

# THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

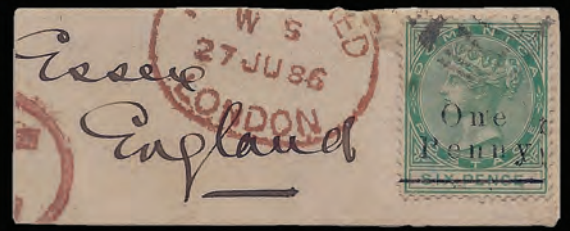
President: Charles Freeland, FRPSL

Display given before the Royal Philatelic Society London  
on Thursday, 6 November 2014  
to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Study Circle

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, FROM THE COMMERCIAL ROOMS .

N O R T H A T L A N T I C

O C E A N



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# INTRODUCTION

In March 1960 the British West Indies Study Circle gave its first display to the Royal Philatelic Society. This remains the only occasion on which the Circle has shown in these august surroundings. Looking back on it now, one marvels at how a society less than six years old could have pushed its way onto the meeting agenda, but when one reads the list of RPS luminaries who showed on that occasion (including John (later Sir John) Marriott, Bobby Messenger, Bill Townsend and Victor Toeg, headed by their President Gilbert Collett), one should not be surprised.

The challenge for the Circle now is to live up to the quality shown on that previous occasion. Direct comparisons are of course not possible, but while the names in the cast list may be less familiar the range of material is certainly broader. Fashions have changed with far more emphasis on what Robson Lowe called the humanity of postal history, and the advances in our knowledge about routes, rates and markings has been dramatic. The revival of interest in postal stationery and revenues is also evident in today's programme. Another area where significant progress is notable is in the range of archival material, notably that originating from the De La Rue release of the late 1970s. However, we have tried to show a few stamps for the traditionalists and many of the great rarities of BWI philately are on show today just as they were in 1960.

The degree of research revealed in this display also considerably exceeds that of 1960, except perhaps in the area of plating the early stamps. The Circle has been at the forefront of philatelic research, originally in the postal history handbooks by the late Len Britnor, supported by 60 years of learned articles in its award-winning quarterly Bulletin. More recently, under the inspired leadership of publications supremo Peter Ford, there has been a flood of handbooks and Study Papers, possibly unrivalled in volume and quality by any other society except for the RPS itself. In the last four years alone these have numbered no less than ten.

Many of today's pages could not have been presented in 1960 because the material was simply not in the private collector's domain. Some may be familiar because half a dozen of the Circle's members contributing today have already had the privilege of solo displays (I expect others will be invited to display once their snippets have been put on view). However, an attempt has been made to present a balanced offering, so that even the smallest BWI territory has a frame to itself.

Over thirty members of the Circle have had their arms twisted to contribute to this display. A dozen of these come from overseas and have either brought their pages or had them carried over by hand. The organisation has been intense and credit is due to Peter Fernbank in particular for coordinating this and making sure "all is right on the night" (fingers crossed). Peter Ford, our prodigious publications officer has used his skills on getting this brochure into print and of course I must thank our members far and wide who have responded so positively to the invitation to participate in the display.

Our thanks to the Royal for the invitation and I hope its members will not be disappointed.

Charles Freeland, FRPSL

President, BWISC

November 2014



# Frame 1

## ANGUILLA

from the collection of Brian Brookes, FRPSL



Airmail cover from The Road dated 15 July 1930 sent to Tortola, returned to Anguilla and re-addressed to the USA and posted at Forest on 29 September 1930.

There are covers known from Anguilla from about 1840 all carried privately. On 10 May 1900 the GPO sent out a new duplex 'A12' showing the code letters of the sub-offices in St. Kitts including the 'AN' for Anguilla. This was in use until about 1927. The Governor of the Leeward Islands signed an Order in Council No. S.R.O. 26 dated 1927 called 'Post Offices, Names of Order'. By this order the Governor instructed that there should be set up on Anguilla sub-post offices, namely Forest, East End, The Road and Blowing Point. The Temporary Rubber Datestamps issued were single circles, 29-30mm in diameter and were used from 1927 until 1931.

## Frame 2

### BARBUDA

from the collection of Charles Freeland, FRPSL



Early letter to London, part of the Codrington Correspondence.

Barbuda is a flat coral island situated north east of Antigua, whose main claim to fame over the centuries is that its lethal reef claimed many maritime scalps. It is a dependency of Antigua, where its administration is based. Its philatelic history is brief; in the 18th and 19th centuries it hosted a sugar plantation owned by the Codrington family and letters originating from there have survived. In 1922 there was a single short lived stamp issue consisting of Leeward Islands King George V definitives overprinted 'BARBUDA'. Forty-five years ago the island discovered the financial possibilities from marketing colourful thematic stamps and produced a plethora of 'wallpaper' ... no more need be said.

The exhibit contains two of five early letters recorded in Robson Lowe's Codrington Correspondence from Dennis Reynolds, the manager of the Barbuda estate for the Codrington family. Both are dated in late 1783. The first is the finest example of the rare Antigua straightline Type PD3 (numbered DR98 by Lowe), while the second is the only recorded usage of the RL Type PD4 with sloping letters (DR99). A few covers from Barbuda are also known bearing the Antigua fleuron marks from the period 1810–1830.

The 1922 overprints are interesting because although the overprints were applied on the regular Leeward Islands definitives, the Barbuda issues were the subject of a special printing from Plate 10. On some of the values the shades differ markedly from the Leeward Islands stamps that were also printed from Plate 10 but on different dates.

The exhibit contains imperforate pairs of the complete set of ten denominations to 5s and also a set of specimens in pairs. There are examples of the three recorded watermark varieties, one known plate variety on the 3d and a usage on cover. Alongside their own stamps, Antigua and Leeward Islands stamps were eligible for use in Barbuda, and examples are shown, together with official paid and censor usages.



Five shillings imperf pair.

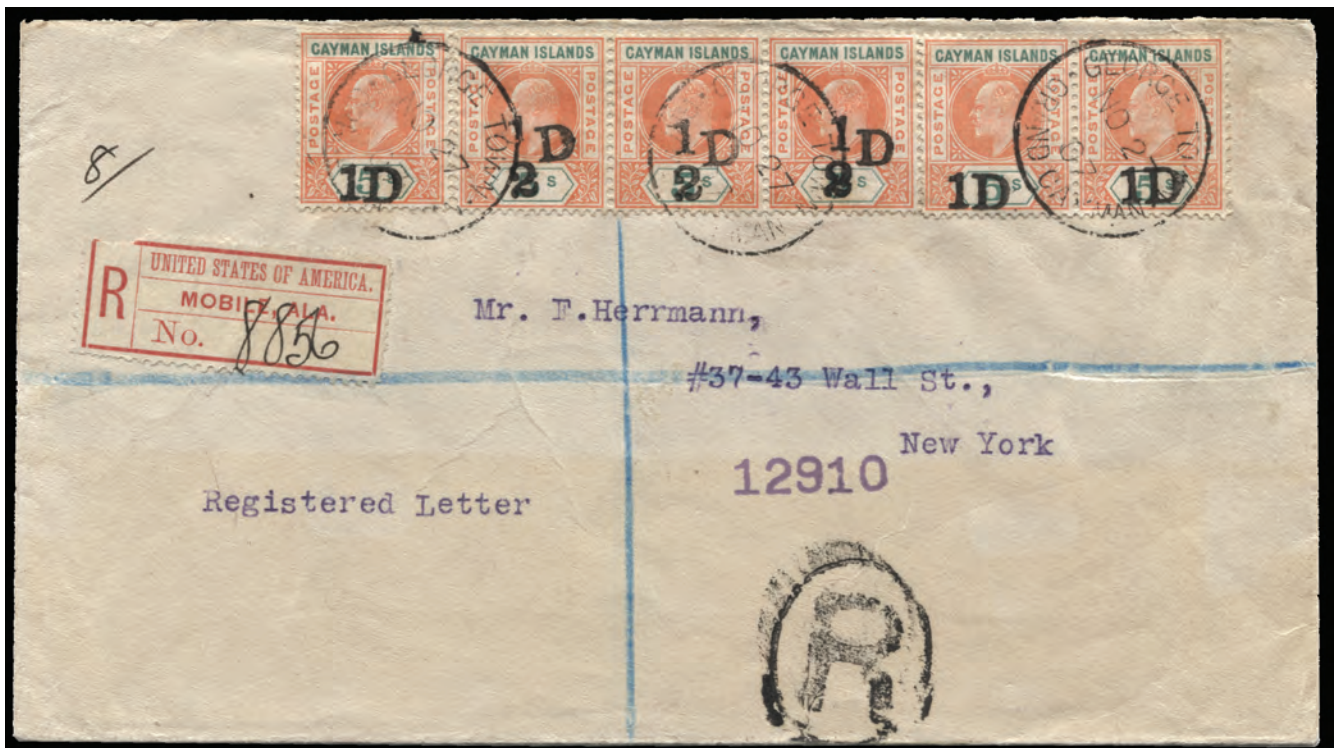
## Frame 3

### CAYMAN ISLANDS – THE PROVISIONALS

from the collection of Graham Booth, FRPSL

In the space of 15 months in 1907/08 the Commissioner, who was the de facto Postmaster, found it necessary to issue five provisional adhesives, and on two separate occasions had to resort to manuscript provisionals. This was termed the 'Great Scandal' in the philatelic community of the time, as it was believed that it was done to benefit the Commissioner, or other Caymanians, especially as shortly afterwards a consignment of low value stamps was placed in the London market. The Commissioner, George Hirst, was found not guilty of any wrongdoing by an enquiry in Jamaica and philatelists have traditionally blamed the inexperienced, 20-year old Postmistress Miss Parsons, as she appeared shortly afterwards to have been demoted to Assistant.

Recent investigation in the Cayman archives has proved that this was not the case. She was actually promoted to be Clerk to the Commissioner and only styled herself 'Assistant' because the Commissioner wanted the Post Office to stay open during the new Postmaster's lunch time. The real villain was the Commissioner himself, who withdrew the low value Edwardian and Victorian issues shortly after his arrival on the island in early 1907 because he thought they were obsolete, and then refused to re-issue them when supplies of subsequent requisitions were exhausted. Subsequently he persisted in ordering very small quantities of new supplies. There is some evidence that he also benefited personally from the issue of the 2½d on 4d which was unnecessary, two sheets of which ended up in the hands of Adutt, the Cayman collector, who was a family friend.



A cover addressed to New York franked with 3 x ½d on 5s and 3 x 1d on 5s paying the correct 1oz registered UPU rate, the only known such franking. The adhesives were cancelled by Georgetown Type 4 on 27 November 1907 and the cover sent on the 'OTARI' to Mobile, where it received a US registration etiquette and was back stamped on 9 December. It arrived in New York on the 11th.



## Frame 4

### CAYMAN ISLANDS – THE KING EDWARD VII KEY PLATE FLAWS

from the collection of James Podger, FRPSL

The Cayman Islands provide some of the scarcest varieties from the De La Rue printings of the British Empire. This is mainly due to the low quantities printed. This display includes a good selection of the surcharge provisional issues with 'Glover Flaw' and 'Slotted Frame', as well as the 1908 '1D' on 4d revenue provisional with 'Spaven Flaw' – one of only three possible.

The 'Glover Flaw' is a downward bulge on the name tablet frame, below the first 'A' of 'CAYMAN'. It was discovered by L. V. S. Glover, a Gambia specialist, and occurs on all values printed from the King Edward VII 'POSTAGE—POSTAGE' key plate for the Cayman Islands. It also occurs on all values printed from this key plate, for the Gambia and Seychelles, although not for the two stamps printed for St. Helena, as the flaw did not develop until after the ½d and 1d St. Helena values were printed on 9 January 1902. It appears on the last stamp, No. 6, in the first row of the left hand pane, L1/6.

The 'Slotted Frame' is a white vertical line appearing through the name tablet and outer frame line at the upper right. It was discovered by Robert Schneider and written about in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* February 2001 edition by Richard Maisel and Robert Schneider. It occurs on all values printed from the King Edward VII 'POSTAGE—POSTAGE' key plate for the Cayman Islands, the Gambia, the Seychelles and St. Helena. It appears on the fourth stamp, No. 4, in the first row of the left hand pane, L1/4.



Archival piece with both 1s and 5s showing the 'Slotted Frame' variety.

Included in the display is an archival piece (RPSL Certificate 2013 states Madagascar Archive but missing the handstamp) with both 1s and 5s showing the 'Slotted Frame' variety. This is the first time this piece has been illustrated and written about.

The 'Spaven Flaw', is an upward indentation in the head plate frame line, coinciding with a break in the upper corner of the upper left decoration panel. It was discovered by Michael Spaven, a Leeward Island specialist. It occurs on all values printed from the King Edward VII 'POSTAGE—REVENUE' Plate 1 key plate. It appears on the third stamp, No. 3, in the first row of the left hand pane, L1/3.

## Frame 5

### CAYMAN ISLANDS – JAMAICA USED IN THE CAYMANS

from the collection of Kevin Darcy



February 1898 cover with pair of Jamaica thick Official stamps with Grand Cayman P. O. cancel (Type 11) to Cedar Valley, Jamaica. This is the only recorded example of Jamaica Official stamps on cover from the Cayman Islands.

Georgetown, Grand Cayman had its first Post Office opened in 1889. At this time the Cayman Islands were a dependency of Jamaica and the Post Office would be considered a branch of the Jamaica Post Office. A second Post Office opened at Stake Bay, Cayman Brac in 1898. From 1889 to 1901 when the first Cayman stamps were officially issued Jamaican stamps only were on sale at the two post offices.

Shown is a selection of the 13 different Jamaican stamps used in the Cayman Islands with examples on stamp or cover of the five different cancellations found during the period. Three at Georgetown and two at Stake Bay.

Between 1908 and 1911 the Cayman Islands issued five different items of postal stationery. These were ¼d and 1d postcards, 1d and 2½d envelopes and a ½d newswrapper.

Also shown are the Essays and Proofs for this stationery from the De La Rue Archives.

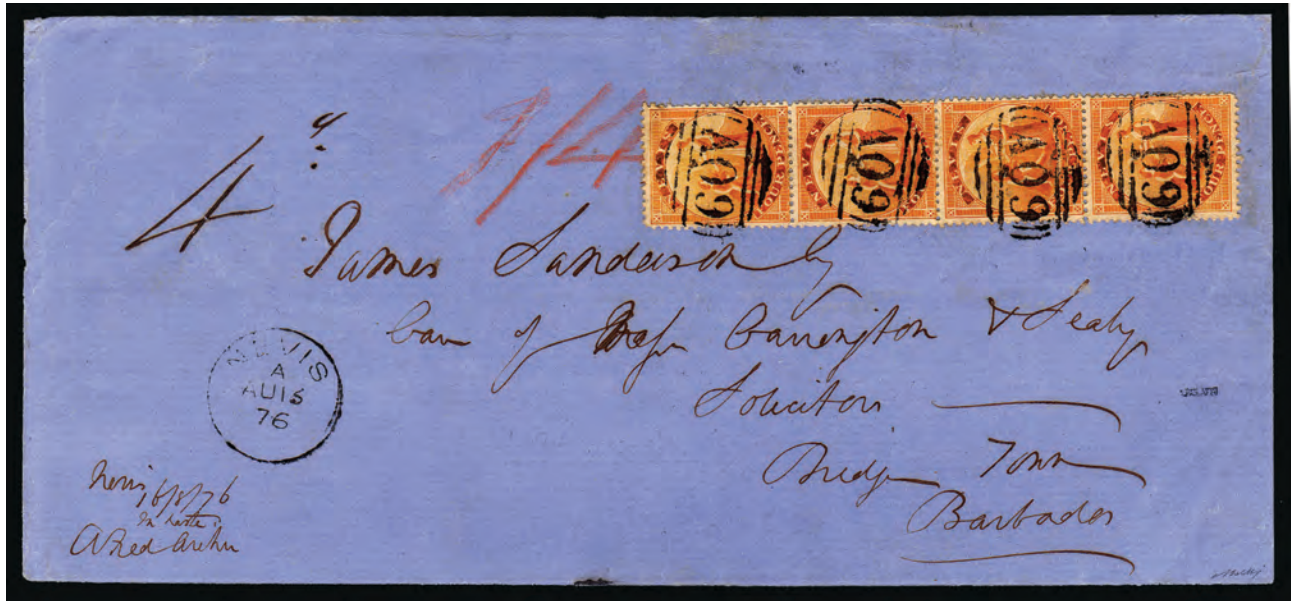
Die Proof for the 2½d  
postal stationery envelope.



# Frame 6

## NEVIS

from the collection of Federico Borromeo, FRPSL



16 August 1876, a quadruple weight letter to Barbados, rated 1s.4d and franked with a vertical strip of four of the engraved 4d orange.

Nevis is a very small island of 50 square miles, in fact little more than a single volcanic cone. It was one of the first Caribbean islands to be occupied by the British and some of the earliest surviving correspondence originates from there. The earliest correspondence emanating from Nevis dates back to 1661 and there are very few entires known from the 17th century. Later entires are relatively scarce and often in later years bear various Nevis handstamps on display here.

The first postage stamps were issued in 1862 and unusually were produced by a relatively unknown company, Nissen & Parker; they were also unusual insofar as they depicted an allegorical scene rather than the more common representation of the monarch's head. This so-called 'Medicinal Springs' issue lasted until 1879 when the Nevis authorities opted for the Universal keyplate design offered by De La Rue.



A strip of the 1s yellow-green imperf between.

As well as these stamps, which were superseded in 1890 by the Leeward Islands Federal Issues, the philately of Nevis offers a very small selection of Postal Stationery cards, Revenues and a multitude of forgeries.



The 1s yellow-green on laid paper, the island's rarest stamp.

## Frame 7

### ST. CHRISTOPHER – THE PROVISIONAL ISSUES (1884–1890)

from the collection of Brian Brookes, FRPSL



The ½d green overprinted 'ONE/PENNY.' in two lines.

The Post Office at various times found itself short of certain values of postage stamps. Their way of dealing with the problem was to surcharge existing stamps, initially at the office of 'The Advertiser' newspaper and later at the Basseterre Post Office itself. The first surcharge 'FOUR/PENCE' on the 1875 6d green was issued in December 1884 when the 4d grey supplies were running low. In March 1885 due to a shortage of halfpenny values and large supplies of the 1884 1d carmine-rose having arrived in February, a diagonal 'Halfpenny' surcharge was applied twice on a number of 1d stamps at the Basseterre Post Office. In June 1886, with stocks of 1d and 4d stamps being very small and having large quantities of the 1875 6d green which were not needed due to the reduction in postal rates, the Post Office decided to overprint them 'ONE/PENNY' and '4d.'. In May 1887 due to a delay in ordering supplies they found that the supplies of the 1d value were almost exhausted so the Postmaster decided to overprint the June 1882 ½d green 'ONE/PENNY.' in two lines. The final overprint in May 1888 was applied to the 1884 2½d ultramarine in two lines.

## Frame 8

### ST. KITTS

from the collection of Brian Brookes, FRPSL



A photographic 'mock-up' in blue and drab-brown with the colours reversed and on thin card, imperf, countersunk on heavy card and dated '21st June 22', ex-De La Rue Archives.

To celebrate the Tercentenary of the Founding of the Colony in 1623, on 25 May 1922 St. Kitts requested De La Rue to produce a design. On 5 June 1922 one was submitted. Later, on 21 June 1922, De La Rue submitted another design in duplicate with the wording altered; this is shown. Combined cut-down Die Proofs with value tablets solid are followed by a selection of cut-down Die Proofs with values inserted. All of these show white spots on each side of the ship like 'Shell Bursts'. Also shown are pairs of the imperforate values in the issued colours apparently produced for the personal reference collection of a high official in De La Rue around 1922, as well as the issue with 'SPECIMEN' overprints in reconstructed blocks of four.

# Frame 9

## TOBAGO

from the collection of Charles Freeland, FRPSL



8 March 1878, envelope addressed to Jamaica showing a single-ringed 'PAID/AT/TOBAGO' Crowned Circle handstamp in red.

The small elliptical-shaped island of Tobago lies 19 miles north east of Trinidad. After early occupation by French, Dutch and British forces, it was finally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1814. In 1833 it joined the Windward Islands Federation, with Barbados as its seat of power. But its economy continually deteriorated through the century as sugar production became less profitable and in 1889 it united with Trinidad as a Crown Colony.

Although Stanley Gibbons lists only 33 stamps, Ford, Freeland and Barrow's recent book published by the BWISC demonstrates the wealth of interest in the island's philately. As in several other BWI islands, temporary shortages of stamps led to the creation of a series of local provisional overprints which provide students with a plentiful field of study, but nine pages are too few to display these in substance. Instead, the exhibit provides a snapshot of some of the most elusive items drawn from a comprehensive collection of Tobago.

Highlights include:-

- GB stamps used in the island.
- Essays, proofs and colour trials.
- The 1879 stamp issue including a rare 6d pair on cover.
- A study of the overprint varieties on the 1886 ½d on 2½d provisional.
- An 1878 cover to Jamaica bearing the single ring Crowned Circle.

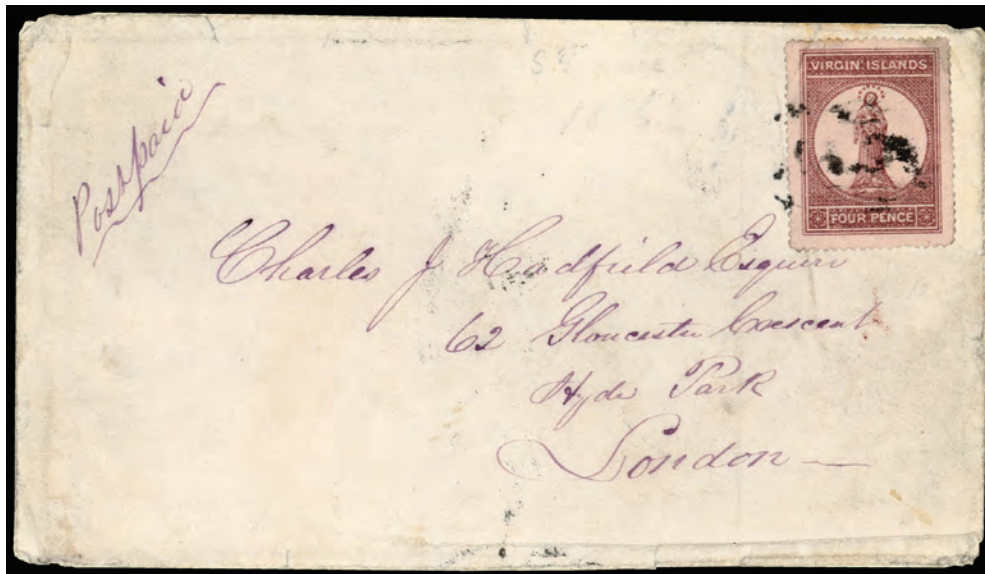


An essay of the £1 fiscal with 'POSTAGE' handpainted, mounted on card and initialled.

# Frame 10

## VIRGIN ISLANDS

from the collection of Simon Goldblatt



A cover addressed to London and bearing the 1867 4d lake-red.

The pages selected belong to the 19th century, an era in which even the most ordinary used examples of the issued stamps have always been elusive.

Notable items shown are:-

- A GB 6d used in Tortola and used 1d and 6d stamps which represent each ordinary perf, shade and paper.
- Die and plate proofs of the 1866 1d together with two genuine compound perfs, and an 1866 1d perf 15 all round.
- In proof form the evolution of the classic 4d and 6d stamps. The 4d strip of three was printed by De La Rue.
- Variants of the 1s used, including the 4d surcharge of 1888, which gave a fresh outlet for 2,500 of the original higher value.
- A reconstruction of a sheet for the 1s black and rose-carmine on greyish paper (SG20).



A Plate proof of the 1s.



The 1d imperf between stamp and margin.

- Archival material showing the link with other territories for which this DLR Key type was supplied.
- Items of similar character, including an essay, and one can also compare at bottom right a DLR plate proof with earlier Nissen & Parker examples. The 1s appears three more times as a plate proof, one with a long-tailed 'S' and as part of an improbable piece rated '1/1'.
- Two early covers of 1872 and 1873 to the same address.

# Frame 11

## MARITIME MAIL – THE FALMOUTH PACKET

from the collection of Graham Booth, FRPSL

The first packet service to the West Indies was organised by Edward Dummer in 1702 but the effort involved had bankrupted him by 1711. From then until 1745 there was no packet service and from 1745 to 1765 it was very irregular. From 1765 until 1842 there was a consistent service when not interrupted by the frequent wars.

Originally there was one packet a month, then by 1790 two. Both initially called at Barbados; one then went straight to Jamaica, the other worked its way up the Windward and Leeward chain of islands before returning home. In 1826 a third packet to Mexico was added. These were supplemented by small sailing vessels and eventually small steamers locally hired in the West Indies – at their peak there were seven different routes.

The original packets were owned and manned in Falmouth and were contracted under very specific terms to the Post Office. They were designed for speed and were specifically instructed to avoid a fight if at all possible. Then in 1823, faced with a shortage of career appointments for young officers the Admiralty took over the service and progressively replaced the existing packets with 10-gun brigs. The service closed and was replaced by the Royal Mail Steam Packet in 1842.



An entire from Jamaica addressed to Colonel Charles Long, it was endorsed "Per the Pacqt. Q.D.C.". It is not known which vessel carried the letter but it was struck with a Bishop Mark of 8 March and charged a triple rate of 4s.6d. One of 10 known Dummer packet letters from Jamaica, and believed to be the only one charged a triple rate.



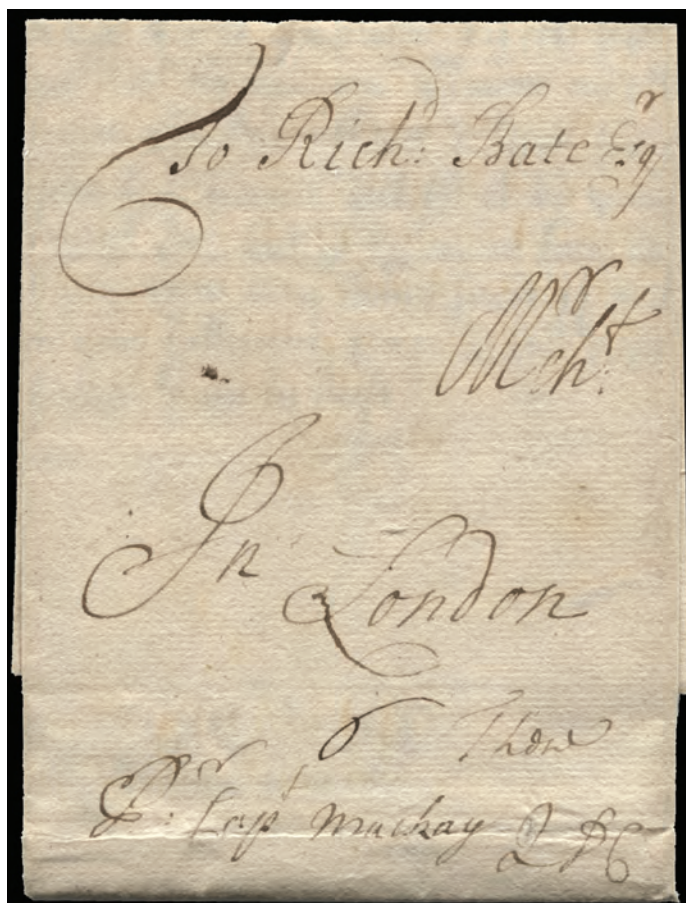
## Frame 12

### MARITIME MAIL – SHIP LETTERS PRIOR TO 1842

from the collection of Graham Booth, FRPSL

Prior to the Dummer packet, and for most of the 18th century, merchantmen and an occasional ship of the Royal Navy were the only means of communicating with the UK. Traditionally masters were paid 1d per letter but it was not until 1717 that the Post Office was allowed to collect 1d per letter on mail landed in the UK. Prior to that the only charge was the inland mileage rate. Ship letter handstamps to identify the port at which the mail was landed become increasingly common in the middle of the century.

In 1799 the Ship Letter Office was opened in London and Postal Agents were appointed in many overseas locations. The crown mark was supposed to identify letters from such sources and letters were charged a higher rate of 4d per sheet. Elsewhere letters continued to be put on board by either forwarders or the letter writer, without any involvement of the Post Office. The two tier scheme was abandoned in 1815 in favour of an increased payment of 8d. Throughout the West Indies the Post Office played little or no part in the despatch of such letters so they carry no marks, except in the bigger colonies where there was an inland charge. Consignee mail went free and, despite the penalties, a fair amount of mail was smuggled into the UK. Most mail was landed at Bristol, London, Liverpool, and Glasgow or on the south coast. Elsewhere mail is relatively scarce.



An early letter which preceded the Dummer packets, written on 17 May 1701 in Barbados. It was endorsed to go in the care of Thomas Mackay rather than a specific ship. At this date the use of Ship Letter marks had not been developed and the Master's gratuity of 1d could not legally be recovered by the Post Office. There was no charge for sea postage and no indication as to where the cover was landed. The rate was 6d which suggests a double letter from a port more than 80 miles from London. The cover was backstamped by a Bishop Mark on 21 July, a transit of 64 days.

## Frames 13 & 14

### ANTIGUA – THE ‘H. MANSEL’ COLLECTION

from the collection of John Taylor

On show are pages selected from the pre-adhesive period onwards. Including the manuscript ‘Withdrawn Ship Letter’, die proofs, colour trials and multiples of the issued stamps, as well as imperforate examples and watermark varieties, subsequent De La Rue issues with appendix and proof material. Portions of this collection were last seen when displayed in London in 1997.



Entire to Bristol bearing the larger fleuron datestamp of 21 June 1815; rated ‘1/5’ and endorsed in manuscript ‘Withdrawn Ship Letter’ in red.



A die proof of the 1d in black on glazed card.



Block of 10 of the 6d green, rough perf 10, the largest block recorded.

# Frames 13 & 14

## ANTIGUA – THE ‘H. MANSEL’ COLLECTION

from the collection of John Taylor



1879 Composite Artist Drawing with handpainted alternative value and name of Colony tablets.



1932 Handpainted Essay on Government House Leeward Islands West Indies card.

# Frame 15

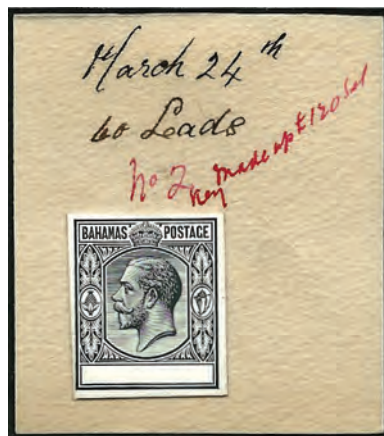
## BAHAMAS – DE LA RUE KEY AND DUTY PLATE ISSUES

from the collection of Peter Fernbank, FRPSL

In 1883 De La Rue persuaded the Bahamas authorities in future to have their stamps surface printed using the firm's economical key and duty plate system and six values were produced for their Victorian issue.

A bromide essay demonstrates an early version of the conch shell design, subsequently modified for the Edwardian issue and an 'AFTER HARDENING' proof of the final design is provided. The benefit of the key and duty plate system was amply demonstrated for the new design in 1902 when the original duty plates could still be employed, and ½d and 1s values were added. Specimens additionally overprinted 'ULTRAMAR' and Plate No. copies of each value are shown.

The new King George V issue continued to use the same duty plates, with the addition of 1½d, 2d and 3d values to the series. A Specimen set with plate numbers is shown together with plate blocks of the complete set. Sheets were originally printed as 60-set size from Key Plate 1 but in 1918 a further 60-set plate (Key Plate 2) was made and placed next to Plate 1 to print 120-set sheets. The sheet thus featured eight plate numbers, four from Plate 1 and four from Plate 2, interpanneau pairs bearing both plate numbers, a most unusual format.



Archive piece showing Key Plate Proof No. 2.



Interpanneau pair showing Plates Nos. 1 & 2.

Because the same duty plates were used throughout the three reigns a number of constant duty plate flaws appear on copies from the same position of the Victorian, Edwardian and Georgian issues. Examples are displayed of such flaws on the 2½d, 4d and 6d values.



Sloping base of '2'



Dot in 'E'



Short RH leg of 'N'



Malformed 'E'

Duty Plate Flaws.

# Frame 16

## BAHAMAS – KING GEORGE VI ISSUES

from the collection of Phil MacMurdie

De La Rue printed the Bahamas King George VI 'Head Type' stamps which were issued between 1938 and 1952. All of the values were printed on numerous occasions as requisitioned by the colony. This frame covers some of the key items from the Head type definitives and their subsequent use during overprinting for the 450th anniversary of the Landfall of Columbus issue of 1942. During the issue a total of two head plates were constructed, the first in 1938 and numbered '1', and used from 1938 until August 1951. This was scrapped and replaced by the second, numbered '2', which was used from September 1951 until the last printing in December 1952.



1941 1s striated paper emergency printing, largest recorded multiple.



A rare multiple from the first printing in 1938.

The 1938 head type series went through numerous printings and colour changes which have resulted in various flaws and errors, both minor and major, and several rarities. Items of note include the block of 8 of the 1941 1s striated paper printing, the largest recorded multiple, followed by a pair of the 5s striated paper printing on a commercial cover to the UK in addition to an example of the violet 2½d printed double.

Overprinting for the 1942 Landfall of Columbus issue was completed locally by the Nassau Guardian newspaper. Several important errors resulted and are shown, including ½d with overprint double, together with examples of the 'COIUMBUS' spelling error on the three pictorial values.



5s with flaw 'Y for V'.



½d with Landfall overprint doubled.

# Frame 17

## BAHAMAS POSTAL STATIONERY

from the collection of Keith Hanman

De La Rue was the original printer of this country's early postal stationery: postcards, reply-paid cards, envelopes and registered envelopes.

**POSTCARDS:** The first printing in March 1881 was for 10,150 postcards; this was followed by various provisional and definitive issues up to the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. Reply-paid postcards were first introduced in 1883. Due to rate changes, there were local overprints of these cards with the inevitable varieties. The last of these cards was issued on 25 August 1913.

**ENVELOPES:** The first postal stationery envelopes with a value of 4d were issued on 2 December 1880. As with the cards there were local overprints. The later 'Queen's Staircase' series were printed until 1927 with a final printing in 1929.

**REGISTERED ENVELOPES:** De La Rue printed the first of these on 23 November 1893 and, in 1894, two larger sizes were issued in small numbers. Inscriptions vary in colour from ultramarine to grey on buff reinforced paper.

**AIR LETTERS:** The first of these was produced in July 1943 by De La Rue; later they were printed by Harrison and by McCorquodale. Some of the Queen Elizabeth examples show striking varieties — missing vignettes, missing colours, displacements etc. Air letters are still being produced.



A Die Proof of the head and frame with uncleared surround; the adopted design for the 4d postal envelope.



Die Proof of the 1930 King George V registered envelope in orange-vermilion.



Cut-down Die Proof of the 1½d postcard from the De La Rue Collection.

# Frame 18

## BARBADOS – THE BRITANNIA SHILLINGS

from the collection of Fitz Roett



29 April 1872, double rate cover to UK bearing 2 x 1s black.



Block of 12 of the 1873 1s black.

This frame is an extract from the exhibit that won an International Large Gold Medal at BRASILIANA 2013 in Rio de Janeiro.

Notable items include:-

1. Die Proof of the new 1s value mounted on card (34 x 51mm).
2. A used block of 6 of the 1s brown-black (SG12).
3. A double rate cover to London, dated 27 September 1859 the earliest recorded date of use of the imperforate 1s stamp.
4. 1863 – 1s error of colour, printed in blue instead of black.
5. 1866 – 1s black, a mint pair imperforate between.
6. 1s brown-black mint block with perforation guidelines.
7. 29 April 1872, a double rate cover to England with two copies of the 1s black.
8. A used block of 8 of the 1s black.
9. 10 September 1872 cover to England bearing the bootheel '11' mark of St. Lucy.
10. A mint block of 12 of the 1873 1s black, perf 14½ to 15½.
11. A mint copy of the rare 1s violet (aniline).
12. A mint block of 6 of the 1s dull mauve.



Proof of the new 1s.

# Frame 19

## BARBADOS

from the collection of Stefan Heijtz



The earliest known mail from Barbados dated 1656.



25 April 1869, cover to St. Helena bearing no less than twelve stamps of four different denominations.

This display is an extract from an International Gold Medal exhibition collection 'Barbados Postal History 1656 - 1881', which has been shown at stamp exhibitions in various parts of the world.

The exhibit starts with the earliest known mail from Barbados, from 1656, and shows examples of all the rare pre-stamp markings, the large straight line 'BARBADOES' (A1) from 1765; one of four known examples of the dated double line 'BARBADOES' (A3) from 1800; the only known example of the red 'PAID TO ENGLAND' marking from 1815; the only known pre-stamp use of the 'BARBADOS SHIP-LETTER' marking (D1) from 1848.

The Britannia-period 1852-1881 is equally comprehensive showing rare and unique frankings including the earliest known use of Barbados stamps (1 May 1852), the 1854 bisect of the 2d stamp, the earliest known use of the imperforate 1s which is also the only known example of its use in combination with other stamps, and a number of other rare combinations and rates showing registered mail, late fees, and unusual destinations including the famous cover to St. Helena of 1869 which has a total of 12 stamps of four different denominations.



## Frame 20

### BARBADOS – DE LA RUE ESSAYS

from the collection of Charles Freeland, FRPSL



Miss Cox's handpainted essay for the 1927 Tercentenary with E. Jackman's enhancements.



1911 essay with King George V's head superimposed over that of King Edward VII.



Mrs. Goodman's redrawn essay for the 1905 Centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

For the majority of the British colonies, the essays available to collectors are those from the printers' archives, produced by inhouse artists along broad lines laid down by the Crown Agents. The release of the De La Rue archives in the late 1970s, followed to a lesser degree by those of Bradbury Wilkinson, Harrison and Waterlow, have provided collectors with a range of artwork and other essay-type material, although any such items remain elusive.

Barbados has its fair share of interesting essays of this kind, prepared by the De La Rue artists in particular, but it is also blessed with a number of essays drawn by independent artists; this is because on three occasions, in 1905, 1911 and 1927 the Barbados authorities decided to invite outsiders, through a design competition or in other ways, to produce ideas for their new stamps. Nine of the essays shown in this display come from these external artists, including five for the 1905 Centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar and three for the 1927 Tercentenary of the Founding of the Colony.

The essays displayed are as follows:-

1881: Die proof with the 2½d value tablet handpainted, and a trial for the 1886 1½d postcard.

1892: Seven progress essays, four with handpainting.

1905: Five essays by artists invited by the selection Committee to submit designs and two subsequent designs by De La Rue artists.

1911: A handpainted sketch similar to the issued design and two De La Rue essays for the low values initially with the head of King Edward VII, but with the head of King George V superimposed.

1920: Two essays by De La Rue artists for the low and high values.

1921: An essay for the 2d value touched up by grey wash tints.

1927: Three essays for the 1927 Tercentenary commemorative, one the winning entry.

# Frames 21 & 22

## BERMUDA POSTAL HISTORY (1620-1877)

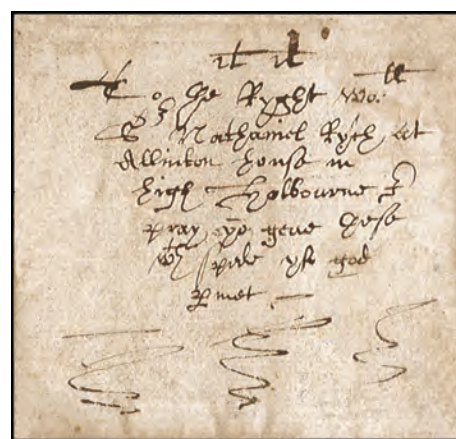
from the collection of David Pitts, FRPSL

Ever since her colonisation in 1612, the first such British extraterritorial acquisition, Bermuda has served as a major, if not the major, crossroads of the North Atlantic. Until the maturation of the Age of Steam, Bermuda was essential for all communication and transportation between Great Britain and Europe and the Caribbean and Spanish Main. She was the principal port of provisioning and fuelling on both outward and inward voyages.

This collection examines how Bermuda fulfilled her role as the nexus of economic and social interaction with the Motherland as demonstrated by her postal communications. It is the first comprehensive attempt and combines all known routes, rates and pre-adhesive handstamps.

The Exhibit, as outlined on the Title Page, is divided into five parts. The items shown have been carefully selected to show not only the most important pieces of Bermuda postal history but also with an eye to telling a complete and comprehensible story of the development of Bermuda's postal communications.

I. The highlight of the Introductory period (1620-1806) is the earliest letter in private hands, 24 September 1620. It was released by the Public Record Office in 1979. Not only is this the earliest letter from Bermuda but it is also the earliest letter from any extraterritorial British possession, making it one of the most important letters in all of British philately. Mail from Bermuda before 1800 is very rare with only 26 covers known among which are only four prior to 1700 (in private hands).



Letter dated 24 September 1620.

II. There follows a short presentation of Internal island mail. Most significant is the presence of an example of all five postmaster stamps created to prove prepayment of postage before the issue of Bermuda's first stamps in 1865, a rare opportunity to see them all in one place. In addition, the earliest known Bermuda postal marking is present.



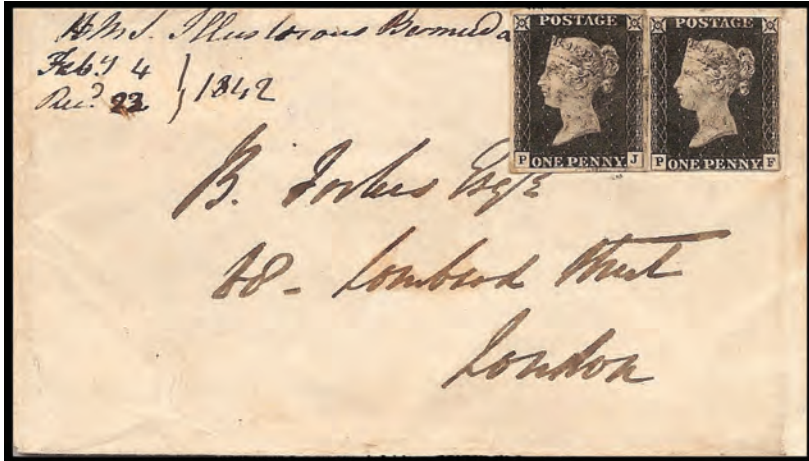
Five types of Postmaster stamps.

III. Bermuda served as the headquarters of the British Atlantic Fleet during the winter months. As a result of the considerable military presence in the region, there are letters sent from, and very rarely to, soldiers, sailors and officers with special concessionary rates. The only known letter censored in Bermuda during the War of 1812 is shown as are soldiers' 1d concessionary covers franked with a rare 1875 provisional overprinted stamp and the Penny Black, both the only known. A number of American Civil War blockade covers demonstrate that service including one of seven known to have originated in Bermuda.

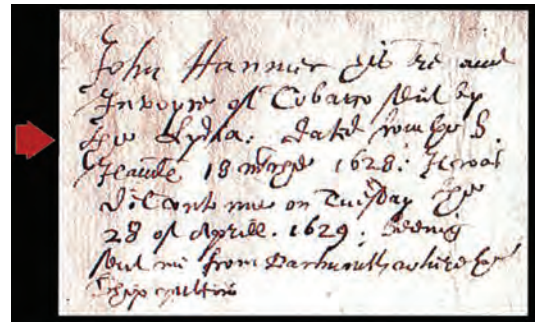
## Frames 21 & 22

### BERMUDA POSTAL HISTORY (1620 - 1877)

from the collection of David Pitts, FRPSL



Sailor's Concessionary letter, dated 1842.



Ship Letter carried by the 'LYDIA'.

IV. The next section deals with Ship Letters. In this section is a 1628 cover, so placed because it specifies the ship 'LYDIA' that carried it from Bermuda to Great Britain. It is virtually unheard of that such specific reference to the carrying ship be made at this early date.

V. The Packet Letter section traces the extremely complicated development of the packet system. There are many first trips, including the earliest known letter carried on the first, or General Post Office, packet in 1807. A number of rare destinations such as New Zealand and Gibraltar, as well as rare points of origin such as Ceylon and India, are spread throughout the collection. The single most important cover utilising Bermuda stamps of the Queen Victoria period is the 'Moncrieff' cover, the only one franked with all three values of the 1875 provisional overprinted stamps.

Cover to New Zealand, a rare destination.



The 'Moncrieff' cover.

# Frame 23

## BERMUDA

from the collection of David Cordon

This frame covers special items from pre-production material to scarce blocks from the first issue in 1865 to rare blocks of the high values issued during the reign of King George VI. Items of note include a block of four of the 1874 essay of 'THREE PENCE' on 1d rose-red, major flaws on the 1875 'ONE PENNY' overprints including the 1d with no stop on both the 2d and 1s values and the inverted example on the 1s. These are followed by the largest block of nine of the 1s compound perf imperf between. Following the Victoria items are Essays, an Appendix sheet and colour trials from the Docks Issue. King George V shows duty plates ex-De la Rue, a 12s.6d Revenue-Revenue plate block and a cover; the King George VI section shows plate blocks from the first printing and important blocks from later printings.



A block of 9 of the 1s perf 14 x 12½, imperf between.



Block of 4 of the 'THREE PENCE' on 1d rose-red.



'One Penny' on 2d, variety no stop after 'Penny'.



'One Penny' on 1s, variety no stop after 'Penny'.



'One Penny.' on 1s, variety overprint inverted.



1941 5s bronze-green and carmine-red with major flaw on Stamp No. 60.

## Frame 24

### BRITISH GUIANA – THE COTTON REELS

from the collection of Simon Greenwood, FRPSL



25 November 1851, 2 cents rose 'cotton reel', both Type A and initialled 'EDW'.

The first adhesive postage stamps of British Guiana were issued on 1 July 1850, remarkably early for a small Colony. Once the decision had been made to issue stamps an order was placed with Waterlow and Sons, London but could not be delivered in time for the commencement of the scheme. Therefore a supply was printed locally at the office of The Royal Gazette. Initially the 4 cents, 8 cents and 12 cents were printed for the payment of the three distance based rates. The 2 cents value was brought into use on 1 March 1851 to be used to pay for a local delivery.

It is believed that the stamps were printed in strips of four with each stamp having identifiable differences with the thickness of the border and positioning of a gap in that border being the most easily recognisable. Each stamp was initialled as a security measure. Stamps cut square are scarcer than those cut round and few covers exist.

Of note in this display are:-

The two scarcer 4 cents shades, Pale Yellow on Pelure Paper and Lemon Yellow.

The only cover with two different values, 4 cents and 8 cents.

The 2 cents cover, illustrated above. Three covers exist with pairs of stamps of the total ten stamps known. It is believed that the four single stamps were removed from a single cover.

The 12 cents unused example and pair and also the scarcest indigo shade.

## Frame 25

### **BRITISH GUIANA – THE JUBILEE ISSUE**

from the collection of Simon Greenwood, FRPSL



A composite essay of the 15 cents Queen Victoria Jubilee issue.

In 1897 it was decided to issue stamps to commemorate Queen Victoria's Silver Jubilee. Unfortunately the decision was taken too late and the stamps were issued the following year. But they were worth waiting for!

There is a variety of material available to illustrate the development of the issued stamps. This display shows cut down die proofs, colour trials, the most attractive composite essays, touched up by hand and Composite Artist's Proofs.

The issued stamp is shown including the scarce 2 cents imperforate between, large blocks and examples on cover.

## Frame 26

### BRITISH GUIANA – THE DE LA RUE ISSUES

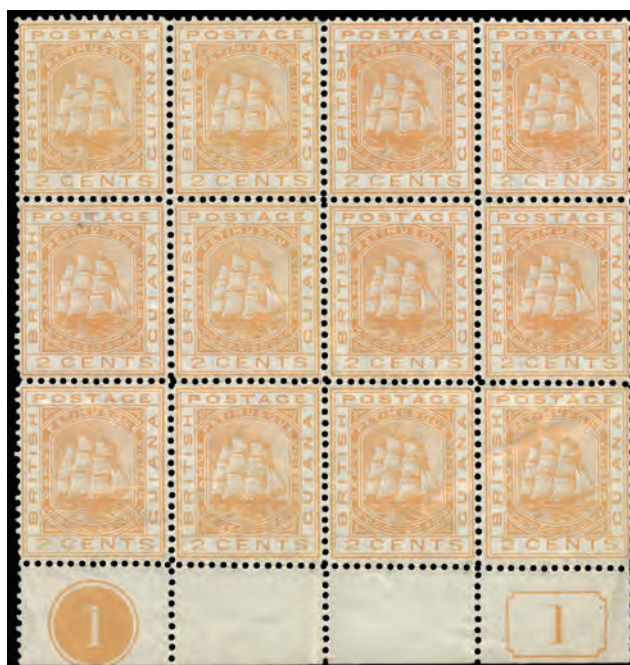
from the collection of Peter Ford, FRPSL



Die proof of the vignette.



Proof of the key design.



Block of 12 of the 2 cents showing both Plate and Current numbers.

De La Rue took over the printing of British Guiana stamps in 1876. They retained the basic design of the sailing ship motif used by Waterlow and employed a Key and Duty plate method of production. Two more different designs were used in the period up to 1934 when again British Guiana reverted to Waterlow for their stamp production.

The items shown include:-

1876: Two cut-down Die Proofs, one of the vignette and the other with the complete key design with a blank duty tablet both on glazed card and mounted in sunken card frame.

1876: A positional block of 12 of the 2 cents, showing the relative positions of the Plate No. '1' and Current No. '1'.

22 March 1880: Entire to Suriname franked with four 2 cents and showing the scarce 'American' Type 2 'BLAIRMONT' cds.

1898: Examples of the Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee pictorial issue overprinted 'SPECIMEN' (Samuel D12).

1910: Die Proofs from the redrawn die of the 2 cents wherein the printing was carried out in one operation.

1913-21 and 1921-27: Plate blocks many of which also show the sheet numbers.

# Frames 27 & 28

## BRITISH HONDURAS

from the collection of Ian Matheson, FRPSL

This two frame exhibit features four short stories, which together illustrate the four stamp designs, three official and one unofficial, which were on sale in British Honduras from 1862 (when it was declared a Colony) to the end of the reign of Queen Victoria.

### 1. THE FLORIN HEAD DESIGN



Unaccepted designs endorsed  
"Made as Expt for 1d Postage".



15 July 1872, 4 x 1d dark blue used on cover to USA.

British Honduras was the only Colony to use this design, so named because of the similarity to the head portrayed on the florin (two shillings) coin in circulation at the time. Essays, die proofs, ink recipes, archive reference proofs, mint stamps and covers are featured.

### 2. THE SIX CENTS DUTY

The foreign letter rate was reduced from 10c to 6c in 1891. The study shows the progression from an unaccepted handpainted essay ex-DLR Archives, the rejected 'SIX' surcharges, the accepted '6' on '10 CENTS' on 4d mauve surcharges, the '6 CENTS' on 3d ultramarine surcharges (where the stamps were specially printed in order to be surcharged) and finally the issued stamps printed in the Universal Postage keyplate design. All of this process took place in the first half of 1891. Both of the rare '6 only inverted' errors are shown on cover. Only six of each were printed.



Unaccepted Essay.



# Frames 27 & 28

## BRITISH HONDURAS

from the collection of Ian Matheson, FRPSL



19 February 1892, '6 only inverted' error, used on cover to USA.

### 3. THE HIGH VALUE (25c - \$5) DEFINITIVES

The foreign letter rate was further reduced from 6c to 5c in 1895 and stamps were issued in units of 5c (5c, 10c, 25c) instead of units of 6c (6c, 12c, 24c). The 25c was issued in 1898 and higher values to \$5 the following year. However there was no significant postal need for these duties. Most used copies are from philatelic usage. The 25c was printed from the Universal Postage keyplate (inscribed 'POSTAGE / POSTAGE'), and was overprinted 'REVENUE' in 1899. The higher duties were printed from the Universal Unified keyplate, which was inscribed 'POSTAGE / & REVENUE'. The exhibit shows much archive material, mint and used stamps and forgeries produced to meet the requirements of collectors, who were unable to source used copies.



Colour for 6c.



Rejected colour for 25c.



Colour for \$5.

### 4. THE CUTHBERT BROTHERS CAYE SERVICE LOCAL

The fourth stamp design used in British Honduras was a privately produced local stamp for carriage of mail between St. George's Caye and Belize City in 1894 and 1895. The Cuthbert Brothers initially planned to use a vignette of St. George on the stamps, which were sold to offset the cost of operating a steam yacht between the end points, but the high production cost led them to issue a simple typewritten design instead. Prior to their sale locals were asking the yacht owners to carry mail as a free service. Three examples are known used in combination with British Honduras postage stamps. One such example is shown.



Used in combination with 5c definitive (international letter rate).

## Frame 29

### DOMINICA – PRE-ADHESIVES

from the collection of Bozo Ivanovic



Entire to Edinburgh rated '1/4' with an unlisted straight line 'DOMINICA' handstamp in serified capitals (47 x 4mm).



Entire to Edinburgh rated '2/2' with a larger straight line 'DOMINICA' handstamp in serified capitals. Only three examples are known of this handstamp, of which this is the clearest.

This selection of sheets from a collection of Dominica pre-stamp postal history, encompasses a number of the earliest, and also unique, marks from 1778.

## Frame 30

### DOMINICA

from the collection of Simon Richards

The first stamps of Dominica were not issued until 1874, when De La Rue obtained approval to use a modification of the key plate type they had developed for St. Christopher. This design remained in use until October 1890 when the stamps of Dominica, and the other islands of the Leeward Islands Presidency, were replaced by the standard Imperium keyplate design.



1d bisect on 1877 cover to make up the 1s.1½d rate to France, one of five known.

This frame shows all the stamps issued in the period, mint and used, together with a number of varieties, overprints and bisects. In particular note the 1d penny bisect used on a cover to France, one of five known, and the thin and thick bar varieties of the one penny overprinted on 6d error of 1886. These stamps are very scarce on cover, and even dated used copies are hard to find due to the near universal application of the 'A07' killer cancel. The frame shows some interesting frankings including the only recorded double rate 4d blue cover.



The 'One Penny' on 6d surcharge, one showing a thick bar and the other a thin one.

## Frames 31 & 32

### **GRENADA – THE CHALON HEAD ISSUES (1861 – 1882)**

from the collection of Chris Harman, RDP, Hon. FRPSL



Wmk. Large Star – Intermediate perf. 15 – Cover dated 28 January 1875 – St. Andrews to London.

Grenada was the last of the British Colonies to use the Chalon head of Queen Victoria for its stamps. The head die, taken from a watercolour sketch now in the Royal Philatelic Collection by E. H. Corbould and with the die engraved by William Humphrys, was the same as had originally been used in 1855 for the first stamps of Tasmania.

The early stamps of Grenada are among the most difficult among the Colonies to distinguish the various printings and the display includes a guide to the distinguishing features of each printing or group of printings. The Grenada 1d value also includes one of the more obvious re-entries found on any of the Perkins, Bacon colonial issues and an example of this re-entry is shown as R1/4 in a corner block of 15.



No wmk. – Rough perf. 14½-16 – Corner block of 15 with Major Re-entry on R1/4.

## Frames 31 & 32

### GRENADA – THE CHALON HEAD ISSUES (1861 – 1882)

from the collection of Chris Harman, RDP, Hon. FRPSL

Grenada is unusual in having an extensive range of revenue stamps with values from 1d to £1. The revenue design used the Chalon head but was based on a keyplate concept in order to reduce the costs of producing the stamps for what was a very poor Colony. The basic design had no inscription other than the name of the Colony and was overprinted with the purpose and value. It was used for both postage stamps, firstly the 1s value of 1875 and later the new ½d, 2½d and 4d values that were required to be issued in 1881 when Grenada became a member of the UPU, as well as eleven values of revenue stamps.



Wmk. Large Star – Comb perf. 14 –  
Blocks of four fiscally used.

The study of the revenue stamps is an essential element for the collector in order to understand the postage stamps of Grenada since several were later surcharged as provisional postage issues when stocks of stamps ran out at various times.

The display shows the issues up to 1882, including die proofs, plate proofs, the issued stamps, and usages on cover. The revenue issues are also present. The later provisional surcharges on the revenue stamps form an interesting study but are not covered in the two frames shown.



Wmk. Small Star (upright) – Rough perf. 15 – Cover front with New York receipt dated 19 November (1880 or 1881).

# Frame 33

## JAMAICA – POSTAL HISTORY

from the collection of Andrew Fowles

This exhibit will provide the viewer with a rare glance at some of the most memorable postmarks and correspondence from Jamaica. The display commences with correspondence carried by the vessels of Edward Dummer in 1707 and 1709 and progresses through Jamaica and other town postmarks to the temporary date stamps (TDs) of the 1890s (excluding numeral obliterations).

In 1705, Edward Dummer secured a contract to convey mails between the West Indies and England. He was bankrupt within six years and the service discontinued in 1711; very few letters from the Dummer service are known to have survived. This exhibit begins with a Dummer letter carried by the 'FRANKLAND' in 1707 to Thos. Eyre in London.

Other memorable items in the display include:-

1749: The first Jamaica straight line mark.

1776: Jamaica used as a feeder station on the route from Pensacola to London during the American War of Independence.

1799: The discovery copy of the Jamaica Bishop Mark.

1841: A rare Annatto Bay cds (circular datestamp).

1890: Alligator Pond as illustrated in Nicholson.

1884-1896: A small selection of TDs including Maidstone (discovery copy).



1749, the first 'JAMAICA' straight line mark.



1776, an entire sent during the American War of Independence bearing a 'JAMAICA' mark.

# Frame 34

## JAMAICA – AIRMAILS

from the collection of Steve Jarvis, FRPSL

### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST SERVICES TO THE ISLAND, INBOUND AND OUTBOUND

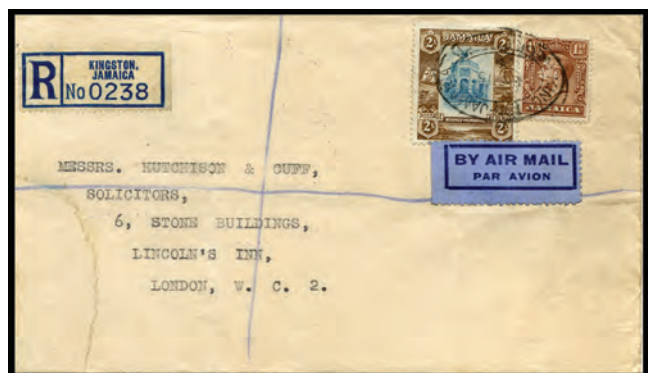
Jamaican mail services were not introduced until late 1930 due to contractual requirements of the Government. Eventually, the contract for inbound mail was awarded to Pan American Airways. However, the outbound mail contract was awarded to a local company (Caribbean Airways) who flew mail by a symbolic initial flight but operations were thereafter sub-contracted to Pan Am.

Representative covers are shown featuring these first flights, together with initial difficulties in understanding the rates to be used.



Kingston (10 Dec 1930) to Cardenas, Cuba (10 Dec 1930) by Caribbean Airways.

### SERVICES AND AIRMAIL POSTAGE RATES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM



Jamaica (15 May 1934) to New York by Air then by Sea to UK at triple rate plus registration (2s.1½d).

Rates to the UK changed frequently during the 1930s, generally reducing due to the improving technology but also affected by the GB£ to US\$ exchange rate (as Pan Am had to be paid in US\$).

Step rates were complicated to calculate. Up to 1938 the rate consisted of two components: Surface plus Airmail. The former was charged per ounce but the latter was charged per half ounce.

### TRANS-ATLANTIC SERVICES

Up to 1939, Trans-Atlantic mail was flown to New York and then carried by sea. In 1939 an optional (higher rate) 'All Air' service was provided via New York.

After the war more direct flights were introduced but not without difficulties, as shown by a BSAA crash cover.

Airmail covers from Jamaica to mainland Europe during the 1930s are not common. A few examples are shown including a cover flown across the Atlantic by Zeppelin in 1936.



First Jamaica Acceptance (1 Jun 1939) for Transatlantic Service to UK at 2s rate (applied from 1 Jun to 15 Oct 1939). Pan Am started its Southern Transatlantic airmail service on 20 May 1939. The route was from Kingston via New York, the Azores, Lisbon, Marseilles.

# Frame 35

## JAMAICA – THE 1889 – 91 ISSUES

from the collection of Paul Wright

As the plates of the first Jamaica postage stamps began to wear out, De La Rue replaced them with a key and duty plate design for both postage and revenue use, the 1d and 2d in 1889 and the 2½d, a new value, in 1891.

The display includes key and duty plate proofs, specimens and plate pieces.



Key Plate 3, 1893.

Extracts from  
the De La Rue  
Striking Book.



1d Duty Plate 2, 1894.

Pending the De La Rue key plate 2½d, a provisional 2½d on 4d was printed in 1890–91 by a local job printer, Vendryes and Co. The urgency, limitations of the type and the printing press produced many varieties. Each position of the three settings has distinguishing features.

Notable items in the display include:–

- the only surviving complete pane of the first setting;
- three out of ten possible pairs of the overprint omitted in pair with normal;
- double overprints from each of the three settings. The third setting double overprint was not recorded by Swarbrick or Sutcliffe.



Overprint omitted in pair.



Double overprints from the first, second and third settings.



## Frame 36

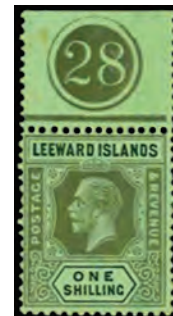
### LEEWARD ISLANDS – KING GEORGE V DE LA RUE ISSUES

from the collection of Robert de Keyser



One of two known positional blocks of the famous 'DI' flaw, first found on Plate 23, on the right pane (R9/6).

From 1912 De La Rue, using Key and Duty Plates, printed all of the King George V definitive issues of both the low values from ¼d – 5s and the 'NYASA' type high values of 10s and £1. The exhibit contains single examples of 149 out of the 160 possible upper and lower Plate number singles. Leeward Islands used the following plates numbers: 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 16, 20, 21, 23, 26 and 28. Each of these plates has its own distinct characteristics and shade colours. Many of the plates have both key and duty plate flaws and the exhibit highlights some of the more spectacular flaws in positional pieces.



Examples of some scarce Plate numbers.



For no apparent reason, examples of some of the printings are extremely scarce with some printings and plates only exhibiting a single known copy. One of two known positional blocks of the famous 'DI' flaws first found on Plate 23 are shown. In 1928, the high values were printed from a single printing. The exhibit shows a history of this printing from the original proofs through to specimens and flaws.



Plate proofs of the 'NYASA' type high values.

## Frames 37 & 38

### **MONTSERRAT – POSTAL HISTORY**

from the collection of Peter McCann, RDP, FRPSL

The entire display follows the development of the Montserrat mail system starting as early as 1769, showing the first postal markings in 1790, and then the rather unusual history of the Post Office within the complex structure of the 'Presidency' of Montserrat and the entire Caribbean Leeward Islands Colony comprising Montserrat, Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis, Dominica and the British Virgin Islands.



Entire to London showing the smaller 'Mt/SERRAT/DEC23 1801' mark.

The display itself is organised as:-

#### **Forerunners: Pre-Montserrat Postal Markings (1769 – 1790)**

Period 1: Montserrat Post Office 1790 – 1903

Straight Line Handstamp (1790 – 1802)

Horseshoe Handstamp (1804 – 1809)

No Handstamps (1810 – 1836)

Circular Datestamps (1836 – 1873)

First Stamp Issues (1858 – 1889)

Leeward Islands Period (1890 – 1903)

## Frames 37 & 38

### MONTERRAT – POSTAL HISTORY

from the collection of Peter McCann, RDP, FRPSL



Cover bearing 12 x Antigua 1d stamps overprinted 'MONTERRAT'.

#### Period 2: Reissue of Montserrat Postage 1903 – 1946

Small Circular Datestamps (1903 – 1912)

Large Circular Datestamps (1909 – 1933)

Plymouth Datestamps (1930 – 1946)

Early Air Mail Period (1930 – 1936)

King George VI & World War II (1938 – 1946)

World War II & Censorship (1939 – 1945)

Postal History in the formal philatelic sense usually means the study of rates, routes, and markings of an area or country. Montserrat is of such a size that the term Postal History is used as well to encompass the philatelic history of the Post Office itself which covers a broader scope than just the rates, routes, and markings. Thus, the study of when various stamp issues as well as postal stationery were introduced and the political factors that influenced these issues are also discussed here as part of the island's Postal History. Montserrat Ship, Packet and other Mail Rates are shown starting from very early inception.

Any mail from Montserrat in all of the periods above is quite difficult to find. To exemplify, the literate population in Montserrat was estimated to be 240 in 1881 and dropped in succeeding decades.

The year of inception of each rate is shown at the bottom of every page. Dates of individual covers are found at top right of each page.

# Frame 39

## ST. LUCIA

from the collection of John Keegan, OBE

Saint Lucia (part of the Windward group) used Great Britain adhesives from 1858 until late 1860 when their elegant and colourful Perkins, Bacon issues were ready. There are so many philatelic riches in the history of the island, it has been difficult to choose what to display in the limited space available. The display concentrates mainly on the stamps rather than postal history, and in their most appealing form, in multiples.

The first frame starts with the use of Great Britain stamps and moves through the beautiful Perkins, Bacon and De La Rue duties printed from a single plate of 240 impressions (the colour determining the duty), including the overprints prepared for use but not issued. The De La Rue printings did not have the quality of production of the Perkins, Bacon product.



The Great Britain 1d value used and cancelled 'A11'.



The first issue with 'Specimen' in manuscript from Perkins, Bacon's records.



A rare block of the first issue (6d).



Prepared for use but never issued showing major reentry. Possibly unique.

# Frame 40

## ST. LUCIA

from the collection of John Keegan, OBE

The second frame of St. Lucia continues with examples of the new duties and colours as well as the overprints to meet UPU regulations. The later key plates are represented by the last Sperati forgery produced and then the local surcharges resulting from shortages in the island with the inevitable scarce errors and varieties. More modern issues are briefly shown concluding with the Waterlow vignette of the 1860 head to celebrate the centenary of the first issue. This brings the display full circle.



The largest known multiple of the 1864 (1s) orange.



An imperforate (vertically) pair of the 1876 (6d) lilac issue with local pin-perforation.

One of two known Waterlow vignette proofs for the 1960 Stamp Centenary issue.



# Frame 41

## ST. VINCENT – THE DE LA RUE PRINTINGS (1882 – 1932)

from the collection of Russell Boylan

The island of St. Vincent lies within the Windward Islands or Lesser Antilles, in the eastern Caribbean Sea. It consists of the island of Saint Vincent and the northern Grenadine Islands, which stretch southward toward Grenada.

The island's postage stamp production began with Perkins, Bacon who prepared and printed the stamps of St. Vincent from 1861 until December 1881 when the Government of St. Vincent cancelled the contract due to disputes over production quality. The Crown Agents handed over the Plates to Thomas De La Rue & Co. who maintained the printing of St. Vincent stamps unabated until 1932.

In a similar vein to other colonies in the Caribbean, the Arms of the Colony and the Monarch's portrait form the subject matter of De La Rue's uninterrupted contract with the Colony. De La Rue's printing was renowned for the richness of the colours.

Samuel has described the policy of St. Vincent Postal authorities with respect to local Specimen overprints as "very strange", some 14 different types being recorded, with a number of those types displayed in the course of this exhibit.



1883 6d bright green.



1883 1s orange-vermilion.



Essay from the Universal Key Plate.

This Frame features the following:–

1882: De La Rue Plate Proofs produced from the Perkins, Bacon Plates.

1882: 1d drab in block of 24; the largest known multiple.

1882: 4d ultramarine marginal block and March 1883 'Lucas' cover to London.

1882: 4d dull ultramarine with ' & Co' cover to Jamaica.

1885: 4d red-brown with 4d blue registered franking to the British Consulate in Palermo, Italy.

1883: 6d bright green, 1s orange-vermilion & 1884 ½d green perf. 12 in blocks of four.

1888: 6d violet in block of 6 with 'SPECIMEN' in strip of three as issued to UPU members.

1888: 5s Colour Trial and 'SPECIMEN' overprint Samuel Type D11 from the De La Rue collection.

1883–86: Local Specimen overprints, Messenger Type VI.

1896: Essays in the Universal Key Plate design and revised Arms Essay.

1897: 2½d, 5d and 3d Specimens in strips of five as distributed to UPU members.

# Frame 42

## ST. VINCENT

from the collection of Russell Boylan

This frame concentrates on the period 1899 onwards which Messenger et al describe as “*a decade in which the tastelessness of the Key Plate issues were to make the days of recess printing....seem a golden age*”.

This period does however provide a wonderful area for study and development. The Victorian and Edwardian key plate types provide some fine examples of Essays, Imperium Trials, Colour Trials and Proofs for the specialist to view and collect. Through the Crown Agents and De La Rue, St. Vincent continued to focus on the use and development of their basic design of the monarch's profile and the Arms of the Colony.

The King George V period showed no change in this policy. De La Rue were renowned for the quality of their printing and the low number of errors on St. Vincent issues. The same cannot be said of the Local overprints on Provisionals and the first War Stamp overprints.



QV Master Die Proof with blank value tablet and country name.



Master Die Proof of the KEVII £1.



Handpainted Essay of the 1907-09 6d.

This frame features:-

1899: QV Key Plates with Master Die Proof along with Imperium Trials & Duty Plate Proofs.

1899: QV Key Plate Colour Trials and One Penny Key Plate with watermark inverted in block of four.

1902: KEVII Colour Trials and local Specimens.

1909: 5s Plate block and examples of the Broken Frame variety, as previously recorded on Cayman Islands and Sierra Leone King Edward VII issues.

1911: £1 Die Proofs including Master Die Proof of the KEVII Keyplate Type in black on glazed card overlaid with Tracing Paper showing the colony name and value '£1' handpainted in scarlet.

1911: £1 marginal block of 4 from the left pane.

1907-09: Arms of the Colony handpainted essays, Master Die Proofs and Local Specimens.

1913-21: Master Die proofs, Specimens and Colour Trials of the KGV issues.

1915: 'ONE PENNY' on 1s overprint errors.

1916: War Stamp from the Local Overprints showing 3rd Setting with overprint double and 1918 De La Rue overprint with the watermark inverted in block of four.

# Frame 43

## TRINIDAD

from the collection of Michael Medlicott

The frame begins with the 'Lady McLeod' unused, on cover and a plausible forgery, the first postage stamps issued in the Overseas Possessions of the British Empire.

On the subsequent pages, the origin and development of the Britannia design is traced, from contemporary photographic prints on silver bromide coated paper (ex-Perkins, Bacon Archives) of the original coloured drawing by Edward Henry Corbould and the Intermediate Proof of the rejected First Die. The originals were acquired by the Royal Collection. After Plate Proofs showing significant positional flaws come the various undenominated imperforate One Penny stamps produced by Perkins, Bacon for use on letters mailed in the Inland Postal Service 1851–1857.



October 1858, 4th issue  
lithograph, slate-blue (unused).

Repeated shortages of stamps from England required desperate local measures to recognise prepayment of postage, and four pages show the six local provisional issues produced on a variety of papers from a lithographic stone made by local engraver, Charles Pétit. Presentable under Pétit's supervision, the impressions made after his departure for the United States became progressively more disreputable, reaching their nadir in March 1860 with the final red issue, few of which were actually used.



1848, Original Artist's Drawing  
by Edward Henry Corbould.  
Contemporary Photo Image.

The compulsory prepayment of letters to the United Kingdom necessitated the issue, on 9 May 1859, of three higher values to defray overseas rates of postage, initially in imperforate form. Responding to the difficulties of separating the stamps one from another, Perkins, Bacon produced later in 1859 the first perforated stamps by running by hand a spiked wheel between the rows – the so-called 'Pin Perf' issues. The single consignment contained stamps perforated roughly 12½, 13½–14 and a compound of the two, as well as a single sheet of sixpenny imperforate stamps, identifiable by their shade and paper; a rare used survivor is in the display.

By mid-1860, Perkins, Bacon had found a stationer to produce a mechanical perforator, and the result was the beautifully clean-cut issue of August 1860. The pins rapidly became clogged, however, and the June 1861 issue, Perkins, Bacon's last before losing the contract to De La Rue, is characterised by rough perforations.

Leaving aside the remaindered issues which are not hard to find or unduly expensive, the difficulty of collecting Perkins, Bacon's Trinidad issues, especially unused examples which travelled out to the Colony, is testified by the number of stamps in the frame from famous collections (over 50%), or which have acquired certificates from the Expert Committees (over 40%). Provenance is of great importance for the fine and rare.



# Frame 44

## TRINIDAD

from the collection of Federico Borromeo, FRPSL



7 June 1855, to Ile Rousse, Corsica, franked with a single 1d blue from the second lithographic provisional issue.

The Trinidad 'Britannia' stamps, printed by Perkins, Bacon and later by De La Rue, are the most interesting of all BWI stamps. The first stamps were invoiced on 21 December 1848 but the first usage was not until 1851 due to various internal political wranglings. Trinidad covers from this era are not particularly scarce; there are over 400 recorded between 1851 and 1859. However, they are in great demand which keeps prices realised at auction unusually high. The few covers available from the lithographic printings are very much sought after and this display shows a good number of these from each issue. Later covers from the De La Rue printings are more plentiful but still very popular with collectors.



22 July 1863, a cover sent to Pulo Penang, Malaya, rated 1s.10d, franked by a 1s mauve and a 1d, 4d and 6d.

## Frame 45

### TURKS ISLANDS – THE 1881 PROVISIONALS

from the collection of Richard Foden

Having originally been exploited by Bermudan salt-rakers, control of the Turks Islands was ceded by annexation to Jamaica in 1874. A Post Office had been established some 20 years earlier, although the volume of mail was extremely small as the total population was less than 5,000 and most of these were itinerant labourers employed in the salinas.



Complete Sheet of '2½' on 1s lilac from Setting V.

The first stamp issue was produced by Perkins, Bacon in 1867 and – allowing for some reprints on watermarked paper – was still in use when the colony joined the UPU in 1881. Awaiting the arrival from London of denominations for the new uniform postal rates, the Governor asked the local newspaper printer, Hugh Hutchings, to make overprint formes to surcharge the existing stock of stamps. This was done piecemeal, using formes of different sizes, and many settings of the overprints have been identified. The new 4d (printed by De La Rue in their own key type design) arrived in the islands in July of 1881, but the ½d and 2½d did not come into use until the first quarter of 1882.

All of the settings of the '½' and '2½' overprints are represented here. Many of these are known in less than 10 examples. Space does not allow for any of the '4' overprints to be shown (and, indeed, there are some that have suggested that they may have been produced at a later date purely for commercial reasons).



Block of 4 of '2½' on 1s dull blue from Setting IX with Types 25 & 26.



Double '½' without bar from Setting VII.

## Frame 46

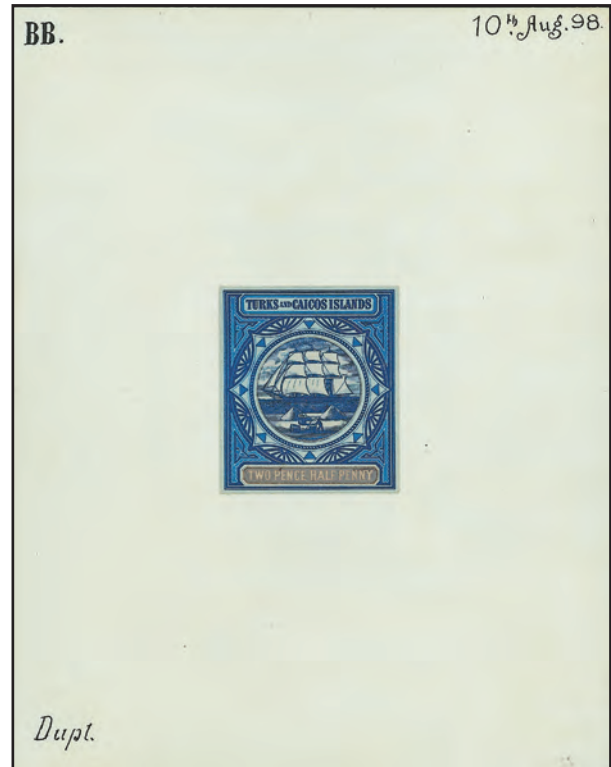
### TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS – THE ‘SHIP’ DEFINITIVES (1900–08)

from the collection of Richard Foden

Philatelically speaking, the Caicos Islands were united with the Turks Islands only at the end of the 19th century. Their first joint issue was intended to be a new series of pictorial definitives – using the ‘Ship’ design from the Badge of the Colony – to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the territory’s separation from the Bahamas (in 1848).

Somewhat petulant disagreements between the local Governor, the Crown Agents and the London-based printers (De La Rue) caused considerable delay in finalising the details of the design to be adopted, so much so that the stamps were eventually issued in November 1900 bearing the rather meaningless dates ‘1848–1900’.

All stages of this process are displayed, including the originally proposed design essays, proofs, colour trials and specimens. A similar double page is dedicated to the production of the 3d denomination added in 1908. Finally, four registered mail covers are shown, including one with all of the smaller format lower denominations used to the undoubtedly unique destination of St. Pierre and Miquelon.



The unapproved ‘Ship’ design essay.



## Frame 47

### BWI REVENUES – THE LEEWARD ISLANDS FEES (1881–1934)

from the collection of Michael Medlicott

The first adhesive stamps to be printed (by Thomas De La Rue & Co.) featuring the Colony name 'Leeward Islands' were the Fees Stamps issued for fiscal purposes in 1881 – ten years after the formation of the colony and nine years before the issue of the first Postage & Revenue stamps. They were affixed to legal documents, recognising the payment of court and other judicial fees, and are known used in all the Presidencies, most rarely in Nevis and the Virgin Islands.

Artists' Essays, prepared for the approval of Crown Agents and the Colony, and die proofs, plate proofs and colour trials were all released by De La Rue for sale by Robson Lowe, and are included in the display. The Fees stamps were never remaindered or released to the stamp trade, so that mint examples are of considerable rarity; only two mint sets of the Victorian issue, for example, are recorded (one of them shown here), and subsequent reigns are equally elusive in unused condition.

Five values to the £1, bearing Queen Victoria's head, were issued on Crown over CA paper – the CA appearing in both wide and narrow format – to be followed in 1902 by similar values with the head of King Edward VII. In 1906, the paper was changed to the universal Multiple Crown CA paper for four values to the Five Shillings in altered colours. These stamps lasted ten years until 1916, when the accession of King George V was belatedly celebrated with the same four values in a new design. In April 1921, they were replaced in their turn by five values to the £1 on Script paper. Both the Fees and the contemporary Postage & Revenue stamps are found with MC/A and MC/B perfins, punched by clerks to the two divisions of the Magistrates' Courts.



Essay prepared by De La Rue for the Queen Victoria revenue issue.



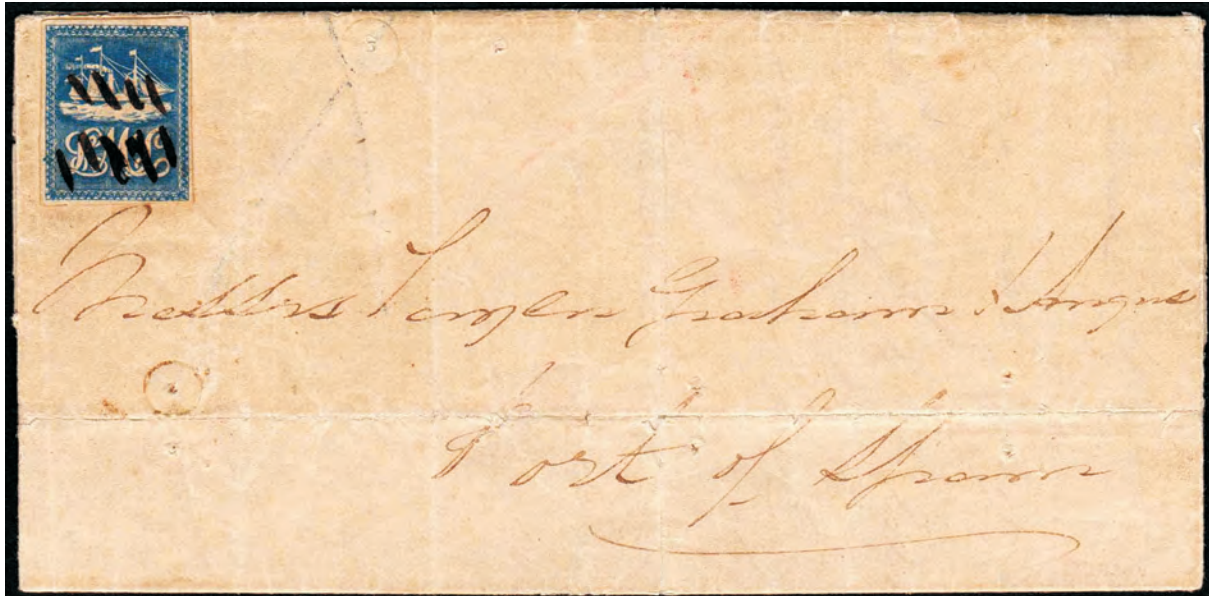
Master Die Proof from the De La Rue Striking Book of the Key design of the King Edward VII revenue stamp.

The final page of the display shows Artist's Essays for two of the twelve values of Leeward Islands Revenues prepared on 17 March 1890 as designs for impressed dies. Probably because of the potential expense of preparing hand-presses, leathers and dies for each and every Presidency, the Revenue dies were never issued.

## Frames 48 & 49

### POSTAL HISTORY OF THE BWI

from the collection of Federico Borromeo, FRPSL



28 April 1847, to Port of Spain, the earliest date known, the fifth day of use of the stamp which is cancelled with nine small pen strokes.

The West Indies was the first area of the New World affected by European discovery and subsequent colonisation; the mail was the only means of communicating with the home countries or the rest of the world, so from the outset it was the subject of particular attention on the part of the various interested powers.

The British West Indian colonies were divided, in the 19th century, into six groups, as follows:-

- 1 - The Bahamas.
- 2 - Barbados.
- 3 - Jamaica with Turks and Caicos and the Cayman Islands.
- 4 - Trinidad and Tobago.
- 5 - The Windward Islands with Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- 6 - The Leeward Islands comprising Antigua, Montserrat, St. Kitts, Nevis, Dominica and the Virgin Islands.

Chronologically, the first stamp to be issued in the West Indies is the famous 'Lady McLeod' on April 1847. Afterwards, in the 1850s, Trinidad issued stamps in August 1851, Barbados in 1852 and the Bahamas in June 1859, Jamaica and St. Lucia in 1860, St. Vincent and Grenada in 1861, Nevis and Antigua in 1862, the Virgin Islands in 1866, the Turks in 1867, St. Kitts in 1870, Dominica in 1874, Montserrat in 1876 and Tobago in 1879. The uniform Key Plate type of De La Rue was issued for the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands in October 1890.

Stamps of the Victorian period mostly depicted a portrait of the Queen, the first issues being printed by Perkins, Bacon, and later on by De La Rue; the exceptions to this were the classic Nevis and Virgin Islands stamps with their special designs printed by Nissen & Parker.

## Frames 48 & 49

### POSTAL HISTORY OF THE BWI

from the collection of Federico Borromeo, FRPSL



If we look at the style of the various designs, we find first the 'Britannia' type adopted by Trinidad and Barbados, and later on the 'Chalon' type adopted by Bahamas and Grenada. Different types showing the likeness of Queen Victoria were used for Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks Islands and Antigua. Nevis and the Virgin Islands had their own special designs depicting allegorical figures. The Antigua stamps were overprinted to serve in Montserrat. Later on a common uniform type, typographed by De La Rue, was introduced for St. Christopher, Dominica and Tobago. The so-called Victorian 'Key Type' of 1879 was used for Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Lucia and the Virgin Islands. A second 'Key Type' was used, ten years later, for the Leeward Islands and for the Cayman Islands.



26 April 1879, cover from Dominica to the Bishop of Antigua franked with a 6d key plate design adhesive similar to those of St. Christopher and Tobago. It bears two red 'DOMINICA PAID' handstamps and the 'A07' obliterator assigned to Dominica.

# Frame 50

## BWI POSTMARKS

from the collection of David Horry



Jamaica unissued marijuana stamp.



'BELLE GARDEN'.



Cover from Wallace Simpson inscribed 'HRH'.



'DUNDAS TOWN'.



'COMMERCE BIGHT'.



'NORTHERN RIVER'.

Notable items include:-

British Honduras Roger Wells c/o H. W. Blanks cover to Louisiana showing Wells involvement in supplying Temporary Rubber Datestamps to the Colony in 1940.

Bahamas newly discovered 1951 Dundas Town postmark on piece.

British Honduras Commerce Bight unique temporary rubber cancel – post office destroyed by a hurricane in 1941. Plus 1939 Northern River small cds 'acquired' by Roger Wells.

Receipt from Edward Denny Bacon to Messrs. Chas. Nissen & Co. Ltd. for the sale of stamps from the Royal Collection.

Bahamas Blue cover from Wallis Simpson to New York bearing self-styled inscription 'H.R.H.' proscribed by KGVI, plus photo of KGVI on a carousel.

# Frame 51

## BWI POSTMARKS

from the collection of Simon Goldblatt



Cover to USA bearing the St. Johnstons cds of 21 March 1932.

Antigua shows rare postmarks whose only credible source was philatelic covers. In Bahamas, however, the opening of the Crooked Island office went unnoticed by contemporary dealers and the example shown, still the only one recorded, is on a KEVII 1d, absolutely not philatelic.

Three pages of British Honduras illustrate the improvised character of the early postmarks from offices outside Belize. Rarities include the manuscript K.C.P.O. of Cay Caulker, the permanent steel instrument of Sittee River and the pre-KGVI cover of Northern River.

Examples of Dominica marks on Leeward Islands issues are shown as well as Jamaican temporary rubber cancellers used prior to the introduction of more permanent replacements. The examples from St. Kitts show the dates appended in manuscript, often with accompanying initials. St. Vincent's scarcer marks are usually to be found on the 1d red, again some with manuscript dates added. Trinidad numeral marks consist of many diverse types with some 40 in use at any one time.



28 January 1890, piece bearing a Stann Creek duplex.



The scarce Marriott Type 0.6 '27' of Monos.



The only recorded 'CROOKED ISLAND' cds of the Bahamas.



The elusive 'ULSTER SPRING' circular datestamp of Jamaica.



## Frame 52

### **LABELS AND EPHEMERA – PATRIOTIC LABELS IN WORLD WAR ONE**

from the collection of Ian Jakes



Jamaica Lewis Ashenheim Cover.

On the outbreak of hostilities with Germany in August 1914 and the invasion of Belgium by the German Army, the European Allies tapped into the 'patriotic fervour' of the Caribbean people by encouraging the production of patriotic labels in several British West Indies islands to raise funds for the Red Cross and other charitable war projects. Examples of these labels are shown in this display.

The Governors in Trinidad and Tobago and in Jamaica authorised letters relating to the charitable businesses of the Trinidad Red Cross Society and Jamaica Patriotic Stamp League, respectively, to be sent through the post free of charge in their respective colonies. The Postmaster-General in each of the two countries declared that envelopes to be used for free postage must be franked with the name of the charity and signed by an authorised person.

On 18 September 1914 the Trinidad Red Cross Society delivered about 900 letters to Port of Spain Post Office immediately after the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago had authorised free postage, but before the Trinidad Postmaster-General had issued his requirements for the implementation of the free postage facility. The Postmaster-General cancelled the Trinidad Red Cross Label on each envelope with a postmark to prevent the letter from being taxed. The cancellation on the label passed the letter through the post. The Postmaster-General had 'almost unintentionally' created a halfpenny postage stamp for one day only on 18 September 1914. The label now appears in stamp catalogues as a postage stamp.

This exhibit includes examples, not only of the Trinidad Red Cross Label now declared to be a postage stamp, but also of a Jamaica Red Cross Label endorsed with the authorised frank of Lewis Ashenheim of Jamaica Patriotic Stamp League. The frank, i.e. the signature of Lewis Ashenheim and the typed charity name, aided and abetted by a Kingston, Jamaica postmark over the label, has passed the letter through the post. Has Mr. Ashenheim 'almost unintentionally' created a postage stamp?

No Governor in any other British West Indies island authorised free postage and therefore no case can be made for any other British West Indies Patriotic Label to be regarded as a postage stamp.

## BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

### GENERAL

'KING GEORGE V KEY PLATES OF THE IMPERIUM POSTAGE AND REVENUE DESIGN' by Peter Fernbank, FRPSL. This is a second edition; since its publication in 1997 this work has become the standard reference for collectors of the issues of this King George V Universal key plate style. It was awarded the prestigious Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period. It was further awarded a Large Silver Gilt medal in the Literature section of the British National Stamp Exhibition in 1998. This study encompasses the issues of all of the 17 colonies that employed this design. From a comprehensive examination of the De La Rue and Crown Agents archives it has been possible to produce a listing of every printing made of this key plate style. A wealth of additional information has been added to this basic framework that adds flesh to the bare bones of printing statistics.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (xx) + 488 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-16-1

**PRICE: £49.00. BWISC Members' Discount – £5.00.**

### BAHAMAS

'THE LOCALLY OVERPRINTED SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS OF BAHAMAS, 1916–17' by Peter Fernbank, FRPSL. This Study Paper examines the Special Delivery agreement made between Canada and Bahamas in 1916. National Archive sources in both Canada and the UK have been investigated to provide an in-depth review of the Canadian and Bahamas Post Office procedures for dealing with such mail. There has been some misunderstanding regarding the full validity of Canadian covers with a Bahamas Special Delivery stamp affixed, and a grading system is provided for assessing such covers. Further sections define the three settings of the overprint for each position in the sheet, and go on to examine in detail the major errors that exist on this issue. This work sheds much new light on the subject and reveals that in the past there have been a number of misconceptions regarding this issue.

Letter size, perfect bound, (xii) + 74 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-13-0

**Price: £19.00. BWISC Members' Discount – £3.00.**

### BARBADOS

'BARBADOS – THE BRITANNIA ISSUES' by Fitz Roett. This book offers an in-depth study of these important issues, tracing their development and listing all of the scarce multiples and covers known. In collaboration with two Barbados specialists, Charles Freeland and Peter Longmuir, the author has been able to collate the numbers printed and extant covers; he has also collected a great number of coloured images which are reproduced in this book. This book is a must for all Barbados collectors.

A4 size, softbacked, (x) + 220 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-18-5

**Price: £15.00. BWISC Members' Discount – £2.00.**

## BRITISH GUIANA

'BRITISH GUIANA: THE PROVISIONALS OF 1882' by Richard Maisel, FRPSL. This study looks at the locally produced stamps which were brought into use very hurriedly and provide a fascinating insight into the varieties that resulted.

Letter size, perfect bound, (iv) + 71 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-17-8

**Price: £14.00. BWISC Members' Discount – £2.00.**

'BRITISH GUIANA CODED POSTMARKS' by Michael Rego. The third in our series of Study Papers looks at the early coded postmarks of British Guiana. Almost all marks are illustrated on stamps and covers in colour. It also contains an analysis of the movements of the various marks between postal agencies.

B5 size, perfect bound, (iv) + 64 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-05-5

**Price: £15.00. BWISC Members' Discount – £2.00.**

## CAYMAN ISLANDS

'CAYMAN ISLANDS' by Richard Maisel, FRPSL. The third of our occasional series devoted to Classic Collections, this describes Richard Maisel's superb Large Gold Medal collection. Lavishly illustrated in colour, this booklet relates the progression of Cayman Islands philately from the earliest use of the Jamaican stamps, through the development of first Queen Victoria keyplate designs up to the pictorial issues of the King George V period.

B5 size, perfect bound, (iv) + 64 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-20-8

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

## JAMAICA

'ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY VOLUME 8 – AIRMAILS' by Steve Jarvis, FRPSL and David Atkinson. This latest volume of the magnum opus details the events from the very beginning of flights in Jamaica and carries on through the introduction of regular scheduled flights starting in 1931. It examines the development of aviation and the routes to and from Jamaica up to 1975. This book is a must for both aerophilatelists and Jamaica collectors alike.

A4 size, perfect bound, (viii) + 270 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-15-4

**Price:– £18.00. BWISC Members' Discount:– £2.00.**

## MONTSERRAT

'MONTSERRAT TO 1965' by Len Britnor and revised by Charles Freeland, FRPSL. The original work was completely updated and re-published in 1998 using modern day desk-top publishing. Since that time, much new information has come to light and this edition contains not only this new information, but has new colour illustrations. It is still the only philatelic handbook on this island. It contains details of the stamp issues including proof material, postmarks and postal history.

A4 size, perfect bound, (x) + 120 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-00-0

**Price:– £24.00. BWISC Members' Discount:– £2.00.**

## ST. KITTS

'ST. KITTS POSTAL HISTORY' by Brian Brookes. This is the fourth booklet in our series of 'Classic Collections' and details a highly acclaimed display given by Brian at the Royal Philatelic Society London in March 2010. Brian's collection is without doubt one of the finest collections of St. Kitts ever assembled. The booklet describes and illustrates the earliest pre-stamp covers, as well as the early 1870 issues, the numerous provisional stamps, postal stationery and lastly the revenue stamps. Fully illustrated in colour throughout, this booklet is a must for collectors of both St. Kitts and general BWI.

B5 size, perfect bound, (vi) + 34 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-14-7

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

## TOBAGO

'TOBAGO – THE PHILATELIC STORY OF A SMALL ISLAND' by Peter Ford, FRPSL, Charles Freeland, FRPSL and Edward Barrow. Despite the small number of issues in the catalogue, Tobago is an interesting colony to collect and this book examines the original issues as well as the provisionals that had to be resorted to when stamp stocks ran low. It looks at the early pre-stamp period from 1772 and includes a census of the early marks and the GB stamps used in Tobago. Revenues, postal stationery and forgeries are all covered in this book.

195 x 275mm, hardbacked with dust jacket, (viii) + 150 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-07-9

**Price:- £34.00. BWISC Members' Discount:- £ 4.00.**

## TRINIDAD

'TRINIDAD – A PHILATELIC HISTORY TO 1913' by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medlicott and Ben Ramkisson, FRPSL. This book was originally conceived by John Marriott to follow on from his original 1962 Study Paper. As the title suggests, the book covers the Trinidad-only period before the advent of Trinidad & Tobago issues. It details all Postage Stamp issues within the period, as well as the Postal Markings; the coverage includes Postal Stationery, Postage Dues, and Revenue and Official Stamps.

195 x 275mm, hardbacked with dust jacket, (x) + 360 pages. ISBN: 978-1-095065-35-8

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

'THE TRINIDAD RED CROSS LABEL' by Ian Jakes. To commemorate the centenary of its issue, this Study Paper, the sixth in the series, explores the origins of this label, its introduction and its use. Using information from some well-known collections, all of this is explained accompanied by a profuse number of coloured illustrations of both the labels and contemporary covers.

Letter size, perfect bound, (iv) + 54 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-23-9

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

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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 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 some 25 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, usually comprising many hundreds of lots. 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.

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