

## STUDY CIRCLE

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See inside for further details



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**BULLETIN No. 241 June 2014**

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Affiliated to the Association of British Philatelic Societies and the American Philatelic Society

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## **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- 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 of BWI interest. The BWISC BULLETIN was presented with the ABPS Specialist Society journal Award in 2004.
- 3 TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aims of the Circle. The BWISC has published over 20 books or Study Papers over the last 12 years, some of which have received prestigious awards.
- 4 TO hold an annual auction for the sale of members' material.  
Normally, prior to the auction, the BWISC holds its Annual General Meeting.
- 5 TO organise occasional display meetings including a biennial weekend Convention and bourse.  
This offers further opportunities for members to buy and sell material.
- 6 TO maintain an internet website where information about Circle activities is publicised and where much other relevant information is posted.
- 7 TO maintain a specialised library from which home members can borrow books.

**Opinions expressed in articles in this Bulletin are those of the authors  
and not necessarily those of the BWISC, its Editor or its Officers.**

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IN THIS ISSUE		Page
Programme of Events & Information		3
Publications Report	Peter Ford	4
De La Rue's Early Curved Recess Plates	Peter Fernbank	4
Barbados Unrecorded Straightline Mark	Charles Freeland	8
Minutes of the 60 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the BWISC		9
Diamond Jubilee Auction Report		15
Diamond Jubilee Auction Unsold Offers		20
Planning for 2030 (This is not a Requiem)	Simon Goldblatt	22
St. Christopher (Part 2)	Geoff Kellow and Charles Freeland	25
Trinidad and Tobago	Peter Ford	31
Book Review: Tobago, The Philatelic Story of a Small Island	David Druett	33
St. Lucia 1891 and 1892 overprints	John Roberts	34
Auction Update	Steve Jarvis, Ray Stanton and Charles Freeland	37
Membership, Web-Master's & Editor's Reports		39

## **SOCIETY PROGRAMME OF EVENTS & INFORMATION**

### **MEETINGS & EVENTS**

Saturday 20 September 2014 from 2.30 to 4.30pm – BWISC meeting to be held at Autumn Stampex in Room H. Members are invited to bring along informal displays and material to offer on the members' table.

Congratulations to Dan Walker who has been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

Congratulations to David Pitts, Paul Larsen, Ed Waterous, David Cordon and John Wynns for their Gold Medals awarded for B.W.I. entries at the St. Louis Stamp Expo.

### **DIAMOND JUBILEE DISPLAY TO THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON**

As mentioned in the last Bulletin, the BWISC will be presenting a comprehensive 52-frame display to the Royal Philatelic Society London on Thursday 6 November 2014 from 1.0 pm as part of our celebration of the society's Diamond Jubilee. You will have seen from Peter Fernbank's note in the March Bulletin, the list of exhibitors has a truly international flavour and includes half a dozen large gold medal winners. Each of the BWI territories will be represented and some rare and exotic material will be exhibited. It is doubtful that a BWI display of this quality will have ever been assembled in one place before.

You do not have to be a member of the RPS to attend the display and the associated celebrations, which include (free) wine and (not-free) dinner following the display (see below). The only requirement is to let our Secretary, George Dunbar (secretary@bwisc.org), know if you intend to be there, as RPSL rules require pre-registration of non-members.

### **DINNER ARRANGEMENTS POST DISPLAY AT THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

The 6th November Jubilee exhibition to be held at the Royal Philatelic Society, London is due to conclude at 7pm after cheese and wine on the premises. Exhibitors and other BWISC members attending will want to know that it is intended to hold a dinner at the Naval Club, Hill Street, Mayfair

(a short taxi ride from Devonshire Place) just after 7pm. It is expected that the President of the RPSL and his wife will join us. At this stage the costs are not tied down as they depend to some degree on the take-up. However it is likely that the cost for a 3 course evening meal will be in the order of £45 a head plus any drinks consumed. Assuming that the majority of exhibitors will wish to attend this important social event, it would be helpful to have an indication of how many other members might be interested (no obligation at this stage) and whether they would wish to be accompanied by their partner. The total number of places will be around 80.

If this is of interest please let Commodore John Keegan know as soon as possible to allow more detailed planning to begin. He can be contacted by telephone (+44 (0) 1932 844399), by e-mail ([john.keegan331@btinternet.com](mailto:john.keegan331@btinternet.com)) or by writing to 12 Churchill Drive, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 9HE, UK. Please state your name clearly and include a means of contact. An early response would be useful. More details will be given in the September edition of the Bulletin.

## **PUBLICATIONS REPORT**

**BY PETER FORD**

I thought I should keep the BWISC membership up-to-date with what is going in the publications empire, especially now that our President has taken to calling me the 'Publications Supremo'! As you all know we have a vibrant publishing programme and I have several books in train at the moment. However, my pet projects are the Study Papers and the Classic Collections series. If anybody thinks they have anything that they can contribute towards these publications, please do not hesitate to contact me. Also there are several colonies which have never had a definitive handbook written, or perhaps not had one written for nearly a century. We need to have new books on these subjects so that collectors can see what is there for them to collect and research.

For members with any ambition to write a book, please would they let me know before they do anything. I have had two contributors recently who have presented me with books which they have either paid someone to typeset or done it themselves and it has caused me more problems mainly because it has been done in the Microsoft Word program. This is not a program which is suitable for publishing books. The program I use is one specifically designed for publishing, and is one which is accepted more readily by printers to produce the best possible results, especially insofar as colour reproduction is concerned. It is best to provide me with the text separately from the images in a Word (or similar) program and the images as tiff files scanned at a minimum of 300dpi. I always welcome any book which a member wants to publish.

## **BWI**

### **DE LA RUE'S EARLY CURVED RECESS PLATES**

**BY PETER FERNBANK**

The last family member to hold the position of Chairman of Thomas De La Rue & Co. was Stuart de la Rue. Just prior to the family's loss of control of the family firm in 1923, one of his final acts as Chairman was to appoint Albert Gronow, an ex-chief of Waterlow and Son, as managing director. Gronow then offered the incentive of a directorship in De La Rue to Harold Rapkin, Waterlow's head of their printing department, if he would bring with him certain key men. Rapkin was successful in persuading a number of key personnel to move to De La Rue, principal amongst them being Waterlow's head designer and engraver but also including their chief engineer who was in the process of perfecting a rotary press for recess printing.

The traditional flat-bed recess printing presses employed by De La Rue from the mid-1890s onwards and up to that time had a number of disadvantages. These presses required the paper to be dampened prior to printing in order to make it sufficiently pliable to pick up the ink from the recessed parts of the design during the printing operation. Printings in two colours required two passes through the press and hence the paper had to be wetted again for the second operation. Because damp paper contracts when dry (but not evenly) comb perforators could not be employed to perforate the sheet. It was thus necessary for the sheet to be perforated one line at a time, both vertically and horizontally (line perforation), a more time consuming, and thus more expensive,

operation than comb perforation. After printing, but before the perforation operation, the sheets had to be gummed. The throughput of these presses was not high.

The new rotary printing presses, on which the printing plates were curved to fit on to a cylindrical drum, offered a number of significant advantages. Principal amongst these was that printing was conducted under much higher pressure than on the old flat bed presses. This obviated the necessity to dampen the paper first, a major improvement, and this process was known as 'Dry Printing'. This in turn meant that not only could the paper be gummed before printing but also, since paper shrinkage no longer had to be allowed for, comb perforation could be employed, a quicker and more efficient operation. In addition these rotary presses had a much higher throughput.

Towards the mid-1920s De La Rue started introducing rotary presses for recess printing as a means of increasing their efficiency, but were initially faced with the problem that their existing recess plates were flat and would have to be curved to fit the new presses. Flat plates were curved by being rolled between shaping rollers to impart the required curvature. Because the outer surface of the plate stretches during the curving process each subject on the plate increases in dimension along the direction of the curve, of the order of about 1mm in 20mm. This is reflected in the increased dimension of the printed stamp when compared to that of a similar example printed from a flat plate. It would seem that existing plates subsequently chosen to be curved were those that had the most use.

The flat plates existing at the time the new presses were introduced and that were subsequently curved are recorded in the Crown Agents' *Register of Dies, Plates and Formes, etc.* The only surviving register records the dies and plates that existed during the period c.1928 to c.1933, but note that plates destroyed prior to 1928 are not listed; this might have included some curved plates.

I became aware of the curving of plates many years ago when I discovered from the register that Frame Plate 1 of the 1d Queen's Staircase issue of Bahamas had been curved. Curious as to how widespread this practice had been I went through the entire register at the British Library a few years ago and recorded which plates had been curved. I found that the vast majority of them were from the British West Indies. Being handwritten records, with lots of tiny abbreviated notes, ditto marks, ticks, crosses, etc. they can be difficult to correctly interpret in some cases, so the list below represents my best efforts. Although not always stated in the register, it has been assumed that new recess plates made after c.1928 (when the register opened) were introduced from inception as curved plates.

REGISTER OF DIES, PLATES, FORMES, Etc., HELD ON CHARGE IN THE COLONIAL STAMPS									
DUTY NUMBER	PROCESS	DESCRIPTION	SIZE OR SET	COST	DATE OF RECEIPT	WHERE DEPOSITED		REMARKS	
						SAFE	CUPBOARD		
Six	Copper Plate	Single Working Plate	10 1/2" x 10 1/2" 2 1/2" 5 1/2" 6 1/2" 1 1/2"	80.	126. 19 1/2" 16 1/2" 19 1/2"			18 1/2" Curved	
Four	"	"	4 1/2" 2 1/2" 3 1/2"	80.	84.		7	1 1/2" 18. 7 1/2" 1 1/2" curved	
one	"	Single Working Plate	16 1/2" 2 1/2"	160.	21.		8	1 1/2" 18 1/2" curved	For
2	"	S. Working Plate	5 1/2" 1 1/2" 12 1/2"	120.	20. R 23 1/2" 19 1/2"			H 1/2"	
one	"	"	1 1/2"	120.	25.			H 1/2"	
one	"	"	2 1/2"	80.	21.			H 1/2"	
one	"	"	1 1/2"	120.	20.			H 1/2"	

Example (truncated) from the *Register of Dies, Plates & Formes, etc.* for Barbados.

Country	Design	Type of Plate	Values	Size (Set)
Bahamas	Queen's Staircase	Border	1d (Plate 1)	60
Barbados	Sea Horses	Single Working	¼d, ½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 6d, 1/- 1d	80 160
Bermuda	Ship	Single Working	¼d, ½d, 1d, 2½d 2d, 3d, 6d, 1/-	120 60
Jamaica	1921–26 Pictorial	Vignette & Border	2½d, 1/-, 2/- 3/- (the 5/- was not curved) 2d, 3d, 4d 6d (replaced 15 June 1929)	60 30 80 40
	1929–32	Single Working	1d 1½d, 9d	240 120
St. Vincent	1921–32	Single Working	½d, 1d	120
Turks and Caicos	1928	Single Working	½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 6d (and possibly 1/-)	120

Single Working = The complete design, including denomination, was included on the plate hence just a single passage through the press was required.

The only other plates that were noted in the register as "curved" within all of the colonial territories were for all eleven values of the Zanzibar 1926 series (and these were probably curved from their inception).

## References

*The House that Thomas built: the story of De La Rue*, Houseman, L., Chatto and Windus, 1968

*Fundamentals of Philately*, Williams, L.N and M., American Philatelic Society, 1971, p.113, 173, 182–183

*Postage Stamps in the Making*, Easton, John. Faber and Faber Ltd, 1949, p.117–118.

## **FINE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY FOR COLLECTORS**

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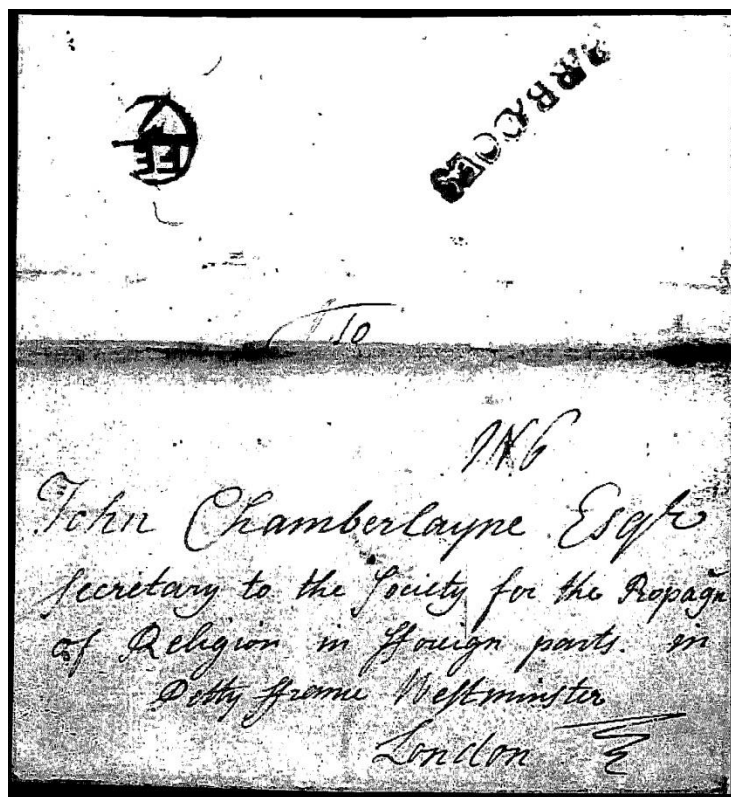
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## BARBADOS

### BARBADOS UNRECORDED STRAIGHTLINE MARK

BY CHARLES FREELAND

The March Bulletin contained a tabulation of articles of interest to us in other journals...but as it happened it omitted what was for my money the most important "find" of the year. In the December 2013 edition of *Postal History*, the journal of the Postal History Society, John Scott, its librarian, wrote about the archives of the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel held at Lambeth Palace, the London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Among these is a letter dated 29 October 1706 written by Andrew Auchinleck in Bermuda that was carried to Barbados where Rev. Adam Justice was asked to forward the letter to London. Amazingly, the letter bears a Barbadoes handstamp that has never been previously recorded, in which the letters 'AR' and 'AD' are joined. Although reminiscent of the straightline handstamp used 100 years later, this is evidently one of the two marks recorded by Proud (Page 25) as having been sent to Barbados on 29 November 1705 by the Postmasters-General. Their usages have never to date been recorded, indeed Proud suggests that the vessel carrying these handstamps may have been captured or lost.



The wrapper also carries a Bishopmark for 7 February (1707) and Scott suggests that this letter might have been carried on the Dummer Packet *Frankland*, that according to Proud was scheduled to arrive at the end of January 1707. It is worth recalling that the earliest marks recorded to date for any of the BWI colonies are 1746 (Jamaica) and 1747, when two line marks for Barbados and St. Christopher reside in the collections of our members. This discovery predates these marks by no less than 40 years.

If any member of the PHS would be good enough to report any relevant articles to our editor we would be able to avoid such omissions in future.

#### Reference

J. Scott, *Postal History*, December 2013, the journal of the Postal History Society.  
Edward B Proud, *The Postal History of Barbados and Grenada*, Proud-Bailey, 2006.

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## **MINUTES OF THE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BWISC HELD AT 1:15 PM SATURDAY 26 APRIL 2014**

### **1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks**

The meeting was opened by Peter Ford who welcomed the 40 BWISC members and two representatives of ABPS present. He thanked Spink for their hospitality in allowing BWISC to hold our AGM on their premises. He invited each person to introduce themselves and their collecting interests. The best introduction was from Michael Hamilton who described himself as a dealer and his interest as "all of you".

**2. Apologies for Absence** Apologies were received from John Davis, Peter Longmuir, James Podger, Michael Rego, John Seidl, and Richard Watkins.

### **3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting on 27 April 2013, as published in Bulletin No. 237, June 2013, pages 23 to 26, were accepted by the attendees.

### **4. Presentation by John Baron, Chair of ABPS, and Dane Garrod, Specialist Society Liaison Officer, ABPS**

John Baron apologised for missing last year's AGM, which happened because of problems with his computer. He described how he had become Chair of ABPS in 2010 and saw a need for reform. This would be a ten year project, including changes to the constitution, web site, committee roles and greater contact between the committee and member Federations. What does ABPS do? It is a voice for the UK in international philately, for example in the organisation of major exhibitions and competition. There is a collaboration with Germany to train judges. Costs related to competition are not met from member society subscriptions but are covered by exhibitors, the trainee judges, and sponsorship. The National Congress contributes £1000 p.a. to ABPS income. He defended the membership fee payment arrangements for societies, while mentioning a hope that other income could be generated by accepting adverts on the ABPS website. He emphasised ABPS support for youth philately through Stamp Active. A BWISC representative was welcome to attend the ABPS AGM, though could only vote if affiliated. He foresaw an expansion of the ABPS website to have a BWISC page, to advertise ourselves and books. There could be a page in ABPS News supporting the sale of our publications. While there was much work to do, he planned to continue while there is demand for ABPS service.

Dane Garrod also spoke and made an enthusiastic call for support. He paraphrased Kennedy, "ask not what ABPS can do for you,..." and invited us to write articles for ABPS News, which could be a source of new members "where do you get your new members?". He mentioned the ABPS leaflets, available on their website, covering a range of topics.

Several members asked questions which the representatives responded to.

Michael Medicott asked John Baron to clarify the aims and objectives of ABPS. Michael Hamilton asked how many members ABPS had indeed brought to BWISC [unknown] and whether other organisations contributed to the organisation of International Exhibiting [PTS do although ABPS are involved in a supporting role e.g. in supplying frames]. Simon Goldblatt asked whether fees could be lowered through an individual membership model [costly to implement]. Simon Richards supported the existing fee model and argued that ABPS plays an important role in supporting exhibiting.

Peter Ford thanked our visitors for their presentation and gave his own view that on balance we should support ABPS because of the role exhibiting and high level competition plays in developing the hobby. Collectors can look to the elite exhibit and see what they might aim for.

### **5. Report by the General Secretary (George Dunbar)**

I was asked to take on PRO duties during the year. I have sent information about the Circle to a number of outlets in the USA, UK, and Australia. This has led to "Society News" appearing in GSM, Stamp & Coin Mart, and the BCPSPG journal. BCPSPG also kindly made announcements about our Anniversary events at their recent meeting in St. Louis. Following a previous Anniversary, it was observed that US magazines had not been receptive to our news, and I believe that commercial

overseas outlets will be more likely to accept material that has some philatelic content, articles rather than 'news', particularly if it is relevant in some way to local interests. Indeed, a short item prepared in this vein is to appear soon in Stamp News Australasia. This seems an effective tactic. In addition, I agreed to help out Stamp & Coin Mart with a Readers Stamps article at short notice, and in return the editor will let us provide an article for that column regularly (once a year or so). Terry Harrison has offered to write it next year.

The effort so far has not been guided by any strategy beyond trying to get information out as widely as possible. I believe we will be more effective if we are strategic. For the coming 18 months or so I propose that we focus on Europe, in the year of London 2015 Europhilatex. I have had initial discussions with Nigel Chandler, who knows a great deal about the continental scene and we will shape the strategy over the next few weeks. If any members with linguistic skills or ideas for short articles relevant to German, French and other philatelists with interests based around Europe, could contribute, please do contact Nigel or me.

Charles Freeland had suggested contacting GSM to offer a series of articles on Caribbean philately. The Editor, Dean Shepard, kindly agreed to do this and Charles and I approached several members about writing an article. Three articles appeared in the April issue with a shorter piece about the Circle. More are with GSM, to be published later in the year. The Editor is paying us for these articles and authors are kindly directing the payments to the Circle. He has also given us permission to publish pdfs of the articles on our website.

In July 2013 BWISC hired a table among the specialist societies at Midpex for the first time. Many committee members supported the table, manning it throughout the day, and Richard Stupples provided a one frame display of Barbados for our stand. Peter made successful publication sales. I'd like to thank everyone for their support. We plan to return to Midpex in 2015. This year, I will attend Worpex (May 10<sup>th</sup>), Swinpex (June 14<sup>th</sup>) and Scotex (October 18<sup>th</sup>) to promote the Circle. Members who can come to these events will be very welcome to help. Please contact me, or just come along on the day.

In October the Convention was held in Warwickshire, and there have been reports on this in the Bulletin already. The philately was outstanding. In terms of organisation, many members had difficulty getting rooms at the hotel. I also discovered that one stalwart, Anthony Wilkinson, has been walking from Berkswell Railway Station to Honiley, and back, each year. That's a two hour walk, each way! Honiley has advantages, such as the room layout, but we will consider alternatives for 2015.

At the Convention, the new Rolls of Honour for the Collett Award were presented and signed by a number of past and new winners. The Rolls were printed on parchment by William Cowley, and winners' names added by the calligrapher Denise Hagon. Over the summer, I took the Rolls to be signed by Ian Chard in Skye and Frank Deakin in Exmouth, neither of whom were going to be able to attend Honiley. It was a great pleasure to meet both, and I am very glad I had the chance to meet Frank before he died in December. We went for lunch with two members of Exmouth Stamp Club, Barbara and Colin Rogers, and Frank heartily enjoyed a turkey salad with a glass of white wine.

I became aware quite recently that Steve Jarvis has to manually send out the eNewsletters, and that this is very time-consuming. To assist with this, I have prepared a short program to automate the process, but it will need to be tested carefully.

The Membership Secretary has kindly provided the following information.

Membership Stats as at end of 2013:					
	Members	UK	EUR	RoW	Paperless
End 2012	324	207	24	93	
Joined 2013	22				8
Deceased	3				
Lapsed/Resigned	22				
End 2013	321	203	26	92	44

**6. Report by the Editor (Terry Harrison)**

I would like to thank everyone who responded to my plea for more articles, especially the new contributors, and to apologise if your article is yet to appear, it will in due course. Having a stock of articles on which to draw does make the editors job easier, so please keep them coming.

For those of you feel that your collecting interests are under-represented in the Bulletin, now is the time for you to provide me with an article to fill the gap.

My thanks are due to Steve Jarvis, Charles Freeland and Peter Ford for the work they do to ensure that the high standard of the Bulletin is maintained by proof reading each edition and liaising with the printers.

**7. Report by the Treasurer (Ray Stanton)**

The accounts for the year to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 show a deficit of £1,051 which compares with a surplus of £2,254 in 2012.

The deficit is entirely due to the amount of £6,912 spent on the production of publications despite the large increase in income from these of £4,922. Last year the opposite was the case and taking the two years as a whole, sales have largely covered production costs, and confirms our ability to fund the continuing ambitious publication programme.

This year we have covered by a good margin the costs of the quarterly bulletin, and its despatch, by the subscription and advertising income, which is the policy we have established in the past. This allows for further increases in postage costs happening in 2014.

Once again there was a substantial donation from the auction team to fund the study circle's activities. On the other side, the Honiley convention left us with a deficit of £518, and funds were spent on establishing the new Collett Scroll, and also in producing flyers and leaflets for use in promoting the Study Circle.

As a result of the deficit, the Accumulated fund, has decreased from £7,545 to £6,503 and this year we again have a small profit on the conversion of our US dollar funds. Due to the prevailing low interest rates we have had limited ability to earn any interest this year.

I would like to thank John Davis once again for being our auditor and for the advice and help he has given.

**8. Report by the Librarian (Ian Jakes)**

Three books have been borrowed from the Library by one member during the last year. This is an improvement upon the previous year when no books were borrowed from the Library!

I have provided one member with philatelic information on Barbados bootheel cancels.

It is clear from the above that our non-computer literate members are dwindling and that the Library is now only being used to obtain information which cannot be found on the net. There is a vast amount of philatelic knowledge and other information to be found in the BWISC Library which is regularly used by me to aid my own philatelic research, and which could be used by others.

There has been one donation to the Library during the year, by Richard Maisel, being a copy of his BWISC Study Paper No.5 entitled "British Guiana: The Provisionals of 1882". Many thanks, Richard, for this gift which is much appreciated.

**9. Report by the Publications Officer (Peter Ford)**

2013 was a bumper year for BWISC publications. Not only did we publish four new books but our sales reached an all time high. The books published were Peter Fernbank's 'KING GEORGE V KEY PLATES OF THE IMPERIUM POSTAGE AND REVENUE DESIGN', Fitz Roett's Barbados, Richard Maisel's British Guiana 1882 Provisionals and lastly Steve Jarvis's Jamaica Airmails, part of the ever expanding Jamaica Encyclopaedia.

Sales this last year have been amazing with gross sales almost reaching an incredible £6,500 – this is a record. The star seller was Peter Fernbank's new book with some 74 copies sold. At £49

(£44 for members) this accounted for the major slice of our sales income. Other books which sold well were the Maisel BG Provisionals Study Paper which sold 31, the Roett Barbados 23 and Michael Oliver's Leewards, which continues to sell well, with 20 sales. The Jamaica Airmails published right at the end of the year sold 18 copies.

Future projects are well under way; we have already published the Tobago handbook. Nearly complete is Ian Jakes' Study Paper on the Trinidad Red Cross Labels. We are intending to publish a book on Queen Elizabeth postmarks of the West Indies shortly, this by David Horry, a new definitive handbook on Nevis by Federico Borromeo and Charles Freeland and lastly, we hope to have a revised version of Jamaica Military Mails out by the year's end. Further in the future we are hoping to publish definitive handbooks on Antigua and the Bahamas.

One project which doesn't come specifically under the heading of publications is the brochure we are going to produce for the BWISC display at the Royal in November. Could I please ask all participants to send their contributions to me as soon as they can, as it will make things a lot easier for me.

If any member is considering writing a book, could I appeal to them to inform me before they pay out money to have it typeset. I have used a few different printers over the years and now know them sufficiently well to gauge exactly what is required to produce the best result from any publication. Please do not present me with a typeset book and ask me to publish it, especially if it is in the dreaded Microsoft Word!

I again appeal to aspiring writers to submit Study Papers which I am very keen on. These can be on a subject of very specialised interest and it doesn't cost us much to have them printed.

Over the last 15 years, we have published some 25 books or booklets. Whilst I am happy to continue doing this, the fact is that I will not be able to go on forever and it would be useful to have some other member who is interested to help me and eventually take over this task. It is not burdensome and from experience, I can say that there is nothing so satisfying as seeing a book that you have produced come out in print.

#### **10. Report by the Chairman of the Committee (Peter Ford)**

Last year was a very successful one for the BWISC. We held our usual AGM and auction at Grosvenor's auction rooms, a good number of us attended the MIDPEX event where we had booked a table and managed to sell a good number of our books and, last but by no means least, we held a particularly successful Convention at Honiley with excellent displays of much classic material by Federico Borromeo and Simon Greenwood.

Behind the scenes, members of the Committee have been busy arranging events for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Study Circle. Our auction team have put together a special auction this year containing 'starred items' with an estimated value of £250 or more. Just how they persuade members to part with their treasured material, I find it better not to enquire into too deeply. Other Committee members in the persons of Peter Fernbank and John Keegan have been arranging a special display of prize West Indies material to be shown at the Royal Philatelic Society in London on 6 November. This promises to be a once in a lifetime event and I would encourage all of our members to make a special effort to attend; there will be a selection from every colony in our area of interest and something for everybody to savour.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee for all their efforts in running the Study Circle; it is only by their enthusiasm and hard work that we are able to boast that we have one of the premier specialist societies which is highly respected throughout the philatelic world.

#### **11. Re-Election of the Chairman of the Committee**

Peter Ford was re-elected unanimously as Chairman of the Committee.

#### **12. Re-Election of the President and Vice-Presidents**

Re-elected for three years (to April 2017):

Charles Freeland, President; Simon Goldblatt, Vice-President; Steve Jarvis, Vice-President.

**13. Re-Election of Officers**


The existing Officers and Committee Members were re-elected.

**14. Election of the Auditor**

John Davis was understood to be willing to continue as Auditor, and was re-elected, with the gratitude of members.

**15. Other Business**

All business having been covered, the Chairman closed the meeting.

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE				
INCOME STATEMENT : YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2013				
	£'s	2013	2012	
<b>INCOME :</b>				
Subscriptions		4,509	3,609	
Publications - Sales less commissions		4,922	2,168	
Auction donation		1,540	1,634	
Other donations		2	48	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>10,973</b>	<b>7,459</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE :</b>				
Bulletin - Costs less advertising receipts	895		1,294	
Distribution and editorial expenses	2,710	3,605	2,503	3,797
Publications : Printing costs		6,912		340
Convention - net deficit		518		-
Other room hire & meeting costs		164		270
ABPS affiliation fee		-		240
Collett scroll costs		284		-
Flyers & leaflets		175		-
Officers administration - Stationery, postage, telephone etc		161		370
Bank charges		92		91
Website		113		97
		<b>12,024</b>		<b>5,205</b>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	£'s	<b>(1,051)</b>	£'s	<b>2,254</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2013</b>				
<b>ACCUMULATED FUND :</b>				
Balance at 1st January 2013		7,545		5,280
Add : Surplus (Deficit) for the year		(1,051)		2,254
Dollar conversion profit (loss)		9		11
	£'s	<b>6,503</b>	£'s	<b>7,545</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY :</b>				
Cash at banks		7,521		5,519
Cash in hand		996		820
Debtors - amounts due to us		3,193		5,057
Prepaid expenses		-		250
		11,710		11,646
Less : Subscriptions received in advance	(3,055)		(2,685)	
Loan	(1,300)		(1,062)	
Other creditors - Amounts due by us	(852)	(5,207)	(354)	(4,101)
	£'s	<b>6,503</b>	£'s	<b>7,545</b>
<b>AUDITORS REPORT</b>				
I hereby certify that the income statement for the year ended 31st December 2013 is in accordance with the books, vouchers and explanations given to me; and that the Balance Sheet at the 31st December 2013 shows the financial state of the British West Indies Study Circle as at that date.				
J G M Davis FCA	 5th April 2014			



# Stanley Gibbons Auctions

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## DIAMOND JUBILEE AUCTION REPORT

Lot 273. The room suddenly grew tense. Opens at £4,500 (That was predictable) Against the room. The total started to climb, and many of those towards the back may not have seen the unobtrusive signals from near the front. The total went on climbing, and the tension increased. At £6,400 the book reached its limit. B138 at £6,500 had won the day. Applause all round.

Reputedly this lovely stamp on piece, leading actor in our cast of stars, came from a single pane of 60 stamps. By strange chance – if the Philatelic Record of mid-1889 is to be believed – so did the stamps on the next starred lot. A large part cover front, also from Dominica, holding six of the postal fiscal 1d Revenue SG R6. 10% of the entire issue on one piece of paper – unless one takes the side of the sceptics. Not that Lot 287 fetched six times £6,500, but B105 would have been more than pleased with his capture at £520. So next time you see SG R6 with genuine fiscal use – if you ever do, if in fact any survive – treat with extreme respect.

The Jubilee sale had its lower points as well. After the brisk clearance of the four lots of Anguilla to a member in the room, with no input from the auction book, both Antigua and Bahamas were seen to flag. Though Antigua is safe and solid to collect, when acquired with discrimination, it is unlikely to join the mainstream of BWI philately in the foreseeable future. By contrast, the Bahamas islands follow an elliptical orbit, and may currently be at their maximum distance from the philatelic sun. Watch this space. For these two territories 19 were sold, and 28 left with their present owners. A little later, worse was to come. Barbuda, all or nothing with a single lot, scored nothing; Bermuda sold a mere 8 out of 30. The St. Kitts group, leading up to the second short intermission, sold 16, leaving 22 for second preferences, while Virgin Islands, so often a laggard near the foot of our alphabet, sold just 6 of its 17 lots – with no interest whatsoever shown in its three starred lots. It is not that the Virgins are positively disliked: there are simply not enough classics around for them to gain popularity, and no comment will be made on the hoarding propensities of our own Circle auctioneer.

Indeed, one can pause at the information that 21 of our starred lots failed to sell, and wonder whether this made the Jubilee sale less than a success. It is time to look on the bright side; for the sale of the starred items just about exactly matched the percentage sale of lots as a whole. Featuring the stars seems to have thrown a spotlight on the entire catalogue. Our members were ready to spend more money than hitherto, and a good proportion went on the lots that were not accorded star status.

If there was a let-down, it was among the non-member philatelists. There were just two who joined up before the sale, and took part in the auction. Not a single non-member came to Spink to have a go. Not a spark of support from an auction agent. The plaudits go to our own membership who spent, on average, more than £150 a head.

It was, in a way, something of a see-saw sale. Barbados sold well, British Guiana, very well, and Dominica, splendidly. Taking these three together, 107 out of 139 lots found an immediate new home. Jamaica had the kind of support we have come to expect in recent years as 84 lots of 125 offered changed hands, or if we add in the air mail items in the miscellaneous section, one can make it 95 sales out of 140, a very healthy proportion. St. Vincent and Tobago each sold about two thirds, and one must next cast an eye upon St. Lucia. It is a long time since as many as 28 lots were attributed to this island. New adherents have been gained and only five lots were left on the sellers' hands. Fast forward to 2015, and there is an interesting stockbook to be broken down and sold.

A case can be argued that some of the estimates were overvalued, because realisation fell short of reserves plus estimates plus high figures in lots where two figures were given – in such cases the low figure was the floor price, the high one was the hoped for valuation. The gap here was 3%, a tiny shortfall by most people's standards, but the auction team aims at greater precision than this. Unexpectedly, there is a positive answer to the apparent shortfall. Book bidders spent a little less than £20,000. More than a further £15,000 was available to spend on the book, had the competition required it. A shortfall of £15,000 on realisations is trivial by comparison.

An unusual feature of the Jamaica section was the auctioneer's revelation of a difference of viewpoint between the owner and the auction team over the value of Lots 316 to 319, which consequently could not be offered at anywhere near the estimated level. It turned out that the seller had got it right. Each of the four lots sold, with interest shared between the Room, the auction book and the telephone, reaching a total of £960 against original estimates of £228.

Misjudgement of this kind by the auction team is relatively infrequent. When it occurs, the better informed amongst the membership will usually be able to bring things back into balance, and the circle reaps the benefit. There was even an echo of the difference of viewpoint when Lot 399 was reached, the postal fiscal 5s on cover from Spanish Town to Kingston. Here the seller had knowledge of Gunter as a philatelic addressee. So that information was duly furnished to the Room, and the opening figure was reduced to £250. To nobody's surprise, except perhaps to the vendor, the cover was snapped up at that level.

An interesting point arises with respect to Lot 474 of Nevis, where the catalogue description notes the presence in SG of a quote for an unsevered pair of the ½d on half 1d, surcharge in black, and no such quote for the violet. Simple, explains B105: the SG catalogue refers to a complete stamp which has been left undivided, not to two halves still mutually attached by their perforations. So SG 36b refers to stamps from a column surcharged left and right, but not severed with scissors or guillotine from top to bottom of the column. One thinks of Dominica for comparable treatment before intended sale, and then of Barbados ½d/5s, St. Vincent ½d/6d, 1d/6d, all with central vertical perforation. It leaves in the air the value of the actual item offered – two bisects still joined by their original perforations. The item did not sell anyway, so in the air it remains.

As individual results and associated statistics have long since been published on the Circle website, there is less call than usual for comment on specific items. So, just a few eye openers to which to call attention. For example, the Poole cover Lot 91, going for £700 against £460; the mammoth £550 for a single railway cancel from British Guiana, Lot 176 – might the comprehensive postmark Lots of 186-8 have realised more?

One notes also the healthy £290 paid for Lot 454, GB 6d used in Montserrat. The handbook illustration must have helped. Lot 551 St. Vincent's sheet of the 5d/4d SG 59 saw the telephone beating off strong competition to close at £550: not a starred lot, because St. Vincent was rationed to four. As many of the actual stars fell to a single bid at reserve, perhaps 551 fared better by staying in the lower echelons.

Postmarks of genuine quality and/or rarity consistently exceed expectations, almost irrespective of the territory of origin. Instances this year were Lots 72, 121, 278, 349, 602, 608. Estimates £159; sale total £425. Is the auction team behind the times, or simply urging restraint? Similarly, when two members spot something special about a cover, it can easily take off. Examples were Lots 98, 193, 449, 531, 628, 676 – estimates £190, sales £540.

For years Cayman Islands enthusiasts have deprecated the paucity of lots under this head. Now there were 39 from which to choose. They were divided by the target numbers neatly into sheep (20 sold) and goats (19 spurned). Philatelic indigestion, maybe. Yet when a rarity such as the used pair of 1d/5s Lot 236 gets left on the shelf, is not the normal lower annual ration a more fitting supply?

Meanwhile Trinidad had its own seesaw effect. The early part was buoyant, as Tobago had been, then we reached standard fare at Lot 615, available to anyone at any time. The Room switched off for 9 lots in succession – one or two of which surely deserved a new home. The star formula card Lot 624 briefly woke up the dozers, then narcolepsy struck again at Lot 631, and the rest of Trinidad died the death.

Some specimens did well, some major lots of these just found a buyer, and all seemed to agree that Lot 439 was overpriced. Yet, had members done their homework? Usually at this period 35 specimens of any issue reached Portugal for supply to their Colonies, and received the **ULTRAMAR**

handstamp. Spare Leeward sexagenary stamps were in short supply and each UPU member received a single example of each stamp. Only seven sexagenary sets received the **ULTRAMAR** overprint, and these are the only stamps of the issue which can be recognized as having done specimen service – acknowledgements to James Bendon.

The review of lots sold can be done with a flashback and a portent. The flashback is to KGV Jamaica, where Lot 387 featured the real very light brown shade of the 1½d. Yes, it does exist. Those attending saw the point, and sale price of £20 was double estimate. The portent comes from Lot 226, with the auction team having mentioned for the last few years that it was time to start taking seriously early QEII covers with less available postmarks. This British Honduras lot described 13 covers and estimated them at the thought-to-be-prevailing rate of £30. Book and Room both took them on. The dust settled at £140.

From spectator viewpoint, the auction probably ran more smoothly than it has ever done before, and this is down to impressive teamwork. Steve Jarvis and Ray Stanton did a fantastic job of keeping pace with the sale and allowing buyers to pay and leave whenever they chose. George Dunbar stage managed props, seating and accessories, all seamlessly interwoven with his own keen interest in the Jamaica section of the sale. John Jordan and Stephen King worked with non-stop efficiency to distribute and sort the lots as each was sold. Nigel Chandler as Master of Ceremonies, kept a keen eye on team activity, and took charge of several extensive sessions on the telephone, so as to ensure the minimum of interruption of play as the bidding proceeded. Anne Pike as scrutineer admirably kept the auctioneer on track and on target – no easy task. Simon himself had a promise to fulfil.

“We start at 2.15. We finish at 6”. Probably nobody believed him, with the contemplation of telephone intervention, expensive lots to sell, and two intermissions to allow the accountancy duo to catch their breath. Start of the auction was put in jeopardy by an AGM which all but overran. There were two minutes to spare when it ended, so the 2.15 start was preserved. Scrutineer Anne assured us that Simon wasn’t looking at his watch while selling. One minute after the hammer banged down on Lot 738, the clocks struck six.

With the help of the sale of a Barbados cover (by description only) which was booked for stardom, but had gone into hiding at the critical time, total sales on the day just topped £50,000. Out of the Roaring Forties into calm waters. All members played their part. We can all applaud.

## BWISC DIAMOND JUBILEE AUCTION RESULTS

Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £
1	£9	18	unsold	35	unsold	52	£48	69	£75	86	unsold
2	£15	19	£17	36	unsold	53	£50	70	£4	87	£42
3	£16	20	£52	37	£8	54	£56	71	unsold	88	£30
4	£85	21	unsold	38	£35	55	£52	72	£48	89	£50
5	unsold	22	£140	39	£15	56	£44	73	unsold	90	£9
6	unsold	23	£46	40	unsold	57	unsold	74	£19	91	£700
7	unsold	24	unsold	41	unsold	58	£80	75	unsold	92	£160
8	unsold	25	unsold	42	unsold	59	£85	76	unsold	93	unsold
9	£40	26	unsold	43	unsold	60	£190	77	£70	94	£300
10	£270	27	unsold	44	£250	61	£120	78	£340	95	unsold
11	unsold	28	£180	45	unsold	62	£54	79	£38	96	£27
12	£27	29	£22	46	unsold	63	unsold	80	£85	97	£24
13	£9	30	£36	47	£58	64	unsold	81	£9	98	£75
14	unsold	31	unsold	48	unsold	65	£16	82	£46	99	£35
15	unsold	32	unsold	49	unsold	66	£38	83	unsold	100	£15
16	unsold	33	unsold	50	£300	67	£180	84	£36	101	£11
17	£65	34	unsold	51	£31	68	£32	85	unsold	102	£30

Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £
103	£65	159	£90	215	unsold	271	£9	327	unsold	383	£85
104	£12	160	£22	216	£65	272	£11	328	unsold	384	£44
105	£32	161	£70	217	unsold	273	£6,500	329	unsold	385	unsold
106	unsold	162	£6	218	£32	274	£60	330	£38	386	£250
107	£26	163	£12	219	unsold	275	£36	331	unsold	387	£20
108	unsold	164	£23	220	unsold	276	£2	332	£38	388	unsold
109	£105	165	£95	221	£1,500	277	£75	333	£180	389	unsold
110	£12	166	£28	222	£360	278	£44	334	unsold	390	unsold
111	unsold	167	unsold	223	unsold	279	£80	335	£70	391	£42
112	unsold	168	£16	224	unsold	280	unsold	336	£90	392	£85
113	unsold	169	£18	225	£19	281	£20	337	£30	393	£54
114	unsold	170	£30	226	£140	282	£1	338	unsold	394	£110
115	£400	171	unsold	227	£9	283	£6	339	£54	395	£58
116	unsold	172	unsold	228	£6	284	unsold	340	unsold	396	£50
117	£90	173	£12	229	£17	285	£3	341	unsold	397	unsold
118	£85	174	£5	230	unsold	286	£3	342	£31	398	£35
119	£70	175	£75	231	unsold	287	£520	343	£240	399	£250
120	unsold	176	£550	232	£30	288	£32	344	£60	400	£38
121	unsold	177	£80	233	£48	289	£21	345	£23	401	£46
122	unsold	178	£36	234	unsold	290	£5	346	£27	402	unsold
123	£56	179	unsold	235	£90	291	£37	347	£27	403	£34
124	unsold	180	£19	236	unsold	292	unsold	348	£38	404	£150
125	£22	181	£85	237	£95	293	£11	349	£85	405	£30
126	unsold	182	£28	238	£880	294	£35	350	£56	406	£19
127	£24	183	£6	239	£80	295	£260	351	£70	407	£65
128	unsold	184	unsold	240	£4	296	unsold	352	£360	408	unsold
129	unsold	185	unsold	241	£18	297	£320	353	£26	409	£14
130	unsold	186	£550	242	unsold	298	£9	354	£60	410	£14
131	£25	187	£340	243	unsold	299	£5	355	£115	411	£60
132	unsold	188	£500	244	unsold	300	unsold	356	unsold	412	£44
133	unsold	189	£26	245	£33	301	£30	357	£60	413	unsold
134	unsold	190	£24	246	£250	302	£75	358	unsold	414	£26
135	unsold	191	£270	247	unsold	303	unsold	359	£80	415	£48
136	unsold	192	£28	248	£30	304	unsold	360	unsold	416	unsold
137	unsold	193	£90	249	unsold	305	£15	361	unsold	417	£58
138	unsold	194	unsold	250	£22	306	£39	362	£130	418	£42
139	£27	195	£34	251	£11	307	unsold	363	£130	419	£46
140	unsold	196	unsold	252	unsold	308	unsold	364	£150	420	£50
141	unsold	197	unsold	253	£11	309	unsold	365	unsold	421	unsold
142	unsold	198	£30	254	£8	310	£8	366	unsold	422	£80
143	unsold	199	unsold	255	unsold	311	£36	367	unsold	423	£50
144	£39	200	unsold	256	unsold	312	£100	368	unsold	424	£30
145	£1,000	201	unsold	257	unsold	313	£90	369	unsold	425	unsold
146	£650	202	unsold	258	unsold	314	£90	370	£140	426	unsold
147	£25	203	£30	259	unsold	315	£200	371	£650	427	unsold
148	£36	204	£15	260	unsold	316	£90	372	£12	428	unsold
149	unsold	205	£12	261	£34	317	£110	373	£95	429	unsold
150	£15	206	unsold	262	unsold	318	£420	374	unsold	430	£11
151	£28	207	£12	263	£50	319	£340	375	£60	431	£26
152	£9	208	unsold	264	unsold	320	£50	376	£95	432	£80
153	£85	209	unsold	265	£42	321	£250	377	£14	433	£36
154	£85	210	£14	266	unsold	322	£360	378	unsold	434	£21
155	unsold	211	unsold	267	£22	323	£70	379	unsold	435	£2
156	£28	212	unsold	268	£31	324	unsold	380	£70	436	£39
157	unsold	213	£38	269	£44	325	unsold	381	£65	437	unsold
158	unsold	214	£46	270	unsold	326	unsold	382	unsold	438	£30



Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £	Lot	Real £
439	unsold	495	£70	551	£580	607	£26	663	unsold	719	£14
440	£180	496	£900	552	unsold	608	£42	664	unsold	720	unsold
441	£48	497	unsold	553	£15	609	£44	665	unsold	721	£20
442	£65	498	unsold	554	unsold	610	£95	666	£31	722	£18
443	£700	499	unsold	555	£58	611	£24	667	unsold	723	£15
444	£240	500	£14	556	unsold	612	unsold	668	unsold	724	unsold
445	£31	501	unsold	557	£44	613	£8	669	£20	725	£9
446	£85	502	unsold	558	unsold	614	£56	670	unsold	726	£32
447	unsold	503	£80	559	unsold	615	unsold	671	£16	727	unsold
448	£36	504	unsold	560	£16	616	unsold	672	unsold	728	unsold
449	£70	505	unsold	561	£70	617	unsold	673	unsold	729	unsold
450	£31	506	unsold	562	£200	618	unsold	674	unsold	730	£11
451	unsold	507	£15	563	£210	619	unsold	675	£26	731	unsold
452	£750	508	£270	564	unsold	620	unsold	676	£70	732	£9
453	£280	509	£12	565	unsold	621	unsold	677	unsold	733	unsold
454	£290	510	£23	566	unsold	622	unsold	678	unsold	734	unsold
455	unsold	511	unsold	567	£30	623	unsold	679	£17	735	£5
456	unsold	512	£110	568	unsold	624	£280	680	£42	736	£11
457	unsold	513	£18	569	unsold	625	£58	681	unsold	737	£3
458	£48	514	unsold	570	£25	626	£54	682	£27	738	£46
459	£5.25	515	£20	571	£24	627	£27	683	unsold		
460	unsold	516	£60	572	unsold	628	£75	684	£75		
461	£33	517	£16	573	£7	629	£23	685	unsold		
462	unsold	518	£95	574	£14	630	£5	686	unsold		
463	unsold	519	£500	575	£46	631	unsold	687	£4		
464	unsold	520	£6	576	£54	632	unsold	688	£52		
465	£54	521	£32	577	£1,500	633	unsold	689	unsold		
466	£17	522	£8	578	unsold	634	unsold	690	£24		
467	unsold	523	£26	579	£300	635	unsold	691	£12		
468	£42	524	£12	580	£250	636	unsold	692	unsold		
469	unsold	525	£13	581	£26	637	unsold	693	£9		
470	unsold	526	£22	582	£32	638	£23	694	unsold		
471	£60	527	£20	583	unsold	639	£23	695	£48		
472	unsold	528	£44	584	£65	640	unsold	696	£12		
473	unsold	529	£14	585	£50	641	unsold	697	£12		
474	unsold	530	£3	586	unsold	642	unsold	698	£18		
475	unsold	531	£160	587	unsold	643	unsold	699	unsold		
476	unsold	532	£60	588	unsold	644	£480	700	unsold		
477	£60	533	unsold	589	£18	645	£800	701	£19		
478	£19	534	£400	590	£15	646	unsold	702	unsold		
479	£30	535	unsold	591	£15	647	£15	703	£31		
480	unsold	536	£200	592	unsold	648	£240	704	unsold		
481	£27	537	£400	593	£42	649	£170	705	unsold		
482	unsold	538	£90	594	unsold	650	£11	706	£19		
483	unsold	539	£520	595	unsold	651	unsold	707	£24		
484	unsold	540	£110	596	£320	652	£50	708	unsold		
485	unsold	541	unsold	597	£65	653	unsold	709	unsold		
486	£250	542	£105	598	£95	654	£5	710	unsold		
487	unsold	543	£80	599	£23	655	unsold	711	£39		
488	£21	544	£12	600	unsold	656	unsold	712	£58		
489	£12	545	£3	601	£95	657	£36	713	£9		
490	£28	546	£105	602	£110	658	£29	714	£30		
491	£24	547	£300	603	£70	659	unsold	715	£27		
492	unsold	548	£160	604	£40	660	£16	716	£15		
493	£500	549	£32	605	£70	661	unsold	717	£11		
494	unsold	550	unsold	606	£38	662	£42	718	£14		

## **BWISC DIAMOND JUBILEE AUCTION 2014 – Unsold Offers / Order Form**

The lots listed below are still available for sale at the prices here listed, subject to what follows. Orders for these lots are dealt with in order of receipt. If you do not receive a response, someone else will have got ahead of you, or the owner may have withdrawn the item from offer before a sale can be concluded.

Charges for postage, packing, insurance (PPI) are additional.

Where items are shown under **reserve** (marked by 'Resv') the price is firm, and discount offers do not apply, except that the purchase price will count towards gross value of order, so as to earn for any other lot ordered the discount which applies according to number of lots ordered or gross value for orders or acquisitions as the case may be.

A number of higher value lots have been excluded from the offer list, but may still prove to be available. Enquiries to Simon Goldblatt (serious ones only, please!).

### **ORDERS FOR THREE LOTS OR MORE, VALUE £40 PLUS**

Where three or more lots are ordered with minimum total value of £40, a discount of 5% of offered price will be allowed against each actual purchase. Where earlier sales prevent completion of the order, this still qualifies for discount on lots supplied.

### **SUTCLIFFE ESTATE**

The lots from Derek's collection not sold on the day are annotated Su in the unsold list.

One or two, priced at 75% estimate. Three or more, priced at 70% estimate.

No other discount applies, and Su lots do not qualify the member ordering for general discount on non-SU lots.

### **GROUP OFFERS**

There are special offers on certain grouped lots. The offer applies only to an order for the group as a whole, and does not prevent one or more items in the group being separately ordered, so as to qualify for the general discount. If this happens a member subsequently ordering the whole group will received the pro rata group discount. The purchaser of a group is entitled to 5% discount on discounted lots supplied to order.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Lots Together</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Lots Together</u>	<u>Price</u>
A	85, 86, 106	£54	H	480, 482, 483, 484	£95
B	108, 111, 112	£52	J	556, 558, 559	£220
C	120, 121	£33	K	586, 587, 588	£200
D	122, 124, 126, 128	£83	L	618, 619	£46
E	134, 135, 136	£135	M	620, 623	£160
F	199, 200, 201, 202	£33	N	692, 694, 704, 705, 708, 709, 710, 720	£200
G	242, 243, 244, 247	£150			

### **PAYMENT:**

- We regret that no credit card facilities are available.
- Sterling cheques payable to BWISC should be sent to Simon Goldblatt.
- US\$ or Euro € etc.– please liaise with Simon.

### **CONTACTS:**

- Simon Goldblatt: 39 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AT Tel. 0207 222 5828 (H) 0207 832 1132 (W) or by Fax 0207 353 3978 +44 (0)207 353 3978
- Nigel Chandler: [OESYPUM@aol.com](mailto:OESYPUM@aol.com)

**BWISC DIAMOND JUBLIEE AUCTION 2014 – Unsold Offers**

Lot	£££	Group	Lot	£££	Group	Lot	£££	Group	Lot	£££	Group	Lot	£££	Group
6	48		137	15		296	160		473	16		634	12	
7	35		140	21		300	35		474	120		635	18	
8	12		141	24		308	38		475	18		636	8	
14	20		142	10		309	20		480	30	H	637	32	
15	35		143	12		324		Su	482	30	H	640	21	
16	32		149	48		325		Su	483	30	H	641	30	
18	24		157	42		326		Su	484	25	H	642	19	
21	17		158	22		327		Su	485	20		643	24	
25	10		167	20		328		Su	487	20		646	70	
27	95		171	16		329		Su	492	700	Resv	651	55	
31	13		172	95		331		Su	494	21		653	22	
32	3		179	35		334	95		498	13		655	24	
33	8		184	38		338		Su	499	3		656	29	
34	16		185	8		340	96		501	37		659	27	
35	7		194	10		341	22		502	50		661	104	
36	8		196	30	Resv	356		Su	504	65		664	52	
40	320	Resv	197	8		358		Su	505	95		668	320	Resv
41	30		199	8	F	360		Su	506	25		670	250	Resv
42	32		200	9	F	361		Su	511	111		672	12	
43	24		201	10	F	365		Su	533	120		673	16	
45	24		202	10	F	366		Su	535	400	Resv	674	26	
46	33		206	7		367		Su	541	300	Resv	677	40	
48	13		208	24		368		Su	550	45		678	29	
49	25		209	35		369		Su	552	10		681	32	
57	320	Resv	211	52		374		Su	554	24		683	29	
63	18		212	36		378		Su	556	64	J	685	32	
64	240		215	5		379		Su	558	48	J	686	18	
71	16		219	28		382		Su	559	125	J	689	25	
73	26		220	56		385	20		564	68		692	40	N
76	16		223	12		389		Su	565	38		694	12	N
85	16	A	224	20		390		Su	566	10		699	13	
86	25	A	230	15		397		Su	569	32		700	5	
93	71		231	8		402		Su	572	21		702	8	
95	17		234	15		408		Su	578	9		704	34	N
106	18	A	236	360	Resv	413		Su	583	32		705	10	N
108	32	B	242	65	G	416		Su	586	24	K	708	48	N
111	20	B	243	15	G	421		Su	587	25	K	709	40	N
112	5	B	244	45	G	425		Su	588	190	K	710	42	N
113	95		247	48	G	426		Su	592	5		720	15	N
114	300	Resv	249	70		427		Su	594	33		724	12	
116	250	Resv	252	200		428		Su	595	26		727	31	
120	9	C	255	6		429		Su	600	84		729	8	
121	27	C	256	22		437	65		612	420	Resv	731	16	
122	12	D	257	9		447	4		615	95		733	11	
124	15	D	258	77		455	150	Resv	616	52		734	26	
126	25	D	259	90	Resv	456	300	Resv	617	29				
128	40	D	260	42		457	320	Resv	618	32	L			
129	32		262	48		460	5		619	18	L			
130	130		264	32		462	30		620	33	M			
132	5		266	36		463	5		621	72				
133	40		270	10		464	450	Resv	623	150	M			
134	44	E	280	23		467	10		631	26				
135	68	E	284	20		470	144		632	27				
136	36	E	292	520	Resv	472	16		633	18				

Please send me the following lots.

FROM:	
ADDRESS	

Signed & Dated

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[illegible]

Special Instructions:

Special instructions:

**BY SIMON GOLDBLATT**

It must be at least 20 years since I started to ask myself 'who will take over the running of the auction from me?' Not that I was thinking of giving up the job; nor am I now. It is simply planning for the future.

Indeed, it is possibly about as long ago since my good friend, Dennis Ford, brought a blast of fresh air into the Bulletin by calling, in effect, for new management, new officers, and a change of direction for our Circle. He has had his way in every respect, except in displacing the chap who runs the auction.

Let's take an objective look. You leave the direction of the sales side of our activities to someone who, at the AGM of 1972, persuaded the thin attendance that there would be more interest and better numbers present if AGM was coupled with auction in 1973. The same persuader has run the auction (1973 was the first) ever since. He is, at the time of writing, more than half-way through his 80's, fortunate to retain mobility and energy, as (benevolently?) autocratic as throughout his period of leadership, yet with a statistically uncertain future tenure of his responsibilities. When he breathes his last, or senility overtakes, who will take his place?

I return to the first person, and remind you of the existing auction team – for it is not a one-man job. My indispensable aide-de-camp is Nigel Chandler, a polyglot philatelist, with strong European connections, organising and administrative experience, a C.V. which includes employment in the professional world of philatelic auctions, to add to his powerful holding of Tobago stamps. My extra pair of eyes is John Jordan, a dedicated Antigua collector, bringing commercial and financial experience and meticulous scrutiny to the appraisal of material submitted for inclusion. Without John to assess condition and credibility of description, I could envisage annual return of lots in dozens instead of the odd one, or two.

This is merely the team that assembles, describes and values the contents of the annual auction, though we also have responsibility for conducting the sale, seeing that the right people receive and pay for what they have bought, manage post-auction sales, offerings at other Circle events, and have most of the direct dealings with members who supply the goods for sale.

In between, the actual preparation and printing of the catalogue, including selection of the items to illustrate, and the mounting of the Circle website, the control of auction-day finances, and the recording of results, passes out of our hands, primarily into the more-than-capable control of Steve Jarvis as Webmaster, Ray Stanton as Treasurer. Supernumeraries (i.e. eager volunteers) assist at all stages on an ad hoc basis.

So there is plentiful experience and ability to supplement my leadership of the auction team, to say nothing of Peter Ford and David Druett who handle publications and literature sales. Nevertheless, when I am not around to do my auction job, who will take my place?

Modesty aside, it would be unrealistic to expect a like for like replacement. Take my (benevolent?) autocracy, which I think Nigel would explain rather like this: 'he listens to everyone's opinion, then substitutes his own.' To act in this way, you have to have, for starters, a strong supply of available reference material covering the territories of interest to the Circle. I am fortunate to have been able to build up from more economical days a real-life holding of much of what matters. My successor will have to rely to a substantial degree on computer storage of information and comparable material.

Neither should we expect a successor to imitate my light-hearted, often cynical, methods of telling our members what is on offer year by year. Underlying this is the far more important task of a critical approach to what comes from a member's collection, however high-powered that member is. We all make mistakes. I certainly go on doing so, and they are not all attributable to advancing senility.

So, one doesn't take descriptions at face value, or vendor valuations for granted, and we form our own view as to what should be offered singly, how other material should be grouped, whether or how far to follow the selling member's views on the subject. Neither do we blindly accept whatever is on offer. It has to be saleable. It should not prejudice the selling prospects of material already submitted by another member. It must not saturate what is, within the Circle, a limited market. To an extent which will be far from evident from the outside, considerable care is taken to ensure that, in every auction, there is a reasonable spread across all the BWI areas of interest, that there is at least something to which any member, however short of funds, can aspire, and that, so far as practicable, there is some kind of character or animation in every lot, however low its estimate.



This means that, where there is a sleeper within material offered by a member, it should be singled out; where there is a question-mark over any item, the catalogue must tell members about it; where items are not suitable to be sold, they ought not to be accepted; and where there is too much material to offer in a single auction, disposal must be stretched over a period.

Autocracy has extended, too, to the decision that sale by auction is not the best method of handling a particular consignment. I have in the past opted for private treaty sale in particular cases; also for sale by tender. Just as importantly, it is not assumed that when collections are available for BWISC to sell, the Circle is the right forum in which to sell them. Important as the conduct of a successful annual sale has become to the Circle, we are not in competition with professional auctioneers. If we judge that a seller would be better off selling through some professional auctioneer, or in some other way, it is our responsibility to say so.

No doubt, in 42 years of running auctions for the Circle (from the first 148 lot auction, which could have been aborted and sold *en bloc* by a less single-minded promoter) I have set my own stamp on what goes into them. The policy is this: we join the Circle to learn about BWI philately, and to enjoy and make use of what we learn. The auction has to be run with this as its central philosophy, in a way that is fair and interesting to those who sell, those who buy, and those who do no more than observe.

Will my successor share my personal enthusiasm for postmarks? I hope so; because this is one of a number of respects in which one can, without too much effort or outlay, implement the maxim that philately begins where the catalogue ends. Think for a moment of the prescient members who built up their holdings of watermark varieties while the principle catalogue editors disdained to recognise these. Such days have ended. The prescient have won their rewards. Now, the acquisition of such varieties has largely become a matter of paying the appropriate proportion of the catalogue price – unless the price is not quoted, or the variety is not listed at all. Yet there will still be sleepers (of watermark variety) in mixed lots, and I don't guarantee that, under my stewardship, all will be found. My successor may prove to be more assiduous.

Come back to postmarks, though, and the scrutiny may become less intense. Time and again, the present team will look over a group of used stamps and say to themselves, or one another, there's something special, or something not quite right, about this one. Even down to the identification, from a single letter, now and then from no letters at all, of a postmark from a rare source, or from a disreputable one. Postmarks can authenticate a stamp, or hugely inflate its value, or destroy its credibility and make us bring out the UV lamp to verify the pen date underneath.

So what will my successor need? The instincts of the hunter; the ability to take decisions, and responsibility for them; the humility to receive advice; the discrimination to know when to accept it; the willingness to work with a team; someone with a feel for value, with the objectivity needed to support and enhance the activities of his fellow committee members and officers of the Circle, whilst maintaining the entire confidentiality of relations with individual members as sellers or buyers on the auction book.

You (my successor) will have no formal status in running the auction – not under existing arrangements anyway. I have never held a specific appointment, for I appointed myself and the committee goes along with it. The auction sub-committee has a real existence, but is a legal fiction; once again there is no such formal designation. But it all works; and you, my successor, will go on making it work.

There it is. Do you want the job? Come and talk to me about it. I shall put you on the auction sub-committee, if you are not already a member of it, and introduce you to what happens behind the scenes. Except, of course, to the secrets of my auction book, most of which can only be guessed at by the other team members. And when the time comes, it is you who will take over my job. Except that when the time comes, you will need to promote yourself. Because I shan't be around!

**ST CHRISTOPHER (PART 2)**

BY GEOFF KELLOW RDP AND CHARLES FREELAND

**1882–1890 WATERMARK CROWN CA**

When the Crown CC dandy roll became so worn as to be unserviceable, the Crown Agents ordered a new dandy roll with a Crown over CA watermark pattern. This paper came into use in mid-1881, and was used for all subsequent printings of St. Christopher stamps.

**1882** The first printings were in the existing colours of the 1d, 2½d and 4d, plus a new ½d denomination in green.

**1884–85** On 3 May 1882 De La Rue prepared an Appendix Sheet showing the existing and proposed St. Christopher colours. The new colours took account of the Postal Union standard colours, and the clash between the ½d and 6d values. The first printings of the 1d in red and 2½d in blue were made in 1884, and the 4d in grey in the following year.

**1886** A new 1s denomination was ordered on 26 July 1886. The two printings of this stamp were in very distinctive colours.

**1890** The 1882 Appendix sheet suggested the colour of the 6d be changed from green to brown, but stocks were plentiful so no new printing of this stamp was required before 1890.

**HALFPENNY GREEN**

There were eleven printings of the ½d in shades of green:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
19 May 1882	10,040	21 January 1889	20,400
9 February 1883	41,260	29 November 1889	6,080
13 April 1885	20,320	5 March 1890	9,060
9 August 1886	20,400	23 June 1890	18,400
16 May 1887	20,200	20 January 1891	20,200
12 May 1888	20,000		

There is not a wide range of distinctive shades and this, together with a lack of dated stamps, makes it unlikely that it will be possible to allocate shades to each printing. Two distinct shade groups occur.

**Grey-green.** This shade group is found dated as early as 1883 and this, together with its relative scarcity in mint stamps, indicates it to be the colour of the earlier printings.

**Dull green.** This is the common shade found on mint stamps, and formed the larger part of the remainders of this value. This shade group represents the later printings, but only one dated copy from 1889 has been seen.

The stamp is known with watermark sideways and more rarely with watermark reversed.

**ONE PENNY MAGENTA**

The first two printings on Crown CA watermarked paper were in **magenta** shades.

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
19 May 1882	19,040	9 February 1883	20,400

The original colour on Crown CA paper was not noted in the contemporary journals and consequently the new issue dealers did not acquire any stock. Mint stamps are rare. An exceedingly rare mint example is known showing watermark inverted.

*Invoice date 19 May 1882.* In **pale mauve-magenta**. Examples may be found with the 'AWJY' canceller.

*Invoice date 9 February 1883.* In **dull magenta**. The 'AWJY' canceller does not occur, and there is a greater proportion of the A12 obliterator.

### ONE PENNY CARMINE-RED

The shade was altered to red as recommended by the UPU for 1d denominations.

The twelve printings of the 1d were:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
29 January 1884	20,320	12 May 1888	20,400
21 May 1884	20,200	21 January 1889	20,000
7 August 1884	20,400	29 November 1889	6,100
13 April 1885	20,460	5 March 1890	14,000
9 August 1886	20,000	23 June 1890	15,200
16 May 1887	20,000	20 January 1891	30,600

A lack of dated stamps makes it impracticable to sort the shades with any certainty into these printings. The major source of dates come from manuscript village cancellations, but these can be misleading since it is likely that not all consignments were sent to villages, and that the rural stocks often lasted for considerable periods. A very rare mint example is known showing watermark reversed.

**Pale rose-carmine.** This shade clearly represents the early printings. All dated stamps seen up to mid-1886 fall into this group. Mint stamps are relatively scarce.

**Rose-carmine.** This shade would appear to occur from mid-1886 to 1889, but dated examples are very scarce. Mint is common, probably because a quantity of stamps in this shade were included in the remainders sold after 1890.

*Invoices of 21 May 1884 and 7 August 1884.* Dated examples indicate both 1884 printings are in **pale rose-carmine** shades.

*Invoice of 9 August 1886.* **Deeper, brighter rose-carmine.**

### TWOPENCE HALFPENNY RED-BROWN

There were two printings of the 2½d before the change of colour to blue:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
19 May 1882	8,040	9 February 1883	4,200

These printings can be distinguished on the basis of shade, paper and cancellations.

*Invoice date 19 May 1882.* Similar to the other values invoiced on this date, the stamps are on a characteristically thin paper. The shade is **pale red-brown**, and both 'AWJY' and A12 cancellations are found.

*Invoice date 9 February 1883.* On thicker paper, in **deep red-brown**. The only cancellation seen is the A12 obliterator.



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**TWOPENCE HALFPENNY ULTRAMARINE**

There were nine printings of the 2½d in shades of ultramarine:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
29 January 1884	5,060	29 November 1889	6,100
21 May 1884	5,000	5 March 1890	2,000
7 August 1884	5,100	23 June 1890	5,000
13 April 1885	10,300	20 January 1891	10,000
16 May 1887	20,000		

The shade variation is not extensive and there is no scope for the allocation of these to the deliveries. The stamp is known, very rarely, with watermark reversed.

**FOURPENCE BLUE**

There were two printings of the 4d before the change of colour to grey:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
19 May 1882	11,900	9 February 1883	20,480

These printings can be distinguished on the basis of shade, paper and cancellations. Mint stamps are rare and seem to have been overlooked by the new issue dealers of the time. Gibbons lists an inverted watermark, but this must be rare.

*Invoice date 19 May 1882.* Similar to the other values invoiced on this date, the stamps are on a characteristically thin paper. The shade is **pale greyish blue**, and both 'AWJY' and A12 cancellations are found.

*Invoice date 9 February 1883.* On thicker paper in **blue**. The only cancellation seen is the A12 obliterator.

**FOURPENCE GREY**

Following the change of colour of the 4d to grey, there were eight further printings:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
13 April 1885	20,100	29 November 1889	6,100
9 August 1886	20,300	5 March 1890	9,000
16 May 1887	20,500	23 June 1890	12,200
12 May 1888	20,400	20 January 1891	20,400

Shades are found but insufficient dated stamps are available to allow an accurate allocation of these to deliveries. The paler shades are probably from earlier printings. A very rare inverted watermark has been recorded.

**SIX PENCE**

There were two printings of this stamp:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
5 March 1890	500	20 January 1891	1,560

400 stamps overprinted SPECIMEN by De La Rue in their standard type Samuel D12 were distributed through the Universal Postal Union. The second printing was invoiced after the discontinuation of St. Christopher stamps on 31 October 1890 and the stamps were never placed on sale, but, together with a proportion of the first printing, they were included in the 2,505 6d



stamps remaindered. Few 6d olive-brown stamps were used and only two covers have been seen but examples of the second printing with genuine cancellations do exist; these must have been used posthumously by collectors. Gibbons lists an inverted watermark.

*Invoice date 5 March 1890.* On the basis of the SPECIMEN stamps, the first printing was in **deep olive brown**.

*Invoice date 20 January 1891.* **Pale olive-brown**.

## ONE SHILLING

There were three printings of this stamp:

Invoice date	Quantity	Invoice date	Quantity
22 August 1886	4,000	20 January 1891	1,000
5 March 1890	500		

400 stamps were overprinted SPECIMEN by De La Rue in their standard type Samuel D12 for distribution through the Universal Postal Union. The third printing was invoiced after the discontinuation of St. Christopher stamps on 31 October 1890 and was never placed on sale. These stamps, together with a proportion of the earlier printings, were included in the 1,580 1/- stamps remaindered. The first printing is seen now and then with watermark inverted.

*Invoice dates 22 August 1886 and 5 March 1890.* On the basis of the SPECIMEN stamps, the first printing was in **pale mauve**. The shade of the second printing is uncertain, but assumed to be **pale mauve** owing to the absence of used examples of the following printing.

*Invoice date 20 January 1891.* **Bright mauve**. No used examples have been seen.

## 1884 'FOUR PENCE' on 6d PROVISIONAL

A shortage of 4d stamps at the end of 1884 may have been the result of a delayed decision regarding the new colour scheme. By the time it was decided to adopt grey for the 4d, a provisional became necessary, and was created by surcharging a supply of 6d sheets. A type-set 'FOUR PENCE' forme was assembled at *The Advertiser* newspaper office.

Alternate stamps in the sheet show no stop after 'PENCE'. All sheets of the basic stamp were line perf. 14 and are in the **dull blue-green** shades of the May 1877 and April 1879 consignments. This can be found with partial double surcharges (kiss prints).

## MARCH 1885 'Halfpenny' PROVISIONAL

A shortage of ½d stamps early in 1885 led to the creation of this locally produced provisional, created by a diagonal handstamp on each half of the 1d rose-carmine. The surcharge was normally applied reading downwards from left to right on both halves, but handstamps reading in the opposite direction, double and inverted handstamps, also exist. The ½d stamp was intended for Book Post, but nearly all used examples are philatelically inspired.

The basic stamp is found in both the pale rose-carmine (predominantly) and rose-carmine shades, an indication that the latter was printed as early as the first three invoiced deliveries.

## JUNE 1886 'ONE PENNY' on 6d PROVISIONAL

Consignments of the 1d stamps were usually received at intervals of six to eight months, but there was a gap of 15 months from the invoiced supply of April 1885 and the next consignment of August 1886. This led to a shortage of this denomination which was filled by surcharging the 6d stamp, which was of only limited use because of rate changes after 1879.

The surcharge was a type-set forme of 20 to cover the small sheets in one operation, and was probably performed at the office of the *Advertiser* newspaper. The type was battered and the surcharge can be easily plated. The whole printing was carried out on sheets of the 6d perf. 14 in

dull blue-green from the consignments of May 1877 and April 1879. Partial double surcharges (kiss-prints) are known, as are inverted and double surcharges. The double surcharges were issued to a village as all known examples have manuscript dates between 21 July and 3 August 1886. The regular stamp is recorded with watermark inverted.



### **JUNE 1886 '4d' on 6d PROVISIONAL**

The first supply of the 4d grey was invoiced in April 1885, and the second consignment was not sent until August the following year. The local supply became exhausted and a provisional was created by applying a '4d' surcharge to a supply of 6d sheets. All sheets were from the line perf. 14 printings in **dull blue-green** shades. Partial double surcharges (kiss prints) are known.

### **MAY 1887 'ONE PENNY' on ½d PROVISIONAL**

The consignment of the 1d stamps received in August 1886 replaced the June 1886 'One Penny on 6d' surcharge. The subsequent supply of 1d stamps invoiced in London on 16 May 1887 was, however, too late to prevent a further shortage. In May a quantity of ½d sheets was surcharged 'ONE PENNY' with the same type-set forme as had been used for the June 1886 provisional. Stamps from both shade groups of the basic ½d printings are found. Beware of the unauthorised printing using fresh type without stop after 'PENNY'.

### **MAY 1888 'ONE PENNY' on 2½d PROVISIONAL**

One further 1d provisional was necessary when the consignment invoiced in London on 12 May 1888 arrived too late. In that month a supply of 2½d sheets was surcharged 'ONE PENNY' together with a line obliterating the original value. A fresh surcharge setting was used, utilising new type in a horizontal setting of 10, each sheet being completed in two operations. Sheets from both shade groups, pale and bright ultramarine, of the 2½d stamp are found. Several positions in the setting have plateable flaws, i.e. the 'Y' is raised on #6 and dropped on #10, while on #2 there is a dropped 'Y' and broken second 'N'. #9 shows a broken 'P'.

The overprint is known inverted. This and stamps from a single sheet where the line through the value is missing are the two highly priced rarities of St Christopher, but with about a dozen known of each they are not any rarer than some of the other overprint varieties..

### **1890 PROVISIONAL USE OF THE ANTIGUA 1d**

On 29 November 1889 the invoiced quantity of 1d stamps despatched from London was only 6,100, instead of the usual 20,000 stamps, presumably because the plate had now worn out. The difference of 14,000 stamps was eventually despatched in March 1890, but in the meantime a shortage of 1d stamps arose. This was alleviated by the supply of stamps from Antigua. Two supplies were sent, each of 960 stamps, on 15 February and 11 March 1890, and these can be identified by the use of the A12 obliterator. The stamp supplied was the 1d Watermark Crown CA, Perf. 14.

### **THE REVENUE STAMPS**

The first moves to supply Revenue stamps were in 1880 when De La Rue provided essay overprints on the postage stamps. No authorisation for the postal use of Revenue stamps has ever been located, but postally used examples of certain stamps are seen fairly often.

## 1884 THE DE LA RUE OVERPRINTS

In 1884 a series of REVENUE overprints on St. Christopher stamps were ordered from De La Rue in London. The stamps (except the 1d) were printed in distinctive colours, and the 20-set overprint plate was charged at £3. Two denominations not used for the postage stamps - 3d and 5s - were included, but there was no charge for these duty plates. There were three printings:

Invoice date	Value	Quantity	Invoice date	Value	Quantity
21 May 1884	1d	10,200	7 August 1884	1d	20,320
	3d	10,000		1s	5,100
	6d	5,000	9 August 1886	1d	5,120
	1s	5,000		1s	5,120
	5s	?			

### ONE PENNY

*Invoices of 21 May 1884 and 21 August 1884.* Dated examples indicate both 1884 printings are in **pale rose-carmine** shades.

*Invoice of 9 August 1886.* **Deeper, brighter rose-carmine.**

### ONE SHILLING

A lack of dated stamps makes it difficult to separate the three printings.

*Invoices of 21 May 1884 and 21 August 1884.* It is suggested the two 1884 printings are in **olive-green** shades.

*Invoice of 9 August 1886.* It is suggested this printing is **paler and greyer** than the 1884 printings.

### Correction

In part one of this article (Bulletin No.240, page 34) a reference was made to the 4d invoiced 17 March 1881 being listed by Gibbons with watermark reversed. This should read sideways.

### Bibliography

Easton John, *The De La Rue of British and Foreign Postage Stamps*, Faber and Faber 1958

Easton John, article in *The London Philatelist*, March 1960, Royal Philatelic Society, London

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BY PETER FORD

The BWISC published a book on the stamps and postal history of Trinidad up to 1913 by the late Sir John Marriott and others in 2009 and recently we published one on Tobago up to its unification with Trinidad. It is now my intention to complete this trilogy by publishing one on the combined colony of Trinidad and Tobago from 1913 up to Independence. In collaboration with Ed Barrow and David Druett, I want to examine all the issues in detail and the postal history of that period. We do not intend examining the postmarks in any great detail as these have been well covered by Proud and Horry amongst others. Also the airmails were covered in Ron Wike's book which we published several years ago.

Over several years material has appeared, at auction, of essays and proofs concerning these issues and obviously they were acquired by collectors, some of whom are no doubt members of the BWISC. If any member has any knowledge of these we would be very grateful for any information and, even better, scans. It is only by publishing as much as we can discover, can we expect to have a book which will stand the test of time. If any member feels they can contribute something towards this project, please contact me.

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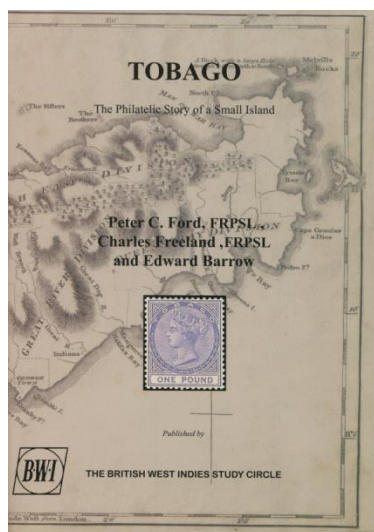
**TOBAGO****BOOK REVIEW****BY DAVID DRUETT**

**Tobago: The Philatelic Story of a Small Island** by Peter Ford, FRPSL, Charles Freeland, FRPSL and Edward Barrow.

195 x 275mm, hard backed with dust jacket, viii + 150 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481079

Available from Pennymead Auctions, £34.00 (£30.00 BWISC Members) plus P&P.

This handbook on Tobago philately is presented as a companion to the work on Trinidad Philately by Sir John Marriott. It follows the same clear style and approach and is similarly well produced with fine colour illustrations throughout. Amazingly, after all these years, this is the first philatelic work published on this island.



From a painstaking analysis of old auction sales and records of the major collections, it has been possible to give detailed information on the material that exists. Early postal history has a listing of all known covers, proof material is listed in detail with many items illustrated, largest known multiples are recorded and known use on covers are listed.

A fine chapter on the flaws found on the D.L.R. issues includes enlarged illustrations while the Provisional issues are thoroughly covered, with a detailed study of the different overprint settings, most being illustrated with blocks. This section includes much original research and expands greatly on the early studies by Beach, Gilbert-Lodge and Sefi.

Postal cancellations are examined in detail with the curious '14,' '15' and '16' numerals explained and illustrated with three uses on cover plus a detailed listing of the later village postmarks.

There are short chapters on postal stationery, revenues and forgeries and fakes and finally a comprehensive listing of all known Trinidad stamps and stationery known used in Tobago during the period 1900–13.

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**ST. LUCIA****1891 AND 1892 OVERPRINTS****BY JOHN ROBERTS**

It was sad to read the obituary of Robert Devaux. Working in St. Lucia in 1961 for eighteen months and intermittently thereafter until 1975, I met many St. Lucians with the same name, but it was not until later that I knew about him and wondered how he fitted into the rest of this large family which dates back to before and survived the French revolution.

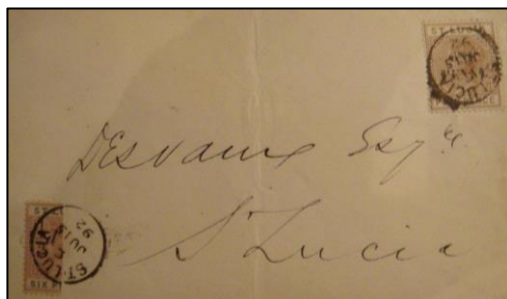


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

When the opportunity arose I acquired a Devaux cover dated "JU 15 1892" with 1d on 4d and 1/2d on half 6d showing a heavy serified '1' and '1' as a fraction bar (Figs.1 & 2), then subsequently a cover, dated MR 18 93 to Garraway, Castries with a normal 1/2d and 'ONE HALF PENNY' inverted on 3d. (Figs. 3 & 4). The Garraway family were of a similar status in Dominica to the Devaux family in St. Lucia.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

Finally There is a cover to Geo. Wm. Desvaux dated "MR 25 92" with a used "ONE PENNY" on 4d, with double surcharge, not listed as used in SG (Figs. 5 & 6).

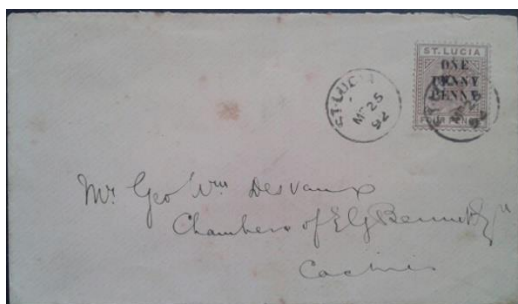


Fig. 5



Fig. 6

I have also noticed in Charles Freeland's informal display of 2010 that there is a 4d with inverted 1d surcharge also addressed to Mr Garraway in Castries with a similar date, "MR 9 93", so both the Garraway letters are posted 9 days apart a year after the official issue dates.

It would be interesting to know how and why so many abnormals have appeared on local correspondence within what appears to be a confined community and time frame. Before I allege connivance, and at what level, it would be interesting to know how many similar covers exist.



**peter singer**



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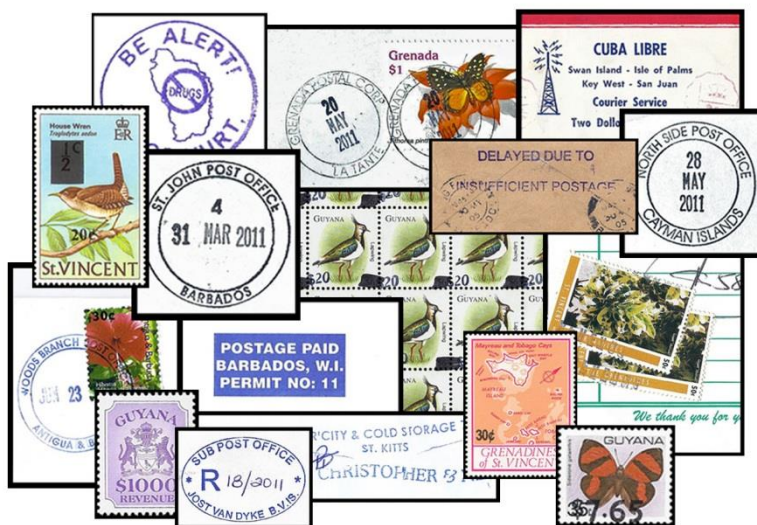
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**AUCTION UPDATE****BY STEVE JARVIS, RAY STANTON AND CHARLES FREELAND****Cavendish 12 March (BP 17%)**

The sale of the Dick Hemmings collection of Jamaica was attended by a strong turnout of the Jamaica 'gang' in Derby, including Hugh Wood and active phone bidders. James Grimwood-Taylor described the collection as the most important Jamaica collection at Cavendish since Swarbrick in 1995 and we Jamaica collectors concurred, finding it difficult to trim our want lists down to affordable levels. Statistics: 385 lots sold out of 431; the sold lots were estimated at £76k and realised £114k, so averaged about 50% over estimate. Most of the Postal History sold strongly but straight-forward adhesive stamps were less sought after, but this was compensated by proofs and errors, like Lot 289, a block of 4 of the 1s, KGV Pictorials with watermark error which fetched £1400 (more than 5 times estimate). The top realisation was for Lot 138, an 1859 GB Used cover from Sav-La-Mar, which fetched £3200 against an estimate of £600 – a very good cover but surprising that it went that high. Lot 128, another GB Used cover but from Duncans, left to be cancelled A01 at Kingston, fetched £2400 against an estimate of £500 – in my view a much more important cover than the previous. After the sale a half a dozen collectors adjourned to a local hotel to compare winnings and the consensus was a feeling of satisfaction with the additions to our collections, tinged with some disappointments.

**Spink 13 March (BP 20%)**

The 'Foxley' sale of British Guiana and British Honduras of our President, Charles Freeland, at Spink created considerable buyer interest as evidenced by the number of room bidders as well as the many on the internet and telephone. BWISC members were well represented in the room, including Messrs Booth, Foden, Goldblatt, Greenwood, Kennard, Medlicott, Richards and Stanton, as well as dealer members Hamilton, Harvey and Taylor. Other BWISC members we know were among the internet, phone and agent bidders. Overall this was a landmark sale for both British Guiana and British Honduras. Many of the realisations were well over estimate, some by three or four times or more which reflected not only the often modest estimates but also the scarcity and provenances of much of the material. Indeed, there were very few Br Guiana items that did not sell. While there were more unsolds in the Br Honduras, these did not include the important items and the total value of unsolds was less than 5% of hammer prices.

British Guiana was overall more in demand than British Honduras but there were some exceptional realisations for both countries. Pre-stamp material could be said to be less sought after comparatively and the Belize transit mail forwarded from Guatemala and Honduras perhaps a disappointment to the vendor given that it was surely the best ever collection of this material. Other pre-stamp generally sold around estimate except for a handful of very rare items for which there was strong competition. For example the 1813 Berbice two-line datestamp unrecorded in Proud estimated at £800-£1k made £2.2k. GB stamps used in the countries attracted strong competition for rare items such as the 1/- cancelled A06 at Belize which made £1.9k, exactly the same as its catalogue value. The prices achieved for proofs, specimens, and mint blocks were exceptionally strong, with only a few exceptions, and there was considerable competition throughout. As an example, the piece of four imperforate colour trials of the BG 1898 Jubilee issue estimated at £2-£2.5k sold for £7k, while the master die proof for the 1860-1876 ship issue ex Crawford made £11k.

Stamped postal history for both countries sold generally above estimate and for the better covers well above estimate. One of our members got a bargain with the 1891 Demerara oval 'Ship Letter' handstamp (the only recorded cover with this mark) that realised £2k in line with estimate, though well below its acquisition price in the Nathan sale. Postmarks were limited to special cancellations on cover, most of which found new homes but generally around the estimates. The delicious cover with Mariabba type 2 was a healthy £1.8k but an equally nice Abary type 2 was only £950, Philadelphia £900 and Richmond Hill £650. In British Honduras the rare Spanish Lookout on a 1916 War Tax cover made £600 but the two unique covers with straightline marks for Benque Viejo and Caledonia were a modest £400 and £850.

One notable feature of the sale was the apparent wide number of buyers, perhaps more than would have been expected at a specialist sale, which bodes well for the future of collecting these countries.

### Additional comments by Charles

I asked Ray to write this auction up as it seemed politically incorrect for me to do it....but let me thank many of my BWISC friends for their participation although I expect some were shocked by the prices they had to pay. Competition was fierce for the Br Guiana while the best Br Honduras lots went to the well-known phone bidder, not always cheaply but they are presumably now unavailable for some time to come. This buyer spent over half of the take, but there were still 10 buyers who spent over £1k each, with about 30 spending less than that. The Br Guiana was more widely distributed with our members well to the fore, but there was one predominant buyer bidding through Mark Harvey who spent almost a quarter of the money. He subsequently revealed himself as one of our distinguished US members, so the good news is that much of the Br Guiana remains in BWISC hands.

As with any sizeable collections, these ones had their ups and downs. The Guiana were mostly up, with all the straight stamps and varieties very strong, often well in excess of Gibbons if plate plugs were included. But I thought the 1878-81 provisional overprints were quiet, a view supported by the fact that Gibbons acquired several of the many key pieces. Among the early covers I was struck by the demand for the paid marks, with the three PA4ID covers fetching £6.8k in all.

The Br Honduras stamps were more in the ballpark, with only the early blocks "taking off". The better early covers were also in demand with the phone bidder securing all the important covers including the 1865 6d with red paid mark at £9.5k.

I thought Spink produced a really splendid catalogue that I expect will become a work of reference. They certainly made an effort to lot and illustrate quite important specialist items that a less informed house would have hidden in mixed or remainder lots. Gibbons now have a price record for quite a number of watermark varieties, for example, that they have not yet priced. However, the sale was not without its gremlins...and I am not referring to Nick's cough...whereas their website worked well I learned soon after the sale that one of the major overseas bidders for the Br Honduras was suffering an electric storm and his connection kept breaking down. Although he had left some bids on the book, as I always advise, he only competed successfully on the lots that came up when his connection was working. The lesson is clear, operational risk is always present when you rely on the internet.

### Gibbons 26-7 February (BP 15%)

There was one outstanding lot in this sale, a Turks Is 1d SG58a imperf between pair, and it fetched an outstanding price, £18k. There are still rich buyers out there for the right material. A nice mint pair of the St Lucia QV 6d lilac SG 35 was £380 and a neat Paid at Tortola handstamp on the face of a 1914 postcard was £550. There was strong bidding for the Leewards GVI keyplates with all 22 lots sold and two Montserrat covers of 1834 and 1844 without any marks of origin were £280. In Airmail covers the Antigua DO-X flight (together with two 1929 covers) seemed cheap at £40 but the Montserrat 1930 flight at £80 comfortably exceeded what it goes for in our auctions. The only real surprise in an esoteric collection of registered postcards was the £300 paid for a Dominica 1903 card, though it had been "uprated" with a Leeward Is KE 2s 6d.

### Spink 29 April-1 May (BP 20%)

The only material section here was Ben Ramkissoon's award-winning Trinidad revenues. The stamps and specimens were strong, the essays less so. Elsewhere there were two great rarities, the St Lucia 1930 2d typeset postage due imperf between (£4.2k) and the undenominated die proof for the Britannia type used by Barbados, Mauritius and Trinidad (£6.5K, even though described as non-contemporary). There were also a few nice Grenada items; the Perkins Bacon 6d die proof sold for £1.6k after the sale while an 1892 3d surcharge postage essay was £950.

### Coming events

**Murray Payne's** next sale will include important GVI material from the 'Foxley' Br Guiana and Br Honduras collections, while **Cavendish** on 18-9 June will auction our member Derek Seaton's collections and **Gibbons** the 'Rexton' on 26 June. **Grosvenor** has received a major collection of St Lucia that is likely to appear around the end of the year...but be aware that **Grosvenor** have announced an increase in their buyers premium to 19%. The John E. du Pont British Guiana Grand Prix collection is to be auctioned by **David Feldman** on June 27 and **Spink** will auction the outstanding 'Vestey' collections beginning with the Leeward Is, Bahamas and Turks Islands

on 11 December. This will be followed sometime in 2015 by the collections of the Windward Islands and later in 2015 by Bermuda.

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**STEVE JARVIS**

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**TERRY HARRISON**

The proposed publication schedule is as follows:

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