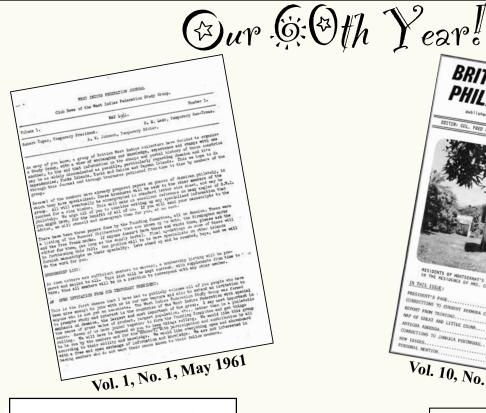
# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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

Vol. 61, No. 3

**July - September 2021** 

Whole No. 280





PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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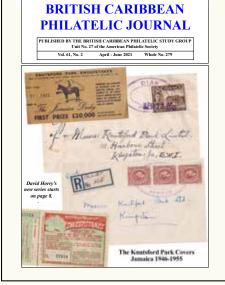
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**BRITISH CARIBBEAN** 

It's not as big a milestone as 75th or 100th anniversary, but we want to celebrate anyway! See page 4.



Vol. 61, No. 2, April 2021

Vol. 37, No. 3, September 1997



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#### **British Caribbean Philatelic Journal**

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#### **DEADLINES FOR THIS PUBLICATION**

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

### Our society celebrates its 60th anniversary!

It was an event which almost went unnoticed had it not been for checking back in some old issues of the *Journal*. As we proclaim on the cover of this issue, 2021 marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of what would become the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG).

Indeed, Vol. 1, No. 1 of what was then called the *West Indies Federation Journal* was datelined May 1961. It was a simple, four-page typewritten and apparently mimeographed issue with no illustrations (see reproduction on this page).

In a later reminiscence, Col. Fred F. Seifert noted that when a group of collectors formed the West Indies Federation Study Group in 1961, "the first priorities were to have a publication in which members could report their findings, and to recruit more members."



Al Johnson of Baytown, Texas agreed to serve as "temporary editor" although the "temporary" was soon removed and he served six years as editor, producing 38 issues of the journal.

The journal went from being mimeographed to offset printing (which continues to this day) in 1967. Col. Seifert commented that Johnson retired due to health issues and no one else could be persuaded to be editor, so he assumed the role.

Interestingly, in the early days, even after mimeographing was given up, printing was done on single sheets and shipped to Col. Seifert. "Then came the job of collating the pages," he wrote. "The piles of pages were placed on tables, chairs, ledges, and even the ironing board, to make up an assembly line. My wife, Gladys, and I would walk around the circuit and gather up the 20 or so pages until all of the journals had been assembled." Then everything was stapled, presumably at the upper left corner.

As one can imagine, production of what is now the *Journal* has changed a lot over the past six decades. Now everything is prepared by computer, with text and illustrations integrated, and the entire project, after final proofing, is downloaded to a high-speed digital printing press.

But the stages of applying mailing labels and

"stuffing" envelopes still remains much the same. The job is finished by applying "real" postage (no meter or label), cancelling the postage in-house, and transporting the finished product to the post office in postal service tubs.

So a lot has changed and some things remain much the same. From the beginning, the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group has sought to provide members with researched articles relating to stamps and postal history of the islands.

1
THOSE TURNED PROPERTY AND A CAPTURE
WEST INDIES FEDERATION JOURNAL
Club News of the West Indies Federation Study Group.
Volume 1. MAY 1961. Number 1.
R. E. Lant, Temporary President.  R. E. Lant, Temporary Sec-Treas.  A. N. Johnson, Temporary Editor.
is many of you know, a group of British West Indies collectors have decided to organize. Study Group, with a view of exchanging our knowledge, experience and stamps with one mother, to the end that information on the stamps and postal history of these countries may be as widely disseminated as postable, particularly regarding Jamaica and its lependencies, Turks Islands, Turks and Caicos and Cayman Islands. This we hope to de through this Journal and through brochures published from time to time by members of the group.
evers1 of the members have already prepared papers on phases of Jamaican philately, in hich they have specialized. Those brochures will be sent to the other members of the group. All will eventually be mimeographed in standard letter size sheet, and may be unumbed for a ring binder. This will make an excellent reference on many angles of B.W.I hilately. We urge all of you to consider writing up any specialized information that row might have, for the benefit of all of us. If you will send your manuscripts to the ditor, we will stend; and mimeograph them for you, at no cost.
here have been three papers done by the Founding Committee, all on Jamaica. These were listing of the Numeral Obliterators that are known up to date, the Birmingham marks and the Free Frank marks. If anyone doesn't have those and wents them, please ask the ditor for them, (as long as the supply lasts). Final up-datings on some of these will e forthcoming this full. One problem will be to have specialists on other islands urnish manuscripts on their specialty. lets stand up and be counted, boys, and we will to the work for you.
EMBERSHIP LIST:
is soon asthere are sufficient members to warrant, a membership listing will be pre- ared and mailed to all. This list will be kept current, with supplements from time to ' ime, thus all members will be in a position to correspond with any other member.
N OPEN INVITATION FROM OUR TEMPORARY PRESIDENT:
his is the first chance that I have had to publicly welcome all of you people who have seen nice enough to join with us in our new venture and also to extend an invitation to upone who is not yet an associate. The West Indies Federation Study Group was formed so prompte study and interest in the countries of the West Indies Federation with special purhasis on Jamaica, the largest and most important of the group. I say most important in the sense of gross walue of product, largest population, etc., rather than in a philatelifenses. Sewen of us have joined together to form the Founding Committee and get things rolling. We will have to depend on you to keep things rolling. We would like this group o be run by the members and for the Emembers, with participation and contribution by all coording to their ability and knowledge. We would like werrything open and aboveboard ith a free and open exchange of information and knowledge. We are not imporested in awing members who do not want their mames known to their fellow members.
talan kalendaran dari dari dari bermilan dalam barat dari dari dari dari dari dari dari dari

Figure 1 Vol. 1, No. 1 of "West Indies Federation Journal," later "British Caribbean Philatelic Journal," May 1961.

In Vol. 1, No. 1, founding President Robert Topaz welcomed new members and outlined membership information. Peter Scott mentioned a rare Antigua numeral obliterator, and Dr. Gale Raymond reported on his new Bahamas Temporary Rubber Datestamps cancellations book.

And it was thus that the BCPSG, as it became known, was off to a good start!

## The Knutsford Park Covers Jamaica 1946-1955 (Part 2)

By David Horry, FRPSL An Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

s noted in Part 1, Knutsford Park was a sweepstake office, located in Harbour Street, Kingston's "main drag" (*Figure 1*). It was owned by Vincent Aguilar, the eldest son of land agent and undertaker Thomas Aguilar (*Figure 2*). His brother, Andrew Aguilar JP, ran the Gun & Sports shop at number 93 (*Figure 3*) and younger brother Everard Aguilar ran his famed stamp shop on the ground floor of number 91 (P.O. Box 406).



Figure 1 Harbour Street, Kingston, "back in the day."

From 1946, the Knutsford Park covers emanated from 111 Harbour Street, once home to The British Motor Co. Ltd., selling Hillmans, Humbers and Austin Sevens until 1935 (*Figure 4*). For three years

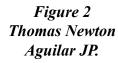






Figure 3 Cover from Andrew Aguilar to the Ithaca Gun Co., New York, 1936.

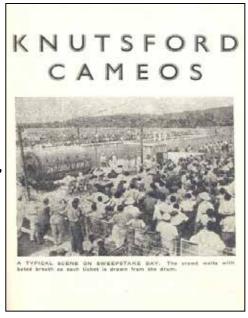
it became E. A. Issa & Bros.' "Oriental Bazaar," which sold silks, chiffons, fans, kimonos and even coffee sets. Bazaars were the rage: Chinese, Indian all selling cheap imports. In November 1939 the first "Knutsford Park Sweepstake" was held from 111 Harbour Street (*Figure 5*). At that point in time



Figure 4
Advertisement for
The British Motor
Car Co. Ltd.,
111 Harbour
Street, 1931.
(Daily Gleaner)

it was owned by the Brandons and Lucie-Smith families, each connected respectively to philately and the Kingston GPO. In late 1939, the Rotary Club of Yarmouth, Norfolk had made a complaint in the *Daily Gleaner* newspaper about the Jamaica Sweepstake (*Figure 6*).

Figure 5
The
Knutsford
Cameos,
"WIN A
FORTUNE"
1950s.
Horrywood
Archive.



So who was the perpetrator of the "Knutsford Park covers"? In the first part of this investigation, identified the person as English or Anglo-Jamaican; artistic, and a philatelist who was knowledgeable about TRDs. Both George Odom and John Mapletoft Nethersole have been discounted, as have security officer Norval Marley, plus cover dealers Adrian Depass, Trevor Litteljohn (sic) and Eric David Bowie, as not

## THE PROBLEM OF JAMAICA YARMOUTH, England, March

YARMOUTH, England, March 25: (Norfolk News and Weckly Press):—In a talk at Yarmouth Rotary Club's weekly hunch on Tuesday the Rev. R. Whaites, of Gorleston, who has just returned from Jamaica, mentioned that the Rev. W. A. Altken, a son of the Vicar of Yarmouth (Canon R. Aubrey Altken) was creating a big impression there and preached to congregations of 1,400 to 1,500 on Sunday evenings, The Rev. W. A. Aitken is curate at St. George's, Kingston.

Mr. Whaites dealt with present

Mr. Whaites dealt with present Jamaican problems, He said that deep down in the mind of the negro was a resentment due to the fact that the British carried on the slave trade after the Spaniards. That coloured his outlook, Fantastic religion, too, found their way to Jamaica, and the people took them no readily. Sweepstakes were causing havoc among the natives, and there were competitions in the newspapers also. There were many causes all working together to arouse trouble. The people needed to be organised by leaders who were true men.

Figure 6
"The problem of Jamaica"
in the Daily Gleaner
newspaper.

only their handwriting differs, but their *modus operandi* (*Figure 7*).

This leaves only one possibility, "Mr. Jamaica" himself, L.C.C. Nicholson, a future president of the Croydon Philatelic Society (1930-1941), who introduced us to the world of Jamaica postmarks in 1928. Ten years later he wrote the definitive monograph on the TRDs (*Figure 8*). His vast Jamaica collection



Figure 7
Part of Air Letter from Eric David Bowie
KL, to Mrs. Trevor Litteljohn, 1946.

was sold in February 1940 through Harmers (*Figure 9*) and Robson Lowe (*Figure 10*). It appeared that he was not well and had resigned his position at the Westminster Bank at Peckham E15 (*Figure 11*). In Everard Aguilar's 1949 *Jamaica Handbook*, L.C.C.'s 1939 monograph was updated by John M. Nethersole, and Aguilar apparently wrote what appeared to be an "In Memorium" to Nich-

olson (Figure 12). In his introduction. Nethersole noted that the "denticulated" variety of TRDs "were usually manufactured by Jacobs of Kingston and not the Government Printing Office." Many of the Knutsford Park covers bore these striking purple "denticulated" (tooth-edged) chops (Figures 13-*15*).

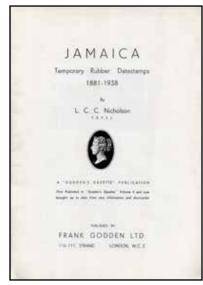


Figure 8 L.C.C. Nicholson Jamaica TRD monograph, 1939.

In July 1946

there was an update in the Jamaica Philatelic Society's journal, *The Jamaica Philatelist* by "Dabbler" (*Figure 16*). I had always assumed that person to be Judge Nethersole, as this was much the same as the chapter that appeared three years later in the *Jamaica Handbook*. But "Dabbler" was not Nethersole,

but rather L.C.C. Nicholson: new photographs were added (*Figure 17*).

In 1949 Nicholson had published a new monograph titled The Jamaican Obliterators, through W. & S. Stamps Ltd. (Worboys and Santo), 309 Old Kent Road. They had carelessly omitted his FRPSL from cover (Figure 18). W & S. Stamps were the team who in 1991 turned up some 450 "Madame Joseph" cancellers at Santo's father's "Broadway Stamps" at 50 Denmark Hill in 1993. They were subsequently sold to The Royal Philatelic Society London and Robson Lowe published their book, Madame Joseph Forged Postmarks (Figure 19).

In December

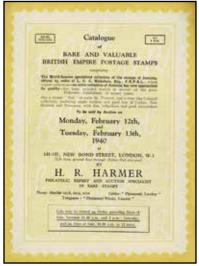


Figure 9
Harmer's auction catalogue
of L.C.C. Nicholson's
Jamaica collection.

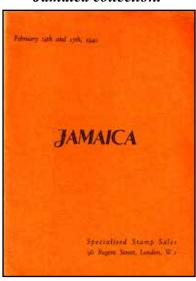


Figure 10
Robson Lowe's auction
catalogue of Nicholson's
Jamaica collection.

2014, I purchased a pile of correspondence from philatelic ephemera dealers Edmonds & Turner of Leyton, England. These notes and memoranda had been the property of famed Jamaica philatelist Thomas Foster of Hull. There was illuminating correspondence between Postmaster General Fletcher and philatelists J.M. Nethersole, L.C.C. Nicholson and a young Bob Swarbrick.

In February 1944, Nethersole had made contact with PMG Fletcher regarding the issuance of TRDs early in World War II. This had been duly forwarded to Nicholson (*Figure 20*). A hand-written

page by Nicholson set out these findings (*Figure 21*). A further listing had been sent by Nethersole to Nicholson covering the period December 1942 to January 14, 1946 when Bird's Hill "opened." It was signed and dated by L.C.C. Nicholson as received on January 16, 1946

THE JAMAICA PHILATELIST

VOL. 111 June 1941 No. 15

L. C. C. Nicholson. It is very many months since any of his local friends have had word from him. We regret to observe from the January edition of the "London Philatelist," which reached us only recently, that he suffered injury while extinguishing an incendiary bomb. We sincerely trust that it was not serious, and that he has recovered from the effects long ere this.

Figure 11

Figure 11
Announcement in
The Jamaica Philatelist,
June 1941, of Nicholson's
injury.

(*Figure 22*). But if Bird's Hill had "opened" (notice the past tense was used), it had taken only two

Figure 12
Everard Aguilar's
"In Memorium"
for
L.C.C. Nicholson,
1949.

L. C. C. NICHOLSON, one of the greatest Jamaican specialists of today. He has written such books on Jamaica as The Pre Stamp Cours of 1760-1860; The Temporary Rubber Datestamps, 1881-1938; "Specimen" Stamps and the handbook on Jamaica which was published in 1928.

For the assistance he has given me in making this publication, I am greatly indebted.

E. F. Agunar.

days for Nethersole to get this information to Nicholson. The blue asterisks added by Nicholson may well be covers sent by Nethersole to Nicholson in Peckham. Who the addressee was and why was it removed is a moot point (*Figure 23*).

Thus either Nethersole was in London, or Nich-



Figure 13 Madras tTRO July 10, 1951 cover to Knutsford Park.



Figure 14
Plowden tTRO November 25, 1950
on registered cover to Knutsford Park.



Figure 15
Kensington tTRO cover, Knutsford Park,
November 28, 1951. (ex-Hamilton)

olson was in Jamaica. Judge J. M. Nethersole was on the Brown Town's Judicial Circuit at Keith, St. Ann *(Figure 24)*. Thus, he had not travelled to

London and it clearly follows that L.C.C. Nicholson was present in Jamaica; he must have flown in at around the time that the new Security Liaison Officer (SLO) for Jamaica, MI5's Phillip Kirby-Green arrived in Kingston. Kirby-Green was the man who replaced MI6's "Pop" Sandford, who had been SLO since 1942. (He in turn was replaced by Commander Ian

34 THE JAMAICA	PHILATELIST					
"1939 ONWARDS" Temporary Rubber Date Stamps of Jamaica						
	reserved)					
Mr. Nichelson's invaluable and a second of the policy of t	emerating eventually into Highlia. We in Highlight pressure of two offices was noticed by the pressure of two offices was noticed by the highlight pressure of the pressure of					

Figure 16
"1939 Onwards" TRDs of
Jamaica by "Dabbler"
The Jamaica Philatelist

Figure 17 Nethersole's TRDs 1939 onward (Aguilar Jamaica Handbook, 1949).



Fleming, RNVR in January 1948.)

However, this directly contradicts the claims of Gilbert Collett, in the December issue of Everard Aguilar's *British West Indian Philatelist*, December 1952 Nicholson obituary: "He had a brilliant memory for dates, and places, and with his careful records which he kept could place everything of importance connected with Jamaican stamps. Although he had never visited Jamaica, many Jamaicans who visited him in his London home, found he knew more about Jamaica than they did. He was President of the Croydon Philatelic Society for 15 years (from 1930-1945) and I worked with him, in those years till 1941 to build up the Croydon Society, and what happy years they were."

The handwriting on all the Knutsford Park covers is the same. but different! It was noted by a graphologist that he had attempted to change his handwriting but many characteristics were indelible, such as his rather florid capital letter "K." In my opin-Nicholson's "fingerprints" there for all to see (Figure 25).

In the Decem-

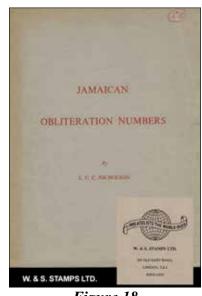


Figure 18
Jamaican Obliteration
Numbers, by
L.C.C. Nicholson.

ber 2018 British West Indies Study Circle *Bulletin*, Steve Jarvis wrote an article titled "L.C.C. Nicholson – My Philatelic Hero," and he noted that L.C.C. was still alive in the late 1940s as he had corresponded with Swarbrick at that time. So why then did Judge Nethersole put his name to the Aguilar's updates in 1949 when the "Dabbler" himself was still very much on the go (*Figure 26*)? It is to be noted that at that very same time Nicholson's aforementioned "Obliterators" was published.

On October 15, 1952 a small ad, placed by the same publishers (W. & S. of 309 Old Kent Road), appeared within the pages of *The Illustrated London News* (*Figure 27*).



Figure 19
Derek Warboys (and
Roger West),
Madame Joseph Forged
Postmarks
(Robson Lowe).



Figure 22
Nethersole's note to
Nicholson,
received
January 16, 1946.
Horry, ex-Foster

Jarvis had further revealed in July 1942 that Nicholson had resigned from The Royal Philatelic Society London as had his wife Margaret Dorothy. Evidence, found only recently, was quite breathtaking (*Figure 28*). This was worthy of further inquiry. Knutsford Park, 111 Harbour Street, Kingston seems to be the place to start. (*Figures 29*).

My thanks to Ray Stanton; Michael Hamilton; David Druett (Pennymead Books); Harmer's, New York; The Collector's Club of New York; Paul Wright; Karl Groeber; Guy Kilburn; Brian Birch; Peter Horry and Corin Somerville.

## To be continued Remaining images on page 10



Figure 20 Nethersole note to Nicholson, 1944.



Figure 21 Nicholson note, March 17, 1944.



Figure 23
Nethersole Silver Spring TRO December 28, 1945
to Peckham: addressee's name removed - Stanton.

KEITH. January 2: First case for 1946 tried in the Brown's Town Resident Magistrate's Court ended with Zepheniah Carter being sentenced to-day to three month's imprisonment with hard labour, for shopbreaking and larceny. In the same court, Clifford Walters was sentenced to 12 months, hard labour, for entering and robbing Naval Miller's dwelling house at Retirement. Walters stole from the house £5 16/- in cash, bread and flour. His Honour Mr. J.M. Nethersole tried the cases.

Figure 24
Nethersole at Keith Assizes.
Daily Gleaner,
January 10, 1946.

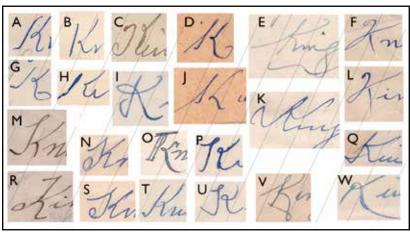


Figure 25
"Special K" - an array of L.C.C. Nicholson's "K's" from
Knutsford Park.

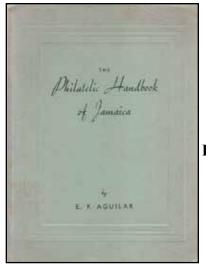


Figure 26 E. F. Aguilar's Jamaica Handbook, 1949.

#### STAMPS

INVALID GENTLEMAN WANTS OLD Letters before 1900 for Postmarks Collector 309, Old Kent Road, London, S.E.1.

Figure 27
"Invalid Gentleman Wants ..."
Illustrated London News,
October 15, 1952.



Figure 29
Lucea (Lucy) Knutsford Park cover,
April 7, 1951 (Wright).

64 Vol So 193 Philatelic Magazine July 31, 1942.

L. C. C. NICHOLSON

Three months for forgery

For forging the signatures of Home Guards on the daily subsistence pay roll, Leverton Coryton Courtenay Nicholson, bank clerk and late commander of the Camberwell Home Guards, was sentenced at Lambeth on Friday (July 17) to three months' imprisonment.

Nicholson had maintained that the Territorial Association refused to sanction certain expenses necessary for the welfare and efficiency of the company which he founded.

As he could not afford to be out of pocket, he resorted to signing names and keeping money.

Mr. Ronald Powell (magistrate), remarked that Nicholson pleaded guilty to three specific charges, and asked for others to be taken into consideration.

Prima facie the case was very bad because Nicholson had an excellent record in the last war—a war which left bim with a permanent disability—and because he was a trusted bank official for 30 years.

#### £62 Involved

It had been ascertained that over a considerable period in 1941 Nicholson obtained money by making false written statements and by means of forgery. There was no doubt that the names of people who did not exist were forged in the subsistence pay roll.

It had been suggested that Nicholson had by that means wrongfully obtained money amounting to three figures, but that had not been proved. The case resolved itself into one involving £62.

Nicholson contended that the association owed him approximately that amount but that was no excuse for forgeries, Mr. Powell commented.

The above report is from the South London Press, July 21.

L. C. C. Nicholson was a prominent specialist in Jamaica stamps, and member of a number of philatelic societies in several of which he held office. He sold his Jamaica collection in 1940.

Figure 28

L.C.C. Nicholson signature fraud, three months, July 31, 1942 Philatelic Magazine.

## New early release date for 1916 Barbados stamp has been reported

The Barbados 1d Seal of the Colony issue was believed to have been issued on June 16, 1916. On this both Gibbons and Scott catalogues agree. But BCPSG member Barry Friedman has found a cover with the 1d stamp showing an earlier date. The cover, shown here in figures 1 through 4, clearly shows a circular datestamp with the date



Figure 2
Closeup of the circular datestamp on the cover in Figure 1.



Figure 1
Cover dated June 8, 1916 is earliest known date of use for this
Barbados Seal of the Colony stamp.

"8-JU.16" or June 8, 1916. Mr. Friedman said the cover was mailed on June 8 and was received in Demerara, British Guiana on June 14, 1916. He indicated both Gibbons and Scott catalogue officials had said they would change the date of issue to reflect the new information.

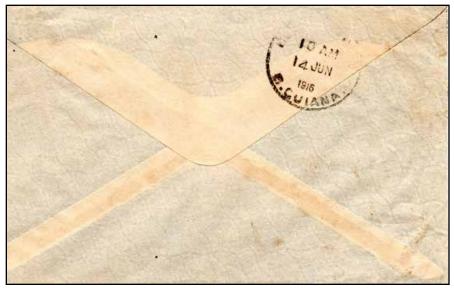


Figure 3
Reverse side of the cover shown in Figure 1.



Figure 4
Closeup of receiving mark
shown on cover in Figure 1.

## Forgeries of the Bahamas

By Chris Harman, RDP, Hon. FRPSL

It is satisfying to be able to attribute a stamp to a particular issue or date. It is equally satisfying, as a collector of forgeries, to be able to attribute a forgery to a particular forger. However, this is not easy for most forgeries, although there are some exceptions. The Royal Philatelic Society London owns the small copper plates that were engraved by George Kirke Jeffryes, who produced very skillful forgeries in the 1880s. The Oneglia price lists dating to the end of the 19th century and early 20th century describe a range of high quality engraved forgeries that are recognizable, and the common Spiro forgeries dating from the 1860s and 1870s have similar traits that link a range of forgeries from many countries. This article covers two ranges of forgeries of the Bahamas that can, with some confidence, be attributed to a particular forger. There are many other forgeries that come under the heading "unknown."

#### The genuine early stamps of the Bahamas

First it is worth looking at the features of the genuine stamps of the first four issued by the Bahamas (*Figure 1*). The 1d, 4d and 6d values show the attractive Chalon head of Queen Victoria and were printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. until January 1862 when the Perkins, Bacon & Co. plates were transferred to De La Rue. The 1/- value, introduced in 1863, was printed by De La Rue.









Figure 1
The genuine 1d, 4d, 6d and 1/- values.

#### Forgeries identified as Spiro Forgeries

Among the earliest forgeries of the Bahamas are those marketed by the Spiro Brothers of Hamburg. For 150 years a range of forgeries of stamps from most countries in the world have been attributed to the Spiro Brothers. The origin of this attribution dates to 1871 when, in his introduction to *The Spud Papers*, W. Dudley Atlee published the first in a series of articles describing forgeries of many countries. This series, starting in Volume V of *The Philatelist*, continued for around 10 years and described around 400 forgeries, including using some 140 actual forgeries as illustrations. The "spud" referred to in *The Spud Papers* was a long-handled implement with a blade at one end used for digging out weeds. In the opening article, Atlee states that "Our publishers ... at a considerable expense, obtained from Messrs. Spiro Brothers, of Hamburg, sheets of their many imitations; and, for the present, it is our intention to confine our remarks solely to the productions of that firm; for although of course numerous other forgeries exist, still few are so finely executed, and therefore so liable to deceive as those emanating from the great house of Spiro Gebrüder."

The inveterate researcher Wolfgang Maassen, RDP is in the process of studying the Spiro brothers, their business, and their forgeries. It may be that only some of the hundreds of forgeries were actually manufactured by the Spiro brothers or maybe even that they themselves made no forgeries but were merely sellers of forgeries made by others. However, the range of forgeries with similar features in terms of printing, perforations, obliterations, and paper, and which are generally printed in sheets of 25, have come to be

known as Spiro forgeries.

The Spiro forgeries of the Bahamas are known for the first four stamps of the Bahamas, the Perkins, Bacon & Co. 1d, 4d and 6d values and the De La Rue 1/- value. All were produced by lithography in sheets of 25 (R5 x 5). The designs are not deceptive if the collector is familiar with the genuine – they lack detail and the print quality is poor. The Spiro forgeries of the Bahamas (*Figure 2*) are unique in that there are two different sheets of each of the four values numbered I and II. Such a numbering has not, to my knowledge, been seen on any other Spiro forgeries.













Figure 2

Spiro lithographed forgeries of 1d, 4d, 6d and 1/- values. Sheets of all four values are known with either I or II in the side margin opposite the first or fifth stamp.









Figure 3
Complete sheets of 25 of the Spiro lithographed forgeries,
1d Plate I, 4d Plate I, 6d Plate II, 1/- Plate II.

#### Forgeries by Erasmo Oneglia

The engraved forgeries produced by, or for, Erasmo Oneglia are of a different level of quality as compared with the Spiro lithographs. Oneglia's price lists describe his high quality reproductions, with many of the forgeries being of British Empire stamps. There is a range of engraved forgeries that exactly fit this description and can thus be firmly attributed to Oneglia, including all four of the first stamps of the Bahamas.

With a few exceptions, each forgery was individually printed and some exist with wide margins in a "die proof" format. They have certain features which are seen across similar engraved forgeries from many countries and this links them to a common source: the same obliterations; the same impressed watermarks; and the same perforations where the whole stamp seems as if it has been punched out as if cut with a pastry cutter rather than perforated. Oneglia forgeries of the Bahamas are known for each of the 1d, 4d and 6d values where the genuine stamps are engraved and also for the 1/- value where the genuine stamps are printed by the letterpress (surface printed) method but the forgery is engraved (*Figure 4*).

Of course there are many other more or less crude forgeries of the Bahamas but none that can be attributed to any particular forger.













Figure 4

The Oneglia engraved forgeries of the 1d, 4d, 6d and 1/- values and 1881 "Fourpence" surcharge.

These most attractive and scarce forgeries show the typical features of impressed watermark, barred obliteration with a central "G", and so-called "pastry cutter" perforations.

### St. Lucia Postmarks, 2012-2020

By Steve Zirinsky



Il of the Caribbean islands are the same ... until you start looking closely and then you realize that they are all different ... due to different populations and geographies and histories. And the closer you look, the more there is to see. Some countries have postal systems that maintain centralized control of items that require upkeep such as datestamps. This can be seen in Bermuda and Belize, for example. Other countries allow the post offices to obtain their own cancellers or the GPO may order them and change manufacturers without regard to trying to maintain a style. Then it gets kind of interesting.

I find St. Lucia to be one of these countries. They have abandoned the steel cancellers -- too hard on the hands and they use rubber devices that wear out every two years. And that is where the fun starts. So I thought I would just illustrate a 10 year run of the postmarks from Conway, a post office in Castries, the capital city, and Rodney Bay, the post office on the main road in a shopping center on the road up to Gros Islet. This is the post office (or sub-post office as St. Lucia views them) near the boat basins for pleasure craft.

There are 40 or so post offices in St. Lucia and perhaps 20 have rubber cancellers, so one of these wears out every couple of months (these are also used to stamp inbound mail as well). It is constantly changing, and challenging!

## Is 1965 St. Vincent stamp with inverted watermark unique or are there others "out there"?

#### By Noel Davenhill

he dreadful news about the volcano exploding on St. Vincent brought back memories. During a stamp-hunting tour to the Eastern Caribbean in 1967, I climbed to the crater lake on La Soufriere. It was an awesome sight to see the placid lake and smell the drifting whiff of sulphur. I experienced an eerie feeling that one day it would repeat the disastrous eruption of 1902 when more than 1,000 died.

Articles I have written for *The American Philatelist* (2011) and *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* (2019) refer to my used St. Vincent stamp with inverted watermark likely to be the only known copy. It is the 1965 12¢ Deep Water Wharf. After personally viewing it, Gibbons catalogue editor Hugh Jefferies listed it as #239w.



St. Vincent 12¢ stamp with inverted watermark.

I found it in a packet of Caribbean stamps on paper from an aerogramme dated "Kingstown 26 November 1969." After more than 50 years no other copies are known, indicating I probably have a unique stamp. It seems that a single, or possibly two sheets, with inverted watermarks were delivered to the General Post Office and sold for postage in late November 1969.

Almost certainly nearly all were thrown away. It is, however, just possible that one or two used copies may be lurking unrecognized in old collections or dealer's stocks. As the watermark is very easily seen, I invite collectors with used copies to check for this remarkable stamp.

I am certain there are no mint copies, but I would be delighted to hear of another used example, especially with a November 1969 Kingstown postmark. At this time I have the only copy, so in some ways I rather hope no more turn up. Whereas some comparable scarce used inverted watermarks are listed as high as £470 (North Borneo) and £325 (Trinidad & Tobago), my one-off with a dated postmark is priced at only £100!

## Help needed in Turks Islands 1881 "provisionals" research

#### By Tony Walker, FRPSL

Identifying the printing origins of single stamps from this challenging issue has become increasingly difficult due to the scarcity of multiples, which are essential in several cases. The multiples command high prices, as a result I fear many are being broken down into singles and sold. Auction and dealer descriptions are not always accurate, nor are some of the certificates issued for singles.

There are only two specialized publications as far as I know, which illustrate the se-tenant arrangements of the different surcharges, *The Postage Stamps of the Turks Islands* by E.D. Bacon published by Stanley Gibbons in 1917; and *Turks Islands and Caicos Islands to 1950* by John Challis, published by the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society (Handbook No. 6) in 1983.

Both these publications precede the great advances in color reproduction we have seen in recent years, and their illustrations are far short of what could be simply provided nowadays. I would be grateful to receive jpeg scans at 300dpi of any multiples (pairs and upwards) members may have in order to ultimately provide a definitive resource for the use of collectors, dealers and, yes, certifying organizations.

You may contact me by email at: walker369@ btinternet.com.



# Airmails of the West Indies (Part 3)

By John Seidl

his is the third part of a series on airmails of the West Indies. In this segment, we continue with Bermuda, which ended in the April 2021 issue with the Bermuda-Azores, Portugal flight of November 16, 1939. As always, your input is encouraged. Please send any updates of new information to me at john.seidl@gmail.com.

#### This series will continue in the October issue!

**Bermuda:** We continue with flights after the November 16, 1939 Bermuda to Azores and Portugal flight covered in the previous issue.

DATE	FROM	ТО	NOTES
January 10, 1940 January 20, 1940	Bermuda Norfolk, Va.	Norfolk, Va. Bermuda	P.A.A. moved operations south due to bad weather. FAM Route 18. Special cachet: five lines, "First Flight / Norfolk to Hamilton / Virginia, U.S.A. Bermuda, B.W.I. / by Pan-American Airways / Bermuda Clipper".
April 1, 1940 April 3, 1940	Bermuda New York	New York Bermuda	P.A.A. begins operations at La Guardia Marine Air Terminal.
September 5, 1946	Jamaica	Bermuda & London	B.S.A.A. service inaugurated. Special cachet, six lines, "Air Mail / First Flight / Jamaica - / London - Via Bermuda / Sept. 5, 1946 / Via SPEED MAN"
March 22, 1947 March 24, 1947	Bermuda Washington Boston	Washington, D.C., Boston Bermuda	First regular service. Previously used for bad weather halts for refueling stops. Special cachet, 6 lines: "FAM No. 18 / MARCH 22 and 23, 1947/ FIRST Official Air Mail Flight / by Pan American World Airways / Boston-Washington, D.C. to / Hamilton Bermuda"
August 1, 1947	New York Washington Bermuda	Bermuda Washington, D.C. New York	Six lines: "FAM No. 18 /MARCH 22 and 23, 1947 / FIRST Official Air Mail Flight / by Pan American World Airways / Boston-Washington, D.C. to / Hamilton Bermuda"
May 1, 1948	Bermuda	Montreal, Toronto	First T.C.A. flight. Special cachet 45x73mm in violet or red, "Maple Leaf / Toronto / Montreal / Map of Bermuda / Trans-Canada Airlines / Inaugural Flight / May 1st 1948"
December 3, 1949	Toronto	Bermuda	Trans-Canada Airlines. Bermuda was a stop on services from Toronto to Barbados.

DATE	FROM	ТО	NOTES
March 12, 1952	Bermuda	Newfoundland, London	By B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser. This flight originated in Jamaica.
November 10, 1955	Bermuda	London	First B.W.I.A. flight
January 1, 1956 January 2, 1956	Barbados Bermuda	Bermuda Barbados	B.W.I.A. first Viscount flight. Special cachet in 6 lines: "FIRST FLIGHT / VISCOUNT / BARBADOS / TO / BERMUDA / JAN 1st, 1956"
June 16, 1957			20th anniversary cachet inscribed "20th Anniversary / of the / First Passenger Flights / between / Bermuda / and / The United States / 1937-1957 / Seaplane / Imperial Airways / B.O.A.C. / June 16th 1937 / Clipper / Pan American Airways / March 17th 1938". It is not known if this cachet was applied to airmail in Hamilton on these dates.
May 2, 1958	Bermuda New York	New York Bermuda	Eagle Airways service inaugurated. Covers are rare for both flights.
September 19, 1958	Bermuda	Montreal	First Cunard Eagle flight.
October 28, 1958	Bermuda	Barbados	First Britannia Jet-Prop flight. Inaugural flight London-Bermuda-Barbados-Trinidad-Caracas, Venezuela.
October 29, 1958	Bermuda	London	Return Britannia flight.
March 19, 1959	Bermuda	Baltimore	First Cunard Eagle flight. Special cachet 80 x 65mm in red: "First Flight / Bermuda-Baltimore / March 19, 1959 / Eagle Airways / Super Viscount"
December 19, 1959	New York	Bermuda	First P.A.A. 707 jet service. Special cachet shows Pan Am jet in flight. No return flight covers.
January 8, 1960	Bermuda	Bogota, Columbia	Extension of Britannia flight.
August 14, 1960	New York	Bermuda	The original Colonial Airlines was absorbed by Eastern Airlines in 1956. This was the first 707 (DC-88) jet service. Cachet shows plane in flight.
May 5, 1962	Miami	Bermuda	First Cunard Eagle Airways flight. Special cachet in six lines, in magenta: "First jet Air Mail Service / Cunard Eagle Airways / Bahamas Ltd – Bermuda Limited / Cunard Eagle Jet/ Miami, Florida to / Hamilton Bermuda"
May 5, 1962	Bermuda	Miami	First Cunard Eagle Jet flight. Special cachet in 5 lines, in violet: "Cunard Eagle Airways Bermuda Limited / Cunard Eagle Airways Bahamas Limited / eagle insigna / First Jet Mail Service / Hamilton, Bermuda to Miami, Florida"

DATE	FROM	ТО	NOTES
November 26, 1964	Sydney	London	Quantas Airlines service that stopped in Fiji, Tahiti, Mexico City, Nassau and Bermuda. Cachet shows a Mexican hat, map and text.
April 2, 1965	New York Bermuda	Bermuda New York	British Overseas Airways Corporation (B.O.A.C.) introduces "Pure Jet Service". Two special cachets: (1) shows the silhouette of a plane and text "First BOAC Super VC10 Flight / From New York / to Bermuda / April 1 / 1965" and (2) is 5 lines reading "B.O.A.C.'s Super V.C. 10 / Commemorating The First / Super V.C. 10 Flight / Bermuda to New York / 2nd April – 1965"
December 14, 1965	Toronto & Halifax	Bermuda	New Air Canada service using Pure Jet Aircraft. There was also a return flight the same day to Canada.
April 5, 1966	Mexico City	London via Bermuda	B.O.A.C. 707 jet service. A small number of covers to London originated in Bermuda.
April 28, 1968	London	Bermuda	British Eagle International Airlines (BEIA) first flight. Special cachet shows BEIA logo, plane in flight over world map and "Inaugural Flight to Bermuda by Boeing 707 Jet"
May 1, 1968	Bermuda	London	Return BEIA flight.
March 14, 1969	Boston Bermuda	Bermuda Boston	Northeast Airlines first flight. FAM Route 48 and the first competition for P.A.A. Special cachet: "First Flight / Bermuda to Boston / map of Bermuda / Northeast Airlines"
April 27, 1969	Chicago & Detroit	Bermuda	Eastern Airlines first flight. FAM Route 33.
May 1, 1973	Miami Orlando Atlanta Newark Bermuda	Bermuda Miami Daytona Beach Atlanta	Eastern Airlines first flight, FAM Route 33. Plane flew Miami to Orlando, Atlanta, Newark and Bermuda. Special cachets included one for Orlando showing oranges and a lighthouse; for Atlanta showing a building and a lighthouse; for Miami showing a dolphin and a lighthouse; and a boxed cachet from Newark reading "First Flight / May 1st 1973 / Eastern / Airlines / Flight 805 / from Bermuda / to / Newark / Atlanta / Daytona Beach / and Miami".

DATE	FROM	ТО	NOTES
September 8, 1975	Newark Bermuda	Bermuda Newark	American Airlines takes over part of FAM Route 26 from P.A.A. Flights originated in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia and flew via Newark. Special cachets included picture of tourists on bikes and text reading "Bermuda / from / Philadelphia / First / Flight / American Airlines" and for the return just text reading "American Airline / First Flight From / Bermuda / 8th September, 1975".
May 1, 1979	Philadelphia Bermuda	Bermuda Philadelphia	Eastern Airlines first flight. Covers flown in both directions without cachet. Only five on return flight.
May 5, 1984	Chicago Bermuda	Bermuda Chicago	American Airlines first direct 707 service.
June 1, 1989	Baltimore Bermuda	Bermuda Baltimore	Piedmont Airlines first flight. Cachet reads "First Flight Piedmont Airlines / Bermuda – Baltimore / June 1, 1989". A second cachet shows palm branches and reads: "Nonstop / Baltimore To / Bermuda / Piedmont / A Subsidiary of USAir Group, Inc. / U.S. Postal Service"
April 10, 1991	Washington Bermuda	Bermuda Washington, D.C.	United Airlines first flight. Special cachet: "First Flight from / Washington / map of USA & Bermuda / to / Bermuda / U.S. Postal Service / United Airlines".
May 15, 1991	Detroit Boston Bermuda	Bermuda Boston Detroit	Northwest Airlines inaugural service taking over the Eastern Airlines route. No cachet. May have been April 15 rather than May 15.
May 1, 1992	Charlotte Bermuda	Bermuda Charlotte	USAir inaugurates service to Bermuda.
April 4, 1993	Boston Bermuda	Bermuda Boston	USAir inaugurates service to Bermuda.
May 25, 1995	Bermuda	Newark	Kiwi Airlines inaugurates service. Covers flown, no cachet. There were no covers from Newark to Bermuda.

**British Guiana:** Being situated strategically in the northeast corner of the South American continent, British Guiana saw early development in West Indian aerophilately.

DATE	FROM	ТО	NOTES
March 28, 1927	Georgetown	Trinidad	Special U.S. Army charter called "Pan American Goodwill Fliers". There are no known surviving covers from this leg of the tour. One bag of mail was carried but there was no cachet.
September 23, 1929	Georgetown	Paramaribo	Inaugural flight by P.A.A. originating in Miami. Special cachet, 30x22mm in purple: "British Guiana / by / Air Mail". Covers known addressed to other islands including St. Lucia.
September 25, 1929	Paramaribo	Georgetown	First return P.A.A. flight. Special Cachet – Circular 34mm in violet, "Eerste Luchtpostversending / Paramaribo / New York / 25-9-30" with central figure.
September 25, 1929	Georgetown	Trinidad, St. Lucia, Antigua & northward	First return P.A.A. flight.
December 25, 1929	Georgetown	Port of Spain	Flight by Colonel Lindbergh. A well informed Trinidad collector states that this flight does not exist. It is listed in the F.J. Field's pamphlet.
February 19, 1930	South America	Georgetown	First northward flight by N.Y.R.B.A. There are various cachets from Argentina and Brazil. These covers are comparatively rare. Backstamped in Georgetown on February 24, 1930.
February 24, 1930	Georgetown	Port of Spain, St. Lucia & northward	First flight of N.Y.R.B.A. from Buenos Aires.
February 27, 1930	Dominica	Georgetown	First N.Y.R.B.A. flight southward.
March 7, 1930	Haiti, St. Lucia, Antigua, Port of Spain	Georgetown	First N.Y.R.B.A. flight southward.
March 12, 1930	Georgetown	Buenos Aires	Continuation of first N.Y.R.B.A. flight.
April 2, 1930	Georgetown	British Honduras via Caracas	No details
November 24, 1930	Georgetown	Rio de Janeiro	First P.A.A. extension southward.
December 5, 1930	Georgetown	Jamaica	Flight by FAM 5 to Miami and then by inaugural flight to Jamaica on December 10, 1930.

DATE	FROM	ТО	NOTES
December 19, 1930	Georgetown	Jamaica	Direct flight. Special cachet: double lined, 46x26mm "G.P.O. / British Guiana / First Flight".
December 31, 1930	Georgetown	French Guiana	First extension to French Guiana. Cachet as per December 19 flight.
January 8, 1931	French Guiana	Georgetown	First flight. Special cachet, 2 lines in black: "Premier Service par avion / Guyane Française le 8 Janvier 1931".
February 6, 1931	Georgetown	West coast of South America & Central America	First flight connecting British Guiana with Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru and Chile. Cachet same as December 19.
July 1, 1931	Salvador	Georgetown	First P.A.A. connection. Special cachet, 54x24mm in red: "Primer Correo Aereo / El Salvador a / Guyana Inglesa / 19 de Julio de 1931 / San Salvador, C.A." Backstamped Georgetown July 15, 1931.
November 11, 1931	Georgetown	Brazil and Argentina	First extension by P.A.A. on FAM 6. Special cachet, 50x36mm in violet "British / Guiana" down the side "First Air Mail / Extension / November 11, 1931 / from / Georgetown".
December 8, 1931	Georgetown	Nuevitas, San Pedro	Substitution of stops for Havana and Santo Domingo. Three line boxed cachet in purple reading "G.P.O. / British Guiana / First Flight".
January 29, 1933	Georgetown	Paraguay	First extension to include Paraguay. Special cachet, as November 19, 1930 but this does not agree with the information given in the American Air Mail catalogue of 1950, which dates the first Paraguay flight as July 1937.
January 29, 1935	Georgetown	Martinique	First P.A.A. connection. Special cachet, same as November 19, 1930. First flights by Air France are known as early as 1931 but the authorities in Martinique did not take advantage of the American facilities until 1935.
December 2, 1937	Georgetown	London	No details known. Though Air France inaugurated the first South Atlantic westbound service in January 1936, the first eastbound flight was unsuccessful and mail was forwarded by sea. Pan American did not use the South Atlantic route to any extent until December 1941, though the inaugural flight was in May 1939. The arrival postmark of December 9, 1937 indicates that this cover was flown.

## **Postal Pirates of the Bahamas**

By Juan L. Riera

wice in the past 35 years, the Bahamas has put out stamp sets focused on pirates and it is interesting to see who these individuals are and what their relationship to the Bahamas may be.

The first set was released on June 2, 1987, titled "Pirates of the Caribbean" and consisting of the following:

Scott #625: 10¢, depicting Anne Bonny. Scott #626: 40¢, depicting Blackbeard. Scott #627: 45¢, depicting Capt. Edward England. Scott #628: 50¢, depicting Capt. Woodes Rogers (c.1679-1732).

Scott #629: \$1.25 souvenir sheet.

The second series titled "Pirates" was released March 18, 2003, and consists of some of the same characters:

> Scott #1063: 15¢, Captain Edward Teach (Blackbeard).

Scott #1064: 25¢, Capt. John Rackham (Calico Jack).

Scott #1065: 50¢, Anne Bonny. Scott #1066: 65¢, Capt. Woodes Roger. Scott #1067: 70¢, Sir John Hawkins. Scott #1068: 80¢, Capt. Bartholomew Roberts (Black Bart).

Taking this systematically, we will begin looking at Anne Bonny (also spelled "Bonney" in some references), and work our way through the list.

**Anne Bonny** was born a bit before 1700 in Ireland, moved to London as a baby, and to the province of Carolina (before split into North and South Carolina) when she was about 10 years old. She married in 1715 and moved to Nassau, New Providence Island, Bahamas, and met Calico Jack Rackham, becoming his lover as well as partner in piracy. Both were captured, along with Mary Read, in October 1720 and taken to Jamaica where all three were sentenced to death. Read and Bonny were granted a stay of execution until they gave birth, since both were pregnant. Read died of a fever in prison and the fate of Bonny is uncertain, leading to wild speculation.

Edward Teach (Blackbeard) Also spelled as Edward Thatch. He was born in England about 1680 and seems to have been a privateer during Queen Anne's War before beginning his career in piracy, having settled in Nassau. He accepted



Anne Bonny

a pardon and settled Bath, North Carolina.

He then returned to piracy, attracting the attention of Alexander Spottswood of Virginia who success-

fully sent a force to hunt down Blackbeard, who died battling the forces of Spottswood.

I have a certain connection to Blackbeard in that he inspired and possibly encountered Black Caesar, a South Florida pirate who has Caesar Creek named after him in presentday Biscayne National Park. Blackbeard also



Edward Teach

captured some Spanish treasure in Sebastian Inlet, Florida, recovered from the 1715 Spanish Fleet that sank in a hurricane. Descendants of Alexander Spottswood settled in Key West, Florida in the 19th century. My father's third cousin married one of these descendants in the 1980s.

Capt. Edward England was born in Ireland in about 1685, possibly born as Edward Seegar. He came to be known for his kindness and compassion as a leader. He made his way to Jamaica, serving as a privateer during the War of Spanish Succession, being captured into piracy and taken to Nassau. He took part in Henry Jennings's assault on the Spanish salvage camp, Palma de Ayz, in Florida, working on the 1715 fleet disaster.



Vol. 61, No. 3

Capt. Edward England

Edward England died of a tropical disease in Madagascar after being marooned by his men.

Capt. Woodes Rogers (c.1679-1732) was an Eng-

lish sea captain and privateer. He served as the first royal governor of the Bahamas, and later served a second term. He was captain of the ship that rescued marooned Alexander Selkirk (Scottish privateer and royal navy officer) whose plight inspired Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe while circumnavigating the globe. As governor he rid Nassau of pirates. His service to the Crown caused personal financial suffering that led at one point to being held in debtor's prison.

John Rackham (December 26, 1682 to November 18, 1720) was also known as Calico Jack for the clothing he wore. Rackham was an



Capt. Woodes Rogers



John Rackham

English pirate operating in the Bahamas and Cuba, principally in the period from 1718 to 1720. He was best known for having two female crew members, Mary Read and Anne Bonny.

**Sir John Hawkins** (1532 to November 12, 1595). His surname was also spelled Hawkyns and he was

second cousin, and mentor to Sir Francis Drake. Hawkins was involved in the slave trade, was the chief architect of the Elizabethan Navy, and served as vice-admiral in the battle against the Spanish Armada. Interestingly, he and his crew were some of the first Europeans to observe the smoking of tobacco among the French



Sir John Hawkins

in northeast Florida at Fort Caroline. He died near Puerto Rico attempting to recover his son, Richard, who had been captured by the Spanish.

**John Roberts** (May 17, 1682 to February 10, 1722) was also known as Bartholomew Roberts.

He was a Welsh pirate who raided ships in the Americas and West Africa taking over 400 prizes (vessels) in his career. He also became known as Black Bart (Barti Ddu in Welsh), although this nickname was not used in his lifetime.

There is an interesting lot of adventurers depicted on Bahami-



John Rogers

an stamps, which I hope inspires you to research pirates on stamps of other British West Indies, of which there are plenty.

## Vignettes of Barbados Britannia Covers

By M. Fitz Roett



This is a local cover from the parish of St. Peter (#10 cancel) dated June 13, 1854, and franked with a copy of the 1d blue. It is assessed at 1d for the pre-paid Single Inland rate.

Three other similarly franked covers with this cancellation are known.



The mourning cover from the parish of St. Lucy (#11 cancel) is dated September 4, 1854, and franked with a copy of the 1d blue. It is assessed 1d Inland rate. The black manuscript "4" indicates the 4d packet rate due on delivery. No other cover with a blue paper 1d and this cancellation has been recorded.

## Membership Director's Report

#### **New Members**

**Noel Davenhill**, 7 Sandpiper Way, Papamoa Beach, Tauranga 3118, NEW ZEALAND

Steve Dulaney, P.O. Box 495, Stayton, OR 97383-0495 USA

#### Reinstated

None this quarter

#### **Address Changes**

#### Resigned

Kenneth David

#### **New Email Address**

**Dennis Mitton:** dmitton123@gmail.com **Ian Sellick:** bristolalumnus@yahoo.com

Deceased Ewan Cameron Reuben "Ben" Ramissoon

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Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

#### Local Mail

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#### **Donations**

Sam Partain
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Thomas Bansak
Thomas F. Olson

Arthur W. Snoke Donald Crider

Charles Lee Grassman

John Sawicki

Ernest E. Roberts

Due to time constraints in moving and maintaining houses on the West Coast and in the central U.S., Norman T. Berlinger has resigned as membership director.

We thank him for his service, and now begin the task of finding someone to replace him.

If you are interested, please contact

President John Seidl (address and email on

#### **EXPERTIZATION**

page 2) to discuss duties.

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## What does your "stamp den" look like?

ember Nick Halewood of Ashiya, Japan reports that his den comprises half of what in the United Kingdom is referred to as a "box room." Most of the books to the right deal with British steam railways. However, most of what is in the bookshelves and plastic drawers at the left are philatelic.

What does *your* philatelic room or den look like? Send a photo and description to the editor.



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## President's Message

By John Seidl

tamp Shows Return! After a long drought, it is so nice to see stamp shows returning to the world around us. I recall an actual sense of calm a few months back when I got that second vaccine and it's great to add the in-person dimension back to our hobby. One you should add to your schedule if possible is The Great American Stamp Show jointly hosted by the American Philatelic Society, the American First Day Cover Society and the American Topical Association. This year's show is August 12-15 in Rosemont, Illinois, which is on the west side of Chicago near the O'Hare airport. This the largest show in the U.S. this year and sure to be a great use of your time. Free admission, 75 dealers and a 500 frame exhibit are all part of this experience.



I gave a virtual presentation to the Tampa Stamp Collectors Club (the oldest stamp club in the U.S.) recently on Philatelic Estate Planning; a topic we all need to think about as you enjoy the hobby. A few hours gathering and documenting the information on your collection is a great investment. It's never too late to make things easier for your heirs and ensure you get the best disposition of your collection when you're gone. My presentation was based on information from the website of the APS: https://stamps.org/services/estate-advice. As a side note, I've been really impressed with the enthusiasm of the Tampa Stamp Collectors Club – what a great group!

The BCPSG continues to look for more volunteers to keep our society healthy. A few have come forward recently which really helps, but the need persists – it would be awesome if someone had the energy to take on the President role – I'd be happy to continue as Treasurer. Let me know if you'd like to learn more. Speaking of recent volunteers, Bill Gompel (who has help many roles for the BCPSG over the years) is running an auction for the society. By now you should have heard more about it in your email. Please make the time to bid and support this auction – it's a ton of work and I really appreciate Bill taking on the effort. The BCPSG has been shrinking slowly and I've begun to explore creative options to sustain us. This includes an informal conversation with the BWISC leadership team around the potential to merge the two societies into a new, more robust group. No clear path along these lines at this time but your suggestions are welcome as always. Meanwhile, see if you can recruit a few new members as organic growth is the best kind. Make a nice gesture and sponsor a friend to a one-year membership. Our many programs would be even better if we had twice as many members as we do today. I look forward to seeing many of you in person at upcoming shows around the country!

The little society with the long name



#### St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society

Are you interested in the stamps or postal history of Tristan da Cunha, Ascension or St. Helena? If so, you are very welcome to join our society. Membership benefits include a quarterly illustrated journal, annual auctions, special interest discussion groups, etc.

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#### The Stuart Rossiter Trust announces

#### Crises in the Cayman Islands **Post Office** by Graham Booth, FRPSL

From his research in the local archives of the Cayman Islands and Jamaica, the author takes a look at how local, regional and colonial politics conspire to make the setting-up and running of a post office on a small group of islands a frustrating and time-consuming endeavor. The author paints a picture which may have resonance with the challenges faced by other smaller colonies of the time. Add in the demands of stamp dealers and collectors, we get a picture of how challenging the bureaucratic British colonial system could be in the early 20th Century.

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#### **NEW BOOKS FROM BWISC PUBLICATIONS!**

#### Early BWI Covers Perkins Bacon Adhesives - Trinidad

by Peter C. Ford FRPSL

For many years, there has been a listing of early Trinidad covers on the BWISC website; this book is an extension of that listing but now separating them into areas of destination. There have been many additions to the original listing and the book contains many high quality illustrations. This should be of great help to both dealers and collectors when researching the provenance of any particular cover.

Price: \$25.00 from the APS (see below)



#### Trinidad Mail Coastal Service 1820 - 2000

by Michael Rego

Study Paper No. 8. This Study Paper traces the history of the mail service via the steamers that plied the coastal waters of Trinidad and Tobago from the early 19th century. There is much information on the vessels that sailed on these routes with tables of timings, lists of prices for various items sent by mail as well as many images of contemporaneous paintings of the ships and their ports of call. Any collector interested could not find a better reference book.

Price: £22 (BWISC Members' discount £2) from pennymead.com



For information, the following books are available from the American Philatelic Society on their website stamps.org/publications.

Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago by Ron Wike\$23.50
Cayman Islands Postcards by Tom Giraldi \$21.00
Classic Collections - St. Lucia by Charles Freeland
Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately – Airmails
by Paul Farrimond and Raymond Murphy\$38.00
Steamship Lines to the Caribbean, Volume 1 by Michael Rego\$40.00
Steamship Lines to the Caribbean, Volume 2 by Michael Rego\$40.00
Steamship Lines to the Caribbean, Volume 3 by Michael Rego\$40.00
The Riddle of the 'Registered' Ovals of Jamaica and Trinidad by David Horry\$23.00
The Tudway Letters by Mary Gleadall\$26.00

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