 to 1896 mounted on a stocksheet. The sheet also has Trinidad stamps of 1863-1900. Some of the stamps are a bit rough looking, but it's interesting they are on display in a local public museum. See illustration below.



*Stamps of tobago and Trinidad on stocksheet in
The Tobago Museum, Scarborough, Tobago.*

Membership Director's Report

By Bob Stewart

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

Dr. Michael Clark, 41 Hillview Dr., Pleasantville, NY 10570 USA. Collects Bahamas, Barbados, Trinidad, War Tax. Member of APS. Sponsored by Bob Stewart.

Reinstatement

Martin Taylor of the United Kingdom

Address Changes

R. Alan Ferrington, 1977 S. Railroad Ave., Arcadia, LA 71001-3722 USA

John F. Cress, 130 Waterway, Saunderstown, RI 02874-3901 USA

Douglas S. Files, 3920 W. 16th St., Panama City, FL 32401-1109 USA

Mary Gleadall, P.O. Box 272, Brevard, NC 28712 USA
New email: gleadallm@telus.net

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 stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

Our web site, www.bcpsg.com, now contains a members' area that includes past copies of the Journal. To access the site, you will need a login and password which can be obtained by contacting **Bob Stewart, Membership Chairman**, at stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

Deadlines *Deadlines Deadlines*

We've all got them, and this journal is no different! Deadlines for receiving material for publication (and that means in the editor's hands, not mailed) and the anticipated mailing date for each of the quarterly issues of this publication are now found at the bottom of page 3.

Please take note of these dates!

Are YOU utilizing our BCPSG Library?

Many of us are involved in philatelic research ... it is the very essence of philately. But how many of our members are even aware that the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group maintains an extensive library for the use of its members?

Well over 100 titles are available for mailing to members, and these books, monographs, etc., cover all aspects of British Caribbean philately. You can find a detailed catalogue of available material at the BCPSG website,

<http://www.bcpsg.com>

You can also ask about specific titles, or learn more about borrowing by mail from Librarian Dale Wade, P.O. Box 491, Hayesville, NC 28904. He can be reached by electronic mail at:

rxfire@frontier.com

Visit my new website today!

On my website for sale at the moment you will find possibly the best stock of Caribbean philatelic books, including many scarce out-of-print titles. Do not be put off by shipping costs as I have an excellent contract with Royal Mail!

Much new philatelic stock added to the website including further selections from Mary Kerr's **Barbados** collection, **Bahamas** first flights, pre-stamp **Grenada** and censored mail from around the Caribbean.

Special list of rare antiquarian West Indies books, maps and prints just added!

www.pennymead.com



1 Brewerton St. Knaresborough, HG5 8AZ
E Mail: Pennymead@aol.com
Tel: 01423 865962 Fax: 01423 547057



President's Message

By Ed Waterous

May the New Year 2012 bring you happiness and joy. Time marches on and our annual meeting is upon us. I hope you will be able to attend and enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie of our members. We will meet in conjunction with the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition in sunny Florida, February 3, 4 and 5, 2012. Dr. and Mrs. Peter P. McCann will host a gathering on Friday evening. Our Annual Group Meeting, a Bermuda presentation by David Cordon and the BCPSG Auction will be held on Saturday starting at 12:30 p.m. The auction catalog will be available for viewing on our website about January 1, 2012. Please contact me if you are unable to access our BCPSG website. Auction viewing will also be held on Thursday evening, February 1, 2012. If you attend the APS AMERISTAMP Expo in Atlanta, January 27-29, please look for the BCPSG table. You will be able to view the auction lots at the show. The award-winning book *Trinidad A Philatelic History to 1913* will also be available at both shows. Come out and meet fellow BCPSG members. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there! Keep your eye on our website for information updates.

Congratulations to member Ben Ramkissoon, M.D., FRPSL, who continues to be recognized for his many contributions to our hobby. Ben was a 2011 inductee into the Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame of the American Air Mail Society. The names of those honored are inscribed on the Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame plaque at the World Airmail Research Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. In addition, Ben received a plaque engraved with "Appreciation Award presented to Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon in recognition and appreciation of a lifetime of service to the philately of Trinidad & Tobago. Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago." Ben is only the second person to ever receive this award says John Chay, President of the Trinidad & Tobago Philatelic Society (Port of Spain, Trinidad).

Welcome to newly appointed BCPSG Trustee Nigel Mohammed, who will fulfill the term of the late Mike Nethersole. Nigel is an avid collector of Trinidad & Tobago philately. He also brings a much needed asset to the Group – I did not see a gray hair on his head. We

look forward to many years of Nigel's successful participation in the BCPSG.

While we have tried to contain the costs of our operations, some basic costs continue to rise. To help meet these increases our dues for North American members will rise from \$22.00 to \$25.00 per year. Our dues structure almost covers the cost of producing and shipping our *Journal*. We depend on our members' donations to defray our other expenses. Please keep the BCPSG in mind and help if you can.

We are still seeking a webmaster. If you think you'd be able to assist by giving a little of your time and talents, we need your help. I have been asking for a volunteer for a couple of years and haven't heard from anyone – not even to seek information about the job. Surely there must be someone in our membership who can help us out. Please don't wait any longer for someone else to volunteer. I await your call or email.



THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP and
THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE



TRINIDAD
A Philatelic History to 1913



by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medicott
and Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL

This book was conceived by John Marriott to follow on from his original 1962 Study Paper; unfortunately he did not live to complete the work. With the help, not only of the two co-authors, but many other Trinidad collectors, our two societies have collaborated to publish this book. As the title suggests, the book covers the Trinidad-only period before the advent of Trinidad & Tobago issues. It details all Postage Stamp issues within the period, as well as the Postal Markings; the coverage includes Postal Stationery, Postage Dues, and Revenue and Official Stamps. The final chapter examines the 'D22' markings of Ciudad Bolivar, the 'TOO LATE' marks, Ship Letters, Military Mail and many other more esoteric aspects of Trinidad philately. There are five Appendices which include a listing of Trinidad Governors and Postmasters-General, details of the printings of all the Postage Stamps as well as a census of the Lady McLeod stamp with many of these illustrated in colour. And lastly, there is a long list describing many of the early Trinidad covers, pre-1860. Price: \$70.00. BCPSG Members' Price: \$63.00

This fine book is limited to 400 copies and your individually numbered copy can be ordered from:- Edward Barrow, 16704 Briardale Road, Derwood, MD 20855, Tel:- 301-816-1157 or E-mail:- e.barrow1@gmail.com. For members in Britain or Europe, orders should be sent to David Druett, Pennymead Auctions, 1, Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:- 01423 865962 or Fax:- 01423 547057 or E-mail:- Pennymead@aol.com. Or log on to www.pennymead.com, where the book can be ordered with secure credit card check out facilities.

Local Mail

Recent commercial mail, with local usages, including meters, governmental stampless, inter-island, and instructional markings from many of the Caribbean countries.



St. Vincent Provisional overprints 1999-2004 and 2008

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

APS, PTS, NZSDA, APTA
 P.O. Box 230049, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 USA
 Tel: 718-706-0616 Fax: 718-706-0619
www.zirinskystamps.com

EXPERTIZATION WORLD CLASSICS



*You can expect:
 Detailed and Accurate
 High Quality Certificates*

*Fast Service * Reliable * Affordable*

Liane & Sergio Sismondo

10035 CAROUSEL CENTER DRIVE
 SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13290-0001
 U.S.A.
 TEL. (315) 422-2331 * FAX (315) 422-2956
 SISMONDO@DREAMSCAPE.COM

BRITISH EMPIRE EXCLUSIVELY



REQUEST A CATALOGUE FOR OUR NEXT PUBLIC AUCTION.
 PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR INTERESTS.

WANT LISTS INVITED FOR PRE-1935 MATERIAL.
 REFERENCES PLEASE.

WE ARE BUYERS OF BETTER BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMPS,
 POSTAL HISTORY AND SPECIALIST ITEMS.

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 Website: VictoriaStampCo.com



The British Commonwealth of Nations



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

We are active buyers ...



L.W. Martin Jr.

CROWN COLONY STAMPS

P.O. Box 1198 • Bellaire, Texas 77402

Phone: 713-781-6563 • Fax: 713-789-9998

E-mail: lwm@crowncolony.com



BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

THE LOCALLY OVERPRINTED SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS OF BAHAMAS, 1916-17

by
Peter Fernbank, FRPSL

This Study Paper examines the Special Delivery agreement made between Canada and Bahamas in 1916. National Archive sources in both Canada and the UK have been investigated to provide an in-depth review of the Canadian and Bahamas Post Office procedures for dealing with such mail. There has been some misunderstanding regarding the full validity of Canadian covers with a Bahamas Special Delivery stamp affixed, and a grading system is provided for assessing such covers. Further sections define the three settings of the overprint for each position in the sheet, and go on to examine in detail the major errors that exist on this issue. This work sheds much new light on the subject and reveals that in the past there have been a number of misconceptions regarding this issue.

Price:- £19.00 (approx US\$30.00).

BWISC Members' Discount:- £3.00 (\$4.50).

This book and others published by the BWISC can be ordered from:- David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ .Tel:- 01423 865962 or Fax:- 01423 547057 or E-mail: Pennymead@aol.com. N.B. Postage and packing is extra. Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by Sterling or US or Canadian dollar cheque or by PayPal. Payment may also be made in Euros in cash only. All books published by the BWISC are displayed on www.bwisc.org and on www.pennymead.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 (01845) 523942
Member: BCPSG, BWISC

The British Empire

A-Z 1840-1935 Mint and Used

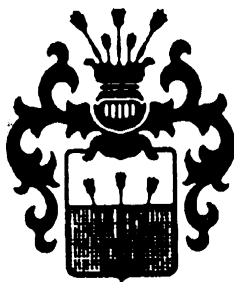
The Largest and Most Valuable Stock in America



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: (323) 933-9435

Fax (323) 939-9930

eMail: gwh225@aol.com

Visit our Web Site: www.colonialstamps.com



CCNY, CSDA, IFSDA,
INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY APPRAISERS

