

ISSN 0953 - 8720



**STUDY CIRCLE**

FOUNDED  
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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

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

**BULLETIN No. 185 JUNE 2000**

# **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE**

Affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation

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## **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.

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## PROGRAMME

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**2001**

**Saturday 28th April 2001**

**Annual General Meeting and Auction  
Venue: Bonnington Hotel, London.**

**MATERIAL WANTED PLEASE  
FOR THE SEPTEMBER  
AND ALL FUTURE ISSUES**

## **REPORT ON THE JOINT WEEKEND MEETING WITH THE BCPSG AT THE BONNINGTON HOTEL - MAY 20/21**

Immediately prior to "STAMPSHOW 2000", the BWISC and BCPSG held a joint meeting at the Bonnington Hotel in central London.

This consisted of a bumper auction on the Saturday and an open day on the Sunday.

A report on the Auction appears elsewhere in the Bulletin. This is my impression of the rest of the action. Somewhere in the region of a hundred members of the two groups attended at some time during the weekend, most of them for the entire period. Many of those people were members of both groups, and there was a great feeling of reunion amongst many of them; those who were not so involved in the mainstream soon found themselves in company with like minds with like interests.

Saturday started well before the advertised time of ten o'clock with the keener members anxious to examine the auction lots. Slowly the numbers increased until over seventy potential bidders had registered with Ray Stanton, who was kept very busy doing this and distributing the splendid badges prepared in advance by Peter Boulton.

During a half-hour break from viewing, the hotel staff did a magnificent job setting up the room again to allow eighty people to attend the auction in comfort and earshot.

After the auction, acclaimed by a member of the 'Council of the Royal' afterwards as one of the most professional sales he had ever been to, there was a very short break before wine and cheese was served to a thirsty collection of successful bidders.

On Saturday evening the assembled company broke up into small groups, some of whom did not reach home until the wee small hours.

Sunday began with six dealers moving in to claim their tables and set out their stock. Peter Ford, who had already sold a quantity of publications on Saturday, also continued doing good business and the old firm of Goldblatt and Freeland kept the Circle table in constant demand.

We had deliberately left very short periods of 45 minutes each for the AGMs of the two Groups and it is to the credit of both that these times were adhered to. A report on the Study Circle AGM appears elsewhere.

At 11.30 sharp, we began to be entertained by the first of the formal displays, given on extremely professionally produced slides by David Herrendeen, on BWI Postage Dues. This was followed immediately by a further slide show by

Peter McCann on the Postal History of the British Virgin Islands. These were two exceptional shows, greatly appreciated by their large audience.

During the various breaks, Dennis Mitton had seen to it that a constant stream of informal displays occupied the frames, and the dealers continued doing business in an adjacent room.

After informal breaks for lunch, we reassembled for a display of Nevis by Federico Borromeo, ninety pages of incomparable material, which the members took a full hour to digest.

The entertainment was completed by a light hearted opinion table at which Simon Goldblatt, Charles Freeland and Peter Jaffé RDP gave their opinions on a number of 'patients' supplied by those present, not many of which were very complimentary.

We were delighted that Peter Jaffé felt able to spend the entire day with us, as we were that Victor Toeg had managed to spend the whole day on Saturday and give a vote of thanks to Simon Goldblatt. We were also very pleased to see David Atkinson, recently the victim of a stroke, who stayed the course right through Sunday.

The weekend came to a satisfactory conclusion when about seventy members and their spouses descended upon Poons Restaurant, where David Druett had arranged a feast. David had been responsible for many of the arrangements of the weekend and we are very grateful for the work he had done to make it an event to remember.

Derek Nathan

## **MILLENNIUM AUCTION REPORT**

Three years of planning our joint auction with BCPSG led up to the production of a catalogue that may itself become a collectors piece, and a sale which was a mammoth success.

To begin with a few statistics:- There were 40 sellers; 90 bidders on the book; 75 numbers distributed in the auction room; and a range of visitors from Australia, the United States, Canada, and elsewhere, who turned our annual event into a true International. Perhaps our successors will celebrate the year 3000 in similar style.

When the last of our 751 lots was sold, the sale total had reached £33,239. Sales since that time have added a further £1345, while private treaty material sold on the Sunday realised another £1362.80. The one disappointment for those who like to have third thoughts, is that administrative complications have prevented us from issuing what has become our customary offer of unsold lots.

There were 200 of these to be returned to their owners in the end, so that over 73% of the listed lots were sold. We hope to resume our normal service of circulating a list of unsold items in the year 2001.

A further ground for satisfaction is that it was unnecessary to levy the 1% surcharge which had been intimated as possible. Instead there will be a useful surplus to divide between our two Societies, notwithstanding the very considerable extra expense of mounting a joint auction. This must be gratifying for BCPSG, because it was an act of faith on their part to agree to reduce their usual commission and accept that the auction take place not only on BWISC's home ground, but on our standard terms as well. Our auction team here does not under-estimate the difficulties of rounding up material and support from a membership widely scattered across the North American continent, and elsewhere around the world. Ed Waterous as the Group's' manager, and Rob Wynstra as their President, did a grand job with their supporting teams in swelling the ranks of sellers and buyers. It is noteworthy that, of the 15 sellers who disposed of all the items they had to offer, there was one Group member who provided 19 lots, and sold every one of them.

While distributing bouquets, we must pay our acknowledgements to the three ladies whom our auctioneer cajoled into volunteering to look after the lots as these were sold. Our helpers go entirely unrewarded. They are indispensable to a smoothly-run auction: yet some of us are so absorbed in our buying that we can take the presence of assistance for granted. Anyway, a big thank you to the ladies, and let us hope that most of us behaved well enough to merit similar help next year.

**Lot 14 (Re-entries of Antigua)** needs special mention at this point. It was untraceable after the sale, and obviously got popped into somebody's bag in error. Would all readers please re-check their purchases? There is a disappointed buyer somewhere out there, waiting for lot 14 to arrive.

Now for the sale review. Of course St. Vincent dominated. We had estimated the 65 lots at £3606: the 55 that sold realised £4687, so members will see that it was not simply the spectacular £1700 paid for the Duggleby PERUVIAN VALE which carried this ever-popular territory. These prices for the rare postmarks (Mayreau made £500, and our other Peruvian Vale £320) start to take the West Indies into and well beyond levels of Seychelles rarities, to challenge Hong Kong at the peaks. Yet there are even rarer West Indian postmarks than these St. Vincent treasures, and the buyer who picked up Antigua's English Harbour, St James, and St Johnston's (at £220, £65 and, cover, £300 respectively) may find that these will join the really high flyers.

It is well worth recording that our valuations for the lots sold were exceeded by a little over £2,000, or something over 6%. Those who follow our auctions will know how hard we try to get our pre-sale estimates right, and we feel that, after

allowing for a handful of lots which predictably took off, this year's sale gives a pretty reliable guide to current market values for BWI specialities. If asked to define these, they are what the underbidder will pay for an item that has been sold. So we can forget about the £5,000 odd which the auctioneer allows us to say went unused on his 'book' by the successful postal bidders, and we shall not attempt to guess how much spare capacity was left in the saleroom itself.

There is always a measure of coincidence, and we are allowed occasional glimpses of the auction book to prove it. Thus on the day before the auction, the auctioneer entered a maximum bid of £320 for that enigmatic British Guiana first-type code E9C (inverted E6C?) on a classic re-touched 4ct. stamp (lot 245). Before the sale started he had received another two bids for the same lot. Each had a maximum of £320. So, three even bids were announced, when the lot was reached. Hands quivered, but there was no one to beat them.

As if this were not strange enough, there were just two bids that arrived too late for inclusion, both from very different parts of the world. Each was a single bid for lot 151, and each was for more than the £60 for which the lot was sold. Lucky A43!

Returning to postmarks, we are far from saying that BWI specialists pay indiscriminate sums. The Jamaica 'discovery' (lot 383) proved over-ambitious: it will probably need a second similar find in order to create a market - for we imagine that a 'D' would easily fetch four figures nowadays. Meanwhile lots 4, 49, 269 and 317 were all acquired at close to their respective minima, along with the handsome but rather artificial lot 607. It took TRD's from Montserrat (Cudjoe Head £160) and Virgin Is. (Anegada £210, East End £160) to remind us that there are high prices available for the right item all the way through from A to V. It was sheer quality of the East End strike that won the day, because more ordinary examples are still out there to be found.

And it pays to keep your eyes open! We are told that both lot 267 (600) and lot 475 (a 'modest' £750) were discovered as sleepers, while Barbados lot 111 had been sold as a damaged stamp!

Forgeries were variable in demand. Lot 92 probably went too cheaply at £150, whereas lots 18 (37), 320 (32) and 722 (140) were competed for briskly. The topic caused confusion, too: lots 19 and 457 were each sold, in the end, as 'cannot be guaranteed to be forged', and both items evoked interest.

In pre-stamp material, will there be another cover to match lot 628? We estimated it modestly, because Trinidad has been rather out of favour of late. Yet the £850 that it fetched could have doubled in the face of real competition, and we were offering the sort of quality material in this sale that could bring the island right back into prominence. We were pleased to see our front cover item

of an earlier year (lot 662, which did not find a buyer the previous time) sell for a comfortable £160 against its estimate of £120.

Bahamas was a bit torpid, after the heady excitement of the recent Ludington sale. So was Barbados postal stationery (unlike its other material which was in steady demand, even our 'disappointing' Barbados '8', for which more than three times estimate was paid). Jamaica had mixed fortunes, but the local OFFICIAL overprints, lots 398-9, were clearly well-liked, as was the same owner's important essay (lot 414), which had reached us with a suggested valuation of £20; it livened up almost the only flat part of the sale.

Did we mention there were bargains in this sale? How about Grenada's lots 365 and 372 (75 and £48)? The rest of us must have been too busy looking somewhere else.

Bermuda was steady rather than sensational, with the sparkling exception of the 1903 cover to Vereeinging, South Africa. This went for £115, when we had thought £35 about right. British Honduras had no high spots to hit, for we have had much more pleasing arrays in other years. By contrast there was better material in Cayman Is., where good items will never go without a purchaser. Or so we thought, until lot 325 was knocked down - after fierce competition - to a room buyer who was afterwards convinced that he had not been bidding! The jury is still out on this one.

Our Montserrat pre-stamp cover realised £450, a healthy figure. The unhealthy Queen in a block of four (scarlet fever?) was chased up to £85, and the underbidder seemed reluctant to stop. Then the Nevis Revenue strip with re-touches, lot 495, raised another flurry of action up to £200. And so to the Saints - St. Kitts lively, St. Lucia patchy (but notice lot 545, at £80), and St. Vincent, which is where we came in!

In fact the sale vibrated right through to the end. The Tobago block, lot 622, opened at £160, and met sudden death at £180. The unattributed ship letter, lot 718, reached £160, and a miscellaneous postmark lot, 728, started at £23, with nothing on the book, was fought all the way to £80. Then came literature. Steam and Sailing Packets, £44. DLR bound price list, £120. BG. Phil. Journal almost complete £105. Yardley wartime sale £46 The first seven BWISC issues at full estimate of £95. Ludington's Bermuda, £70. Need we say more?

Well perhaps we should. We think that everyone went away from this sale with a few happy memories; and we have no way of writing about every member's favourite. Let's leave out the colour illustrations, for we can enjoy them afterwards. If we look inside the catalogue again, and remember that somebody went off with the Leewards silks (lot 454) for £44, and somebody else with the Dominica TOO LATE cover (lot 460) for £140, aren't we just a tiny



bit envious? There was something there for almost everybody; but it's too late now! Better luck, next year.

**Editors Note:-** *This year the realisations for the sale are printed separately, This will enable you to keep them with the auction catalogue.*

**MINUTES OF THE 46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE HELD IN THE BONNINGTON HOTEL AT 10.45am ON SUNDAY 21st MAY2000**

- 1 **Chairman's Welcome** - The meeting was opened by Derek Nathan, Chairman of the Committee, who extended a warm welcome to the 30 members present.
- 2 **Apologies for absence** - Apologies were received from Victor Toeg, Michael Hamilton and David Druett.
- 3 **Minutes of Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the previous meeting on 24th April 1999 as published in the June 1999 Bulletin were taken as read and were approved by the members present.
- 4 **Report by the Hon. General Secretary** - The only event of the Circle to report since last year's AGM was the eleventh Biennial Convention held at the Manor House Hotel in Leamington on the 22nd and 23rd October 1999. This was a new venue for the Convention, since most of the previous Conventions had been held at the Regent Hotel which has since been closed. In spite of the change of venue and the later date, the event proved to be very successful with 46 members attending, plus many guests and partners. The displays were at their usual high standard, with very interesting talks by Michael Oliver and Alan Pearse and a wide range of informal displays. The Members' Table, organised by Simon Goldblatt, also did well, with excellent takings.

**Future Programme** It was decided by the Committee that WIPEX would not be held this autumn and the next Circle event would be the AGM and members' auction at the Bonnington Hotel. This will revert back to the last Saturday in April i.e. 28th April 2001.

- 5 **Report by the Hon. Membership Secretary (Stephen Sharp)** - At 31st December 1999 the Circle had 330 members of whom 93 lived outside the UK. This shows little change from the previous year but it is hoped that the joint convention and the Millennium Auction will produce an increase in 2000.

Due to computer problems there is a further delay in producing a list of members. There are still members who have not sent in their membership

information forms. Would they please do so as soon as possible. Simon Goldblatt stated that the bid forms for the auction were producing cross joining between the two societies and that new members could be expected.

- 6 **Report by the Hon. Editor (Denis Charlesworth)** - I have to report that material for the bulletin has come in at a steady rate over the past year resulting in a series of issues that have generally been bigger than have normally been issued. For this I must thank all contributors.

Besides the thanks to the members sending in contributions, I would like to thank all of those other people that have given help in producing the bulletin and in helping in the distribution of each issue.

I know that we cannot please everyone all of the time, but we have tried over the years to do our best. With this in mind, and remembering last years comments regarding the bulletin, I have looked into the possibility of changing the format of the bulletin to A4 size and possible parts in colour.

The outcome is that it would cost more money to produce, and to give an overall better appearance, have more contents. This would mean more articles from the members. It would also mean that new binders would be required, different type of paper would be required, new advertising rates would be required, additional postage and larger envelopes would be required, new increased subscriptions would be required. On that basis and knowing the present input of material, my opinion is to make any changes considered gradually.

Material, as always, is wanted for future issues.

You will have read in the last bulletin that I have tendered my resignation from the post of Hon. Editor as of the end of the year. I have been told that we have a volunteer for this position and that he will be able to take over for the March issue next year. Of course, I will give him any help that he might wish.

After the report, it was stated that Ian Potter had volunteered to take over the editorship of the Bulletin after the Christmas 2000 issue. He had produced a sample copy of the Bulletin in A4 size with colour added. Ian has requested a new, faster printer to be able to print the Bulletin himself. Peter Ford stated that an A3 printer would really be required since the pages would need to be folded for binding. He also said that colour printing would be much slower than black printing and that Ian had probably underestimated the amount of time required to print the large number of copies required. Peter suggested that changes should be introduced gradually and that the printing should be done commercially for the time

being. It was proposed that an editorial sub committee be created to assist the editor in implementing the changes to be made.

Derek Nathan then thanked Denis for his good work as editor of the Bulletin for the last ten years. The meeting accepted this with applause.

- 7 **Report by the Hon. Treasurer (Ray Stanton)** - I have pleasure in submitting my report as Treasurer and would refer members to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1999 which were sent out with the March Bulletin along with the Hon. Auditors report.

It has again been a positive year financially for the Study Circle with a surplus of income over expenditure of £922. The running costs of the Study Circle for the year were very similar to 1999 and totalled £2,925 and were largely covered by members subscriptions of £2538 (1998 £2514) the balance coming from Auction donations and surplus on publications. The Leamington convention was largely self financing, a small deficit of £40 only remaining unrecovered.

Because of the surplus, the value of the accumulated fund at the end of the year was £7,050 an increase over the value of £6,190 at the beginning of the year. However during the year the Study Circle continued to pursue an active publications policy and for this purpose invested in a A3 size laser printer costing £1,787 which is being written off over three years. Nevertheless the actual cash resources of the Study Circle were only marginally reduced to £7,788 at the year end which means that the Study Circle remains in a good position both to continue with its current activities and to invest further in an active publications policy.

In line with earlier years, stocks of publications have been included in the balance sheet at nil given that they have an uncertain market value. The actual cost of production of these stocks at the 31st December 1999 was £11,659 compared to £11,560 at the end of 1998.

I would like to thank Tony Farmer for auditing the accounts and for his helpful advice as ever.

- 8 **Report by the Hon. Librarian (Derek Nathan)** - A number of books and catalogues were added to the library during the year and these were reported in the Bulletin.

There were 17 loans of a total of 79 items during 1999, which is on a par with several preceding years, but I have to report that so far this year only two loans of a total of five items have been sent out This is a deplorable lack of use of one of the finest philatelic libraries in the Country and it reflects on the Librarian, who is obviously not doing his job properly and

needs replacing forthwith. As pleas in the past have been to no avail, the Librarian has no alternative but to resign after eleven years service, and the Chairman has accepted this resignation. It is now up to the Study Circle to appoint a replacement.

On Wednesday next week, there is a meeting of the World's Philatelic Librarians at the British Library. They are expecting a representative from the Study Circle, and I should be delighted to take along and introduce my successor on that occasion.

- 9 Report by the Hon. Publications Officer (Peter Ford) - Since my last report to you in April last year, we have published two books. The first, the late Ron Wike's 'AIRMAILS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO' was published in January. Of the two reviews seen thus far, both have been favourable and sales, whilst not spectacular, have been steady with 42 sold. The second, Michael Oliver's 'LEEWARD ISLANDS' has only been published this weekend and we are hopeful that it will be received well and sell well.

Both of these publications have been produced mostly 'in house'. This has been possible because of the purchase of a Hewlett Packard 5000 laser printer. This has proved to be beneficial as it allows me to print small numbers of books at any one time obviating the need for large holding in stock.

Sales of existing stocks in the last year have gone well with Charles Freeland's revamp of Len Britnor's 'MONTSEERRAT' selling 37 copies since last April. Including these copies, this makes for a total of 109 sold. Frank Deakin's 'BARBADOS' continues to sell albeit at a slower rate with, 9 sold in the last year. Volume 1 of the 'JAMAICA' sold 7 and 'DOMINICA' 3.

The future of our publications looks bright; the runaway success of Frank Deakin's 'BARBADOS' has encouraged me to ask Federica Borromeo whether we can produce a similar booklet based on his forthcoming display on 'NEVIS'. This he has generously agreed to. Steve Jarvis is working hard on the next volume of our 'JAMAICA' encyclopaedia on 'GB USED IN JAMAICA' which should be published by the end of the year. David Atkinson was working on the 'AIRMAILS OF JAMAICA'; however, recent illness has slowed his progress somewhat. We can only wish him a speedy recovery and hope that it is not too long before he can reapply himself to this task. Meanwhile, Derek Sutcliffe is working on 'JAMAICAN MILITARY MAILS'.

Total receipts this year are approximately £2,200. Expenditure is somewhat higher mainly due to the purchase of the printer and the costs of printing and binding the two new books, but sales of these should help us recover those costs.

This last year has, I believe, been a successful one for BWISC Publications. However, can I end on a plea? Producing these last two books has meant a lot of work on my part. Whilst I do not mind this, I could do with some help. If there is anyone who is in the least interested, please contact me. I won't hold you to anything.

During the discussion, Charles Freeland said that reviews of Circle publications rarely appeared in the philatelic journals. Peter Ford stated that it often took about 9 months for a review to appear in Gibbons Stamp Monthly. It was suggested that reviews should appear in the Bulletin, preferably written by our members.

- 10 Report by the Hon. Public Relations Officer (Douglas Nottingham) - It has been a quite year with few enquires for membership, directly to me. These are passed on to Steve Sharp, the membership secretary. Some are encouraged by the provision of a copy of the Bulletin whilst others are advised that our organisation is outside their interests and they would be better served by other organisations.

A recent application has been received from Australia, thanks go to Charles Freeland, for his efforts. Can I again ask ALL members to publicise our organisation. I myself have produced a "Thematic style" display for use after being invited to publicise BWISC. If you give a display of the West Indies take a Bulletin with you and obtain any address so that I can follow up. With me living and working outside the "Home Counties" I receive very few invitations to other organisations. As we have a limited amount of meetings and the monthly magazines need to have material a considerable time before publication. This may be overcome with my personal efforts to provide myself with E-mail. The editors seem to require electronic data to directly import into the magazines these day's.

A recent BWI Auction Catalogue had details of the BWISC included thanks to Steve Sharp.

The members felt that a publicity notice/handout for the organisation would be beneficial. I promised to expand my knowledge of my new system that includes a scanner facility, to try to produce an example of a handout for the committee to consider.

Subsequent to the AGM a discussion was held with Steve Jarvis as to the viability of obtaining the WWW.BWISC.org.UK domain name for our use. I have been greatly impressed with the Caribbean Philatelic content on the NET and with members distributed throughout the World, this must I believe, be the Medium for us to use.

During the discussion, it was suggested that a sample page from Circle publications should be sent out for publicity purposes. It was then

suggested that, if reviews of publications were included in the Bulletin, then copies of these could also be used as press releases.

- 11 **Report of the Chairman of the Committee Derek Nathan)** Derek Nathan commented briefly on the Leamington Convention last year and regretted that he had been unable to attend. He said that he had received favourable reports and it had gone well. Derek then reported on the previous day's auction and said that it had been very successful. The total realisation was £33,000. Derek then proposed a vote of thanks to Simon Goldblatt for his work in organising the auction.
- 12 **Re-election of Officers** - The President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Officers and Messrs. M. Hamilton and D. Mitton have all agreed to stand as members of the Committee and there are no other nominations. Consequently, all are automatically re-elected.
- 13 **Re-election of the Hon. Auditor** - Mr. J.A.C. Farmer has agreed to stand and there are no other nominations. Consequently, he is automatically re-elected.
- 14 **Other Business** - The date of the next Annual General Meeting will be on Saturday 28th April 2001 at the Bonnington Hotel. There being no other business, the Chairman thanked the members present for their support and declared the meeting closed.

## **AT HOME MEETINGS**

Steve Sharp and Simon Goldblatt both organised 'At Home' meetings for members during the Stamp Show 2000 week. Early reports indicate that these were both well attended and very enjoyable.

Denis Charlesworth

### **Meeting at Steve Sharp's home on Thursday. 25<sup>th</sup> May.**

One of the joys of our Group, for me, is the opportunity to meet with fellow collectors and in the process widen our knowledge and have a fun time whilst doing so.

This year we of course had the additional pleasure of meeting with our friends from overseas and then on Thursday, 25th May Steve Sharp and his wife, Jan, kindly entertained in their home seven, mainly St. Vincent collectors, from as far afield as Trinidad, Canada and Switzerland.

During a most enjoyable day we were able to pore over various albums, collections and catalogues etc. about which we had many interesting and varied discussions. In addition we also had the opportunity to tear ourselves away from our St. Vincent collections to look at other collections from the Leeward Islands.

It was a fascinating day spent in good company and an excellent opportunity to discuss and compare our collections. These chats continued into the kitchen where Jan, who had taken the day off, served us with a tasty lunch, copious supplies of tea and coffee throughout the day and an enjoyable meal in the evening. The sun had long set by the time we took our leave which shows how much we had enjoyed ourselves.

Ron Cronin

## THANK YOU TO THE ORGANISERS

A letter has been received from Ron Cronin of which an extract is shown below.

This is a quick note to express my appreciation of all your hard work and that of other committee members, not least that of Simon and his marathon effort not only as auctioneer but subsequent sorting out, for a wonderful weekend, including that most enjoyable meal at Poons.

I am sure we as members can be quick to complain but I wanted to write and say a big thank you to all concerned including those of the other society the BCPSG.

Kind regards, Ron Cronin

Derek Nathan

## THE STAMP SHOW 2000

The following excellent displays were noted at the exhibition each with top class West Indies interest:

Federico <b>Borromeo</b> -	"West Indies, A Postal History"
Peter <b>Jaffé</b> -	"Postal History of St. Vincent"
Richard <b>Maisel</b> -	"Cayman Islands, The Early Years 1889-1910"
Ian <b>Matheson</b> -	"British Honduras 1767-1936"
Derek <b>Nathan</b> -	"British Guiana Postal History 1789-1899"
Ben <b>Ramkissoon</b> -	"Tobago 1772-1905"
Chavayos <b>Rattakul</b> -	"Revenue Stamps of Jamaica"
David <b>Seilman</b> -	"Bermuda; King George VI Commercial Key Plate Covers"
Davis <b>Smith</b> -	"Postal Stationery of Jamaica"
W. <b>Danforth Walker</b> -	"Grenada 1751-1911"
Robert <b>Wynstra</b> -	"Leeward Islands, Village Mail 1732-1932"

### **Congratulations to them all.**

I have not mentioned members that exhibited non-West Indies material. If I have missed anyone, my apologies

Denis Charlesworth

## BARBADOS - WAR TAX OVERPRINT

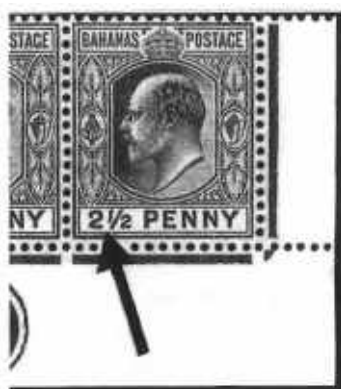
With regard to the recent notes about Barbados - War Tax Overprint in Issues Nos. 183 and 184, I have a registered cover to St Albans dated 20th November 1922. It is franked with two vertical pairs of SG.197 bright red and has an arrival backstamp of Plymouth dated 4th December 1922. The back also has a manuscript "P.129. 12p" in blue ink - whatever that might mean.

Bayley says that after the stamps were withdrawn from sale on 31 March 1920 any stamps remaining unused were allowed to be used as ordinary postage stamps. They would presumably be valid for many years.

John Riggall

## BAHAMAS - 'Sloping 2' on the KEVII 2½d Value

The 'sloping 2' variety on the Queen Victoria issue (SG.51a, 52a) has been listed in the catalogue for a number of years. However, Warwick and Warwick's sale in January this year contained a copy of the KEVII 1904-10 2½d value (SG.63) with the same variety which is not listed. On looking through my stockbook I discovered a similar example on watermark Mult. Crown CA paper (SG.73), the last stamp in a strip of six from the bottom of the sheet (row 10 stamp 6).



**2½**

'Sloping 2' variety

### Printings

SG.63	Wmk Crown CA	SG73	Wmk Mult. Crown CA
<b>Date</b>	<b>Qty (shfts of 60)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Qty (shfts of 60)</b>
29 Dec 1902	5,883	17 Oct 1906	4,075
25 Sep 1903	957	21 Oct 1908	4,010

Its appearance on the KEVII issue should come as no surprise since the same duty plate was employed for both the Victorian and Edwardian issues. Did the flaw continue on to the KGV issue? Again, it would be logical to assume that the same duty plate was re-employed.



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However, I have right hand corner copies from this position of the KGV 2½d on Mult. Script CA paper (SG.119) from both plates 1 and 2 that do not show this variety.

The original 60-set 2½d duty plate was increased in size to 120-set in 1918 to accommodate the new format of 120-set sheets printed from key plate 1 and a new 60-set plate (plate 2) combined. It is possible that either the flaw was repaired at this time, or that a new 120-set plate was made to replace the original.



Variety not present on later KGV issue

I suspect that the 'sloping 2' variety on the 2½d may also be present on the KGV Mult. Crown CA issue (SG.84), but only on the two printings made prior to 1918, 496 sheets of 60 in May 1912 plus one other (c.1917, quantity unknown). Examples from the three printings on this watermark paper made after 1918, from a 120-set duty plate, are likely to be as illustrated above. I would welcome confirmation or otherwise of its existence on the King George V issue.

A comparison with the history of the 6d duty plate of this series is worth mentioning here. The well known 'elongated E' variety was present from the Victorian issue through KEVII (both watermarks) and KGV (both watermarks). In this case the increase in size of the duty plate to 120-set in 1918 was accomplished by the addition of a 60-set plate to the original and thus the flaw continued to be present on one of the two panes.

Peter Fernbank

**MATERIAL WANTED PLEASE  
FOR THE SEPTEMBER  
AND ALL FUTURE BULLETINS**

## **WANTED - BRITISH GUIANA**

I am currently seeking items to extend my study of Electrical Machine Cancellations and Slogans.

Examples of the date stamps can be found in conjunction with 'wavy-lines' obliterators or with slogans - of which Townsend records over 20 examples. The date stamps may also be inverted, or on the wrong side of the obliterator, partially or completely omitted.

If any member can assist me by providing examples on covers used during the period 1933-1966 please contact me:

James R. Hartley, 9 Hollow Meadows Mews, Sheffield S6 6GJ, Telephone: 0114 2304155 or E-Mail: sylvia.james.hartleytalk2l.com

James Hartley

## **HELP WANTED - TRINIDAD**

We have received the following letter from the Revd Dr RWD Fenn, Archivist to the Hergest Trust and also Consultant Archivist & Historian to Tarmac Heavy Building Materials UK Ltd.

David R Beech, Head of the Philatelic Collections at the British Library, has suggested that one of our members might help me. There hangs in the London Board Room of Tarmac plc an oil painting entitled: Discovery of Lake Asphalt by Raleigh, 1595. It is dated 1932, but the artist's signature is indecipherable, as, perhaps, Allan E.....

However, we have in the company archives photographs of two stamps, one dated February 1935, and another June 1938, both were issued by Trinidad and Tobago and both are for 6 cents. The designs are different, but both have as their central feature the same picture as is in the Tarmac Board Room and the same caption. We also have a book in the archives, which uses the picture, unattributed, as its cover design.

The Crown Agents Stamp Bureau designed the stamps, and, I gather, the relevant documentation and correspondence have been destroyed. Could anyone tell me:

- a) Who designed these stamps and anything you might know about the choice of illustration
- b) How many were printed of the Trinidad & Tobago 6 cents of the 1935-37 issue, of the 6 cents of the 1938-44 issue and of the 6 cents of the 1953-59 issue.

Any assistance you can give me would be greatly appreciated and duly acknowledged. Would any member able to help please contact the Revd Dr Fenn at 9 Victoria Road: Kington: Herefordshire HR5 3BX Tel. No. 01544 230018

## **THE OPINION SERVICE**

Members who wish to take advantage of this service should first apply to the Hon. Gen. Secretary for one (or more) "Application for Opinion" form(s). Please note that each item submitted requires its own individual form.

## LEEWARD ISLANDS - The 1902 Provisionals

With reference to the article by Ian Jakes on Leeward Islands: The 1902 Provisionals, published in Bulletin No. 179 December 1998.



Whilst I do not have the technical expertise displayed by the author, I have discovered a more extensive group of varieties on the 4d. value, which may extend the discussion on this fascinating group of provisionals. To this end I enclose a computer scanned original copy of the stamp, which clearly indicates the wear on the overprint, which possibly should be classed as typeset. (The article referred to above does not indicate where the overprints were applied but it is possible that the type similar to that used for printing newspapers was used, which tends to wear rather quickly.)

The most noticeable wear is the missing semi-circle in the 'P' in Penny. Also the first 'n' of Penny is broken. In the One the 'n' is broken and the 'e' is raised. There also appear to be two small circles above the 'y' of Penny, not particularly significant, but adding to the interest of this stamp.

Unfortunately this stamp has a postmark too indistinct to read, but possibly the A12 of St. Kitts.

D. C. Ford

## IMPRESSED DIE REVENUES OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS GROUP

Simon Goldblatt's report in the December bulletin of the discovery of a Dominica impressed die stamp had me searching my collection and my records for a similar item. The effort was fruitless, but Simon's additional mention of the Antigua 1d die stamp on a Bill of Lading dated April 1890 in the Circle's April 1999 auction prompts me to report on some unusual examples of embossed fiscals for several of the islands in the Leewards group. I shall deal in turn with Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis and St Christopher-Nevis.

The *Antigua* impressed fiscals have been extensively researched and written up by Mark Swetland in the BCPJ for December 1996. He quotes dates and other information from the De La Rue private day books, establishing their date of issue as 1870, and records the usages he had seen. The article illustrates a set of fifteen impressed specimens in a strong red colour, with values ranging from 1d to £5 and each denomination in a different shape. The penny and shilling denominations are the same as those used for the tall 'stamp duty' adhesives of 1876, namely 1d, 2d,

3d, 4d, 6d, 9d, 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/- and 10/-, but there are three high values (£1, £2 and £5).

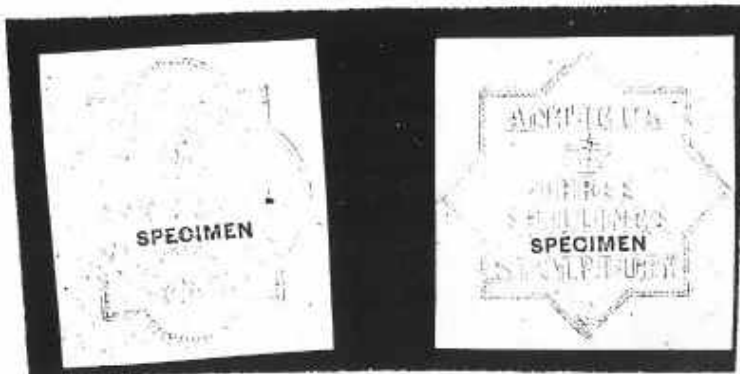


Fig.1

In addition, Mark reports a specimen set of the same fifteen values, ex Surtees. These are now in my collection, and I think they are impressed with the same images as the set illustrated by Mark (Fig.1). say "I think" because although they are of the same sizes and shapes, they are colourless impressions on white paper and thus do not have the same appearance as the Swetland set. I am certain that both sets are from the De La Rue archives because the specimen overprint they both bear is identical to Samuel type D9. However, the D9 was current for some 50 years so the dates of issue of the two sets are not necessarily close.

The article also reports the existence of four used examples. The first one noted is the 3 shillings and judging by Mark's description this is the example in my collection (Fig.2). It is impressed from a bright orange-vermilion pad and is struck directly on to a piece of off-white paper, sadly cut round so one cannot decipher the nature of the document. Judging by the style of the numerical annotations, it dates from the 19th century.



Fig.2



Fig.3

Most other copies are evidently colourless and thus have the colour of the document on which they are impressed. The only such copy I own, a 1d value ex Surtees, also mentioned in Mark's article, is on pale blue paper (Fig.3) and cut round. It has two parallel blue lines, as if on a cheque. However, the lines are not



horizontal and appear to be preprinted. Two other values were in Mark's own collection, namely a 2d on a Bank of Canada cheque and a 10/- on what looks like a piece cut from a legal document. In addition, Michael Medicott's collection contains colourless used examples of 1d, 3d, 6d, 2/-, 4/-, 5/-, 10/- and £1. These are all on documents variously dated between 1886 and 1910. Some of them are co-franked with Leeward Islands Fees, Antigua Stamp Duty and/or Leeward Islands Postage and Revenue stamps. Michael reports that his 1886 document contains 17 examples of the 5/-, plus nine Leeward Islands Fee adhesives.

Mark's article notes that the 2d embossing machine (and quite possibly others) continued in use until at least 1988. A number of hotels and restaurants printed their own cheques and the practice was to take them to the Finance Ministry to pay the 2d duty on each cheque. Other evidence suggests that impressed duty stamps continue to be used in several islands of the Caribbean even now.

The *Montserrat* stamps, as one would imagine, are harder to come by. When I was rewriting the Britnor handbook, I was at first unable to find reports of any value other than the 6d and 1/-. A pair of the 1/- is illustrated in colour in the revised edition of the handbook (Fig.4). These are struck from a claret or deep purple pad and are impressed directly on to a piece of a 90-day bill of exchange for two hundred odd pounds. It is possible the bill was officially pre-impressed but this seems unlikely since the two impressions are not perfectly horizontal or correctly aligned with each other. It is more likely that they were handstruck by an office clerk.



Fig. 4

It is noteworthy that the Montserrat 1/- illustrated differs from the prototype 1/- in the Antigua records, having straight and not concave vertical sides. However, it has every appearance of being a 19th century product from the period of the Antigua and Nevis issued die stamps, an observation that is confirmed by the character of the script of the document itself.

While I was researching "Montserrat to 1965" I consulted the British Library collections and came across what appears to be a proof set of eight Montserrat fiscals in the Revenue collection formed by A.B. Kay. I say "appears" because one or two of them are rather stained. They are in white and are for 1d, 3d, 6d, 1s, 5s, 10s, £1 and £5. The designs are distinctly different from the Antigua ones, though there are some similar features, and their overall size is the same. Unfortunately the

impression of the 1/- is weak and difficult to see through the Library's protective glass, but I think that it is the same as my used 1/-.



Fig.5

In revising the book, I assumed that this set was connected with an essay in my collection, ex the De La Rue archives, hand-painted over a St Christopher and Nevis impressed die stamp, that appeared in one of the De La Rue archive sales. The description noted that it dates from 1925 (Fig.5). But I now think these items may have been proofs for circa 1870 issues. The 1925 essay, in bright vermilion, is in a different design from the Antigua 2d and appears not to have been issued, but I would be interested to hear reports of any actual sightings, especially if dated or on documents.

For **Nevis**, I have a single used example, a 6d. This is impressed on a square-cut piece of white paper, presumably part of a receipt as the word "Recd" is hand-stamped in purple. The design is identical to the Antigua 6d referred to above. The Nevis are the only examples of the group other than Antigua that have been written up in any detail, namely by Simon Goldblatt in the September 1971 bulletin (no 70). This scholarly article was based on Simon's own rich holdings, and reports four different values, 1d, 3d, 6d and 1/-, all with dated usages in late 1877 on different types of paper. Sadly, Simon's article was written before the days when it was cost-effective to include illustrations in the bulletin, but it is clear from his descriptions that the designs are the same as the Antigua set mentioned. Simon notes that the stamps have previously been referred to in the literature as "semi-adhesives", but although he thinks they were prepared as individual items for attaching to documents, he doubts they had gum.

Barefoot and Hall list the same four values and date their issue as 1877. The 1d is illustrated in their catalogue. Walter Morley also lists these four values, but identifies six different papers on which one or more of them occur. The paper differences are ignored by John Barefoot, I think correctly, as the paper of each die will depend on the document on which it is struck. Morley also notes that they are often seen with blue lines, presumably like my Antigua 1d mentioned earlier, this bears out my belief that these were struck on financial instruments which had blue lines preprinted.

Although the Nevis 1d, 3d, 6d and 1/- have a long history of sightings, I also own an unused set of eight denominations in white which contain the same values as the Montserrat set in the British Library, save that in place of a 10/- value Nevis has a 3/-. The "new" denominations are thus 5/-, 10/-, £1 and £5. Each of them has the same design and shape as the equivalent Antigua values in my specimen set, although the smaller size of the colony name gives them a slightly different

appearance. I believe that my Nevis stamps may be a proof set originating from the De La Rue archives, though there is no indication of their source and it was not mentioned in the sale catalogue of the Harmers auction from which I acquired them. The 6d and 1/- values are the same as the Antigua ones, and not reversed as described in

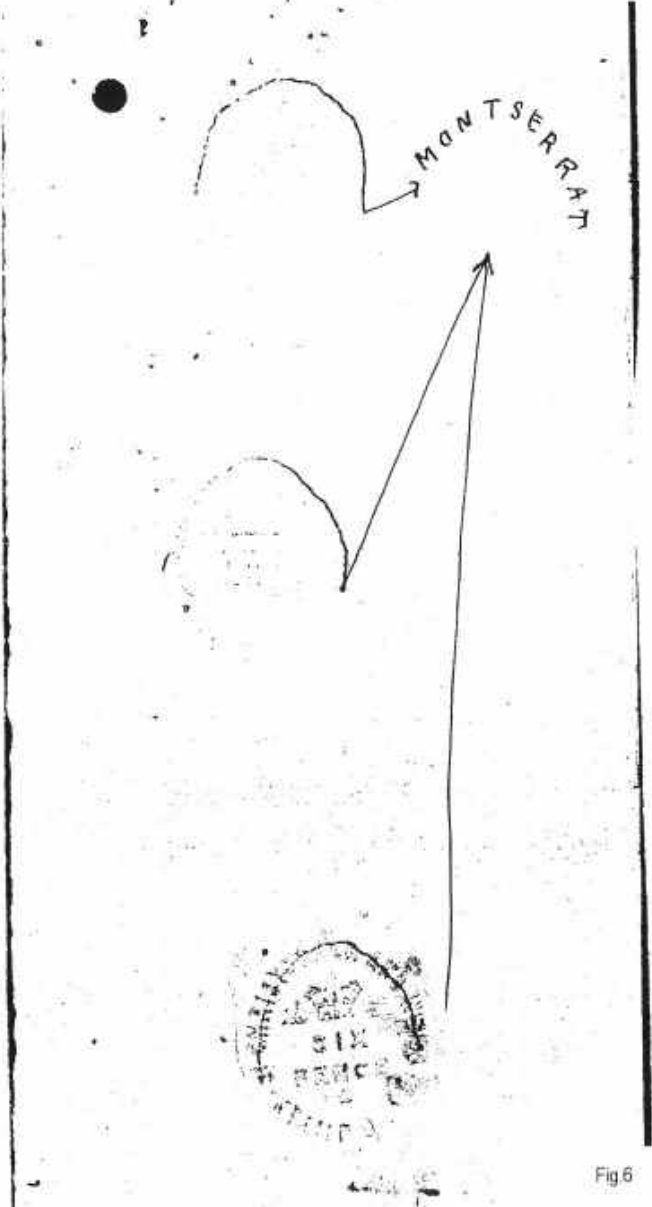


Fig.6

Finally, for *St Christopher and Nevis*, no mention is made in the literature of embossed stamps with that designation. However, the Montserrat essay illustrated in Fig. 5 was accompanied by a large piece of thick rough paper from the De La Rue archives containing three strikes of impressed dies (two 2d values and one 6d) with that precise name. The designs are not the same as the Antigua values. This means that impressed dies must have existed for St Kitts at this time, though they could not have been current in 1870 because the colony fusion only took place in the early 1900s. I have never heard of their use. The name tablets are crossed out in manuscript and there is a manuscript notation that they be replaced with the name "Montserrat" (Fig.6).

Are there any conclusions to be drawn from all this? It seems that the actual impressed stamps first issued in the 1870s may well have come in different forms: some pre-impressed and sold as actual 'stamps' for the buyer to affix to documents, such as the Nevis described by Simon Goldblatt, though I have personally not seen any in this category; and others in the form of a die handstamp that was applied to a document by an official against payment of a fee, either from an un-inked instrument that simply indented the document itself, or after inking from a coloured pad which may have been issued to an individual department.

Whether this interpretation is correct or not, it is plain that we are dealing here with different periods and more than one character of "stamp". It is highly unlikely that no changes were made for over 100 years. So these theories need to be tested by assembling more data on the actual usages. I am sure that by reporting on the contents of our collections and records, we can significantly expand our knowledge of these interesting fiscals.

The questions I would pose include:

Does anyone know when the Montserrat and Nevis dies were invoiced? Can we assume that each of the various proof sets dates from 1869-70, or could they be later trials?

Is it possible that each of the colonies (Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat and Nevis) initially had identical designs for the denominations they ordered? But if so, what do we make of the different size and shapes of the Montserrat stamps and proofs? Might there have been two different issues?

Can we assume that each "set" of dies was invoiced at the same time?

How long did the "stamps" remain in issue? Were all the values or only some that were in regular use retained?

Does anyone know if there is any significance in the colouring? Could for example the coloured pads have been allocated to a specific department, court or land agency?

Are any of the impressed dies still in use in any official capacity?

Please send your comments to me at Box 2258, 4002 Basel or by e-mail to [charles.freeland@bis.org](mailto:charles.freeland@bis.org), together with Xeroxes or scanned images if possible.

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Marcus Samuel, *Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies 1857-1948*, Royal Philatelic Society 1976  
Mark W. Swetland, *Antigua the fiscal stamps*, British Caribbean Philatelic Journal, Dec. 1996

Charles Freeland

*PS. Shortly before going to press, Charles reported that his attention had been drawn to a significant new source of information. He will write this up for the September bulletin. I would ask members with comments on what he has written to send them to Charles AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.*

### **BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP**

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

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## **BOOK REVIEW**

### **THE POSTAL HISTORY OF BRITISH GUIANA by Edward B. Proud**

This is the first substantial publication on the subject since Townsend & Howe in 1970, and it tackles it in a completely different way, which is refreshing. The style is similar to other books on different areas by the same author, and is therefore consistent for those who collect more than one territory.

The arrangement by which each Office is treated in order is in contrast to the previous work and for this reason gives a different perspective, but I did find it somewhat difficult to follow - probably a comment on me rather than the book. No doubt I shall get used to this way of doing things, but at the time of writing I am still struggling.

There is a whole lot of information that has been gleaned from wide-ranging historical sources, which I found of great interest, but I am not sure that all of it is totally accurate. I have, for instance, visited the ruins of Kyk-over-Al, and nowhere did I find a reference to the Proud spelling of Kiji-over-al. The Dutch seat of Government moved to Fort Island in the late eighteenth century, but it receives no mention. Not only that, but having given the correct date of 1802 for the second Dutch occupation in the chapter on General History, the Postal History chapter starts on page 17 with a date of 1803, with the British returning the same year.

The movements of ships during the early nineteenth century are detailed and useful, and students of this period will be most grateful for these. There is also information on the currency in use during the early period, which is helpful, but incoming letters were marked for collection in forms, which receive no mention.

There are a distressing number of literals which is evidence of sloppy proof reading. This not only occurs in common words which the reader can gloss over, but names of offices which is more difficult to forgive. On page 40, Vreedenhoop is spelt Vresden Hoop, and in several places Stabroek is spelt Starbroek. Demerara became Georgetown in 1820, but the two names are used indiscriminately over much of the book. I am also concerned with the perpetuation of the belief that the ECB code marks were numbered eastward from New Amsterdam, rather than westward from Skeldon, the more logical placing of the ECB crown 1 mark at the customs post.

All in all a useful addition to the study of the postal history of the territory, but let us hope that a second printing will prove easier to read with the spelling sorted out.

Derek Nathan

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## ST. LUCIA - KG.VI 1949 CW 41/44

These most interesting stamps were issued in the colony with little or no prior announcement. The 1c, 2c, 4c, 12c were all issued in Sheet Form of 120 (15 x 8). The 1c, 2c can also be found in coils joined in conjunction with the perf. 12½ 1c and 2c.

I can confirm there were at least 4 sheets of the 12c of which 3 sheets came to a London dealer (Healey & Wise). As explained to me by Mr Berry Senior (21/10/59).

The 4c is a very rare stamp only known used. I have photographs of six copies used in "Castries", "Micoud" and "Patience" - of these six one pair existed (since split into singles). The only "Mint" I have seen was in the collection of the Ameer of Bahawalpur, but this was a photographic forgery. The Watermark was made by, I think, grease or candle wax painted in by hot wire (too thin but very clever). Similar fakes exist of the Gibraltar 2d coil P.13½ WMK sideways. (It was reported at the time that these and other fakes were made by someone in U.N.R.R.A. who had access to complex photographic copies hence the stamps usually chosen were grey.) At the time this stamp was reported a number of dealers in the B.W.I. searched through quantities of wholesale, but to my knowledge only three copies were found. The pair was amongst those found. From other sources I calculate a maximum of 12 copies in total, but others may still be in "unknown" collections.

I must add a little anecdote - in 1950 when I first joined the Expert Committee with the eminent philatelists Robbie Lowe - Sidney Homsy - George Ginn (Bill Lea Senior had not joined the Committee at that time).

A "mint" 4c St Lucia KG.VI was before us for opinion. A member of the Committee said "Why does anyone send in a stamp worth 6d!" I looked at the stamp and guess what "it was one of the mint fakes". But as I was a new member of the Committee suggested it should go to the printers Bradbury Wilkinson for opinion. This was agreed. About three months later the stamp came back from the printers with the opinion it was Genuine and a stamp that they had printed. To say the least it was a strange decision because the stamp was a photographic forgery and not printed from an engraved plate. So much for a professional opinion, but it was interesting to a philatelist that the printers knew so little about their art.

Allan Leverton

## PLATES 1 & 2 OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA GENERAL KEYPLATE (ADDENDUM)

Dr Geoff Kellow, the distinguished librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria based in Melbourne, has sent me some valuable information confirming and extending my article in the September 1999 bulletin. The article referred to the timing of the change from plate 1 to plate 2 for the Die 1 keyplate and drew some deductions to assist us in assessing the original numbers of Thompson flaws. The article drew on the invoice dates for the stamps of eight colonies.

Geoff's comments relate to the two unissued stamps of Tasmania, to which I referred briefly in my introduction without realising that examples have survived. In

fact, not only have they survived but practically the full printing of 205 and 200 sheets of each value is still held in the archives of Australia Post in what appears to be their original brown paper wrappings tied by string! A few examples have been removed; several of which were offered in the notorious Australia Post public tender sales of 1986/87.

What is significant is that these stamps were printed from plate 2 and were invoiced on 9 February 1886, which falls between the last confirmed printing of plate 1 (the Cyprus 12 piastre invoiced on 29 December 1885) and the first printing of plate 2 that I was able to confirm, namely the Antigua 1/- invoiced in April 1886.

So we now know for certain that the introduction of the new printing plate must have occurred around the end of 1885, making it even more likely that Mike Oliver's die proof for 4 November 1885 that I illustrated in my September article is indeed the proof struck to test the new plate.



I should add that Geoff has been kind enough to check the archives for me and confirms that each of the Tasmania sheets contain the Thompson detached triangle flaw.

This is not the medium for examining the reasons why the two Tasmanian stamps remained unissued, but Easton pages 431 to 436 presents the facts from De La Rue's perspective. Copies of plate blocks of eight of each stamp are illustrated in the tender document issued by Australia Post in December 1986 (see illustration above).

Following the outcry from dealers and collectors, this was in fact followed by only one more archival sale, that of March 1987.

Charles Freeland



**‘THE LEEWARD ISLANDS - Notes for Philatelists’  
by MICHAEL OLIVER, FRPSL**

Hardbound, B5 300 pages

The author writes on subjects which have either not been covered before or where much new information has been unearthed since they were last written about. Subjects covered include postal markings, postal stationery, and maritime markings. This book contains numerous illustrations many in colour and a useful colour chart for sorting out those Federal Issues.

Price: UK-£56.00; Europe & overseas-£59.00: US-\$100.00

**Contact Peter Ford, 22 Tudor Way, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4AS, UK or  
Clary bit, P.O. Drawer 59, Burlington, North Carolina 27216. USA  
E-mail enquiries to; pccford@hotmail.com**

**BOOK REVIEW - AIRMAILS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO by Ronald G. Wike.  
Published by and available from the British West Indies Study Circle.**

Hardbound, A4 200+ pages. 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) For addresses see inside front cover.

This book on the Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago will be a valuable tool to all those interested in the airmails flown from and to these islands. It gives, in great depth, information about all aspects of the development of the islands airmails.

There are fifteen chapters containing information on subjects such as the pioneer years, the first regular airmail service and its development in the region. Much information is given about the different airlines that flew the routes right through to the 1990's. Eight appendices relating to rates, post office notices and check lists are also included.

The book is well printed and contains many photographs and maps of the routes. It is cross referenced to several other notable books on this subject produced by others. A listing is also given of the many people that gave help or information.

It came as a shock to many when we heard of Ron's untimely death but this is a book that will remind us of a person who was always willing to help others. It is such a pity that Ron will not see that this will not only be a best seller for airmail collectors of Trinidad and Tobago but also for collectors of the airmails of the surrounding regions.

Denis Charlesworth

## AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

### Anguilla

Commemorative Set - Easter 2000 - Indigenous Toys

Values 25c, 30c, \$1.50, \$1.90, \$2.50

Souvenir sheet - \$7.00

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Johniela Harrigan, Jevon Lake  
Javed Maynard, Melisa Mussington  
Casey Reid, Akeem Rogers

Photographer Ivor Hedge - Candid Photos

Printer Carter Security Printing

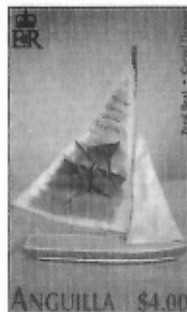
Process Offset

Stamp size 30mm x 48mm

Sheets 20 Stamps

Souvenir Sheet 135mm x 170mm

Paper 110 gsm. Unwatermarked



Commemorative Set - 100th Cricket Test at Lord's

Values \$2, \$4

Souvenir sheet- \$6.00

Artists A. Melville-Brown

Designer John Lister Ltd.

Printer Carter Security Printing

Process Offset

Stamp size 28mm x 48mm

Sheets 20 Stamps

Souvenir Sheet 102mm x 119mm

Paper 110 gsm. Unwatermarked



### Jamaica

Commemorative Set - Parks and Gardens

Values - \$7, \$10, \$25, \$30

Date of issue - 15 December 1999

Commemorative Set - Centenary of Edna Manley

Values - \$10, \$25, \$30, \$100 and Min. Sheet (includes one of each value)

Date of issue - 1 March 2000

Commemorative Set - Lennox Lewis MBE

Sheetlet of 9 stamps

Values - 3x\$10, 3x\$25, 3x\$30

Date of issue - 24 March 2000

Expected issues: August or September - 27th Olympiad Sydney Australia,  
October - Native Trees of Jamaica, December - Children's T.V.

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