



**CHANNEL ISLANDS
SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY**

June 2014

Volume 33 No.2

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY

Founded in 1950

for the study of the stamps and postal history of the Channel Islands

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Membership is open to all interested in Channel Islands stamps
and postal history, postcards and ephemera.

Membership application forms can be obtained from the Membership Secretary.
Exchange Packets are circulated regularly. A Postal Auction is held twice yearly.

A 36 page colour Journal is published quarterly.

Meetings are held three or four times a year in London and the Provinces.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES IN LES ILES NORMANDES

Outside back cover: £40.00. Full page: £30.00. Half page: £18.00

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SUBSCRIPTIONS and STANDING ORDERS

Will members please note the following points:-

1. Subscriptions, which are due on **1st January**, should be sent direct to **Moira Edwards** and **NOT** to any other officer of the Society. A Subscription Invoice will be sent in the December issue of the Journal.
2. All members may now pay by credit card. The amount will be the normal subscription plus 5% for charges. Send your card details including number and expiry date to **Moira Edwards** and to no one else.
3. Overseas members may still pay by STERLING cheque drawn on a U.K. Bank. Non-sterling cheques and non-sterling currency notes will no longer be accepted. Money Orders in sterling currency are acceptable.
4. Members who have not paid by **14th February** are assumed to have resigned.
5. Standing Order forms should be **sent by members to their own bank** and not to the Subscription Secretary.

The NEW Subscription rates for the year 2014 are:-

COUNTRIES	CLASS OF POSTAGE	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES in Pounds Sterling
Great Britain	2 nd Class Letterpost	Ordinary Members: £20.00 , or choosing an electronic copy of quarterly Journal in place of a posted hard copy; £15.00 Juniors, Senior Citizens and Registered Disabled: £10.00 , or choosing an E-Journal: £7.50 Life Members: £10.00 , or choosing an E-Journal: £6.00
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PLEASE ADD A 5% SERVICE CHARGE TO ALL CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

We are pleased to welcome the following new Members:-2118 Roland Young, Surrey; 2119 Peter Grimley, Leics; 2120 Richard Talbot, Northants; 2121 Andrew Chappell, Yorks; 2122 Philip Malkin, Co Durham

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Whilst every care is taken in the production of this Journal statements expressed in articles in *LES ILES NORMANDES* are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or by the Channel Islands Specialists' Society neither of whom can be held responsible for the accuracy of the information therein or any consequence arising there from

EDITORIAL

The Society's weekend meeting at Gloucester was another success as also was the postal auction held in the room. Our next event is the Annual General Meeting to be held in London on Saturday 5th July preceded by displays featuring Herm Island and its posts.

This edition continues with the examination of the Channel Island mails that passed via Weymouth 1794 – 1845 in addition to some other fascinating articles on various aspects of Channel Island's collecting. Also enclosed is the booking form for the Society regional meeting at Wakefield on Saturday 20th September organised by David Horner.

The September Journal should see an article on who took the profit in the early Channel Islands/France mails and the commencement of an important examination of the German Censorship in the Channel Islands during the German military occupation of 1940 to 1945.

SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD

by Richard Flemming

Welcome to the June edition of *Les Iles Normandes* and for some of us the Gloucester weekend has become a distant memory. A big thank you goes to all the members and guests who attended and made it a memorable event. Once again the room auction proved a big hit with those attending and a big thank you must go to Gavin Wood, Gerald Marriner, Robert Porter and David Laurillard who helped it run with smooth precision. Who would have thought that we would clear 430+ lots in under 2 hours. Our thanks also have to be extended to Stanley Gibbons who sponsored the pre-dinner drinks and 'goody bags' for all.

Our next members' meeting will be the AGM to be held at the Royal Philatelic Society, London and all members are urged to attend. The AGM will be held after lunch at 14.00 and the morning session will be taken up with members' displays relating to Herm (or any new material that you wish to show to members). David Horner has confirmed the booking at the York House Hotel, Wakefield for the Autumn Member's Meeting and the planning for the day is well in hand. Booking form is enclosed with this copy of *Les Iles Normandes*. I hear through the grapevine that it is a good hotel and only a few yards from Wakefield (Westgate) railway station. For members who wish to bring partners there is the Wakefield shopping centre for them to explore. For further information members may wish to visit www.billybuddleisure.co.uk/york-house-hotel/information regarding hotel facilities. Unless listed as different, all London CISS meetings are held at the RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place, Marylebone, with coffee and biscuits served at 10.30am (for an 11am start) until approximately 5pm. We look forward to seeing you there and at any other meeting.

Forthcoming meetings:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 5 July 2014 | Member's meeting. Theme: Herm followed by Annual General Meeting at 14.00 |
| 20 September 2014 | Members' Regional Meeting @ York House Hotel, Wakefield. Theme: "Items beginning with letters C or D". |
| 13 December 2014 | Member's Meeting. Theme: December dates, Christmas issues, etc. |

CIRCULATING EXCHANGE PACKETS

**New material that you may wish to sell is
urgently needed for the Packets.**

**In particular your spare or duplicate
Occupation and stamp related material.
Send it priced for circulation to our Packet Secretary:**

**John Triggs,
'Sunnyside', La Gibauderie,
St Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 1XF.
Tel. 01481 725847. Email. jtriggs@cwgsy.net**

PAST JOURNALS and BULLETINS.

The Society has a stock of past issues of the **Bulletins** and the Journal '**LES ILES NORMANDES**'. These are available at £1.00 each, and the Bulletins at £0.50 each, postage and packing is extra. The indices to both the Bulletins and Journals can be found on the website; **www.ciss1950.org.uk**

To enquire about past issues please contact Moira Edwards at 86, Hall Lane, Sandon, Chelmsford, CM2 7RQ, or email:

membership@ciss1950.org.uk

GLOUCESTER WEEKEND REPORT 11th – 13th April 2014

In all forty-seven members and guests attended the Gloucester Weekend at the Hallmark Hotel. The initial Friday 3.30pm ‘meet and greet’ was supported with a fine twelve frame standing display of postcards, etc. titled “Road Transport in the Channel Islands” kindly provided by **Jon Aitchison**. After the evening meal we re-assembled for the now traditional Friday evening “Three Sheets to Tell a Story”. This year five members put their three sheets up for judging by those members and guests present and the clear winner was **Brian Chilton** with his three sheets telling the story of the building of the Alderney lighthouse.

Saturday morning commenced with a combined ‘Invited Member’s display’ provided by **Gerald Marriner** and **Gavin Wood**. Space does not allow me to write a detailed resume of the display, but it was one of the finest collections of 1940-45 Channel Islands Occupation material ever amassed for show.

Gavin showed examples of swastika overprints on the George VI 1937-39 definitives and 1940 Stamp Centenary issue, Guernsey and Jersey imprints, including complete sheets of ‘Arms’ stamps and individual copies of the R.W. Cutland unissued Jersey stamps. Gerald too showed some very interesting items; one which really stuck in my mind was when the sender of the letter actually stitched the stamps to the envelope and then there was the letter that required an extra ½d postage, but because no stamps were available the sender placed a ½d coin in the letter box and wrote on the envelope that the ½d was in the letter box. It must have worked as the letter received a ½d PAID handstamp to indicate that full postage had been paid.

This display was followed by a display of *SS Ibex* material supplied by **Jon Aitchison**, **Tony Peters**, **Ron Brown** and **Richard Flemming**. In all ten complete items were on display plus a few stamps overprinted **PER SS IBEX**. This was probably the most items of *SS Ibex* mail ever displayed in one place at one time, including a complete rolled up newspaper bearing the **PER SS IBEX** handstamp. Thanks must go to Jon Aitchison who arranged for members to bring their items together and for completing a detailed account of the history behind the *SS Ibex* and different **PER SS IBEX** cachets – see article on page 7 of this edition..

David Gurney showed ninety items from the Late Anne Gough collection which will appear in the Society’s auctions over the next year or so.

Michael Wieneke showing an extensive display of postal history titled “Foreign Mail to and from the Channel Islands 1940/44”. Included in the

display were items of mail that were routed via Ireland, Lisbon and Washington in an attempt to get mail into the Channel Islands during the Occupation. There were also several examples of mail that were detained in France until the end of the war in May 1945.

The afternoon was taken up with the bourse and a very successful auction with **Gavin Wood** acting as auctioneer ably assisted by **Robert Porter** and **David Laurillard** and yours truly. Thanks must also go to Stanley Gibbons for providing the wine for the pre-dinner reception and “goody bags”.

Sunday morning displays commenced with **Ron Osborne** and his display of “Two sides of a postcard” whereby he showed the back and front of Jersey and Guernsey postcards including Vale Church and a Jersey *LL206* titled “The Church” and a *LL77* titled “Excursion car” postally used in 1907, which actually was a horse and carriage.

David Winnie’s display was titled “Three Post-Offices in One” where he covered the history of the St Peters Sub-Post office, Guernsey, through three name changes from St Peters to St Peter-in-the-Wood and finally to St Pierre du Bois. Included in the display were three St Peters undated double arc handstamps dated from 1852 to 1857 including two addressed to Captain Mann RE, Alderney. St Peter-in-the-Wood was represented by an extensive variety of single and double circle datestamps on a variety of postcards and covers including under stamped mail, a parcel post label from 1918, a registered cover from 1939 and 2d bisects on cover and card. St Pierre du Bois was represented by modern cancellations, the final item being a **GUERNSEY POST OFFICE/PARCEL POST/-7OCT 1994/ST PIERRE DU BOIS** rectangular handstamp on piece.

Jon Aitchison showed an A-Z of Jersey hotels using postcards and ephemera starting with Hotel Angleterre and concluding with a post card of the Vauvert Private Hotel dated 22nd June 1959. Two items that particularly caught my eye were a post card bearing a Hotel Continental cachet with a PAQUEBOT handstamp and CARTERET MANCHE datestamp and a souvenir letter card of the Jersey Holiday Camp.

Dave Edwards post card theme was titled “100 Years Ago” and included post cards to commemorate events of 1914 including the erection of the Victor Hugo statue in Candie Gardens, effects of WW1, including boats captured and boats sailing between Guernsey and the mainland.

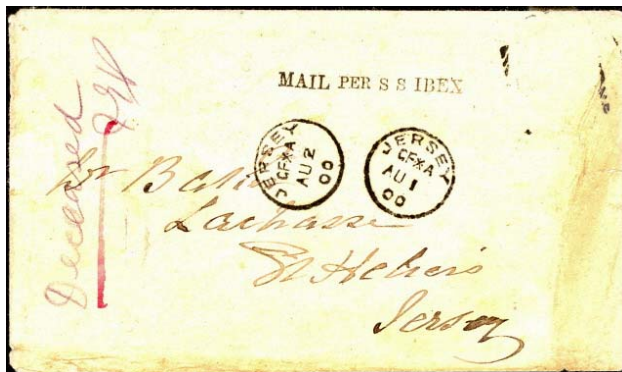
David Horner’s fine display consisted of early Channel Islands handstamps, including a JERSEY concave handstamp on entire dated 1797. This was followed by a straight line JERSEY (type 1) on an 1800 entire to

applied to the first 43 three bags of mail to be recovered, but the final 44th bag was not found until seven months later, by which time a new cachet had to be made that was in an identifiably different setting. These are the only cachets on mail from Channel Island wrecks and are some of the scarcest, valuable and most desirable items of Jersey postal history.



Also from that sale was a cover that received the second type of Ibox cachet that has a ‘**V. R. FOUND OPEN AND OFFICIALLY SEALED**’ label tied with a ‘**JERSEY/ 8AM JY 30 [19]00**’ squared circle cancel, attached to the back. It is endorsed ‘*Deceased*’ in manuscript in red on the front, probably by a Post Office official. When it was received back at St Helier Post Office a ‘**JERSEY/ CF*A AU 1 [19]00**’ datestamp was applied to the front.

It was then either returned to the sender or sent to the Dead Letter Office and the same cancel for the following day was applied alongside as a dispatch mark.



Jon Aitchison is currently preparing an extensive article on the *S.S. Ibex* and all known mail salvaged from it. Originally this was to have been published in *Les Iles Normandes*, but is now felt to be too long so will be produced as a separate monograph. He is keen to urgently hear from anyone who has any *S.S.Ibex* mail. Jon can be contacted at britishlocals@aol.com or you can phone him on 01279 870488.

An amusing Channel Island maritime incident

by Ron Brown

As a reminder that shipping accidents can happen in the most unexpected circumstances the following account is extracted with thanks from *Guernsey Shipwrecks around Guernsey, Alderney and Sark* by Ray Dafter. The incident occurred on the steamer *Alert* in the spring of 1910.

The vessel had been chartered by the Pilotage Committee for a voyage during which three officers were to attempt their pilotage examinations. On board was the committee, all ships' captains in their own right, as well as a number of favoured guests. In spite of, or maybe because of, all this maritime talent, the vessel struck Boule Sarre Rock off the Hanois. Somewhat alarmingly all the candidates passed their examinations, prompting the magazine *John Bull* to comment 'Pity they didn't pass the rock!'

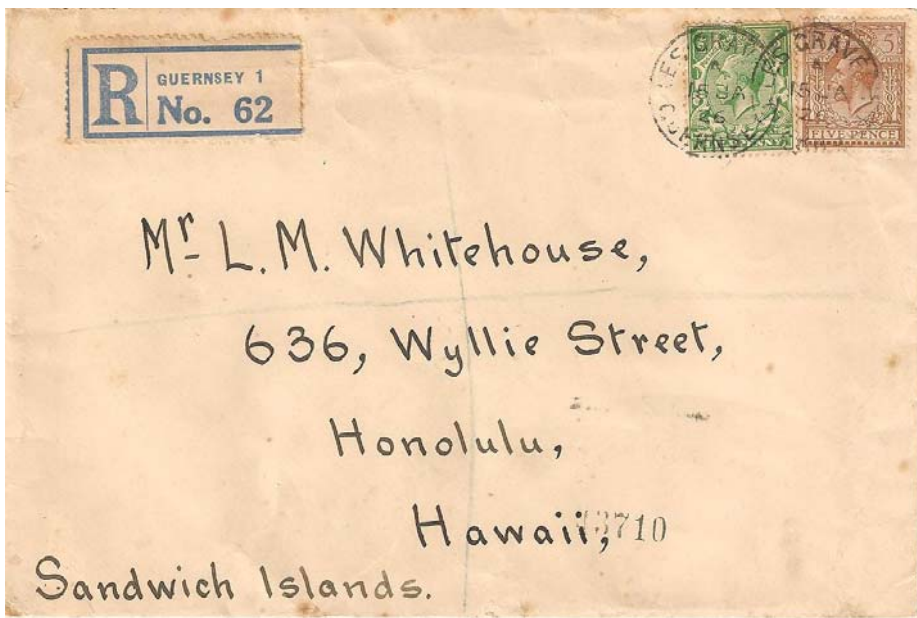
Small sheet registered label used at Les Gravees in 1926.

by David Gurney FRPSL

Our new member, Peter Grimley, from Leicestershire has recently shown me this unrecorded small sheet registered label which we now know was used at the Town Office of Les Gravees in late 1925 or early in 1926.



This has been confirmed by David Winnie who has now shown me this example used on the 15th January 1926 at Les Gravees from his Guernsey Sub-Post office collection.



A superb destination cover addressed to Honolulu in Hawaii and the reverse properly backstamped as required by postal regulations of the time.

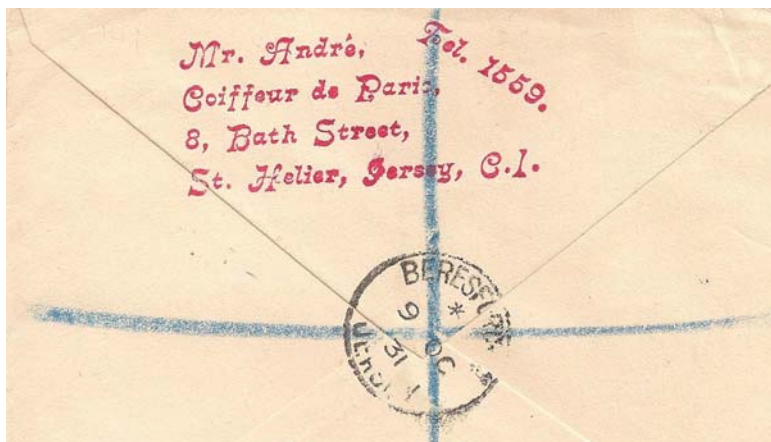


Unrecorded registration label from Beresford Street
by David Winnie

To date, three 'A' type or Small Sheet registration labels issued throughout



England and Wales are recorded from this office in 1921, 1922 and 1924. I have acquired at Spring Stampex the above cover with an unrecorded 'A' type label of 1931 in that the **JERSEY 2** now appears at the very top of the label. The 'N' of **No.** remains 5mm high. The cover is addressed to Paris and the two stamps making up the 5½d rate are cancelled by the Type 1 single circle date stamp of the 9th October 1931 with an *asterisk code.



As seen from the reverse side, the cover emanated from Mr Andre, Coiffeur de Paris, Bath Street, St Helier and is back stamped by a similar single circle as detailed above.

ANNUAL COMPETITION RESULTS – February 2014 meeting

The February 2014 meeting incorporated the annual competitions and the Judge was Iain Stevenson FRPSL. The winners were:

Society Cup for Stamps: Jon Aitchison FRPSL

Sussex Cup for postal history: Richard Flemming

Tom Green Cup for Occupation postal history: Ron Brown

Open class philately: Jon Aitchison FRPSL

Society Cup for postcards: Jon Aitchison FRPSL

Stanley Newman Tankard for first time entrants: Nick Stuart

CHANNEL ISLANDS' MAILS VIA WEYMOUTH 1794-1845

by Ron Brown

(Continued from the last Journal)

SHIP LETTERS

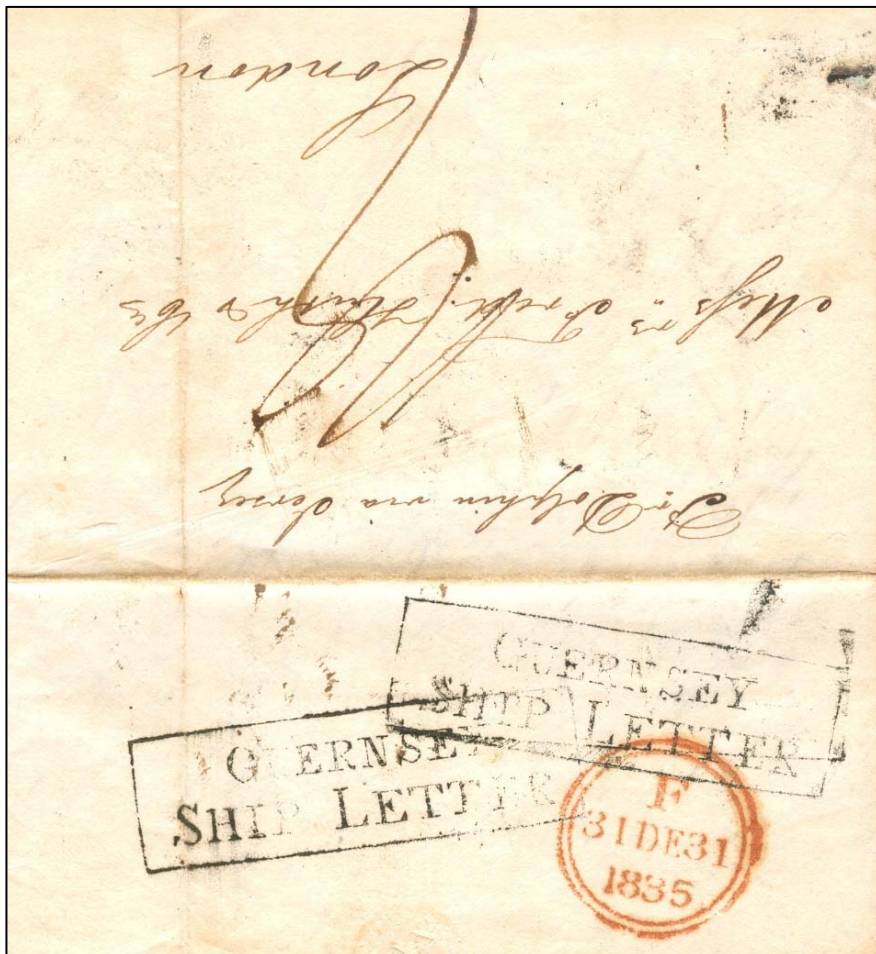


Fig. 10.

In addition to mail originating in the Islands, letters from around the world, but mainly from Europe and South America, were occasionally landed in the Islands and then taken to the mainland by the Packet.

The Channel Islands were sometimes the first port of call for sailing ships, mainly from Bahia and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, with cargoes of coffee en route to Le Havre when unfavourable winds were encountered.

In 1834 boxed ship letter handstamps were sent to both Guernsey and Jersey and applied to ship letters landed in the Islands. Most of the recorded examples of these handstamps are on letters addressed to Messrs Huth & Co. or Rothschild, London. Both the example above and that below are from the first year of use of the handstamp. Figure 10 is a letter dated 28 October 1834 from Rio de Janeiro to Messrs Huth & Co, London landed in Guernsey. The letter has two strikes of the boxed **GUERNSEY/SHIP LETTER** handstamp and arrived in London on 31 December 1835, a total journey time of sixty-four days. Rated as:

UK incoming ship letter charge	8d
Guernsey Weymouth packet	3d
Weymouth London	<u>10d</u>
Endorsed	1/9d

Figure 11 on the next page is a letter dated 20 October 1834 from Rio de Janeiro to Messrs N M Rothchild, London with a boxed **JERSEY/SHIP LETTER** handstamp. The letter was received in London on 12 December 1834, a journey time of 53 days.

The postage charge is 3/6d being a double letter:

U.K incoming ship letter charge	8d
Guernsey — Weymouth Packet	3d
Weymouth — London	<u>10d</u>
	1/9d

Double x 2 endorsed 3/6d

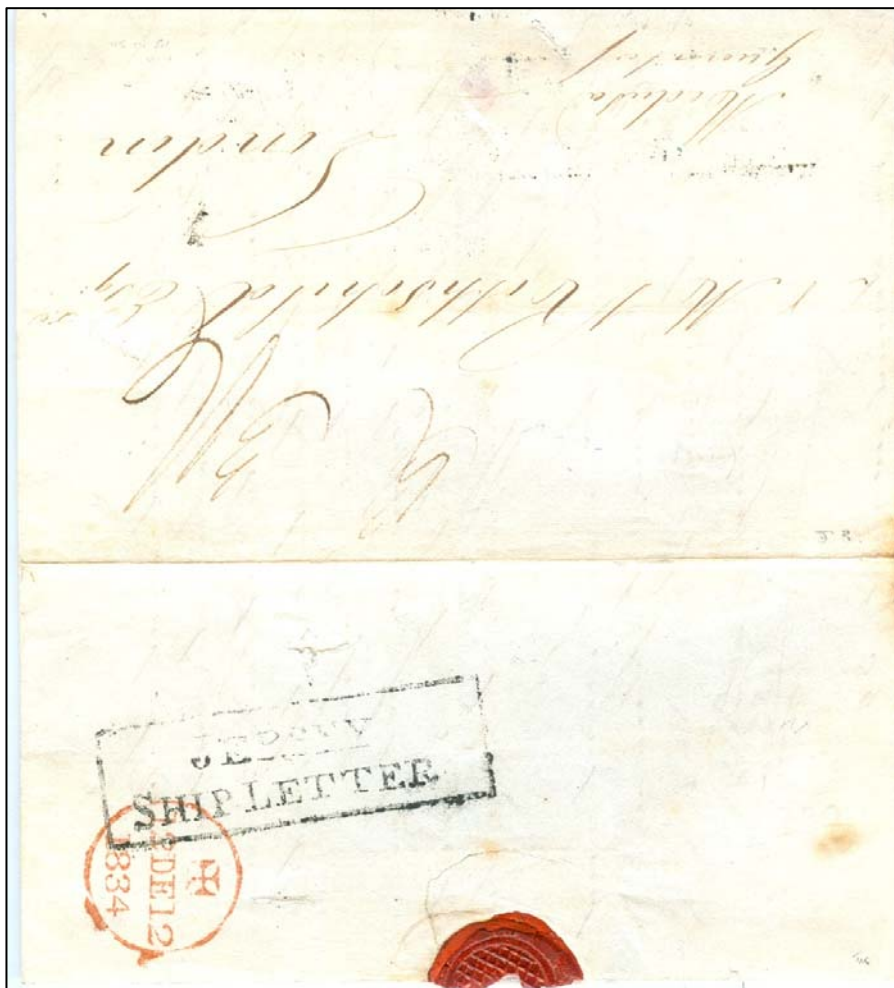


Fig. 11.

In addition to the boxed ship letter handstamps sent to the Islands there was a further boxed handstamp with the lettering transposed and struck in red. It is believed that this handstamp was applied in London to letters for the same address which passed through the Guernsey and Jersey Post Offices intact and the red ship letter stamp applied to each letter on receipt in London. This is supported by the fact that red ink pads were not in use in

the Islands in the 1830's. The ink used for the ship letter mark does, however, match that used for applying the London circular datestamps of that period.

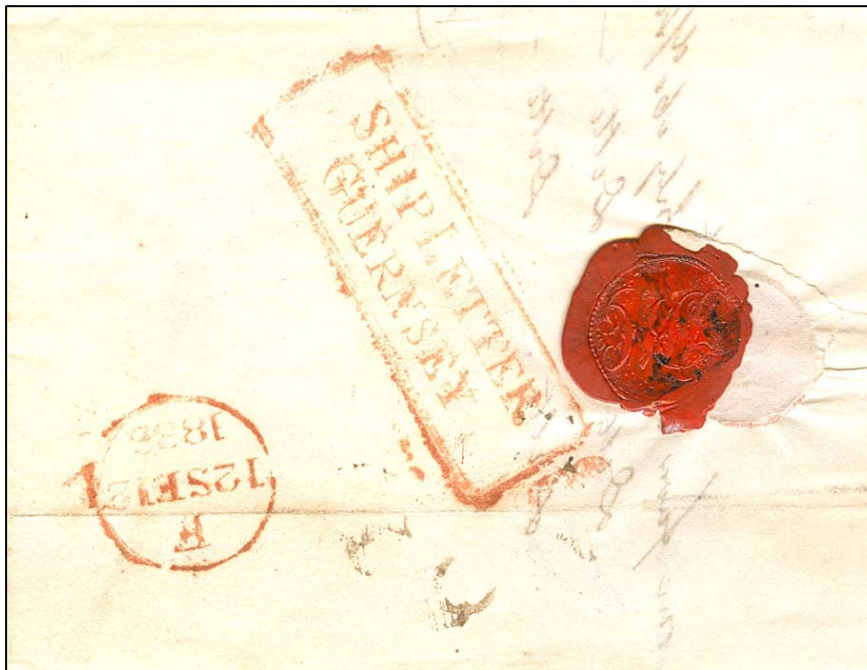


Fig 12

Figure 12 above is a letter dated 20 October 1834 from Rio de Janeiro to Messrs N. M. Rothchild, London with a boxed SHIP LETTER/Guernsey handstamp. The letter was received in London on 12 December 1834, a journey time of 53 days. The postage charge is 3/6d being a double letter:

U.K incoming ship letter charge	8d
Guernsey — Weymouth Packet	3d
Weymouth — London inland rate	<u>10d</u>
	1/9d
Double x 2 endorsed	3/6d

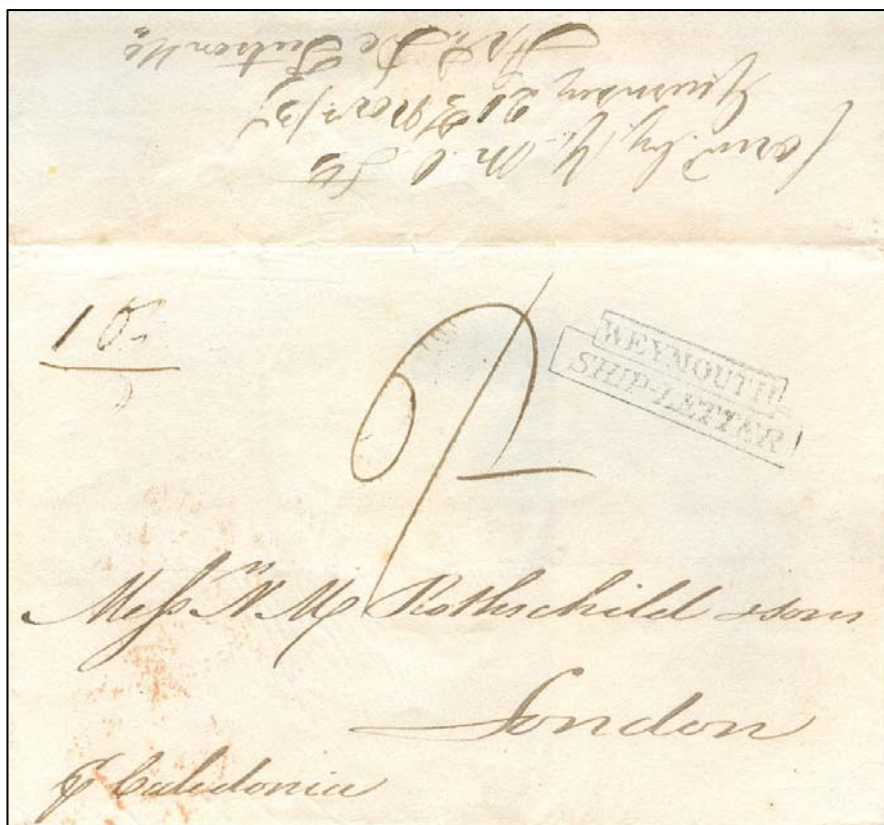


Fig.13.

Figure 13 above is a quadruple rate letter from Havana, Cuba dated 17 October 1837 addressed to Messrs N.M. Rothschild & Sons, London. The wrapper has been endorsed on the reverse by the Guernsey Letter Forwarding Agent F. De Putron and on arrival in Weymouth received a ship letter handstamp. The letter was endorsed on the face *per Caledonia*.

Incoming ship letter rate	8d
Weymouth London inland rate	<u>10d</u>
Single	1/6d
Quadruple	6/-

This letter, unlike the previous three, was not handed into the Post Office and charged as a ship letter when it arrived in Guernsey. It was handed to a Letter Forwarding Agent in Guernsey, F. De Putron, who arranged for it to be forwarded to Weymouth by private ship. When it was landed at Weymouth it was handed into the Post Office and was duly charged as a ship letter. It will be noted that this resulted in a postal charge of 1/6d single, against the former letters of 1/9d single. However, an agent's fee would have been added, but this is not endorsed.

LETTER FROM ALDERNEY

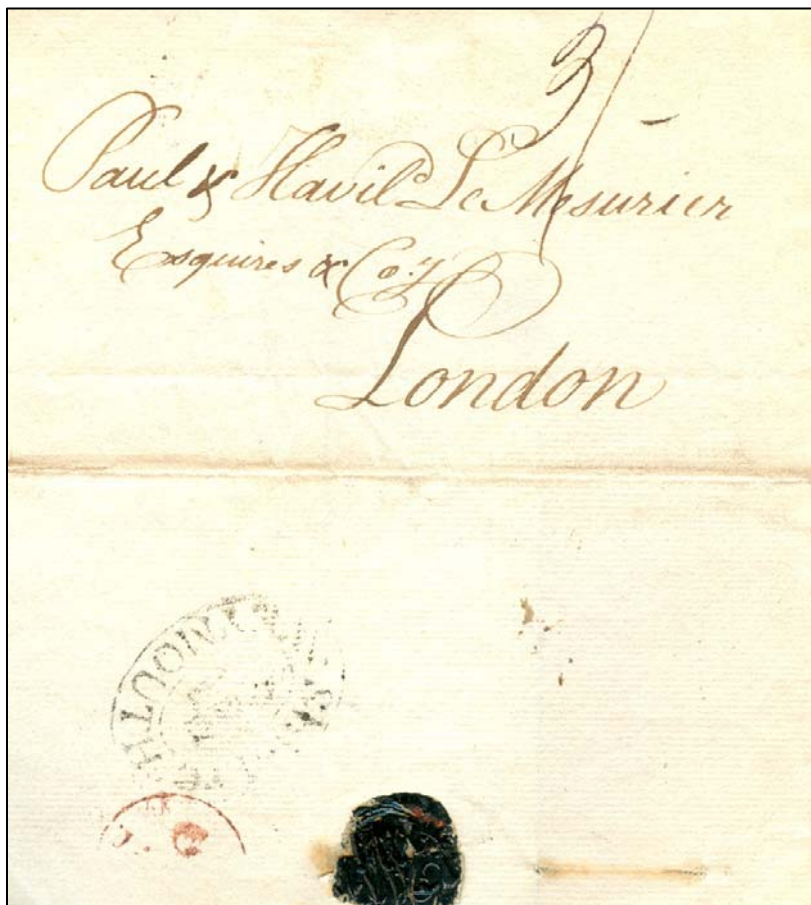


Fig.
14.

With the introduction of the Weymouth Packet and establishment of Post Offices on Jersey and Guernsey in 1794, mail to and from Alderney went via Guernsey.

Figure 14 above is a wrapper from Alderney to London which may have been carried to Weymouth direct on a private ship or, more likely, sent first to Guernsey and then on a private ship to Weymouth. As the letter was initially carried privately it was charged at the ship letter rate of 4d and not at the cheaper Packet rate of 2d. On the reverse side is an oval ‘**SHIP – Lre/WEYMOUTH**’ with crown and red London morning mark ‘C JAN 16’

Guernsey — Weymouth ship letter rate (from 1799)	4d
Weymouth — London (127 miles) inland rate	<u>8d</u>
	1/-

This wrapper dated 12 January 1805 is addressed to Merchant Bankers, Paul and Havilland La Mesurier Esquires and Company, London. The Le Mesurier family were hereditary Governors of Alderney.

Figure 15 on the next page is an entire letter, also from Havana, dated 6 May 1830 which was carried privately to Guernsey where it was entered into the official post and backstamped with one of only two known undated Guernsey double arcs. The rate has been calculated as:

Guernsey Weymouth Packet	3d
Weymouth London inland rate	10d
endorsed	1/1d

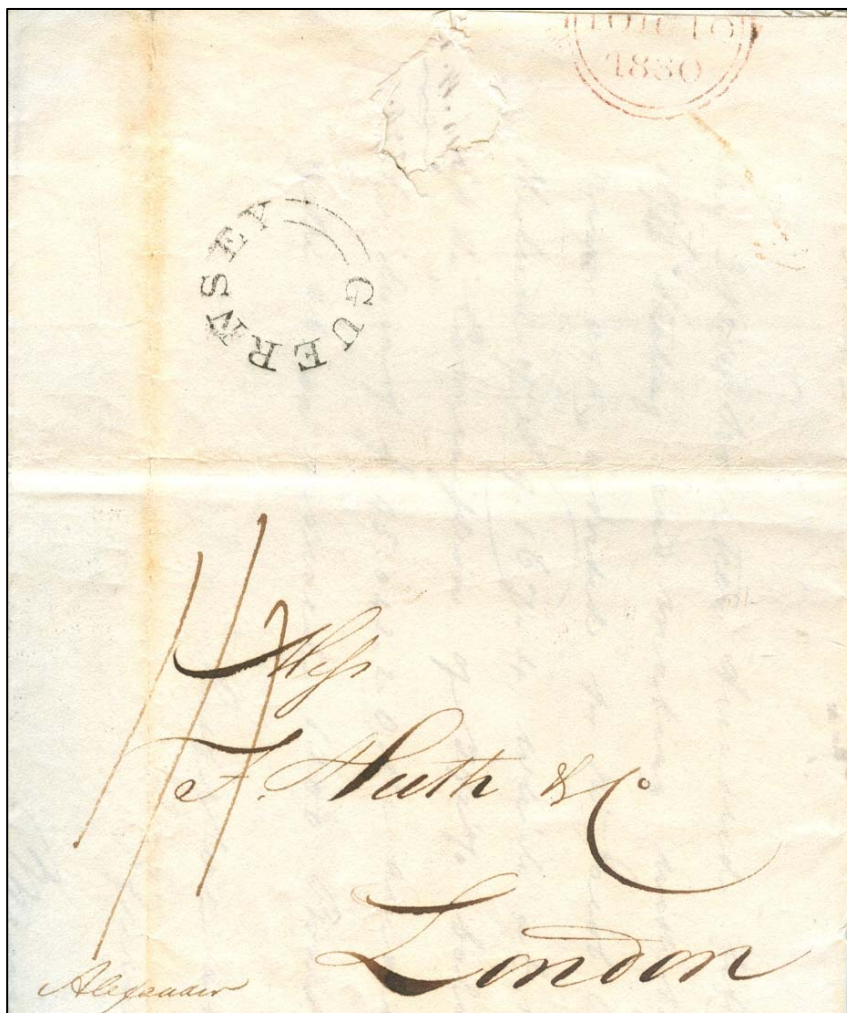


Fig. 15.

‘FROM GUERNSEY’

If letters originating from the Islands did not bear a Jersey or Guernsey handstruck mark, they needed some form of identification to signify they

were from the Channel Islands and therefore entitled to be treated as Packet letters and not as Ship Letters. 'FROM GUERNSEY' was either written or applied at Weymouth in the form of a handstamp to show that they were not ship letters. These markings are scarce.

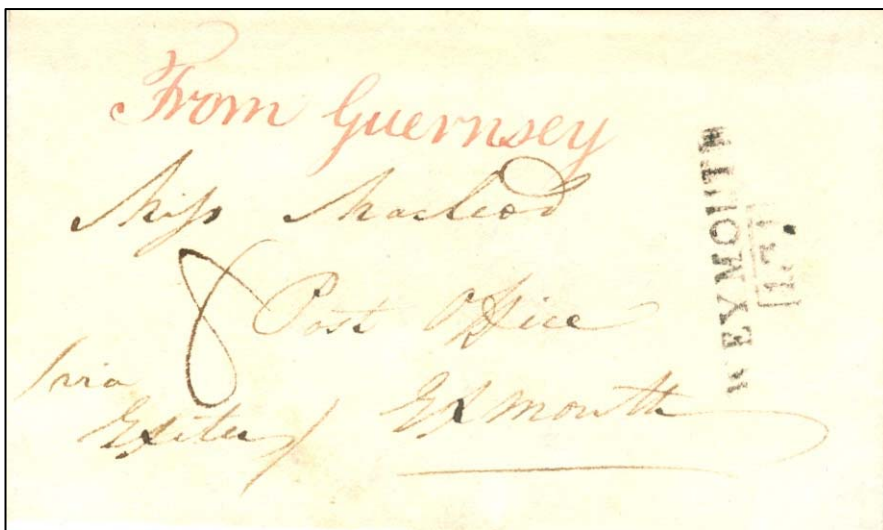


Fig.16.

Figure 16 above is one of only two letters recorded to date with the 'From Guernsey' endorsed in manuscript.

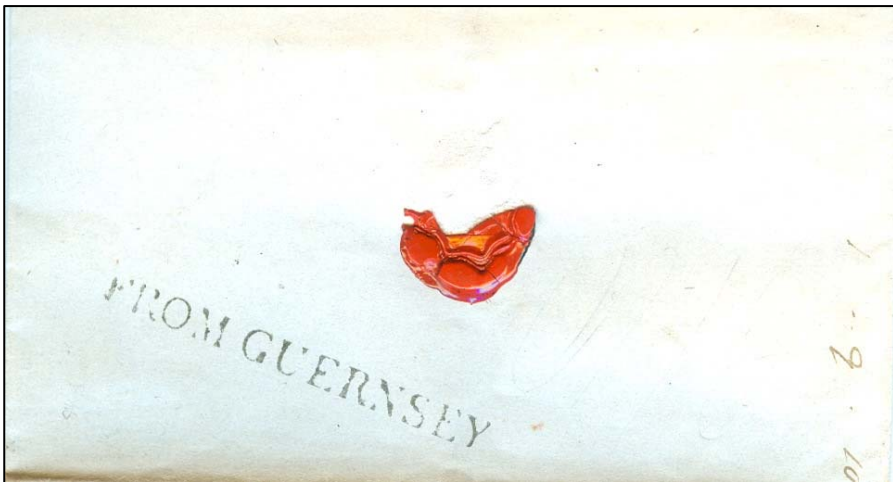


Fig.17.

Figure 17 above is one of only three recorded letters from Jersey bearing this handstamp and these are very scarce indeed.

The **'FROM GUERNSEY'** handstamp was in use from 1812 to 1837. Guernsey was the last port of call from Jersey before arriving at Weymouth and it was found convenient to mark all letters **'FROM GUERNSEY'** instead of having handstamps for both Islands. This is a scarce mark and the majority of examples are on letters from Guernsey. Only three such handstamps are recorded on letters to or from Jersey and therefore are rare when applied to letters originating from Jersey.

BYE BOAT

The Weymouth Packet was originally a once weekly service. To meet the Merchant's desire for a more frequent service a private 'bye boat' service was introduced by Weymouth ship owners and Letter Forwarding Agents James Ahier and Nicholas Robilliard operated this service from 1801 to 1803 then solely by Nicholas Robilliard until 1807. The 'Bye Boat' service sailed from Weymouth to Guernsey each Wednesday and the weekly Packet on a Sunday.

The Act of 1794 establishing Post Offices in the Channel Islands was not registered by the Royal Court in Jersey and the Postmaster could not, therefore, claim the monopoly of carrying letters. Various private postal services operated until the introduction of uniform postage in 1839. This fact was probably one reason why Nicholas Robilliard was able to run a 'Bye-Boat' service in competition with the Weymouth Packet.

A second possible reason is that outbound letters could be sent outside the mails and the Post Office could not object, hence many thousands of letters were sent via coffee shops, Letter Forwarding Agents etc. Incoming letters, however, had to be landed legally at the first British port of call and there were significant fines for non-compliance.

A Mr Bennet (possibly a Post Office Inspector) wrote to Francis Freeling at the General Post Office on 8 July 1806.

'I beg to say that when I was at Weymouth on my return from Falmouth last month, I was informed a Bye-Boat to and from Weymouth to Guernsey and Jersey had been established by some Persons in those Islands, to the great detriment to the revenue of this office, as well as the Captains of the two Packets at that station, by carrying Passengers on those days the Packet does not Sail, whereby the amount received for Passengers by the Office has fallen from £700 to £400 per annum....'

The Post Office were concerned at the loss of £300 from its passenger traffic together with the loss of revenue from mail carried on the Bye-Boat. It is considered likely that the Bye-Boat was in part financed by Merchants in Guernsey, as suggested by Mr Bennett, in order to obtain a regular additional service.

Although the Packet Captains were under strict instructions to sail promptly with the mail, they in fact earned more money carrying passengers than carrying mail and often sailed late awaiting more passengers.

Although the British postal authorities were concerned with the loss of revenue it appears that they were legally unable to stop the 'Bye-Boat' service.

The following notice advertising the Bye-Boat service was published in the Salisbury and Winchester Journal of 3 November 1806:

'The public are hereby informed that the Alert extra Packet or Bye Boat between Weymouth and Guernsey, most completely fitted for passengers, and which has hitherto given the greatest satisfaction, will in future sail from Weymouth every Tuesday evening (wind and weather permitting), for Guernsey, and sail from thence, on its return to Weymouth, on the Monday following. Goods directed to the care of Mr Nicholas Robilliard at Weymouth, will be taken the greatest care of.

The Bye Boat entering the harbour immediately on its arrival at Guernsey, prevents the great inconvenience to passengers which those by the packets experience of their sailing at once for Jersey, and thereby obliging them to get into boats from the Roads, frequently at considerable distance from the shore'.

The Post Office decided that the volume of correspondence and passengers between the Islands and Weymouth was sufficient to introduce a second weekly packet in 1807. This impacted upon the 'Bye-Boat' service and within a short time it ceased.

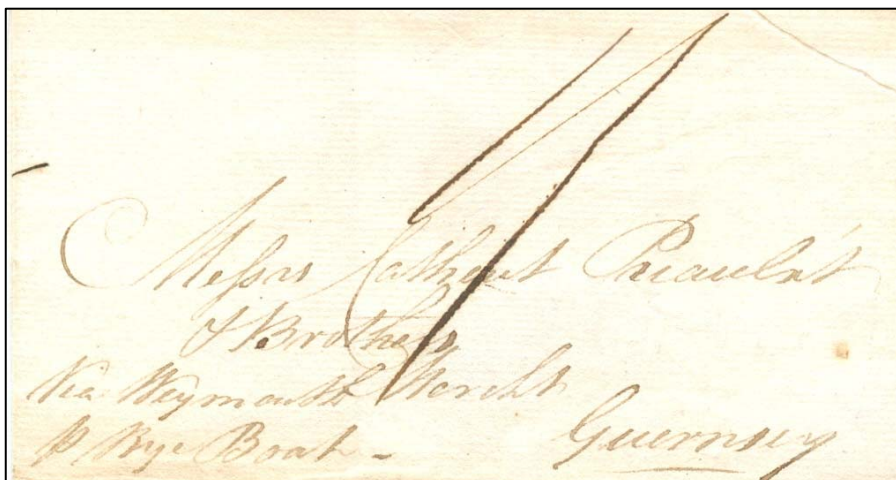


Fig.18.



Fig.19.

Letters endorsed *p Bye Boat* are scarce.

Figure 18 above is a wrapper dated 20 April 1806 from Mevagissey to Guernsey endorsed '*Via Weymouth p Bye Boat*'.

Rated at 1/- as follows:-

Mevagissey to Weymouth	9d
Weymouth to Guernsey Packet Rate	<u>3d</u>
	1/-

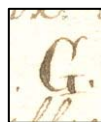
This is the postal charge endorsed on the wrapper at Mevagissey where the straight line **MEVAGISSEY** was struck on the back. How the letter was sent from Weymouth to Guernsey is a matter for conjecture. The letter could have been sent either by the Post Office on the Packet or handed to

Mr Robilliard and conveyed by the bye-boat. There is no hard evidence available to discern the route taken.

Figure 19 above is a wrapper dated 2 February 1803 from Guernsey to London endorsed '*pr Bye Boat, via Weymouth*'. It appears that the writer or Agent handed the letter into the post in Guernsey where it was charged as a Ship Letter.

Rated at 2/-, this charge represented the Ship Letter charge of 4d plus the Weymouth to London inland rate of 8d giving a total rate of 1/- having been doubled for the wrapper and letter ie two sheets.

Letters addressed to Guernsey c/o Mr Robilliard at Weymouth were not delivered to him by the Post Office, but intercepted and sent direct to Guernsey on the official Packet. As a result Messrs Cartaret Priaulx, one of the leading Merchants in Guernsey, advised their correspondents not to write Guernsey on their letters, but to send them to Mr Robilliard in Weymouth adding a code letter 'G' which enabled them to be identified as letters for Guernsey.



(To be continued in the next Journal)

A short biography of Charles Coker

by Wolfgang Scharlipp

Every collector of the stamps of the smaller Channel Islands is familiar with the name Charles Coker, well known for designing the first stamps of Herm as well as all stamps of Jethou. In his foreword to the Smaller Channel Islands Catalogue Robert Forrester writes: "Without the issues of Herm, Jethou and Lihou the talents of Charles Coker and Rigby Graham would be unknown to the world of philately. That would be a sad thing for as stamp designers they rank with the best." Charles Coker was not really a stamp designer. As few people know who he was, here we want to dedicate a few words to him.

Coker was born the 20th of November 1918 in Guernsey. During his childhood his family moved to Alderney where he attended the St. Annes School, already attracting attention because of his talent in drawing. Consequently he built his professional career on this talent by starting to

work in the graphical department of the "Guernsey Evening Press". Here he also developed an interest in photography which enabled him to work as a photographer for the Royal Air Force during WWII.

Returning to Guernsey after the end of the war he continued to work again at the Guernsey Evening Press from 1945. Almost three years later he was asked to design the first stamps for the Isle of Herm. During the time of stamp designing and all the years to come Coker followed his interest in art and painted mostly water colours, his preferred subjects being the coastal areas and harbour scenes of the Channel Islands. Charles Coker's success as a painter was mirrored in the exhibitions in which he took part. The most important among them were: 1982 the exhibition in the Sarnia Arts Club which had been Guernsey's biggest arts club for more than 80 years; 1991 in the Candie Art Gallery in Guernsey and 1999 in The Coach House in St. Pierre Du Bois in the west of Guernsey. Charles Coker died one day before his 82nd birthday in the year 2000.

Among the artists who created stamps for the smaller Channel Islands, the most typical stamp designer was Michael Goaman (1921-2009) who had designed stamps for Great Britain and about 40 other countries for over 30 years. Best qualified to demonstrate the difference between the stamp designs of a real stamp artist and an artist who designs a stamp, are the 1962 Europa stamps of Herm by Goaman and the three higher values of the first set of Jethou by Charles Coker.

While Goaman follows a principle of having two elements in his stamps, one with an iconic function, for example Neptune as the God of the (surrounding) sea, and a more concrete, descriptive function, here with the map of Herm, Coker offers a straight forward aesthetical impression by drawing some of the beautiful scenes of the Island.

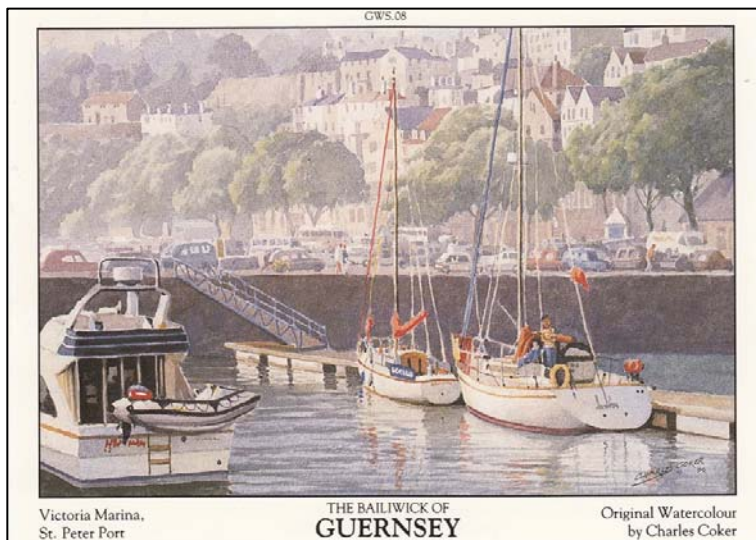


Stamp of Herm

Stamp of Jethou

The coastal scenery that Coker liked so much is up to now represented by

his water colours, which can still be bought by tourists as postcards, like the one pictured here that was bought in St.Peter Port in July 2013.



Postcard of Charles Coker

PAST JOURNALS and BULLETINS.

The Society has a stock of past issues of the **Bulletins** and the Journal '**LES ILES NORMANDES**'. These are available at £1.00 each, and the Bulletins at £0.50 each, postage and packing is extra. The indices to both the Bulletins and Journals can be found on the website; www.ciss1950.org.uk

To enquire about past issues please contact Moira Edwards at 86, Hall Lane, Sandon, Chelmsford, CM2 7RQ, or email:

membership@ciss1950.org.uk

Guernsey 2003 £5 (SG 1008) with error of MISSING SILVER
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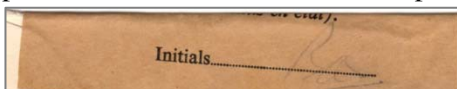
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Some rare and newly discovered occupation acquisitions.
 by Gerald Marriner FRPSL



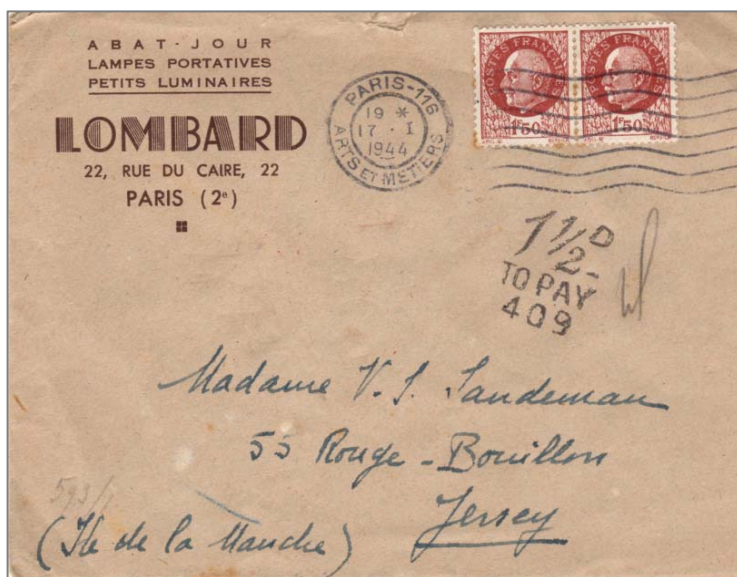
I illustrate above an unusual cover posted on 27 January 1941, addressed locally with both a 2d and a 3d bisect. The 2d bisect was cancelled with a Guernsey circular datestamp. On its own this would have paid the printed matter rate. However the sender sealed the envelope and sent it at the 2½d rate thus an extra 1½d postage was required and the sender decided to bisect a GB 3d Centenary stamp to pay this extra postage. However, bisection of 3d stamps was not authorised by the Post Office in Guernsey and was therefore treated as invalid for postage. Hence it was not cancelled. However, whilst at the Post Office, either the cover was damaged or opened by postal officials and was repaired with a Post Office **‘Found open or damaged’** tape. This tape was tied to the front of the cover with a rectangular framed handstamp in purple and sealed the bisected 3d stamp to the cover. The reverse side with remaining tape is shown here.



The Post Office did not surcharge this cover.

3d Centenary bisects are very uncommon and I would be pleased to receive scans of any such 3d bisects members may have in their collections.

My second item is an underpaid cover dated January 1944 sent from Paris to Jersey. Only 3 Fr postage had been paid, whereas the correct letter rate

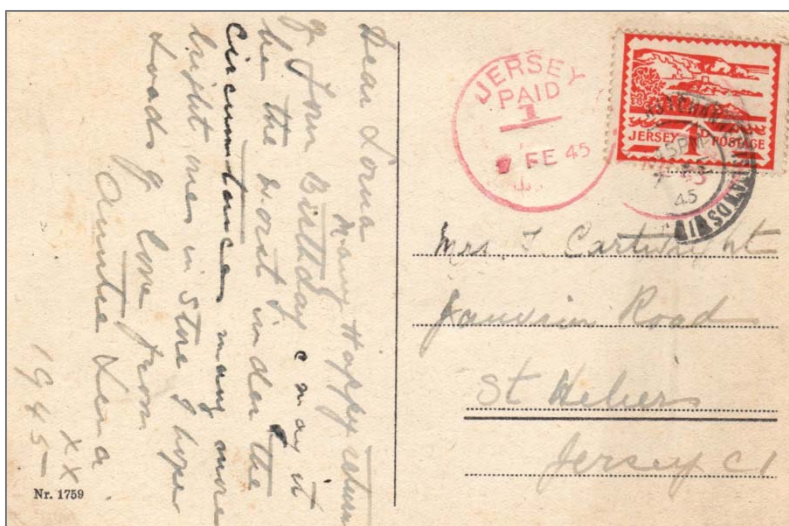


from France to Jersey was 4 Fr. Hence the underpayment was 1 Fr. No surcharge mark was applied in France. However, on arrival in Jersey, the postal deficiency was noticed and the item was surcharged.

The surcharge was calculated as follows –

Prior to the Occupation the Jersey to France letter rate was 3d. Hence the deficiency on postage was calculated as – $1 \text{ Fr}/4\text{Fr} \times 3\text{d} = 3/4\text{d}$. The surcharge was double the deficiency- ($2 \times 3/4\text{d} = 1\frac{1}{2}\text{d}$.). Hence the Jersey surcharge mark ($1\frac{1}{2}\text{d} / \text{TO PAY} / 409$) was applied. This is the first example of this marking that I have seen used during the Occupation.

My third acquisition shows an unusual usage of the Jersey circular 1d



PAID handstamp (type with the small '1' from the amended $\frac{1}{2}\text{d}$. handstamp). This example is dated 9 February 1945. Until now I have only seen examples of this handstamp used on their own to prepay 1d postage on printed matter rate covers. The illustration shows a birthday card with a message alongside the address. The sender used a Jersey 1d Views stamp to pay the postage. This would have been the correct rate without the message. However with the message, the postage rate was 2d.

Because of the shortage of stamps in 1945, the Jersey 1d PAID handstamp was used to signify that the extra postage had been paid. This appears to be a very scarce combination item on a card. I would again be interested to learn if other members have similar uprated cards from 1945.

DISPOSAL OF YOUR CHANNEL ISLANDS' COLLECTIONS

If you or your relatives wish your collection to be sold due to change of interest, incapacity, or death the Society could assist you by arranging for its disposal within the C.I.S.S. through the Society's auctions and/or circulating Packets.

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- 1. Best realisation of value to owner or dependents.**
- 2. Opportunity for members to obtain items reasonably.**
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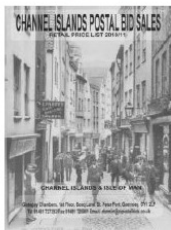
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| 2. The Post Office in the Smaller Channel Islands (154pp) | £12.00 |
| 3. The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices (265pp) | £10.00 |
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during the Occupation 1940-45 (389pp) | £8.00 |
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| 6. Islanders Deported Part 11 (246pp) | £4.00 |
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| 8. The Postal History of the Jersey Sub-Post Offices (376pp) | £15.00 |
| <u>(This book is reduced from £27 to £15 as staples are slightly rusting)</u> | |
| 9. Registered Mail of the Guernsey Sub-Offices 1968-1990 Vol 2 | £3.00 |
| 10. Registered Mail of the Guernsey Sub-Offices 1968-1990 Vol .3 | £3.00 |
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Collect **Channel Islands and Isle of Man** *Stamps*

A Review of the 2014 Edition by David Gurney FRPSL

As refreshing as ever in its full colour format, this soft cover bound combined 29th edition is very similar to last year. The size has increased by a further 17 pages of listings to November 2013 now providing 377pp.

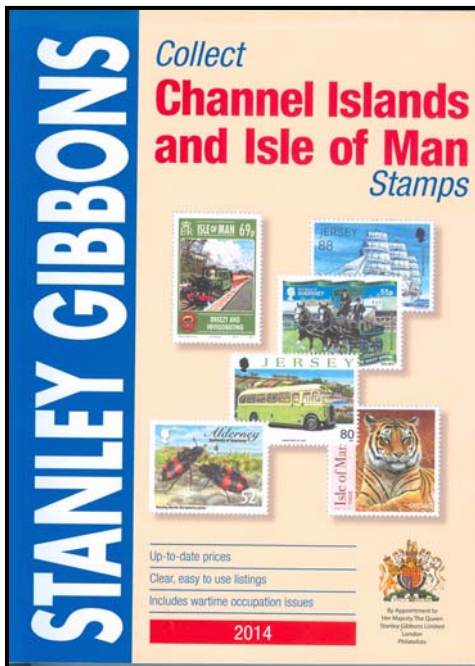
A new innovation is the four page International Philatelic Glossary in five languages which should prove to be very useful to collectors.

In looking at the listings themselves there are a number of very minor price increases to the early Guernsey Independent First Day covers,

Presentation Packs and some gutter pairs and also to some of the postage dues.

Again the Isle of Man listings reflect some similar minor adjustments particularly to First Day covers, Presentation Packs and gutter pairs. Jersey follows a similar pattern with some adjustments upwards to the First Day covers and set prices for the 1980s, but nothing particularly significant.

Overall another excellent Stanley Gibbons publication costing only a further one pound at £29.95. The full colour printing affords an excellent presentation of these attractive stamps with all the information a collector might require for details of printings, plate and cylinder numbers, designers etc. This small handy sized and popular catalogue is commended to all collectors of these interesting stamps.



A very popular auction with some very high prices achieved. The most interesting results are below and the entire results are posted on the Society website.

LOT No	Description	Reserve	Realisation
14	Alderney 1933 cover to USA	£20	£40
20	Guernsey – 1794 entire with Guernsey concave handstamp	£290	£500
22	Guernsey – 1796 to Inverness with concave Guernsey handstamp	£245	£345
26	Jersey 1806 with str line JERSEY h/s	£200	£200
29	Guernsey -1823 to Bristol with superb ‘FROM GUERNSEY’ handstamp	£650	£750
36	1834 – Brazil to London with GUERNSEY/SHIP LETTER handstamp	£250	£300
44	1834 –Belize to London with JERSEY Ship Letter mark in black	£80	£150
49	Jersey 1845 entire re ordering barrels of tar from Archangel	£10	£42
58	Jersey – 1870 mail by ‘Ballon Monte’	£200	£450
64	Jersey 1899 Registered cover to Argentina	£50	£60
65	Jersey – 1888 T5 /JE Jersey Taxe mark	£100	£220
86	Jersey 1914 registered cover to Calcutta with Beresford St datestamps & Jersey 2 registration label	£250	£325
96	Jersey -1931 1d to pay/ liable to postcard rate	£20	£55
101	Jersey 1939 cover surcharged 1/2d for Return to sender	£60	£80
107	Postcard to Switzerland with Guernsey M.O.O. datestamp for 1903	£30	£60
111	Guernsey 1918 French Sea Plane Base cover	£150	£500
119	Sark 1913 Certificate of posting registered item	£40	£55
129	Guernsey – 2d bisect & 1d Arms to make up correct 2d postcard rate. From Midland Bank	£20	£46
145	Guernsey 1941 cover with KGV1 Coronation stamp and 1d Arms	£20	£50

LOT No	Description	Reserve	Realisation
193	Jersey – 1941 Feldpost cover	£50	£80
197	Feldpost – 29 October 1944 Fortress Mail	£250	£250
208	Red Cross – Summary message form Lisbon	£50	£80
220	Red Cross form with postal censorship label	£20	£50
224	Bradshaw Advice Card type AC5a	£30	£50
234	Internee Mail -1944 cover from Australia to Biberach. Censored in Australia	£200	£400
242	Internee Mail -1943 Jersey to Wurzach - censored in Frankfurt	£40	£70
258	Guernsey 1951 with ‘3d TO PAY/324’ mark	£40	£60
273	Jersey 1952 Posted out of course with Jersey 22 registration label & 3d TO PAY/409 mark	£25	£42
294	Herm – Triangular proof	£100	£100
318	Sark LL card 11	£4	£24
344	Guernsey – LL Card 33	£15	£32
408	Jersey – LL card 59	£40	£210

FORTHCOMING NEW STAMP ISSUES – 2014.

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28th May 2014 Celebrating 50 Years of Britain in Bloom (Sepac)

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First Day Cover		£4.93
Presentation Pack		£4.63
Sheets of 10		£37.30

30th July 2014 Marine Life II: Crustaceans

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Presentation Pack		£4.63
Sheets of 10		£37.30
Miniature Sheet		£3.00
First Day Cover		£4.20
Presentation Pack		£3.90

30th July 2014 Scenes of Guernsey (NVI Self Stick)

Set of 10, GYx5, UKx5	£4.80
First Day Cover	£6.00
Presentation Pack	£5.70
GY Booklets of 10	£4.10
UK Booklets of 10	£5.50
GY Booklets of 100	£41.00
UK Booklets of 100	£55.00

ALDERNEY

22nd July 2014 First Birthday of HRH Prince George

Se-Tenant pair	£1.10
First Day Cover	£2.30
Presentation Pack	£2.00
Sheets of 10	£5.50

30th July 2014 The Life of Ian Fleming

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Sheets of 10	£37.30
Miniature Sheet	£3.00
First Day Cover	£4.20
Presentation Pack	£3.90

JERSEY POST

30 June 2014 Jersey Seasons – Summer

Set of 8 stamps	£5.96
First Day Cover	£7.11
Presentation Pack	£7.11

11th July 2014 Red Arrows - 50 Display Seasons

Set of 6 stamps	£4.07
First Day Cover	£5.22
Presentation Pack	£5.22
Souvenir Sheetlet	£4.07
First Day Cover	£5.22
Presentation Pack	£5.22

4th August 2014 Jersey WW1 Participation

Set of 6 stamps	£4.07
First Day Cover	£5.22
Presentation Pack	£5.22
Souvenir Sheetlet	£4.07
First Day Cover	£5.22
Presentation Pack	£5.22
Miniature Sheet	£1.00
First Day Cover	£2.15
Presentation Pack	£2.15

27th August 2014 Jersey's Roman Connections

Set of 6 stamps	£4.07
First Day Cover	£5.22
Presentation Pack	£5.22
Miniature Sheet	£2.00
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Presentation Pack	£3.15

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Note: This is the basic charge only.

Also, please be aware that from 2013, Jersey Post will be charging 5% GST to Jersey customers on CTO stamps (and complete CTO sheets) only.

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