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Intrigue in the Bahamas!



*What philatelic secrets were hidden
in World War II?*

David Horry's story begins on page 4!



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The Stamps of the Bahamas, 1940-48: The Wallis Collection

By David Horry, an Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

When World War II slipped into gear, the first years of the conflict were generally known as “The Phoney War.” Chroniclers such as Charles Highams have attempted to show that the recently abdicated King Edward VIII – the Duke of Windsor and his wife, the twice divorced American socialite Wallis Simpson, had plenty of Nazi sympathies – especially the duchess (*Figure 1*). She was rumored to have



FIGURE 1
The Windsors in Nassau.

been the lover of both von Ribbentrop (*Figure 2*), Hitler’s ambassador in London, and Count Ciano, Mussolini’s son-in-law, whilst in China. Many historians have suggested that Hitler was prepared to reinstate Edward as king in the hope of establishing a neutral but fascist



FIGURE 2
Joachim von Ribbentrop, the German Ambassador to London.

sympathetic Britain, whilst the Nazis were then free to take on communist Russia.

Edward was, at the outbreak of war, made a Major-General with the British Military Mission at Vincennes, with duties in France, estimating the potential of French forces. But alarm bells rang when Wallis Simpson was suspected of passing on military secrets to Berlin. Whether true or false, there was certainly no love lost between King George VI, the Queen (Elizabeth Bowes Lyons) and the Windsors (*Figure 3*).



FIGURE 3
The Windsors' Cypher.

Wallis Simpson haughtily described the Queen as, “The fat Scottish cook!” and the insult was returned when the Queen (Mother) referred to Mrs. Simpson as, “That woman!” Schoolchildren at Christmas 1936 chanted a playground rhyme: “Hark the herald angels sing, Wallis Simpson’s pinched our King!” without a clue as to what the words meant.

It is important to note that on May 27, 1937, just two weeks after his Coronation, King George VI passed letters patent denying the style of “Royal Highness” to the wife and descendants of the Duke of Windsor. This remained a bone of contention for many years.

On June 3, 1937 the Duke of Windsor married Wallis Simpson in the Château de Candé. When France came under the threat of German invasion, the Windsors initially fled to Spain and thence to Lisbon (Estoril) to the house of Espirito Santo e Silva, a rich banker. The Windsors were seemingly determined to stay in neutral Portugal as long as possible.

Winston Churchill, who had always had an avuncular spot for Edward, was far from happy and threatened the duke with court-martial if he didn't get back to British soil pronto. Things were getting serious now the phoney war was over – the King even cancelled the Whitsun holiday, by proclamation, May 11, 1940.

Ribbentrop & Co. did make attempts to corral the “Royal” couple. It was mooted at the time that a compromise was reached and the Duke of Windsor was offered the safe post of Governor of The Bahamas. The “Royal” party sailed initially to Bermuda on USS *Excalibur* and finally arrived in Nassau on August 16, 1940, on CNS



FIGURE 4
King George VI Coronation stamps with Lady Somers TRC, 1937.

Lady Somers (Figure 4). The Windsors found Nassau a distinctly dreary third-rate outpost of Empire, but they did have a few friends around who would help make their “exile” bearable and the U.S.A. was but a few miles northward.

One of Edward's gubernatorial duties was to attend to such affairs of state such as stamp design and new printings of existing definitives, guided by the Secretary of the Colony and Postmaster General, although he would



FIGURE 5
The 1938 surface-printed 2½d blue and 3d violet.

have the last word on design, etc.

In 1940 the letter rate to foreign countries increased to 3d and stocks of the 1938 3d violet stamps were low (Figure 5). It was decided to overprint remaining stocks of the 1938 2½d blue - 3d provisionally; *The Jamaica*

FIGURE 6
Edward VIII Crown with head facing left!



Philatelic Society's Quarterly Bulletin reports that 240,000 were thus overprinted.

It is at this point I have a contention that may well change our consideration of all of the stamps of this tragic period of Bahamian dystopia. Wallis Simpson ruled “David” (as Edward was known within Royal circles), with a rod of iron – he was besotted and attempted to fulfill her every whim. She absolutely loathed the King and Queen and she decided that King George VI's portrait would never grace new stamps of the Bahamas – save the necessary reprints of the key-plate surface-printed definitives. It was a case of “Off with his head!”

It is recorded that Edward insisted that his coinage should face left (Figure 6), which flew in the face of convention: it was the numismatic practice to alternate the aspect of the Royal Head with each reign. George V faced left so Edward should have faced right but he protested that his left side was superior and showed off his parting! Vanity or was this the whim of Wallis Simpson, the control-freak? Subsequently King George VI was correctly also shown facing left with Queen Elizabeth II facing right.

The 3d overprint was made but with a large 3d which was applied at the local City Press, Nassau which was part of the *Nassau Guardian*. I believe that Wallis must have been somewhat miffed when the 3d didn't obliterate the King's face as she'd envisaged (Figure 7) but was dropped lower in the frame (Figure 8).

One of the most anticipated stamp issues was to be the 450th Anniversary of the Landing of Christopher Columbus back in 1492 on San Salvador (Watling Island).

Continued on page 6



FIGURE 7
The 3d overprint as envisaged by Wallis Simpson.



FIGURE 8
The actual 3d overprint from the City Press, Nassau, November 1940.

Everyone was looking forward to a special commemorative issue such as had been released in Sierra Leone, Montserrat and Antigua in 1933 under the auspices of Sir

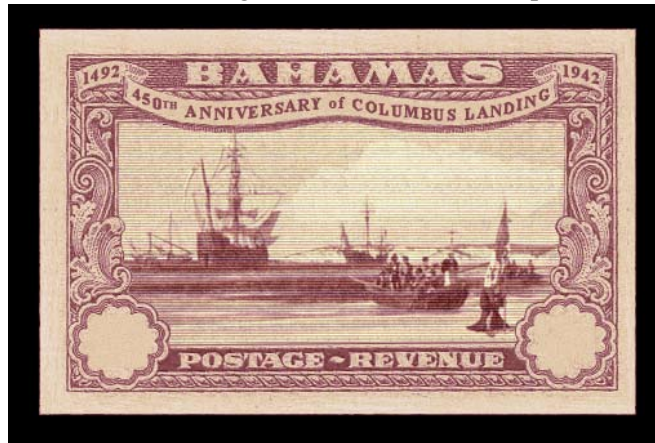


FIGURE 9
Might this be how the Columbus Landing set was envisaged by Bradbury Wilkinson in 1942?

Harry Luke, “the designer of recent Maltese and Cypriot pictorial stamps,” as per G. C. Gunter, *The Jamaica Philatelist* June 1944. Might it have looked something like this? (*Figure 9*). What disappointment lay in store!

Writing in the June 1943 issue of *The Jamaica Philatelist* under the heading “Bahamas Landing” editor H. Cooke had this to say:

“In normal times, the philatelic event of the year would be the Columbus commemorative issue made by this (Bahamas) colony 12th October, 1942, to remain on sale for six months; *i.e.* April 1943. The issue is marred by the fact that it does not consist of commemorative stamps in the accepted sense of that term, *viz.*, stamps in special designs illustrative of the commemoration, but of the normal and current series, to which a paltry overprint ‘1492 Landfall of Columbus 1942’ has been applied in black in five lines. The face value of the set ½d to 20/- is £1 13s 4½d. There seems to be little doubt that (the) idea was a very hurried one; that it was entirely speculative, designed to levy from stamp collectors the world over, tribute which is said to have reached the sum of £40,000 and enabled balance of the Colonial Budget.

“We have seen the issue viciously attacked, and through it, the local Government, in at least one English philatel-



FIGURE 10
The 3d blue.

ic journal, with charges of scandal, improper, irregular procedures; speculators allowed to corner the issue, etc., etc., but such knowledge as has reached us from other sources, provides nothing in support.

“During 1932/33 there were no less than five genuinely commemorative issues made by British Colonies, Antigua, Caymans, Falklands, Montserrat, Sierra Leone that taxed the collector with a total of 119/0¾d to pay for them, at face value, and each who accepted the tax cannot now regret his outlay. We deprecate all such issues, for the reason that each and everyone, without any exception, has a reason for issue easy collection of money.”

Of course, in 1942 ink and steel were in extremely short supply as were London printing works with the roof left on! But Wallis had her little triumph – she would have been over the moon with the full defacement on the small stamps of a five line overprint! Thus the greatest geographical discovery of all time was celebrated by a typographical nightmare which Richard Lockyer has

spent many a long evening trying to sort out! According to Lockyer, on arrival in London one of the 3 shilling stamps had been removed from every sheet.

And then the “London Printing” was “discovered.” According to Harold Gisburn, “The colour of the (afore-mentioned) 3d stamp was then in the process of being altered from violet to blue, and the new blue stamp was included in the overprinted set although it had not previously been issued as part of the normal range. It was in



FIGURE 11
The so-called
“London Printing”
Landfall 3d
October 12, 1942.

fact released at a later date (July 1943) [Figure 10] so that we have the somewhat unusual feature that the date of issue of the normal stamp was subsequent to the issue of the same stamp with the (Landfall) overprint.

“A consignment of the new 3d (blue) stamp had been dispatched to Nassau for release in due course and as is usual a stock remained in the hands of the Crown Agents for the purpose of supplying the stamp trade. This so-called ‘London Printing’ is a myth and it can be stated authoritatively that the whole of the work of overprinting (on the Landfall stamps) was carried out locally (in Nassau)” (Figure 11).

The hastily prepared Victory issue was somewhat late in Nassau only being released November 11, 1946 later than most of the other Caribbean colonies.



FIGURE 12
The 2/- Great Seal of
the Bahamas,
Bradbury Wilkinson,
1930.

Next up for consideration was the 1947 Tercentenary of Eleuthera issue which was to present nothing but problems for all parties. This would probably be started a year or so before the Windsors left Nassau in early April 1945. Edward actually resigned his post on March 16, 1945 and the next Governor, Sir William Murphy tipped up on July 28, 1945.



FIGURE 13
Was this how the Bradbury Wilkinson Tercentenary
set was meant to look back in 1947?

To undertake a long commemorative set such as this would take a great deal of planning with The Crown Agents very involved as usual.

It would appear that the release date should have been July 9, 1947 as per Harold Gisburn. It is now my contention that designs for the stamps had been prepared in the same general style as the 1930 2/- and 3/-, without the King’s head (Figure 12). But this was the work of Bradbury Wilkinson (Figure 13) and not the Canadian Bank Note Company initially!

Continued on page 8



FIGURE 14
Wallis Simpson’s pet project, The Infant Health
Clinic at Grants Town, Nassau.

Work might well have started in 1945 as the ½d stamp features the modern Infant Welfare Clinic at Baillou Hill Road, Grants Town, Nassau (*Figure 14*). According to



FIGURE 15

Water Sports – Water Skiing, promoting tourism to the Bahama Islands.

Gisburn, it was established by the efforts of H.R.H. The Duchess of Windsor – it was her pet project. (Titling Her Grace as her H.R.H. as Gisburn did, was wholly incorrect and extremely undiplomatic!)

It is interesting to note that no mention is made of the Duchess in the British Colonial Stamps in Current Use by Reginald Courtney Cade, H.M.S.O., 1955: “Erected during the Governorship of His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor, it provides a clinic with free services and supplies for all infants - in the district.” Many other

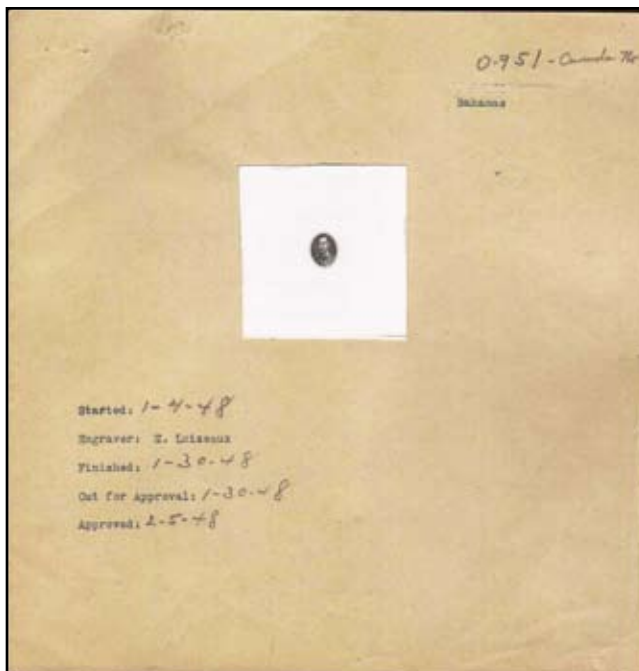


FIGURE 16

Approved die proof of KGVI head, February 5, 1948. Courtesy of Charles Freeland.

of the set illustrate Hatchet Bay and modern developments in dairying and tourism led by Austin T. Levy and the late Sir Harry Oakes, close friends of the Duke of Windsor (*Figure 15*).

The designs were probably rejected by the Palace as the King's head was not present on the stamps. Noel Davenhill paints a grim picture: “It is interesting to recall that several colonial commemorative stamp issues were seriously delayed by British printers around this time:-- Mauritius Stamp Centenary 1947, Malta Self-Government 1947, Bermuda Perot 1948, British Honduras St. George's Cay 1948 and, of course, the Silver Wedding debacle, some of which were almost 18 months late! Clearly the British printers were over-committed.”



FIGURE 17

Die proof of the Tercentenary border, circa February 1948.

The earliest mention of the Tercentenary issue in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* is August 1947 when in the “Stamps in Brief” section it is reported that “A committee appointed by the Governor, Sir William Murphy, has invited designs for a special issue to mark the Tercentenary of the first English settlement on Eleuthera Island.” I simply do not buy this statement; it was merely an attempt to cover up the disaster.

Was this “Eleuthera Adventurers Commemorative Series,” as Gisburn called it, a design hangover from the missed opportunity of the Columbus Landing stamps? It certainly is a very grand design and beautifully engraved, but did it really come from the Canadian Bank Note Company? Charles Freeland states, “I am persuaded by your view that Bradbury Wilkinson engraved the original vignettes.”

Bradbury Wilkinson were now in a right mess. They were running out of time and probably believed they had delivered what was required of them. The relationship

between Bradbury Wilkinson and The Crown Agents would be somewhat strained.

It is my contention that the Canadian Bank Note Company of Ottawa then took over the whole job and farmed out parts of it in order to get the job done quickly. A ridiculously small King's head was added to the design



FIGURE 18
The Newfoundland Coronation 7¢ value, 1937.

in order not to encroach too much on the existing vignettes. Charles Freeland, in a recent article in the *Collectors Club Philatelist* (March-April 2012) notes that the King's head was not actually engraved by the Canadian Bank Note Company!

“In essence, the ABN engraved the head while the CBN in Ottawa engraved all the frames and vignettes, an unusual case of collaborative work between printers in two countries,” he said. And according to Ross Towle, an ABN specialist, the first effort by engraver E. Loizeaux, was rejected in September 1947, two months before any



FIGURE 19
Corner Imprint Block, Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa.

records of the job existed. Shown here is the final engraving, which was approved February 5, 1948 (*Figure 16*), courtesy of Charles Freeland.

All agree that the Canadian Bank Note Company redesigned the frame (*Figure 17*), but I believe that Bradbury Wilkinson supplied the vignettes, which had to be re-cut on the left-hand side in order to accommodate the King's head cartouche. But the stamp now had a malformed, fussy design with the Tercentenary scroll somewhat truncated and therefore unbalanced. The design was not as balanced and self-assured as the Perkins Bacon Coronation issue from Newfoundland (*Figure 18*).

Freeland further notes: “As the space left for the King's portrait in the frame design the CBN intended to use was extremely small, the photograph was too large for the CBN's purposes, hence the need for ‘reduction.’ Indeed, any engraver would have been challenged to produce a



FIGURE 20
Royal Silver Wedding Bahamas £1, 1948

good likeness in such a small space.” When I was a kid, I used to think that the Tercentenary set showed the Duke of Windsor (the portrait might be viewed as slightly ambiguous in that respect) just as Wallis Simpson had hoped, perhaps? Noel Davenhill concurs: “I agree - the King's portrait was awful – it could indeed have been that of Edward VIII - Bing Crosby, Noel Coward or George Formby rather than King George Sixth!”

According to Gisburn, “Production was, however, delayed, and it was not until 11 October 1948 that the series eventually made its appearance.” It was printed by The Canadian Bank Note Company on un-watermarked paper single line perforation 12 (*Figure 19*). Finally the revenue rolled in. It was well over a year late and just six weeks short of the Royal Silver Wedding issue – how Wallis Simpson must have loathed that philatelic mon-

Continued on page 10

ster (Figure 20).

Bradbury Wilkinson were certainly quick off the mark to get the bi-color QEII definitives ready for issue on January 1, 1954 and with the Queen's portrait now at the cor-



FIGURE 21

The double-crowned Queen Elizabeth, January 1, 1954.

rect size! (Figure 21) Might they only have had to drop the Queen's head in as they had already prepared a new KGVI issue (Figure 22)? Unfortunately, the King died in February 1952. Did anyone notice that Her Majesty is actually adorned with two Crowns? There is evidence



FIGURE 22

The KGVI unissued set of 1952 might have looked like this.

from Freeland that states that some auction houses sold KGVI vignette proofs that were Bradbury Wilkinson and not CBNCo! Were these mis-attributed QEII vignettes or were they really from this earlier Bradbury Wilkinson work?

Freeland concurs: "It (has) always puzzled me how BW were able to use exactly the same vignettes for their 1954 set relatively quickly. But if you line up the two alongside each other, there are some subtle differences but only caused by the larger QE frame. The 'double crown' for Her Maj. is a strong pointer that the vignettes



FIGURE 23

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor in the Bahamas, circa 1941.

had been done earlier."

In *The Queen's Stamps*, Nicholas Courtney records that Edward VIII had, as a young man, shown some interest in the philatelic collection of his father. Wallis Simpson, who was no collector of stamps (sapphires perhaps), may have shown a great deal of interest in the stamps of Bahamas and possibly influenced their design and development for several years whilst at "her Elba" at Nas-



FIGURE 24

Nassau German Cottonreel postmark, July 7, 1943.

sau with the Duke of Windsor (Figure 23). And finally, a Nassau postmark that doesn't sit well with the rest of the Crown Agents' issues was a Dutch or German Cottonreel (GCr) which is first noted by Ted Proud, May 24, 1939. It was used up until around April 1943, and was revived in 1949 and then used during the rest of the KGVI period (Figure 24). What was the origin of this canceller?

My thanks to Charles Freeland, Stuart Babbington, Dickon Pollard, Richard Lockyer, Noel Davenport, and last but not least Ray Stanton for the rare and lovely Windsor cover (Figure 25).

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FIGURE 25

Cover to "Their Royal Highness's, The Duke & Duchess of Windsor" dated December 17, 1948.

Courtesy Ray Stanton.

Crowned Circles of the Caribbean

By Peter P. McCann, PhD, RDP, FRPSL, FRPSC
Of the USA

The great British postal reform of 1840 saw the introduction of postage stamps in Great Britain, which was quickly followed by a fairly rapid request from the British Colonies and other overseas offices for a similar type of method of prepayment for mail. Generally these requests were not allowed at the time. However, mainly because of the introduction of new Packet Mail Services, a decision was made and published in December 1841 to issue and provide individual postal handstamps to the Colonial and other foreign British postal services.

The release of the handstamps was for use for mail from these Colonial and other British foreign offices where the postage was collected upon delivery. Alternatively, a Crowned Circle handstamp was to be applied to note the postage was prepaid, *i.e.*, in advance, as noted by an appropriate nu-

merical manuscript marking. These now prized Crowned Circle marks were first supplied in 1842 and were used as originally issued for more than 20 years, in many cases long after the final issuance of postage by many of the post offices involved. Interestingly, in many of the smaller places the Crowned Circles were sent to, the markings wound up being used in ways other than their strict original purpose.

The Crowned Circles are a very popular collecting area of British postal history and collectors of them compete with collectors of specific countries where the Crowned Circles were used. They

were used in 34 British Territories ranging in size from places like Canada and New Zealand to tiny offices like Montserrat and the Turks Islands in the Caribbean area. Not surprisingly, the latter two Crowned Circles, along with those of Bermuda and the Virgin Islands, are the most difficult to find.

Paid at Turks Islands

The "Paid at Turks Islands" Crowned Circle marking is known to be used



FIGURE 1
The second recorded use of the Turks Islands Crowned Circle mark, July 18, 1860.



FIGURE 2
The last recorded use of the Turks Islands Crowned Circle, sent on April 20, 1862.

at the Grand Turk Post Office from 1857 until 1862 and is considered to be one of the two most difficult to acquire of all the Crowned Circles from the British Colonies and the British foreign post offices. Only six examples are known to exist.

The Crowned Circle example shown in *Figure 1* is the second recorded use of

the mark and was applied on this letter sent from Grand Turk Post Office on July 18, 1860 (noted on the back). The letter was carried first to St. Thomas by schooner and then by a RMSP steamer to London and arrived as shown on August 28, 1860. The rate shown in manuscript was 6d up to ½ ounce and went into effect between the Turks Islands and the U.K. in 1857.

The Turks Islands Crowned Circle (1857-1860) was known to be actually used from October 1857 to April

1862 from a survey of the six known examples. *Figure 2* shows the last recorded use of the Crowned Circle on April 20, 1862.

It was sent from the Turks Islands, transit through St. Thomas on April 29 and then sailed on the Cunard Steamer *Delta* on May 13 and arrived in St. Georges, Bermuda on May 18, 1862. The 4d shown in manuscript was a British



FIGURE 3
A September 1860 use of the Montserrat Crowned Circle.

local inter-island rate from 1840.

Paid at Montserrat

The Montserrat Crowned Circle is not much more plentiful than the Turks Islands mark with eight examples known to exist from the period 1852 to 1861 where it was used at the Montserrat Post Office in the traditional fashion



Paid at Montserrat

described above. However, Montserrat was, at the time, one of the true backwaters of the British Empire and, in fact, did not even get its own postage stamps until 1876, and even these were simply Antigua stamps overprinted "Montserrat."



FIGURE 4
The earliest known example of the provisional use of the Montserrat Crowned Circle, December 15, 1883.

For various reasons from 1883 until 1886 there were periodic shortages of the, by then, disliked Antigua overprinted stamps and the Montserrat postmaster literally reached into his drawer and started occasionally using the old 1852 "Paid at Montserrat" Crowned Circle as an indicator of pre-paid postage due to the shortage of stamps. The provisional use of the Crowned Circle can only be seen on four remain-

Continued on page 14

ing examples of the mark on cover, usually stamped in red, although one of the four examples known has the mark inked in black.

Figure 3 shows a splendid example of the “Paid at Montserrat” Crowned Circle on a letter sent to London on September 3, 1860 (noted on reverse) via Packet Boat mail and can be seen as received on September 27, 1860. The rate from 1854 was 6d (5d to the Imperial Post + 1d to the Montserrat Post Office). Note the marked 1d due to the Montserrat P.O. was crossed out in red to indicate prepayment.

The Provisional Period (1883-1886) of the use of the Montserrat Crowned Circle is seen in **Figure 4** on a letter sent on December 15, 1883, the earliest recorded Provisional Period use of the mark. The letter was received in the neighboring island of St. Kitts the next day on December 16, 1886 and paid a special commercial papers rate from 1879 of 2 ½d per ½ ounce.

The second Provisional Period letter seen in **Figure 5** is the only example struck in black and has elicited many theories as to why this is the case. It is the author’s own thought that it was simply a matter of convenience at the time that a black ink pad was used for both the Montserrat datestamp and the “Paid at Montserrat” Crowned Circle. The letter was sent on July 23, 1886 by Packet Boat mail to England and received on August 9, 1886 (shown on reverse). The rate paid was the then standard UPU 1879 rate of 4d per ½ ounce.

As a final note about these uses of the Crowned Circles discussed above is the fact all of the examples are likely true commercial uses and not contrived by collectors. This probably reflects that the popularity of aspects of philatelic postal history did not really develop until much later into the 20th Century.



FIGURE 5

The only recorded black provisional use of the Montserrat Crowned Circle, July 23, 1886.

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Yarikita Revisited once again

By Michael Medlicott
Of the United Kingdom

Raj Ramphal's piece "Yarikita Revisited" (BCPJ Vol. 53, No.1) prompted me to riffle through the albums of British Guiana postmarks in my collection, recalling as it did an article of mine in the *BWISC Bulletin* of March 1990, and showcasing his wonderful Yarikita cover of August 11, 1923. No further example has come my way to add to the slender inventory of Yarikita strikes in the intervening 23 years, though I have searched high and low.



FIGURE 1

Entire to Manoel Fernandes in Georgetown, British Guiana, datelined November 28, 1868.

What his "BG Bits and Pieces" article also prompted was a review of items in Townsend & Howe's¹ scarcity rating "ER" that have taken my bait during those 23 years. (BG aficionados will recognize that T&H bestowed a Palme d'Or on postal markings of which they believed only one or two examples were known, and were therefore "Exceedingly Rare" or "ER"). Their scarcity ratings have, in my opinion, stood the test of time (1970 to the present) remarkably well. Whilst absolute values -- ER (one or two known), VR (up to five known), R (up to 10 known) and so on down to C ("common, where numbers become relatively meaningless") -- have been swollen by the discovery of fresh material, relative values remain robust. A very few unrecorded postmarks have surfaced and they naturally fall into the "ER" category by and large.

To limit the review, and this article, I decided to exclude postmarks found only after the reign of King George VI which were new enough in 1970 to upset T&H's calculus, and also TPOs and TPAs. These exclusions might usefully provide a subject for a subsequent article.

In the "ER" or one or two known category, T&H awarded their Palme d'Or to two first series code marks, two second series code marks, and 15 circular datestamps; to these may be added perhaps four new discoveries. Of these 23, I have still to find examples of eight: Sisters Type 18; Imbaimadai Type 33; Present Hope Type 33(I); Wichabai Type 33 (I); Postal Agency No.19; Emergency No.1 and the two curious double ring circle datestamps first noted by Nathan and Freeland and recorded by Proud as Cabacuri D1 and Hackney D1.²

In the absence of reliable covers, the BG aficionado might wish to suspend belief. Any disbelief I may feel is probably fueled by collector's frustration as much as by academic scepticism.

To return to Raj Ramphal's article, I decided to illustrate such "ER" postmarks on cover as I possess (five in all), and to challenge fellow BCPSGers to do the same in future editions of the *Journal*.

Figure 1. Entire, datelined by the writer "No. 6 House/28th November 1868" to Manoel Fernandes in George-



FIGURE 2

A 1919 Yarikita cover believed unique.

town, bearing diagonally bisected 8¢ pink (SG#73 bisect) tied by series 2 code CCB / 1. Backstamped Demerara T&H Type 19, "29 NO 68." Proud assigns CCB / 1 to Fyrish, but I prefer to think it belonged to Village No. 6, Corentyne Coast, an office whose existence was suspected by T&H, but never proven.

Figure 2. This is the Yarikita cover recalled by Dr. Ramphal, now reproduced in color.

Figure 3. T&H Type 2b Postal Agency No. 12 for "9 AU /29" tying a strip of three of SG #274 to a 4¢ Registered

Continued on page 16

Envelope from Red Hill Bay on the Mazaruni to The Hague in Holland. Backstamped "S.O. SUPT 12 AU." (ex Nathan).



FIGURE 3

Cover addressed to The Hague from Red Hill Bay on the Mazaruni.

I note in passing that I also have a cover struck with strikes of Postal Agency No. 3 for "25 AU / 31," possibly used at Red Hill Bay in succession to Postal Agency No. 12 1928-1932 where it also merits an "ER" rating.

Figure 4. T&H Type I Leguan DPO Registration oval on cover to Bristol, England, paid at 6¢ rate, backstamped "S.O. SUPT 13 JU, Plymouth 3 JY."



FIGURE 4

Cover to Bristol, England with DPO Registration.

Figure 5. Railway P.O. Type 2, not recorded by T&H, struck in transit from Buxton (Type 2), both dated December 25, 1879, on a crudely illustrated 3¢ postcard to London. Designated D3 by Proud. Ex-Nathan. I note in passing that a T&H Type 2 for Sparta, unknown to T&H, has since surfaced and also merits the "ER" scarcity rating.

So here, dear Dr. Ramphal, is a riposte to your challenge. Only the unique and fabled One Cent Black on

Magenta (SG #23) can equal the unique amongst these covers in scarcity, and the Cotton Reels pale by comparison. But value, or price, is a function of demand in relation to supply. For Cotton Reels, demand is created by the deepest pockets whilst your Yarikita will appeal



FIGURE 5

Railway P.O. Type 2 struck in transit from Buxton on December 25, 1879 postcard to London.

only to collectors of arcane postmarks like thee and me. For fellow hunters after such arcana, it might provide encouragement to know that my Yarikita (Figure 2) cost me less than 10 U.S. dollars, and might just yield a small profit when it comes again to market.

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A reminder from the Membership Secretary!

If you have a reminder notice in your copy of the *Journal*, it means we have not received your 2013 membership renewal. To keep your membership up to date and to receive the next edition of the *Journal*, you need to renew your membership promptly. Please use the enclosed membership renewal form to renew. If you have any questions on your membership, please contact me at stewartlbi9@comcast.net or by mail at my address on page 2 of the *Journal*.

-- Bob Stewart

The Dated Cancellers

By Roy Bond

Of the United Kingdom

PART 3: AN ADDITIONAL REASON FOR DATED CANCELLERS IN THE COLONIES

This is the third of a series of five articles on the reasons the dated cancellers were brought into operation both in the United Kingdom and throughout the British West Indies at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries.

It also appears that when William Pitt became Prime Minister again on May 18, 1804, he pushed through an Act of Parliament, passed on October 3, 1804, and given Royal Assent on June 27, 1805, which was designed to better motivate the officers and men of the Royal Navy to go on the attack at every possible opportunity.

However, it is to be remembered that the officers and crews of any Royal Navy ships had been permitted to stop all neutral shipping in U.K. Home Waters (the English Channel, North Sea and Irish Sea) and seize any merchantmen who were engaged in French military operations. That is to say, in supplying military equipment or supplies, irrespective of the ship's nationality, then selling them back on payment of ransom, along with a written undertaking not to deliver the cargo to the French, both the ships and cargoes. This applied to the foreign owners since 1797 (during William Pitt's first administration). The monies so collected being used to help finance the war -- Pitt always looking to ways and means of making money for the British Treasury (as First Lord of the Treasury) -- as it was broke from 1793 onwards (a national debt of £280 million, with a Government Revenue of £15 million per annum, hence the instruction to the Bank of England in 1798 to stop issuing gold and issue paper £1 and £5 notes instead).

The primary reason for this Act was brought about by the simple fact that the Royal Navy most certainly ruled the seas, but we, including our allies -- Austria, Russia and Prussia -- had no armies capable of holding Napoleon and his French army of over a million men under arms to account. Indeed, in the second of the three alliances, in spite of the U.K.'s £20 million paid to Austria

and Russia for their armies totaling about 430,000 men, Napoleon demolished them in less than 10 hours in one day (December 2, 1805) at the battle of Austerlitz, near Vienna. So there was a total checkmate, as Napoleon had also an Armee Grande Bretagne of over 250,000 men camped outside of Boulogne. They were just waiting for the transport to move them across the English Channel to invade England, which the Royal Navy never allowed to materialize, thus leaving this huge army sitting idle for most of three years, much to Napoleon's frustration. This Act of October 3, 1804 states: "An Act for the encouragement of seamen, and for the better and more effectually manning His Majesty's Navy during the present war."

This act, in fact, grants to officers and crews of all vessels under the control of His Majesty's Lords of the Admiralty, the right to wage war on all ships and vessels flying the French, Spanish, Italian and Ligurian States flags, be they warships, mail ships or freight vessels. The encouragement comes from the paying of "bounty" to all members of the crew of a British Naval vessel. This was a level of monetary reward, varying with level of rank and involvement, paid to the individual by The Lords of the Admiralty. The total amount is based upon the value of the enemy ship or vessel captured. In this context, we mean the value to Britain, so a large man of war would be rated according to its displacement, its overall length, the number of officers and crew which were captured along with the ship, and the number and size of its guns.

If it was a trading vessel, then it would be rated by its displacement, the number of officers and crew manning her, the value of the ship, and most importantly, the value of its cargo. For a large man of war, a captain of a British vessel could collect up to a £1,000 (in 1805, a large fortune), whilst the average able seaman could collect up to £20, which may in today's figures appear paltry. However, at this time, one could buy a freehold cottage with the land it stood on for £25, almost anywhere in England. With that you became a landowner and claimed the franchise to vote for your MP. In short you were considered a "man of substance," not bad for the capture of one enemy ship.

However, as with any Act of Parliament, there were lots

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of “ifs” and “buts,” not many “ifs,” though lots of “buts” in this particular bill. One of the biggest “buts” was that the captain of the British vessel had to register his claim for bounty through a Letter of Marque.

This had to be registered with His Britannic Majesty’s Government within 15 calendar days. How could this be achieved if you had taken your “prize” -- *i.e.*, captured the enemy vessel -- anywhere beyond 14 days’ sailing time from England? The answer was that agents would be used who would be entitled to be the recipient of the Letter of Marque. However, it needed to be logged there within the 15 calendar days and it had to include a full list of all the persons entitled to a share of that bounty.

This included not only the officers and crew of the Admiralty vessel taking the “prize,” but also any soldiers on board, and the master and crew of any merchantman who assisted in the capture, by whatever means. As the normal conveyance of goods across any of the oceans or seas of the world normally used the convoy system, this means that at least one if not several merchantmen could well be involved, in which case the master and crew of any such vessel would be entitled to a share of the bounty.

The actual process was as follows: the Agent would be a solicitor operating for not the Admiralty, but the Treasury of The Royal Hospital for Seamen at Greenwich (strange to say). He would forward the Letter of Marque and the full list of persons entitled to bounty to the Admiralty Court in London. This had to be done in two calendar days. The Admiralty Court would pronounce their verdict on whether bounty should be paid or not and the total value of that bounty, and that is all they would do.

Once the verdict had been reached, they would forward The Letter of Marque, duly authorized, along with the list to the Treasury of The Royal Hospital Greenwich. They then had to promulgate the decision and list with the actual sums to be paid to each and every person entitled to a share by placing an advertisement in the *London Gazette* within 24 hours, *i.e.*, next day. The persons in the list then had 30 calendar days to make a claim in writing to any Agent of The Royal Hospital Greenwich. If it was delayed, then they had to submit in writing their reasons for delay and it had to be duly countersigned by their master or captain (see letter from Thomas Goodwin in Barbadoes to Mr. Wilson in St. Vincent dated March 26, 1806). They would then be expected to confirm by checking with the *London Gazette* and then write out a bill on the Treasury of The Royal Hospital Greenwich. If anyone failed to make their claim in time, and did not have a signature from their master or captain, then they

did not get paid out. Instead, the money stayed with the Treasury of The Royal Hospital Greenwich, so over the next few years The Royal Hospital Greenwich made quite a lot of money for the benefit of retired or pensioned off seamen of the Royal Navy. The Admiralty would then use the captured warships on the British side, or sell the vessel back for ransom to the owners or masters, if they were non-military vessels. Either way it helped to finance the bounty system, so that neither the Treasury nor the Admiralty were out of pocket.

So the reasoning for the requirement of mail services was that it was, at that stage in human development, the most cost-effective means of moving information around in ever-increasing quantities, due to the politico-military situation prevailing throughout Europe and its colonies and North America, in a timely manner, between an ever increasingly literate population. It also allowed total anonymity to sender and source, thus making message interception practically impossible.

But the timeliness of that information was an urgent prerequisite for everyone in business, not just the military. So it was that datestamping came to the fore. Couriers and specific horse-mounted deliveries were not anonymous and so could comparatively easily be waylaid and the security of the information contained therein lost. At this date, the only place in the world which used a secure, effective courier service was the City of London (the financial square mile), between all types of finance houses. Hence the Admiralty chose to send a message to one of its Sea Lords, in Hampstead, less than 10 miles away, by post, rather than use a messenger or courier.

The further articles in this series are:

Part 4: The Fleuron Cancellers.

Part 5: The Fleuron Cancellor for St. Vincent.

Nuggets from the past ...

In the June 1997 *Journal*, David L. Herendeen wrote about British Caribbean postage due stamps, illustrating the article with numerous examples of die proofs and specimen stamps. Also, S. Graham Hoey wrote about air letter postal stationery of the Bahamas, and Ian Matheson discussed post office markings of British Honduras. A. Stewart Jessop authored an article on the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps in Europe during World War I, and W. Danforth Walker discussed rare postal stationery of Grenada from 1752 to 1886. Michael Hamilton offered an article on recent discoveries of St. Vincent village cancellations.

The two line dated cancellers of 1799 onwards

By Charles Freeland
Of Switzerland

Roy Bond's article on the early dated cancellers in the fourth quarter journal was of particular interest to me, as I wrote an article on these "Freeling" straight line marks in the *BWISC Bulletin* of September 2007. One of the puzzles I mentioned in that article was that Ted Proud's *Postal History of Jamaica* lists a 8 February (17)99 EKD for the Jamaica dated mark which I was unable to tie up with the Falmouth packet sailing dates that David Lethbridge had kindly provided. Simon Richards alerted me to the sale of this cover (*Figure 1*), hidden among three covers in Lot 358 of the Denis Charlesworth Collection at Cavendish Auctions on September 19, 2012 (not wholly hidden as there was an illustration of it). The packet that carried this cover is likely to have left Falmouth in late 1798 and could well have been the one that carried the handstamp to Jamaica. If anyone has a list of the dates of the Jamaica Packet in 1798, we may be able to tie this down to a particular sailing date. If their issue was approved in early October 1798, then it seems entirely possible that the handstamp would have been sent out on a mid-November or December packet.



FIGURE 1

*Earliest two line dated mark (Jamaica 8 Feb 1799).
Courtesy of Simon Richards.*

In his final paragraph, Roy refers to the usage of these interesting two line marks in other BWI territories. However, he betrays his St. Vincent specialization in referring to Bahamas as one of those who used the mark extensively. In fact, no such mark is recorded for Bahamas until 1835, when a very small dated mark was used at Nassau pending the arrival of the large straight line undated mark previously used at Crooked Island after the transfer of the RMSPP base to Nassau. This is an exceedingly rare mark with only three examples recorded (all residing in collections of our members), but it cannot be tied up with the Freeling period. The islands whose postmasters used their Freeling mark most frequently are Antigua, Barbice (but not Demerara), Grenada, Jamaica and Tortola, Virgin Islands, and those where the mark has been recorded more rarely include Barbados, Demerara, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Vincent and Tobago (although relative scarcity also depends of course on the size of their populations). Note also that Bermuda, British Honduras, St Lucia and Trinidad have no such straight line dated instruments recorded.

Acknowledgment to Simon Richards

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FIGURE 2

Latest two line dated mark (Bahamas June 21, 1835).

BVI Philatelic Society presents awards

British Virgin Islands Premier, Dr. The Honourable D. Orlando Smith is pictured here receiving a truly unique Vatican City philatelic miniature sheet inscribed with his name to attest that proceeds contributed to the restoration of the Bernini Colonnade in St. Peter's Square, Rome. The miniature sheet, signed by Cardinal Giuseppe Bertello, president of the Governorate of the Vatican, was presented by the president of the BVI Philatelic Society, Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca, who explained that this is one in a series of presentations to show gratitude to the society's sponsors and supporting entities from both the public and private sectors.

The presentation took place recently at the Old Government House Museum and offered the opportunity for presenting similar unique miniature sheets to Miss Fanny Evans, manager of Morgan & Morgan, BVI; and Mr. Declan Cassidy, Chief Executive Officer of Digicel.

Established in 1985, the BVI Philatelic Society has organized various activities including 10 successful stamp exhibitions (1990-2002) that received very



Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca (left) presents award to BVI Premier Dr. D. Orlando Smith.



From left, Morgan & Morgan BVI Manager Miss Fanny Evans; BVI Philatelic Society President Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca; BVIPS Director Ms. Astrid Wenzke; BVI Premier Dr. The Honourable D. Orlando Smith; Digicel CEO Mr. Declan Cassidy; Old Government House Museum Board member, Mrs. Jillian Dunlop. (Photographs by Walter Tan.)



Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca (left) presents award to Miss Fanny Evans of Morgan & Morgan, BVI.

impressive headlines in the *London Times* and major stamp magazines in three continents. The last exhibition in 2002 saw the historic participation of Her Majesty's Stamp Collection in conjunction with the qua-

drennial Caribbean kermesse of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

These exhibitions together with other initiatives and the creation of the Stamp Room at Old Government House in 2006 were made possible by the invaluable moral and financial support of the BVI Government and its agencies and the BVI private sector. Most importantly, the public was very supportive and quite instrumental in participating and generating interest in the community.

The Bernini Colonnade surrounding St. Peter's Square is undergoing a four-year long restoration, as well as all the statues of the saints and figures that crown the two arms of the colonnade. The colonnade was created by sculptor and architect Gian Lorenzo Bernini in 1657 and was approved by Pope Alexander VII.

Bahamas Post Offices 2011

By Steven Zirinsky





BG Bits and Pieces

With Dr. P.J. Ramphal
Of Canada



The Money Order Office Georgetown Hammer, postally used on cover

In 2012, I correctly anticipated that I would find myself more busy disengaging from the practice of medicine than with the acquisition of philatelic material and I had so warned my dealer friends. Most of them were sympathetic and promised to put aside better stuff for me whenever I eventually chose to rejoin the fold.

One such call came in late November and I must confess that I jumped at the opportunity much as any addict would have after a long period of denial. I visited him the next day and he was as good as his word, excellent BG postal history material, making my choices difficult. But one item, over which I had no hesitation, was a cheaply priced small cover shown in *Figure 1*, sparsely addressed to a Water Street address, Georgetown's major commercial street.

It was franked by a 2¢ overprinted INLAND REVENUE Ship Type stamp, SG #176, of which stamp I had no previous example on cover. It was cancelled by what appeared to be a "GPO GEORGETOWN B.GUIANA"

single ring dater. But one look with a magnifier at home was all I needed to confirm that the first three letters were not "GPO" but rather "MOO," Money Order Office, which was a hammer belonging to the Money Order section of the post office and which had no business canceling mail.

I first consulted Townsend and Howe where on page 361 they stated "that a double ring MOO GEORGETOWN, has been recorded illustrated for 1885. No tracing

available." I next consulted Proud on page 115 and there, together with other New Amsterdam markings, was to be found the elusive "MOOGEORGE TOWN" single ring dater, designated R35, (*Figure 2*) and with the statement, "normally used on money orders."

For completion, I include *Figure 3*, designated N.A.M.O.1, taken from T & H on page 372, a copy of the double ring "M.O.O.NEW AMSTERDAM." But the biggest surprise of all was the date of the cancellation on my cover. Did any of the readers notice that it

Continued on page 23

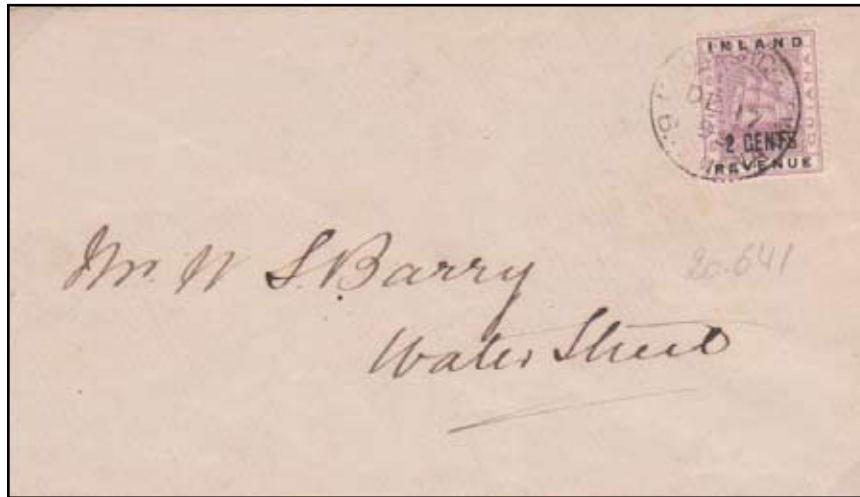


FIGURE 1
Postally used GPO MOO GEORGE TOWN, on cover.



FIGURE 2
Illustration of Georgetown money order office dater.



FIGURE 3
Illustration of New Amsterdam money order office dater.

Jamaica World War II Censor Notes

By Hap Pattiz

Previously unrecorded Censor Chop #35 found!

In 1939 and 1940, when Jamaica covers were censored with Miller Type L5, the local censor also often stamped the cover with his or her assigned number.

Previously, these censor chops have been known numbered between 6 and 27. Here is a cover from Linstead, Jamaica, to New York dated October 29, 1940, with newly discovered chop #35, applied on the tape twice each on



front and back. If you have any other censor numbers that are “out of the ordinary,” please let me know as we continue to try to establish a complete list! Contact the editor with any information and I’ll check it out and let other readers know as well!

BG Bits and Pieces

Continued from page 22

was exactly the same as that given by Proud’s illustration, R35, DE 17 89?

Other than that this is a sheer coincidence of date, or that the illustration R35 was taken from my cover, *Figure 1*, I have no explanation to suggest but I am most anxious to discover if any other collectors have found either of these two Money Order Office hammers used to cancel mail.

Somewhat off topic, I take the opportunity of some available space to remind readers that until about the end of World War II, despite the presence of British and Canadian banks in the colony, it was the Post Office Savings Bank which was the poor man’s bank. As a schoolboy, I

had one such account at the Bourda Post Office in which I left a small balance when I left British Guiana for my six undergrad years in Jamaica, and I do remember being pleasantly surprised at how much the residuum had appreciated when I cleaned it out in 1962.

Collectors of British Guiana’s Slogan Electrical Machine Cancels will no doubt remind us that those slogans proclaimed modest 2.4% and 3% interest on annual minimum balances of \$15,000 and \$25,000 in the 1950s and 1960s. My impression must be faulty because even those rates (for which I didn’t qualify because of my small balance), couldn’t have made a significant difference to my withdrawal. But, it is said, everything is relative.

A book review

The Bermuda Specialized Catalogue: Stamps and Postal History 1812-1970

Reviewed by Charles Freeland

Following the example of the Falkland Islands specialized catalogue, a dedicated team of Bermuda enthusiasts has produced a much-needed specialist catalogue of Bermuda stamps and postal history, running to 191 pages of close-packed priced listings plus 13 pages of ancillary information. This has been a long drawn-out effort -- in fact two former editors, Bob Dickgiesser and Bob Ingalls, both died before their work could be completed, but they and the two current editors, David Cordon and Michel Forand, deserve enormous credit for pursuing the herculean task, as does Phoebe MacGillivray who took over the leadership of the project after Bob Dickgiesser's untimely death. The result is a scholarly and wide-ranging work which is likely to stimulate the collection of Bermuda philately.

The first 11 chapters of the catalogue cover the issued stamps from the Perots up to the change of currency in 1970 (the more modern stamps are likely to be the focus of a second volume, together with some postal history topics that are omitted). The stamps are covered in considerable detail with not only specialized listings of the many printings and shades but much incidental information such as the number of stamps in each consignment. The date range is the same as the Stanley Gibbons 1840-1970 catalogue and there are, on the whole, no great surprises in the prices quoted, although there are also a large number of items that have been publicly priced for the first time. At the same time, efforts have been made to differentiate according to the relative rarity of specialist items such as plate varieties and watermark errors. The listings also benefit from updates by Myles Glazer and Eric Yendall to their published work on the high value Key Plates.

But the stamps take up less than 80 pages and the real value to the Bermuda enthusiast lies in the remaining sections, dealing with proof material, postal stationery, charity seals, revenues and railway stamps and all conceivable aspects of postal history. While much of the latter draws heavily on published studies, notably those by Horst Augustinovic, Chuck Cwiakala, Peter Flynn, Michel Forand, Charles Freeland, Bill Gompel and the late Bob Ingalls and Morris Ludington, the bringing of all the information together in an updated format and its pricing, in nearly all cases for the first time, provides the

collector with valuable guidance on what he should expect to pay. The cancellations and marks are priced both on cover and on single stamps. The listings of NASA covers, mail carried by warships and machine cancellations, break new ground. The work closes with an exhaustive bibliography of Bermuda philatelic literature, both books and auction catalogues, which expands on earlier listings in PLR.

Like many such works, this could not have been completed without input from many collectors, too many to list here, and, of course, without the rapid electronic communication we now take for granted. The end result is much more than an expanded Gibbons catalogue; rather it is a priced handbook that will prove an invaluable tool for all Bermuda collectors and dealers. The prices, which were originally set by the authors of each chapter but recently updated by David Cordon with input from myself, are intended to reflect what a collector would expect to pay for fine copies from a knowledgeable dealer. Its price may appear steep but it will be quickly repaid by shrewd use of the knowledge the volume makes available, especially if the buyers are dealers or eBay sellers.

All the issued stamps and a representative range of postal history have color illustrations, with the many listed flaws and varieties blown up in color or hand-drawn in black and white. The book costs \$85 including postage for delivery to a U.S. address. Those overseas can order copies from the sources listed on the home page of victoriastampco.com. Given the massive amount of information, there will inevitably be the occasional error and the editors will be glad if readers would notify them of any they notice.

Bermuda Specialized Catalogue: Stamps and Postal History, 1812-1970. Editors: David I. Cordon and Michel Forand. Published by the Bermuda Specialized Catalog Project LLC, 2012. Softcover; 214 x 277 mm; x+194 pp; bibliography; color illustrations throughout. ISBN: 978-0-615-69303-3

*Available in the U.S. from
Victoria Stamp Company
(victoriastampco.com).
Cost is \$85 including postage.*

Let's meet at Australia 2013!

By Darryl Fuller
Of Australia

Australian members of the BCPSG and the BWISC have arranged a joint meeting of the two societies at Australia 2013, the international exhibition being held at the Royal Exhibition building in Melbourne, Australia from May 10-15, 2013. The exhibition is celebrating the 100th anniversary of Australia's famous kangaroo and map stamps. It will be the largest (3,400 frames) international exhibition since Washington D.C. in 2006.

The meeting of the two societies will be held on Saturday May 11 from 10:15 a.m. to Noon. It will be a fairly informal affair, but it is hoped that exhibitors will give a guide to their exhibits as one feature.

I hope that some members will make the trip to Australia. It is shaping up as a great exhibition in a great venue in a wonderful city. The weather will be nice, neither hot nor cold and if you have never been to Australia this is a great opportunity. If you have any questions or need help, please contact Darryl Fuller at darryl.fuller@home.netspeed.com.au.

We need articles!

Once again, we must make a plea for material!

There is very little left to publish!
Few responded to our plea in the last issue!

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The Editor

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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.

INDONESIA 2012
June 18-24
Jakarta, Indonesia

Russell Boylan
St. Vincent - The De La Rue Period
Large Gold & Special Prize
Dingle Smith
*Australian Welfare & Income Tax Stamps:
State and Federal*
Vermeil

Omaha Stamp Show 2012
September 8-9
Omaha, Nebraska

John Pare
*Inauguration of Air Mail Service between Bermuda
and the United States (SF)*
Silver

OKPEX 2012
October 19-20
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

John Pare
*Inauguration of Air Mail Service between Bermuda
and the United States (SF)*
**Silver, Women Exhibitors
Sterling Achievement Award**

Filatellic Fiesta 2012
November 9-11
San Jose, California

Steve Schumann
Ceylon, The King George VI 40 Cent Aerogramme (SF)
Vermeil

FLOREX 2012
November 30 - December 2
Orlando, Florida

George Bowman
The New Zealand Mt. Cook Half-Penny Design of 1898
Reserve Grand Award, Gold

*Arthur Banta's Bicycle Post of 1894
and His Memorial Rerun of 1935 (SF)*
Gold

Darrel Ertzberger
British Honduras Postal Stationery
Gold

Raymond Murphy
Keeping the Lid On! Jamaican Censorship in WWII
Vermeil

APS AMERI STAMP EXPO 2013
January 18-20
Louisville, Kentucky

George Bowman
Victoria Barred Oval Cancels (SF)
Prix d'Honneur
*Arthur Banta's Bicycle Post of 1894
and His Memorial Rerun of 1935 (SF)*
Vermeil

Dan Walker
Grenada's War Tax Issue, June 1, 1916 to June 13, 1919 (SF)
Gold



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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

Kristy Ramasir, 338 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto, ON M4T 1P4 CANADA. Email: Kristyramasir@yahoo.com. Sponsored by Dr. Raj Ramasir.

Richard Watkins, 13 Cob Lane Circle, Digswell, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 0DD UNITED KINGDOM. Email: spitfire007@riscali.co.uk. Collects Bermuda, all aspects. Sponsored by Ray Stanton.

Board of Trustees Election

As a result of the recent ballot, the following members have been elected to the Board of Trustees for a term of office that will end December 31, 2017.

Ed Barrow resides in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C. and has been an active collector of all things Trinidad & Tobago for over 15 years. He has also served as the society's webmaster, a post he still fills until a replacement is found.

David Cordon resides in Bermuda (he was born there) where he is the Chief Underwriting Officer of Zurich Insurance Company. He has been a collector of Bermuda stamps for over 40 years (stating at the age of eight). He has exhibited a Bermuda Boer War exhibit, and showed the Docks Issue (1902-10) at our 2012 meeting in Sarasota. His interest is in Bermuda for all areas and reigns and in addition he is one of the editors for the recently released *Bermuda Specialized Catalog*.

Peter Elias resides in Plano, Texas. Peter is active in the Dallas area philately and is currently on the board of directors of the Texas Philatelic Association, editor of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club monthly newsletter, actively exhibits, serves the BCPSG as a Trustee and is the St. Vincent Study Group Leader. He belongs to many philatelic organizations, runs 10 philatelic websites and has his own computer consulting business.

Sincere thanks to the retiring board member David Wilson his service to the Study Group and to Peter Elias for standing for a second term.

Mary Gleadall,
Secretary

Address changes

Mr. Michael Clark, 130 Horseshoe Hill Rd., Pound Ridge, NY 10576 USA

Deceased

Mr. David Herendeen *Of the USA*

Resignations

Brian Kritt, Conrad Fannon, Thomas Sileo, John Whelihan, Frederick Lutt

New Email Addresses

Stephen Peters: smxpeters@att.net

Jack Harwood: jharwood222@verizon.net

Allen Davis: oallendavis@hotmail.com

Bradley Brunzell: bradleywbrunzell@gmail.com

Donations

Patricia Capill, Arthur Snoke, Rein Hill, Neil DeWitte, Donald Crider, Bruce Aiken, Peter Colwell, Robert Roswell, Charles Cwiakala, John Seidl, Andrew Mitchell, Joseph Hickey, Patricia Hoppe, G.P. Green, R. Scrivens, B.D. Cocovini, C.L. Willey, R.G. Bond, B.J.W. Rogers, Dietmar Thormann, Paul Bondor, Bill Gompel

New stock is being added almost every day to my website. Recent additions have included a specialised collection of Bermuda postal stationery, Martinique covers, Trinidad Officials and postage dues in complete sheets and Cayman Islands postal stationery. Also regular additions of Caribbean postcards, old maps and prints and books.



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President's Message

By Duane Larson

It's coming soon! What? The 2013 Annual Meeting in the Cayman Islands (June 9-16) ... now is the time to make your reservations at The Comfort Suites & Resort by email: comfortsales@candw.ky or by phone: 1-345-945-7300 ext. 0 (ask to book the British Caribbean Philatelic Conference rate in June 2013). They are holding 20 rooms for us, with two double beds and kitchenette including full buffet breakfast and WiFi access, at \$150.00US per night. Don't forget to make your flight reservations, too. I've had reports that flights are filling up already for this time, so "the sooner, the better!"

To start off the week, we will be welcomed with a reception at the Governors Mansion on Monday evening, with various tours and sightseeing trips being planned throughout the week. On Friday at 10 a.m., we will hold an Executive Board Meeting, followed at 1 p.m. by our Annual General Meeting and member presentations.

We are also looking for members to give short presentations during the week. If you would like to do a short presentation about your area of expertise, please email me at dlarson283@aol.com with a description of your talk. Saturday evening, a BCPSG social dinner is planned for members and their spouses/guests. I'm guessing that the traditional hospitality suite will also be functioning most every evening.

If you are planning on attending and haven't returned your "Preliminary Reservation Form" to me yet, please do so as soon as possible, so that we can finalize our preparations for this event.

It saddens me to report the passing of David Herendeen, FRPSL, who died suddenly on January 4 of this year. David was a former editor of our *Journal*, a good friend, enthusiastic exhibitor and an excellent philatelic judge. He will be sadly missed

by those of us who knew him well.

On a lighter note, congratulations are in order to our newly elected Trustees, Ed Barrow, Peter Elias and David Gordon, elected for a term ending December 31, 2017.



Many thanks to Mary Gleadall and David Wilson, who they replace. Welcome also to the new Leader of our British Virgin Islands Study Group, Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca.

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TRINIDAD
A Philatelic History to 1913

by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medlicott
 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.

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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.



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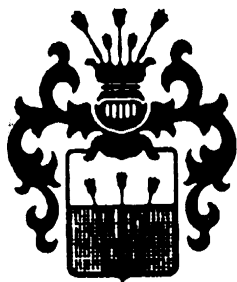
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