

ISSN 0953 - 8720



**STUDY CIRCLE**

FOUNDED  
JANUARY 27th, 1954

*Founder:*  
**P.T. SAUNDERS, TRFSL**

*President:*  
**E.V. TOEG, TRFSL**

*Vice-Presidents:*  
**Charles FREELAND**  
**Simon GOLDBLATT**

**BULLETIN No. 184 MARCH 2000**

# **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE**

Affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation

<i>Chairman</i>	<b>DEREK M. NATHAN</b>
<i>Hon. General Secretary:</i>	<b>PETER G. BOULTON</b>
<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	<b>RAY STANTON,</b>
<i>Hon. Membership Secretary</i>	<b>STEPHEN A. SHARP</b>
<i>Hon. Editor:</i>	<b>DENIS CHARLESWORTH</b>
<i>Hon. Librarian:</i>	<b>DEREK M. NATHAN</b>
<i>Hon. Publications Officer</i>	<b>PETER FORD,</b>
<i>Hon. Public Relations Officer</i>	<b>DOUGLAS W. NOTTINGHAM</b>
<i>Committee:</i>	<b>MICHAEL HAMILTON and DENNIS MITTON</b>
<i>Hon. Auditor:</i>	<b>J.A.C. FARMER, F.C.A.</b>
<i>North American Representative:</i>	<b>W. CLARY HOLT</b>

## **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 (BELIZE) and the Postal History and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period that they were under British administration or control, and those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, and Central or South America.
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 6½") - 2nd Class postage for 150gm rate required.
4. TO publicist '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 £7.50 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £10 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 \$15 made payable to "BWISC". 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.

## IN THIS ISSUE

---

Programme		1
Message from the Chairman	<i>Derek Nathan</i>	2
Millenium Convention Programme of Events		2
Informal displays at joint meeting with BCPSG	<i>Dennis Mitton</i>	3
Meetings during Stamp Show 2000 week	<i>Steve Sharp</i>	3
Millenium Auction		4
Membership Listing		5
Accounts		6
Auditors report	<i>Tony Farmer</i>	7
Obituary - John Challis	<i>Alan Pearse</i>	7
Auctions - the financial aspect of buying	<i>Allan Leverton</i>	8
Barbados - War Tax Overprint	<i>Peter Longley</i>	9
Bermuda - Forgery	<i>Peter Wilkinson</i>	9
Bermuda - "Prague" Covers	<i>Allan Leverton</i>	11
Wanted		12
Cayman Brac Schooner Mail	<i>Kevin Darcy</i>	13
Jamaica - Updates - Part 3	<i>Ian Potter</i>	16
St Kitts-Nevis	<i>Dickon Pollard</i>	18
Stamp perforations	<i>Peter Sargent</i>	20
Help wanted - Trinidad and Tobago	<i>Ron Allan</i>	21
Around the Caribbean		22
Congratulations		22
Library Addition	<i>Derek Nathan</i>	22
Book Review	<i>Derek Nathan</i>	23
WANTED - NEW EDITOR		23

---

## PROGRAMME

---

**2000**

**20-21 May 2000**

**Joint Meeting with B.C.P.S.G.**

**Venue: Bonnington Hotel, London.**

**See this and previous Bulletins for details**

**BONNINGTON HOTEL - 20-21 MAY**  
**THE PLACE TO BE**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Preparations for the joint meeting with BCPSG in London on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> are now in their final stages and I do hope that you have decided to be there, it promises to be an exciting event.

If you are also a member of BCPSG you may like to take note of one or two things that are slightly different from the information given in their December Journal. The nearest tube station to the Bonnington is Russell Square. Informal displays will be of 15 sheets rather than the more normal 16, as frames are at a premium at that time and the only ones we can get are old-fashioned 15 pagers, courtesy of Kingston-upon-Thames Society. If you would like to give an informal display, it might be worthwhile contacting Dennis Mitton in advance, at 1 Denmans, Pound Hill, Crawley, W Sussex, RH10 3SJ. Viewing auction lots will start at 10 am, and the auction itself at 1.30 p.m. If you don't like danish, there will be biscuits available.

The formal displays, after the AGM on Sunday, will be a live show by Federico Borromeo, showing some of his outstanding rarities from all over the Caribbean, followed by two slide shows from Peter McCann, President of the American Philatelic Society, on British Virgin Isles Postal History, and from David Herendeen, on British West Indies Postage Dues. I believe that all three of these outstanding displays will be of interest to the majority of our members.

A lot of people have worked very hard to make this an exceptional meeting and I do hope that you will manage to be there. During the following week, during STAMPSHOW 2000, there will be informal meetings amongst those interested in the specialised areas. The organisers of each of these will let those in their groups know about these nearer the time.

I look forward to seeing you all there - surprise us with the numbers of you that turn up!

Derek Nathan

---

### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

#### **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2000**

11.00am -12.30pm Informal get-together over coffee and Danish and viewing of auction lots.

13.30pm -17.30pm Bumper 800-lot auction.

#### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2000**

10.00am Dealers bourse opens (all day) and informal displays begin.

10.00am-10.45am BCPSG Annual General Meeting.

10.45am -11.30am BWISC Annual General Meeting.  
11.30am -12.30pm First formal display  
12.30pm -14.30pm Lunch and informal displays.  
14.30pm -15.30pm Second formal display.  
15.30pm -18.00pm Informal displays  
16.00pm Opinion table opens  
17.55pm Closing Remarks

## **INFORMAL DISPLAYS AT JOINT MEETING WITH BCPSG**

Any member who wishes to bring material for the informal display should contact me preferably before the meeting to let me know what items they will be bringing along.

The display should be either 15 or 30 pages. My intention is to display everybody's material. You will be expected to stay by the display during the time your material is being displayed so that you can answer any questions. You will also be responsible for the material while it is on display.

It will be very helpful if you could let me have a short written description of you display.

If I don't know you please introduce yourself and I will give you an indication of when your display will be required.

You can contact me at 1 Denmans, Pound Hill, Crawley, West Sussex. RH10 7SJ. Telephone: 01293 883080.

Dennis Mitton

## **MEETINGS for BCPSG & BWISC MEMBERS - STAMP SHOW 2000 WEEK**

In the week following the Convention and during Stamp Show 2000, two of our members are planning to entertain fellow BWI enthusiasts.

Steve Sharp is hosting a get-together for members who collect or are interested in the stamps and postal history of ST. VINCENT at his home on Thursday 25th May.

Visitors will be welcome between 10.00am and 6.00pm. His address and telephone number are inside the front cover of this bulletin. He can pick up from and deliver back to Woking mainline railway station that is about 20 minutes journey from London Waterloo, Anybody coming by car should ring him for directions, as Lovelace Drive can be difficult to find. Buffet lunch and liquid refreshment will be available all day.

Steve states that his collection lacks expensive items from the Perkins Bacon period but otherwise comprehensively covers 1793 to date and will be available

for study throughout the day. Please come if you can and do bring some interesting St. Vincent items if possible.

On Friday 26th May, from 5.30pm, Simon Goldblatt will be philatelically at home at 30 Sloane Gardens, London SW1. All BWI territories to 1936 including postcards will be available on request to amuse and educate. The provision of light refreshments is anticipated. A list of those expecting to attend will be compiled at the convention. Anyone wishing to come at short notice should ring Simon on 0207 7308280.

Steve Sharp

## **MILLENNIUM AUCTION - A JOINT SALE BY BCPSG & BWISC**

To be held at the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London WCI on 20 May 2000

The material in this Auction has been accepted from members either of the BCPSG (the Group) or BWISC (the Circle) or both and will be offered on the following terms.

1. All lots may be sold with or without reserve and the seller may participate in the bidding either himself or by an agent.
2. The buyer to be the highest bidder.
3. Wherever possible the description of a lot will include an estimate of the price which it is expected to realise, and the lot will not be sold without the consent of the seller at substantially below 75% of estimate.
4. The Auctioneer has been appointed by the Auction Managers of the Circle and The Group. The bidding shall be under the control and at the sole discretion of the Auctioneer, who shall have power to settle all disputes and to re-open the bidding in the event of dispute. He may withdraw lots or group two or more lots together without assigning a reason.
5. The Auctioneer reserves the right to bid on behalf of sellers and prospective buyers but shall not be liable for any errors or omissions in executing instructions to bid.
6. Lots will be sold with all faults, imperfections and errors of description and neither the Circle nor the Group can be held responsible for the genuineness of any lot or of an individual item therein. Where however the buyer within 14 days after receipt of a lot (or such further time as the Auction Managers may allow) satisfies the Auction Managers that there is a substantial inaccuracy in the description and returns the lot in unaltered condition, the sale of that lot will be rescinded and the purchase price refunded to the buyer less any costs and expenses incurred by the Auction Managers in connection with the sale.

7. The Circle and the Group will have a lien for all charges on all lots sold or unsold. Payment in full for lots purchased shall (if so required) be made by the buyer before delivery, which shall be at the risk of the buyer and shall include cost of postage, packing and insurance as appropriate. If the buyer does not pay for any lot within such period as the Auction Managers (in their sole discretion) may consider reasonable, the lot may be re-sold in any manner the Auction Managers see fit and the buyer shall pay the difference between his bid price and the net realisation on resale (after deduction of commission and other attendant expenses) but the buyer shall not be entitled to any surplus arising on re-sale. All **bidding** is in sterling but a bidder may by prior arrangement with the Auction Managers elect to be **billed** in US dollars at such exchange rate as the Auction Managers deem appropriate at that date. A collection charge to cover cost of collection will be raised for all payments in non-conforming currency, or for use of credit facilities as the case may be.

8. Sale Commission charged to the seller will be:

On each lot sold:	10p on the first £1 or lower realisation, thereafter 10%
On each lot unsold:	10p
On each lot withdrawn by the seller	sale commission on 75% of the estimated value
On each lot unsold through failing to reach the seller's reserve:	sale commission on the reserve price

These conditions apply as between buyer and/or seller and every officer member and agent of either the Circle or the Group concerned on behalf of either with any aspect of the Auction Sale.

**Note:** In view of the extra expense of holding a joint sale, it be necessary on this occasion only to add 1% to the purchase price of every lot sold. A decision whether this small surcharge needs to be made will be announced immediately prior to the sale.

## **MEMBERSHIP LISTING**

### **New Members**

Wilkinson, P.

# BWISC ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DEC. 1999

## Income and Expenditure Statements for the year ended 31 December 1999

<u>1998</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>1999</u>
£			£. p
2514	Subscriptions		2538.17
591	Publications - net surplus less postages		911.57
(195)	Publication (launch costs '98) Depreciation of Printer		(595.72)
1109	Auction and Miscellaneous donations		915.63
14	Opinion Fees		9.00
<u>140</u>	Interest received less tax		<u>68.54</u>
<u>£ 4173</u>	<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>		<u>£3847.19</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u> 			
1346	Bulletin : costs less advertising	1441.65	
857	: distribution and Editorial expenses	<u>656.47</u>	2098.12
7	Library: acquisition less sale	(4.30)	
114	: insurance	115.00	
25	: Librarian's expenses	<u>15.00</u>	125.70
110	Meeting room hire		120.00
135	ABPS Affiliation Fee		142.20
258	Officers' Administration : stationery, postages, telephone, photo-copying etc. less recoveries		313.27
-	Convention (net deficit)		40.79
156	WIPEX'98		-
83	Miscellaneous		<u>85.00</u>
<u>£3091</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>£ 2925.08</u>
<u>1082</u>	<u>SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>922.11</u>
<u>£4173</u>			<u>£3847.19</u>

## Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 1999

<u>ACCUMULATED FUND</u>			
16531	Balance at 1.1.1999	17613.35	
1082	<u>Add</u> Surplus for the year	922.11	
137	Dollar conversion reserve	<u>174.42</u>	
17750			18709.88
(11560)	<u>Less</u> Stocks of Publications at cost		<u>(11659.20)</u>
<u>£6190</u>			<u>£7050.08</u>
 <u>REPRESENTED BY:</u> 			
8332	Cash at Banks		7788.71
	Publication's Printer at cost	1787.16	
-	<u>Less</u> depreciation	<u>595.72</u>	1191.44
<u>133</u>	Amounts due to us		<u>92.50</u>
8465			9072.65
(1768)	<u>Less</u> Subscriptions received In advance	1819.23	
<u>(507)</u>	Amounts due by us	<u>202.74</u>	<u>(2021.97)</u>
<u>£6190</u>			<u>£7050.68</u>



## **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

I hereby certify that the Income and Expenditure Statements for the year ended 31 December 1999 are in accordance with the books, vouchers and explanations given to me; and that the Balance Sheet shows the financial state of the British West Indies Study Circle at that date, save that the Stocks of Publications, whilst valued at cost as consistent with previous accounts, may not have a market value of the sum stated on that date and in the Balance Sheet have been treated as having a nil value. In all other respects the finances of the Study Circle appear to be sound. There are three honorary life members.

J.A.C. Farmer FCA, FRPSL  
11 February 2000

## **OBITUARY - JOHN CHALLIS**

John J. Challis, the doyen of Turks and Caicos Islands philatelists in this country, died recently. Although he had been active in philatelic circles over a long period, advancing years had restricted his activities for quite some time and he was not known personally to most of our present members (including, sadly, the writer of this obituary).

He did, however, contribute the Victorian section of the Turks Islands portion of the BWISC's display at Stampex in 1994. (The writer was honoured to be asked to provide a section of the later issues.)

But, to collectors of Turks and Caicos Islands material, his name will always be remembered for the *Roses Caribbean Handbook* on that colony, published in 1983. In the foreword to that splendid work, Mr. Challis mentioned Sir Edward Bacon and Major Thomas Chariton Henry: there is no doubt that the name of John Challis should now be mentioned with them.

Another name mentioned in that foreword is that of Leonard Britnor. I understand that John Challis was at school in Essex as a boy and that Leonard Britnor was a master there at the time. Mention is also made in the book of Robert Challis, the elder brother of John, who lived and worked in Grand Turk for some years to about 1942. The pupil of the former and younger brother of the latter made excellent use of the information - and, in the latter case, material - received from them.

Our sympathy goes out to John Challis's family and friends in their sad loss.

Alan F. Pearse

## AUCTIONS - THE FINANCIAL ASPECT OF BUYING

In the last year or two, I have become more and more astonished at the financial aspect of buying in VAT situations at auctions.

In 1942 when there was no VAT and no buyers commission, it was possible and entertaining to purchase at the London auctions and overseas. Attending various fairs across the country I find we are losing collectors both established and new members of the hobby because of the present situation. I have been involved in auction since late 1960's until the 1990's and I think something has to be done to encourage both new and old collectors to continue.

One or two factors are noteworthy:

1. A catalogue, to be fair to all, must be available a month or three weeks at least before the actual date of the auction. That gives overseas buyers a chance and also gives collectors an opportunity to put funds into play.
  2. A professional description should be prepared which enables a reader to judge a lot without viewing. Numbers of stamps and catalogue value is a great help except of course in large accumulations.
  3. If a professional describer can also be the auctioneer - this helps a great deal. He can give the buyers advice especially during the viewing. This rarely if ever happens nowadays.
  4. To have a buyers and sellers commission puts the auctioneer in an impossible situation - he cannot satisfy two opposing clients.
  5. In the recent months we have another phenomenon. The large lot £20,000+ with perhaps five line description - this must be angled at the big spender, but it gives the genuine collector little chance, also many estimates are meaningless and makes the auction field completely new.
- a) Phone bids during an auction in my opinion slow the rhythm and sense of auction. What stops a seller or his agent bidding on his own property? We are in the dark and do not know anything about such a buyer. He could be, for example, in the next room to maintain his ambiguity.
- b) Extensions should be requested before the auction. In practice we found many examples of such request being merely an excuse for delay in

payment. An auctioneer should be able to refuse such a request and especially during an auction.

E.g. A calculation.

A lot which is VATable fetched £100 + VAT + buyers commission = total £135. The vendor at 12½% sellers commission obtains £87.50 nett. Seems a very wide margin, which does not attract the collector to pursue his hobby.

Allan Leverton

## **BARBADOS - WAR TAX OVERPRINT**

With regard to the item by Robert Ellis in the December 1999 issue (No.183) of the bulletin about Barbados War Tax Overprint issued October 1916 to end 1917.

Bayley says withdrawn 31-3-20.

I have an example used to Southampton on 11-3-21 and a loose stamp of ?-1-22.

Peter Longley

## **WANTED**

I am presently carrying out a study of the BERMUDA QV 1d (red) flaws, according to Morris Ludington's work with particular reference to the lower left pane, which I hope to reconstruct.

Do any members have spare stamps to sell in mint or used condition, single or multiple and particularly on piece or cover, from either of the 1865-1903 (CC wmk) or 1883-98 (CA wmk) issues?

If you can help please contact me, Peter Wilkinson at the address detailed in list of new members on page 5 of this issue. Thank you.

## **BERMUDA - Forgery**

The illustration following shows an acquisition that I made at the Spink - Ludington - Bermuda" sale of last June. It shows the 'Forgery' mounted on an album page with a genuine stamp mounted below it. It is a 1938 7½d typo, on paper without a watermark and is in (very) close to the issued colours.

G. UNKNOWN FORGER. "DIE PROOF" LITHOGRAPHED  
Actual size 156mm x 105mm



GENUINE STAMP WAS  
LINE ENGRAVED.



Information so far indicates a 1940's French printer by the name of Helio Vaugirard'.  
Can anyone confirm this?

I know of one other identical piece here in the UK, do others exist? Perhaps of  
different values? Is the printer / forger known? For what purpose was this die proof  
made?

If members can supply any details on the above, I shall be grateful. Any help will be  
appreciated.

Peter Wilkinson

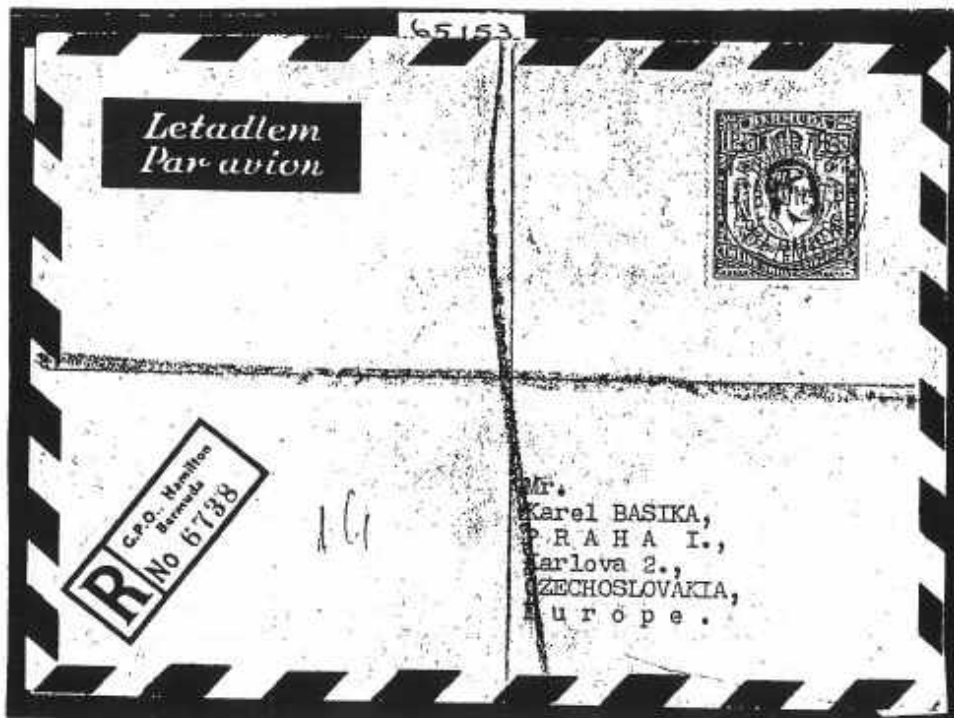
## BERMUDA - "Prague" Covers

1946/47 The Lemon shade on non-chalk paper, CW 15BB. The stamp is known Mint, but most copies are on covers reg. to "Prague" 18/JUN/47 (reg. Nos. 6735 - 6744 are known).

The background to this shade is not known for sure. However, it would appear that the supply has been held in Bermuda for some time hence the paper became slightly toned.

It is almost certain these stamps were for "poll tax" use - and it is possible some were stuck on forms, but not cancelled and later used, by a person unknown, on covers. The 12s/6d rate is too high, but if the stamp has to be saleable it had to be "used" as a philatelic item. These were offered in U.K through the original Commonwealth Stamp Company in Liverpool.

We purchased several for £15 or £25 each as the "Lemon", but when we checked they were obviously from a different printing. We had a Mint Block of this shade at the time which was sold to a prominent Bermuda collector (Sir Lacon Thelford) in U.K. When he died the collection was sold by H.R. Harmer about 1953/54. In the recent Ludington auction the write up is of great interest e.g. (see next page).



Notes from a page in Ludington Collection

12s.6d. Gray and Yellow on Plain Unsurfaced Paper (CW. No. 15bb).

Like the 1938-1940 printings, the yellow ink has a heavy iron content. The yellow ink on the 1942-1946 printings on substitute paper has practically no iron, but is heavy in strontium, not found on the stamp below.

The 1939 and/or 1940 printings were on sale at the Hamilton P.O. in 1946 and it seems likely that one or more sheets, without chalk surfacing, and with the frame yellower than usual, went on sale in 1947. Note that the paper is similarly toned indicating a long period of storage in Bermuda.

With B.P.A. Cert. Ex Ludington. Signed WE. Lea. A.M. Leverton, J. Webb

Allan Leverton

**NOW AVAILABLE**

**'THE AIRMAILS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'  
by RON WIKE**

Hardbound. A4 200+ pages

An in-depth study of the airmails from the early days up to Concorde complemented by contemporary photographs, many never published before and illustrations of first flight covers, many in colour.

Price: UK-£38.00; Europe & overseas-£41.00; US-\$74.00  
BWISC Members' Discount-8.00 (US \$14.00)

**Contact Peter Ford or Clary Holt (North American members)**

**Addresses inside front page of Bulletin.**

**E-mail enquiries to: [pcford@bwisc.demon.co.uk](mailto:pcford@bwisc.demon.co.uk)**

**WANTED**

I am currently after the following items for my Jamaica collection:

- 1) Cover without additional stamps, with Red Cross label and signature of Lewis Ashenheim (the Chairman of the Patriotic League).
- 2) Foster Type SL1 or any other ship letter handstamp (ship letter handstamp on cover or piece).

Please reply to me C.F. Raymond Barnett at Arawak House, Suite 202, Queen Street, P.O. Box 45, Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands. Tel: (809) 94-62636/7

Advert

FREDERICK P. SCHMITT

Advert

ARGYLL ETKIN LTD

Advert

CHRIS RAINEY

Advert

STAMP INSURANCES SERVICES



Advert

WILLARD S. ALLMAN

Advert

PETER SINGER

Advert

BRIDGER & KAY (GUERNSEY) LTD

Advert

Murray Payne Ltd

## CAYMAN BRAC SCHOONER MAIL

Around the turn of the last century, seafaring was the main occupation for the male population of Cayman Brac; working the large boats from Jamaica or Cuba along the South Eastern seaboard of the U.S.A. or turtle fishing down to the Mosquito Coast of Nicaragua.

Sending mail to family on these vessels for maybe weeks or months at a time was a problem. By July, 1909 an official service was set up from Caymans to Bluefields, Nicaragua. Mail leaving Caymans would be transferred to vessels of the Atlantic Navigation Co. Ltd. or despatched to the turtling grounds in the charge of Messrs. Creighton Bros. or the Commandant of Mosquito Bay. The addressee would then call for them.

Little mail from Cayman Brac, when the post office opened in 1898 to 1907, has survived. In fact, the amount sent was probably relatively small.

In the Jamaica used in Cayman period 1898-1901, there are 8 recorded covers.

CANCEL	STAMP	DATE	ADDRESSEE	SCHOONER	ADDRESS
Cayman Brac Type I	Jamaica 1d Purple	Aug. 15, 1899	Isaac Ryan	"Polonia"	c/o CM. Jonas, Lucea, Jamaica
"	"	Sept. 6, 1899	Capt. E.H. Foster	"Union"	c/o H.A.Hitchings, Kingston, Jamaica
"	"	Sept. 16, 1899	Louis Winkler & Co		Kingston
"	4d P.S.C.	Oct. 24, 1899	J.G. Graves & Co.		Sheffield, England
"	Jamaica 1d Purple	?	Kirkconnell		Local
"	"	Jan. 12, 1900	Isaac Ryan		c/o Hitchings, Kingston
"	"x 2	Jan. 12, 1900	Isaac Ryan	"Polonia"	c/o H.A.Hitchings, Kingston
Type II	"(on back)	Jan. 12, 1900	Isaac Ryan	"Polonia"	c/o H.A.Hitchings, Kingston

In the Cayman stamp era 1902-1907, I have found records of only 8 covers in the major collection and auction catalogues, though other examples must surely exist.

CANCEL	STAMP CAYMAN	DATE	ADDRESSEE	SCHOONER	ADDRESS
Cayman Brac Type II	QV 1d x 2, ½d	Jan. 24, 1902	Mead Cycle Co		Chicago, USA
" See Fig.1	Edw. ½dx2	Aug. 28, 1903	Mrs. G.L. Ryan	"Huldah"	c/o Mrs. Owen, Baptist Mission, Bog Walk, Jamaica
"	QV 1dx 2, Edw. ½d	May 27, 1904	Isaac Ryan	"Union"	c/o c.w. Pryor & Sons, Pensacola, Florida, U.S.
"	"	May 27, 1904	Isaac Ryan	"Union"	"
"	"(on back)	May 27, 1904	Isaac Ryan	"Union"	"
"	Edw. 2½d	May 16, 1905	James Ryan	Walter K Merit	c/o W.B. Curry, Key West, Florida
"	Edw. 1dx5, ½dx4	Jan.2, 1906			Reg.To USA
See Fig.2	Edw. 2½d	May 26, 1906	Capt. E.H. Foster	"Union"	c/o R.A. Cromwell, Tampa, Florida,USA

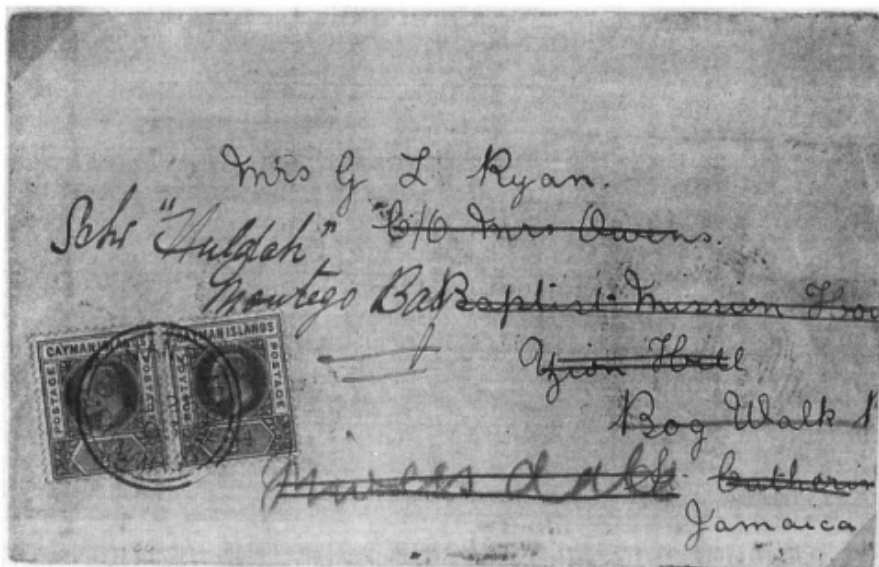


FIG.1

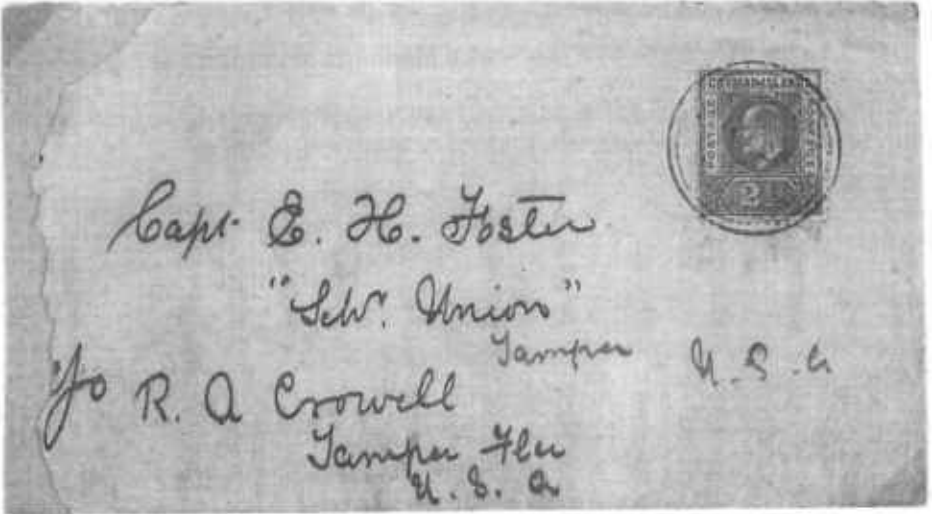


FIG.2

How mail arrived at schooners prior to the official arrangements of 1909 is pure conjecture but some theories may be drawn from the table. In the Jamaica used in Cayman period 4 of the 8 covers are addressed to schooners, another similar cover has the name of the schooner missing. Of the 4 with a c/o address, 4 are to H. A. Hitchings. It is of interest that Hitchings & Co. was a firm of forwarding agents in Kingston, Jamaica. Possibly H.A. Hitchings was carrying on this work or had an unofficial *poste restante* service as of 1909.

Of the 8 later covers, 6 are to schooners, 5 off the coast of Florida addressed similarly to the earlier 5 covers to Kingston, Jamaica. They may have been dealt with in a similar way. Probably the most interesting and best-documented item is the 1903 cover sent to the Baptist Mission, Bog Walk Jamaica. It was forwarded on to the schooner Huldah when information that the Huldah had called in at Montego Bay was received in the local paper. It has full accompanying backstamps. An example of a friend acting as an unofficial forwarding agent?

Schooner "Polonia"	Owned by Foster Brothers	Lost in the cyclone of 1903 with all crew on board.
Schooner "Union" (Weight 72 tons)	Owned by Foster Brothers	Foundered after being abandoned on the rocks on the East End of Cayman Brac in the hurricane of 1909. All the crew were rescued.
Schooner "Walter K.Merit" (Weight 80 tons)	Owned by Kirkconnell Bras.	Lost at sea with all the crew in the hurricane of 1910
"Huldah" (36-ton sloop)	Owned by W.E. Bodden & Son	

I would be interested if any other members of the Study Circle have examples of such mail or have thoughts or information on how this mail was handled.

# JAMAICA

## Updates to “The Postal Markings of Jamaica” - Part 3

The following are updates for the book “The Postal Markings of Jamaica” by Ian Potter and will be put into the bulletin in instalments in this and future issues.

Note: Changes and new items are in bold type.

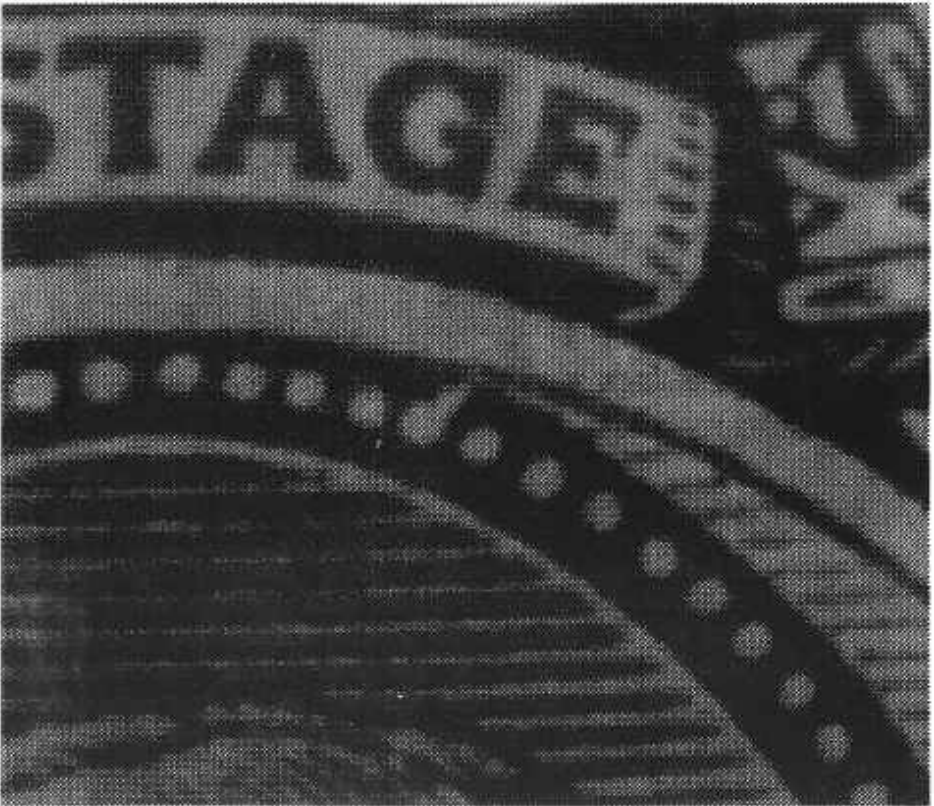
Cancel No.	Name	Code	Size	Lettering	Ink	E.K.D.	L.K.D.	
1720.145	CENTRAL SORTING	<b>O3/41</b>	<b>50mm x 35mm</b>	<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Violet or Black</b>	<b>22/09/1985</b>	<b>22/08/1997</b>	
		Reads “C.S.O. / KINGSTON JAMAICA”.						
1720.54	CENTRAL SORTING	O3/41		Serif capitals	Blue	12/03/1990	27/10/1994	
		Reads “MAIN REGISTER SECTION / C.S.O. KINGSTON JAMAICA”.						
1720.60	CENTRAL SORTING	<b>O3/41</b>	<b>56mm x 40mm</b>	<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Violet &amp; Black</b>	<b>26/11/1991</b>	<b>17/12/1996</b>	
		Reads “RETURNED LETTER BRANCH / C.S.O. JAMAICA”						
1720.61	CENTRAL SORTING	<b>O3/41</b>	<b>49mm x 32mm</b>	<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>14/03/1996</b>	<b>09/10/1998</b>	
		Reads “CENTRAL SORTING OFFICE / JAMAICA” “CE” of OFFICE is level or below the date						
1720.62	CENTRAL SORTING	<b>O3/41</b>	<b>56mm x 41mm</b>	<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>25/06/1996</b>	<b>20/01/1998</b>	
		Reads “CENTRAL SORTING OFFICE / KINGSTON JAMAICA” Known Black, Blue & Violet						
1720.63	CENTRAL SORTING	<b>O3/41</b>	<b>56mm x 42mm</b>	<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>22/08/1997</b>		
		Reads “CENTRAL SORTING OFFICE / JAMAICA”						
1720.64	CENTRAL SORTING	<b>O3*W/37e</b>		<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Violet</b>	<b>20/03/1998</b>	<b>28/01/1999</b>	
		Reads “CENTRAL SORTING OFFICE / JAMAICA W.I.” with asterisks.						
1780.17	CHAPELTON	<b>M.S.R.DA</b>			<b>Black</b>	<b>24/10/1996</b>		
		Reads “CHAPLETON” with “L” before the “E”.						
1810.07	CHATHAM	<b>O3PA/41j</b>	<b>49mm x 34mm</b>	<b>Serif capitals</b>	<b>Violet</b>	<b>14/03/1991</b>		
		Reads “CHATHAM POSTAL AGENCY! JAMAICA”.						
1810.08	CHATHAM	<b>M.S.R.DA</b>	<b>Renumber 1810.07 in book</b>					

Cancel No.	Name	Code	Size	Lettering	Ink	E.K.D.	L.K.D.
1840.08	CHESTER CASTLE	O3*POW/37je		Serif capitals	Blue	25/09/1998	
				Reads CHESTER CASTLE POST OFFICE / JAMAICA W.I."			
1870.07	CLAREMONT	M.S.R.	13.5mm dia	Small	Black	29/07/1953	12/12/1985
				Difficult to distinguish 07 & 08 but this has an "R" with a short verticle & often has year plug missing			
1900.03	CLARKS TOWN	D. Ring	27mm dia.	2.5mm high	Black	08/02/1912	03/09/1937
2020.06	COKA	O3/41		Serif capitals	Black	01/08/1998	
				Reads "COKER / JAMAICA"			
2080.02	COMFORT CASTLE	O3/41	49mm x 33mm	Serif Capitals	Various	04/06/1977	13/05/1999
				Known in Black up to 7/7/77 then in Violet. Black in 8/6/97 & 30/6/97. Blue 13/5/99.			
2140.04	CONSTANT SPRING	B3	Black				
				Reused 15/10/1996 more than 10 years after previous use.			
2140.06	CONSTANT SPRING	Mach-MSR			Black	30/08/1968	??/09/1997
2140.08	CONSTANT SPRING	O3/41	49mm x 34mm	Serif Capitals	Various	01/02/1980	20/10/1997
				Known in Violet, Black & Blue			
2210.05	CORNWALL	O3*PAW/37je	Serif Capitals		Black	12/05/1997	
				Reads "CORNWALL POSTAL AGENCY / JAMAICA W.I."			
2210.06	CORNWALL	O3/41		Serif Capitals	Black	12/08/1998	
				Reads "CORNWALL / JAMAICA".			
2290.02	CRAWFORD	M.S.R.			Black (See note)	26/09/1973	10/08/1998
2310.03	CROFTS HILL	O3/41		Serif Capitals	Blue	14/04/1997	23/04/1998

## ST KITTS-NEVIS

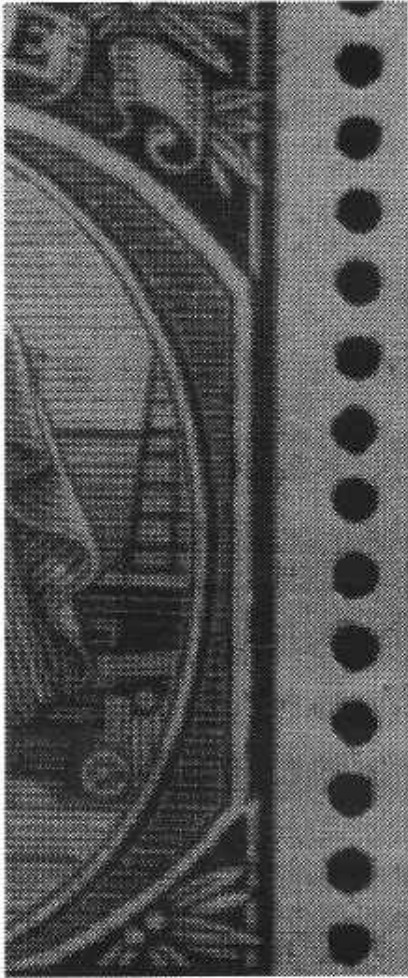
Recently, a top right corner block of 6 of the 1920-2 5/- (SG.34) crossed my desk. As Murray Payne Ltd published Peter Baldwin's book on the 1938-50 issue, I was reminded that he set out to study that issue in the expectation of finding varieties on that set similar to those on the Bermuda 1938 keytypes.

So I thought I would get my glass out and have a look at this block - no reason why there shouldn't be similar varieties present. The sheet format is 5 x 12, according to B&K's Five Reigns catalogue. So this block is R1-2/3-5. I found two good flaws, firstly on R1/3: a damaged pearl underneath the 'G' of 'REVENUE'; secondly, frameplate damage at the right of R1/5. There should be a line connecting the ornamentation above the value tablet to the outer frame - this is missing. In addition, someone has been chewing the inside frame.

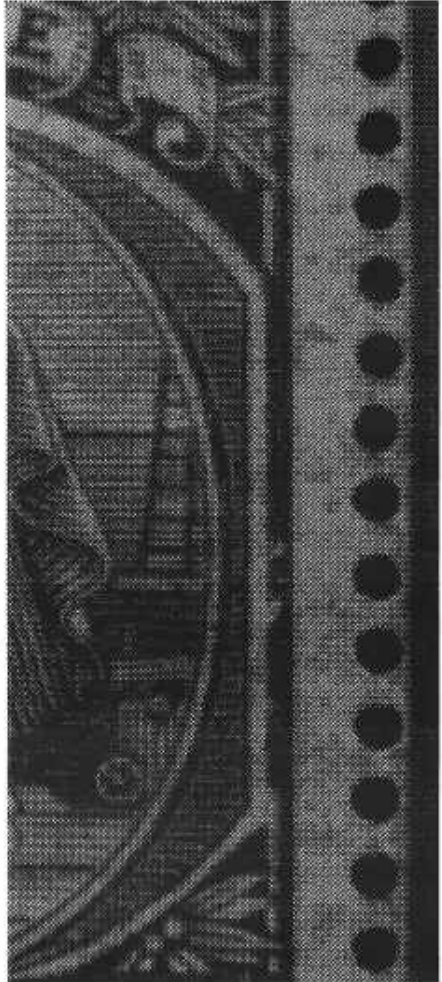


R1/3





R1/4



R1/5

I think it is safe to say that if these were KG VI stamps, these varieties would probably be catalogued by now - the damaged pearl is bigger than its KG VI Bermuda equivalent. It should be reasonably easy for someone else to confirm these varieties, since the frameplate was in common with various other values. Also, these stamps turned up on the market in sheets in about 1979. They were split up and mostly ended up in 'Investment Portfolios', so should still be quite easy to find.

Dickon Pollard

## STAMP PERFORATION

I am producing, along with a colleague, a comprehensive book on the introduction and early developments of stamp perforation carried out at Somerset House for Perkins Bacon and De La Rue. We have spent a considerable amount of time at the main places of research, e.g. Public Records Office, Post Office Archives, National Postal Museum, and the British Library working from original documents. Much of the information we have unearthed has not been used before and it makes a fascinating story.

We are also researching perforation varieties, so knowing that a number of commonwealth stamps were perforated at Somerset House, including Barbados and Grenada, I am now asking fellow collector members of the BWISC as well as dealers for their help.

The issues that I am particularly interested in are the perf. 14 Grenada issues: 1s deep mauve (SG.13) and 1d green (SG.14) of 1875, and the range of overprinted revenue stamps all printed in orange in 1875 and 1879 of which some were overprinted again later. All these stamps were printed using the line engraved process and the size of the stamps was the same as the contemporary British 1d and 2d values. The sheets could therefore be perforated by the same perforation gauge 14 combs used for the British line engraved stamps, and it is evident that these were used because the same broken perforation pin varieties are displayed on both the Grenada stamps and the contemporary issues of the 1d red.

In general, Somerset House experienced few problems perforating these stamps, except for the 1d green. For that issue problems abounded. Apart from the generally poor quality of the finished product, there was also a lot of spoilage. In consequence, Perkins, Bacon had to make a separate printing of a further 40 sheets to make up the order. These were line-perforated gauge 15 by Perkins, Bacon. In this form the 1d green (SG.15) has become one of the most sought after Grenada stamps.

The kind of varieties which I would like to purchase or be notified of are: wildly misperforated stamps, double perforations, short/long stamps, marginal markings with pinning marks and stamps with broken perforation pin varieties.

I am also interested in similar varieties on stamps of Barbados perforated at Somerset House, e.g. the issues of 1873: 3d brown purple (SG.63) and 5s dull rose (SG.64), as well as 1874: ½d deep green (SG.65) and 1d deep blue (SG.66).

Help from members will be much appreciated!

Peter Sargent

## HELP WANTED - TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Members were kind enough to respond to my query (on the 1986 Dr. Eric Williams issue of Trinidad and Tobago) in a previous issue of the Bulletin. Thank you.

My next query on Trinidad and Tobago, relates to the 3c value of the 1938 definitive issue, showing Mt. Irvine Bay in Tobago. Based on the same design as the 3c stamp of 1935 (SG.232), the 1938 stamp (SG.248) was also in the same colours of black and scarlet. However, in 1941 the stamp was reissued (SG.248a) with the colours changed to green and purple brown. The same design and changed colours were again used for the 1953 issue (SG.269).

Can any of our members tell me the reason for the 1941 colour change, please? One answer may be that the changed colours were more appropriate to the view depicted on the stamp. Another may be the old colours' similarity to the colour's on one of the other denominations, with the consequent risk of confusion among postal clerks.

Whatever the reason, I shall be very grateful for an authoritative answer from one of your members. Replies can be sent to me at Uplands, Itchen Abbas, Hampshire. SO21 1AX. Telephone: 01962 779507.  
E-mail: [ron.allan@btinternet.com](mailto:ron.allan@btinternet.com)

Ron Allan

### BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP

#### RECENT MONOGRAPHS

(All prices include surface postage)

***Leeward Islands: A Postal History Anthology*** (1997) 74p £13  
Ludington, ***Postal History of Blockade Running Through Bermuda, 1861 - 1865*** (1996) 51p £13

Forand & Freeland, ***Bermuda Mails to 1865*** (1995) 124p £13  
Devaux, ***Early Air Mails of Saint Lucia*** (1993) 26p £6.50

For details, please contact

**Cyril Bell**

**4445 Riverside Drive, Lilburn, GA 30347 USA**  
**Tel: 770 978 8948 Fax: 770 978 7547**

## **AROUND THE CARIBBEAN**

### **Montserrat**

#### **Commemorative Set - World Teachers Day 1999**

Values - \$1, \$1.15, \$1.50, \$5

Designer - Michael Pollard

Stamp size - 31.77mm x 31.75mm

Printer - Cambridge Security

Date of issue - 5 October 1999

#### **Commemorative Set - Hammerhead Shark - WWF**

Value - 50c x 4 types arranged in sheetlet of 16

Designer - Ross Watton

Sold only in Sheetlet of 16 stamps

Printer - Impressor

Process - Colour Lithography

Date of issue - 29 November 1999

#### **Commemorative Set - Welcome to the Millennium 2000**

Value - \$1.50

Date of issue - 1 January 2000

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

The following members have recently been elected Fellows of the Royal, and congratulations are in order:- Peter Fernbank, Michael Oliver and Dr. R. Straus

## **LIBRARY ADDITION**

4.22 EARLY ROUTINGS OF THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET

COMPANY 1842-1 879 by Phil J. Kenton & Harry G. Parsons

Postal History Society 1999

Top

Derek Nathan

**MATERIAL WANTED PLEASE  
FOR THE JUNE.AND ALL FUTURE  
BULLETINS**

## **BOOK REVIEW**

### **EARLY ROUTINGS OF THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY 1842 - 1879 by Phil J. Kenton & Harry G. Parsons**

As will be noticed elsewhere in the Bulletin, the Library has purchased this most recent publication from the Postal History Society.

I have no doubt that all Postal Historians with an interest in the carriage of mails to and from the Caribbean, especially from Britain, will find this book invaluable.

The care that has been taken over a period of ten years to go back to primary sources and make sure that sailing dates and vessel names are correct has been a labour of love, which the Authors contend they would never have started had they realised that it would take this long.

I have found the tables easy to use and, what's more, they tie up with the dates on the letters I have examined, a very satisfactory state of affairs.

There is a lot of supplementary information included in the book, which is 471 pages in hardback, but I think its lasting value will be to refer to the names and sailings, and I should like to thank the Authors for the trouble they have taken in producing this fine book.

Derek Nathan

### **WANTED NEW EDITOR**

Having been in the position of Hon. Editor of the Circle bulletin for about 10 years, I find that due to redundancy taking place later this year I must look to the future. I am therefore giving you, the members, early notification that I will be resigning this position and that a new editor will be requested at this years AGM.

For those that would like to take on the job, do not worry, help will be given. I think anyone taking on this job will find it interesting.

If you are interested, please contact Derek Nathan. (Address and phone number at front of this bulletin)

Advert

CAVENDISH PHILATELIC AUCTIONS LTD

Advert

Pennymead Auctions

Advert

HARMERS of LONDON