

ISSN 0953 - 8720



**BWI**

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN NO. 144    MARCH 1990

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## OBJECTS

1. **TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. TO loan books from the Circle library (**home members only**). Borrowers bear postage both ways.  
**List supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an s.a.e. (9" x 6½") - 2nd Class postage for 150gm rate required.**
4. TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
5. TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

## MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION

**MEMBERSHIP** - Is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** - The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is £6 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £8 for members who reside elsewhere.

**Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1st January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, in sterling** (by personal cheque or Standing Order drawn on a U.K. Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency *notes* - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).

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**PROGRAMME**

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1990

Sat.	7 April	2.45p.m.	Mr. C. Barwick - Montserrat Venue: SWINPEX 90 Drove Road School, Swindon
Sat.	28 April	2.15 p.m.	AGM and Auction Venue: The Bonnington Hotel Southampton Row London WC1
Tues.	8 May	6.30 p.m.	Social Meeting with BCPSG (For details see Bulletin No.143) Venue: The Thames Suite, Royal Horse Guards Thistle Hotel, Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EJ
Wed.	9 May	10.30 a.m.	BCPSG Meeting (For details see page 2) Venue: The Lansdowne Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place, Berkeley Square, London W1

British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group  
Meeting during the International Stamp Exhibition  
Stamp World London '90

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The BCPSG will be holding a one day meeting on Wednesday, 9th May, 1990 at the Lansdowne Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place, Berkeley Square, London, W.1, which all BWISC members are invited to attend and, if desired, to bring a guest.

The programme is as follows:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 10.30 a.m. | The meeting opens with introductions  |
| 10.45      | Coffee  |
| 11.15      | Annual General Meeting of the BCPSG. Non members of BCPSG will be asked to move into an adjacent room during the Annual General Meeting.  |
| 12.15 p.m. | Informal Displays by members of the BCPSG (maximum 6 sheets per member).  |
| 13.00      | Lunch (make your own arrangements).<br>The Lansdowne Club can offer the following:<br>1 An a la carte meal in the Restaurant at about £15 .00.<br>or<br>2. A luncheon at the Buffet by the swimming pool for about £6 |
| 14.00      | Dr. Joan Harper will display and comment on British Honduras.   |
| 15.00      | Tea and biscuits, or, coffee and biscuits.  |
| 15.15      | BCPSG members' Cameo material (maximum 10 sheets/ 10 minutes per member).   |
| 17.30      | Closing speech of farewell.   |
| 18.00      | End of meeting.   |

Tickets per person for the above will be £5. or US\$8 payable in advance:

- (a) to Mike Rego, 24 Wentworth Drive, Crofton, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire, WF4 1LH, United Kingdom.
- or
- (b) to Mark Swetland, 32 Cat Brier Lane, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29926, U.S.A.

Tickets at the same prices as above will also be made available at the door of the Lansdowne Club.

Please note that a ticket will include the cost of room hire, coffee in the morning, coffee and biscuits, or, tea and biscuits in the afternoon and a small registration fee. The cost of a ticket will therefore include everything except the cost of your Lunch.

## 1989 ACCOUNTS

The Hon. Treasurer regrets that due to unforeseen circumstances the Accounts cannot appear in this Bulletin. The Accounts will be available at the AGM and if any member wishes to have a copy prior to the AGM, will he/she send a stamped addressed envelope to the Hon. Treasurer marked "1989 Accounts". The Accounts will be published in the June Bulletin.

## 1990 AUCTION

Lots will be available for viewing from 1.30 p.m. prior to the AGM at the Bonnington Hotel.

Postal bids should be sent to Simon Goldblatt at his chambers - 2 Garden Court, Temple, London EC4.

## Acting Hon. Editor

As this is my first Bulletin, I should like to start by thanking David Atkinson for all the help that he has given to me regarding the editorial system used in producing this Bulletin. I look forward to getting a report of his Jamaican Holiday for a future edition.

Many thanks are also due to all of those people who have helped in contributing material for this issue. Please keep the articles, notes, etc., coming in.

Denis Charlesworth

## **DISPLAY**

Only four members were present at 6 p.m. on Wednesday 22nd November, 1989 at the British Philatelic Trust Rooms, 107 Charterhouse Street, London, EC1M 6PT for a meeting at which nine pages were requested from those attending. It was a great pity that so few members were at the meeting which, as will be noted from the summaries of material shown, was most varied and interesting.

David Atkinson commenced the displays with his Guyana 1966 Independence overprints. The initial issue was overprinted in London on three different watermarked papers. There were no varieties of the overprint itself, but the overprint was shown on the constant plate varieties of the original stamps and examples were shown of the overprint on the "weed" flaw, "broken toe" and "dot under waterfall" stamps.

In 1967 the overprints were running out and, as the new definitives were not yet available, the remaining stocks of the KG VI stamps were overprinted locally in Guyana. As a result of this many varieties occurred, a considerable number of which were displayed.

The well known 1966 Guyana variety on the 2c, 3c and 6c Script were shown together with this variety on the much scarcer 3c Block on both the olive green and chocolate and olive green and brown shades. Four examples (one used) of the 1c Block with missing overprint were shown. One sheet is known of this, the 1c with Block watermark was never issued unoverprinted.

Several examples of inverted overprints both mint and used of the 1c, 4c, 6c and 48c were shown. Only one or two sheets of each variety are known.

A pair of 6c with double impression of the overprint was exhibited together with several examples of doubling and inversion of the overprint both mint and used, with one example on cover.

Three vertical pairs of the 6c with double overprint diagonally and horizontal were shown - this variety being unlisted.

Many examples of shifts involving part of the overprint were exhibited together with complete shifts either horizontally or vertically, sometimes having three overprints occurring on two stamps. The most striking example was a block of four of the 2c where the stamp in row 1.10 had the overprint completely omitted.

Several minor varieties including "GLYANA", "INDEPENDENCE" and compressed and offset prints concluded the display.

David Atkinson has obviously obtained a great deal of pleasure from collecting varieties on these modern stamps and overprints of Guyana.

Undoubtedly the same is possible in connection with other countries in the Caribbean.

Victor Toeg then showed a miscellaneous number of items of Antigua. He commenced with a 1782 map of the island from the Political Magazine which was of particular interest to him as there was an inset plan of English Harbour: there followed a pre-adhesive letter dated 4th October 1694 to London with a Bishop mark, being one of the earliest known letters from Antigua: then a coloured print of a picture in water colours by Kenneth A. Bromley obtained at the time of a visit to Dodington House in September 1980: appropriately, examples of letters from the Codrington correspondence were also shown with handstruck stamps Types PD7, PFa, PFc and PG1a: an entire letter dated 12th April 1857 with a Crowned Circle Paid At Antigua mark in red denoting pre-payment of postage was also exhibited: covers from Great Britain to Antigua during the reign of Queen Victoria are scarce, but there was a January 1863 cover from London bearing a strip of three one shilling green from plate 1 and a red ink manuscript "4" denoting that 4d. from the postage paid in London was due to the Antigua postal authorities: this was succeeded by a charming print of an engraving of Charles Henry Jeens (1827-1879), to whom is attributed the engraving of the profile portrait of Queen Victoria on the early issues of Antigua stamps: two blocks of four of the plate proofs in black of the Queen Victoria six pence value from the defaced plate were displayed with one block showing the Iremonger re-entry: several blocks of the 1884-86 2d. ultramarine were passed round on which there were plate varieties: the 1884-86 4d. chestnut in a plate 2 marginal block of sixteen (4 x 4) followed with one stamp showing the "detached triangle" variety (E.K. Thompson flaw): a colourful page of the Queen Victoria 1d. and 6d. stamps each cancelled "A18" was also exhibited: next a rare stampless cover to London from the Curator of the

Botanical Station, Antigua with an “OFFICIAL-PAID ANTIGUA” c.d.s. dated 3 JU/91 in its centre: and finally, a postal stationery 1½d. die proof dated “Sep 1 1879” with a matching used postcard impressed with the 1½d. stamp.

The next member to display some material was Derek Nathan who showed ten pages of BERBICE rates and marks from 1815 to 1855 as follows: -

- 1 Entire letter of 11th March 1815 to Belfast endorsed ‘per packet’ and rated 12/6d. deleted and 16/3d. It carried a straight line mark in 1.5mm upper and lower case letters described on page 196 of Townsend and Howe but not seen by them.
- 2 Entire letter of 5th December 1815 to Inverness rated 1/8d. and carrying an oval CROWN SHIP LETTER BERBICE and stepped GREENOCK SHIP LETTER. A poor strike of this has been seen by Townsend (Type 8) dated 6th December used as a mark of origin although probably intended as an arrival mark. Not recorded as such.
- 3 Entire letter dated 30th April 1817 to Belfast. Rated 5/-d, deleted, 6/8d, deleted and finally 9/8d. Endorsed ‘per Cecilia’ and received stepped ‘LIVERPOOL SHIP LETTER’ but, as expected, no markings of origin.
- 4 Two entire letters to Inverness, November 18th 1817 and June 2nd 1818, both carrying variations of Townsend Type 1, the two-line mark in 4mm serif roman capitals. The length of the date line varies between 28.5mm and 31.5mm on these two strikes.
- 5 Three letters to London dated 1835-6 showing variations on the equivalent italic mark (Type 3) used from 1832-7.
- 6 Two letters to London dated 1837-8 with the two-line mark in 4mm caps and 2mm lower case letters (Type 4).
- 7 Entire letter to London carrying the single line mark in 5mm roman capitals (Type 5) dated JANU 23 1841. The letters are only very roughly aligned and the overall length is 76mm. This mark is much more crude than many of the earlier marks, and is similar to the DEMERARA mark used 40 years earlier.
- 8 Entire letter to London carrying the rate stamp 1/2d. (Type 10), specially made to indicate the 1/-d packet rate combined with the 4c inland rate to DEMERARA, the packet office. This was issued in 1846 but not often used, the postal clerks finding it easier to write the rate on. This is backstamped with the BERBICE 27mm double ring (Type 6) dated Nov. 2nd 1846.
- 9 Similar to previous but the rate mark in manuscript and dated Aug. 3rd 1848.
- 10 Local entire to DEMERARA dated 7-JY 1855 bearing both BERBICE and DEMERARA 25mm double ring marks (Types B7 and D9) not often seen together. The entire was sealed by a pair of 1c (SG 9), so badly torn on opening as to be scarcely recognisable.

Derek was lightheartedly asked whether these could be considered to be the first bisects!

He regretted not being able to show Type 2, (one strike recorded) or Type 9 (nothing seen outside the proof impression book), but is continuing the search.

The last member to display material was Derek Sutcliffe who showed a miscellany of “end of the book” items from Jamaica, commencing with Judicial stamps from 1898 to 1953. This section comprised stamps from the reigns of Queen Victoria, King George V, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth all overprinted “JUDICIAL”, each issue being accompanied by Court documents showing the usage of these stamps.

Three examples of the advertising handstamps of “Errington & Martin” struck on the reverse of Jamaican stamps were next shown, and some of the little seen Tourist Publicity labels of 1934, both on and off cover.

The Postal Fiscals of 1865-70 comprised the next section, mint and specimen examples of the 1865 issue being shown, with mint examples of the 1868 issue and both mint and used examples of the 1870 issue, the latter issue also being shown on cover.

Derek’s display concluded with the United Fruit Company’s “perfins” and the Bank of Nova Scotia perfins on Jamaican stamps, a few photographs of the 1907 Earthquake disaster were also shown.

## **BWISC 1989 CONVENTION DISPLAYS**

The Convention held at Royal Leamington Spa was not only a success for all members and friends that attended but also for the quality of the two outstanding displays given by Ken Bolton and Vincent Duggleby.

The first display to go on show was a comprehensive display of the 1919-1929 King George V pictorial issue of Jamaica given by Ken Bolton. The display consisting of the ½d to 10/-d values and including archive photographs where these were used as a basis for the design, specimen issues, paper and gum types, plate blocks, watermark, perforation and shade varieties plus printers samples. Special attention was drawn to the following proof and associated material; in order of denomination these included:

½d - die proof of frame. 1d - progressive and final die proof of vignette, and die proof of the re-designed frame. 1½d - composite essay, die proof of stamp and a colour trial. The issued stamps on multi-crown paper included a full sheet of “plate without number”, plate blocks of plates 1 to 4 and examples of the “re-entry” and “embarking” varieties. On the multi-script paper issues plate blocks of plates 1 to 14 were shown. 2d - die proof of the frame, die proof of the stamp in the issued colours, and an example of

the “Hoose” variety. 2½d - plate proofs of both frame and vignette, plate proof of stamp in issued colours, plus a block showing “plate number 1” on multi-crown paper, (According to the 1928 handbook, plate numbers did not appear until about 1925 and only on multi-script paper). 3d and 4d - plate proofs of both frame and vignette. 6d - The Abolition of Slavery issue was represented by progressive and final die proofs of the vignette, die proof of the frame, both watermark types overprinted “specimen”, plus the multi-crown with reversed watermark and finally a printers sample. The Port Royal issue included a plate proof of the vignette, and plate blocks of 24 and 20 illustrating the shade varieties. 2/-d - progressive die proofs of both frame and vignette, plus plate proof in colour of issued stamp. 3/-d - plate proofs of both frame and vignette. 5/-d - plate proofs of both frame and vignette, a descriptive souvenir sheet giving details of the design and signed by Sir L. Probyn, plus blocks showing the 4 shades that exist on the multi-script printings.

The second display was given by Vincent Duggleby who showed pages from his St. Vincent collection. Mr. Duggleby explained that a “Personal Selection” was essential as he could only show about a tenth of the material available.

The display was in two parts; Classic stamps 1861-1899 and Postmarks including the villages 1872-1900. Mr. Duggleby commented that St. Vincent was a difficult country to collect; multiples and covers were not known in certain issues and some postmarks, such as the Ship Letters CDS, were only known from two or three examples.

Like most specialised collections his had drawn material from many of the notable St. Vincent collections of the past; Glossop, Charlton Henry, Caspary, Gilbert Lodge, Lickfold, Bessemer, Pierce, Forsyth and Messenger. It was important for collectors to study old catalogues and to keep track of ‘pedigrees’.

The Perkins Bacon issues included several rare singles; unused copies of the 1861 6d deep yellow green (SG 2), the 1866 1/-d slate grey with ‘B’ perforations (SG 8), the 1873 1/-d lilac rose (SG 20), and the 1877 6d pale green with sideways watermark (SG 26). Three used copies of the 1d rose-red with compound perforations (SG 10) were shown as were unused and used copies of all the 1880 and 1881 provisional issues.

Multiples included an unused pair of the 1869 4d yellow (SG 12), an unused block of six of the 1d black with compound perforations (SG 22) and a spectacular used block of eight of the 1880 1d olive (SG 29), this last formerly in the Messenger collection. Also on display was a half sheet of thirty of the 1d rose-red (SG 5) and a complete sheet of the ½d orange (SG 36).

In commenting on postal usage, Mr. Duggleby said that, leaving aside village cancels, very few Perkins Bacon issues of St. Vincent were to be found with dated CDS. Exceptions were the 1d blacks, the 6d deep blue green (SG 19a) and 1/-d claret (SG 21) and the 6d pale green (SG 23 and SG 26a); some of these may have been philatelic.

The De La Rue period from 1882-1899 included the complete set of six 1d colour trials in green, rose-red, milky-blue, yellow-brown, lake-brown and violet, together with the ½d orange and 5/-d rose-red both with CA watermark. Mr. Duggleby found it strange that the Gibbons catalogue only listed some of these well documented stamps.

The De La Rue issued stamps were widely represented by mint multiples, with several complete sheets including one of the 1885 ½d deep green (SG 47a) with reversed watermark from the first printing. The 1883 issue included the largest recorded mint block of six of the 4d green (SG 42), a newly discovered mint block of four of the 4d blue (SG 43) with revenue overprint, and a mint block of four of the 6d bright green (SG 44), ex Forsyth. The 1888 6d violet (SG 52) in a block of four ex Caspary was also on display with calendar copies of the various printings of the 5/-d (SG 53) for each year 1890-1900.

Mr. Duggleby also drew attention to singles of various issues which had been found with reversed watermarks and with inverted watermarks. He showed one used example of the 4d chocolate (SG 51a) reversed and inverted. Collectors would be well advised to take the trouble to check watermarks.

Turning to the section on village cancellations, Mr. Duggleby was able to show one or more pages of all 15 offices which used the abbreviated marks. Of particular interest were two examples of the rare 'G' (Georgetown) on 1d black and 1d drab, a late 1899 use of the black 'CH' (Chateaubelair) on 1d red, and 'UE' (Union Estate) on 1d black and on a pair of 6d pale green. As with all collections, the difficulty was in obtaining examples of values other than the 1d to add variety to the page and this applied even more to the extended village cancellations.

He noted that while the extended on 1d red was relatively plentiful for most villages, the 1d drab (SG 39) was decidedly scarce. To give an example he said he had not yet seen a full Rabacca CDS on this stamp, nor a Georgetown.

A comprehensive selection of handstamps used (for the most part) at Kingstown was shown including the various A10 killers, the GB40c and the small St. Vincent CDS all struck in red and black at various times. Other marks included PP and PD, and a rare usage of the 'Crowned Circle' Paid at St. Vincent cancelling a 1d black.

Mr. Duggleby concluded by apologising for one notable absentee from his collection - that of Peruvian Vale; he hoped shortly to make good the deficiency and is pleased to say he has now done so!

## **CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHS**

Page 9: Top: Ken Bolton presenting his Display of Jamaica Pictorials.

Centre: Vincent Duggleby addressing his audience on St. Vincent.

Bottom: Ken Bolton and Vincent Duggleby.







Page 10: Top: At a dealers' table - among others, Pat Burke, Allan Pearse and Peter Ford.

Centre: The Members' Approval Table manned by Simon Goldblatt and Derek Nathan.

Bottom: A general view of the Bourse.

Page 11: Top: Among others, Mrs. Bertha Bolt and Mrs. Stella Pearse admiring some exhibits.

Bottom: Mr. and Mrs. Alex Thomson with Charles Freeland and others in the background.

## THE OTHER SIDE OF KEN BOLTON, IN LIGHTER VAIN

History books do not tell us all about the landing of Christopher Columbus (as shown on the 3d Jamaica stamp of 1921).

For instance .....

1. The landing force was composed of ten people and two dogs.
2. A small boy, with a cocked paper hat and bow and arrow, lead the procession.
3. We can also see that Columbus took with him dogs that were larger than men. One of these has one foreleg the other has one foreleg and one hindleg; providing beyond a question of doubt that here was a race of dogs which is now extinct.
4. We can see another man with a bow and no arrow, followed by a supporting force of four boy scouts with their staves and pennants.
5. Now 'Our Hero', garbed in a fur-lined robe, showing that Jamaica had a cold climate at that time.
6. Behind 'Our Hero' comes a gal carrying his moonshine jug. Queen Isabella really provided for our boy on this trip.
7. Examine the aborigines - 'Arawaks' wearing plumes. One is running away from the charge of the two legged dog, while the other calmly reclines astride a cactus hedge boldly pointing a stick of sugar cane at Columbus.



8. In the left foreground, Mickey and Minnie mouse are erecting a fort because of the invasion.
9. In the left background, the inter-caribbean canoe races are in progress.
10. The right foreground reveals another gal bathing in the sea after her long eventful voyage.
11. Near her can also be seen the ruins of an old wharf which was probably erected by the Arawak Engineering Corps.
12. It is also interesting to note that the ships were lateen rigged, and not square rigged as is commonly believed.

And so you can readily see, your history was dreadfully neglected and misrepresented.

## **BARBADOS**

I would like to refer to the query by Peter Jaffe in the December 1989 Bulletin as to the reason for the Barbados 1878 1D on half of 5 SHILLINGS Provisional. Having recently completed research for my Handbook "The Stamps of Barbados", I have researched the De La Rue Records at the National Postal Museum, London, and have made copies of all the correspondence which passed between the Colonial Postmaster and De La Rue via the Crown Agents. There is no clear cut evidence as to the reason for the provisional, so that a certain amount of speculation will have to be introduced.

On 19th February 1876, Mr. R.A.D. Bynoe, the Colonial Postmaster, ordered supplies of stamps which included 36,000 green (½d) and 288,000 blue (1d) stamps, and this order was forwarded by the Colonial Secretary of Barbados to the Crown Agents on the 23rd February. The Crown Agents forwarded the order to De La Rue on the 17th March in which they called the printer's attention to the urgency of the demand. These stamps were printed under Requisition No. 7/1876 when 37,680 (314 sheets) of the green (½d) stamps and 290,760 (2,423 sheets) of the blue (1d) stamps were invoiced on May 13th 1876. These would probably have arrived in the Colony in June 1876.

On 9th January 1877, Mr. R.A.D. Bynoe, the Colonial Postmaster, again ordered supplies of stamps which included 84,000 green (½d) stamps and 216,000 blue (1d), and this order was forwarded by the Colonial Secretary of Barbados to the Crown Agents on the same day and they were asked to use despatch in forwarding the same. The Crown Agents forwarded the order to De La Rue on the 30th January in which they called the printer's attention to the urgency of the demand. These stamps were printed under Requisition No. 5/1877 when 85,880 (715 sheets) of the green (½d) stamps and 216,480 (1,804 sheets) of the blue (1d) stamps were invoiced on March 7th 1877. These would probably have arrived in the Colony in late March or early April 1877.

The next order was made on the 15th January 1878 and was for 72,000 of the green (4d) and 360,000 of the blue (1d) stamps - the increased order was to make sure that this situation did not arise again. The stamps were printed under Requisition No.

4/1878 and were invoiced on March 7th 1878 and would no doubt have arrived late in March or early April 1878.

Applying logic to the above, and in view of the obvious urgency that the Colonial Postmaster kept referring to in the orders, it is difficult to see that if 290,760 blue (1d) stamps could barely last from June 1876 until to April 1877 (a period of 10 months), how a lesser amount of 216,480 stamps could last from April 1877 until April 1878 (a period of 12 months) which is the date that the next order for stamps was received.

I am therefore of the firm opinion that the Post Office ran short of blue (1d) stamps and were forced to start using the green (½d) stamps until they were also exhausted, and then they took the opportunity to get rid of the 5 Shillings stamps. This is the basis for what I have said in my Handbook.

Edmund A. Bayley

## BRITISH GUIANA

I have found in an old general collection a 'proving cover' - sadly no more than a front - for one of the West Coast Demerara second series code marks.

Townsend & Howe asserted in 1970 that no such cover had yet been found, and I can find no report of one since, so the item must be of some interest to collectors and students.

The cover is addressed to Mr. J.H. Foster, Meten Meer Zorg, West Coast Demerara and franked with the 4c blue, perf.12 on thick paper of 1860. The adhesive is tied by a strong, near perfect strike of 'W' code-mark datestamp (T&H p.263, fig.8) for No 5 1860. On page 264, T&H say:

"The original 23 P.O.'s (with the exception of Wakenaar) were issued with a 'standard type' date-stamp, a single-ring (21¼mm) stamp, with 'B.G.' at top, with the code below it, and then the date. Letters were sans-serif. 'W' may once have been like these, but appears smaller and always misshapen."

T&H's earliest recorded date for 'W' is 14.12.1860; the new find is a little over a month earlier, 21¼mm and a perfect circle, and we can now include it in the original identical series of 23.

Now to the 'proving'. T&H theorise - and are able in many cases to prove by covers - that the codes were allocated to receiving offices in series away from the G.P.O. Quite logically, they ascribe the issue in 1860 of W1C to Hague, W2C to Boerasirie, and W3C to Vergenoegen. "W2C. this must have been issued to Boerasirie P.O., which used the stamp until it was given a name stamp in 1880" (p.269).

On this Foster cover, alongside the adhesive, is a feint but distinct strike of second series code-mark W2C, also for NO 5 1860. (T&H's ERD is 2.1.1863.) Metenmeer Zorg was closest to Boerasirie P.O. (the office was to be moved there in 1890); the cover therefore proves Townsend & Howe correct.

Michael Medlicott

# BRITISH HONDURAS

## Military Postal Markings since 1945

Ralph Group's series of articles on Belize postal markings illustrated a number of British Army postal markings (Bulletin 133, p.37-38). Apart from the standard British Army double ring CDS, these markings are rarely seen. This article seeks to illustrate new markings, extend the range of markings illustrated in Bulletin 133, and provide some background information.

### 1. Examples of Ralph Group's markings:

Type S1: I have a cover backstamped in purple with this marking, but without the 2, making the bottom line 'Adj. Det. Glosters. 'On the front is a manuscript 'Forces Mail' and it has 2x5c stamps tied with a Belize/British Honduras single ring 2 PM/24 M?/49 cancellation.

Type S4: I have a cover with the OC Troops cancellation. However it differs from S4 in that it is 41mm in diameter and has a double outer circle, the outer ring being thicker than the inner.

Type S5: I have a number of these cancellations, but most seem to vary from 26 to 26.5mm in diameter, and hence may not be Type S5 cancellations. An example from 28.11.68 is illustrated, and I have an example from as late as 10 Aug 1979. I expect this cancellation is still used, but the last time I tried to get a copy the Army intercepted my letter and returned it!

### 2. Unrecorded markings:

Four new markings, all in red, are illustrated:

- (a) Double ring handstamp, 41mm diameter with thinner inner ring, most likely a rubber stamp, inscribed 'HQ BRITISH HONDURAS GARRISON/BF PO 12'. It appears to have a separate date stamp, in this case 'NOV 1968'
- (b) Boxed rectangular (71x11mm) handstamp 'CERTIFIED OFFICIAL'
- (c) Single ring handstamp, 29mm diameter, inscribed 'I R HAMPS/BELIZE'. It appears to have a separate date stamp, in this case '14 OCT 1960'.
- (d) 3-line unboxed handstamp 'FORCES MAIL/BRITISH TROOPS/ BELIZE'; the overall size is 53.5x15mm, the lettering on the upper two lines is 3.5mm, the lower line 4mm.

### 3. Army history and postal markings:

Ralph Group notes that the Type S1 cancellation is known from as early as 1958, and the modified version mentioned above dates from 1949. According to M. Dewar's (1984) book 'Bush Fire Wars' the two companies of the 2nd Batt. Gloucestershire Regt. were despatched from HQ Caribbean Area (Jamaica) in 1948 in response to a threatened Guatemalan invasion. They arrived on HMS Devonshire on 02.03.48. One company remained in Belize City permanently.

(To be continued)

Andrew Millington

# JAMAICA

## The JAMAICA SHIP LETTER handstamp (Foster Type SL1)

Used during the war years up to 1815, this handstamp denoted that the letter was NOT to be sent by the packet but by merchant ship, as merchantmen sailed in convoy escorted by warships. Men-of-War were classed as private ships for postal purposes unless they were officially pressed into service as a packet.

This letter is unusual in that it was carried by warship (H.M.S. Bedford) but was treated as a packet letter, the postal rate being charged at 1/10d (single letter rate to England 1/2d., inland rate from Falmouth to Plymouth Dock 8d. Total 1/10d.). The green "JAMAICA F" handstamp applied at the Falmouth Packet Office, was struck on all Cross Post letters that had not already been postmarked. Letters to and from London were not sorted at Falmouth.

A series of similar handstamps were used at Falmouth to denote the country of origin of the letter, so that the correct postage could be raised and paid by the addressee.

Basil Benwell



dia. 23mm  
IN USE 1809-30

# GEORGE V - Universal Key Plate No. 1

Most references to the size of Universal Keyplate No.1 that I have encountered describe it as a 240 set plate, with a format as illustrated in Fig 1. I have only ever seen P1.1 sheets of 120, which feature plate numbers in top or bottom margins only, the opposite margin being blank. If the plate was 240 set it appears that it was normally cut into 120 set sheets before overprinting from the duty plate.

A unique feature of the lower half of the 240 set plate 1 is the square upper corners to the marginal rule surrounding each pane (see Fig.3). Those on the bottom are rounded, as are all four corners of each pane on the top half of the plate. It would seem to me unlikely that this feature would be incorporated within a 240 set plate made from one piece of metal (unless this was a further example of DLR's renowned economy in utilising some spare leads of a different type).

However, an article in the Philatelic Magazine of Oct. 4th 1924 entitled 'De La Rue (1888) Georgian Postage and Revenue Keyplates' tells a different story. In it Harry E. Huber states that for the Georgian issue two plates were initially made and used concurrently, one of 120 set and one of 240, as had been done for the previous Edwardian issue. The Ed. VII plates were numbered 1 (120) and 2 (240), but for the Georgian issues both plates were numbered '1'. The 120 set plate format is illustrated in Figure 2.

He goes on to mention that by the end of 1912 the 120 set plate had become worn and was withdrawn. When the upper half of the 240 plate had also become worn it was removed and another 120 set plate, numbered 2 (at the top only) was made and used clamped to the lower half of plate 1 to re-create a 240 set printing plate. The two plates could be, and were, used separately. By the end of 1912 the combined plate 1 & 2 was being used almost exclusively.

Whilst I would dispute the widespread use of plates 1 & 2 combined (few colonies used plate 2 for their printings), the other points raised deserve consideration since they appear to conflict with the generally accepted format of plate 1. If these statements are taken at face value they give rise to several questions: -

- A) was there a 120 set plate 1 with plate numbers in top and bottom margins?
- B) was the 240 set plate originally made from a single piece of metal or did it comprise two 120 set single plates which could be bolted together to print 240 set if required? This arrangement was certainly used with other plates (although not for any BWI printings).
- C) when were the upper 240 and the 120 plates retired?
- D) can the 120 and 240 plates (if they exist) be identified via plate blocks or marginal pieces other than as a complete sheet, pane or strip.?

There are four possibilities as to the format of plate 1:-

### Option 1

There was one plate only, 240 set, made from a single piece of metal.

- 1.1 The Colonial Office Journal of Jan'19, reporting the destruction of plate 1, refers to it as 'Plate 1 (240 set)'
- 1.2 The DLR Day books show that from all colonies employing the Universal keyplate in 1912 only two values were supplied as 240 set sheets (Ceylon, 2c and 25c), the remainder being despatched as 60 or (predominantly) 120 set sheets. The existence of a 240 set plate would therefore be difficult to prove from printed sheets.

(To be continued)

Peter Fernbank

## **TRINIDAD**

Continued from Bulletin 143 p.83

### The "Britannia" Postage and Revenue Stamps

#### 1908 Reprint of Current Series.

The Private Day Book Requisition No. 40/08 of the 13th August 1908 shows a further printing of items.

#### Postage and Revenue Stamps

<u>3457</u> sheets	Halfpenny x 120 =	<u>414,40</u> stamps
<u>8753</u>	One penny x 240 =	<u>2,100,720</u>
<u>2116</u>	Two pence Halfpenny x 120	<u>253,920</u>
<u>255</u>	Sixpence	
<u>209</u>	One Shilling	
<u>464</u>		x 120
<u>170</u>	Five Shilling	x 60
<u>63</u>	One pound	x 60
	(4,000 charged)	<u>3,780</u>

#### Surcharge Stamps

50 sheets Five pence x 60 3,000 stamps

#### Registration Envelopes

9780 Two pence "F" size

5088 "G" size.

#### 1908 CA Postage Paper

An entry in the Private Day Book dated the 25th May 1908 gives:

Gumming, Milling and Cutting to 21 and 3/8 x 11 and 1/16, 365 Half sheets C.A. postage paper.

A further Private Day Book Requisition No. 84/08 dated the 30th November 1908 gives:

Gumming, Milling and Cutting to 21 and 3/8 x 11 and 1/16, 754 half sheets C.A. postage paper.

Again on the 31st December 1908 there is a similar Private Day Book Requisition 90/08.

Gumming, Milling and Cutting to 21 and 3/8 x 11 and 1/16, 920 half sheets CA Postage paper.

### 1909 New Colour Scheme

An appendix dated 31st March 1908 and marked Requisition 32/06 shows samples of the stamp duties four pence, six pence and one shilling duties.

The colour scheme was submitted at the request of the Crown Agents to accord with the new scheme and approved on July 6th 1908.

Mr. J.B. Marriott in a letter to me says, I have a die proof marked "Nov 15 240 leads No.3 no charge" on the back is "08" in pencil.

An entry in the Private Day Book Requisition 31/09 of the 5th June 1909 gives details of the One Shilling duty in the Changed colour Black/Green.

Postage and revenue Stamps

1672 sheets one shilling x 120 = 200,640 stamps

Specimens 413  
201,053

Post Cards

61176 halfpenny

The stamp quantities and specimens for the Four Pence and Six Pence duties do not appear to be mentioned in the Private Day Book.

The three duties in the new colours are found printed from the new key plate numbered "3".

From the Crown Agents Volume 52 dated 14th June 1909 "192,000 Halfpenny stamps are to be printed from the old plates and forwarded immediately by parcel post insured".

The Halfpenny and Two Pence Halfpenny duties can also be found printed from the new key plate numbered "3".

### 1909 New Series

A requisition of May 1908, called for Arabic figures in place of words for Halfpenny, One Penny and Two Pence Halfpenny stamps. It being impossible to alter the existing plates three designs were submitted with relative figures of cost. The One Penny design was for printing in one operation. An alternative was the making of a special key plate and special border overprint plates.

On June 12th the Crown Agents advised us that the Colony approved the One Penny and the Key and Border Plate design for the Halfpenny and Two Pence Halfpenny duties.

The entry in the day book Requisition No. 31/09 for the 19th August shows details of new prepared plates for the Halfpenny, One Penny and Two Pence Halfpenny duties.

Postage and Revenue Stamps

Taking 2 Transfers from the original Arms Die and preparing a One Penny Postage and Revenue Die, also a Key Die.

Making from the One Penny Die a plate 240 Set.

Making from the key Die a plate 120 Set.

2 Border duty plates 120 Set each Halfpenny and Two pence Halfpenny.

8686 sheets One penny x 240 =	2,084,640 stamps
Specimens	<u>413</u>
	<u>2,085,053</u>

A day book entry of the 15th September 1909 repeating the Requisition reference No. 31/09 shows.

Postage and Revenue stamps

5454 sheets halfpenny x 120 =	654,430 stamps
Specimens	<u>413</u>
	<u>654,843</u>

1077 sheets Two pence Halfpenny x 120	129,240
Specimens	<u>413</u>
	<u>129,653</u>

Unusually the record clearly shows the One penny plate at 240 multiples. For the Half and Two pence half penny duties De La Rue used plates of 120 multiples.

The plate design for the Halfpenny and Two Pence Halfpenny duties has reverted to the style used in 1896 where the plate numbered "1" appears in the corners of the 120 multiple sheet.

(To be continued)

John De Vriess

## MEMBERSHIP LISTING

### New Members

BROOK, D.A. 80 Farm Road, Milton,  
Weston-super-Mare,  
Avon. BS22 8BD

GRIST, J.M. do Stamp Dept.  
Phillips, 101 New Bond  
Street, London W1Y 0AS

### Special Interests

JAM, BAH, BER, BWI (WT)

BER, CAY, DOM.

HARTLEY, J.R.	9 Hollow Meadows Mews, Sheffield, S6 6GJ	BRG
MAY, C.F.	Cavendish House, 56 Victoria Road, Bognor Regis, Sussex, P021 2JL	Leewards Group
PEARSE, A.F.	24 Denver Hill, Downham Market, Norfolk, PE38 9BE	TUC, BWI, (Martinique, Guadeloupe, Curacao, Haiti)
SMALL, I.S.	13 Myrtle Close, Colyers Lane, Erith, Kent, DA8 3PT	ANT, BER, DOM, JAM, TRI
STRANGE, L.P.	65 Lothair Road South, London, N4 1EN	BAR, (GB and USA).
WILSON, C.J.	UI 26961, Criminal Intelligence Bureau Police HQ, Arsenal St., Wanchai, Hong Kong.	BRH

Address Changes

BURKE, P.W.C. 16 Riche Gardens, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, Bucks., MK3 6HR

GODWIN, H. P.O. Box 360 Montagu 6720, South Africa.

JACKSON, G.P. 7 Bletchingly Road, Merstham, Surrey, RH1 3HT

JEHLE, A.E. 8 Leisure Lane, Houston, Texas 77024-5123, USA  
'Buzz'

RICHARDS, D. Barn House, 21A Church Street, Yaxley, Cambs., PE7 3QR

SPENCER, E. 86 Cae Mair, Beaumaris, Anglesey, Gwynedd, Wales, LL58 8YN.  
University of West Indies  
c/o A. Moss, Acquisitions Librarian, University of the West Indies,  
P.O. Box 1334, Bridgetown, Barbados.

Deceased

ROWAN, H W.

Resigned

AUSTIN, H.C., HAMM, A.C. RAYNOR, P. TOEMAN, R. WARD, R.

Reinstated in Good Standing

AMBLER, J.D. BODILY, R. HERBERT, J.A.C. KERZNER, T.,  
MILLINGTON, A.C. STRACHAN, T.J. STRAUS, R. TALBOT, P.D.S.  
WATTS, B.E.

The following members, not having paid their Subscription (dues) have been dropped from membership:-

ZETTERMAN, G.

## NEWS ROUND UP

Jim Ranger of Cromer Cottage, Cromer, Nr. Stevenage, Herts. SG2 7QA writes that he would like to purchase or exchange ¼d stamps on cover or used postal stationery with ¼d values. Can anyone help!

A letter has arrived from Peter Bylen, the Secretary of the Belize Philatelic Study Circle giving details of that society. Anyone interested should contact Peter at P.O. Box 411238, Chicago, Illinois 60641-1238, U.S.A. He will send you what details you require to know about the Society.

In November last year Alex Thomson, a member from Stafford, gave a display and talk on the Lady Boat handstamps of the Canadian National Steamship Line to the Streetly P.S. West Midlands. Approximately 20 members were present and the display was well received.

A leaflet has arrived from the British Library, Press and Public Relations Department, 2 Sheraton Street, London W1V 4BH, giving details of some of the Philatelic Collections held by them. Members interested should contact the British Library for further information.

Advert

CHRIS RAINEY

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

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Price: UK & Europe £3.00; Europe (air) £3.50; Overseas - (surface mail) £3.50; (air-printed paper) £4.50; US - \$8.00; (air letter) £6.00 US - \$10.50; (NO Discount)

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Binders - 'CORDEX' Instantaneous Self-Binders, each capable of holding 20 issues of the Bulletin, hard covers, Blue, spine entitled in Gold.

Price: UK - £4.00; Europe P, Overseas - £4.75 US - £8.50 (NO Discounts)

*Please NOTE:* There Only the new A5 size binder is now stocked They will accept the old size Bulletin but old size Binders will only accept Bulletins up to and including issue No. 143. The increase in Price is mainly due to increased Postal Costs.

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