



**CHANNEL ISLANDS  
SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY**

**September 2020**

**Volume 39 No.3**

# THE CHANNEL ISLANDS SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY

*Founded in 1950 for the study of the stamps and postal history of the Channel Islands*

## OFFICERS

### President

Gerald Marriner FRPSL  
e-mail: [president@ciss.uk](mailto:president@ciss.uk)

### Chairman

David Winnie  
e-mail: [chairman@ciss.uk](mailto:chairman@ciss.uk)

### Secretary

Richard Flemming  
64 Falconers Green, Burbage,  
Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 2SX  
e-mail: [secretary@ciss.uk](mailto:secretary@ciss.uk)

### Treasurer

Robert Porter  
3 Nursery Road, Hoddesdon,  
Hertfordshire, EN11 9LA  
e-mail: [treasurer@ciss.uk](mailto:treasurer@ciss.uk)

### Journal Editor

David Gurney FRPSL  
4 Kingscote, Tree Lane, Plaxtol,  
Kent, TN15 0QA  
e-mail: [editor@ciss.uk](mailto:editor@ciss.uk)

### Packet Secretary

John Triggs FRPSL  
Sunnyside, La Gibauderie,  
St. Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 1XF  
e-mail: [packets@ciss.uk](mailto:packets@ciss.uk)

### Auctioneer

Nick Stuart  
3 Dudley Road, Walton on Thames,  
Surrey, KT12 2JT  
e-mail: [auctioneer@ciss.uk](mailto:auctioneer@ciss.uk)

### Membership Secretary

Mark Bailey FRPSL  
36 Jerrymoor Hill, Finchampstead,  
Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 4UG  
e-mail: [membership@ciss.uk](mailto:membership@ciss.uk)

### Advertising & Press Officer

Steve Wells  
The Hollies, 42 High Street, Tarring,  
Worthing, West Sussex, BN14 7NR  
e-mail: [press@ciss.uk](mailto:press@ciss.uk)

### Competitions Secretary

Alan Whittaker  
48 Northlands Road, Romsey,  
Hampshire, SO51 5SD  
e-mail: [competitions@ciss.uk](mailto:competitions@ciss.uk)

CISS website: [www.ciss.uk](http://www.ciss.uk)

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 or downloaded from the society website at [www.ciss.uk](http://www.ciss.uk). 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: £50.00. Inside back cover: £40.00

Full page: £35.00 Half page: £22.00

## SUBSCRIPTIONS and STANDING ORDERS

Will members please note the following points:-

1. Subscriptions, which are due on **1<sup>st</sup> January**, should be sent direct to **Mark Bailey** 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 pay by PayPal. The amount will be the appropriate subscription rate plus an amount to cover the PayPal fee. Send your PayPal payment to: [treasurer@ciss.uk](mailto:treasurer@ciss.uk) mailto: [treasurer@ciss.uk](mailto:treasurer@ciss.uk)
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 **14<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Subscription rates for the current year 2020 are:-**

Countries	Class of postage	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES in pounds sterling
Zone 1: Great Britain and Channel Islands	2 <sup>nd</sup> class Letterpost	Ordinary Member aged under 65 years, <b>£25</b> ; or if choosing electronic copy of quarterly journal, <b>£20</b> . Juniors, Members aged 65 years and over and Registered Disabled, <b>£15</b> ; or if choosing to receive electronic copy of quarterly journal, <b>£12.50</b> .
Zone 2: Europe and Rest of World	Airmail Printed Paper/ Small Packet rate	Ordinary Member, <b>£30</b> ; or if choosing an electronic copy of the journal, <b>£20</b> .

**Note: from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 there has been no Life Member category.**

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

2193 Michael Hildreth, West Sussex; 2194 Nick Martin, Lincolnshire.

## **CONTENTS**

Secretary's Clipboard .....	3
News of Members – Alan Moorcroft FRPSL .....	4
Can you help – John Goose .....	4
British methodology in dealing with German P.O.W.s in the Channel Islands .....	5
Letter Forwarding Agents handling Channel Islands Mails .....	8
CISS Postal Auction NS12 April 2020 Report .....	11
The only known “ <i>Undated</i> ” Double Arc for Jersey – 1834? .....	13
New Jersey Slogan .....	15
Confiscation of Wireless sets and the St Saviours Wireless case .....	17
New postal stationery issued by Jersey Post .....	29
Tete-beche 1½d GVI letter-press block used at St. Brelades Bay, Sub-Post office.....	32
Guernsey Star advertisement of 25 April 1942 .....	32
Forthcoming New Stamp Issues in 2020.....	35

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**

This current year of 2020 has so far shown itself to be one in which I believe we are all finding some difficulty in coping with the constantly changing situation as we emerge slowly, at present, from the lock-down, the like of which no one has ever experienced before. Even the older of us who can just recall the experiences of the War on the home front with its regulations and censorship find this an unprecedented and worrying time. The question in many of our minds must be where is this virus and may it strike any one of us at any time?

From a philatelic point of view the time spent indoors has enabled some soul searching and time spent in tackling jobs often deferred. Certainly my plea recently for more articles with time on our hands has provided me with several articles which have been most helpful with the cancellation of all meetings and events which have often provided the platform for the purchase of new items and the inspiration for articles! Thank you so much to all those whom have made contributions.

## SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD

by Richard Flemming

Normally I would be having lots to write for the September Journal, but as I write this the Covid-19 pandemic seems to keep going with many of us not having a holiday for many a month.

Just in case you did not pick it up from my email sent to members, if you go to the "Auctions" page of the [www.ciss.uk](http://www.ciss.uk) website you will now see a sub-heading "Auction Archives" where you will see a list of the last four postal auctions with illustrations of auction lots and prices realised. Our thanks must go to Nick Stuart and Ed Martin for setting this up. Members can now access illustrations that may help with any further research they wish to undertake.

Also, I must apologise to David Ackroyd for missing the announcement in the June journal that he was awarded the Late John Hirst Silver Salver\* for 2019 with his article titled *Ted and James Birch and the Pigeon Post Stamp*, which can be seen in the September 2019 Journal pages 17-20.

**FOLLOWING A FULL COMMITTEE MEETING IT WAS DECIDED, GIVEN THE CURRENT COVID-19 SITUATION AND DELAYED REOPENING OF THE RPSL BUILDING, TO CANCEL THE SEPTEMBER 2020 MEETING. Please watch the [www.ciss.uk](http://www.ciss.uk) 'NEWS' page for details of the December 2020 event.**

### **Dates for future meetings.**

5<sup>th</sup> December 2020 Theme: Letters Q, R and/or S. **TO BE CONFIRMED.**

6<sup>th</sup> February 2021 Member's Competition Day and member's meeting

\*Lindsey Hirst kindly donated a silver salver to the Society in memory of her late husband, John, towards the end of 2019. The committee decided to award the salver for the best article appearing in any of the *Les Iles Normandes* Journals for that year. The next award will be for the best article appearing in any of the four 2020 *Les Iles Normandes* Journals, to be judged by the full CISS committee.

**All members' meetings are now held at the Royal Philatelic Society  
London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW.**

**Keep up to date by visiting our website at [www.ciss.uk](http://www.ciss.uk).**

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

### **Alan Moorcroft FRPSL**

You may already be aware that Alan Moorcroft is scaling back on all of his philatelic activities for family, business and personal well being reasons. As a consequence, he has decided to resign as Competition Secretary.

Alan has carried out various roles within the Society with distinction, not least as our President, and I am sure you will all wish to join with me in expressing our sincere thanks and gratitude for all the hard work and valued experience he has given to all of us spanning his philatelic life. It has been very much appreciated. Alan will of course be continuing as a member of the Society and will be joining us as usual once the Philatelic world re-opens.

I am delighted to confirm that my invitation to Alan Whittaker to take on the role of Competition Secretary has been accepted and know, like myself, you will all wish to welcome Alan to the Committee role and to help him settle in. **David Winnie. Chairman.**

### **Can you help** by John Goose, CISS member in New Zealand

In the June edition of *Les Iles Normandes* (Vol 39 No 2) there was a good article on a cover addressed to Dr W Byam OBE. At the end it states how important Dr Byam's philatelic work was. He was based in Guernsey and founded the Egypt Study Circle in 1935, later invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1949.

I wish to remind our readers that it was the very same Dr Byam who invited Eric A Piprell to join other artists when the Guernsey Regional stamp was being designed. Eric Piprell's design was chosen and through Dr Byam, Eric Piprell continued to make philatelic history for Guernsey. (See *Les Iles Normandes* June 2008 Vol 27 No 2).

At present I am building up a collection of Guernsey Regional stamps. Can any member please help me by providing me with any Guernsey Regional stamps used in Jersey - or used from anywhere else?

**FOLLOWING A FULL COMMITTEE MEETING  
IT WAS DECIDED, GIVEN THE CURRENT  
COVID-19 SITUATION AND DELAYED  
REOPENING OF THE RPSL BUILDING, TO  
CANCEL THE SEPTEMBER 2020 MEETING.**

### **British methodology in dealing with German P.O.W.s in the Channel Islands** by Ron Osborne

This article looks at the treatment of a German P.O.W. who was based on Sark in conjunction with the Army Form A.F. W 3000 shown on the next page.

When the war ended the German troops in the Islands became prisoners of war. They were documented, probably medically inspected and Army Form (A.F. W 3000) was completed.

This form is for Heinrich Poschenreithner who was serving on Sark where he was first captured on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945. It shows his POW number at the top of the form with personal details and with the respective Camp Orderly Room handstamps of the P.O.W. camps he was detained in viz

P.O.W. Camp 801 in Castel, Guernsey,

P.O.W. Camp 20 on the English mainland at Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, Bucks

P.O.W. Camp 402 on the English mainland at Lopscombe Corner, Salisbury, Wilts.

The final stamp on the form shows Heinrich Poschenreithner was repatriated on 20th June 1946 - quite a short time possibly because of his service situation and possibly his age as he was almost 40?

A.F. W 3000

Prisoner of  
War.

B No 543190

## Part 1.

To be completed by O/C Unit and retained by him until the prisoner of war is transferred. When the prisoner is transferred, Part 1 will be handed to the escort for delivery to the new place of internment. The date of receipt of the prisoner of war should be recorded by office stamp in spaces (boxes) provided on right of Part 1.

STAMP OF  
P/W CAMP  
OR  
MEDICAL UNIT.

25 MAY 1945  
601 P.O.W.

Date of Arrival at  
Camp or Medical Unit

Surname MUSCHENREITHChristian Names HEINRICHDate of Birth 1.9.1901Place of Capture SARKDate of Capture 8 MAY 1945Particulars on Identiv Disc NR 4415 LOSHE SP.Rank 0366ERNumber or Name of Division 319Unit or Ship, Number of Regiment. 544Battn, Coy., Squad., Batty. 1Nationality DESTEREINOccupation FORST-ARBEITERReligion R. KATH.Signature of Prisoner of War  
H. MuschenreithHeight Weight Complexion Hair Eyes  
Feet Inches lbs.

Marks (if any)

Special observations

Personal Effects (if any) to be enumerated

Signature H. Muschenreith

Date



402 P.W. CAMP  
IN  
20 JULY 1945

REPATRIATED  
20 JUN 1946



# **CHANNEL ISLANDS' LOCAL ISSUES**

**HERM, JETHOU, LIHOU,  
ALDERNEY PARCEL DELIVERY SERVICE,  
COMMODORE SHIPPING COMPANY,  
CHAUSEY AND OTHER FRENCH CHANNEL ISLANDS,  
PRIVATE ISSUES AND REVENUES.**

## **Regular retail lists and auctions**

Please contact me for your copy today.

**JON AITCHISON**, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill,  
Near Bishop's Stortford CM22 7TF, United Kingdom.  
Telephone U.K. 01279 870488. Email [britishlocals@aol.com](mailto:britishlocals@aol.com)

## **PAST JOURNALS and BULLETINS.**

The Society has a good stock of past issues of the **Bulletins** and the Journal '**LES ILES NORMANDES**'. The **Bulletins** are available at £0.50 each, and the **Journals** at £1.00 each, postage and packing is extra. The indices to both the Bulletins and Journals can be found on the website; [www.ciss.uk](http://www.ciss.uk)

To enquire about past issues please contact, Mark Bailey at 36, Jerry Moor Hill, Finchampstead Wokingham RG40 4UG or email:

[membership@ciss.uk](mailto:membership@ciss.uk)

## Letter Forwarding Agents handling Channel Islands Mails

by David Gurney FRPSL.

I have been fortunate to acquire two entire letters from the late 18c for my collection which I detail below:

### **Priaulx & Bienvenue.**

An entire statement of account dated the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1796 addressed to *Thos. Saumarez Esq. / Procurer / Guernsey* carried privately from Southampton to Guernsey.



Nothing particularly special in itself except that the Account is beautifully signed with the signature of the Partnership and an adornment below the signature, not uncommon in the 18c and earlier in the rather flamboyant style of the times.



### **Le Cras & Le Mesurier**

Noah Le Cras entered into partnership in 1776 with Paul Le Mesurier, whose wife was related to Le Cras's wife. a future Lord Mayor of London,

The two became highly successful as prize agents and owners of the privateers that sailed from Guernsey and the other Channel Islands during the American Revolutionary War. Their success meant Le Cras was able to retire at the end of the war with "an ample fortune". It is not known precisely how long this partnership existed but, would eventually have been probably dissolved following the end of the War in America by 1783.



This entire letter was written by John de Havilland in Guernsey on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1778, addressed to Peter Frederick Dobrée at Messrs Le Cras and Le Mesurier in London and comprises personal and family matters.



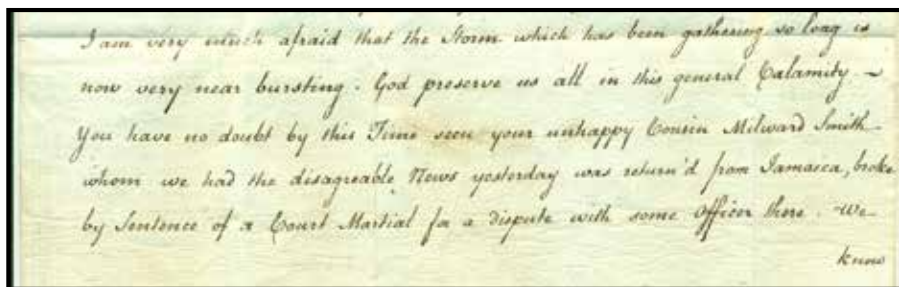
The letter itself has been struck with a fair impression of the two-line **SOUTHAMPTON / SHIP LRE** hand stamp in black ink on the right hand side on



arrival in Southampton and charged 4d. On arrival in London it has been struck with a good impression of the Bishop mark 4 / **MA** in a small circle on the reverse side.

Noah Le Cras was later elected as a Burgess in Southampton and in 1795 was sworn in as a Bailiff. He was then residing at Eling, a village and





## CISS Postal Auction NS12 April 2020

The auction this spring had sales of over £11,200 with Lots from 18 vendors and there were 90 bidders. The prices realised ranged from £1 to £250.

For a change we had a very good range of postcards; *LLs*, Allix's and many other publishers covering a wide range of subjects which attracted many bidders. Notable sales were a Guernsey *LL* 111 B&W mint card of Cobo Beach (253) @ £140. Three cards printed in blue sold for good prices; Guernsey *LL*130 of Rocquaine Bay (274) which was reserved at £10, sold for £27; Guernsey *LL* 151 of Jerbourg Point, The Pea Stacks (286) went for £70 and Guernsey *LL*175 of Petit Bot Bay (295) also sold for £70.

A wide range of Sark *LL*'s attracted some fierce bidding with *LL*21 Les Autlets (355) in sepia sold for £42 against a reserve of £8. *LL*42 of the Entrance to the Seigneurie (364) in blueprint produced for the Guernsey Press went for £140 and a used B&W card with a green back *LL*55 of 'Joung Girl' (367) sold for £85. Demand for Jersey *LLs* was high and two cards *LL*219 'In the Field' in sepia (403) and *LL* 405 'Rough Sea, Corbiere Point' (420) both sold for £230 each.

Two Jersey Allix's cards, No. 16 'General View' (424) sold for £120 and 67 'The Court House' (436), a used coloured card sold for £150. Several Lots were of themed displays. "The Story of the Vega" a lovely collection of original photos and postcards sold for £170;

Ships of the Liberation raised £120; Jersey Lifeboats sold for £34 and a nice display of Jersey Harbours and Potatoes went for £60.

Early postal history sold well including a scarce Guernsey 1909 Parcel label used for Customs Duty payment (34) sold for £250.

There were several Lots of postcards (36) with Christmas Day cancellations all selling for a few pounds. The Occupation section had a wide range of material including Ration Books, a Warrant Card for an ARP Warden, Feldpost, Bisects, Imprint blocks, various covers, Internee Mail (136) and Red Cross forms.

There were several flight covers especially the BEA ones from the 1950s (172, 173). All were sold for around £10 each. A rare Guernsey variety, the 1969 4d UM booklet pane with missing green stem (188), SG18c, sold for £120.

The next postal auction will be held in November 2020 and will, again, have a wide range of post cards including an almost complete run of Sark *LLs*.

**Items for the next auction must be sent to Gerald Marriner at -**

**3, Barfoot Close, Fleckney, Leicestershire, LE8 8TD**

**as soon as possible at the latest by the 30th September**  
**along with descriptions and the reserve price for each lot.**

## The only known “Undated” Double Arc for Jersey – 1834?

by David Winnie

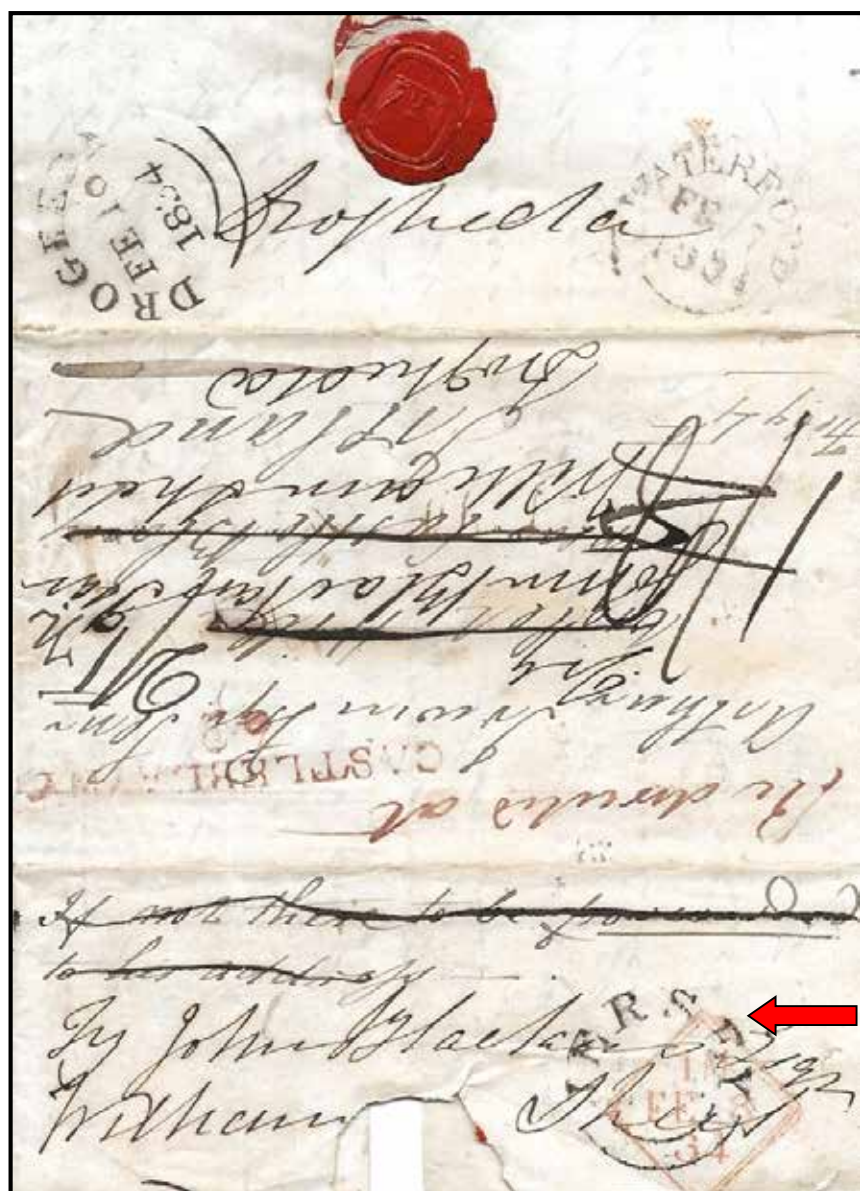
The Covid-19 pandemic has provided me with an opportunity to sort through my various plastic boxes of material into some sort of order and it is very surprising what one can find whilst doing this. On the face of it, I believed I had discovered what was possibly a unique Entire Letter from 1834 to Ireland with the only known example of an undated Double Arc. This discovery also potentially served to correct the records that appear in two major reference books as I shall explain. The entire letter is shown on the next page for reference as it is much travelled.

The first datestamp was introduced in Jersey in 1830. It was known as “the improved steel datestamp with a double set of figures” and is recorded in the G.P.O. Proof Books as having been dispatched to Jersey on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1830. It was brought into use in June 1830 and is found struck in black up to 1845 and in red from 1843 to 1845. In *‘Stanley Gibbons Specialised Catalogue of Stamps and Postal History of the Channel Islands’*, one example, used in **1830**, is known which has the date completely missing. In *‘Stamps and Postal History of the Channel Islands by William Newport’*, one example, used in **1832**, is known with the date completely missing. My example is used in **1834** and **begged the question “are there three such examples known” or are the reference books incorrect?**

I summarise the routes, rates and markings shown on my entire letter as follows:

- Jersey to Waterford rated ‘8’ with Jersey undated double arc and Waterford dated double arc for 7<sup>th</sup> February 1834, both in black.
- Waterford to Dublin 103 miles and Dublin to Castleblayny 70 miles rated 1/-, with a Dublin ‘diamond’ in red for 8<sup>th</sup> February 1834 and manuscript “re directed to” Castleblayny/62 mileage marking in red.
- Castleblayny to Drogheda 40 miles rated ‘5’ making a total charge of 2/1 in black manuscript, and a Drogheda dated double arc in black as an arrival mark on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1834.







I am very grateful to Alan Moorcroft for his help in scrutinising a scan of the Entire under 300% magnification and for expressing his views. To the naked eye and even under normal magnification, the cancellation looks undated, but under high magnification, Alan could see traces of black ink and parts of the year slugs 1,3, 4, but not the day or month. He believes, and I think it makes sense, that the removable date slugs have not been inserted fully into the datestamp so that the outer frame has impressed clearly, but the date is either feint or missing in places. It will be my intention to have this verified going forward, but nevertheless, I think this is a very nice item.

**I would very much appreciate hearing from any members with a similar example.** Please contact me at [chairman@ciss.uk](mailto:chairman@ciss.uk).

### New Jersey Slogan by Steve Wells



The new slogan in use by Jersey Post in the first week of May. Not a particularly good example below, but relevant for the times and perhaps worth recording nonetheless. However, I have obtained a clean example from Jersey Post on the left and have been told that it was in use from

the 20<sup>th</sup> April until the 16<sup>th</sup> June. I learned that Charities can apply to have postmarks added to Jersey Post letter mail free of charge for specific awareness weeks and months such as loneliness week, bowel cancer awareness month etc.



# PETER MOLLETT



SPECIALISTS IN FINE STAMPS  
AND POSTAL HISTORY OF THE  
CHANNEL ISLANDS, 1800-1945

To the discerning collector looking for top  
quality items of the Channel Islands to add to  
and to enhance their collection, I offer a  
comprehensive and constantly changing  
stock of items, chosen with care.

To receive a copy of my current listing of  
offers of Channel Islands items,  
contact me today.

**PETER MOLLETT**  
**P.O. BOX 1934 · RINGWOOD**  
**HAMPSHIRE · BH24 2YZ**  
**TELEPHONE: 01425 476666**  
**EMAIL: [petermollett@yahoo.com](mailto:petermollett@yahoo.com)**

## Confiscation of Wireless sets and the St Saviours Wireless case

by Ron Brown FRPSL

Guernsey was occupied by German forces on 30 June 1940 and Jersey one day later on 1 July 1940. One of the immediate changes was that postal and telegraph services between the Channel Islands and the mainland were immediately suspended and not re-established until the Islands were liberated on 9 May 1945. Limited communications were introduced later by way of the Red Cross Postal Message Scheme forms with messages initially of only 10 words, later increased to 25 words, but the messages were censored and the contents restricted.

However, the Islanders were still able to obtain news during the first two years of the occupation via BBC broadcasts. On 3 June 1942 the Germans ordered the confiscation of all wireless sets in the Channel Islands. In Jersey, following the German notice confiscating wireless sets, an anonymous leaflet under the heading **“Bulletin No.1 of the British Patriots”** dated 15 June 1942 was circulated encouraging the Islanders to disobey the order on the grounds that it contravened Article 53 of the Hague Convention.

This leaflet, **Fig.1**, shown on the next page was produced in Jersey by the brothers Herbert and George Gallichan. Herbert worked in the food office at the Town Hall where the news sheet was typed and duplicated, whilst George was responsible for its distribution.

Copies came into the possession of the German authorities and when no one admitted to producing the paper the Germans took ten hostages. The brothers then gave themselves up. Herbert was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment and George to 1 year. Initially both were sent to Fort d’Hauteville Prison, Dijon, France. George returned to Jersey after finishing his sentence. Herbert was transferred to Friburg Prison on 14 August 1942 where he only remained for 5 days. On 19 August 1942 he was transferred to the notorious Wolfenbüttel Prison where he remained until freed by the advancing allies.

Bulletin No. 1. of the British Patriots.

15. VI.42.

To the People of Jersey.

CONFISCATION OF WIRELESS SETS.

Article 53 of the Hague Convention quite definitely does NOT give the German authorities the right to confiscate cycles, wireless sets, or any other form of personal property.

Since the occupation of the Island, we have done all in our power to maintain peaceful relations with the enemy, so much so that the Occupying authorities cannot point to one hostile act of the population towards the forces of occupation. We have, in fact, carried pacification to the point of seriously compromising our honour.

It follows therefore that the German authorities have neither legal nor moral right to confiscate our wireless sets, yet this they intend doing.

For our part, we refuse to comply with the confiscation order. It is for you to decide, in the light of this brief impartial exposé, what your own attitude is to be. But whatever your decision, be careful to give the German authorities no cause for offence in your dealings with them; under all circumstances, be coldly polite, be tactful and discreet; thus you will give them no justification to take reprisals against you or the remainder of the population.

An appeal has been made to the Bailiff of the Island, without success, firstly, to have nothing to do with the confiscation order, and secondly, to refute publicly the statement that the German authorities are acting within the framework of International Law in confiscating wireless sets.

Please circulate this bulletin.

**Fig.1. Bulletin No.1 of the British Patriots**

In contravention of German orders, many Islanders in both Guernsey and Jersey retained their wireless sets and continued to listen to BBC broadcasts. Some went further and started distributing news leaflets based on what they heard via the BBC.

### **BBC News in Guernsey**

The best known and documented BBC News sheets in Guernsey were produced under the heading 'GUNS' (Guernsey Underground News Service) see **Fig.2.** on the next page.

THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 27th/45. (9 a.m.)

COMMENCEMENT OF NEWS NOT RECEIVED DURING BREAKDOWN IN TRANSMISSION.

..... The 1st Army has advanced 5 miles from LUNEN and is 18 miles from the outskirts of COLOGNE. The 9th Army has advanced to within 8 miles of RUHRST. The 3rd Army has closed up to a 35 mile stretch of the RUHR River. The Germans are still counterattacking east of DARMSTADT.

R.A.F. Mosquitoes attacked BERLIN during the night following the daylight raid on BERLIN by more than 1,000 American heavy bombers. This was the heaviest blow the Americans have struck at the German Capital. 5,000 tons of high explosives and incendiaries were dropped on 3 main rail stations. Over 700 fighters escorted the bombers. 16 bombers and 7 fighters are missing.

R.A.F. heavy bombers yesterday attacked a synthetic oilplant at DORTMUND and Spitfires attacked rocket targets.

On the Eastern Front heavy fighting is going on on both sides of KIEV. In the Peninsula to the north-west the Russians yesterday beat off more German attacks. North-west the Red Army captured several more places.

Field Marshal Alexander has been in BELGRADE for discussions with Marshal Tito.

In Italy 8th Army troops have strengthened their ARNO River positions. The 5th Army has taken more high ground.

In Burma British troops have won a new bridgehead across the IRRAWADDY at PAGAN 22 miles south-west of MANGLAY.

American troops have landed on VERMILION ISLAND between LUCON and MINDORO. General MacArthur has turned over the Civil Government of the Philippines to President Osmeña.

An Agreement has been signed between the Czechoslovak Government and A.R.R.A. for relief in Czechoslovakia.

General Anders has been appointed Acting Commander-in-Chief of the Forces under control of the Polish Government in London. This was done without the knowledge or approval of the British Government.

SYRIA has declared war on Germany and Japan.

1940-45 GUNNSBY'S SECRET PAPER  
EDITOR L.R. BRITANN  
PRINTER REG. WALKLEY  
ORIGINAL COPY  
J. L. L. L.

Fig.2. Copy of GUNS Newsheet with details from BBC transmission of 27 February 1945. The sheet is endorsed in manuscript and this would have been added post-War.

## **BBC News in Jersey**

The BBC News continued to be circulated in Jersey. Presumably as the tide of war turned against Germany there was a renewed effort to stop news reaching the Channel Islands.

The German authorities arrested and put on trial many Channel Islanders for retaining wireless sets and distributing BBC News. The most notable trial was in Jersey and is known as the “St Saviours’ Wireless Case”.

Eighteen persons were put on trial in the Committee Room of the States of Jersey building on 9 April 1943 and all found guilty. The sentences were generally of short term imprisonment of a few months. However, the German authorities wanted to make an example and four of the eighteen were given longer sentences and three later died in German penal prisons. The names of these three are:

Canon Clifford Cohu  
Joseph Tierney  
John Whitley Nicolle

**All three names are engraved on  
the Jersey Monument.**

The BBC war news was received by John Whitley Nicolle whose father had retained a wireless set. Each day this news was written out by Joseph Tierney, a parish cemetery worker who passed this to Canon Cohu.

## **Canon Clifford Cohu**

Canon Clifford John Cohu was born in Guernsey, educated in England and served as a minister in India until his retirement in Guernsey. Canon Cohu became known to the German authorities as early as 12 October 1940 when in his Sunday sermon he was reported having ‘preached against the Germans’. Also, as chaplain of the General Hospital, he spread the BBC news during his visits.



**Fig.3.** Canon Cohu was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for spreading the BBC news.

He was sent to Fort d’Hauteville before being transferred to Naumberg Saale and Spergau concentration camp.

**Canon Clifford Cohu died at Spergau concentration camp in February 1945 as a result of brutal treatment he received.**

### **Joseph (Joe) Tierney**

Joseph, **Fig.4**, was the first of the eighteen to be arrested by the German Secret Field Police on 3 March 1943, followed by the remaining arrests over the following two weeks. He was charged with manufacturing and distributing news leaflets, spreading BBC war news and was sentenced to two years imprisonment. Joseph had been allowed to attend the christening of his new-born daughter before being transferred firstly to Fort d’Hauteville Prison and then to prisons at Frankfurt, Naumburg and Saarbrücken and in January 1944 to a prison at Frankfurt – Preungesheim. After a failed escape attempt he was recaptured.



**Fig. 4.**

*Illustrated on the next pages are the front Fig.5, reverse Fig.6 and the text of a prison printed lettersheet, Fig.7 from Fort d’Hauteville written by Joseph Tierney on 12 December 1943 and addressed to The Rev: Father Gerard Dwyer in St Helier. The French 4F stamp was cancelled at Dijon on 13 December 1943.*





Fig.5

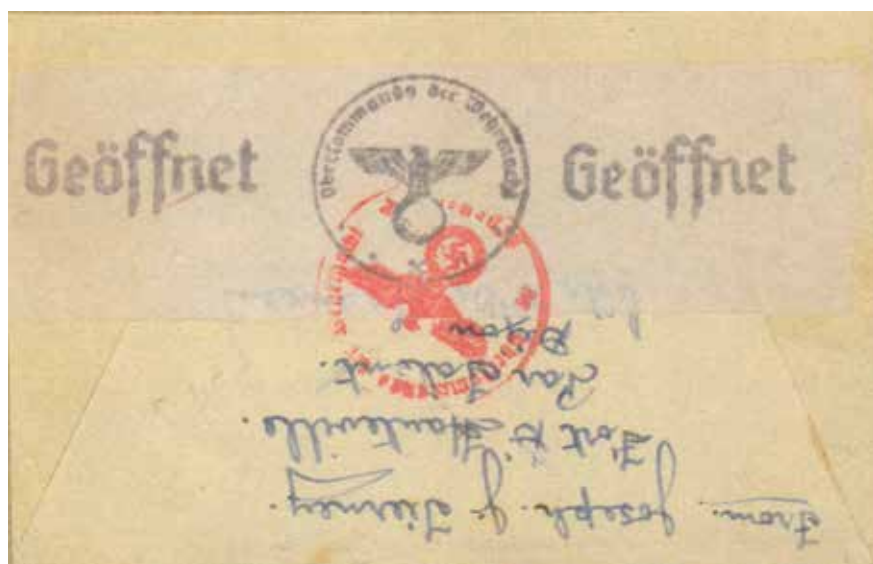


Fig.6





**Joseph Tierney died at Celle concentration camp in April 1945 after collapsing on a route march to another camp and is buried at Kaschitz leaving behind his wife and baby daughter.**

### **John Whitley Nicolle**

John was arrested on 5 March 1943, two days after Joseph Tierney and was charged with spreading BBC war news. For some reason John was referred to as the 'chief criminal' by the German prosecution and received an unusually severe sentence of three years. He was sent to Fort d'Hauteville, Dijon, France and then to Saarbrücken in Germany. On 27 December 1943 he was moved to Zweibrücken, on 17 April 1944 to Bochum and finally on 21 April 1944 to the penal prison at Dortmund.



Whilst at Fort d'Hauteville prison John spent some time in Dijon hospital. I have in my collection a moving letter from Dijon dated 18 September 1945 to his wife from a French lady visitor to the prison. Part of the letter reads *'the memory of your dear husband, victim of the hated 'Boches' still remain in our hearts. He was our friend, a great and courageous friend with ever high spirit in spite of his physical and moral sufferings in hospital and in jail 'in the Fort d'Hauteville'. He was an example for us and for the other fellows'* – see **Fig. 8.** on the next page.

**John Nicolle died in Dortmund at a date unknown from starvation and overwork plus the very brutal treatment he received. A Belgian friend who was with him at Bochum said '*Bochum camp was bad but it was a palace compared to Dortmund*'.**

Dijon, le 18 septembre 1945  
10, rue Philippe de Poitiers.

My dear Mistress Nicolle,

Don't be sad if you have not yet received any answer from Joanne-Marie. Be quiet! You never hurt her and you will remain, dear Madame Nicolle, the best friend of my daughter.

But she was very tired last month and now she spends some days of vacation by her aunt's house in Annecy (Haute Savoie) where is her grand father too.

We just receive today your lovely letter and we have done it to answer immediately, because we think you can be anxious about her long silence.

Joanne-Marie will be back here for the next week and will write you soon. You can be sure that we shall never forget our friends of Jersey. The memory of your dear husband, victim of the hated "Boches" still remain in our hearts. He was our friend, a great and courageous friend with ever high spirit, in spite of his physical and moral sufferings in hospital and in jail in the "fort d'Hauterive". He was an exemplar for us and for the other fellows.

Fig.8.

# ANOTHER JERSEY VICTIM OF 'HORROR CAMP'

## Mr Jack Nicolle Dies in Germany

We regret having to inform our readers of the death of another Jerseyman in Germany, victim of the Nazi prison camp system. The news has come to the Island in a letter received by Mrs. Nicolle, of 57 David Place, formerly of East Lynne, Maufant, which tells her of the death at Dortmund, Germany, in January, 1944, of her husband, John Whitley Nicolle, better known as Jack.

The deceased, it will be remembered, was concerned in the St. Saviour's wireless case and was arrested on March 8th, 1943. On the 9th, April, he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment and his wife to six and a half months. He left the Island on May 5th, 1943, and proceeded to Fort de Hauteville, Dijon, France, but was taken from there on December 19th, 1943, for Bochum, in Germany.

The letter conveying the sad news comes from M. Verbene Amart,

Transports, Rue De La Foile, Courtrai, Belgium, a great friend of the deceased, who was with him at Bochum. M. Amart says Mr. Nicolle was taken to Dortmund, where he died from lack of food and overwork after only six months' stay.

The writer says: "Bochum camp was bad, but it was a palace compared to Dortmund. I regret not seeing him before he died . . . I shall always remember him as a great friend; if he had lived, it was his wish that we would have visited one another. I share with you your very great sorrow; you have lost a good husband and I a great friend."

The deceased is a son of Mr. Fred Nicolle, of Oakfield, St. Saviour, and a son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. W. Picot, of Windy Ridge, Manor Park.

We offer our sincere condolences to the widow and other members of the family.

Fig.9. Report of John Nicolle's death published in the Jersey Evening Post of 8 June 1945 – the day of the King and Queen's post liberation visit to Jersey.

# **JERSEY and GUERNSEY**

**A large stock of all issues from their first issues in October 1969 to date. Our stock includes Mint, Used, FDC and Presentation Packs also a large Stock of Pre-Independent issues of Occupation and Regionals.**

**Send for our latest Price List today (Free of Charge) and see for yourself.**

**We also stock C. I. Postal History & Postcards  
L.L. and Allix wants list welcome.**

**G. ROBBE LTD    PTS**  
**YORK CHAMBERS**  
**YORK STREET**  
**ST HELIER JERSEY JE2 3RQ**  
**TEL 01534 723084 FAX 01534 767680**  
**E.MAIL: robbestamps@hotmail.com**

## **GUERNSEY MONTHLY MEETINGS**

**CISS and RPSL members are welcome to attend monthly meetings in Guernsey, contact John Triggs on 01481 725847 or [packets@ciss.uk](mailto:packets@ciss.uk) Meetings held on Friday evenings, starting at 7pm to 9pm now in the Andrew Mitchell Library at Les Cotils, St Peter Port. If you are on Guernsey why not go along. Next dates are: September 25th, October 30<sup>th</sup>, and November 27<sup>th</sup>.**

## **DISPOSAL OF YOUR CHANNEL ISLANDS COLLECTION**

**If you or your relatives wish your collection to be sold for any reason the Society can help you by arranging for its disposal within the C.I.S.S. through the Society's auctions and circulating Packets which can provide:**

- 1. Best realisation of value to owner or dependents.**
- 2. Demand for Channel Islands material remains high.**
- 3. Modest commission on sales of only 10% plus 2% insurance.**

**Several collections have been sold successfully to the benefit of the owners. If interested, please contact our Secretary Richard Flemming at [secretary@ciss.uk](mailto:secretary@ciss.uk) or by telephone 01455 613826.**



## **New postal stationery issued by Jersey Post by Trevor du Feu**

This year Jersey Post have produced some more stationery.



### **Prescription no PP00011809JE**

Due to Covid-19 and the lockdown, Jersey Chemists were not allowing people to collect their prescriptions and to avoid contact, the medicines were put into a special plastic bag and handed over to Jersey Post for delivery. This is a copy of the label which can record the delivery.



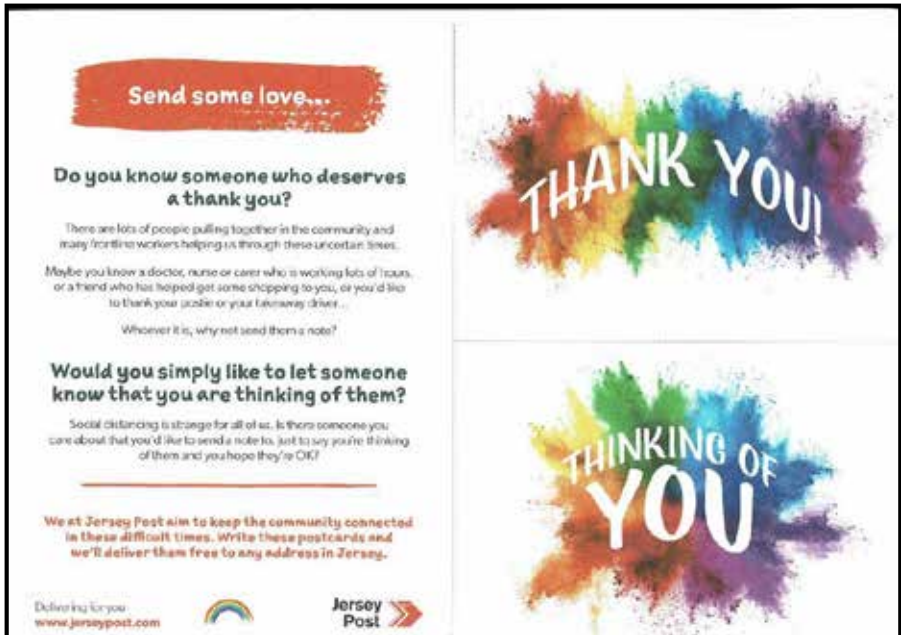
**Note:** This illustration has been reduced to one of two identical cards.

## Secure Drop card

Jersey Post have introduced a postcard sized card, which is dropped off with the mail, to advise the customer that there is an item recorded/signed for in their secure drop and indeed over-sized items. This avoids the customer from being out, unable to sign for an item or indeed not to disturb the customer.

I have an area which has been agreed by Jersey Post and my Secure Drop has a bar code on it.

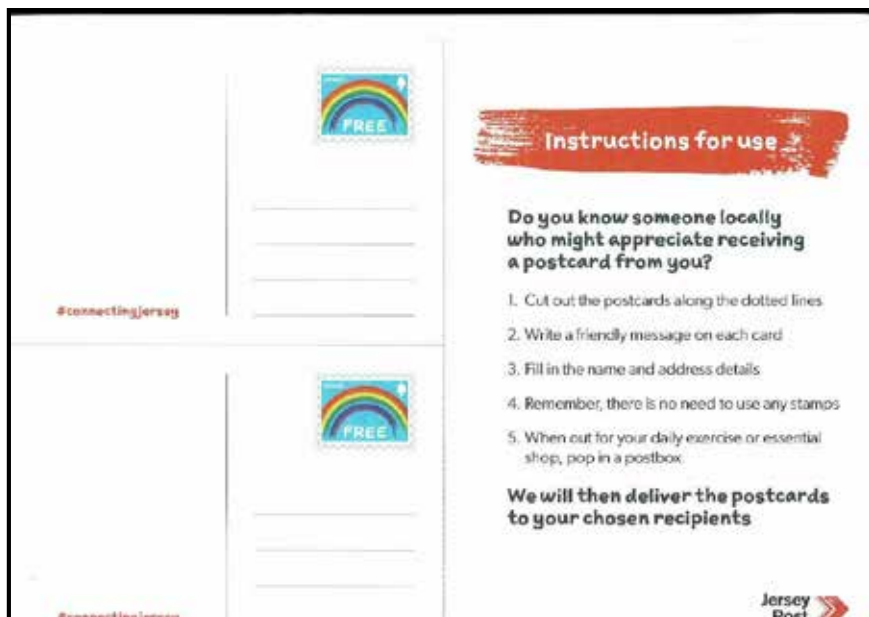
Pre-card, if you were unable to sign or had a big package, the postman would leave a card advising you to collect from the Post Office. Some people are still having to use this system as they do not have anywhere to which a safe drop can be arranged.



## Free Post, Post cards

There are two postcards, **THANK YOU** and **THINKING OF YOU**, issued by Jersey Post to brighten some one's day.





No stamps are needed, but there is a printed FREE stamp on the reverse side of this card.

## ANY UNWANTED SOCIETY JOURNALS?



**Please do not throw your Journals or old Bulletins away. Send to the Membership Secretary, Mark Bailey 36, Jerry Moor Hill, Finchampstead Wokingham RG40 4UG for recycling to others.**

**Tete-beche 1½d GVI letter-press block used at St. Brelades Bay,  
Sub-Post office by Trevor du Feu**



I have this cover with 4 (un-issued) 1½d GVI green stamps. They have been cancelled by a St. Brelades Bay datestamp and one near the block and there are no markings on the back of the cover.

I wonder if any member can share any information on this cover?

**Ed.** I had a similar cover in my collection some years ago with two blocks cut into five stamps also used at St Brelades Bay and with the same address in Twickenham in March 1958. I was told they had been correctly cut into single units. Some similar examples on other coloured papers are known posted from various remote British islands. These are embossed stamps and not 'proofs' and very philatelic of course.

**Guernsey Star advertisement of 25th April 1942** by Alan Moorcroft FRPSL (Continued from *Les Iles Normandes*, June 2020.Vol. 39. No.2.)

The mystery of the Booking plan was simply solved by David Gurney who pointed out that it was not a notice about rehearsals, but one informing the

public when tickets for the show would go on sale. Regarding whom were Stroobant & Symes Ltd, I found the answer in Frank Stroobant's *'One Man's War'*, published in 1967. Frank details his involvement in the entertainment business on page 25 *"I am proud to have been connected with the wartime theatre in Guernsey, as President of the Guernsey Co-Optimists, for though we might bewilder the Germans with our accent on sports, the stage as a propaganda weapon was not unknown to them, and the frustrations of their strict censorship and our lack of equipment seemed to make our efforts that much more worthwhile. We sought for no personal reward beyond bringing some relief to our fellows, contributing to local charities, and I must say that they rallied to us in a most encouraging way, filling all 'houses' with enthusiastic audiences...the plays produced by our company provided no less than £1,000 towards the relief of the worst hit by the Occupation."*

Frank was in partnership with W. Symes and they ran the Home from Home café and restaurant in Market Hill, St Peter Port until Frank was deported in September 1942. It was Frank who organised the farewell lunches for the deportees before he himself was taken from the Islands. He was in the second group who were taken from Guernsey to Dorsten. He was transferred along with all the single men after six weeks and taken to Laufen camp where he was elected camp leader.

To complete the story Paul Balshaw has now sent me a programme for the show 'Sally'. This is so good to have and a scan of the front page appears on the next page. The reddish note on the front explains how Frank had the idea of soliciting additional financial contributions for 'The Star Help-the-Children Fund' by offering to have the full company sign the programme for the payment of 5s.

So, the conclusion to the first newspaper notice which started by research *'Sally is getting on Fine'* is that it was a sophisticated advertisement for the theatre show 'Sally' with the sub-plot to confuse the German censor.

My thanks to Leopold Mayr, David Gurney, Paul Balshaw and Nathan Coyde of the Island Archives, Guernsey.

*Souvenir Programme*

The Guernsey Co-Optimists  
present

# SALLY

## IMPORTANT

Please help "The Star Help-the-Children Fund" by returning your programme and your name and address to a steward, or Messrs. Stroobant & Symes, Ltd., Market Hill, together with the sum of 5s. od. It will be returned (by post) by 20/6/42 autographed by the full Company (who are longing to get writer's cramp).

NORMAN LANGLOIS (Vocal and Music)

JUNE 4th—13th, 1942 (inclusive)

*Price 6d.*

Please Refrain from Smoking Except  
During the Intervals. **THANK YOU!**

Star Typ.

## **FORTHCOMING NEW STAMP ISSUES – 2020.**

### **GUERNSEY POST**

#### **19 August 2020 GuernseyTogether (Self-Stick)**

Set of 8 stamps, 2x50p, 2x68p, 2x85p, 2x95p	£5.96
First Day Cover	£7.16
Presentation Pack	£6.86
Sheets of 10 x 4 (2 designs on each sheet)	£29.80

#### **AlderneySpirit (Self-Stick)**

Set of 4 stamps, 50p, 68p, 85p, 95p	£2.98
First Day Cover	£4.18
Presentation Pack	£3.88
Sheets of 10 x 4	£29.80

#### **28th October 2020 Quartet series: 250th Anniversary of Beethoven, stamp 4**

Single Stamp	£1.00
First Day Cover (single stamp)	£2.20
Souvenir Sheet (4 stamps)	£4.00
First Day Cover S/S	£5.20
Presentation Pack (4 stamps)	£4.90
Souvenir Sheet Pack insert	£4.20
Prestige Booklet	£16.00

#### **Guernsey Christmas (Self-Stick)**

Set of 7 stamps	£5.15
First Day Cover	£6.35
Presentation Pack	£6.05
Sheets of 10	£51.50

### **ALDERNEY**

#### **28th October 2020 Alderney Christmas**

Set of 7 stamps	£5.15
First Day Cover	£6.35
Presentation Pack	£6.05
Sheets of 10	£51.50

## **St Anne's Church – The Cathedral of the Channel Islands**

Miniature Sheet	£3.00
First Day Cover	£4.20
Presentation Pack	£3.90

## **JERSEY POST**

### **6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Popular Culture – The 1980s**

Set of 6 stamps	£5.19
First Day Cover	£6.44
Presentation Pack	£6.44
Miniature Sheet	£3.00
First Day Cover	£4.25
Presentation Pack	£4.25

### **3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 Jersey Myths & Legends II**

Set of 6 stamps	£5.19
First Day Cover	£6.44
Presentation Pack	£6.44
Souvenir Sheetlet	£5.19
First Day Cover	£6.44
Presentation Pack	£6.44

### **23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 Christmas 2020 – Festive Scenes**

Set of 8 stamps	£6.27
First Day Cover	£7.52
Presentation Pack	£7.52

Items despatched to destinations outside Jersey may be subject to customs or import duties payable in the country of destination. Jersey Post collects VAT in advance on orders from UK customers, where appropriate. Stamps, First Day Covers and Presentation Packs attract VAT at 5%, all other products attract VAT at 20%.

Jersey Post charges 5% Goods and Services Tax (GST) to Jersey customers on CTO stamps and complete CTO sheets only.

Post & Packing charges: CI - £1.85, UK - £1.94 (inc. VAT), Europe - £2.00 and all other destinations - £3.00. This is the basic charge only.

## **C.I.S.S. PUBLICATIONS**

**Our current stock of merchandise at very reasonable prices.**

**Postage and package are extra and will be invoiced with order.**

**Write to: C.I.S.S. Book Sales at 64, Falconers Green, Burbage,  
Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 2SX or email: [books@ciss.uk](mailto:books@ciss.uk)**

### **Currently available**

1. **New** German Occupation of the Channel Islands 1940 – 1945 – The Immediate impact of the occupation on the postal services and postage stamps during the occupation period (114pp) £15.00
2. ‘waists getting waspish’ – A Guernsey Red Cross study (76pp) £6.00
3. The Post Office in the Smaller Channel Islands (154pp) £12.00
4. The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices (265pp) £10.00
5. The Red Cross Postal Message Scheme with the Channel Islands during the Occupation 1940-45 (389pp) £8.00
6. Islanders Deported Part II (246pp) £4.00
7. Jersey and Guernsey Slogan Postmarks of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (85pp) £7.50

### **Also available to members:**

**Binders** for ‘*Les Iles Normandes*’ holding 12 issues @ £4.50 each  
or three binders for £12.50 plus postage.

**Society ties:** In blue or maroon with CISS motif @ £8.00 each.

**Payment may be made by cheque, Bank Transfer or Paypal. If paying  
by Bank Transfer or Paypal please indicate this with your order.**

**Details of how to pay will be included with your invoice.**

**Please do not send payment until you receive an invoice  
for the cost of your order plus postage and packing incurred.**

# Channel Islands

in London

Interesting Channel Islands features regularly at Grosvenor, home of the only regular major auctions of specialised Great Britain material in London. Each sale is available to view, with additional illustrations, on our website,

**[www.grosvenorauctions.com](http://www.grosvenorauctions.com)**, and our exceptional printed catalogues are generously distributed, complimentary copies being available on request.



Consignments for future auctions are cordially invited. Vendor commission rates are highly competitive, negotiable for valuable properties, and fully inclusive with no hidden handling or unsold lot charges. Our payments to vendors are renowned for being prompt and reliable. For free confidential advice and further information contact **Constanze Dennis** or **Tom Margalski** at the address below.

## GROSVENOR

399-401 Strand Third Floor London WC2R 0LT

T: 020 7379 8789 F: 020 7379 9737 E: [info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk](mailto:info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk)

[www.grosvenorauctions.com](http://www.grosvenorauctions.com)