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CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

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Hon. Secretary: M. R. WILSON ‘Timbers’, Chequers Lane, Tharston, NR15 2 YA. Tel: Long Stratton (0508) 31136<br>Hon. Treasurer: $\quad$ STEPHEN PAPWORTH, 'Fair Gates', Lower Broadmoor, Tenby, Kilgetty, Dyfed SA68 0RJ Tel. Saundersfoot (STD 0834) 81265<br>Hon. Editor: D.W. ATKINSON, 54 Wellington Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 2PH Tel: 01-360 6762.<br>Hon. Librarian: D.M. NATHAN, 7 Cromford Way, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3BB. Tel. 01-942 3881<br>Committee: I. P. CHARD, S. GOLDBLATT,<br>Hon. Auditor: J.A.C. FARMER, F.C.A.<br>North American MARK W. SWETLAND, 32 Cat Brier Lane, Hilton<br>Representative: Head Island, South Carolina 29928 U.S.A.<br>Tel: (803) 7573326.

## OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. TO loan books from the Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear postage both ways. List supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an s.a.e. (9' x 6¹/2") - 2nd Class postage for 150 gm rate required.
4. TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
5. TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

## MEMBERSHIP\&SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBERSHIP - Is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.
SUBSCRIPTIONS - The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is $£ 6$ for members residing in the UK or Europe and $£ 8$ for members who reside elsewhere.
Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1st January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, in sterling (by personal cheque or Standing Order drawn on a U.K. Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency notes - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).
Members residing in North America (Canada, USA, and the Caribbean) who do not pay their Subscription (dues) in sterling should pay by sending to the North American Representative (see above for address) a cheque for USA $\$ 14.50$ made payable to "MARK W. SWETLAND". Other overseas members who pay their subscription by cheque drawn in a foreign currency or on a foreign bank MUST add the equivalent of $£ 3$ sterling partially to cover exchange and bank charges. The overseas rates quoted include an element to cover postage of the Bulletin by Air Mail.

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## PROGRAMME

## 1989

| Fri. | 13 Oct | 6.00 pm | BWISC Convention |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Venue: The Regent Hotel |
| Sat. | 14 Oct | All Day | Royal Leamington Spa |
| Wed. | 22 Nov | 6.00pm | Speaker to be arranged |
|  |  |  | Venue: British Philatelic Trust Rooms 107 Charterhouse Street London EC1N 6PT |
| 1990 |  |  |  |
| Wed. | 28 Feb | 2.15pm | Two speakers to be arranged |
|  |  |  | Venue: STAMPEX |
| Sat. | 29 Apr | 2.15pm | AGM \& Auction |
|  |  |  | Venue: The Bonnington Hotel |
|  |  |  | Southampton Row |
|  |  |  | London WC1 |
| Tue. | 8 May | 6.30pm | Social Meeting with BCPSG |
|  |  |  | Venue: The Thames Suite, |
|  |  |  | Royal Horse Guards Thistle |
|  |  |  | Hotel, Whitehall Court |
|  |  |  | London SW1A 2EJ |

## 1989 Auction

A full report with realisations will appear in the Sept. Bulletin.

## CARIBBEAN COLLECTORS CONVENTION 1989

The Convention will be held on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th October, 1989 at The Regent Hotel, Royal Leamington Spa.

It will commence with a sherry party starting at 6 p.m. on the Friday evening and I hope that many of you will attend and, if possible, please bring a guest.

Saturday 14th October, i.e. the Convention Day will be packed with activity. At various times during the day you will be able to browse and buy at the dealers' tables in the Chandos Room. There will be available a very wide range of material including classic and better grade stamps, covers, post cards and also literature. In the latter part of the morning Ken Bolton will give a Formal Display of his very attractive King George V Pictorial Issues of Jamaica, followed by the Luncheon which will provide a suitable break in proceedings. Immediately after the Luncheon there will be a Formal Display of St. Vincent by Vincent Duggleby and this will be greatly looked forward to as St. Vincent has not been shown at our four previous Conventions.

May I remind you to remember to bring along up to 30 pages from your own collections as these will be put on show as Informal Displays at various times during the Convention Day. At the last Convention the response by members to show Informal Displays from their own collections was tremendous and contributed greatly to the success of the Convention: I hope that you will bring your stamps again.

Throughout the Convention Day at various times Simon Goldblatt will be in charge of the Members' Approval Table. Sales by members through this outlet have been a very successful feature at past Conventions, and if you wish to dispose of material through the Study Circle, then here is your opportunity.

I look forward to meeting you at Leamington, and if you can bring your wives as well they will be most welcome.
E. Victor Toeg

## A WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

The Study Circle will be celebrating the International Exhibition to be known as "Stamp World London 90" which will take place from the 3rd to the 13th May, 1990 at Alexandra Palace, London. The Committee of the Study Circle have decided that a Wine and Cheese Party should be held to mark the occasion which will not occur again for a decade.

The Wine and Cheese Party will take place between 6.30 and 8.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 8th May, 1990 in The Thames Suite at the Royal Horseguards Thistle Hotel, Whitehall Court, London, SWLA 2EJ

It is understood that many members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group will be crossing the Atlantic for the International Exhibition and they will be eligible to attend our Wine and Cheese Party. A considerable number have already indicated that they propose to come to the Wine and Cheese Party: it should be a memorable function.

Members of the Study Circle and the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group will each be able to bring one guest. Admission to the function will be by ticket paid for in advance, or, at the door. Advance tickets for members and guests will cost $£ 6$ each, and tickets paid for at the door will be $£ 7.50$ each.

Details relating to the application for tickets will be made known in a later Bulletin. E.V. Toeg

## THE HON. TREASURER

Owing to health reasons our Hon. Treasurer, Steve Papworth, has with great regret tendered his resignation from office as from 31st December, 1989. Many members will know Steve personally and will be extremely sorry to see him give up looking after our financial affairs.

At the recent Annual General Meeting I asked for any volunteers for the office of Hon. Treasurer and I repeat my call to those of you who like figures and may be willing to take on this responsibility.

Since Steve became the Hon. Treasurer the Study Circle's accounts have been kept by him manually as well as on his own Computer.

Will anyone requiring further information or wishing to volunteer for the office please get in touch with me by letter at 41 Boundary Road, St. John's Wood, London, NW8 OJE, or, on the telephone 01-624 8687.

E.V. Toeg

## THE HON. EDITOR

David Atkinson is due to retire from his professional work within the next 12 months and has tendered his resignation as Hon. Editor of the Bulletin as from 31st December, 1989.

At the recent Annual General Meeting I asked for volunteers for the office of Hon. Editor and I repeat my call and say that you will be doing an interesting and responsible job.

No previous experience as an editor is required as David has told me that he will train his successor. When David originally volunteered for the job he had had no previous experience and was trained by his predecessor the late Mike Sheppard.

Will anyone requiring further information or wishing to volunteer for the office please get in touch with me by letter at 41 Boundary Road, St. John's Wood, London, NW8 OJE, or, on the telephone 0-624 8687.

E.V. Toeg



## BALANCE SHEET as at 31 DECEMBER 1988

INCOME
Subscriptions 1506.52

Publications - net surplus 588.55
Auction and miscellaneous donations6.26Convention - net surplusInterest received, less tax reserve251.33
$£ 2948.28$

1400.77

$$
383.13
$$

Questionnaire
BPF affiliation fee 20.00

Administration: stationery, postages, telephone etc. less recovered 288.32
£ $\frac{158.21}{2390.12}$ 558.16 $£ 2948.28$

## ACCUMULATED FUND

Balance at 1.1.88 6033.54
Add Surplus for the year $\underline{558.16}$
6591.70
(2289.67) £ 4302.03
REPRESENTED BY:
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Cash at banks, building society and in hand } & 5853.631\end{array}$
Sundry Debtors
85.00
5938.63

Less Sundry Creditors
135.13

Taxation Reserve
36.22

Subscriptions received in advance
1465.25

The chair was taken by Mr. E.V. Toeg, the President, who extended a warm welcome to the 29 members and two guests present. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. W.A. Townsend.

The minutes of the previous meeting on 23 April 1988, as published in the June 1988 Bulletin, were taken as read and with the approval of the meeting were signed by the President.

1. Report by the Hon. Secretary. Mr. Wilson stated that membership of the Study Circle had remained more or less steady during the year. Despite a successful recruiting drive losses through resignations and through members simply failing to pay their subscriptions had kept the overall numbers static. A List of Members had been published during the year, the first for some time, and the Secretary wished to thank all those who had helped with this task. A weekday evening meeting at the BFT last September had not been well attended. However, despite this a similar meeting would be proposed for the coming year and members living in and around London were strongly urged to support this event, whatever the subject of the display, if only to meet fellow members. The meetings held in conjunction with STAMPEX were considered to be a success. Finally, it was reported that an increasing number of Societies were asking to have displays of BWI material, and the Secretary thanked all those members he had contacted and who had so willingly "volunteered" their services.
2. Report by the Hon Editor. Mr. Atkinson said that he had nothing of importance to report to the meeting and added his customary appeal for a steady supply of articles for the Bulletin which could only be as good as the members themselves made it.
3. Report by the Hon. Treasurer. Mr. Papworth stated that he was pleased to be able to report that the surplus accrued during the year was larger than he had anticipated mainly thanks to receipts from the Auction more than double those in 1987, and a higher than usual sales of publications. He took the opportunity to remind members of the advantages of the available 5 year subscription rate.

It was proposed by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Ford that the accounts for the year, which were circulated at the meeting, be adopted. There were no objections.
4. Report by the Hon. Auditor. Mr. Farmer's report was circulated with the accounts. This was noted without comment and Mr. Farmer was thanked for his work.
5. Report by the Hon. Librarian. Mr. Papworth reported that the library had been used by 12 members on 37 occasions. He had made a number of acquisitions when pertinent material had become available, these were more of general philatelic nature due to the shortage of erudite works on specific BWI countries.

It was reported that the Library had now been taken over by Mr. D. Nathan. Adding to the report Mr. Nathan stated that he would welcome callers to look at books for reference and hoped that the library would now be more readily available to members.

In commenting on the report Mr . Deakin drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that Mr. Bayley's new book on Barbados was now ready for publication. Anyone interested can get details from the Hon. Librarian.
6. Report by the Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Toeg reported to the meeting on the work of the Committee during the last year including the preliminary arrangements for holding a Convention at Leamington Spa in October and a Wine and Cheese social evening with members of the BCPSG during Stamp World London 90. (Details of these events will be found elsewhere in the Bulletin). The Committee had also discussed at length the future size of the Bulletin, a subject which had arisen as a result of members' comments in replying to the Questionnaire.

Finally, he reported that he had received the resignations of the Hon. Editor and the Hon. Treasurer, both effective on 31 December this year. He added that he would be calling for volunteers to take over these vital positions.
7. Election of the Committee. Messrs. Chard, Goldblatt, Hamilton and Mitton were willing to continue to serve on the Committee and there being no other nominations they were all considered to be re-elected.
8. Election of Officers. The President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Editor and Treasurer were willing to serve and were re-elected. As stated in the Hon. Librarian's report Mr. Papworth had handed over the library to Mr. D. Nathan at the beginning of the year. The meeting was asked to appoint Mr. Nathan as the new Hon. Librarian. This was proposed by Mr. Toeg and seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously.
9. Election of the Hon. Auditor. Mr. A. Farmer was willing to continue to serve and was unanimously re-elected.
10. Resignation of the Hon. Treasurer and Editor. As stated in the report of the Chairman of the Committee these two officers were resigning as from 31 December 1989. The President urged any members who felt that he could devote some of his time to either of these two vital tasks to contact him at the earliest opportunity.
11. Biennial BWI Convention. The president gave the meeting details of the arrangements for the Convention to be held at Leamington Spa on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th October 1989. These details would be included in a special leaflet to be sent out with the June Bulletin.
12. Stamp World 90. The President gave the meeting the outline details of a meeting to be held during Stamp World 90 at which members could meet visiting members of the BCPSG. The meeting would take the form of a "No Host" Wine and Cheese Party at
the Royal Horse Guards Thistle Hotel in Whitehall Court London between 6.30 and 8.30 pm on Tuesday 8 May 1990. Full details will be in the Bulletin in due course and it is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend.
13. Programme of Events. The Hon. Secretary gave an outline of the Programme for 1989/90, in addition to the two events already discussed (Items $11 \& 12$ ) this included an evening meeting in November in the BFT rooms, a meeting at Stampex on Wednesday 28 February 90 and the AGM on Saturday 29 April. Full details would be printed in the Bulletin.

In addition it was stated that another meeting was intended for the Autumn Stampex in October 1990 and it was hoped to arrange a regional meeting for a Saturday afternoon, perhaps at Portsmouth.
14. Change of Size of the Bulletin. The President reported that as a result of members' suggestions in the Questionnaire the Committee had considered at length the advantages of changing the size of the Bulletin to make it more readily readable. It had been decided that as from the issue for March 1990 the Bulletin would be produced in the slightly larger A5 format. A more radical change to A4 size had been considered but it had been decided the advantages of this were outweighed by other considerations and that A5 was the best compromise. New Binders would be available. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr. Toeg and seconded by Mr. Parris that the meeting accept this recommendation. There was no dissent.
15. Any other business.
a. Mr. Farmer referred the meeting to discussion at the 1988 AGM when it was proposed that only a shortened version of the Accounts should be published in the Bulletin. He proposed that this be implemented, though members could still obtain a copy of the full accounts on application to the Hon. Treasurer. After discussion this was proposed by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. Wilson. There was one objection.
b. Mr. Farmer asked whether members would be interested in a Study Circle tie. Discussion in the limited time available showed that though the idea was not universally popular it was decided to ask Mr. Farmer to make further investigations as to cost etc. Anyone having ideas as to design and colours is requested to forward them to Mr. Farmer.
16. There being no other business the President thanked the members present for their support and declared the meeting closed.

## DISPLAY

On the 26th October 1988 at the British Philatelic Trust Rooms, Charterhouse Street, Derek Sutcliffe gave a display of Jamaican post cards, some 150 cards being exhibited. The Jamaican earthquake which devastated Kingston on the 14th January 1907, was illustrated by some 40 cards, and Pat Burke kindly commented on the cards giving many anecdotes of the stories current at the time, as well as relating to the activities of the government during the crisis. He was able to tell members many interesting facts not previously known to us, and related in particular to the assistance given by the US Navy.

The display continued with Derek's earliest post card dated Dec 1899 and showed a selection of humorous cards, including many artist's drawings and cartoons from the Gardner's series of alphabet cards, Jamaica proverbs and V. Heaven cards. A selection of Jamaican views and churches was shown and with the latter Pat Burke complemented this section with a display of the stamps of the Jamaica churches issues. He was able to comment on many of the places shown.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J.S. Tyler.
Pat Burke then showed a number of pages of modern issues of Jamaica with their varieties. In particular the 'C' Day overprints with their many varieties were demonstrated in depth. A vote of Thanks was given by David Atkinson.
E.V. Toeg showed 38 pages of material from Basil Benwell's collection of covers of the various Steamship Companies which plied the Caribbean during the 19th and 20th centuries, (Basil was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting). Mr. Toeg said the exhibit was well written up and that he personally had learned a lot from it. He drew attention in particular to the well drawn maps of routes through the Caribbean taken by the steamers of the various lines. It was not surprising that Basil could draw fine maps as he was in the British Army Map Section in World War II. The whole display was very well received particularly as those present found something to interest them which a single country display would not easily match.

At the end of the exhibit Victor Toeg was asked to convey to Basil Benwell the appreciation of those present for a show of an unusual subject which affected all the major Islands in the Caribbean.

## NOTES AND QUERIES

## BRITISH WEST INDIES

## LITTLE KNOWN ISLANDS

Crab Island: I have an early Montserrat item which mentions this island (west of Virgins) shared by British and French. Has anybody a cover from there? I suspect if Postal Historians of Leewards study the 1879 list of islands within 300 sea miles ( $21 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$, $1 / 2 \mathrm{Oz}$. rate area.) they will discover something long overlooked!

Commentary: We cannot predict what treasures could be found from a careful rereading of early entires, or the occasional letters which have been retained in their stamped covers. The history of islands without their own postal facilities is a neglected area for research - for example, how did letters travel to and from the comparatively large British island of Roatan? This is well south of Peter's 300 mile radius, but must have generated a certain amount of correspondence.

Simon Goldblatt

## THE 1935 SILVER JUBILEE ISSUE

To Collectors of British Commonwealth (or "Empire" as it was then) stamps the 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue was an historic event, for never before had there been such a concerted attempt to cover a royal event and it gave the first, arguably the finest, Omnibus Issue. To many though it represents merely a repetitive issue of four stamps of a similar design from each of the Colonies. The more knowledgeable will know of the "extra flagstaff" variety which appears on the Bradbury Wilkinson printings, while others will have noticed that the "log and kite" flaw on the Waterlow and Sons printings have recently been given catalogue status. But there is much more to be found.

As the Hon. Secretary of the BWISC I have recently been contacted by the newly formed Silver Jubilee Study Circle who have already conducted a considerable amount of research into these stamps. Using the many constant flaws, mostly on the vignette and spread across the various printings they are attempting to plate the stamps. Plating is not made easier by the fact that only the De La Rue printed sheets carry plate numbers (frame plate under stamp 10/2 and vignette plate under stamp 10/5), but often these were trimmed off before being despatched to the Crown Agents. Consequently in any study of the issue notional plate numbers have had to be given to the printings from the other two Printers. Even so, it may be surprising for the reader to realise that 10 plates have been identified for Bradbury Wilkinson, 9 with possibly a 10th for Waterlow and 7 plates for De La Rue.

In the West Indies, for example, the 1d of Jamaica is perhaps the most commonly found stamp of this issue and was produced by Bradbury Wilkinson from six different plates: $2,3,5,6,7$ and 8 . Of the Turks and Caicos issues, with which the author is more familiar, the 4 d is found from the plates $1,2 \mathrm{~A}$ and 2 B , the 3 d from plates $1,2 \mathrm{~A}$ and possibly 10 (more information needed from blocks), the 6 d and $1 /$ - from plates 1 and 2A. Of these the $\log$ and kite flaws on stamp 10/6 appear only on stamps from plates 2 A and 2 B .

The Silver Jubilee Study Circle are keen to contact members who have these issues in their collections, especially those who have blocks - the bigger the better. Will anyone willing to help please contact me or Mr. John Cooper at 69 Dalestorth Road, Skegby, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts. NG17 3AG. This is especially so for anyone with a block of the 5c British Honduras.

Michael Wilson.

## ANTIGUA

## Compound Perforations

I have recently bought in Melbourne a new variety of 6d no watermark, perforated A2, B, str. edge, A2 - I think it is a normal bottom row stamp, from width of margin. I also have a copy of the issued stamp from right margin, which is perforated so narrow at top and wide at bottom that I should have said 'reject sheet' if I had not two similar used copies, with no outer frame at top.

Peter Jaffe

Commentary: The references to perforation relate to the machines described by Bacon \& Napier; or see the St. Vincent handbook, p.21. Thus SG2 refers to an unwatermarked stamp perforated B all round, and SG3 to one perforated A2, B, A2, B. In SG4, the A2 and $B$ perforations can possibly be found in any permutation, the copy mentioned above not having been previously noted.

Aberrant perforations in Antigua were not found only with SG1. The characteristic of narrow and wide perforations can be seen in a copy of SG8, illustrated here.


In the case of compound perforations generally, it pays to know what you can expect to find. Bermuda SG10-11, British Guiana SG136, and the rare Barbados SG84 and Trinidad SG97a are always perf 14 horizontally and 12 vertically. By contrast, Bahamas SG12-15, and Trinidad SG63a-b, are probably to be found with perf 11 only on one side, either at the top or the bottom of a marginal copy. In Virgin Islands SG 5a, it remains controversial whether perf 15 was used only for one or both of the vertical sides, or whether it may be found on the horizontal sides also. Probably the latter is right - indeed, it has been claimed that an example of the 1866 printing has been found which is perf 15 all round.

Simon Goldblatt

## BARBADOS

## Figure 9 Postmark

In my Barbados collection which I sold in 1985, I had an unusual and possibly unique postmark which is illustrated below. It was the only double arc postmark in my collection - in fact the only one I had ever seen - which had the figure ' 6 ' or ' 9 ' inserted below the date. This letter was addressed to Joseph Gillibanks in Cumberland who was the father of the Deputy Postmaster General of Barbados.


Recently I purchased a cover from Rio de Janeiro to London which was postmarked with a double arc handstamp and again had the figure 9' inserted below the date. Can any member offer an explanation for the inclusion of this figure in the postmark? One possibility is that it was used by the PMG or his deputy on letters which had been scrutinised and passed.

Basil B. Benwell

## Plating Study

I have recently found a used (bootheel) 5/- 1873 which can be 'plated' as $42 / 48$ by plate division vertical line in right margin. Can anybody please report another? More important has anybody seen the commoner (!) line at top, which might exist on an 1878 provisional penny? If so, please report nature of surcharge and position of line (right or left). I should like comments on the method of surcharging of this 1878 provisional, covering -
(1) Is setting 24 in one line, repeated in 3 separate strikes, of which two were inverted and one normal?
(2) Was step one to perforate central vertical line, step two to surcharge line by line, step three to tear lines apart, step four to cut off values line by line?

No vertical pairs are known. No serious study has ever been published, although numbers printed exceed the total of four St. Vincent provisional surcharges of 1880-1.

Peter Jaffe

Commentary: Peter Jaffe is an acknowledged master of plating study, and the work often begins with the identification of marginal stamps. The problem of plating the provisional 1d bisects of Barbados is made to sound deceptively simple, but the text reminds one of the practical impossibility of the task. The surcharging of $9,600 \mathrm{stamps}$ involved the mutilation of 4,800 copies of the basic $5 /-$ stamp by the severance of the value label. Thus vertical pairs cannot have survived, whilst the largest strip in existence is likely to be the two unsevered pairs which were lot 415 in the Charlton Henry sale. This collection had one of the finest holdings of these provisionals, and the reader may also like to refer to the Munk encyclopaedia (Kohls BriefmarkenHandbuch) 2nd edn. Vol. 1 p.177, where a brief résumé of the printing is given in German.

If the German text is reliable, Peter's basic assumptions will need re-appraisal; for it is suggested that the overprint was set up to process a complete sheet of 48 stamps at a time. There was the usual local shortage of homogeneous type, and of the three types listed by SG there were (according to Stephenson, per Munk) 58 of Type A, and 19 each of Types B and C. Every third or fourth stamp of Type A or B is said to show comma instead of stop, and the stamp at position 62 (row 3, stamp 2, r.h.s.) has neither stop nor comma. It is also said that Types A and B are combined on the basic stamp four times in the sheet, but Types A and C once only. On this basis, surcharges reading downwards instead of upwards would result from the basic sheet having been fed in for overprinting in the opposite direction from normal. Despite the detail in Munk's text, one is left wondering how a complete sheet could have been available for examination.

Simon Goldblatt

## BRITISH GUIANA

Missing 'Inland'



Illustrated is SG 208 ONE CENT on 2 Dollars Inland Revenue. The 'INLAND' is almost completely missing. Has this been previously recorded?

John J. Challis

## WICHABAI PAU date stamp type 33 etc

On page 318, Townsend and Howe illustrate three versions of this skeleton date stamp and suggest that the 1949 version is the earliest and extremely rare (only one strike seen).

A further version has now appeared, similar to type 3311 but

> SP
> J 178
in two lines. The cover is backstamped GPO Georgetown 18 SP 48 , so this is clearly the earliest version by some seven months. It is also of a style more in line with what the original design is likely to have been before being garbled, and I put this forward as the definitive version.

Derek Nathan

## RUPUNUNI date stamp type 21c

Townsend and Howe do not have a lot of information about the posts in Rupununi district until the opening of a main Post Office at Lethem in 1946.

There are Rupununi date stamps apparently from an earlier time but these are usually undated.

I now have a cover addressed to the Catholic Bishop at Georgetown, from St Ignatius Mission - along the Takatu River from Lethem - with a full clear c.d.s. Rupununi AU 5 4. This is stamped 12c. and has an airmail label. More importantly, it has a Georgetown arrival mark of 11AM 8AU 44, which dispels any doubt about the date. It has been surmised that the Rupununi c.d.s. was used at Lethem until the named datestamp type 33 was supplied in 1959, but it is possible that prior to that it was used at Bon Success, which was the area seat of Government until 1942 and was the site of the airfield for this area.

Derek Nathan

## BRITISH HONDURAS

## Double Cancellation

The following is a possible explanation of the dual postmark/double cancellation of A.J. MacKay's British Honduras cover illustrated in Bulletin No. 140 March ' 89 pp1213.

Official mail from the Colonial Secretary's Office at least during the reign of KG VI, if being transmitted by surface mail, did not have to carry postage stamps to show the relevant postage had been paid. In fact during the early part of the reign a number of surface covers carry a cachet to show that postage was free. Upon entering the postal system covers were invariably handstamped with the standard canceller to show that they had been accepted by the Post Office.

If however an item of mail was to travel by airmail service than the relevant airmail surcharge had to be added in postage stamps. This surcharge to England and the USA for the first $1 / 4 \mathrm{oz}$ was 15 c , hence the stamp depicting an aeroplane in its design. (USA and England were the two main destinations of mail from the colony). Now for my theory as to why there should be a double cancellation. The letter was first handed over to the P.O. without the stamp having been applied. It was then handstamped to show it had been accepted. The clerk then realised that the letter was intended to travel by air and returned it to the Colonial Secretary's Office for the appropriate rate to be applied. This would not have been very difficult at this time as the CSO and the PO shared the same building in Belize. Having had the stamp applied the letter then passed back to the PO where the handstamp was used for a second time to cancel the stamp that the letter now bore.

The alternative to the above is that after the first cancellation, the letter was passed back to the person who posted it before he/she had left the PO. The stamp was then applied, the letter handed back to the same clerk and the second cancellation applied. This latter explanation could account for the same handstamp being used in both cases as two different handstamps were available.

With regard to the dates of the cancellations only an approximation can be made. The earliest date I know of for this handstamp is during 1946. If the number at the bottom left corner of the envelope is anything to go by the year would be 1947. Out of 9 OHMS covers in my possession, in all but one case the central figure corresponds to the year that the item was posted. This is not conclusive evidence but does suggest the possible meaning of part of the number.

## Brian Rogers

I believe I may be of help with A.J. MacKay's OHMS cover. Since government correspondence is exempt from inland postage I suspect that the cover was one of many which was routinely processed for inland delivery (the postmark under the stamp). Once the destination was noticed the stamp was applied and cancelled again. From the reference number on the lower left of the cover the year the cover was posted was 1947.

Peter Bylen

## GRENADA

1886 Surcharges

I was recently shown three postcards from DUBLIN two of which show Grenada SG. Type 14 Handstamp 1d. Postage on the face and the third was a handstamp 3d. All the cards were Halfpenny Postal Stationery cards of Q.V. and addressed to Longman \& Co. Paternoster Row, London SC. The cards were from three different Dublin booksellers ordering books.


How did the surcharges get onto these cards? Are any more known?
Bryan E. Johnson

## LEEWARD ISLANDS

## G.VIth varieties



Illustrated are GVI $21 / 2$ d with defective ' $w$ ' and 3 d . with the name bent. Are these unique?

John J. Challis

## ST. CHRISTOPHER

## Printings. Shades and Postmarks

In Bulletin 40 p.11, I posed six questions, of which No. 4 - which relates to the first vertical A12 - is of major importance. Surely somebody can help nearly 25 years later are there no serious collectors of St. Christopher, stamps covers etc. and only a few postmark collectors? At London 1980 Bobbie Messenger did not get acceptance of his St. Christopher (because of other entries) and as a result almost nobody now alive knows the importance of the study of stamps and cancels and covers for St. Christopher. As an example a 4d with stop cancelled AMJY is clearly bad, although the $4 d$ is very good. Maybe double or inverted items require re-examination? Any Antigua used in St. Christopher with wide spaced bars before A12 are "bad", since the 9,600 provided in February/March 1890 should not have received the 1893 A12.

In Bulletin 61 p. 16 I raised the question of two printings of $6 \mathrm{~d} C A$ - can these be divided? I can say that the $1 /-$ inverted watermark comes from the large first printing but is scarce.

In Bulletin 56 p. 14 I enquired about the three bar locally made killer - the date of use is late 1875 - it was converted to a single bar and then to AMJY.

In Bulletin 41 p. 30 I enquired about the 1870 et seq. 1d perforated 12.5. I believe both sideways and upright watermark rose colour were in first printing and believe a few sideways have watermark sideways inverted (position of top of Crown). What a shame that some ignorant collectors have tried to bleach out pen dates from villages and Anguilla.

Peter Jaffe
Commentary: A principal purpose of the above is to distinguish separate printings and shades of issued stamps, by reference to the postmarks that they bear and to extant dated covers. Whilst the latter can prove the actual date of usage of a dumb cancel or killer, a date 'not-before-which' for any cancellation can only be given by reference to specific evidence of the creation of the cancel, e.g. the evidence of proof strikes in Post Office records, for killers issued from London. The long outstanding questions to which Peter Jaffe has alluded, and the answers to several that he now propounds, emphasise that our members have been less than assiduous in their intermediate research into this Colony. Do others accept that the (reversed type) AMJY killer was made by conversion from the single-bar canceller, and the latter similarly from the three-bar version?

SG1 in particular should have evoked a response from other members, as a fully dated c.d.s. is often found on the earliest stamps. However, the first two consignments of the 1d stamp came rather close together - 13,400 invoiced on $14,2.70$, and 38,400 on 27.5.70. General research would be altogether easier if the villages had stocked anything more than $1 / 2 d$ and $1 d$ values; but the characteristic diagonal dates (which are not uncommon from 1874 onwards, and which extend to the surcharged stamps, and even to one rare variety) have not been reported on values of $21 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$ or above.

Distinguishing two printings of the 6 d CA is a tall order, because the first printing was of 500 stamps only, and the second of a mere 1,560 more. The latter, coming as they did after the printing of general Leeward I. issues, may well have been remaindered in their entirety, so that used stamps - themselves distinctly scarce - ought to come from the first printing; as well as which one can have recourse to the SPECIMEN stamps. It does not follow that the shades of the two printings are distinct enough to be separated.
(picture of group of three and two stamps)


We can illustrate here the usage of two different types of A12 killer on the Antigua 1 d . The piece showing $21 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$ rate to London is manifestly legitimate, although the year date has been cut off by a whisker. This may merely denote late usage of Antigua stamps which had been bought regularly at the appropriate time, and kept in hand for a period; yet it is doubtful whether the Post Office would have accepted local issues instead of Leewards ones after 1891, even though it was afterwards established in Whitehall that it was legal to continue using them.

Simon Goldblatt

## TRINIDAD

The "Britannia' Postage and Revenue Stamps

## 1896 New Design of Stamps

This is an attempt to explain primarily the De La Rue printings, Key Plates and duty plates of the Trinidad small size "Britannia" Postage and Revenue Stamps.

The following details are taken from a De La Rue file copy.
On the 24th June 1895 the Crown Agents requested proposals for changing the design of stamps. Designs for Postage size and Revenue size were submitted on July 1st, with an apology that the artist had inadvertently drawn them in red, because being required both for Postage and Revenue purposes they would have to be printed in doubly and fugitive purple or green ink, with varying duty colours for easy identification.

Both were designed for the "key" plate system at present in use, the small size stamps being drawn to allow the six existing overprint plates to be employed.

Following an interview with Mr. J.A. Bulmer, the Colony's Postmaster General, on leave in London, rough designs (no copies found) were submitted on July 9th showing a larger Britannia with alternative borders.

On July 22nd Mr. Bulmer wrote that he had decided to have two different sizes of Britannia, and designs were submitted on July 29th embodying the ideas he had explained to us. These were in turn submitted to Trinidad, and in a letter dated September 17th the Governor wrote to the Secretary of State, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain finding fault with the figure of Britannia and the ship.

An enlarged drawing was accordingly prepared for the engraver to work to and photographed down to the required sizes, and drawings in black of the borders previously approved were stuck over these photographs and submitted on October 28th.

These were approved on November 5th, but on December 4th alternative sketches for the duty overprints were requested and submitted on December 9th and those selected approved the same day.

On 11th December 1895 the Colonial Secretary, Trinidad ordered through the Crown Agents, from the designs approved on November 27th and December 9th, supplies of the required stamps.

This colour scheme, called for by the Crown Agents on December 28th in due course, was submitted on 7th May and approved by the Crown Agent, Sir Edward Blake, on May 14th.

The Private Day Book record for the 25th July 1896 shows as follows:
The Crown Agents for the Colonies
Trinidad Postage and Revenue Stamps
Requisition Nos. 49195 and 92/95
Making two original dies with the figure of Britannia One Postage and One Large Revenue size.

Making from the above two key dies one each size.
Making from the Postage Key die a plate of 120 multiples.
Making from the Large Revenue size Key die a plate of 60 multiples.
Making an overprint plate of 60 set for Five Pence.
Making three overprint plates of 60 set for Five Shillings, Ten Shillings and One Pound each.

| 2030 sheets Halfpenny |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| 5040 One Penny |  |
| $\underline{2420}$ Two Pence Halfpenny | $1,138,800$ |
| $\underline{9490}$ sheets of $120=$ | $\underline{1,141,050}$ |
| $\mathbf{7 5 0}$ Specimens each |  |
| 150 Four Pence |  |
| 410 Five Pence | 154,800 |
| 305 Six Pence | $\underline{3,000}$ |
| $\underline{425}$ One Shilling | $\underline{157,800}$ |

105 sheets of 60 Five Shillings ..... 6,300
Specimens ..... 750
7,050
55 sheets Ten Shillings
55 One Pound
110 of $60=$ ..... 6,600
750 Specimens each ..... 1,5008,100

The small size stamps were printed from Key Plate numbered " 1 " on paper security watermarked Crown and CA. The Key Plate number can be found in each corner of the 120 set.

## 1899 Surcharged "3d"

A De La Rue file copy gives information relating to requisition No. 89/99 and the details of this Stamp are as follows.

We were asked on 28th September 1899 to submit our proposal for a Three Pence stamp, and this purple stamp with duty in open letters was submitted, to make a distinction with the many duties portraying the duty in solid letters.

This was not considered a good enough contrast, and we were asked on October 4th submit further specimens. These consisted of four purple and four green with dark letters on white ground submitted on October 6th.

These were still not considered satisfactory, and on October 11th we were asked to submit various specimens with duty overprinted, which they proposed to send out as a temporary measure. They wished to see a bold " 3 d " as well as the words "Three pence" in such colours as will afford the best contrast, overprinted on the Five Pence purple. Our suggestions were submitted on October 13th. The approved chosen specimen was returned on October 18th which was printed but never issued.

## 1900 The Five Shillings Changed Colour

The Crown Agents requisition No. 119/99 requested the changed colour. The De La Rue record shows the following information.

On December 19th 1899 the Government telegraphed that the Five Shilling stamp requisitioned with others under 119/99 on 10th November should be changed to purple. We advised the Crown Agents on December 21st that the whole order had been printed and submitted an appendix in purple with eight different overprints for a selection for repeat orders.

The Crown Agents selected the purple overprint mauve on December 27th.
A De La Rue invoice dated January 1900, attributes 6300 five shilling stamps and 750 specimens.

## 1900 One Penny oval "O".

An entry in the De La Rue Private Day Book for the small size stamps is recorded on the 28th December 1899 and reads as follows.

One Penny Repeat Postage and Revenue Overprint Plate set.
A sales invoice dated 18th January 1900 attributes 8,140 sheets of 120 stamps as the use of this new One Penny duty overprint plate.

## 1901 New Series Coloured Papers

A De La Rue file copy gives the following information on the introduction of the coloured papers.

The Government requiring better distinction between different duties of small stamps, and desiring to see specimens of the three doubly fugitive inks on differing coloured papers appendices were submitted on the 16th February 1900.

The Postmaster General's recommendations on 6th April 1900 were approved by the Colonial Secretary, and a copy of the letter was passed to us by the Crown Agents on 7th May authorizing an overprint plate for the 3d value, but stating that a Five Pence stamp would not be required in this new series.

The colour scheme selected for the new series was as follows:

Halfpenny [Doubly fugitive]
One Penny
Two Pence Halfpenny
Three Pence
Four Pence
Six Pence
One Shilling

Green/Green overprint
Purple/Black overprint
Purple/Blue overprint
Black/Purple overprint
Green/Blue overprint
Purple/Black overprint
Black/Blue overprint

The De La Rue Private Day Book record requisition No. 42/01 of the 2nd of August 1901 contains information on the new series changed colours printed stamps and Postal Stationery.

| 3400 | Sheets Halfpenny |  |
| ---: | :---: | ---: |
| 12775 | One Penny |  |
| $\frac{634}{16809}$ | One Shilling |  |
| 722 Specimens each duty | $2,017,080$ |  |
|  | $\frac{2,166}{2,019,246}$ |  |
| 66 Sheets One Pound x 60 | $\underline{3,960}$ |  |

## Surcharge

685 Sheets Two Pence
Post Cards
25500 Halfpenny
5112 One Penny

## Newspapers

80280 Halfpenny

It would be this requisition where the small size stamps would have been in the changed colours using the 1896 series key plate numbered " 1 " and printed on the paper security watermarked Crown and CA.
(To be continued)
John De Vries

## TURKS ISLANDS

Jamaica 1d Purple usage
Researching for my book on Turks Islands I learned that Mr. Robson Lowe had recorded the use of the Jamaican 1d purple in Turks Islands during a shortage of stamps prior to the local surcharging of the $21 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$ brown.

A pair of these Jamaican stamps with TI Postmark to support the foregoing was submitted to Stanley Gibbons mentioning that as Jamaica administered the Islands it seemed probable that a small supply could have been sent at the same time in April 1889 that supplies were sent to the Cayman Isles.


Gibbons have replied that they are sure this assumption is correct that the Jamaican was in use before the surcharge and this creates an interesting date sequence. The catalogue implies that the previous Turks Islands 1d No. 58 was issued in July 1887 with the surcharge No. 61 following in May 1889 to be itself replaced by the printing No. 62 in July 1889. Jamaica No. 27 is known to have been issued there on the 8th March in that year so this would give only a very short period when the Jamaican stamp was made available for use in Turks Islands.

Gibbons propose recording such usage in a footnote to the Part 1 catalogue 1990.
John J. Challis

## VIRGIN ISLANDS

"Shades of the Past"
I am prompted to write this note by the news that the Stanley Gibbons Part 1 catalogue for 1990 will phase out that elusive shade of the $18881 /-$ value at present classified as "light brown". Both the main Expertising Committees have given up the certification of this shade, in contrast to the enthusiasm with which it has been acknowledged in days gone by.

Although I have about three copies the subject of certificates, my sympathies lie with the latest editorial policy.

It has consistently seemed to me that one cannot draw a clear line between those stamps which have satisfied the experts and those which have failed the test. There is a separate printing to which one can ascribe stamps of the lightest shades, and variation in tone is likely to be due, at least in part, to the relative infrequency with which De La Rue were concerned with lithographed stamps. It would not be out of the question for stamps from one side of a sheet to be accepted as light brown, and those from the other side to be rejected!

Be it said that the arguments are not all one way. A fair case could be made for accepting as a separate category those stamps which show a distinct yellow in the shade (I have two or three of these) but I am far from sure that the yellow tinge may not be a characteristic with which time has embellished them. SPECIMEN stamps are no help at all: some are light enough, and some are not. Incidentally, I have yet to see a used stamp whose shade was light enough to have satisfied the Committee of old.

There is no logic, however, in the sub-classifications of Virgin Islands stamps. The 1866 printing of 1d stamps has been divided into two shades, on each of two papers; the sister printing of the 6 d stamps is recognised in only one shade on "toned" paper (which, in my experience, displays a wider range of colour than the white paper). Then the $1868 \mathrm{6d}$ - a single printing of $1,000 \mathrm{stamps}$ - has two types of paper assigned to it; whilst in contrast the 1d perf. 15 is given three slots only, to accommodate nine consignments, and perhaps fifteen different pane settings. From these I could instance one setting alone where shade ranges from pale to deep green, on white or toned paper, with the green sometimes showing more than a hint of yellow.

I am far from advocating an enlargement of the categories which the catalogue recognises: the indications are rather the other way - one can contemplate in future that others of the sub-classifications which are accepted at the moment will disappear in years to come. The most vulnerable areas (to compression of present listings) are probably the following:
(a) the distinction between white and toned paper in the case of the classic $1 \mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{~d}$ and $1 /-$ values, together perhaps with that between two papers in the 4 d value;
(b) the recognition of a yellow-green shade in the D.L.R. 1d green;
(c) three shades in the D.L.R. 1 d and 4 d values of 1888 may be reduced to two;
(d) SG 66 and 67 may be merged, for they are far too close to each other, although attributable to different printings.
Other candidates for merger might be SG 27 with 28 , and 29 with 30.
If collectors of Virgin Islands are dismayed at the possible 'paper' loss represented by the disappearance now or in the future of somewhat more valuable varieties of shade and so on, one should remember that purges have been made elsewhere in the past - for example, with the disappearance of the 4 d "olive-yellow" of St. Vincent. There is a plus side. The sub-classifications will continue to be of absorbing interest to the specialist; and if the merging of shades and papers means that the basic stamps are bought and sold a little more cheaply, the opportunities for more economical specialisation are correspondingly enhanced

## NEWS ROUND UP

## Belize Philatelic Study Circle

Peter Bylen writes "In 1987 a group of British Honduras and Belize collectors organised to form the Belize Philatelic Study Circle. Dr. Luis Escalante is our President, A.E. Jehie our Treasurer and I serve as secretary. To date we have more or less concentrated on the modern period but we have discussions on the colonial period. The forum for our discussions is a quarterly journal (in loose leaf format) entitled The Belize Collector under the editorship of Robert Chenault. Since Belize is in the unique situation of being both a Caribbean and Central American nation we have been able to attract members who collect from both regions and several BWISC members have joined."

Peter has very kindly offered to supply the back issues of the Belize Collector to the BWISC Library and subsequent issues as Complimentary copies.
(Hon. Ed.)

## The Stamps of Barbados

Ed Bayley writes that his handbook The Stamps of Barbados the fruits of 16 years research was being published at the end of March 1989. The handbook is a limited edition of 1000 and deals with every facet of Barbados Philately between 1852-1952. The price for this 420 page volume with eight pages in full colour is $£ 50, \$ \mathrm{US} 80$ or $\$$ Can 100. Further details from BA. Bayley, PO Box 61, GPO, Bridgetown, Barbados.

## Help Please

The Hon. Sec. has had a letter from a Mr. Anthony Messenger who is not a member because, as he says, "he is not really a specialist in BWI stamps". However he sends details of the following stamps which have intrigued him and would welcome comment from any member.

Dominica SG 100 1d. centre in pale grey
St. Vincent SG 109 1d. and SG 122 1d. War Stamp with diagonal line from top right to bottom left of right hand value tablet. Is this constant?
Trinidad SG 83 1/- with the letters CO showing as a watermark with the letters showing horizontally.
Any comments direct to Mr. Messenger please at 9A Redcliffe Place, London SW10 9DB.

## Jamaica Disinfected Mail

After giving a display on Jamaica recently I was asked a question about Jamaican Disinfected Mail. I know nothing about this subject and have so far not found any references to it. If any member has knowledge of this topic or knows of any reference I would be very grateful to hear from him.
P.S. Perhaps someone could write an article for the Bulletin on this?
(Hon. Ed.)

## STUDY CIRCLE TIE

At the Annual General Meeting I launched the idea of a Study Circle tie which was quite enthusiastically received. I said I would get costings but first we must decide on a design. Here are four suggestions in approximate size i.e. about 28 mm . wide with the design about 10 inches up from its base point. I think gold (or yellow) woven on blue would be the most acceptable colour scheme. Remember a tie is slightly curved outward and therefore some distortion will appear on any design.

What are your views? Can you suggest other designs? Which of these do you prefer? Please drop me a line: Tony Farmer, "The Peppers", Crookham Village, Aldershot, HantS., GU13 0SG. I think the price would be between $£ 5$ and $£ 10$, after all we are a very exclusive group.


## BWI Auctions

BWI Auctions of PO Box 191, London, WC2E 8QQ are no longer conducting Postal Auctions. However they will from time to time send out lists of selected items by Private Treaty.

## Corrigendum

In Bulletin No. 140 March 1989 p. 15 in the tabulation of the Leeward Islands FEES Stamps No. 19 should read 5/- purple and black.

## 1989 Convention Raffle

It is hoped to have a mystery prize in addition to the usual ones. If any member has any surplus material they would like to donate to the mystery prize could he/she please bring it to Leamington.

## MEMBERSHIP LISTING

New Members
CHRISTOPHER, I.

LEFTWICH, J.H. 102
6 Lundy Walk, Stubbington, Fareham, Hampshire, P014 3RE

Coldharbour Lane, Bushey, Watford, Herts. WD2 3NX

## Special Interests

BWI
(E VII - G VI)

Jamaica cancellations and general from 1860.
Br Guiana 1876-1966

## Address Changes

| ABBOT, P. | 34 Ivy Cottages, Llanrhydd Street, Ruthin, Clwyd, Wales. |
| :--- | :--- |
| ADDISS, E.F. | 3800 Parkview Lane, Naples, Florida 33940, USA <br> BOYLAN, R.J. |
|  | 28 Bennetts Road, Everton Hills, Queensland 4053, <br> Australia. |
| COLLENS, I. | PO Box 4752, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia. |
| KENWORTHY, D. | 7 Osprey Close, Ivesley Park, Esh Winning, Co. Durham. |
| KLUGMAN, K.P. | 500 East 63rd Street, 7c, New York, NY 10021, USA. <br> Rebmevox, 17 Wayfield Drive, Stafford, Staffordshire, |
| NOTTINGHAM, D.W. | ST16 1TR. <br> c/o Edward Sellars Ltd., Eclipse Office Park, High Street, |
| POLLARD, R.G.P. | Staple Hill, Bristol BS16 5EL |

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Price: UK, Europe (Air), \& elsewhere overseas (printed paper rate) £5.25; USA (Air printed paper rate) US - $\$ 9.50$; (NO Discount)
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Price: UK - $£ 4.00$; Europe P, Overseas - $£ 4.75$ US - $£ 8.50$ (NO Discounts)
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