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Whole No. 249



*Postmaster General
Sheena Glasgow and His
Excellency the Governor,
Mr. Duncan Taylor.*

We had a great time at Grand Cayman Island!

*See pages
24, 28*



*From left, Duane Larson, George Fabian,
Karen McField, PMG Sheena Glasgow,
Eric Todd, Tom Giraldi and Ed Waterous at
Georgetown Post Office.*



*Ed Waterous, left, and
Ivan Burges.*



*Front: Eric Todd, Ivan Burges. Rear:
Duane Larson, Ed Waterous, Ray Pawley,
John Seidl, George Fabian, Tom Giraldi.*



*Karen McField, Philatelic
Bureau Manager, and Daniel
Ebanks, Assistant Philatelic
Bureau Manager.*



*Ed Waterous, George Fabian, John
Seidl, Duane Larson at BCPSG dinner.*



*From left, Ed Waterous, Karen McField,
Ray Pawley, George Fabian, Duane Larson.*



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VICE PRESIDENT	Mr. Bill Charles Gompel, P.O. Box 547183, Orlando, FL 32854-7183 USA; email: BGOMPEL@cfl.rr.com
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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
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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 524, West Springfield, MA 01090-0524 USA
GRENADA	Mr. W.D. Walker, P.O. Box 99, Lisbon, MD 21765 USA. Tele: (410) 442-1043; email: danforthwalker@comcast.net
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Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 249 Live Oak Place, Lake City, FL 32055-8906 USA

Telephone: (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, Long Beach Township, 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 Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA

Telephone: (209) 571-1345; 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

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CONTENTS

FEATURES

Airmail from Trinidad to the Dutch West Indies during WWII, <i>by Darryl Fuller</i>	4-5
The Jamaica definitives that never were: 1953-1956, <i>by David Horry</i>	6-11
Grenada first postage dues on cover, <i>by Hap Pattiz</i>	12-16
Type 1a British Guiana handstamps seen, <i>by Dale Wade</i>	18
Arthur Myerscough was well-known London dealer, <i>by Ian Sellick</i>	21
The Dated Cancellers (Part 5), <i>by Roy Bond</i>	22-23

COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others	2
Horry, Ford, Gleadall receive prestigious BCPSG awards for writing, service	5
Joint BCPSG and BWISC Meeting at Australia 2013, <i>by Darryl Fuller</i>	17-18
BG Bits and Pieces, <i>by Dr. Raj Ramphal</i>	19-21
2013 Annual General Meeting British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group	24-25
BCPSG Exhibits and Awards, <i>by Paul Larsen</i>	25
Membership Director's Report, <i>by Bob Stewart</i>	26
President's Message, <i>by Duane Larson</i>	28
Our faithful advertisers	26-32

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

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Airmail from Trinidad to the Dutch West Indies during WWII

By Darryl Fuller
Of Australia

My interest in the commercial airmails of the Caribbean is widespread and I was recently checking my Trinidad covers against the information in R. G. Wike's book *Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago*.¹ This is an excellent book and one could only wish that similar books existed for all the other countries in the Caribbean. It has great detail on not only the flights and the routes of the airmail, but also airmail rates. Virtually every Trinidad cover I checked against the rates between 1930 and 1950 was correct, according to the book. As anyone who collects commercial airmails will attest, this is unusual, particularly during WWII. There are normally rates that do not accord to any published data, either due to errors by postal staff or unpublished postal rate changes.

However, two of my covers appeared to have an incorrect rate. Both were used from Trinidad to Curacao. **Figure 1** illustrates the first cover, which is franked with 10 x 4¢ on the front and a lone 2¢ on the reverse – a total of 42¢. It was posted on October 4, 1940 and received the

"SOR No. 3" (Miller TR CH 5) on the front and back.² It arrived in Curacao on October 6, 1940. According to Wike, the rate from January 15, 1940 to 1945, from Trinidad to Curacao, was 60¢. I assumed that the first cover was an anomaly that I couldn't explain, as is not unusual during WWII. However, **Figure 2** illustrates another cover from Trinidad to Curacao posted on June 30, 1945 at the same 42¢ rate and arriving July 4, 1945. It is sealed with a typical P.C.90 tape (Miller TR CL 5 group). Wike's postal rates indicate that the rate was still 60¢ at this time, but dropped to 18¢ on August 1, 1945.

Two covers with the same rate, from different sources and different years made me think that my covers were correct and that Wike had made a mistake. I thought that the most likely error was a transcription error when copying the rates from one source to his manuscript. Given that the rate listed under the Dutch West Indies is Ecuador at 60¢, this seemed likely.

I then recalled that I had another source for Trinidad airmail rates. A while ago I discovered that the National Library of Australia had a series of year-books titled *The Yearbook of the Bermudas, the Bahamas, British Guiana, British Honduras and the British West Indies*.³ The first



FIGURE 1

Trinidad airmail cover posted October 4, 1940 at the 42¢ rate (2¢ stamp on reverse).



FIGURE 2

June 30, 1945 Trinidad to Curacao airmail cover at the 42¢ rate.

Horry, Ford, Gleadall receive prestigious BCPSG awards for writing, service

By Charles Freeland & Rob Wynstra

The jury for the Durnin Award (Ed Barrow, Keith Moh and Charles Freeland) had an easier task than they have often experienced in selecting the winner for the best *Journal* article that appeared in 2012. This does not mean that the standard was not again high, but with Peter McCann's excellent article on the first stamp issue of Montserrat ineligible as it had already appeared in the *Journal of the Society of Postal Historians*, we are unanimous in recommending that the award be made to David Horry for his intriguing two-part article on the British Honduras TRDs, supported by his research into Roger Wells (the notable creator of covers with rare village cancellations), the Grimsby Philatelic Society, Wrigley chewing gum, etc. David also contributed an important article on the GVI postmarks of Dominica and a whimsical story about the destruction by fire of Trinidad's Penal Post Office. And he is at it again in the 2013 journals ... an editor's dream!

As usual, we would like to commend a couple of other authors who appeared on our shortlist. Hap Pattiz wrote a diverse set of articles on censor marks and postage dues and Tom Giraldi kept us up to date on the postal history of the Cayman Islands as well as submitting an interesting article on the "real" Caymans Islands first flight. We also note with deep regret the death of Dr. Eric Bateson of Australia, who had over the past few years written many articles on philatelic covers from all of our colonies.

Finally, the same jury has been entrusted with the task of selecting the winner of the Addiss Award for Lifetime Achievement in Philatelic Writing and Research. There are multiple candidates for this award, but the jury found no difficulty in deciding that the winner for 2012 should be Peter Ford for his outstanding work in editing and bringing to publication the Trinidad handbook by Marriott, Medlicott and Ramkissoon, as well as his prior work in the same capacity on more than a dozen handbooks and study papers published by the BWISC.

Mary Gleadall has been selected as the winner of the Robert J. Cooley Award for lifetime service to the BCPSG. She has the singular distinction of being the first female winner of this prestigious honor. The award was established with a generous donation from the late Robert Cooley and is recognized as the group's highest honor. Mary has served as a group trustee and currently holds the position of secretary. As secretary, she helps organize and conduct elections, files reports on meetings, and provides a host of other behind-the-scenes duties that are so essential to the smooth running of the BCPSG. Mary has also contributed articles to journal and has helped in the planning for several of the group's meetings in the Caribbean. Despite splitting time between the U.K., Barbados, and more recently North Carolina, she has been a fixture at the annual meetings for many years. She has been a close and loyal friend to many members and is well deserving of this high honor.

Airmail from Trinidad to the Dutch West Indies during WWII

Continued from page 4

volume was published in 1926/27 and went through to the early 1950s, although I am unsure as to whether they all had the same author. Later volumes (after 1935) were called the *West Indies Year Book; including also the Bermudas, the Bahamas, British Guiana and British Honduras*. Unfortunately, the library does not have all the volumes; however, a few do have some airmail postal rates including 1940 (see note below). The 1940 yearbook lists the rate from Trinidad to the Dutch West Indies as 42¢ per half ounce or fraction thereof. This agrees with both covers, so I suggest that the Wike listing needs to be corrected to 42¢.

If any Trinidad postal historians or airmail collectors have other corroborating covers for this rate between 1940 and July 31, 1945, then please contact me at

darryl.fuller@home.netspeed.com.au.

FOOTNOTES

¹ R. G. Wike, *Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago*, British West Indies Study Circle, 1999.

² Christopher Miller, *British Empire Civil Censorship Devices, World War II, Canada and Colonies in the Caribbean and North and South America*, The Civil Censorship Study Group, 2006.

³ T. Skinner, *West Indies Year Book; including also the Bermudas, the Bahamas, British Guiana and British Honduras*, Montreal, 1940.

Note: I am writing an article updating the airmail rates of Barbados during WWII, which will have further information about these volumes.

The Jamaica definitives that never were: 1953-1956

By David Horry, an Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

The Jamaican King George VI stamps lasted a very long time: first issued on October 10, 1938, they were officially used until December 17, 1956. The King's premature death in February 1952 meant that new stamps would have to be prepared for Queen Elizabeth II when she ascended the throne on June 2, 1953. There was a mad dash to get new definitives designed, engraved, printed and issued throughout the Commonwealth. Trinidad & Tobago led the way getting their QEII stamps out on April 20, 1953, about a month prior to the Coronation. This wasn't too difficult as all Bradbury Wilkinson did was replace the head of the late King George VI with a Dorothy Wilding profile of Her Majesty. So why did the Jamaican postal authorities take a further three years to complete the task when they'd had a two year start?

It was first suggested in early 1951 that a new Jamaica set for George VI be prepared. On September 28, 1951 a competition was announced in *The Daily Gleaner* (Figure 1) for designs for four denominations of the new issue (another eight designs were to be prepared by a

committee selected for the purpose). It was signed on August 28, 1951 by Postmaster General G.F. White. A prize of £50 was offered for each of the winning designs. Coats of Arms were specifically not asked for as they were obviously going to be used for the high values which were earmarked for Bradbury Wilkinson. Everard F. Aguilar, the well known Jamaican stamp dealer and philatelist, was invited onto that committee by White. Aguilar worked assiduously on this project initially as noted in his quarterly journal.



FIGURE 2
Proposed butterfly
Papilio homerus
design, Phillip
Hart, 1952.

FIGURE 1
Postmaster
General George
F. White's stamp
design
competition
announcement
from *The Daily
Gleaner*,
September 28,
1951.

POSTAL NOTICE
Designs for New Series Postage
Stamps

The Government of Jamaica has decided to issue a new set of postage stamps which will embrace certain events in the history of the Colony.

The public are invited to submit designs in black and white drawings or suggestions for designs for four stamps to form part of a new set of postage stamps which it is proposed to issue.

Designs must be drawn to a size of 8 x 10 or larger and must contain as their main features subjects of historical or additional significance relating to Jamaica. Within this limitation designs are left to the discretion and initiative of the competitors. Allowance should be made in the designs for a portrait of the King's head to be inserted. The Coat of Arms of Jamaica should not be included in any of the designs submitted.

Designs must be forwarded to the Postmaster General Kingston and must reach him not later than 30th November, 1951. Judging of the designs will be carried out by a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Postmaster General. A prize of £50 will be awarded for each design accepted, and used for the purpose such design to be the property of the Government of Jamaica.

The Committee reserves the right to reject any or all of the designs submitted.

G F WHITE
Postmaster General
Kingston
28th August 1951

From this competition four designs by the now late Claude De Souza were selected, of which only one was finally used in the 1956 Queen Elizabeth set. De Souza had designed the 1952 Scout Jamboree set with their gaudy colors stipulated in the brief. Fort Charles, showing Nelson's Quarter Deck (2/-), was designed by Mil-



FIGURE 3
Proposed Ackee design,
Phillip Hart, 1952.

ton S. Weller. In June 1953, Aguilar, in his *British West Indian Philatelist*, previewed two designs (**Figures 2, 3**) and noted: "The artist for many of these (KGVI) designs has been Phillip Hart, who is still a student at Jamaica College. Not yet 18, he is a gifted youngster, having the ability to reproduce anything shown, and has designed at least 6 of the drawings for this new set. Mrs. A. Wiles designed Colebeck Castle (which has never appeared) and White River (which was changed to Rafting on the Rio Grand and the frame-work for Blue Mountain (8d).” It is amazing to note that Hart’s butterfly (*Papilio homerus*) was used some 12 years later when it appeared on the 6d value of the May 1964 definitives (**Figure 4**). Almost

FIGURE 4
Released 6d
definitive butterfly
Papilio homerus,
May 1964.



certainly championed by Aguilar. Young Hart was also responsible for the Doctor Bird (*Trochilus polytmus*) 6d design, the 3d Mahoe, and he took the photograph for the Hope Gardens 1/- design. Other designs that never saw light of day were The West India Regiment, Columbus and *Nina* (Phillip Hart) and Cottage Industry; the design for this intended low value stamp was of the making and plaiting of mats.

This from Aguilar’s *British West Indian Philatelist* in March 1956: “At long last the new Queen Elizabeth stamps for Jamaica have been announced by the Crown Agents and will most likely go on sale around April or May of this year, and these have taken just over 5 years;

FIGURE 5
½d and 1d
De la Rue
definitives,
May 1956.



in being prepared during which time they have had many changes and it is interesting to go over some of the major hold ups. From the start it was realized that the face value of this set would have to be stepped up due to the new postage rates, and it was definitely decided on that the four low values would feature the head of Queen Elizabeth with appropriate border designs, while the four high values would feature the Arms of Jamaica,

again in appropriate colours. The immediate values from the 3d to the 2/- would be Pictorials and this is where a great deal of the difficulty lies, due to getting certain colour combinations, it was suggested that if these stamps were printed on coloured paper, then bi-coloured, this would be far more attractive.”

The first definitives were officially released May 1, 1956 and that was just the two lowest values, ½d and 1d from Waterlow (**Figure 5**). The rest of the set crawled out in dribs and drabs and finally were all available on December 17, 1956 with the release of the 3d, 4d and 5d values.

So, why did it take Jamaica five years to get itself into shape? Barefoot notes that nine De La Rue QEII small key-types revenues (6d - £1) overprinted “JUDICIAL” were released in 1953. They are originally inscribed “POSTAGE and REVENUE” but never saw light of day

FIGURE 6
6d and 1/-
JUDICIAL
overprints
on postage
and revenue
stamps, 1953.



without the Judicial overprint (**Figure 6**). Were these intended as a quick release for postage? Perhaps not as the KGVI versions which similarly bear the word “POSTAGE” were never issued.

King George VI stamps were printed way beyond Potter and Shelton’s cut-off date of June 1952. There was a full printing of all the values, bar the £1 and 1½d, on March 31, 1953 with another major reprinting divided between January 21 and April 7, 1954. The 3d, 4d, 6d, 9d, 1/- and £1 were reprinted on January 24, 1954 and finally as late as June 15, 1956 the 4d, 6d, 9d, 1/- and 2/- were again reprinted after the QEII stamps were further delayed!*

It would appear that initially the same strategy was to be used as had been in Port of Spain and the Queen’s head was to have replaced that of her father, the King. The first sign was issue of the Royal Visit stamp issued November 25, 1953 – it was nothing more than the Cocos Palms 2d with the Queen’s head in place and the words “ROYAL VISIT 1953” squashed into the top of the vignette (**Figure 7**). The design for a set of definitives must have been on the drawing board at this time. Further, stocks of the Waterlow KGVI £1 Tobacco stamps, first issued on August 15, 1949, were running low (**Figure 8**). Crown

Continued on page 8



FIGURE 7
2d Royal Visit
commemorative,
November 1953.

Agents Requisition 5704/2 ordered 2,400 sheets (72,000 stamps) with the Queen's head (*Figure 9*). The vignette plate was delivered to Waterlow on December 4 and the frame plate on December 31, 1953.

According to Hugh James in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* (July 1986): "... the printing (in January 1954) failed for some unknown reason and a reprint was ordered. Both plates were reissued on 10 February 1954. Only 2,143 sheets were printed and were despatched to Jamaica



FIGURE 8
£1 KGV I Tobacco
(Waterlow),
August 1949.

FIGURE 9
£1 QEII Tobacco
(Waterlow),
March 1954.

26 March, 1954. As it was a new issue the usual GPO specimens were taken including the now unique block of four stamps sent to the Queen. Some 51,090 stamps were allocated for the Bureau, the odd quantity being the result of the original Bureau allocation of 60,000 to compensate for the shortfall in printing. However, on arrival in Jamaica the QEII printing was put into store and the Colony soldiered on with the KGV I £1 stamps, although supplies were running out as evidenced by an entry under CA requisition 5704 which required eighty

FIGURE 10
£1 QEII Arms
(Bradbury Wilkinson),
August 1956.



sheets (2,400 stamps) to be taken from Bureau stocks and despatched to Jamaica by parcel post 27 January, 1955." It was suggested at the time by the Colonial Office that collectors felt that two sets of QEII definitives issued within a year of each other would be too much! So, yet another printing of the KGV I £1 stamps was ordered. "The requisition was for 218 sheets (6,540 stamps) and they were printed on 3 December, 1955 and despatched 29 February, 1956. Three thousand stamps were allocated to the bureau and a block of four was sent to The Royal collection." Gibbons recorded the release date (in the U.K.) as January 24, 1956 and described it as "a light sepia vignette and a bright violet frame. The paper is thinner than the original printing."



FIGURE 11
"Hollywood Jamaica 1953 QEII fantasy definitives."

Aguilar reported in the *British West Indian Philatelist* in June 1955: "As the (QEII) £1 Jamaica has been sitting in the vaults for well over two years now, it so happened that early in February, the Royal Bank of Canada placed an order with one of these agents for a sheet of the £1. As usual the agent, who is well known around the business houses, delivered the stamps to the teller, who was quick to notice that the stamps did not have the head of the King which was usual, but featured the head of H.M. the Queen. This teller, as quick as he was to pick up the difference, was not quick enough to realize what he held in his hand. Not knowing anything about the item, he asked the agent (a Miss Binns) to check up at the Stamp Office and returned the sheet. A Golden Opportunity was lost through the Bank returning these stamps, for had they been used, one is very inclined to think that the PMG would have released them. The main reason for these items not going on sale 2 years ago, has been one of the many 'Red Tape Rules' laid down by the Crown Agents, which states that any stamp put on sale, other than commemoratives, must remain on sale for at least 6 years."

A further delay to the printing of the new Bradbury Wilkinson £1 (**Figure 10**) led to a further release of 64 sheets of the KGV £1 (1,920 stamps) from the Bureau being sent by air to Kingston on January 24, 1956.

It is now apparent that in the latter part of 1954, a decision had finally been taken to introduce a completely new QEII definitive set and not proceed with a quick revamp of the old KGV-style designs -- which might have probably looked something like this (**Figure 11**).

The reason for this change of mind may well have been the retirement of the Kingston Postmaster General, George Fitzgerald White. White, a black man, was an amiable and old school style of postmaster. He was conservative, genial and much respected. He was made PMG in March 1948 after a long career. After a period in the Money Order Branch he was posted to the Circulation Branch as a junior clerk. In 1935, he was heading



FIGURE 12
P.M.G. Allison A.V. Nash,
1952 (Jamaica Gleaner).

this important phase of the postal service, and in 1942 he was made Superintendent of Mails. White was called upstairs to the King Street head office in 1945, receiving the appointment of Deputy Postmaster General. Meanwhile he had served as Postal Censor during World War II. His deputy was Allison Alfred Vernon Nash, who was a much more progressive and assertive character. In 1951 he won a Government Scholarship under the West Indies Training Scheme. He was sent to the GPO in London and underwent training in modern postal practices and administration (**Figure 12**).

White was due to retire in late October 1953 but had gone as early as February 23, 1953 when E. M. Morales became acting PMG. He made way for Nash who officially took over on February 22, 1954 but who was in position by September 1953. Nash was a new broom -- the postal



FIGURE 13
Vineyard Town Registered
Oval postmark, c. 1950.

unions took every opportunity to strike over wages and overtime rates -- Nash appears to have been the target of much union anger. He attempted to clean up some dodgy practices and criminal proceedings were started at the Vineyard Town office (**Figure 13**). Some of these practices were in part due to the trade in postmarks and FDCs on the island. Everard Aguilar complained bitterly about this in the *British West Indian Philatelist* (**Figure 14**) as "using a few of the old methods adopted some years ago in Germany!"

FIGURE 14
Aguilar's The West Indian
Philatelist, Vol. 12 No. 2,
December 1949.



A new set of stamps was ordered from De La Rue around about the time of Nash's arrival as they bear similarities with the Tercentenary Issue of May 1955. The borders are somewhat more decorative and hark back to the De La Rue KGV definitives of 1919 (**Figure 15**). Aguilar stated in the June 1954 edition of the *British West Indian Philatelist*: "The new Pictorial set for Jamaica, with the four lowest values, will be released towards the end of this year, with the possibility of the highest value - the



FIGURE 15
De La Rue essays under Nash, c. 1954
©Spink & Son Ltd.

£1. The face value of this set includes very nearly all the necessary values, for local and overseas postage rates, as well as air mail rates in the B.W.I., U.S.A. and England. The face value will work out at 45/2d." Nash appears to have left his post in a hurry. The *Jamaica Gleaner* notes his departure on September 24, 1955 for nine months leave of absence -- gardening leave? -- his position was filled temporarily by his deputy Frederick Oscar Rousseau. This would be at around the time that the original designs of Phillip Hart had their frames simplified, which makes the designs seem somewhat less attractive (**Figure 16**). Note that the inscription on the "Doctor Bird" design

Continued on page 10

is “Humming Bird.” These stamps bear a passing resemblance to Cyprus essays at the same time with a bare-headed Queen facing left and right [2/-] (*Figure 17*).



FIGURE 16

De La Rue essays under Rousseau, c. 1955
©Spink & Son Ltd.

Rousseau was then in charge until the arrival of the new Postmaster General, Lt. Col. Joseph Green on December 12, 1955. Green had retired from the British Civil Ser-



FIGURE 17

Unissued De La Rue essays for Cyprus, c. 1953.

vice when he was Postmaster General of the Federation of Malaya. The Secretary of State appointed him to the Jamaican post. He was the first non-Jamaican to be appointed since before World War II -- he was there to sort



FIGURE 18

The issued Bradbury Wilkinson 3/- and 5/- definitives, 1956.

out a sorry mess. With all this going on it is no wonder that the QEII definitives were late. It looks like Green had the Queen’s head changed to the three quarter view with diadem, with the designs further simplified and made even more Spartan (*Figure 18*). According to Ted Proud, in early 1957 Green put in a new structure that decentralized GPO Kingston, splitting the island into

three separate administrative areas: Western at Montego Bay; Central at Mandeville; and Eastern at Kingston. Meanwhile, training courses were also offered to counter staff and much more motorization of mail routes was initiated and things settled down (*Figure 19*).



FIGURE 19
Stamp Centenary 6d showing mule cart and modern mail van, 1960.

The new definitives were not universally liked, especially the high values which were called “uninspired” by Nick Halewood and have an appearance more akin to revenue stamps. They were designed and printed by Bradbury Wilkinson and are not a patch on the De La Rue set of four, issued on May 10, 1955 to celebrate The Jamaica Tercentenary (*Figure 20*).

FIGURE 20
Jamaica Tercentenary issue, May 1955.



For those of you with deep pockets and would like to gain a copy of the QEII Waterlow £1, there is bad news -- the entire stock was incinerated in November 1955 on Fred Rousseau’s watch. According to Nick Halewood, *et al*, only seven copies are recorded -- the plate block of four in The Royal Collection and single copies at the Crown Agents collection; Crown Agents Philatelic and Security Printing Archive and The British Library – Philatelic Archive. I have recently picked up a facsimile from Slovakia which cost me a mere \$36 on eBay, on thick unwatermarked paper – I think I’ll have to be con-



FIGURE 21
Facsimile £1 QEII Tobacco.

tent with that (*Figure 21*)! A pre-paid post card with 1d QEII design in red-brown was issued sometime in 1954 by De La Rue (*Figure 22*). A similar style QEII red ½d newspaper wrapper appears to emanate from the same time. The De La Rue embossed QEII registered envelope (4d+2d red brown sizes F and H) also came into use in 1955, the archive date being April 26, 1955 (as per



FIGURE 22

QEII prepaid 1d post card, December 28, 1954.

Swarbrick) – the previous KGVI versions are thought to have been issued on February 28, 1952 (F) and January 14, 1953 (H) (*Figure 23*). On August 6, 1956 QEII 6d “Doctor Bird” aerogramme was issued. It was printed by McCorquodale of Wolverton on sky blue paper without



FIGURE 23

QEII pre-paid registered envelope (size F), April 1955 (Wright).

watermark and printed directly by line engraving, in two operations. Instructional lettering, etc., lithographed in



FIGURE 24

QEII Prepaid 6d Aerogramme, August 1956 (Jarvis).

red, with “British” style panel and black (*Figure 24*). Finally, the delayed QEII stamp booklets were issued on February 16, 1957. Thus the KGVI definitives were finally laid to rest and Queen Elizabeth II finally took her rightful place on the mails of Jamaica (*Figure 25*).



FIGURE 25

QEII 8d, 1/-, 1/6d and 2/- definitives, 1956.

*The Potter and Shelton updates were compiled by Dickon Pollard from notes by Dr. Bill Barker.

My thanks to Steve Jarvis, Paul Wright and The Royal Philatelic Society London for use of the QEII De la Rue essays (ex-Robson Lowe).

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Grenada first postage dues on cover

By Hap Pattiz

The British Colonies began issuing postage due stamps in 1885 (Trinidad). Grenada issued its first postage dues in April 1892.¹ These dues, printed by De La Rue in England, are quite rare in mint condition, but fairly common used. Apparently these issues were not attractive to early collectors. The first issue remained in use until 1906 (for the 2d and 3d) or 1911 (for the 1d).² Figure 1 shows the three values.



FIGURE 1

The basic set of Grenada's first postage dues.

However, even though used examples are fairly common, very few covers of the first issue are known. Recent collectors have begun to seek out postage due covers; but this apparently was not the case for these dues issues in earlier times.

FIGURE 2a
1d due used
November 29,
1892 to Colonial
Treasurer
Gerald Smith
at St. Georges.



The earliest covers with these dues (see several examples in Figures 2 a-f) appear to have been for local business reply or similar local usages in late 1892 into 1893.³



FIGURE 2b
2d due used
December 12,
1892, to HMS
Partridge.
This cover
reflects the
charge for
mail to a ship
in St. Georges
harbor.



FIGURE 2c
1d used
May 13,
1893 to
attorney
Samuel
Francis.

In 1892, when the stamps were issued, Gerald Stanley Smith was the Grenada treasurer. He likely was a stamp collector⁴ for in May 1893 he created some covers (Figure 3, 3a) from St. Vincent to Grenada showing the us-



FIGURE 2d
1d used
May 15,
1893 to
attorney
Samuel
Francis.

FIGURE 2e
3d used
June 26,
1893 to
attorney
Samuel
Francis.



age of all three dues values together. However, these May 1893 covers are the only philatelic ones I know of. All subsequent usages (shown below) are covers with dues that represent actual postal usages.



FIGURE 2f
2d used
on July
17, 1893
to at-
torney
Samuel
Francis.

In Figures 4-5 are two covers addressed to Dr. Walter Boyd. The first, dated August 14, 1896, appears to be similar business reply mail, possibly from a village

FIGURE 2g
 2d used
 August 9, 1893
 to attorney
 Samuel Francis.



outside St. Georges, the capital (hence the 2d rate). The second cover, from the United States, dated March 15, 1897, was underpaid by 1 1/2d and charged 3d, including the 1 1/2d penalty.



FIGURE 3 a & b

The “created” (philatelic) cover (above) from St. Vincent to Gerald Stanley Smith on May 8, 1893, received in Grenada on May 12, 1893, where the set of available postage dues was added (SG #D1-3). Below, another Smith relative (a grandson?) was on hand in 1952 for the retiring of the Sterling dues on February 28. Here, a cover with the three values in use on that date (SG #D11, D13, D14).

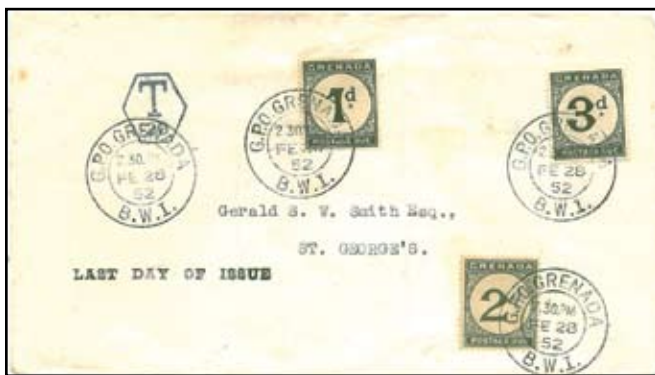


Figure 6 is a local Grenada cover dated April 10, 1897, to Mrs. Boyd, underpaid (with “T” marking), charged 1d postage due. Interestingly, the cancel is the village “B” cancel, but the due charge indicates only an underpayment of 1/2d (plus the doubled penalty of additional 1/2d), meaning that the postage charge was for mail from St. Georges.

The next two covers, Figures 7 and 8, are ship-related

mail. The first to Mr. Whatham on the HMS *Crescent* was mailed with a Grenada 1/2d stamp at St. Georges on February 6, 1900, but was charged 3d due (1 1/2d deficiency, plus 1 1/2d penalty). Note that this cover has no “T” marking or other notation of postage due.



FIGURE 4

Local cover (could be “drop mail”) sent to Walter Boyd unstamped, to which a 2d has been added (note “T” marking), dated August 14, 1896.

Figure 8, mailed on the same day (February 6, 1900) from St. Georges, with no Grenada stamp, was only charged 2d postage due (no penalty), apparently the rate for mail from St. Georges to a ship.⁵



FIGURE 5

Cover from New York City, sent March 15, 1897, to Dr. Walter Boyd at St. Georges, to which a 3d due stamp was added, cancelled April 3, 1897.

The next cover, Figure 9, was mailed a little later in 1900 to Grenada from Trinidad unstamped. It has the Grenada “T” in circle mark. It was charged 4d postage due, reflected in the 1d and 3d dues (2d deficiency, plus 2d penalty). The cover is backstamped with the village cancel, “D” (for St. Andrew’s) one day after leaving Trinidad, on March 30, 1900.



FIGURE 6

Local cover to Mrs. Boyd showing a village cancel of April 10, 1897, stamped with 1/2d Grenada postage, to which a 1d due was added at St. Georges on April 11. The front and back (at left) both show a “T” marking indicating underpayment of postage.

Figure 10, from April 4, 1900, to the same addressee (Mr. Noel at Grenville) looks to be a business reply usage, yet it has the “T” in circle as the cover above and had only been charged 2d postage due. And in Figure 11,



FIGURE 7

Ship cover from HMS Crescent (a first class cruiser in the British Navy, perhaps on visit to Grenada) to R.H. Whatham, Esq. on the HMS Crescent. Postage of 1/2d Grenada supplemented by a 3d due cancelled February 6, 1900 (ex-Rowell).

in May 1900, is another cover to Mr. Noel, now at St. Andrews, stamped with a Trinidad 1/2d, showing the “T”

FIGURE 8
Unstamped local cover from St. Georges to C.M. Norris on the HMS Pearl with 2d due added, cancelled Feb. 6, 1900.



in circle, charged only 1d postage due. “Mr. Noel, Esq.” may have been a lawyer.

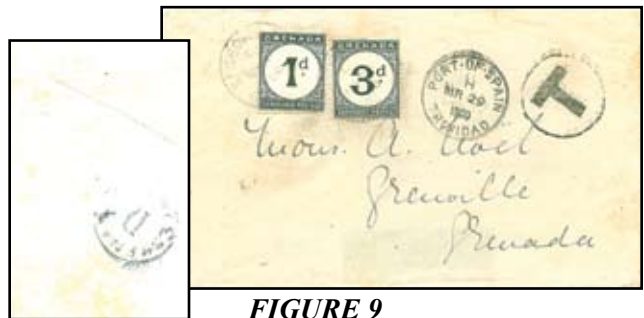


FIGURE 9

Unstamped cover from Trinidad (mailed March 29, 1900) to A. Noel at Grenville, Grenada (a village) to which a 1d and 3d due were added, cancelled at St. Georges on March 30, 1900, and with receiving mark on reverse (left) on the same date.

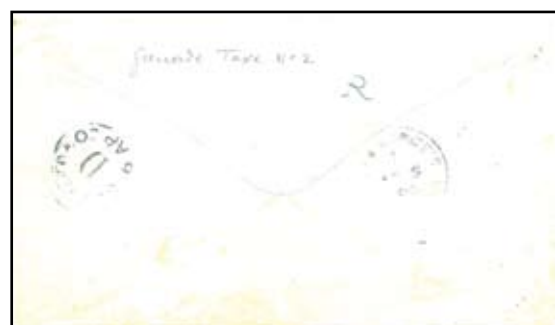
Figure 12, like Figure 8, was mailed to Mr. Norris, HMS Pearl, from St. Georges on September 8, 1900; and, likewise, was charged only 2d postage due (and no postage due marking). Was Mr. Norris a crew member on the Pearl and was the ship on a normal route in and around Grenada?

Figure 13 is the first postcard I know of with a first issue due. It was sent from London on April 23, 1903, to St. Andrews; received there on May 3, 1903 (village “D” cancel). The card was underpaid 1/2d (the “5” manu-



FIGURE 10

A similar unstamped cover from Trinidad (mailed April 4, 1900) to Mr. A. Noel at Grenville, Grenada, but this time only 2d due added, cancelled at St. Georges on April 6, 1900, with same receiving date on back (below).



script marking on the front), and charged 1d postage due, including the penalty. The due stamp is cancelled at St. Georges on May 12 1903.



FIGURE 11

Similar cover from Trinidad, mailed May 4, 1900, this time with 1/2d Trinidad postage, to Mr. A. Noel, Esq., at St. Andrews, with 1d due added, cancelled at St. Georges on May 10, 1900. Same receiver date on reverse side (below).



Figure 14 is a cover from New York on August 11, 1903 to Grenada. But the addressee refused delivery (manuscript notation) and the cover was returned to New York via the Dead Letter Office in Washington, D.C. with a note of 10 cents postage due.

FIGURE 12
Unstamped local cover to G.M. Norris on the HMS Pearl with 2d added.



Postage dues of Grenada for 5d (3d and 2d) were added at St. Georges on August 20, 1903, but clearly not collected. Since there is no return address either, it is likely that the postage deficiency was never collected. The last item, Figure 15, is another post card from England to Grenada, sent from Ingatestone on December 21, 1904, received at St. Georges January 3, 1905, with a 1d Grenada due charged for the deficiency and penalty. From the research by Richard C. Peck⁶ of the De La Rue archives, we know that several printings of the first issue

of Grenada dues were made from 1891 (delivered in 1892) to 1904.⁷ Despite the long duration of usage and the significant number of postage due stamps actually printed (over 25,000), not very many have survived, especially, as noted earlier, in mint condition.

FIGURE 13
Post card from London, mailed April 23, 1903, to St. Andrews, with 1/2d postage, with 1d due added at St. Georges, cancelled May 12, 1903, with St. Andrews May 3 receiving mark (probably in error for May 13).



I have quite a number of these issues in my collection, showing marked differences in the color of the ink and several stamps showing plate flaws and varieties which appear to have remained (mainly) uncorrected through the period of Sterling postage dues printed by De La Rue. I have also provided some notes on the early cancels of the first issue dues to the editor (dates earlier than and contemporaneous with the second, overprinted, issue of dues). I will be providing more articles on these points and on all Grenada dues issues in subsequent issues of the *Journal*.⁸

FOOTNOTES

¹ The Stanley Gibbons catalogue shows the first issue Grenada dues became available in April or May 1892 (SG #D1-3) The De La Rue archives do show that the three values were ordered in late March 1892, but the earliest known dates of usage of these issues is in early June 1892.

² This issue of dues, also printed by De La Rue, are facial identical to the first issue, differing only by a change in the watermark of the paper (first issue: "Crown over CA," third issue: "Multiple Crown and CA").

³ During August through November 1892, a further issue of "postage dues" was created by overprinting regular

postage issues with a value (1d or 2d) and “Surcharge Postage.” This was done first on the 8d stamp (SG #35) (in use from August 12 to early October) and later on the 6d stamp (SG 34) [in use from October to mid-November]. These are SG D4-7.

⁴ A few covers showing usage of the rare second issue dues were created by and sent to Mr. Smith from St. Lucia (there stamped with the St. Lucia provisional postage issues) and dues added upon receipt in Grenada.

⁵ Helpful for information on HMS *Crescent* and HMS *Pearl* at Grenada in February 1900. The rate for mail to and from ships at Grenada appears to have been 2d if mailed at St. Georges unstamped; but 3d if stamped with the deficiency being charged double.

⁶ See Richard C. Peck, *The Forgotten Family - A Century of De La Rue postage due stamps*, 4th edition, 2003. Published in Australia by the author. This excellent volume reflects the decades-long original research of Mr. Peck and is an invaluable source of information about De La Rue dues. Unfortunately, the monograph is available only in a limited supply. Try Richard C. Peck, P.O. Box 199, Deummoynne, NSW 1470, Australia. Also try philatelic literature dealers.

⁷ Five printings of the 1d (about 54,000); six printings of the 2d (about 4,000), and five printings of the 3d (about 30,000).



FIGURE 14

Cover sent from New York City August 11, 1903, with 5¢ postage to Mr. E.D.D. Thomas at St. Georges, where 2d and 3d dues were added and cancelled on August 20, 1903; delivery was refused, and cover was attempted to be returned (DLO Washington, October 7, 1903, New York City October 8, 1903 (left).



⁸ See, for example: Pattiz, Henry A. “Postage Due Varieties of Grenada,” *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (December 1999), 127-129 for an article on some of the varieties.



FIGURE 15

Post card from Ingatestone, England with 1/2d postage (mailed December 21, 1904) to Grenada, with 1d due added, cancelled St. Georges, January 3, 1905.

WANTED

Wanted: KGVI and early QEII Bahamas/Jamaica postmarks. I pay good prices! Contact David Horry by email at: horry@talk21.com

We (still) need articles!

Thanks to several recent contributions, our situation is not as critical as earlier, but we still need articles of any length to fill these pages. Please continue to prepare and send items for publication, and please be patient as not all material can be printed at once!

The Editor

Joint BCPSG and BWISC Meeting at Australia 2013

By Darryl Fuller
Of Australia

Australia 2013 was held in Melbourne May 10-15, and in terms of the number of frames, was the largest international exhibition held since Washington D.C. in 2006. Having been involved with all four Australian international exhibitions, I can say that it was by far the best, and has been widely lauded by those who attended.



FIGURE 1
Interior view of the exhibition.

The exhibition itself celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Kangaroo and Map stamp. This was also the first non-Asian international exhibition I have been to that had queues for entry on every day. This was largely due to Australia Post. Australia is lucky in that the post office still supports philately, although I would note that while Australia Post was the major sponsor, it did not fund the exhibition in entirety like the previous three exhibitions. Australia Post did some excellent marketing (product wise) and I have heard reports that it made its budget for the exhibition on the first day, but I cannot confirm this. I know that the dealers were all very happy and I believe that most of the exhibitors were also satisfied with their results. The organizing committee is to be congratulated on a great show in what must be one of the great venues for an exhibition -- the world heritage listed Royal Exhibition building (*Figure 1*).

There were five West Indies exhibits at the exhibition, all members of either the BCPSG or the BWISC, or both. The exhibits and results are as follows: **Russell Boylan**, "St. Vincent - The De La Rue Period," Large Gold; **Darryl Fuller**, "Leeward Islands Postal Stationery," Large Gold; **Bernie Beston**, "British Guiana Postal Stationery," Gold; **Simon Greenwood**, "British Guiana 1850-

1899," Gold; **Graham Booth**, "The Cayman Islands Post Office 1889-1945," Gold + SP.

Although there were only five exhibits, they were all of a very high standard and did both societies proud. I was unfortunately too busy to look at many of the exhibits, but I was in the bin room and checked in about half of the U.K. exhibits including both the British Guiana and Caymans, and they were a pleasure to view (albeit quickly). As part of the exhibition, Don Napier and I organized a joint meeting of the two societies, but it was the first scheduled meeting of the exhibition so excluded several judges who were members of the societies. There were 10 attendees including nine members and one potential new member. Those who attended were Simon Greenwood, Dan Walker, Merv Harris, Patricia Capill, Andrew Brockett, Russell Boylan, Bernie Beston, Don Napier and Darryl Fuller. I gave a presentation on Leeward Islands postal stationery that elicited some discussion. Participants then left to look at the exhibits. Overall a small but friendly gathering that I hope can be repeated at other international exhibitions, such as Rio in November. Please let me know if you are attending.



FIGURE 2
Russell Boylan (left) receiving the Cameron Award from Dr. Philip Levine, vice president of the Australian Philatelic Federation.

Cameron Award -- This award is normally given to the best Caribbean entry at the exhibition where the BCPSG has its annual general meeting. However, as there was no exhibition to be held in association with this year's AGM, it was decided to award the prize at Australia 2013. All five entries were by members of the BCPSG but two were ineligible as they had won previously: Si-

Continued on page 18

Type 1a British Guiana handstamps seen

By Dale Wade
Of the USA

Per Bernie Beston's article in the January-March 2013 issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (Vol. 53, No. 1) article, I have the following four covers, all with his Type 1a handstamps.

1) First flight (opened) cover to H. Skinner, Syracuse, New York, franked with two Townsend & Howe (T&H) "FS1 FOREIGN SECTION / 3-PM / 20 SP / 29 / BRITISH GUIANA" postmarks plus Beston Type 1a in violet-black and blue perforated sticker with printed black "Par Avion/By Air Mail." No other instructional markings but a U.S. special delivery (Scott #E15a) tied with unreadable postmark. It is backstamped with two "Syracuse, N.Y./Oct /3 /12 M" receiving postmarks.

2) First flight (unopened) cover to Arthur Peags, care of U.S. Council, Port of Spain, franked with Scott #191, #195-196 tied with two T&H Type "FS 1 FOREIGN SECTION/3-PM/21 SP/29" postmarks plus Beston Type 1a in violet-black. It is backstamped with Port of Spain machine cancel "SEP 25/1929" receiving postmark.

3) First flight registered (opened) cover to W. Bourne, Paramaribo, franked with Scott #191, pair of #194s, #195 and #196 tied with two black T&H Type R8 "REGISTRATION/*/23 SP/29/BRITISH GUIANA" postmarks plus Beston Type 1a in violet. It is backstamped with oval violet T&H R9 plus a private purple sawtoothed circle and a black "23 9. 29" Paramaribo receiving postmark.

4) First flight registered (opened) cover to J. Savory, New York, N.Y., franked with Scott #191, #194-196 and #198 tied with two black T&H R8 "REGISTRATION/ */24 SP /29 /BRITISH GUIANA" postmarks plus Beston Type 1a in violet. It is backstamped with oval violet T&H R9 plus Miami and two New York receiving postmarks.

I also have a "25 SP 29" cover with Beston Type 1 first flight (unopened) to G. Street, St. Thomas, VI franked with Scott #19(1?), #193, (#195-197?) tied with three T&H FS1 "FOREIGN SECTION/7.-AM/25 SP/29/ BRITISH GUIANA" postmarks plus Beston Type I in violet. It is backstamped with St. Thomas receiving postmark. I have several first flight covers with no instructional handstamps dating from February 21, 1930 to July 15, 1944.

One first flight is April 2, 1930 with a blue-green perforated sticker with black lettering inscribed as in 1) above and another exactly as 1) above on a Miami first flight dated "SEP 12 29." I wonder if it was applied in U.S. or British Guiana.

I have several first flights with T&H type 2 handstamps in shades of violet dated from 19 DE 30 to 28 JA 33; two T&H Type 2 without dot after flight dated 19 DE 30 & 6 FE 31 in violet and 1 in black dated 29 JA 35.

I have one airmail cover with a blue-green sticker as described in 1) above, but did not see any airmail covers with T&H first flight handstamps Type 1 and Beston Type 1a or Type 2. I also have a "13 SP 63" airmail cover with a "TOO-LATE" handstamp.

BCPSG, BWISC Meeting at Australia 2013 ——— Continued from page 17

mon Greenwood in 1997 in San Francisco and Darryl Fuller in 2010 in London. Of the three candidates in the running this year, all were very worthy candidates but in the end Russell Boylan won the award. Russell's traditional exhibit features the Essays, Proofs, Color Trials, Specimens and issued stamps along with many of the shade varieties, locally printed provisionals and accompanying errors and various usages. It includes De La Rue Plate Proofs, 1d drab of 1882 in block of 24, 4d dull ultramarine on cover and 4d red brown with 4d blue mixed registered franking to Italy. The 1883 ½d green, 6d bright green and 1/- orange-vermillion perforated 12 in marginal blocks of 4, and the 1888 6d violet in block of six. Other interesting items include the 1892 "Spice-men" error; 1893 2½d blue surcharge with fraction bar and numeral joined; 1896 key plate and Arms essays; 1899 QV key plates with master die proof; Imperium

trials; Duty Plate proofs; color trials and One Penny Key Plate with watermark inverted in block of four. Later issues include the KEVII £1 marginal block of four, 1907-09 Arms of the Colony essays, Master Die proofs and local specimens. There are also Master Die proofs, local specimens and color trials of the KGV issues and the 1916 War Stamp third setting with overprint double in a block of four. Overall a very deserving exhibit.

The award this year was a copy of the joint BCPSG/BWISC publication *Trinidad - A Postal History to 1913*. As Russell was not available at the Palmares, alternative arrangements were made for presenting the award. Figure 2 shows Russell (left) receiving the award from Dr. Philip Levine, vice president of the Australian Philatelic Federation in his home State, Queensland.



BG Bits and Pieces

With Dr. P.J. Ramphal
Of Canada



British Guiana's perfin and other stamps with holes in them

Part I -- PERFINS

My introduction to the subject of perfins occurred about 40 years ago when the president of one of my Toronto stamp clubs, Geoff Ewing, memorably titled his presentation of that evening, "Perfins, the Stamps with Holes in them." It was a groundbreaking event for me since I had not consciously heard the term "perfin" before. On returning home, I set

its debut in 1840, an Englishman by the name of Joseph Sloper was granted a patent for his invention of a machine which could perforate a sheet of mint stamps in such a way that each stamp received the same letter, figure or pattern created by a series of perforated holes (most commonly the firm's initials) in a distinctive design, the company's logo so to speak.

Merchants using the mail for business purposes welcomed this new strategy to combat rampant pilferage and inappropriate use of their postage stamps by the mail clerks of the day, and they remained popular worldwide until about the 1930s. Purists insist that true perfins, (which term derives from the coupling of the beginnings



FIGURE 1-2

Front and back of my collection of seven
British Guiana perfins.

about rummaging through my not inconsiderable hoard of used British Guiana low value stamps, which had accompanied me from my boyhood in that country, then for eight years in Jamaica, thence to Canada in 1964. I guess I was correct, because when finished, I had found a lone perfin on a B.G. one-cent King George V Key Type stamp, barely justifying the time and effort spent, but as we all well know, the hunt is more than half the fun.

Historically, 29 years after the Penny Black had made

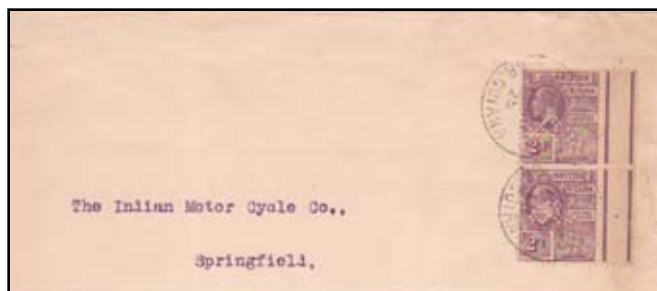


FIGURE 3

Cover from Georgetown to U.S.A. with a vertical pair
of SG #274, perfins, cancelled "1 AU 25."



FIGURE 4

The centered Mauritius 1 R stamp. On its left, as
viewed by the reader, the Mauritius perfin; on the
right, the similar British Guiana perfin.

of the words, "PERFORATED" and "INSIGNIA") must only include letters, usually, the initials of the company or business. Guianese of my vintage used to contend that the "B" in BG stood for "Bookers" rather than British Guiana, and there was much justification for that sarcasm. The London firm of Booker Bros. McConnell & Co. Ltd., had had extensive land and commercial holdings in B.G. for more than 200 years, and by the turn of the century, Bookers seemingly had a finger in every type of commercial activity in the colony, more often than not, a dominant one. Predictably, B.G.'s lone perfin belongs to BOOKER BROS & Co. Ltd, in the pattern "B B & Co."

My paltry collection, comprised of seven singles and a pair on cover, (Figures 1,2,3) is all I have to show for 30

Continued on page 20

FIGURE 5
Top four stamps
of a normal
sheet of 10 (SG
#162 and #164).
Three, 3-masted
schooners and
one, 2-masted at
the bottom left.



years of diligent searching, and they all reside on various values of the KGV. Key Type. But I would be surprised if others did not exist. The date range of the perfin here exhibited is from 1915 to 1919, with a pair on the cover dated "1st. AU, 25," from an unknown sender to the Indian Motor Cycle Co, Springfield, Mass. It is windowed, in the interest of saving space (*Figure 3*), it being devoid

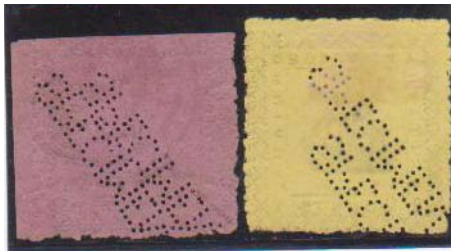


FIGURE 6
SG #162 and #164 showing double "SPECIMEN"
perforation on the reverse.

of any other markings or features. I suspect that both the date range and the stamp types to be wider than here shown and would hope that the readership will inundate me with evidence of such. But of tangential interest, I also present a Mauritius perfin (*Figure 4*) which caught my eye years ago because of its similarity to the perfin design of the BG Booker Bros. The parent London firm of Booker Bros. is known to have also had sugar interests in the British Indian Ocean colonies and for me, finding that Mauritius perfin was a reminder of how far-reaching were the tentacles of Colonial commercial interest and strategy, in the heyday of Empire, literally from one obscure end of the earth to another.

Part II -- The 1882 four stamp Provisional Set, locally printed

In 1882, a shortage of one and two-cent stamps arose and the PMG decided to print replacements locally to fill the temporary need. The contract was awarded to Baldwin & Company, possibly because it was the only

publishing house in Georgetown which was capable of printing and then perforating the sheets of freshly minted stamps. Each stamp had "SPECIMEN" across the front. They were printed in sheets of 10 stamps, but each sheet was made up of five two-masted and five three-masted schooners, the one-cent value on magenta colored paper, the two-cent on yellow paper. Either at the insistence of the PMG, or possibly as an additional security measure suggested by Baldwin & Co., conscious as they likely were of their lack of postage stamp production experi-

FIGURE 7
Front and back of
SG #172 showing
diagonally
perforated
"SPECIMEN."



ence, that as a final security feature, the word "SPECIMEN" was to be perforated diagonally across the front of each stamp, using the only perfin machine in the Colony, which belonged to Baldwin and Co.

This 1882 set has many and varied flaws, has been popular with collectors over the years, and has been the subject of much scholarly research, but it has earned a place in this article only because of the holes in it, created by the diagonally perforated word "SPECIMEN" across its front. Only printing flaws germane to this final security feature, qualify for discussion in this article.

Not surprisingly perhaps, errors did occur in the perforating process. The most desirable to be found is the complete absence of the "SPECIMEN" perforation and it can be found on all four values that make up the set,



FIGURE 9
Front and back of 1¢, 2¢, 12¢ postage due stamps
with horseshoe-shaped "SPECIMEN." For reasons
unknown, the 4¢ stamp was never produced as a
specimen.

SG #162b, SG #163a, SG #164a and SG #165b. Regrettably, I have none of these to display. However, another error which occurs much more frequently is that the perforated "SPECIMEN" can be found doubled on all of the four stamps. *Figure 5* displays two such examples on SG #162 and SG #164, both of which are doubly perforated "SPECIMEN."

Part III -- Perforated SPECIMEN stamps

This is my final category of BG stamps with holes in them. Shortly after the formation of the UPU in 1876, all member countries were required to lodge at the Geneva headquarters of that organization several complete sets of their current stamps, all of which were to be used as references in determining, by visual comparison, whether a subject stamp in dispute, was genuine or not. All of these SPECIMEN stamps, as they came to be called, were originally overprinted "SPECIMEN" before being sent to the UPU.

However, with the passage of time, more and more countries requested the printers of their stamps to do the overprinting of the word "SPECIMEN" on stamps destined for the UPU as part of their first order. Later on, the printers introduced a less disfiguring method than overprinting, by having the specimen stamps perforated rather than overprinted. But probably because the latter was a more expensive undertaking than overprinting, there are many more examples of overprinted specimen stamps than those which were perforated.

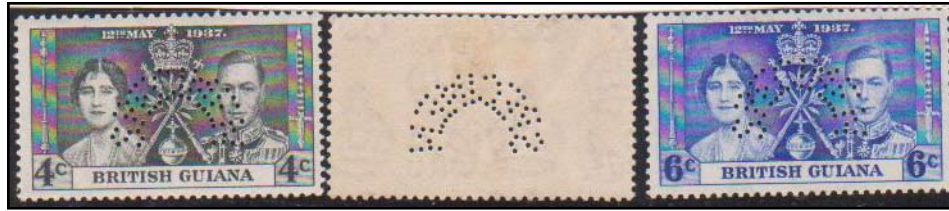


FIGURE 8
Coronation set showing front and back of horseshoe-shaped "SPECIMEN" perforation.

Over the early years, collectors showed little interest in saving them but in the last 50 or so years that interest has intensified and has now become an area of active collector pursuit and specialization. No attempt has been made in this article to offer a comprehensive display of BG's perforated specimens, but rather to show a fair sampling

of what I have handy in this area and to display them creatively. I have divided them into two categories: *simple*, in which the word "SPECI-

MEN" is perforated in a straight line; and *fancy* -- types of perforated specimens where the design is less straightforward. In the examples shown, they are in a horseshoe pattern.

Criticisms and expansions are invited. Quite possibly in areas where my knowledge is limited or nonexistent *e.g.*, revenues, there may be many other "stamps with holes in them" of which I am ignorant but anxious to learn.

Arthur Myerscough was well-known London dealer

By Ian Sellick
Of the USA

Reading the article by Charles Freeland ("More British Guiana covers") in the last *Journal* (Vol. 53, No. 3 [July-September 2013]), I noted his commentary on Figure 4, the Richmond Hill cover addressed to Myerscough in London, and wanted to correct the facts about Mr. Myerscough.

Modern dealer and auction listings sometimes have what they describe as "Myerscough" covers, yet little has been published about Arthur Myerscough. Even the rare mentions in the philatelic press only allude to the existence of "Myerscough multiples." However, Arthur Myerscough, during the 1890s, was regarded as one of the leading dealers in London. He was invited by Charles Phillips (of Stanley Gibbons), along with better known houses such as Buhl, Butler Brothers, Giwelb, Whitfield King, etc., to form the Trade Committee of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps. In the event,

there is no record that Myerscough acceded to the invitation, as he is not listed as present in the attendance book.

E. W. Mann, FRPSL, writing his reminiscences in 1947, recalls often visiting Myerscough: "I used therefore to spend more time than I should have in visiting the shops and offices of stamp dealers. About once a week I was wont to call at the offices of Messrs. Myerscough & Co., where I bought Canal Zone stamps by the hundred ... the stamps came from the letters of West Indian Negroes who were employed in excavating the canal."

I have been making a study of the dealers, and their correspondence, from the inception of stamp collecting to World War I, and Myerscough happens to be one that I have started writing up. Myerscough's extant descendants were kind enough to send me copies of his will and some other probate documents. This material was exhibited at the Collectors Club in New York a year or so back, and at the Westfield Stamp Club last October.

The Dated Cancellers

By Roy Bond

Of the United Kingdom

PART 5: THE FLEURON CANCELLER FOR ST. VINCENT

This is the fifth and final part of a series of 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.

With respect to the specific instrument issued to the office on St. Vincent in 1805, the first fleuron canceller issued for St. Vincent was probably in July or August 1805, with the earliest sighted usage of September 5, 1805. This instrument was the first circular datestamp, which had the name of "ST VINCENTS" in capital letters 5.5mm high in an arc across the top of the instrument, whilst the date was on two lines across the middle in the format of Month then Day (both 3.5mm high) on the upper line, with the Year (with all 4 digits, 3.3mm high) set midway in the lower line. The actual fleuron emblem was in an arc across the bottom of the cancel and nominally measured 24.5mm from point to point (it is to be remembered that the angle of striking the paper or the pressure used, as well as the level of inking may each contribute to causing such dimensions to alter slightly, strike by strike).

This instrument continued in general usage, in this condition, until at least December 8, 1814. With just two exceptions: first, that I have seen a "fair" strike dated December 10, 1810, which has only a tiny mark at the bottom instead of the final "S"; second, a good strike dated February 2, 1814 where there is no part of the final "S" visible. By April 28, 1815, the final "s" had disappeared. However, the final "s" reappeared between January 23 and June 27, 1819 and remained until September 2, 1820. This final "s" then disappeared again, never to return, by October 30, 1820. This disappearance and re-appearance of the final "s" is one of the factors that has given rise to speculation that there was in fact at least a second cancelling instrument. There is no record of a second instrument ever being supplied to this colony. Therefore I surmise that, in fact, the instrument had been damaged by virtue that, if the rubber were in a

circular metal surround, and if this metal surround had been knocked and distorted this could have caused the final "s" to disappear. If someone subsequently decided to straighten out the damage to this metal frame then the "s" may well indeed re-appear, but if this frame was knocked a second time it might just have been ignored thereafter.

This same instrument continued in regular usage, in this condition, until August 4, 1821; however, by September 5, 1821, the "C" in the middle of "VINCENT" was crushed downwards at the top, as if the instrument had been struck on the edge at that point, either by a physical blow on the instrument or it had been dropped and had struck a hard floor at that place. The distortion of the rubber also had the effect of moving the "N" slightly over towards the "I." This would seem to indicate that the whole rubber stamp was in fact mounted inside a circular metal frame, because the distortion remained, instead of going right back to its original shape and spacing, as unsupported rubber would likely have done.

The canceller then continued in frequent usage, with somewhat less distinct impressions, as would be expected from normal wear, which continued until September 21, 1831. Then on October 3, 1834, the day date slugs ceased to give an impression. Whether this was due to the lack of such slugs, that they simply had not been inserted that particular morning or through fair wear plus distortion is not known, as there appears to be an absence of fleuron cancellations between June 28, 1831 and October 31, 1834. Then by October 25, 1837, the year date slugs also ceased to print. However, another letter dated January 16, 1838 includes the year date slugs, but not the day date slugs. The next extant letter was written January 16, 1839 where there appears no date slugs whatsoever, though the impression is of poor quality, but certainly by March 15, 1841 (the date of the message written), there were no date slugs at all even though this was a good strike.

A minute of the Post Master General's meeting with the Secretary Anthony Todd in 1785, when it was stated that Cancellation Instruments, where they were to be issued, would be issued to the Postmaster of the particular department, as a single instrument, to be signed for by the person in charge, if replacements were required then they would be issued on receipt of a written request, stating

the reason for the requirement and indicating what had happened to the previous issued instrument, to render it unusable. There is no record of extra instruments being shipped out, with the exception of the fleuron canceller for Kingston, Jamaica in April 1823, already alluded to.

There was no indication on the Cancellor Issuing List of why the instrument was being issued. However, the Act of 1805 quoted above for the fleuron cancellers does give a clear indication of one of their purposes -- namely to support the bounty hunters of the Royal Navy. The French in particular appear to have taken similar measures in late 1794, when British trading vessels first came under attack, thus necessitating the use of the convoy system in the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. This resulted in Royal Navy ships being used to escort trading vessels plying their way, the main difficulty of this system being that the whole convoy could only travel at the speed of the slowest vessel. Thus there were still some vessels which would forego the safety of the convoy and its escorts, on the presumption that they would be able to outrun any French Man of War. However, it also meant that they were operating uninsured, as the members of the London coffee houses would only insure merchant ships and cargoes while they were within a Royal Navy protected convoy.

In Conclusion

In conclusion, here is a summary of all that has gone before, based upon the information that I have managed to obtain from mainly the British Postal Museum and Archives (especially Post 40 and Post 42), plus other information from the U.K. government records and history.

The issuing of the Circular Date Stamps to the numerous U.K. local post offices in January 1804 and the subsequent issuing of the Fleuron Date Stamps to the West Indian colonial post offices in 1805 onwards, is covered to the point where we can say that there was only one instrument issued to each post office, both in U.K. and in the West Indies. They were issued in response to military requirements at the time of the Napoleonic Wars and to also ensure that the taxation on the postage was being collected to help finance these wars. However, in respect of the Straight Line Date Stamps (the Freeling Cancellers), again there is on record that only one of these instruments was issued, by order of Francis Freeling to Central Sorting Office (Lombard Street) in autumn 1798, but that this was issued for the prevention of shipping insurance fraud in the West Indies. With respect to the Dated Horseshoe Stamps, the only reference is from U.K. government proceedings pointing to the instruction to the Secretary Of State for War and Colonies in early November 1803 to have all mails dated forthwith in the

West Indian Colonies, because of the military requirements for the Royal Navy in that theatre of war. What is, however, lacking is a detailed record of the instructions and activities of the Imperial Packet Agency, especially the actions and dictates of the Travelling Surveyor Of Posts (Mr. Cholmely Willoughby) based in Bridgetown, Barbados, up until its demise in 1845, when it was replaced by its services being included as part of the General Post Office in London, with the Deputy Post Masters in the West Indian Colonies then reporting directly to their London masters, in the same manner as the Canadian Deputy Post Masters had done since 1732.

Endnote

My sincerest thanks go to all those who forwarded lists, prints, pictures and photocopies of fleuron cancellations, especially:

- Charles Freeland, for his input and evaluations and comments on my efforts.
- William Hague, MP, for his volume on the life of William Pitt the Younger.
- Ted Proud, for his joint volume on the postal history of St. Lucia and St. Vincent.
- Edmund Bailey, for his volume *The Postal History of Barbados*.
- Joe Chin Aleong, for his input and joint volume *The Postal History of St. Lucia and St. Vincent*.
- Michael Hamilton, for his lengthy list of St. Vincent fleurons.
- Peter Jaffe, for various articles and essays written on St. Vincent postal history and stamps.
- Geoff Kellow, for his input and work with and on behalf of Peter Jaffe.
- Keith Moh, for the information on the Horseshoe and Fleuron canceller ERDs.
- Pierce Messenger Lowe, for the finest work written on the philately of St. Vincent.
- British Postal Museum and Archive staff, for all their assistance in investigating the voluminous archive material on numerous occasions.

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2013 Annual General Meeting British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group June 13, 2013, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

President's Welcome & Opening Remarks

Apologies for Absence: Graham Booth, Ivan Burges, Charles Freeland, Mary Gleadall, Bob Stewart, Bruce Walker, John Wynns.

Minutes of AGM of Feb. 4, 2012 at Sarasota, Florida: copies distributed, reviewed, and approved. Mention made of \$250 award (Jimmy Stern award) for first time exhibitors at the national level of British Caribbean material.

Matters Arising:

2013 Trustee election – Steve Zirinsky, Ivan Burges, Eric Todd were suggested as potential candidates.

Officers' Reports

Vice President's report: no report

Treasurer's report provided, reviewed and approved. A special thank you to Ray Stanton for his support with international membership and funds.

Secretary's report for 2012 provided, reviewed and approved. Ed Barrow, David Cordon, Peter Elias elected as Trustees. Officers elected reviewed. Mary has agreed to remain as secretary until position can be filled.

Auction Manager's report: Auction report for 2012 and 2013 given, discussed, and approved. 2012 auction made about \$400 for the club. July 15 is cutoff for auction lot submission, catalogue will be distributed in October journal. Auction will close November 15. Single item auction lots and catalogue will be available on the BCPSG web site.

Librarian's report: not submitted. Limited borrowing activity in 2012, but librarian did recruit a new member to the group.

Membership Chairman's report: – 299 members at start of 2012, 22 resigned/removed, 9 new members, 286 members as of December 31, 2012. Several more resignations or non-payments have occurred in 2013 leaving 270 members. The need to recruit and retain members was highlighted and agreed to by all. Those with suggestions were urged to contact Bob Stewart, who, it was pointed out, is doing a good job as our Membership Director. Members who know dealers of stamps, postal history, or philatelic literature were asked to contact them around the topic of membership recruiting through the inclusion of applications in their mailings.

Publication Officer's report: no new publications in 2012. Tom Giraldi is working on a Cayman picture post card book. We are still looking to sell copies of the Trinidad book.

President's report: Efforts focused on 2013 annual

meeting with a thank you to Ivan Burges for his support organizing the local event and Tom Giraldi for the special cancel. Karen McField from the Philatelic Bureau has been a great host. The Governor and his wife, along with the staff of the Comfort Inn were cited as deserving thanks. The entire Cayman postal staff across the three islands have been great hosts providing tours, transportation and social support. BCPSG pins have been distributed and a gift certificate was given to Karen McField as a thank you.

Future AGM dates and Locations: 2014, St. Louis Stamp Expo, March 21-23; 2015, Denver (ROMPEX), May; 2015, London, mini international show. BCPSG has been invited by the BWISC to have joint meeting. Given the overlap with the Denver meeting and the joint meeting in New York this will probably be unofficial. 2016, New York, World Stamp Show, May 28-June 4 (Joint meeting with BWISC). 2017, Chicago; 2018, island destination? (Bahamas, St. Lucia, etc.). 2019 and beyond: BCPSG has been invited to several other U.S. shows including Boxboro, WESTPEX, TEPEX, NO-JEX, and others.

Other business

Award presentations: **Cooley Award** (service to BCPSG) to Mary Gleadall for her outstanding work as a Trustee (eight years) and Secretary (five years). **Durnin Award** (outstanding article for BCPSG *Journal*) to David Horry for George VI Postmarks of Dominica and British Honduras. **Addis Award** (lifetime achievement in writing/publishing around the topic of British Caribbean philately) to Peter Ford for his many contributions including support for the Trinidad book. **Cameron Award** (best British Caribbean Exhibit by BCPSG member) to unknown winner – to be given at Melbourne stamp show (will be announced in next BCPSG *Journal*).

BCPSG Journal articles: The *Journal* was praised for its quality and Everett was thanked for his efforts on behalf of the BCPSG. Tom Giraldi was also thanked for his efforts around securing advertisements for the *Journal*. Additional articles are needed. Study group leaders are urged to contact members that share their interest to try and stir up new articles.

Dues increase: Dues (currently \$25 for U.S. and \$32 for international) – option of raising the dues to \$30 in the U.S. and \$35 international was discussed. It was proposed that this increase be emailed to board and other Executive Officers for their input.

Continued on page 25

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.

AUSTRALIA 2013

May 10-15

Melbourne, Victoria

Bernard Beston

British Guiana: The Postal Stationery

Gold

Queensland: The Postal Stationery

Large Gold

Graham Booth

The Cayman Islands Post Office 1889-1945

Gold + Special Prize

The Rise and Fall of the American Merchant Marine as a Mail Carrier 1800-1868

Large Vermeil

Russell Boylan

St. Vincent - The De La Rue Period

Large Gold, BCPSG Cameron Award

Simon Greenwood

British Guiana 1850-1899

Gold

Darryl Fuller

Leeward Islands Postal Stationery

Large Gold

Steve Schumann

New Zealand Postal History 1876-1940

Large Gold

PIPEX 2013

May 24-26

Portland, Oregon

John Wynns

British Guiana: The 1899 Two Cents

Surcharge Issue (SF)

Vermeil

Peru's 12 Centavos Issue of 1905 (SF)

Gold, Peru Study Circle Award

NAPEX 2013

May 31 - June 2

McLean, Virginia

David Cordon & Michel Forand

Bermuda Specialized Catalog

Gold

John Pare

Beginning of Air Mail Service between Bermuda and the U.S. 1930-39 (SF)

Silver

Regis Hoffman

Polish Refugees in Africa, World War II (SF)

Silver, Polonus Philatelic Society Gold

Minnesota Stamp Expo 2013

July 19-21

Crystal, Minnesota

John Pare

The 1948 Wisconsin Statehood Stamp and its First Day Covers

Vermeil

Use of the 1940 Bermuda Half-penny Provisional Overprint on Ordinary Mail (SF)

Vermeil

Paul Larsen

Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands:

King George V Reign

Gold

Leeward Islands Federal Postal Stationery of the King George VI Reign: Registered Envelopes (SF)

Single Frame Grand Award, Vermeil, BCPSG Medal

Minutes of 2013 AGM

Continued from page 24

It was suggested that it would be nice if a volunteer could be found to scan all back issues of the BCPSG *Journal* and make the complete set available on a DVD.

Members are encouraged to reach out to other members in their region to connect locally and or to reach out to other collectors in general to seek new members and member interaction.

A request was made to investigate how we can get more out of ABPS (Association of British Philatelic Societies).

Minutes kindly taken by John Seidl

Respectfully submitted by Mary Gleadall, Secretary

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

Philatelic Library Serials, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX 75083 USA

Alfred J. White, 880 Oleander Way, Apt. 909, South Pasadena, FL 33707-2164 USA. Email: alwhite999@gmail.com. Collects general BWI. Sponsor, Bob Stewart.

Address changes

Richard Ward, Suffolk Road, Nelson 7011 NEW ZEALAND
Douglas Files, 1624 Reese Dr. #4, Fairborn, OH 45324 USA

Reinstatement

John Patrick Flanagan

Deceased

Vincent Wilmont, USA
Eugene F. Deems, USA

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 stewartlb19@comcast.net.

Also, if you have friends who might be interested in joining, let me know and I will send them a complimentary issue of the Journal.



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President's Message

By Duane Larson

Our 2013 Annual General Meeting was held in the Cayman Islands at the Comfort Suites & Resort in George Town over the period of June 9 to 16, 2013. If you did not attend, you missed a wonderful time! A Welcome Reception at the Governor's Mansion on Monday night was just a taste of the warm reception we received from the gracious people of the island and the Cayman Post Office. His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Duncan Taylor and his lovely wife hosted a beautiful reception at their home on Seven Mile Beach (Yes! the reception was held on their beachfront patio) where we met the officials of the post office and most of the people who run the Cayman mail service.

Throughout the week, we were treated to tours through many of the post offices on the island, including the main post office at George Town, the Airport facility, and many of the smaller town offices of Grand Cayman, thanks to the hospitality of Ms. Sheena Glasgow, Postmaster General; Mrs. Karen McField, Philatelic Bureau Manager; and Daniel Ebanks, Assistant Philatelic Bureau Manager.

In addition to many sightseeing tours, swimming with the stingrays, visiting the Turtle Farm, touring the many museums and tourist attractions, we managed to work in some philatelic presentations. On Tuesday, Tom Giraldi gave a talk on "Early Cayman Islands Postal Stationery," Wednesday, Ed Waterous talked about "Bahamas Post before 1900," and on Thursday, George Fabian discussed "20th Century Bermuda Mail."

Friday afternoon featured the Executive Board meeting, followed by the Annual General Meeting (Minutes are on page 24). Awards at the meeting included the Cooley Award for lifetime service to the BCPSG presented to Mary Gleadall. David Horry earned the Durnin Award for the best article in the *Journal* during 2012 ("GVI Postmarks of Dominica & British Honduras"). And the Addis Award for lifetime achievement in philatelic writing was awarded to Peter Ford of the United Kingdom. Further details of these awards can be found elsewhere in the *Journal*.

Future Annual General Meeting sites

are scheduled as follows: 2014, St. Louis; 2015, Denver; 2016, New York; 2017, Chicago.

I would personally like to thank our "resident member," Ivan Burges for all the time and effort he put in to making this Caymans AGM a success. Arranging all the small details, the group dinner, the meeting rooms and hotel arrangements put the finishing touches on a very pleasant AGM.



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THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP and
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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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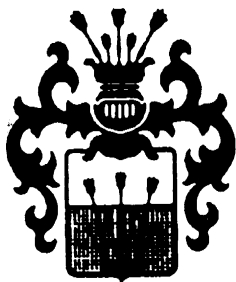
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