

LARGE GOLD AND CAMERON TROPHY AWARDED TO DARRYL FULLER AT LONDON 2010



Chris Harman RDP, Darryl Fuller, Peter McCann RDP.
Photo courtesy of Michael Pitt-Payne.



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BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

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.
- 4 TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
- 5 TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in paragraph 1 above.

**Opinions expressed in articles in this Bulletin are those of the authors
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VICTOR TOEG

It is my sad duty to inform you that our President, Victor Toeg died 28 July, age 94, after a short illness. His funeral was held in London and Simon Goldblatt represented the Study Circle at the funeral.

Victor was our President for over 40 years.

An appreciation of Victor's life will appear in the Bulletin in due course.

SOCIETY PROGRAMME OF EVENTS & INFORMATION

- Saturday 6 Nov 2010 at 3pm – BWISC meeting to be held at Autumn Philatex in Room 33. Members are invited to bring along informal displays.

DISPLAYS BY MEMBERS

- Tuesday 2 Nov 2010 Brian Brookes showing St. Kitts to the Woking Society (at Christ Church).
- Tuesday 9 Nov 2010 at 19:30 Steve Jarvis showing Jamaica to the Ringwood Society, Greyfriars Community Centre, Christchurch Rd, Ringwood.

Please inform the Editor of any other displays being undertaken.

Local Commercial Mail

Available from many of the Caribbean Islands including:

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LONDON 2010 INTERNATIONAL**BY CHARLES FREELAND**

Following the recent disposal of at least three Large Gold BWI collections (Richard Maisel's Cayman Islands, Ben Ramkissoon's Trinidad and Dan Walker's Grenada) one wondered whether any of our members would be able to achieve a Large Gold for a BWI exhibit in London. Fortunately Darryl Fuller saved our face by getting those coveted 95 points for his Leeward Islands Postal Stationery, an outstanding achievement. I have watched this collection develop over at least 20 years, and Darryl has been able to cherry pick from the fine collections formed among others by Michael Oliver, Eric Yendall and Paul Larsen, but the key to his success was his ability to corner the market in essay and proof material, which is now essentially complete. In his reformed exhibit he addressed each stationery type reign by reign, instead of as previously tackling it by stationery type. Each reign began with proofs followed by the specimens and then the usages. Altogether, the impact was impressive and the award fully deserved.

Among the six Golds our members were awarded, Russell Boylan's De La Rue QV–GV St. Vincent was brilliantly presented albeit a little short of the 'wow' factor in the QV reign. But his Arms contained two spectacular De La Rue essays, some important die proofs and several interesting local specimen sets. Ernst Schlunegger's classic British Guiana was an outstanding first time effort, helped by some big hitting cotton reels and other primitives, followed by a strong showing of the 1878–81 provisionals. If there was a weakness it was in the lack of depth of the franked covers, despite several spectacular examples. Federico Borromeo showed a few important BWI items in his French Mail in the BWI, including the rare Kingston paquebot mark and three lovely St. Lucie covers, while David Lethbridge's Falmouth Packets contained a Dummer packet and several choice covers of BWI origin. Both were only a couple of points short of Large Gold and could well have been awarded that by a less demanding jury. But the Gold award I most appreciated was Stefan Heijtz's Barbados postal history to 1881, which was full of interesting usages, including a few ex Frank Deakin covers mounted and written up within a week! Stefan would surely have got more points if his exhibit had not appeared a little cluttered. A few pages contained three covers and everything was extensively written up. I expect he was also marked down for having four introductory pages, including a map, informative though they were. Ben Ramkissoon also won Gold for his familiar single frame Trinidad Red Cross charity label exhibit, in which he has shrewdly cornered the market many years ago. I admire Ben for keeping at it despite his failing health.

Other awards were large vermeils for Federico Borromeo (Nevis), John Davis (Turks Islands War Tax) and the two fine books by Edmund Bayley (Barbados Post Offices) and John Davis (BWI War Tax). There were Vermeils for Graham Booth (Cayman Islands postal history) and Dan Walker (single frame Grenada War Tax), while Alan Rigby (single frame St. Kitts GV) won Silver. To say that Graham, having won Gold in Beijing, was disappointed is an understatement – it is difficult to see what the judges could have objected to as important items have been added and the quality of the material is uniformly excellent.

In assessing the material on show in relation to the awards I was struck by the emphasis the jury placed on organisation and presentation. This I found a little disconcerting as it should be the quality and rarity of the items shown and the knowledge demonstrated that is preeminent, not fancy IT skills. The FIP lays stress on research but the two exhibits that in my view showed the greatest degree of original research without apparent reward were Borromeo's Nevis (is the collection missing anything of substance?) and Heijtz's Barbados. Both collections could have earned LGs with outstanding presentation. The jury must have marked down Federico's organisation and write-up (but how good would our writing up be in Italian?) and Stefan's over-enthusiasm, but when one sees that non-member Darrell Ertzberger's British Honduras GV Stationery (which was a bland exhibit with no proof material and only one decent usage), earned a point more than Booth's Cayman Islands, one wonders whether the jury had done any comparative analysis. But I have always regarded FIP Postal Stationery awards as on the soft side.

Congratulations to all, as well as to those of our members who obtained medals for non-BWI exhibits.

BWISC/ BCPSG LONDON 2010 FORMAL DISPLAY**MARITIME MAIL****BY GRAHAM BOOTH**

A full transcript of the talk (and audio recording) is available on the BWISC web site, together with more scans.

Graham introduced his display by explaining that he had dipped into his various collections to show a pot-pourri of things spanning 150 years relating to West Indian maritime mail.

He opened by explaining the categories of mail carriage (Ship Letter, Packet Letter, Admiralty Ship) and the UK–US difference in terminology regarding 'Packet'.

Several early covers bearing UK Ship Letter landing marks were shown, including one with an 1808 Liverpool Crown Ship Letter (Figure 1). For a short period the GB authorities charged different ship letter rates depending on the origin of the letter. From origins under GB influence 4d was levied but only 1d from elsewhere. The Crown Ship Letter mark was supposed to be applied to the former and a straight line letter mark to the latter.

The next section consisted of letters carried by nominated packets, where Graham embellished his talk with anecdotes concerning the captain of the *Queen Charlotte* who was arrested for smuggling and the famous John Bull, Captain of the *Grantham*. Graham concluded with an item from his North Atlantic retaliatory rate mail collection showing a period where the British and American Post Offices couldn't agree. All mail that was paid at one end had to be paid again at the other. This is generally regarded as a North Atlantic situation, a fight between Cunard and the first American steamship company - the Ocean Line but the item shown (Figure 2) actually originated in Trinidad, where it was paid one shilling and then was paid 24 cents when it reached New York. American law required 24 cents to be paid on all Steam Boats entering New York, irrespective of their country of origin – very scarce, thought to be only three known.

Graham continued by explaining the importance of the commercial relationship between Canada and the West Indies, particularly sugar from the West Indies and flour and timber from Canada. In 1913 the Royal Mail Steam Packet won a five year contract to run between the West Indies and Canada. At that time Royal Mail was not that interested in the West Indies; its main stream of revenue was coming from South America and they put what Graham describes as "a pile of junk" on the route! These were ships that had become surplus to requirement when the Union Line and the Castle line merged to form the Union Castle line to South America, so it wasn't surprising that it wasn't a great success. Covers were shown carried by the *Chignecto*, the *Chaleur*, the *Chaudiere* and the *Caraquet*, and wreck mail carried by the *Cobequid* (Figure 3) which was wrecked on the Bay of Fundy on her maiden voyage though the mail was saved.

In 1928, the Canadian Government voted about \$10 million to build the Lady Boats. Covers were shown carried by each of the boats but the following interesting ones were highlighted:

- Two carried by the *Lady Nelson*: one with a tax marking which is unusual and one salvaged when the boat was torpedoed in Castries Harbour during the Second World War. She sank but the water was so shallow that she only sank up to her super-structure. All the mail was recovered and she was eventually recovered and rebuilt, and operated for the rest of the war as a hospital ship.
- Two carried by the *Lady Hawkins*: one bearing a 'Mailed At Sea' cachet (Figure 4), which is in a totally different typeface to all the remainder of the Lady Boat covers. It only existed for four months and is very scarce. The second has a stamp which is cancelled by a double 'O' (Figure 5) which normally indicates the adhesive is not acceptable but in this case no tax mark has been applied.

The Lady Boats feature was completed with covers illustrating their war-time exploits and the Canadian section concluded with three Canadian Mercantile Marine 'Vagabond' voyage covers including a POW card from the radio operator on the *Canadian Cruiser* sunk by the *Admiral Scheer*.

Graham then described Furness-Withy, which was a huge company but much less well-known than Cunard or Royal Mail because it had absolutely no interest in its brand image. It was

concerned with maximising its after-tax revenue, so it had almost as many companies as it had ships. It shunted these around from company to company and changed their names to maximise earnings, and it is quite difficult to follow exactly what is happening. Covers were shown from its precursors, the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company (The *Maraval*) and the Quebec Steamship Company (The *Madiana*, *Fontabelle*, *Caribbee*, *Guiana* and *Fort Hamilton*) which were purchased between 1918 and 1920 to form the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Sailing Company. The *Nerissa*, the *Dominica* and the *Silvia* were purchased by this company, and Graham provided a description of the colourful history of the latter two ships. The remainder of the covers were from the Furness Bermuda Line, and included a Special Delivery letter sent to the *Queen of Bermuda* and delivered to the passenger in cabin 327 (Figure 6).

The Royal Mail Steam Packet frame commenced with two interesting covers of 1842 relating to Lord Elgin and the *Medina*. The first cover was actually written by Lord Elgin on board ship in the English Channel and sent back to England before the *Medina* set off to the West Indies where she ran aground on the entrance to Turks. The second one is written en route to Jamaica after the *Medina* was wrecked and describes the wrecking vividly. Further covers were shown carried by the *Forth*, the *Medway*, a very scarce one by the *Trident* on its only RMSP voyage, and the *Great Western*. Further covers were shown illustrating the evolution of the packet rates and how inland postage was charged.

A 1868 Dominica cover was featured that had the accounting marks of '11' and '1' rather than '1/-', provoking some discussion about why only some covers showed this split of revenue between the island and the British Post Office and others did not. Further interesting covers were shown from Trinidad to the European mainland (Figure 7) and items with the 4d UPU rate. The frame concluded with examples of the RMSP adhesives (a sheet, forgeries and some cancelled in Porto Cabello).

At the end of the 19th century the RMSP set up the Barbados inter-Colonial service with the *Esk*, *Eden* and *Solent*. A fine array of covers and pieces with either a handstamp or manuscript were shown, along with two very scarce covers from the Trinidad postal service, carried by the *Kennett* (Figure 8) and the *Spey*.

The next frame concentrated on the inter-Colonial rate which was established at 4d in 1711 and remained that way for some colonies until about 1890. Many fine 19th century covers were shown which demonstrated associated nuances. The following were cause for speculation: a cover from Georgetown to Antigua bearing a '4' in black and also a '1' in red (Figure 9) – the meaning of the '1' was uncertain; a cover from Belize to Jamaica charged at 1s (rather than 4d), probably because it was carried as a loose letter and entered St. Thomas British Post Office; and a cover (Figure 10) going from St. Thomas to Trinidad, franked with two 4ds, but it has a great big blue '2' in the middle, the use of which is ambiguous. Was it an inland rate or an accounting mark?

The frame continued with 20th century material showing the diversity of rates that evolved after 1916.

Graham wrapped up his display with covers relating to the Cayman Islands, a subject on which he felt more confident to pronounce! The frame opened with schooner mail carried by the *Albatross* and the *Caymanian* (Figure 11). Two Smuckler covers bearing Cayman farthing adhesives were declared not only as philatelic but they also probably never went near the Island. Two covers from 'MY *Atlantis RYS*' and *HMS Dragon*, addressed to AJ Watkin, the pre-eminent Cayman collector in the 1930s were explained. Several war-time censored covers were described but Graham's tour-de-force was a piece of Prisoner of War mail (Figure 12). It is addressed to a man in a Stalag in Germany, identified by the ship name the *Cymbeline*. The *Cymbeline* was an oil tanker going back from Gibraltar to Trinidad in ballast when she was attacked and sunk by a German raider, the *Narvick*. All the crew were taken prisoner and this letter is from his wife.

The vote of thanks given by James Podger who highlighted the amount of research that had gone into describing the exhibit and this was heartily endorsed by the whole audience.

Note: All images at 60%

FIGURE 1



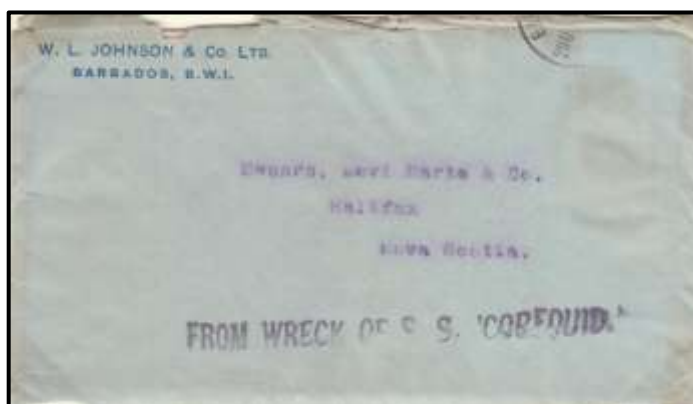
A letter that originated in Rock River Jamaica on 27 Jul 1808. It was struck with a faint crown Jamaica Ship Letter in red and put on an unknown merchant ship. It was landed in Liverpool and struck with a crown Ship Letter (Robertson S5) and therefore subject to the higher ship letter charge of 4d. It was charged as a double — 8d Ship Letter, 1/8d for 206 miles to London and 2/6d for 460 miles to Dundee in total 4/10d. It arrived on 25 Oct a transit of 100 days.

FIGURE 2



Trinidad 21 Jul 1848. Paid 1/-. Per Royal Mail Steam Packet via Bermuda to New York.
Struck with H&W 302 and charged again (24 cents).
The U.S. legislation covered all mail carried by 'foreign packet ships'.
(H&W = Hubbard and Winter)

FIGURE 3



A letter that was salvaged from the wreck and Struck with the handstamp 'FROM WRECK OF S.S. COBEQUID' (Rego 01156/1). The letter was from W.L. Johnson in Barbados to Messrs Levi Hart in Halifax posted on 29 Dec 1913 and contains a fascinating market report giving the arrivals and departures of ships and their cargoes from the 14th to 23rd December. The letter was originally franked but the adhesive has washed off.

FIGURE 4



A cover that appears to be commercial, which was under franked with a Barbados 1d adhesive on the *Lady Hawkins* but shows no sign of being taxed.

The ship was going north when it was struck with Rego 08008/4 which is in a completely different style to all the other Lady Boat cachets and was used for only 4 months. Why it replaced 08008/2 is unknown. The cover was offloaded at Bermuda on 18 Oct 1930 where the rate to the U.S. was 2½d and it was struck with a slogan postmark and Hoskings 2384.

At this stage the Lady Boats did not call at Boston, and it was a much quicker transit to New York for the mail to be transferred to the Furness Bermuda Line for the last leg.

FIGURE 5



An envelope addressed to Philadelphia paying the 1 oz rate with a 2½d adhesive from Bermuda.

This was cancelled by a large double 'O', the purpose of which is unclear.

A circle was the usually accepted international mark to indicate that adhesives were unacceptable, but with Boston the next stop after Hamilton there seems to be no particular reason for the adhesive to be treated in this way.

In any event when the cover was landed at Boston on 7 Jun 1937, it was struck with the same slogan postmark as the cover below with no attempt to tax it. The ship's cachet (Rego 08008/8) and the double 'O' were obviously struck with the same ink on board ship.

The only person who could be precise as to whether an adhesive conformed to the Paquebot rules was the purser/ postal clerk, and one wonders whether this was a short lived and ineffective attempt to stop the wholesale violation of these rules that existed in the early thirties.

FIGURE 6



A cover sent by Special Delivery from Washington D.C. at 12 pm on 10 Mar to a passenger on the *Queen* sailing at 3pm on 1 Mar 1936. It was back stamped in New York at 7am on the 11th and carries a manuscript number in pencil of '327' which is presumably the lady's cabin number, and therefore was safely delivered. It was franked by a 1 cent and 4 x 3 cent adhesives paying a rate of 13 cents and struck with a handstamp 'Fee Claimed by Office of First Address'.

FIGURE 7



An envelope that was posted in Trinidad on 9 Sep 1873 paying a 7d rate to France which was a ¼ oz rate. *Corsica* left Trinidad on the 7th and arrived in St. Thomas on the 13th.

Tasmanian left St. Thomas on 14th and arrived at Plymouth on the 27th.

The cover was struck by the Calais to Paris T.P.O. on the 28th on its way to Bordeaux.

The '6' is an accounting mark indicating the credit to the UK from Trinidad.

FIGURE 8



A letter to Switzerland sent per *Kennet* during the first year of operation.

The cover was franked with a ½d and 3 x 1d

Trinidad adhesives which were cancelled in Port of Spain on 21 Dec 1901.

The cover was back stamped in Zurich on 18 Jan 1902.

FIGURE 9



A letter from Georgetown in Demerara backstamped on 23 Apr 1861 addressed to Betty's Hope in Antigua. It was carried by *Teviot* to Barbados and then by *Trent*, arriving in Antigua on the 27th.

The manuscript '4' in black meant that the ocean crossing was unpaid and Antigua had to account for it to the U.K., whilst the red '1' suggests that 1d was paid in cash in Georgetown to cover the inland costs.

FIGURE 10



A letter that was sent from St. Thomas to Trinidad at the inter island rate on 22 Nov 1876. It was franked with 2 x 4d British adhesives paying a 1 oz rate which were cancelled by 'C 51'. It was nominated to go on the *Corsica* and according to the file note arrived on 6 Dec. It is not clear whether the large '2' in manuscript is an indication of the double rate or whether it signified that an inland rate of 2d had been paid.

FIGURE 11



A cover paying an unlikely 5 oz rate plus 2d registration and a ½d War Tax to Canada. It was cancelled in Georgetown on the 15 Jan 1919, and went on the *Caymanian* to Jamaica. However it then moved rapidly to Toronto where it arrived on 23 Feb.

FIGURE 12



A very scarce example of censored P.O.W. mail sent from Cayman Brac on 16 Jan 1942 to a Caymanian merchant seaman from the S.S. *Cymbeline*, interned in Germany. She was an oil tanker in ballast returning from Gibraltar to Trinidad when she was sunk by a German raider.



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BARBADOS**SHIP LETTERS IN THE 18TH CENTURY****BY RICHARD FODEN****INTRODUCTION**

Following on from Michael Medlicott's article in the previous Bulletin (#225), I can at least offer some more evidence if not any further final clarification. He conjectured that the Barbados Packet Office differentiated between mail according to its original place of despatch and only applied their local mark if the mail originated within Barbados. I submit three examples from my collection which, I am afraid, at best serve to muddy the waters of Michael's proposed explanation.

MAIL WITH LOCAL BARBADOS MARK APPLIED

Figure 1 shows a 1770 entire letter definitely originating in Barbados from a satisfied client of the renowned wine merchant Alexander Gordon in Madeira with 'DARTMOUTH/SHIP LETTER' (Robertson Type S1, used nine years earlier than recorded by him, and four years earlier than recorded by Tabcart; almost certainly the earliest known date for any Dartmouth mark) and a clear 'BARBA/DOES' mark applied on the flap, thus corroborating Michael's proposition.

The 1783 entire letter in Figure 2, however, does not originate in Barbados, but rather is from John Daly in Essequibo, British Guiana, explaining to his nephew in Liege about all the hard work he has put into the administration of his late father's estate. Apart from the smudged 'LONDON/SHIP LRE' (apparently with no hyphen and so therefore most likely Robertson Type S1), there is also again the two-line 'BARBA/DOES' mark applied.

MAIL WITHOUT LOCAL BARBADOS MARK APPLIED

Finally, Figures 3 and 4 show an important historical letter written aboard *H.M.S. Intrepid* in Bridgetown harbour in June 1780 less than two months after the ship had seen action against the French in the inconclusive encounter between Admiral Rodney and the Comte de Guichen at the Battle of Martinique. The writer is anxiously awaiting the arrival of a squadron under the command of the ill-fated Commodore Walsingham, who would lose his life when his flagship *H.M.S. Thunderer* was wrecked in the Great Hurricane (San Calixto II) off Jamaica that October. Here, if Michael's proposition was valid, one would expect to see a local mark, but there is none, just the rare combination of British 'SHIP' mark with 'LANCASTER' town-stamp beneath.

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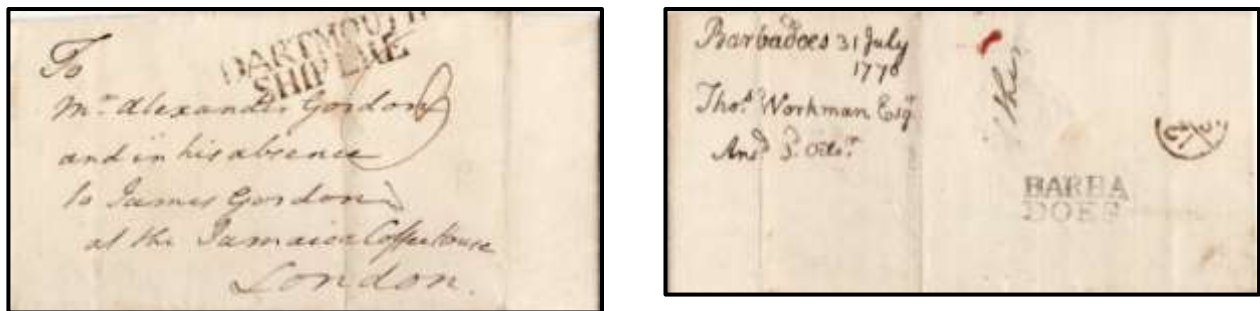
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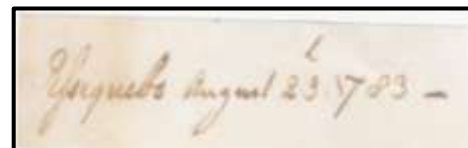



FIGURE 1 (IMAGES AT 50%)



1770 EL from Barbados with BARBA/DOES mark.
Ex- Deakin.

FIGURE 2 (IMAGE AT 75%)



1783 EL written in Essequibo, British Guiana,
also with BARBA/DOES mark.
Ex- Nathan.

FIGURE 3 (IMAGE AT 75%)



1780 EL from Barbados but with no local mark applied.
Ex- Stone.

FIGURE 4

fleet as yet for any thing of that kind. The
 French fleet are now in Port Royal & I
 have the pleasure to tell you that eighteen
 of them are without their topmasts & three
 or four of them with their lower masts
 out, which shows that some of our shot
 must have taken place but as to their
 killed & wounded they keep that a secret
 as yet. This is all the news I can tell
 you so shall conclude with saying that
 I have taken every opportunity of writing
 which I shall always do, I hope the
 next packet or the long look for Walsingham
 will bring me a write for letter from
 Broomsbuse informing me of the ex-
 of Mamma & all friends with you, than
 to hear of which let me once more say
 nothing can give me greater happiness
 therefore with Love to Mamma come to
 Uncle John Aunt Fanny & all friends on
 the north side of the Tiber I am

Dr Sir Your affectionate son
 Mth W^m

Antigua, Bridgetown Barbados
 6 June 1700

D^r Father

I wrote you the 26 April
 by the Regulus & I think the 23 May by the
 Corbis frigates both which, I hope, will
 arrive safely; this I believe will go by the
 Macway in which ship Admiral Parker goes
 to England & I just take that opportunity
 of telling you I am very well, having
 nothing more to say, as in my last
 I gave you accounts of our proceedings with
 the French & as we have been here ever since
 I can give you nothing new, only we
 anxiously wish for the arrival of Commodore
 Walsingham & his squadron, as we hear
 that there is a reinforcement of twelve or
 fourteen sail of frigates coming out to
 Martinique & are by this time within a
 few days sail of this Island, but with
 respect to the truth of it, I shall not
 affirm it, but if it should be true we
 shall still be a match for them when
 Walsingham comes & until we give them
 a heavy drubbing, we can't attempt the
 recovery of any of the Islands as we have
 rather too few troops & they too powerful

Mth W^m

BERMUDA

KGVI KEY-PLATES

BY SIR GEOFFREY PALMER

A little further information regarding the 12s6d July 1938 printing of which there were blocks of four and six in the recent 'Stamp Group Postal Auction'. David Cordon informs me that the great majority of this printing were used as Government Revenue Fiscals (for tax purposes) and that blocks of this printing are fairly rare/scarse. The Jan 2001 Victoria sale had a block of four with brown gum but no examples were offered in the important Apollonia sale of Mar 2005. In the vast Victoria Stamp Auctions sale of 19 Nov 2005 (Perry Delman), there was only one example of this stamp, a bottom marginal block of four, position 45–46, 57–58 with **white** gum – surely it should have been brown streaky gum?



Image courtesy of
Victoria Stamp Auctions.

KGVI

BY CHARLES FREELAND

Regarding Sir Geoffrey Palmer's comments and questions in the previous Bulletin (#225):–
Bermuda buffs believe only two copies of this plate plug are recorded (12s6d July 1938), one owned by Eric Yendall and I know the two main bidders on this second one...it was truly competitive!

Sir Geoffrey also asks how rare is the IATA boxed slogan (Proud Type M4 State 7). I would say not too difficult, as I believe it was the general machine cancel incorporating a date stamp used from 7–20 November 1948 (see scan). There is another mark, Proud HS6, used on 17 November. That is far scarcer.



NEW!

Classic Collections

NEW!

Frank Deakin's

BARBADOS

This is a reprint of Frank's original booklet, but the images have been re-scanned and the booklet is a far finer publication than the original. To tempt members, we are offering to the first 50 purchasers of this booklet a free customised CD with a commentary by Frank Deakin of the text of his work. All the illustrations are from his collection, sold at Harmers earlier this year. It's mouthwatering stuff!

Price: £12.00. BWISC Members' Discount: £2.00

Available, as usual, from David Druett at Pennymead Auctions, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:– 01423 865962 or Fax:– 01423 547057 or E-mail: Pennymead@aol.com. N.B. Postage and packing is extra. Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by Sterling or US or Canadian dollar cheque or by PayPal. Payment may also be made in Euros in cash only.

All books published by the BWISC are displayed on www.bwisc.org and on www.pennymead.com.

BRITISH GUIANA**VILLAGE POSTMARKS: AN UPDATE ON TOWNSEND & HOWE PART 2****BY PETER FORD**

Continued from Bulletin #225, June 2010. Proud dated in bold.

Type 17

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
UITVLUGT	S	3 Feb 10	27 Jul 20		29 Jul 29	
Sub-Type C		3 Feb 10	25 May 15			
E		10 Mar 21	25 May 29	10 Apr 19		

Type 18

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
AGRICOLA	VS	1 Jan 13	10 Oct 29	20 Dec 12	15 Oct 31	
Sub-Type J		23 Dec 12	28 Apr 19			
K		21 Jun 18	15 Oct 31			
BARTICA	S	12 Oct 14	13 Apr 26	25 Jul 14		
Sub-Type J		12 Feb 17	7 Sep 21			
K		20 Mar 18	9 Oct 22			
NO.50	S	18 Sep 12	12 Jul 26			
Sub-Type J		17 Jun 12	28 Oct 13			
K		5 Jun 18	11 Sep 26			
SISTERS	ER	11 Apr 25				
Sub-Type K						
SKELDON	C	9 Sep 12	7 Nov 22		4 Apr 25	
Sub-Type J		9 Sep 12	20 Oct 15			
K		17 Feb 21	4 Apr 25			
STANLEYTOWN	VS	8 Jul 13	17 Nov 30			
Sub-Type J		8 Jul 13				
K		5 Dec 18	27 Oct 31			
TUMATUMARI	RC	2 Oct 12	22 Sep 19		29 Dec 19	
Sub-Type J		17 Oct 12	29 Dec 19			
K		2 Dec 14	27 Dec 18			
STAMP KIOSK GPO	ER					
Sub-Type J				12 Sep 14		

Type 19

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
CARMICHAEL ST.	C	22 Aug 13	Dec 27	5 Jul 13		
Sub-Type C		5 Jul 13	2 Nov 20			
E		19 Jan 21	14 Aug 22	17 Jan 18		
G		12 Jul 13				
I		15 Apr 22	21 May 26			

Type 19a

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BELFIELD	C	14 Jul 12	11 Mar 23		26 Mar 26	
Sub-Type C		12 Jul 12	8 Nov 15			
D						
E		2 Mar 17	22 May 33			
M						
CORNHILL	S	24 Sep 12	20 Feb 14		18 Mar 14	
Sub-Type C						
D		? Aug 12	20 Feb 14		18 Mar 14	
E						
F		4 Jan 13				
M						
STEAMER						
STELLING	S	13 Aug 12	24 Jun 13			
Sub-Type C		30 May 13	21 Oct 13	27 Aug 12		
D						
E						
M						

Type 20Type 20
Sub-Type EType 20
Sub-Type M

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
ALBOUYSTOWN	RC	23 Jun 14	1 Aug 24		28 Oct 24	
Sub-Type C		23 Jun 14				
E		28 May 19	21 Oct 24			
F						
N		20 Dec 15				
BARACARA	R	6 Oct 16	5 Oct 33			
Sub-Type B		16 Apr 17				
N		12 Sep 18	18 Oct 18			
P		22 Dec 21	8 Dec 31			
BUXTON	C	8 Sep 14	20 Nov 27	23 Jul 14	30 Nov 27	
Sub-Type B		2 Aug 13				
C		10 Nov 15	16 Oct 20	16 Jan 15		

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
D						
E		2 Feb 20	20 Nov 27			
F		14 Sep 23				
G		15 Jan 19	30 Aug 19			
I		13 Jan 21				
NIGG	RC	15 Jul 14	16 Dec 24		17 May 26	
Sub-Type C		15 Jul 14	22 Dec 17			
E		13 Dec 21				
L				10 Nov 15		
O		10 Nov 20	16 Dec 24			
RELIANCE	RC	20 Jun 14	11 Dec 22			
Sub-Type I						
M		17 May 15	13 Dec 20		2 May 23	
N		20 Jun 14	10 Dec 14			
O		11 Aug 19	12 Nov 21			
SKELDON	C	16 Nov 15	20 May 24	11 Nov 14	29 Sep 24	
Sub-Type C		16 Nov 15	13 Sep 17			
E		14 Aug 19	19 Oct 22	15 Sep 16		
G		14 Feb 16				
N		3 Nov --				
WHIM	S	6 Jul 14	3 Sep 26		28 Dec 27	
Sub-Type C		6 Jul 14	28 Jun 19			
E		27 Jul 20	16 Aug 22	21 Jan 20	28 Dec 27	
I				9 Oct 24		
O		18 May 20	11 Nov 22		9 Oct 24	
WISMAR	C	4 Aug 14	11 Nov 29			
Sub-Type B		1 Mar 20	10 May 20			
D/N		10 Sep 14	18 Dec 16			
E		14 Jun 20	23 May 24			
F		17 Jan 17	8 Jun 17			
O						
P		19 Mar17	21 Jan 24			

Type 20a

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
CABACABURI	VR	22 Sep 15	31 Jan 16	7 Apr 15	9 Jun 19	
Sub-TypeD/N		7 Apr 15	6 Feb 16		6 Mar 16	
CANE GROVE	RC	29 Jun 14	25 Dec 31		5 Feb 32	
Sub-Type C		3 Nov 15	5 Feb 32			
E		23 Feb 20	26 Jun 23			
L		9 May 19		5 Feb 23		
M		23 Oct 15				
N						

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
O				9 Apr 31		
P						
EVERSHAM	VR	30 Jun 19	12 Jan 22	13 Feb 19	6 Dec 22	
Sub-Type M		30 Jun 19	20 Dec 20			
O		15 Mar 21	12 Jan 22			
FELLOWSHIP	RC	11 Jun 14	23 Jun 26			
Sub-Type G		11 Jun 14	21 May 19		8 Oct 24	
H		10 Mar 20	23 Dec 25			
I		4 Mar 19	4 Sep 19			
MATOPE	R	31 Mar 15	23 Nov 18	-- Feb 15		
Sub-Type C		-- Feb 15				
G						
M						
N						

Type 21



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BARTICA	S	21 Jul 52	10 Dec 59	24 Nov 46		
BENAB (I)	C	25 Jan 34	3 Sep 51		12 Nov 51	
BENAB (II)	C	20 Sep 49	10 Mar 65		10 Nov 65	
CANE GROVE (I)	C	12 Feb 34	24 Jul 51	27 May 32	22 Aug 52	
CANE GROVE (II)	RC	30 Oct 50	4 Mar 66	23 Dec 49	23 May 66	
CHARITY	RC	18 Jan 42	10 Jun 47	1 Jul 33	2 Jul 52	
GROVE	RC	20 Jul 33	2 Jul 52			
KITTY (I)	RC	16 Aug 39	18 May 61		28 Nov 61	
KITTY (II)	RC	16 Dec 53	18 Oct 65	19 Aug 53		
MAHAICA	RC	7 Oct 50	16 May 66	20 Mar 50		
SKELDON	RC	23 Dec 50	28 Apr 64			

Type 21a



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
ACQUERO	RC	11 Oct 33	22 Feb 66	8 Jul 32		
AGRICOLA	RC	5 Apr 48	4 Jan 56			
ALBOUYSTOWN	RC	28 Apr 22	18 Oct 58			
ALBOUYSTOWN	S	22 Dec 59	30 Jul 63		4 Oct 63	
ALBOUYSTOWN	RC	2 Dec 63	22 Feb 66		25 Feb 66	
ANNA REGINA	RC	14 Apr 32	21 Feb 52			
ANN'S GROVE	RC	26 Feb 41	14 Mar 51			
AURORA	C	30 Dec 26	28 Dec 55		1 Feb 57	There are known to be no less than 4 different marks all very similar.
BARACARA	VS	27 Dec 33	Apr 45	2 Sep 31		
BARTICA	C	17 Feb 29	25 Feb 64			
BELFIELD (I)	RC	3 Nov 27	2 Feb 51		12 May 51	
BELFIELD (II)	S	6 Oct 47	2 Mar 51	12 Apr 45		
BOURDA	RC	13 Dec 41	1 Aug 50	1 Jul 37	16 Dec 54	
BUXTON	RC	26 Sep 51	11 Mar 66			
CABACABURI	RC	7 Mar 32	17 Mar 58	6 Mar 32		
CANAL NO. 2	S	14 Jun 44	23 Jun 65			
CARMICHAEL ST.	RC	26 Aug 50	Sep 61	30 May 50	25 Oct 62	
CHARITY	C	8 Sep 20	6 Oct 41	12 Aug 18	2 Jul 52	There are 2 similar types of this mark
ENMORE	S	2 Oct 34	20 Sep 49	13 Oct 32		
EVERSHAM	C	10 Jan 49	14 Dec 65			
FELLOWSHIP (I)	C	10 Jan 49	1 Jul 65			
FELLOWSHIP (II)	C	29 Nov 54	Feb 66		6 May 66	
FORT ISLAND	RC	7 Mar 32	1 Apr 64			
GROVE	S	21 Dec 54	15 Apr 66			
ITUNI	C	21 Feb 45	21 Mar 64			
JACOBA CONSTANTIA	S	17 Oct 45	19 Sep 60			
JACOBA CONSTANTIA	R	21 Apr 64	1 Nov 65			
KAMAKUSA	S	3 Jul 46	17 Jul 56	25 May 42	9 Nov 57	
KITTY				18 Jan 60	2 Feb 60	
LEGUAN (I)	S	10 Aug 18	20 Jul 26	2 Jul 18	5 Apr 27	
LEGUAN (II)	RC	14 Jan 52	30 Sep 57	26 May 50	23 Oct 57	
LODGE	RC	Dec 50	7 Nov 63	26 May 50		
MAHAICA	RC	10 Jul 39	10 Jan 49	25 May 38	27 Aug 55	

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
METENMEERZORG	RC	6 Dec 33	23 Jul 55	12 Apr 32		
NIGG (A)	C	10 Jun 37	10 Mar 66	24 Aug 36		
NO. 50 CORENTYNE	R	22 Feb 30	10 Aug 34		7 Jun 35	
PARIKA	RC	5 Jul 34	26 Mar 64	19 Mar 34		
XI½ MLS. POTARO	S	15 Mar 33	2 May 42		18 May 42	
110 MLS. POTARO	RC	4 Nov 44	4 Feb 61			
QUEENSTOWN	RC	3 Jun 50	2 Apr 66			
ROSIGNOL	C	21 Dec 48	30 Apr 65	6 Oct 47		
SEBA	R	18 Jan 45	30 Jan 47			
STANLEYTOWN	RC	22 Oct 32	4 Jul 60		23 Aug 60	
SUDDIE	RC	20 Sep 18	12 Mar 54	15 Sep 18		
UITVLUGT	S	26 Jun 33	23 Dec 48	16 Mar 33		
WAKENAAM	C	15 Feb 32	4 Dec 51	8 Feb 32	19 Dec 51	
WHIM	C	10 Apr 43	10 Mar 65	30 May 42		

Type 21b



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BAGOTVILLE				13 Mar 22	25 Aug 24	
BELFIELD	RC	26 Mar 20	14 Dec 43	30 Dec 19	22 Apr 45	
BENAB	RC	20 Oct 18	9 Aug 33		8 Mar 37	
BETERVERWAGTING	RC	3 Apr 30	19 Aug 55			
BUXTON	RC	29 Sep 30	23 Dec 50			
DANIELSTOWN	C	7 May 28	17 Feb 56			
ENMORE	C	Oct 23	25 Feb 66	17 Sep 21		
FELLOWSHIP	C	3 Jan 36	17 Feb 60	29 May 30	22 Jul 63	
FORT WELLINGTON	C	2 Dec 29	17 May 62	6 Dec 28		
HYDE PARK	S	27 Aug 28	23 Jun 43			
KITTY	C	16 Apr 28	29 Apr 53	17 Jan 28		
LEONORA	C	7 Oct 33	24 Nov 59			
MABARUMA	RC	20 Sep 27	10 Nov 65	16 Aug 27		
NIGG	RC	17 Nov 27	2 Jul 36	24 Aug 27		
PARIKA	S	9 Aug 18	3 Mar 34			
QUEENSTOWN	RC	26 Jan 32	12 Dec 45		5 Jun 47	
SKELDON	C	13 Sep 28	9 May 55		23 May 55	
TUSCHEN	C	29 Oct 41	4 Feb 64		21 Jun 65	
WHIM	RC	29 Jun 29	30 Jan 42			

Type 21c



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
BAGOTVILLE	RC	13 Dec 18	13 Dec 55			
BLAIRMONT	C	27 Aug 45	4 Apr 63	5 Dec 31		
FORT WELLINGTON	C	6 Dec 28	4 Aug 60			
LEGUAN	VS	3 Jan 33	29 Oct 38	6 Feb 27	14 Mar 39	
MARA	R	30 Jan 18	30 Aug 27		15 Nov 34	
PLAISANCE	C	16 Oct 20	20 Dec 56	17 Nov 19		
RUPUNUNI	S	15 Feb 46	28 Jan 49	5 Aug 44	Dec 51	
SISTERS	RC	15 Aug 27	30 Jun 65			
WAKENAAM		10 Dec 29	15 Nov 35			
WALES	S	28 Nov 30	3 Aug 35		23 Sep 35	
WISMAR	S	28 Jan 18	1 Oct 24	24 Oct 17	18 Jan 33	

Type 21d



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
AGRICOLA	S	1934	28 Aug 46	May 32	3 Feb 47	
ANN'S GROVE	S	15 Nov 31	13 Aug 40	5 Aug 31		
ARAKAKA	VS	15 Apr 29	4 Jul 33		31 Jan 35	
MAHAICA	RC	23 Feb 32	3 May 56	16 May 31		
MORAWHANNA	RC	11 Oct 28	11 Nov 65			
SCHEPMOED	VR	3 Aug 30	17 Dec 31		13 Apr 33	
SUDDIE	C	6 Jul 27	15 Oct 52		16 Dec 55	
TUSCHEN	S	12 Aug 20	23 Dec 29	20 Feb 18	21 Jul 31?	
WISMAR	RC	30 May 30	7 Mar 52			

Type 21e

VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
CARMICHAEL ST	RC	19 Apr 29	21 Jun 62			
TAYMOUTH MANOR	S	1 Oct 29	9 Dec 31			
YARIKITA	ER	20 Oct 22		21 Jun 19	23 Feb 23	

Type 22



VILLAGE	RARITY	EKD	LKD	NEW EKD	NEW LKD	NOTES
MACKENZIE	C	17 Feb 43	21 Mar 66			
ROSIGNOL	C	1 Mar 44	12 Mar 66	11 Dec 43		

BRITISH GUIANA

ONE CENT 1861 RED-BROWN WATERLOW STAMP

BY CHARLES FREELAND

Regarding the image provided by Mike Rego on Page 9 of the previous Bulletin (#225), If it is not an imperf I'm a Dutchman! Imperfs are known (see note below SG:11 which says "it is probably a proof") – so does this 'used' copy suggest it is not actually a proof? I have a copy unused but they are not often seen.

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GRENADA

MANUSCRIPT CENSOR MARK

BY TIM TWEDDELL

In answer to Steve Zirinsky's enquiry about the Grenada censored cover with Manuscript mark in the previous Bulletin.

Several British colonies in the Leeward and Windward Islands were using a universal label toward the end of World War Two. Manuscript additions were added at each colony.

In the case of Grenada, the censorship code assigned beginning in 1942 was 'SS', which later became '1SS'. The origin of the number added, in most cases, is still a mystery. What is certain is that it is not a censor number but some kind of accounting number.

Prior to the introduction of this label in September 1943, all Grenada censor numbers were in the range '1' to '11'.

There are about 20 recorded manuscript numbers associated with Grenada ranging from '14' to '961'!

BRITISH FLEET MAIL

BY DAVID BALL

I don't often venture into print on BWISC matters as most of my knowledge lies elsewhere, but occasionally interests coincide, the article concerning Grenada British Fleet Mail in Bulletin #225 p22 being an exception.

British Fleet Mail Strikes are usually applied by the B.F.M. Office to Naval Bag mail from a H.M. Ship arriving in that port.

A similar procedure to Paquebot mail at the civilian Post Office from merchant shipping.

Likewise the legal postage stamps allowed are those of the previous point of departure or nationality of the arriving ship.

In this case the sender is likely a crew member of a H.M. ship arriving in New York from Grenada. Goldup –Naval Mails 1939–49 page 22–23 (T.P.O. and Seapost Society, 1950) confirms that No. 14 was allocated to New York, as does the same-day 23 Nov 1945 datestamps.

That is the student bit!

The cover seems a bit 'iffy' – There are not too many typewriters available at sea to crew-members of H.M. Ships, and others might know if Moffat is a 'known' name.

I may be unduly suspicious, but be that as it may it would be interesting to proceed to graduation.

Naval Movements, 'Pink Lists' found in the National Archives at Kew, could reveal H.M. ships arriving in New York on 21–22 Nov 1945.

The sender is more difficult, but it is worth a look at Navy Lists which give you officers only. You might find a Moffat writing to his dad or "dear old uncle Ralph".

The people on H.M. Ships with access to typewriters are Writers and Telegraphists and on large ships there might be Commissioned Warrant Officer ranks who would appear in Navy Lists.

No. 14 didn't end up in Grenada; it stayed in New York. 'Mohammed came to the Mountain' – he usually does.

JAMAICA

'ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY' WEB PROJECT

BY STEVE JARVIS

Items mentioned in the Bulletin can be accessed using this link:

<http://www.jamaicaphilately.info/bwisc>

My thanks to Bob Swarbrick for a comment regarding the Late Fees information published last time. He reminded me of an article written by him, published in the *BCPSG Journal* #147, June 1988, entitled 'The Squared Circle Postmarks of Jamaica' This discussed the use of index letters 'W', 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' for Late Fee mail.

Recent activity has focused on consolidating Jamaica Postal Notices into a document. This is a work in progress activity but already runs to about 90 pages.

Whilst browsing, I also came across an article serialised in the BWISC Bulletin between 1966 and 1971 titled 'General Instructions to a Post Master in the British West Indies 1848'. This contained some interesting information relating all territories and consequently I have amalgamated the sections into one document, now available on the web site.

The web site of the TPO & Seapost Society is worth a visit: <http://www.tpo-seapost.org.uk/tpo2/seapostintro.html> with interesting feature pages on many aspects of Maritime mail e.g. French Sea Posts and French Ligne Cancellations By Julian H Jones.

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Great Britain:	1940 Robson Lowe – The 11 FDC to commemorate 1d penny postage also dated 10 Jan 1940	£90
	1961 POSB 3d SG:624a, orange omitted	£275
Australian States:	An accumulation (mint and used) Queensland, NSW, S Australia, Tasmania, Victoria – some hundreds	£2,750
India Bhopal:	1908 SG:O307a block of 4	£85
	SG:O308b block of 4	£225
	SG:O308c block of 4	£170
India Jaipur:	1911 The Jail printings, ¼a, ½a, 1a a study 30 m/s	£285
India:	1949 Gandhi 1½a Service f/u	£50
	1953 Korea Forces SG:K1/12 cover	£48
	1969 Gandhi FDC Centenary	£45
Malta:	1861–83 ½d yellow a range between SG:4/19 (37 mint/used) catalogued as shades (approx £1200+)	£850
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RMS SOLENT

BY MICHAEL MEDLICOTT

It is difficult to account for the illustrated cover, which entered the mails at Freetown, Sierra Leone on 15 June 1905, bound for Columbus, Ohio, where it arrived on 9 July.

SS Solent, whose Rego Type 01072/3 cachet it bears, was normally employed on the West Indies station undertaking inter-island mail, passenger and cargo services and, from 1905, as a cruise ship in white livery overall. Such cruises would seldom, if ever, have encompassed West Africa, so that a Freetown call is hard to explain.



Solent and her companion ships might possibly have returned to United Kingdom waters for their quadrennial surveys to retain their '100A1 at Lloyds' status, particularly if she was to be repainted in experimental livery for the cruising, and she might have diverted to Freetown on the outward or homeward positioning voyage, to repair, bunker or to avoid heavy weather in mid Atlantic.



Annual surveys, which did not involve such heavy maintenance as end-to-ending anchor chains, could very well be undertaken in West Indies drydocks, as the illustrated picture postcard "Muir, Marshall No. 26 – Docking a Steamer, Trinidad) testifies. The steamer (can anyone identify her positively?) is emerging from the floating drydock, sporting a gleaming new coat of paint. The Second

Officer in long whites is leaning over the taffrail to ensure that nothing fouls the propeller, while a steam tug stands by in the offing in case of need.

Can one of our maritime sages please comment on this unusual *Solent* cover, of which so few are known? Or, indeed, identify the steamer going astern out of drydock in Trinidad?



Stanley Gibbons

Commonwealth Department

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1970 Decimal currency 2c on 2d, upper left corner block of 4, error **LILAC OMITTED** with lower right stamp (R2/2) additionally showing constant variety '**TALL 2**', unmounted o.g. (hinged in margin).

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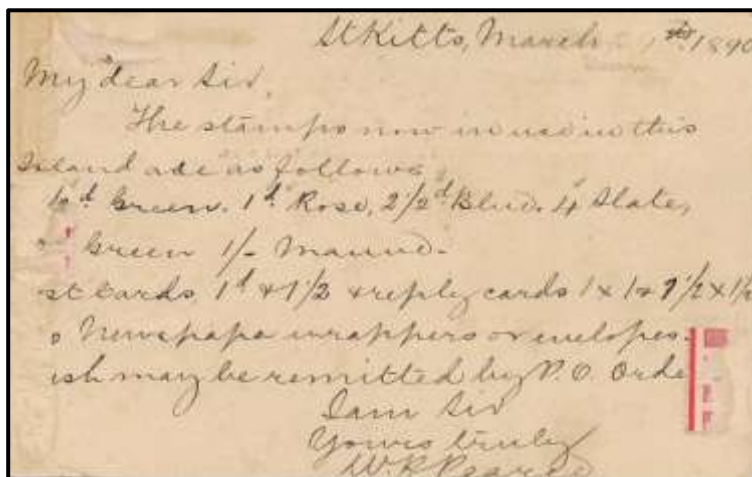
W. P. PEARCE POSTMASTER OR DEALER?

BY ALAN RIGBY

The first time I came across the name 'Pearce' was when I found the cover, illustrated below, sent from Nevis to St. Kitts on 7 Nov 1883 franked with a penny lilac bisected to pay the Halfpenny Book Post rate. The cover has a St. Kitts receiving mark for 19 Nov 1883 and the stamp is cancelled with the Nevis 'A09' cancel and is addressed to Miss Pearce. It is of philatelic interest that there is a



minute cachet in the bottom right hand corner '5913 Szekula BUDAPEST' a stamp dealer at the turn of the twentieth century who has an advertisement in Fred J Melville's 1905 book on the early stamps of Nevis. The book also contains a, self addressed, Book Post envelope in the same hand writing to W. P. Pearce, St. Kitts. I have also seen a book post cover addressed in the same hand to a W. H. Porter at the Treasury, St. Kitts. All it seems created for philatelic purposes.

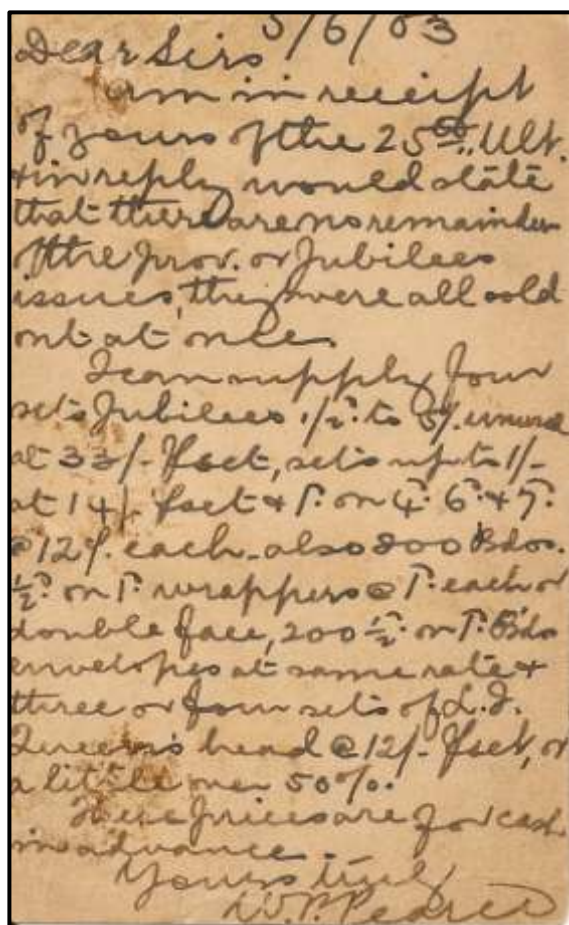


I next came across the name on a St. Christopher Postal stationery card to London in 1890 and noticed that it was signed W. P. PEARCE and was a list of "The stamps now in use in this island". I also have a Leeward Islands 1 1/2d card from Pearce to Baltimore informing the recipient that he is sending by Book Post an assortment of cards in payment of monies due!

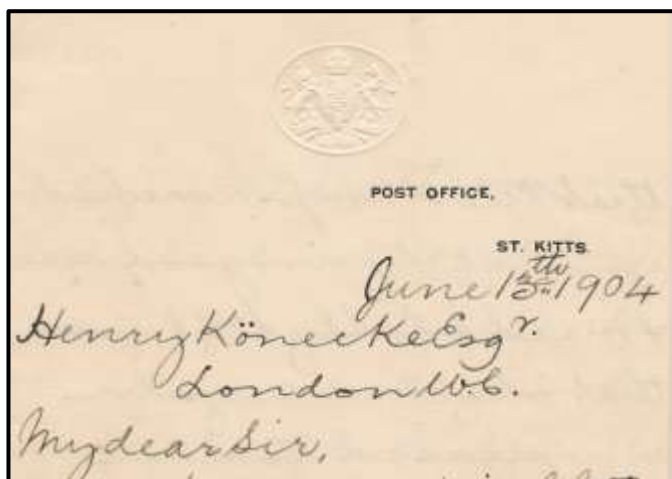


My interest aroused, I searched for more information and found a mention of Pearce in the BWISC Bulletin No 3 October 1954, when during a display to the London and Provincial Stamp Club M. L. Britnor showed two postcards addressed to W. P. Pearce Postmaster at St. Kitts this was followed by my discovery of this cover from the Virgin Islands.

The identity and official occupation confirmed I then found the following Leeward Islands ½d postal stationery card to the U.S.A. in 1903 containing information related to the remainders of the Leeward Island's provisionals and Jubilees, and also stamps that he could provide and the prices he would charge. The list seems to include some Barbados items and some items at double face, and some at a "little over 50%".



The latest find in relation to this story was in a dealers box of documents at London 2010, they are two letters, on embossed, crested official St. Kitts note paper to a Henry Konecke in London WC, thought to be a dealer in the Strand, one from W. P. Pearce dated 13 Jun 1904, and one from his wife Alice in Mar 1905, including a note from WP.



The letters provide a fascinating insight into both the Philatelic dealings of W. P. and the social history of St. Kitts in their mention of mundane items such as the supply of a razor and the gift of some Guava jelly preserve to the Koneckes

Both letters include mention of the supply of stamps, some seem official, some gifts and even sheets of stamps are written about by Mrs Pearce. I will transcribe the letters, if anyone is interested in them, as they provide, together with the cards an insight into the dealings of a Caribbean Postmaster whose actions still affect some of our stamp collections over a hundred years later.

ST. LUCIA

KGVI 4C AND 12C PERFORATION VARIETIES

BY JOHN ROBERTS

Further to the enquiry in the previous Bulletin (#225) regarding the above, am I right in saying that the franked copies all come with the 'Patience' strike?

I have been perplexed by this in the past because when I was first in Patience in 1961 it was a very sleepy little village with one main estate called Mamiku and two others which were just working after the war. The rest of the population was very poor and hardly able to afford postage which was probably 4c for local mail in the 1940s (Rum was 2c a shot in 1961!). Nevertheless there was a Post Office with a very careful keeper of the franker. Why the office would need 12c stamps I cannot fathom as it would be too little for Airmail and at that date there had been no migration to the USA or Britain. My only explanation would be that they were sent from Castries and eventually the surplus was destroyed.

The wife of the late proprietor of Mamiku estate is still alive and might throw some light on it. She is Veronica Shingleton Smith, who farms exotic flowers, and could be found on that address at Patience, St. Lucia.

I would be interested in any further info.

REISSUES OF OLD BOOKS ON THE WEST INDIES

Cambridge University Press will this summer publish a selection of nearly 100 key titles from the 18th and 19th centuries on Caribbean history. These reissues form part of the Cambridge Library Collection, a recently launched initiative to reissue out-of-copyright books 'of enduring scholarly value' as paperbacks and as part of Cambridge Books Online.

BWISC Members can claim a 20% discount until 30 November by quoting code BWISC2010 at the checkout. The offer only applies to certain titles which can be viewed at this web address:

<http://www.cambridge.org/uk/catalogue/promotion.asp?nav=view&code=BWISC2010>

Full details (including page extents, level of illustration, short descriptions of contents) can be found via the web site. There are many other titles available and more will be added over the coming months. Volumes that comprise sets are also available for purchase individually.

The following titles have been highlighted:

- Long: History of Jamaica (originally published 1774) 3 volume set – £60 (list price £75).
- Dallas: History of the Maroons (originally published 1803) 2 volume set – £39.20 (list £49).
- Clarkson: History of ... the African Slave Trade (originally published 1808) 2 volume set – £43.20 (list £54).
- Naval Chronicle (1799–1818), 40 volume set – £800 (list £1000) (saving about £100 on buying all the volumes individually).

A selection of other titles on offer are:

- James Burney (1750–1821): History of the Buccaneers of America (reproduced from 1907 edition) £13.60 (list £16.99).
- Buxton: Slavery and Freedom in the British West Indies (1860) £10.40 (list £12.99).
- Candler: Brief notice of Hayti (1842) £10.40 (list £12.99).
- Coleridge: Six Months in the West Indies in 1825 (1826) £15.20 (list £18.99).
- Edwards: History, civil and commercial, of the West Indies (1819) five volume set £104 (list £130).
- Esquemeling: Buccaneers of America: a true account of the most remarkable assaults committed of late years upon the coast of the West Indies by the buccaneers of Jamaica and Tortuga (both English and French) (1893) £21.60 (list £26.99).
- Flinter: Account of the present state of the island of Puerto Rico (1834) £16.80 (list £20.99).
- Froude: The English in the West Indies (1888), £16.80 (list £20.99).
- Halliday: The West Indies (1837) £17.60 (list £21.99).
- Jameson: Letters from the Havana during the year 1820 (1821) £10.40 (list £12.99).
- Pinckard: Notes on the West Indies (1806) 3 volume set £56 (list £70).
- Schomburgk: History of Barbados (1848) £26.40 (list £33).
- Stephen: The Crisis of the Sugar Colonies (1802) £11.99 (list £14.99).
- Sturge: The West Indies in 1837 (1838) £19.20 (list £23.99).
- Underhill: The West Indies: their social and religious condition (1862) £19.99 (list £24.99).
- Waddell: Twenty-Nine Years in the West Indies and Central Africa (1863) £25.60 (list £31.99).
- Williams: History of the Liverpool Privateers and Letters of Marque (1897) £26.40 (list £33).

Cambridge University Press are always grateful for suggestions of books we might add to the list in the future and members are welcome to send any such nominations via the link on the CLC web page or by writing to the Cambridge Library Collection, Cambridge University Press, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU.

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ST. VINCENT

MISSENT

BY EDWARD PROUD RDP

Regarding Michael Medicott's article in the previous edition (Page 34).

Edward Proud has sent the following comments.

The EKD for my I-10 mark was incorrectly stated as '1 Sep 08', whereas '05' is the correct year. This means that Michael Medicott's cover dated 17 Jun 1908 falls within my date range (EKD of 1 Sep 1905 and LKD of 18 Sep 1929). His cover is enlarged in the Bulletin illustration which makes it difficult to measure the mark accurately, but allowing for scanning differences and the fact that my illustration was deliberately not quite true to the original in order to deter forgery, I am convinced there is only the one mark.

ST. VINCENT

MAJOR REORGANISATION OF POSTAL SYSTEM IN 2009

BY CHRISTOPHER ANSTEAD

A SYSTEM IN DECLINE

The Post Office in the capital Kingstown has boxes, general delivery services and home delivery. In the village post offices not much has changed since Victorian times. One must call at the post office in order to obtain mail or purchase stamps.

Between 2005 and 2008 there was a substantial decrease in the amount of mail being delivered. With fewer letters being sent the average person makes fewer calls to the post office, which in turn leads to an increase in undelivered mail, which in turn erodes the general confidence in the postal system.

What was behind the decrease in the volume of mail? Without question the increased usage of internet, email and electronic funds transfer had an impact. And the proliferation of cell phones had a dramatic benefit to communications.

However, the withdrawal from the postal system of two of the largest customers impacted the system. The Central Water and Sewage Authority (CWSA) and the electricity authority (VINLEC) had both relied on the post office to deliver monthly billings. Both withdrew from the postal system more than a decade ago. CWSA and VINLEC established independent home delivery systems to deliver utility bills to their customers' homes. To do so in the villages and surrounding countryside was not an easy task. Most streets do not have names and the homes have no numbers, nor mailboxes. And to add complication to a confusing situation, the name on the mail address might be known only to close family. Many people are known throughout their life by a nickname or 'street name'.

Each authority developed an infrastructure that made such a home delivery system possible. 'Runners' with local knowledge were employed to make deliveries. Every utility pole in the country has a number upon it. By printing the pole number on the mail address, runners could be assured they were within a short distance from the household. Water meters and electric meters must be accessible for reading and their identifying number provided confirmation that the bill was going to the correct home.

The adjacent illustration shows the address label from a July 2009 letter from the Central Water and Sewage Authority to the author at one of the post offices being closed. It was delivered outside the postal system. The address label contains the account number, the meter number and a route number 'WR36 022420' ('022420' refers to a specific utility pole).

What response was needed to the decline in volume?



REFORM

In a sweeping reform of the postal system, the Post Office attempted to re-establish its relevance. Prior to reform, in addition to the General Post Office in Kingstown, there were 55 post offices.

Effective 1 November 2009 the reform closed 33 post offices with services being replaced with home delivery. The remaining post offices continue to conduct business as usual, but also (in most cases) serve as a 'hub' for nearby closed post offices.

CWSA and VINLEC have opted to return to the Post Office for delivery of their statements.

Postmasters in the closed offices were offered choices. Some were merged into the remaining post offices, which required additional staffing. Others have been contracted to deliver mail to homes in their village. Others (8–10) chose a severance package. A few had their employment terminated.

Home delivery schedules vary. Some villages have two deliveries per week, others three. The home delivery staff were recruited from the pool of redundant Postmasters and the 'runners' for VINLEC and CWSA. They operate under contract.

Agents in each village with a 'closed' post office have been contracted to stock and sell postage stamps. Letter boxes, for depositing outgoing mail were designed and ordered, but were not installed until early 2010. The volume of mail being picked up from the boxes is comparable to that being collected before the reform.

A campaign began in January 2010 to supply all households with domestic post boxes.

The fate of the post office buildings varies. Some had been rented; others shared space in a government building with other agencies such as police.

Postal codes have been introduced. All post offices open before the reform received a postal code. All utility companies are now using the postal code which speeds the sorting of mail. The hope is that other users will follow their example.

The different regions: Kingstown, Windward, Leeward and Grenadines have been assigned prefixes VC01, VC02, VC03 and VC04. By following the postal codes VC0200 through VC0294 one travels the Windward highway from the remote Fancy, south to Kingstown. VC0300 in Chateaubelair increases to VC0390 by the time the Leeward journey reaches Kingstown. The Grenadines (VC0400 to VC0472) have seven post codes on five islands.



Paget Farm, Bequia Post Office closure.



The author outside.

CONCLUSION

1 November 2009 was a watershed for Vincentian postal operations. Collecting village postmarks has new challenges. The numerous ambitious reforms has seen some interesting transitions, offering fresh challenges for both the Post Office and postal historian.

The experience in St. Vincent illustrates the challenges that postal services face in our current environment.

The author thanks the Assistant Director of Postal Services of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Post Office for her time and information.

The following postmarks (see Page 35) from the recalled postmark handstamps are from the Post Office Department. Although not complete, the variety of the design types is evident. Postmarks are not reproduced to scale. Any further information / contributions would be welcome.

The following table attempts to show the relationship between the remaining hub post offices and those that have been closed. The post codes are also included.

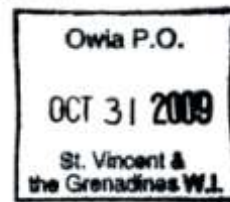
OPEN	Post Code	CLOSED	Post Code	Illus
KINGSTOWN REGION (1)				
Kingstown – all post boxes	VC0100			
Kingstown General Delivery	VC0120			
Kingstown – other	VC0130	Sion Hill	VC0110	
		Lodge Village	VC0160	Y
		Lowmans Hill	VC0150	
		Edinboro/Ottley Hall (closed 2006/7)	VC0170	
WINDWARD REGION (2)				
Sandy Bay	VC0204	Fancy	VC0200	Y
		Owia	VC0202	Y
		Overland	VC0206	
Georgetown	VC0212	O'Briens	VC0210	Y
Colonerie	VC0220	Byrea	VC0214	
		South Rivers	VC0216	Y
		Park Hill	VC0218	Y
		Mt. Grenan	VC0250	
		Diamonds	VC0250	Y
Lowmans Windward	VC0254	New Grounds	VC0252	Y
		Lauders	VC0256	
		Greggs	VC0258	
Biabou	VC0260	Peruvian Vale	VC0262	
Stubbs	VC0266	Calder	VC0264	Y
Calliaqua	VC0274	Enhams	VC0270	Y
		Prospect	VC0272	Y
Gomea (also known as Belair)	VC0282	Arnos Vale	VC0280	
Evesham	VC0290			
Mesopotamia	VC0292	Belmont	VC0284	Y
(also known as Marriaqua)		Richland Park	VC0294	Y
LEEWARD REGION (3)				
Chateaubelair	VC0300	Petit Bordel	VC0302	Y
Troumaca	VC0314	Rose Bank	VC0310	Y
		Rose Hall	VC0312	
Spring Village	VC0318	Coulls Hill	VC0316	Y
Barrouallie	VC0350			
Layou	VC0360	Buccament (Buccament Bay) (opened during Victoria's reign)	VC0370	Y
Vermont	VC0372	Peniston	VC0374	
Questelles	VC0380	Rillan Hill	VC0376	
		Clare Valley	VC0378	Y
		Campden Park	VC0390	Y
GRENADINES REGION (4)				
Port Elizabeth (Bequia)	VC0400	Paget Farm (Bequia)	VC0402	Y
Mustique	VC0410			
Canouan	VC0450			
Mayreau	VC0460			
Clifton (Union Island)	VC0470	Ashton (Union Island)	VC0472	Y



Lodge Village VC0160



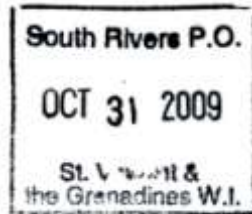
Fancy VC0200



Owia VC0202

Orange Hill (no P-C)
(Previously closed)

O'Briens Valley VC0210



South Rivers VC0216



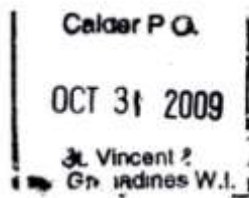
Park Hill VC0218



Diamond Village VC0250



New Grounds VC0252



Calder VC0264



Enhams VC0270



Prospect VC0272



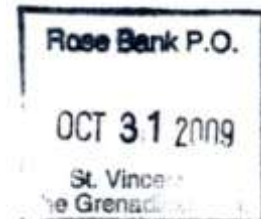
Belmont VC0284



Richland Park VC0294



Petit Bordel VC0302



Rose Bank VC0310



Coulls Hill VC0316



Buccament Bay VC0370



Clare Valley VC0378



Camden Park VC0390



Paget Farm VC0402

All Postmarks are not reproduced to scale.



Ashton Union Is VC0472

TRINIDAD**BOOK REVIEW****BY CHRIS HARMAN RDP**

Trinidad – *A Philatelic History to 1913* by Sir John Marriott, Michael Medlicott & Reuben Ramkissoon. Published by The British West Indies Study Circle in conjunction with The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. 360 pages, hardbound with dust jacket – published 2010. ISBN 978-1-09-506535-8.

The long awaited revised edition of Sir John Marriott's 1963 book on Trinidad was worth the wait. A publication by the British West Indies Study Circle in conjunction with the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group raises expectations of a high quality book full of well-researched information. This attractive book more than lives up to these expectations.

I remember asking Sir John why he chose Trinidad as his main country and he gave several reasons, all of which explain why this country is both one of the most interesting and one of the most sophisticated of philatelic collecting areas. He was seeking a complex area which included in a single country examples of many nuances and areas of interest that could be collected. Sir John found all these in Trinidad. In his view, it was the Colony with the most interest on virtually every front. It was one of the earliest Colonies to produce stamps, both in terms of the local Lady McLeod issue and as the first British Colony (with Mauritius) to order stamps from London. It is the Colony that shows the fullest range of the Perkins, Bacon issues, with imperforates, pin perforations and the later clean cut and rough perforations, as well as those most interesting lithographed provisionals. The early work of De La Rue is not seen to the same depth in most other Colonies. As one of the communications hubs in the Caribbean, its postal history is of more interest and variety than in most Colonies.

This new edition of the Marriott book includes a significant amount of work done by Sir John himself prior to his death, to which has been added major contributions from the other two named authors. The book covers every aspect of the philately of Trinidad, from the pre-adhesive period, through the stamps and their study, to the postmarks, postal stationery, postage dues, revenue overprints, 'Too Late' marks etc. It is a stamp book rather than a postal history book, although the illustrations and captions will give the postal historian plenty of assistance. There is a meticulous listing of the various stamp consignments from the printers with their content identified according to values delivered. There is also a census of the known examples of the Lady McLeod and a similar census of all known covers bearing examples of the imperforate stamps.

The authors are to be congratulated on having enquired of many sources in order to check facts and to give as complete a view of what exists as possible. Interestingly, in March this year a seemingly unidentified Lady McLeod came up for auction in a provincial British auction. It was not in the listing, but closer examination showed that it was indeed there, but listed as being attached to a faked cover. It is now a single, having been removed from the faked cover and the integrity of the census stood up.

The style of the book is succinct, in the same manner as the first edition. Whilst Sir John could wax lyrical about his beloved stamps, his written style was brief. The information is all there, the shades, the varieties, the rarity of multiples, the difficulty of finding the stamps on cover, early dates and late dates of usage. All are covered. Illustrations are in colour throughout the book, to which are added 36 plates of some of the rarest and most attractive items from the Marriott collection. This is a book worth waiting for and will be the handbook for many years to come for this most interesting Colony. The authors and editorial team are to be congratulated on a well-produced, attractive book that covers the subject comprehensively and adds much new information to the subject. The student of any British Caribbean colony will find information in this book that will assist them in their areas of endeavour, whether it is in the stamps themselves or with their usage. This is a book that should be bought, whatever your particular British Caribbean interest.

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE and
THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP



TRINIDAD A Philatelic History to 1913

by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medlicott
and Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL

This book was conceived by John Marriott to follow on from his original 1962 Study Paper; unfortunately he did not live to complete the work. With the help, not only of the two co-authors, but many other Trinidad collectors, our two societies have collaborated to publish this book. As the title suggests, the book covers the Trinidad-only period before the advent of Trinidad & Tobago issues. It details all Postage Stamp issues within the period, as well as the Postal Markings; the coverage includes Postal Stationery, Postage Dues, and Revenue and Official Stamps. The final chapter examines the 'D22' markings of Ciudad Bolivar, the 'TOO LATE' marks, Ship Letters, Military Mail and many other more esoteric aspects of Trinidad philately. There are five Appendices which include a listing of Trinidad Governors and Postmasters-General, details of the printings of all the Postage Stamps as well as a census of the Lady McLeod stamp with many of these illustrated in colour. And lastly, there is a long list describing many of the early Trinidad covers, pre-1860.

Price: £42.50. BWISC Members' Discount: £4.50

This fine book is limited to 400 copies and your individually numbered copy can be ordered from:– David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:– 01423 865962 or Fax:– 01423 547057 or E-mail:– Pennymead@aol.com. Or log on to www.pennymead.com, where the book can be ordered with payment per PayPal. For members in North America, orders should be sent to Edward Barrow, 16704 Briardale Road, Derwood, MD 20855, Tel:– 301-816-1157 or E-mail:– e.barrow1@gmail.com.



peter singer



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AUCTION UPDATE**BY CHARLES FREELAND****HARMERS 12 MAY (BP 18% UP TO £5,000, 12 ½ % ABOVE THAT)**

As a postscript to the Deakin Barbados sale, which took place just before our editor's deadline, it appears that David Parson's client is a Barbados resident. The prices for the 20th century essays and proofs were well in excess of previous realisations for similar material, but the market has spoken. Frank also got many strong prices for his Britannia covers, which were mostly choice quality or usage. There were, however, plenty of unsolds, indicating that Harmers' estimates were often way wide of the mark. My spies tell me that the auction was difficult to follow, not only on the internet but also in the room!

SIEGEL 27 MAY (BP 15%)

Steve Walske's US will likely have escaped the attention of many members, indeed I only heard about it myself late on having been diverted by the London International. But this catalogue contained quite a number of Bahamas and a few Bermuda related covers, most of them carried by blockade runners. The outstanding price was \$9.5k for a Bermuda blockade runner, but the Bahamas covers were mostly cheap or unsold.

GROSVENOR 22 JUNE (BP 17%)

The Abaco Bahamas was a typical rich man's collection and it will not surprise readers of this column that it belonged to our member Hugh Wood, who had been seen bidding in person at the Hoey sale. Most of the lots had recent pedigrees ex Staircase, Ludington or Baillie. As ever, he had paid high, often against fierce opposition from other rich men. Moreover, he expected to get his money back, so the estimates were often daunting. But to the surprise of some, almost 90% of lots found new homes, albeit a large proportion at their reserves of 75% or 80% of estimate. Many of these were bought by a collector in the room, but even he found the reserves for some of the proofs too high, including the QV perf 12 set reserved at £12k (it had fetched £12.5k at the Baillie sale) and the imperf block of QV 6d that was £4k in Hoey. Among the outstanding prices were £6.5k for the 1805 Bahamas in red and £7.8k for the Ship Letter in red. Prices that were noticeably higher than last time around were £6k for the fine block of SG:5, £4.5k for the SG:18 block with cut perfs, £3.5k for the block of 15 1d SG:25, £3.2k for the fine mint block of 6d SG:31w and £1.95k for the 2s Staircase imperf block of 6. The non-UPU specimens were all expensive; the SG:10ms fetched £1.95k, the 1884–98 set of seven handstamped with an italic specimen £4.2 and the four with the regular D12 specimen (though not circulated by the UPU) a remarkable £3.5k. The KGV1 rarities were as usual fiercely fought over, the imperf Coronation specimens fetching £2.3k, the unique Silver Wedding specimen £3.5k and an unusual used block of the 6d Columbus flaw £1k.

For the less well-heeled, there were a few interesting lots but strong competition pushed the positional blocks of the 1884 sloping 2 on 2½d to £420 and 'Malformed E' on 6d to £580. There was fair value in the 1884 1d imperf colour trials at £380 odd and the KE 1s colour trials, which are much scarcer than the 1ds though the prices were much the same. It was interesting that at least one lot, the 1884–6 set in blocks, turned up on ebay broken down by a dealer into single items, where the £1 block went for more than he paid for the full set. So ebay is not necessarily cheaper!

SPINK 14–5 JULY 7 (BP 20% UP TO £3000, 17% ABOVE THAT)

Those who do not bother to look at GB catalogues take note....this sale contained a treasure trove of GB ship letters, several with BWI origins. Our two exhibitors at May's joint meeting were bidding aggressively for some of the rarities on offer. The Beaumarais and Hubberstone, both ex Codrington, went for £1.3k and £2.9k, while the ms Dover handstamped with a 2-line Dominica was £3.2k. A nice Lancaster from Barbados was £1.9k. In the afternoon the John Michael Library suffered buyers' neglect, partly caused by the daunting number of cartons. James Podger was able to acquire some real bargains, but has since generously offered the items he does not need from the box of BWI auction catalogues to the Circle library.

FUTURE EVENTS

See back cover for Grosvenor ad regarding John Davis' War Tax. Prestige Philately will offer the John Little WW2 censorship collection later this year. This is the Australian house that produced an impressive catalogue for the Williams KE Empire collection in March, where the Fuchs essay of the KE head sold for A\$12.5k.

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Revisions to contact details should be provided to the Hon. Secretary, Charles Gee, address inside front cover.

In this issue and in future, membership updates will be issued as loose booklet style inserts for the membership booklet. An up-to-date Membership Booklet can be download from www.bwisc.org (please e-mail the Editor, info@bwisc.org, for access details).

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**IAN JAKES**

Library lists can be supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an S.A.E. (9" x 6½") – 2nd Class postage for 150 gm rate required.

If any member has a book which is not already in the library and which is surplus to requirements, perhaps that member will consider donating it to the library.

EDITOR & WEB-MASTER'S REPORT**STEVE JARVIS**

Peter Fernbank has completed scanning early editions of the Bulletin, which are all now on our web site. Peter has also brought the Index of Bulletins up-to-date (Bulletin #215). An updated listing is now available for download from the web site or printed copy by application to the Hon. Editor at £2.00 or \$US4.00.

Please view Charles Freeland's regular updates to his Auction Alert under 'Auction/Dealers'.

The proposed publication schedule for 2009 is as follows:

Edition	December
Distribute	Mon 7 Dec
From Printer	Mon 30 Nov
To Printer	Mon 9 Nov
Final Bulletin Revisions	Fri 30 Oct
Advert Final copy	Fri 30 Oct
Article copy deadline	Sat 24 Oct
Advert book space	Sat 17 Oct

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One quarter page b/w	£12.50

Full page colour	£50
Half page colour	£25
The back page (only colour)	£50.00

Please submit any enquiry re advertising to the editor.

War Tax

The John Davis Collection

Our **British Empire and Foreign Countries** auction, to be held on **October 6th/7th**, will include the superb **John Davis collection of British West Indies War Tax issues**. This collection formed the basis of John Davis's comprehensive reference work, *War Tax Stamps of the British Empire, First World War: The West Indies*, published by the Royal Philatelic Society in 2009.

Printed catalogues will be available on request and the auction will also be available to view on our website from mid-September.



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