

SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY

March 2021

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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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Michael Wieneke

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 <u>www.ciss.uk</u>. 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.

ADVERTISMENT RATES IN LES ILES NORMANDES

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SUBSCRIPTIONS and STANDING ORDERS

Will members please note the following points:-

- Subscriptions, which are due on <u>1st January</u>, 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.
- 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@ciss1950.org.uk mailto:treasurer@ciss1950.org.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 <u>14th February</u> are assumed to have resigned.
- 5. Standing Order forms should be **sent by members to their own bank** and not to the Subscription Secretary.

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

Subscription rates for the year 2021 are:-

Note: from 1st January 2019 there has been no Life Member category.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members: 2196 Derek Dunn, Hampshire; 2197 Michael Trigg, East Sussex; 2198 Vernon Etherington, Guernsey; 2199 David Synnott, Sark.

Very sadly we very much regret to record the death of our member 2144 Christine Earle FRPSL, of Surrey, who joined the Society in 2016.

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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

This is another very full edition incorporating a range of news, announcements and interesting articles with some on Occupation material and others on earlier postal history. The Society Autumn Auction Report confirms a high demand for good material with Occupation items remaining as popular as ever. Look out for the forthcoming Society auctions which are a good and very reasonable source and a new book on page 19 of interest to those members collecting the German Occupation.

I have been very sad to have to record the death of Christine Earle FRPSL whom I have known for many years and whom followed me subsequently as Honorary Secretary to the Royal Philatelic Society London. Christine had a most friendly and helpful nature and was accredited as a Federation, National and International Philatelic Judge. She will be so much missed.

SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD

by Richard Flemming

Well, it has been twelve months since we were hit by the Covid-19 pandemic and there seems no indication that it will go away in the near future. However, looking on the bright side, the vaccination programme is gaining momentum and hopefully the more senior members of the Society would have received at least one 'jab' by the time this goes out.

I am pleased to say that the delayed Annual General Meeting eventually went ahead as planned on the 5th December via Zoom. It was good to see members attending who would not normally attend an AGM, including Peter Viscusi joining from Missouri, USA and Leo Mayr from Austria. This was a first for the Society and feedback from several members was positive, asking if we are planning to hold further Zoom meetings. The good news is that the Executive Committee is looking into this at its February committee meeting so watch this space.

Obviously the current lockdown is having an impact on our meetings programme; we have already changed the Annual Competition Day and thank you to all those members who submitted entries. A decision on the Member's Meeting due to be held on the 17th April will be decided by the Executive Committee, who knows it might be held via Zoom, so keep a lookout on the Society's 'News' page on the <u>www.ciss.uk</u> website for further details.

Proposed forthcoming meetings:

17 th April 2021	Member's Meeting. Theme: Smaller Channel
-	Islands.
23 rd - 25 th July 2021	Member's Weekend Meeting at the Three Swans
	Hotel, Market Harborough.
25 th September 2021	Annual General Meeting & room auction.
	/displays.
4 th December 2021	Member's Meeting. Theme: Letters Q, R and/or S.

Normally all Members' Meetings are held at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW, but for the latest information about meetings please visit the Society's website or for those without a computer the Secretary may advise you by letter of any change before the next Journal if timing requires or allows this.

Obituary – The Late Robert Porter

Very sadly, Robert died peacefully at home on the 14th October 2020 having fought cancer for a year and left hospital on the 9th to be at home.

Robert joined the Society in 1988 and served as Treasurer from 1999 having taken over from Alan Moorcroft at that time, a job he enjoyed and performed extremely well to the end. Pauline has stressed that Robert really enjoyed being a part of the Society and especially liked the weekends away and attending the Committee meetings. Pauline also writes 'I am thankful to you all for the friendship you showed over a number of years and to the happy memories I now have.'



Robert's collecting interests were Sark where he had a good range of material including a rare 6d Occupation bisect, various datestamps and LL postcards. Robert also built a collection of Channel Island LL postcards including two quite scarce examples and was also building a collection of the datestamps of the adjacent Island of Alderney and lastly retained an interest in C.I. post cards of 1920's-30's ships. In 2018 he won the post card competition with an entry titled C.I. Mail ships and this was preceded in 2017 when he won the Open Competition with an entry titled Channel Islands.

Robert's career away from philately commenced with a City and Guilds engineering apprenticeship at Sandemo Western and following qualification he joined the Small Arms factory at Enfield and while there attended a car-maintenance course at which he met Pauline! They married on 21st March 1970 and following on Robert joined ITT manufacturing marine pumps, rotors etc., eventually retiring after 36 years in 2007.

Daughter Lynn was born in 1971 and son James in 1973. Family holidays were often spent in the Channel Islands which they loved. Both Pauline and later Robert attended Hoddesdon Baptist Church where Robert was baptised there in 1972 and immersed himself in a variety of aspects of church life fulfilling many different duties with his usual enthusiasm.

Another record of service by Robert was to his local Bowls Club where he was a most proficient and highly competitive player winning several trophies in his fourteen years association with the Club to which he also served as Treasurer. In addition both Robert and Pauline were weekly volunteers at Compass Braille sending out braille bibles worldwide.

Most importantly Robert was a devoted family man to Pauline, Lynn and James and relished time with the grandchildren Connor, Libby and Daniel. In the Channel Islands Specialists' Society Robert was a quiet and efficient Treasurer enjoying his involvement and performing his role in an exemplary manner where he will be much missed by his contemporaries.

Society Report for the October 2020 Postal Auction

This Postal auction recorded its second highest level of sales generated from 730 Lots which covered a wide range of material.

The highlights were: Postal History – An 1820 entire from Jersey to Dublin with a fine Jersey Scroll sold for £85. A 1907 postcard with a very rare Conway St. Jersey Sub-Post office datestamp went for £160. A 1795 entire from Guernsey to Doncaster with a scarce concave Guernsey handstamp sold for £130 and an underpaid 1913 postcard to France from Jersey with a hexagonal "T10/JE" surcharge handstamp sold for £80.

The demand for Occupation material is very high with virtually every Lot sold. A letter dated June 1940 sent from Canada to Jersey routed via London where it received a "NO SERVICE / RETURN TO SENDER" cachet, returned to Canada with a "MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED" cachet and received a "DEAD LETTER OFFICE, OTTAWA / AUG1940" cachet sold for £150. An unusual rare bisect cover dated 18 FEB 1941 (after the use of Bisects had been banned) had a 1d 324 surcharge handstamp applied and the bisected stamp was not cancelled sold for £260, a POW cover from the Mueller correspondence sent from POW Camp 801 in Guernsey to Germany, fetched £160.

Again, the wide range of Liberation items was very popular. A letter sent by the Bailiff of Guernsey regarding the new 3rd Anniversary of the Liberation stamps together with the envelope which was a FDC of the $2\frac{1}{2}d$ stamp sold for £120.

There was a large postcard section in the sale. The *LL* cards maintained their popularity with many cards selling well above their reserves. A Jersey

*LL*87 of the Temple Royal sold for £75; Jersey *LL*193 of the Labyrinth at Pontac sold for £90. A Sark *LL*19 the Bec de Nez went for £65 and *LL*43 "In front of the Seigneurie Arch" had a reserve of £40 and went for £120. A similar premium was obtained for a Guernsey *LL*23 card of the St. Peter Port Coal Quay which sold for £85.

There was a wide range of cards from other publishers such as Allix Jersey. Card No. 125 of St. Peter's Church, Jersey sold for £44.

2021 GUERNSEY MONTHLY MEETINGS

CISS and RPSL members are welcome to attend monthly meetings in Guernsey, contact John Triggs on 01481 725847 or <u>guern1974@cwgsy.net</u> for details. Meetings held on last Friday evening of the month, starting at 7pm <u>now</u> in the Sark room at Les Cotils Centre, St Peter Port. If you are on Guernsey why not come along. Next dates are: 26th March, 23rd April, 28th May, 25th June, 30th July,27th August, 24th September, 29th October, 26th November.

CORRECTION by Ron Brown FRPSL

The company referred to on pages 20 and 21 of the December Journal should be Olbricht. In German, Kurzel, has a completely different meaning and is not a company. This was a translation error on my part. **A much travelled cover of 1874 from Paris to Jersey.** by David Parsons

USARA

I recently purchased a cover from the last Society auction which has given me a lot of entertainment and which I thought would be of interest to members.

The cover was sent from Paris on the 17th August 1874 to a Mr. Convenant Guillaum in Pleubian, Brest, franked at 25c. Upon arrival it has been redirected to nearby Treguier, back to Pleubian and then on to Jersey on the Brest-Paris (21/8) and Paris-Calais (22/8) railway lines arriving on the 25th August and where a further Jersey datestamp had been applied on the 28th August.

How it was known that the addressee had gone to Jersey is unknown and apparently incorrect as it then appears to have been returned to London where a **Returned Letter office** datestamp and **More To Pay** handstamp has been applied.

At some stage an official has written "*Recd torn / & sealed at P.O*" but I am not sure whether this was in London or Jersey and no damage is noticeable.

In fact there are so many markings covering the whole front and back that it is difficult to know what has been going on and in what order. Uncertainty also surrounds the French Post Office trying to charge the cover for redirection and with a manuscript "4" decimes charge mark on the face.



On the reverse there are also ten sets of initials, these having been applied by postmen on their rounds when they have been unsuccessful in delivering the cover.

One of the most intriguing markings is the London circular handstamp with "X/M N" at centre which makes no sense to anyone that I have spoken to Anyway I think this is one of those intriguing items that raises more questions than answers though clearly shows the huge amount of interest that one little cover can generate in this fabulous hobby that we call Philately or Postal History'

If anyone has any thoughts or comments I will be very pleased to hear from them by email at <u>dparsons@spink.com</u>

An interesting Force 135 Letter Card from Guernsey in May 1945 by Ron Osborne.

LETTER CARD No. 2 PRINTER OF GUERNSEY, C.I. NTAINING 6 VIEWS IN REAL PHOTOGRAVURE nalies Mrs A

I have a Letter Card of Guernsey sent by a member of Force 135 in May 1945 which I thought might be of interest at this time. The Second World War in Europe ended in May 1945 and 2020 saw the 75th Anniversary of this event.

This letter card with six postcard size views of Guernsey was sent to his wife by a member of Liberation Force 135 and has a F.P.O. cancellation dated 22nd May 1945 (feint, but shows under a magnifying glass) and a **PASSED BY / CENSOR / No / 2491** cachet.

It is also signed by the Censor in the bottom left corner and also on the letter itself. The soldier must have obtained this letter card from a shop on the Island where it had been since 1940 or before.

I had to smile when reading the letter which included the words "*The views here look as though they were taken in peacetime*". 75 years ago? – To myself it seems, but a short time ago.

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

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.ciss1950.org.uk

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

membership@ciss1950.org.uk

British Coloured Double Arc Datestamps

by Alan Moorcroft FRPSL

I have always been intrigued by the various ink colours in which the British double arc datestamps are found, particularly those for Jersey and Guernsey, in the period 1852-1858. These datestamps were applied, usually to the reverse, of envelopes/covers separately from the operation of cancelling the postage stamp, which was normally done with black ink from 1841. Some years ago, I learnt that the various Post Office Districts throughout England used different colour inks. Unfortunately, I cannot find the information I had. However, in December 2019, I was reminded of this from a fellow Essex philatelist, Don Davies, in a display he gave at a Royal Regional meeting. He provided me with a reference from an article that first appeared in Bulletin No.31 of the East Anglian Postal Study Circle. From that I got a Post Office reference (Post 30/106c 5842/1856) and in February 2020 I visited Post Office Archives having requested the file in advance. The file contained hundreds of documents and provides the answer to why the different colours were introduced in the various Districts, the colours adopted, and I think a possible explanation of what happened in Jersey and Guernsey.

The saga started when there were complaints made of which the following probably best summarises the many documents contained in the file: "*The careless and commonly illegible manner in which letters are stamped in the Post Office of this country is perfectly disgraceful, it is a matter most seriously affecting commercial transactions, and is not infrequently happening....very glad if the Postmaster General would turn his attention to the matter ... Lord Campbell, Queens Bench*"

These complaints can be summarised as "Deciphering an imperfect stamp and distinguishing one stamp from another on a letter.... The letters received from several Towns were exceedingly badly stamped".

The solution the Post Office came up with was "using stamping inks of various colours at the Post Offices in different parts of the country instead of uniformly using blue ink as at present in expectation that the diversity of colour will materially assist in preventing the problem." Trials were carried out during 1851 at various Post Offices so the best colours to use could be determined.

In June 1852, the Postmaster General set out the colours to be used in each of the seven English & Welsh Postal Districts. Ireland and Scotland were detailed separately.

Home District - Brown No.1,

Western District - Orange No.2,

Eastern District - Black changed to Green 5.1.1854

Midland District - Blue No.7,

S.Wales District - Pink No.6,

N.Wales District - Green No.5

Northern District - Red, changed to Pink 5.1.1854.

The ink was accordingly despatched from the General Post Office to the various offices, but some were not received until December 1852. The smaller offices were sent cans of ink in the designated colour, but the larger offices, which included Jersey and Guernsey, were sent inks in one pound cans of each colour which they had to mix together to achieve the designated colour.

The scan below shows the inks sent to Jersey and Guernsey to make up the No.2 orange – namely 6 ounces chrome yellow, I ounce venetian red and 11 ounces of sweat oil.

	Receipes for Stamping Ink
Ao.1	2 Aunces of Brok black 4 Aunces of
Brown	Indian Red. & 12 Aunces of Sweet Bil
Ao Z	b Bunces of Chrome Gellow I Bunce of
Grange	Venetian Red & 11 Bunces of Sweet Bil

The Channel Islands were part of the Western District and so should have used Orange. However, Guernsey is recorded using the following colours, as listed by Leopold Mayr in his '615 stamps of Guernsey Head Post Office' being 1852 Blue and Yellow, 1853 Yellow and Red, 1854 Yellow, Green and Black, 1855 Green, Black, Brown and Blue, 1856 Green and

Black, 1857 Green, Black and Blue, 1858 Blue. In Jersey I have recorded 1852 Blue, Yellow and Orange, 1853 Yellow, 1854 Black and red,1856 Black and 1857 Black. I am sure other variations exist.



Jersey black ink 1854

My hypothesis is that Jersey and Guernsey received the individual inks and had no mixing instructions for the required colour or ignored them. Accordingly, they used at various times, the yellow and the red inks on their own. The green can be explained if they mixed the blue, which they had been using since 1852, with the chrome yellow. Black ink was always available as it was used to obliterate the postage stamps. This also explains why the Jersey Ship Letter handstamp is found struck in blue ink in 1851, one example known, and yellow in 1852, two examples known.

It appears they never managed to mix the yellow and red and achieve the orange colour they should have been using. I must add that I do have a note of seeing an example in orange, but it is not listed by Leo and I have no example.

The experiment came to an end when the combined obliterator and datestamp, the duplex, was introduced in 1858.

I think this exercise is another example of how the Jersey and Guernsey Post Offices were a law until themselves to some extent. In most regions the datestamps were struck in the designated colours, but in the Channel Islands they had their own ideas!



Guernsey yellow ink 1853

Our warmest congratulations to the following members who have completed <u>50 years</u> of continuous membership of this Society:

> 470 Gerald Marriner 484 Derek Hyde

and to those completing <u>30 years</u> of continuous membership of this Society:

1675 Peter Barrett, 1683 Peter Balshaw 1685 John Bamberry Many of you will know of me as a longestablished dealer in fine stamps and covers of Great Britain and the Channel Islands from 1800 to 1951.

You may not, however, be aware that I am a collector and student of the LL series of illustrated postcards of the Channel Islands. I do not deal in these postcards, only collecting them for my own enjoyment.

I currently seek collections and accumulations of them, as well as a number of scarcer individual cards, for the purposes of study and would willingly pay highest prices for same.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have cards that you wish to sell. In the first instance please do not send them through the post.

PETER MOLLETT P.O. BOX 1934 · RINGWOOD HAMPSHIRE · BH24 2YZ TELEPHONE: 01425 476666 EMAIL: petermollett@yahoo.com

Interesting inter-Island Jersey 1943 Feldpost letter by Bob Baltzell

On the following pages is a Feldpost printed letter-sheet sent by Werner Haupt, a German soldier stationed in Jersey, to a Channel Island family living in Victoria Road, Guernsey. It is dated 27 June 1943 and impresses me with the soldier's ability to write readable English cursive. On the back his rank appears to be "Oes", which I think is Private or Senior Private. There are no Feldpost markings that I understand was pretty common for insular military mail. His grammar could be improved, but his longhand is much better than I can do. The Word document has my interpretation of his expressions and I welcome any suggestions or corrections. He is sending a fishing rod back to the family since he is going to school in Germany and will not return to the Islands. Evidently the German Censors did not object to this disclosure.

The letter is a good example of the fraternization that took place between the Islanders and the German soldiers during the Occupation. For those of us that were not subject to our homes being occupied by a foreign army we cannot judge those that suffered through that difficult time. There are many reasons why the family gave, or loaned, the fishing rod to the occupier, and just as many other reasons why they should not have done it. All legitimate, all good. We will probably never know the circumstances that instigated this event.

Jersey, 27 June 1943 Dear Mrs. and Mr. Allain!

At first I thank you very much for your letter and that you was so kind to hand me the fishing rod an so on. I was very pleased and therefore you will be surprised, that I send now back all those things I have worked on log time for it, but how I thought I never would have it. Therefore I telephoned with a comrade in France, who came back from holiday, and he brought me the next day a new rod from Granville, my wife sent me my reel from home, so I had all for fishing here, when your rod came too. It is a pity, that I do not want it now, and therefore I think it is the best, so send it back because you have it then, that you cannot buy anymore. And it is wore. In three or four weeks I must leave the islands to go to Germany to school. I think, it is forever and I never will come back. What shall I do then with the rod? But some fine trout I have caught with the other rod till now. I hope I catch some more.

Once more many thanks. With the best greeting and wishes. Yours sincerely Werner Haupt.

I hope you are very well both.

	Feldpoff
An	
th	hs. and Mr.
and the second s	a.a. allain
	18 Victoria road
	Feldpottnummer (an die Front) oder Gestimmungsort (in die Seimat)
/0124	· Juensey
Marine Contraction	

(Both front and back reduced in size).

Oct. Wener Saupt. Abfender: Feldpofinummer (von ber Front) oder Beffimmungsori (aus der Seimat)

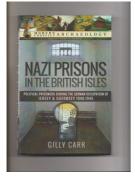
Jersey, 27 June 1943 Dear Mrs. and Mr. Allain ! It first I thank you very much for your letter and that you was so kind to hand we the fishing - rod an so on. I was very pleased and therefore you and we normally sed, that I send now leack all those things I have varied as long time for it, but them I therefore of the sex courade in Trance, I sele phoned by the as courade in Trance, who cange lack from holiday, and the branghtime the next day a new rod from grantille, my after sent me my seel from home, so I had all for fithing bere, when your rod came for. It is a pity, that I do not wantitle it now, and therefore I think, it is the best, to send it back, because you have withen that you cannot bey anypleased and therefore you will be sur kinsed, that I send now leach all those things you have written, that you cannot bey any those. and it is anore. In three or four week, I wull leave the islands to go to Genera-My to tchool. I think, it is for ever and I rever will come back. What Shall I do than with the rod . But some fine fronts I have Caught with the other rod fill now. I hope + catch some more. Once more many thanks. With the best greetrings and withes yours recercly Vener taught

Editor – I referred this unusual item to Michael Wieneke in Germany and Michael has provided us with his usual learned response

Michael writes: The 'Feldpost'- letter is very simple to explain. Firstly, the rank of the soldier is "Olt" = Oberleutnant (First Lieutenant) and not "OES". Secondly, this letter was one of the forms you could buy in the Soldatenheim or from the Supply Officer of your unit. There were no rules about the design and many printers sold these forms in many different designs. But the most important thing is, this letter has never seen a postoffice or a mailbag! As you can read, the soldier gave back a fishing-rod he had borrowed from a family he most likely was billeted with before. He could not send the rod by the feldpost-service and because of that he gave it to a fellow soldier, going on a service-trip to Guernsey. This soldier also carried the letter addressed to the Allain-family. Very often soldiers gave their letters to friends, who were going to the continent or on leave to their families. You can find many orders and notes in the German files in the Islands, where there are complaints about these things.

And the higher Commanders said, private correspondence is not allowed to be handed over to soldiers on leave or service-trips. This behaviour is an offence against the rules of secrecy (avoiding censorship) and should be court-martialled.

NAZI PRISONS IN THE BRITISH ISLES by Dr. Gilly Carr



This new book published by Pen & Sword Books is a must for Occupation collectors. It contains details about the Jersey and Guernsey prisons and gives an account of political prisoners during the German Occupation of the Channel Islands. This is a ground-breaking book written by an excellent researcher. The book gives an insight into life in the Guernsey and Jersey prisons based on the experiences of the prisoners. There is an interesting chapter on autograph books and artwork. It brings to light for the first time several sources – memoirs, diaries and official archival material. The evidence reveals the life behind bars in Nazi prisons on British territory. The book

shines a light into the consciousness of the political prisoner. Information is given about the prisoners and includes excerpts from the prison diaries of Frank Falla. One of the chapters deals with the case of the Guernsey Police imprisoned for stealing food from German stores.

This hard back book contains 17 chapters with some rare pictures. It is 200 pages in length and contains a wealth of references for the researcher.

The book can be obtained from Pen & Sword books at £20. Their website can be visited at www.pen-and-sword.co.uk. Alternatively, their phone number is 01226 734222. Gerald Marriner FRPSL

Denis George Liot of Jersey by Alan Whittaker

I have recently purchased another very interesting postcard to add to my ongoing research into the story of Denis Liot. In my article on page 27 of the December 2019 Journal I showed the post card sent by him on the 26th June 1940, from his POW camp in Poland, which was the first item I bought which led my research into his life.



The scans of the postcard dated 1.7.40 above, with the postmark dated 18th July 1940, addressed to his wife in Jersey, gives information where he was held prisoner and details of how to send letters to him. A number of cachets have been added. On the front is a very faint U.K. Passed by Censor T.53 over crown in purple, this is not recorded in David Gurney's 1992 book, *The Red Cross Civilian Postal Message Scheme with the Channel Islands during the Occupation 1940-45*, also a boxed **NO SERVICE RETURN TO SENDER** in purple, crossed out in red ink, it has been suggested to me that this most probably was added in the U.K.

Ber. Nº IRBC7250 242 h-bik Geneva. 1.7.40 Dear Madam, (Sir) We beg to inform you that we have received a card from the STALAG XXA (SA) dated 22.6.40 advising us thaCorporal Denis LIOT GERMANY Ist Br. C.O. Cameron. Hldrs born 6.6.17 is interned in that camp. From now on you can send letters to the above mentioned prisoner of war to the address given, adding the following : "Kriegsgefangenenpost" (prisoners of war post) and " Gebührenfrei " (free of postal charges). Yours faithfußgente International de la Creix Rouge Acance centrale des prisonalizes de guerre GENEVE

On the reverse side shown above is a very faint purple German cachet type M.14 in David's book, which he states is very rare, only five examples are known, all are dated April 1941, mine is dated 23rd January 1941. Since his book was published in 1992, have many other such cards been found since? The most puzzling mark is the RBO in red on the message side of the card on the top left side. This is most unusual and if anyone has any information as to the meaning of this, I would be very grateful to know.

I also would like to know if this was the earliest recorded postcard sent to the Channel Islands from the IRCC, Prisoners of War, Central Information Agency?

Clearly the mark RBO also has the reference number 7350 in both cases. I can only assume this is the internal Red Cross reference number for Liot, but still would like to know what RBO stands for. So, if any member can help in this respect I will be most grateful.

Confiscation of Wireless sets by Barry Mudie.

I read with interest Ron Brown's article on page 17 of the September 2020 Journal re the confiscation of wireless sets and the brothers Herbert and George Gallichan.

Jersey. den 20.6.42. Feldkommandantur 515 Herrn Dr. Mattas 92, Bath Street St. Helier/Jersey. Auf Grund einer erneuten Kabel-Sabotage und Verteilung eines aufhetzenden Flugblattes auf Jersey wird hiermit Ihre vorläufige Festnahme verfügt. Für den Feldkommandariten I.V. Following a further act of Sabotage concerning Telegraphic Communications and a Distribution of inciting leaflets on Jersey I have herewith ordered your temporary arrest.

I show above an arrest warrant for the temporary arrest of Dr Mattas who I believe must have been one of the 10 arrested to *"encourage"* Herbert and George to give themselves up.

Also from a book I have, *Jersey In Jail* by Horace Wyatt it is clear that Ernest Huelin was also one of the 10 arrested.

It would be interesting to know if any members know the names of all 10 men apprehended.

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Some new *'constructed'* **items appearing on a German language Ebay site** by David Gurney FRPSL

I am very grateful to Leo Mayr for reporting some more '*rubbish*' recently appearing on a German language Ebay site as illustrated below. Even the 'stamps' used are the well known facsimiles from the 1970s!! Do not waste your hard earned money on these, as they are worthless –





Interestingly both covers shown on the previous page were listed by a dealer in the Netherlands on a German language Ebay site.

The 'Guernsey' item was sold for Euro 1,99, which was the starting price while the '*Jersey*' item remained unsold.



ANY UNWANTED SOCIETY JOURNALS?



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

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@ciss1950.org.uk or by telephone 01455 613826.

Occupation covers to Sweden by Olaf Beecken

Immediately after the landing of the first German forces on the Channel Islands, postal connections with places outside the Islands came to a complete halt.

Slowly, step by step the German authorities gave their permission to reopen postal links with foreign places. France was the first country resuming postal links with the Channel Islands on 29 July 1940, followed by Germany, Italy and Belgium on 14 November 1940. Holland, Denmark and Norway were next on 14 April 1941. Letters to Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Slovakia were allowed from 31 October 1941. Postal links with Croatia were reopened on 8 December 1941. The last two countries in this list were Finland on 2 July 1942 and finally Sweden on 17 July 1942. Sweden is unique in this list because it is the only country which remained neutral throughout the war. All the other countries were occupied and controlled by German forces and authorities. Still, these were the exceptions, the general rule was that foreign destinations could only be reached through Red Cross channels. The Red Cross channels were also used for POW mail and internee mail.

1143.151-Sven - Eric Stockholm Sweden - Schweden

Fig.1.

Occupation **covers** to Sweden had been unknown hitherto. (However, there are two exceptions. Firstly there is the well-known Sark cover, stamped with occupation stamps and delivered **after** the war. Secondly, I know of a **letter** - without the cover - from the Guernsey Head Postmaster to another collector in Sweden dated 7 October 1943

Covers to Sweden must be extremely scarce and I was very lucky to get hold of two such covers, a nice pair, one from the Head Postmaster in Guernsey, see **Figs.1 & 2** and one from the Head Postmaster in Jersey **Figs.3 & 4**. They are both addressed to the same person so we can assume that a Swedish collector wrote to the two Head Postmasters and asked them for the local occupation stamp issues as so many other collectors did, with most of them being German collectors.



Fig.2.

The two letters were sent by the local postmasters at roughly the same time in winter 1942/43. The Jersey cover shows the normal postmark of 16 December 1942 with the well-known code letter "g", whereas the Guernsey cover dates from 10 February 1943. They were both censored at the Auslandsbriefprüfstelle (= ABP, i.e. foreign censorship office) in Berlin, which was in charge of mail between Germany and Sweden.

In particular the Guernsey cover **Fig.1.** is highly interesting as it did not follow the usual route. The usual route would have been from the Guernsey Head Office to the German fieldpost office on that Island, then on to the Jersey fieldpost office and from there by German fieldpost to Berlin.

However, the German field postmaster was "on strike" as far as mail to foreign destinations was concerned. He flatly refused to accept and handle those covers from the civilian local population. It took months to get this mis-behaviour sorted out and it needed an order by the leading German field postmaster in Paris to convince his subordinate in Guernsey. All this struggling started in summer 1942 and it lasted for nearly a year.

2 F/6518/1 Mr. Sven-Eric Jarlén, Sturegatan 12, M232-24/1 Stockhol Sweden-Suède

Fig.3.



Fig.4.

Before the German field postmaster in Guernsey finally gave in he had a tremendous idea. He would still not accept foreign mail at his office, but would carry the mail bags on German boats to Granville, where the mail bags were handed over to the French postmaster at the local Granville post office. The postage rate for an ordinary letter from France to Sweden was 4 Francs at the time and consequently such a French stamp together with a Granville machine postmark is found on the cover originating from Guernsey. The cover then went to the ABP (Auslandsbriefprüfstelle) in Berlin through the normal civilian postal system.

<u>Note</u>: The June Journal will contain an article by Gerald Marriner on two very scarce 1943 registered letters to Guernsey and to Alderney from Malmo in Sweden. **Ed.**

70th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Held via Zoom Video Conference on Saturday, 5th December 2020 at 11.00am (GMT).

1. Present: The Chair was taken by David Winnie, Chairman, with 21 other members in attendance.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Patrick Ager, Richard Ashton, Christine Earle, Shirley Hancock, Ron Osborne, John Triggs (joined the meeting later), Steve Wells and Alan Whittaker.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the 69th Annual General Meeting held 13th July 2019 at the Union Jack Club, London.

It was proposed by Gerald Marriner that the Minutes of the 69th AGM, as published in *Les Iles Normandes*, Vol. 38, pp 30-33 (September 2019), be accepted. The proposal was seconded by David Laurillard and, by a show of hands, the Minutes were passed unanimously.

4. Matters arising from these Minutes.

There were no matters arising

5.President's report

Gerald Marriner presented his annual report to the members attending the AGM.

6. Officers reports.

6.1 Chairman's report: David Winnie presented his annual statement to the members attending the AGM.

6.2 Other C.I.S.S. Committee members' reports

Richard Flemming provided his annual Secretary's report and also provided verbal annual reports for the Press and Advertising Officer, the Packet Secretary, Competition Secretary and Auction Secretary.

6.2.1 Members attending the meeting were asked if they had any questions arising from these Committee members' reports presented. There were no questions arising.

6.3 Treasurer's report

Bryan Elliston, acting Treasurer, presented the formal accounts for the year ending 31^{st} December 2019 as published on the C.I.S.S. website 2^{nd} December 2020.

6.3.1 Mark Bailey enquired why there were five invoices for journal printing for 2018 and only three invoices for 2019? Bryan Elliston explained that there should have been four invoices for journal printing for 2018 and four for 2019, but one of the 2019 invoices was paid to the printers during the 2018 accounting period.

6.3.2 Julian Bagwell asked if the Society was continuing with cash payments (i.e. cheque payments) as well as bank transfer and PayPal. Bryan Elliston confirmed that the Society was still accepting cheques for payments.

6.3.3 Mark Bailey then proposed that accounts be accepted as a true record and this was seconded by Gerald Marriner. By a show of hands, there were 20 votes for the proposal with one abstention. Therefore, the proposal to accept the 2019 accounts as a true record was carried by majority vote.

6.4 Membership Secretary's report.

Mark Bailey presented his report, confirming that there were 244 members of the Society as of the 2nd December 2020.

6.4.1 Roger Harris enquired about Michael Wieneke's forthcoming Hon. Life Membership. Mark Bailey confirmed that Michael Wieneke's current membership would end on the 31st December 2020, and that from the 1st January 2021, he will become a Hon. Life Member of the Society with all the benefits that the title bestows.

6.5 Auction Secretary's report

Nick Stuart provided his annual report, highlighting the success of the two postal auctions for 2020.

6.5.1 David Ackroyd asked if the October 2020 postal auction realisations would be available to view on-line. Nick Stuart replied that it was anticipated that the realisations would be available on the website before Christmas.

7. Ex-officio Officer's reports.

7.1 Archivist: Mark Bailey provided an update on archive activity.

7.2 Book Sales: Richard Flemming provided a 17-month update on current book and sundry sales, highlighting the three recent C.I.S.S. publications, Leo Mayr's "waists getting waspish"; Ron Brown's *The German Occupation of the Channel Islands 1940-1945*, and Roger Harris's *Pioneer Aviation in the Channel Islands*. These have all sold well and have now covered their printing costs.

8. Amendment to C.I.S.S. Rules.

8.1 Adoption of Amendment to Society Rules 8(b) and 8(c) as published on the C.I.S.S. website 9th November 2020.

David Winnie, Chairman, provided the rationale for amending Society Rules 8(b) and 8(c). Following discussions it was proposed by Trevor Nichols that the two amendments, as published, be adopted and the proposal was seconded by Gerald Marriner. A vote was taken with19 members voting 'For' adopting the amendments, two members 'Against' the amendments and one 'Abstention'. Therefore the proposed amendments to the Society Rules were carried by majority vote.

8.2 Adoption of Amendment to Rule 8(g) as published on the C.I.S.S. website 22nd November 2020.

Bryan Elliston, acting Treasurer, provided the rationale for amending Society Rule 8(g). Mark Bailey proposed that the amendment be adopted as published and the proposal was seconded by David Winnie. A vote was taken with all members in favour of adopting the amendment to Society Rules as published.

9. Adoption of Amendment to Society Rules – Additional Rule 9 as published on C.I.S.S. website 9th November 2020.

David Winnie, Chairman, provided the rationale for inserting a new Rule 9 into the Society Rules. It was proposed by Gerald Marriner that the new Rule 9 be adopted as published and the proposal was seconded by David Laurillard. A vote was taken with all members in favour of adopting the new Rule 9.

10. Election of Officers.

A list of members willing to stand for Full or Executive Committee positions, along with names of proposers and seconders, was presented by the Secretary. There were no other nominees. It was therefore proposed by Trevor Nichols that the names of the Full and Executive Committee be accepted *en bloc* and the proposal was seconded by Gerald Marriner. The proposal was accepted by all members present and all nominees were duly elected to serve on the Full and Executive Committee until the next AGM. David Winnie, Chairman, formally welcomed Bryan Elliston, the new C.I.S.S. Treasurer, to the Executive Committee.

11. Review of C.I.S.S. Member's Annual Subscriptions.

David Winnie, Chairman, confirmed that the Executive Committee has recommended that the annual subscriptions will not be increased for 2021-2022 following its annual review.

12. Future C.I.S.S. member meetings 2021.

12.1 David Winnie, Chairman, provided an update on the current situation on holding members' meetings at the RPSL. Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic the RPSL is closed for meetings for the foreseeable future. Details of

the amended 2021 Member meeting programme is available on the C.I.S.S. website and would be regularly updated.

12.2 Following the success of his Zoom display at the RPSL, Gerald Marriner informed members that he is trying to set up a future Zoom meeting for the C.I.S.S. with displays provided by himself and Nick Stuart. It is anticipated that this will be held sometime during February 2021.

12.3 Several members highlighted the success of holding this AGM via Zoom Video Conference and suggested that other AGMs and some future members' meetings could be held by Zoom. It was agreed that these ideas will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

13. Joan Flood Silver Salver.

Richard Flemming, Secretary, announced that, following a unanimous decision by the Full Committee, the Joan Flood Silver Salver for 2020 be awarded to Roger Harris for his two-volume publication, *Pioneer Aviation in the Channel Islands*. Roger Harris was pleased to accept this award.

14. Members Weekend, 2021 at Market Harborough.

Gerald Marriner provided an update on the current situation. The costs of the meeting in July have been fixed with the hotel and booking forms should go out with the March 2021 *Les Iles Normandes*, if circumstances allow.

15. Any other business.

15.1 Roger Harris raised the issue regarding lost hotel booking fees for the cancelled 2020 Members Weekend at the Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey.

Mark Bailey indicated that deposits would have been forfeited, but Roger Harris indicated that he was able to get his deposit refunded. It was agreed that John Triggs would contact the hotel management and Roger Harris would forward a copy of the letter sent to the hotel to the Secretary.

15.2 John Triggs mentioned that there was an interesting article in the Guernsey Press concerning the late William Quin, a former Police Constable in Guernsey, who was convicted of stealing food from the German authorities during the Occupation. The family is campaigning for a Royal pardon for William Quin after an appeal to clear his name was rejected. It was agreed that John Triggs would contact the Secretary with the necessary press cuttings, who would then provide an article for the 'News' section of the C.I.S.S. website if appropriate.

16. There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12.50.

17. Date of the next Annual General Meeting: 25th September 2021.

Richard Flemming, Secretary

A 1944 Laufen Camp Theatre Programme by Barry Mudie

I attach a scan of a Laufen Camp theatre programme which I purchased recently. It is dated inside 13 14 15 December, but no year, this is however 1944.

Can any member cast any light on what looks like a German censor mark on the front with initials in red ink. I cannot find reference to this type of mark in Harris *Islanders Deported Vol I or II.*

I will be most grateful for any assistance please, to the Editor.



FORTHCOMING NEW STAMP ISSUES – 2021.

GUERNSEY POST

12th April 2021 EUROPA – Endangered National Wildlife	
Set of 6 stamps	£10.98
First Day Cover	£12.18

Presentation Pack	£11.68
Sheets of 10	£109.80
Minisheet (2 Europa stamps)	£1.73
First Day Cover	£2.93
Minisheet Pack insert	£1.93

21st April 2021 Her Majesty The Queen's 95th Birthday Set of 6 stamps First Day Cover

	A.C
First Day Cover	£6.48
Presentation Pack	£6.18
Sheets of 10	£52.80
Joint sheetlet*	£15.00
*11 countries have joined together to issue a collection for the Que	en's 95 th , the

£5.28

sheetlet contains one stamp from each country and is a limited edition product and not a s/o item.

15th May 2021 Quartet series: Centenary of the Royal I	British Legion, Stamp 2
Single Stamp	£1.00
First Day Cover (single stamp)	£2.20

10th June 2021 Sark: Dark Skies (Subject to Royal Approval)

Set of 6 stamps	
First Day Cover	£6.48
Presentation Pack	£6.18
Sheets of 10	£52.80
Prestige Booklet	£21.12
10 th June 2021 Postcrossing (Subject to Royal Approval)	
Set of 3 stamps	£2.93
First Day Cover	£4.13
Presentation Pack	£3.83
Sheets of 10	£29.30

ALDERNEY

12th April 2021 UN: International Year of Fruits and Vegetables		
Set of 8 stamps	£10.98	
First Day Cover	£12.18	
Presentation Pack	£11.68	
Sheets of 10	£109.80	

JERSEY POST

1st April 2021 Jersey from the Air

Set of 8 Stamps	£10.96
First Day Cover	£12.21
Presentation Pack	£12.21
Souvenir Sheetlet	£10.96
First Day Cover	£12.21
Presentation Pack	£12.21

21st April 2021 The 95th Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Set of 6 Stamps	£5.71
First Day Cover	£6.96
Presentation Pack	£6.96
Joint Sheetlet*	£15.00
* This issue is part of a joint collection, the joint sheetlet contains 11	stamps, one
from each of the Crown Dependencies, Commonwealth countries	and British

Overseas Territories involved in the joint project (including Jersey).

18th May 2021 Jersey Surfing

Set of 6 Stamps	·	8	£5.71
First Day Cover			£6.96
Presentation Pack			£6.96
Miniature Sheet			£3.00
First Day Cover			£4.25
Presentation Pack			£4.25

10th June 2021 HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh: 100th Birthday - A

	Life of Service.	
Set 6 Stamps	£5.71	
First Day Cover	£6.96	
Presentation Pack	£6.96	

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 - $\pounds 1.85$, UK - $\pounds 1.94$ (inc. VAT), Europe - $\pounds 2.00$ and all other destinations - $\pounds 3.00$. This is the basic charge only.

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	BOTH VOLUMES (or £25 each volume if sold separately).	£40 00
2.	The 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 (114 pp).	£15.00
3.	'waists getting waspish' – A Guernsey Red Cross Study (76 pp).	£6.00
4.	The Post Office in the Smaller Channel Islands (154 pp).	£12.00
5.	The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices (265 pp).	£10.00
6.	The Red Cross Civilian Postal Message Scheme with the	
	Channel Islands during the Occupation 1940-45 (389 pp).	£8.00
7.	Islanders Deported Part II (246 pp).	£4.00
8.	Jersey and Guernsey Slogan Postmarks of the 20th Century (85pp).	£7.50

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