



**CHANNEL ISLANDS
SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY**

December 2021

Volume 40 No.4

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY

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

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Membership is open to all interested in Channel Islands stamps and postal history, postcards and ephemera. Membership application forms can be obtained from the Membership Secretary or downloaded from the society website at 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

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2022

At the Annual General Meeting on 25th September 2021, revised levels of subscriptions were agreed for future years, beginning with 2022. These new subscription rates are shown in the table below.

Residency	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES (in pounds sterling)
UK and Channel Islands	Member aged over 18, £15 ; or if choosing electronic copy of quarterly Journal, £10 Junior (under 18), £1 .
Europe and Rest of World	Member aged over 18, £20 ; or if choosing an electronic copy of the Journal, £10 Junior (under 18), £1

Will members please note the following points:-

1. Subscriptions are due on **1st January**. A Subscription Renewal Form is enclosed in this December issue of the Journal and should be completed and sent direct to the Membership Secretary (contact details are on the Renewal Form) and **NOT** to any other officer of the Society.
2. The Society encourages electronic payment by bank transfer for two reasons: firstly it avoids the use of PayPal, which can result in a high percentage fee being payable by the Society or member; and secondly, without the need to write and mail a cheque, electronic payment is cheaper and more efficient for the member than payment by cheque. The Society does continue to accept payments by cheque, PayPal or cash. See the Subscription Renewal Form for details.
3. Members who have not paid by **14th February** are assumed to have resigned.
4. Standing Order forms should be **sent by members to their own bank** and not to the Membership Secretary.
5. Since 1st January 2019 there has been no Life Member category.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

2208 Bryan Pill, Guernsey. 2209 Steven Feller, USA. 2210 Jonathan Taylor, West Yorks.

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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

Some of the restrictions which have dogged our lives for so long now are easing and we can look forward to further meetings with improvements in vaccinations and other medication if everything goes well.

Many of you have made contributions to your Journal in the past year and new articles are always welcomed both by your Editor and the membership. This edition has another 40 pages taking up some of the backlog resulting from members working hard during the 'lock-down' including an excellent study by our Treasurer, Bryan Elliston, of the bisected stamps used in Guernsey during the German Occupation of the Islands. Also Jersey Post have listed their New Issues planned up to the Spring of next year. Please keep writing and let me have some more interesting input for next year.

SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD

by Richard Flemming

Slowly things are getting back to normal, whatever the new 'norm' will be, with most of our UK members having had their Covid-19 'booster' jab. Since my last Clipboard we have held our Annual General Meeting, and as you will see on page 1 of this edition of *Les Iles Normandes* your Committee approved the review of members subscription rates undertaken by Bryan Elliston, Treasurer, and this was confirmed at the AGM. Staying with the AGM, I am pleased to inform members that the existing Full Committee membership remains the same, with all committee members' names and contact details available on the inside cover of the front page of this edition.

Hopefully you will have seen on the 'News' and 'Programme' pages of the Society's website (www.ciss.uk) members meeting dates for 2022, which are reproduced below. I hope to see as many of you in person at the 'Royal', and we are anticipating holding another Zoom meeting during 2022 so that those members who cannot make it to London can still participate in Society events.

Finally, on behalf of the main Committee may I wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Take care and keep safe.

Forthcoming meetings for 2022

5th February 2022	Member's Competition Day
22nd – 24th April 2022	Member's Weekend Meeting at The Three Swans, Market Harborough, Leicestershire.
9th July 2022	Annual General Meeting
24th September 2022	Member's Meeting. Theme: to be determined
3rd December 2022	Member's Meeting. Theme: Letters T, U and/or V

Unless otherwise stated, all Members' Meetings are held at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW and commence at 10.30am with tea/coffee and biscuits, with the formal meeting starting at 11.00am, usually with a 50 Lot or more room auction.

Please note that all meetings are subject to cancellation if the current Covid-19 pandemic situation changes. Please visit the Society website for latest information.

Beware Bogus Herm Overprints

by Richard Flemming

It has been brought to our notice that members need to be aware of the recent appearance of Herm stamps with unlisted/unofficial overprints on a well-known on-line auction site. Please be aware that these are unofficial overprints and do not appear in any of the official Herm stamp catalogues. It is not the intention of the C.I.S.S. to stop any of its members from purchasing any of these items if they so wish. Bear in mind that these overprints are printed off a computer. They are not genuine stamps, in the true sense, with an unofficial overprint. It also appears that other Channel Islands philatelic material of dubious origin periodically appears on the same on-line auction site; so, buyer beware. If in doubt, please seek advice by emailing info@ciss.uk.

ERRATUM

Olaf Beecken writes to say the cachet "Feldkommandantur 515 / Nebenstelle Guernsey" is NOT an Alderney cachet as suggested in my article on page 27 of the last Journal, but is in fact a Guernsey cachet. My apologies to readers.

2022 GUERNSEY MONTHLY MEETINGS

CISS and RPSL members are welcome to attend monthly meetings in Guernsey, contact John Triggs on 01481 725847 or guern1974@cwqsy.net for details. Meetings held on last Friday evening of the month, 7pm till 9pm now at Les Rocquettes Hotel, Les Gravees, St. Peter Port, GY1 1RN if you are in Guernsey why not come along. Next dates are:

**January 28th, February 25th, March 25th, April 29th,
May 27th, June 24th, July 22nd, August 26th,
September 30th, October 28th, November 25th.**

CHANNEL ISLANDS' LOCAL ISSUES

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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

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

membership@ciss.uk

CISS banking goes Online

Your Executive Committee is pleased to announce that the Society's banking arrangements have joined the twenty-first century and now offer online banking services.

The Society remains with Lloyds Bank and its bank account number remains the same (sort code 30-92-16, account number 00571261) and being online now enables more efficient management of the Society's accounts.

The Society can now make payments by bank transfer, which are both quick and secure, and amounts received by bank transfer from Members and others get sent directly, quickly and securely from the payer to the Society without the need to write and mail a cheque.

Whilst the Society will continue to accept payments by cheque or PayPal, electronic payment by bank transfer is encouraged for two reasons: firstly it avoids the use of PayPal, which can result in a high percentage fee being payable by the Society or Member; and secondly, electronic payment is cheaper and more efficient for the Member than payment by cheque.

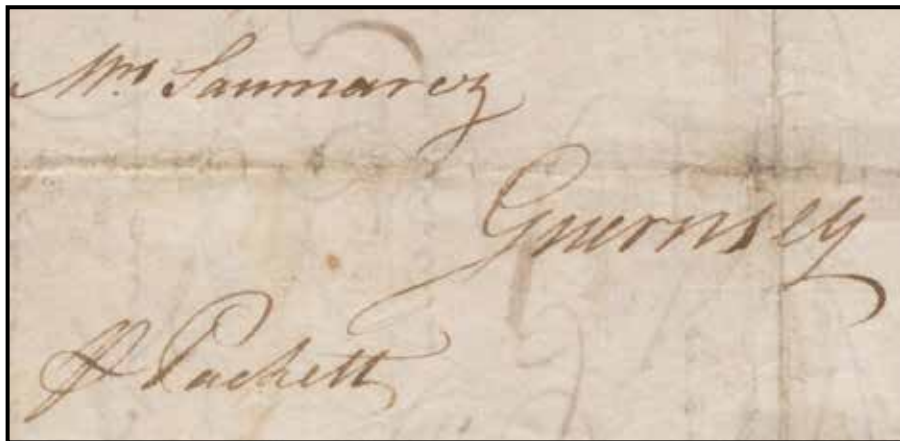
If you have any questions about this development, please contact our Treasurer, Bryan Elliston, at Treasurer@ciss.uk

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.

Philippe Seward of Southampton by David Gurney FRPSL



A letter dated 1 April 1780 to Guernsey, written by the forwarding agent P Seward and sent to Guernsey, addressed “Mrs Saumarez / Guernsey / P Packet”.

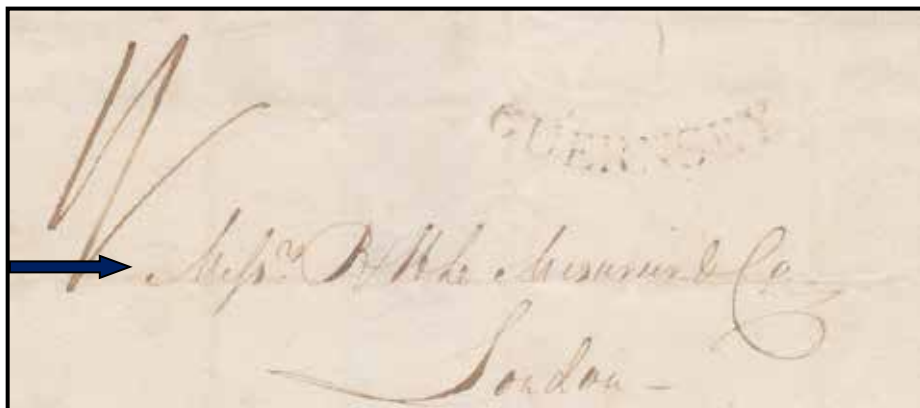
I was intrigued by Bryan Elliston’s reference in his article ‘*Pre-adhesive markings on early Guernsey mail*’ on page 14 of the previous Journal Vol.40 No.3 to the 1780 letter to Guernsey written by the Forwarding Agent P. Seward, the inside of which is shown on the next page. Not previously known to me, the letter is signed *P. Seward / for my Father* which I believe may be Philippe Seward, a son and presumably working in the business for his Father, William Seward.

William Seward himself was a gentleman of many connections and a major merchant in Southampton during the 18c operating in several partnerships, viz Seward & Co, Seward & Le Feuvre, Seward & Marett, Seward & Pipon and Seward & Priaulx, maybe others I am not aware of!

The Seward family were of Jersey origin and remained close members/elders of the French Church, firmly established as merchants in trade involving the Channel Islands and much further afield with associates in related trade too such as ship ownership etc from at least the 16c and some were elected as Sheriffs of Southampton.

Mr. Le Messurier
 London 1 April 1890.
 Dear Sir
 I enclose with send you a
 box which I received from London
 and for the carriage postage I
 have had paid me 2/6
 I am very sincerely &
 Respectfully
 Yours
 J. H. Le Messurier
 J. H. Le Messurier
 for my Father

Interestingly in the same article Bryan also shows in his Fig.4 an entire undated letter from Guernsey to Messrs P. H. Le Messurier in London – another Letter Forwarding Agent and Merchant of Channel Island origin and yet again in Fig. 5 an entire letter of 1810 from Guernsey to an Emanuel Bornstein at Messrs James Cazenove & Co London – again yet another Letter Forwarding Agent handling Channel Islands letters in the period 1810 to 1812 – see next page.



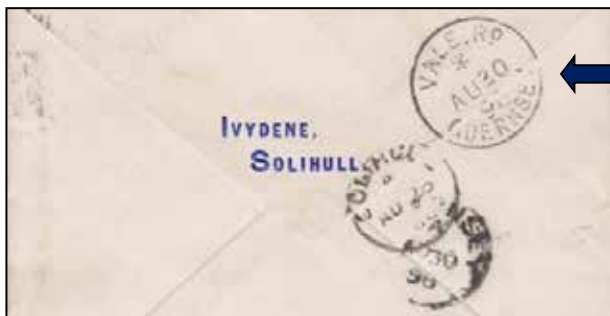
Undated letter from Guernsey to Messrs P. H. Le Messurier & Co in London.



1810 entire letter from Guernsey to Emanuel Bornstein at Messrs James Cazenove & Co in London.

The Vale Road, Guernsey Type 2 single circle datestamp by Bob MacDonald.

In response to Nick Stuart's article in the last Journal, I can extend the earliest date of use back to the 30th August 1898 per the backstamp below.

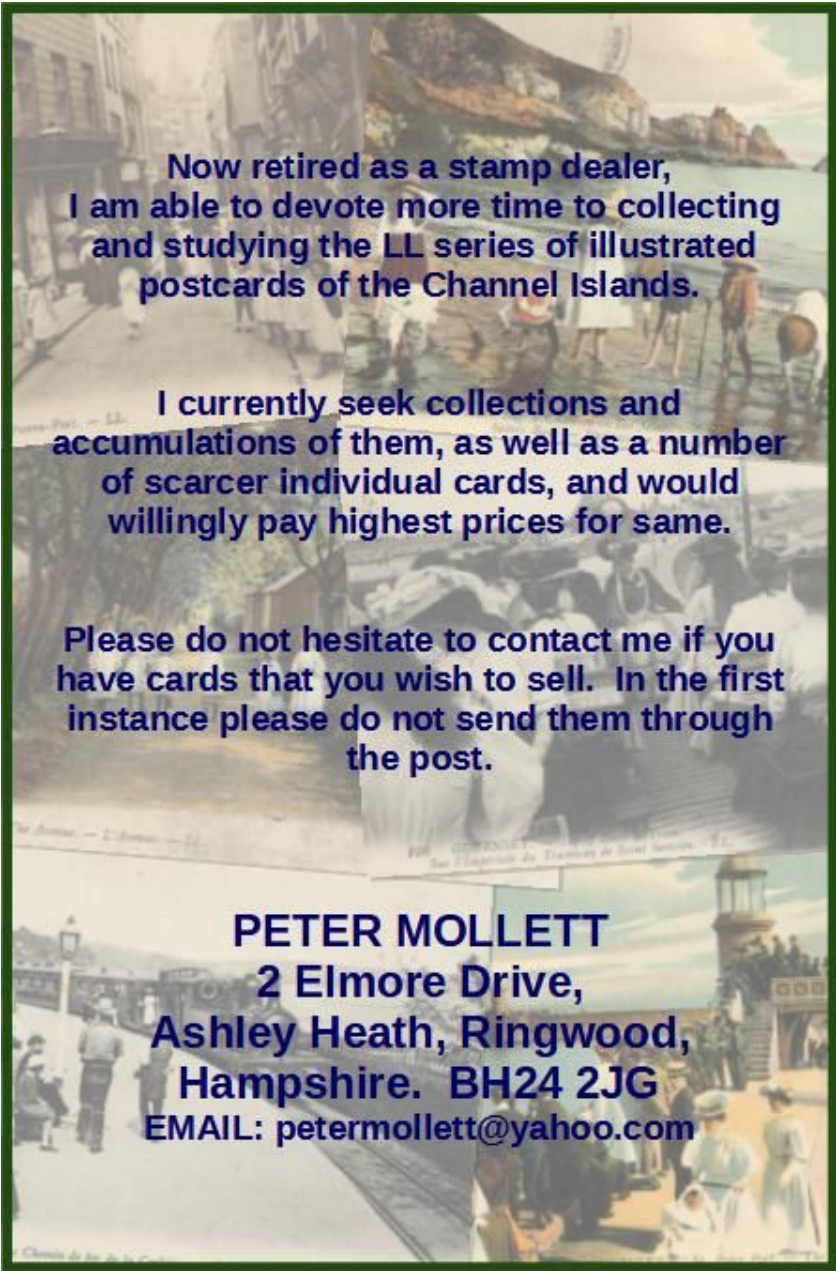


The Vale Road, Guernsey Type 2 single circle datestamp by John Triggs FRPSL

In a further response to this enquiry I can extend the dating further back by just over two weeks to the 11th August 1898 as a backstamp on this letter to Guernsey from Worthing posted on the same date shows!



Has any member even earlier examples of the use of this datestamp?



**Now retired as a stamp dealer,
I am able to devote more time to collecting
and studying the LL series of illustrated
postcards of the Channel Islands.**

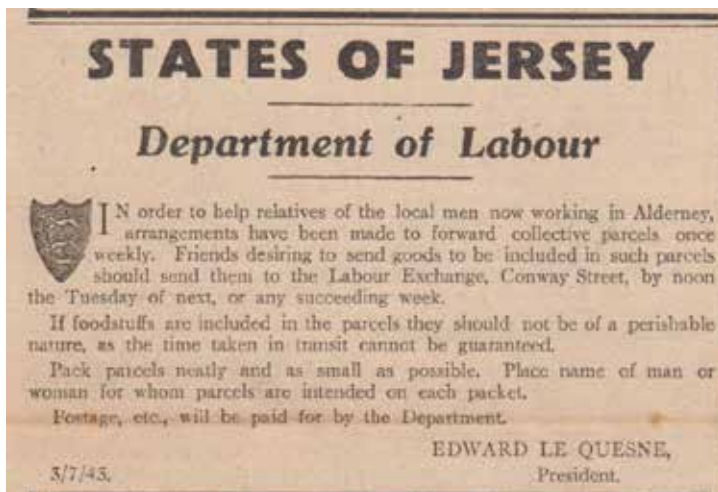
**I currently seek collections and
accumulations of them, as well as a number
of scarcer individual cards, and would
willingly pay highest prices for same.**

**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
2 Elmore Drive,
Ashley Heath, Ringwood,
Hampshire. BH24 2JG
EMAIL: petermollett@yahoo.com**

**Alderney and the representatives of Feldkommandant 515
(Garrison Command 515) by Olaf Beeken – some further
information and thoughts by Bob MacDonald**

Further to Olaf's article in the last Journal, on 13 May 1943 a group of 26 building workers left Jersey bound for Alderney. They were employed by the Wehrmacht Heeresunterkunftverwaltung 130 (HUV Army Billeting Office) and expected to be on Alderney for 6 months. These workers were allowed to write home once a month. Mail was handed to the HUV office in Alderney and arrived in Jersey with Guernsey 2½d. stamps on the envelopes and civilian postmarks. Return mail was addressed to the receiver at 'HUV Alderney Channel Islands (or CI)' and carried Jersey 2½d. stamps. There were no military or German marks applied. This group returned to Jersey, via Cherbourg and St. Malo, in October 1943.



The above notice appeared in the Jersey Evening Post in early June 1943 outlining how parcels could be sent from Jersey to Alderney – one a week and post free. It appears likely that relatives of the workers would enclose personal letters in these parcels at no cost. The result being less mail for the postal history collector.

In September 1941 there were 4 civilian working parties on Alderney, totalling 72 men, including 17 from Sark (Cruickshank 1975). So potentially there could be mail to and from Guernsey, Jersey, Sark and Ireland.

Pantcheff (1981), one of the officers sent to Alderney to investigate the happenings there during the war, states that the civilian employees, who worked mainly for HUV were a mixed bag of Channel Islanders, Irish and British from the other islands and numbered at over 100 at its peak. It seems logical that all these civilian workers, apart from the Irish had similar postal arrangements to the Jersey group above. There are, as far as I know, no lists of these workers, so identification of mail suspected as having been sent from Alderney is difficult.

Dienststelle Feldpostnummer H.U.V.130 Datum 17.Juni 1943
 Zweigstelle Alderney
 Beschäftigungsdienststelle

Beschäftigungsnachweis
 für die

Lohnwoche vom 11.Juni bis 17.Juni 1943

Name	Frei- tag 11.	Sams- tag 12.	Sams- tag 13.	Don- tag 14.	Doner- tag 15.	Frei- tag 16.	Sams- tag 17.	Ges- Std.	Bemerkungen
1. Baker, Francois									
2. Le Houry									
3. Henry, William									
4. O'Hurley									
5. Carfé, William									
6. Chalcker, Harry									
7. Ribard, Clifford									
8. Journeaux, Bruce									
9. Nicolle, John									
10. Dutot, Frank									
11. Bisson, Caspar									
12. Ribel, Francis									
13. Jehan, Peter									
14. Feingiestre, John									
15. Le Gueur, Gg. Charles									
16. Rayson, George									
17. Blampied, Arthur									
18. Kent, Basil									
19. De Carteret, John									
20. Partill, Arthur									
21. Gomerford, Thomas									
22. Mc. Grath, Michael									
23. Mahoney, John									
24. Le Vasconce, Cecil									
25. Emmerton, Richard									
26. Giffard, Edmund									
27. Walker, Samuel									
28. Nicolle, Maurice									
29. Le Monnier, John									

The time sheet above, dated June 1943, includes names that indicates workers of Jersey, Guernsey, Irish and British origin. There were, of course, also some civilians resident on Alderney. Bonnard (1993) identified Peter Doyle, an Irish quarryman, Frank Osleton and Frank Clark who were

farmers, Tommy Oliver ‘custodian of houses’ and George Pope, seaman and ship’s pilot, with his family.

References:

Bonnard, B (1993) – Alderney at War 1939-49

Cruickshank, C. (1975) – The German Occupation of the Channel Islands

Jersey Evening Post – 5 July 1943

Pantcheff, T.X.H. (1981) – Alderney Fortress Island

Unrecorded ‘D’ Type Registration Label for St. Martins, Guernsey by David Winnie

I have recently acquired the ‘D’ Type registration label shown here for St. Martin’s, Guernsey which is unrecorded in David Gurney’s *‘The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices’*.



With the introduction of registration labels in February 1907 by the GPO, a large sheet or ‘D’ Type label was issued for use at small offices that did not justify the expense of printed named labels. Issued in perforated sheets of 50 labels serially numbered from 1 to 50, Sub-Postmasters were instructed to use either their datestamp with the date slugs removed or any metal or rubber stamp with the office name on each label on the sheet before use.

This example is a very early usage as the large **R** is on the right side of the label. By 1910 the design was changed to conform with UPU rules and the large **R** was moved to the left side. In this instance, the label has been correctly pre-stamped by the Sub-Postmaster using the 24mm single circle datestamp with the date and code letter removed. Probably an early use as this label is only number 3 in the sheet of 50 labels

I would be very pleased to hear from any member who has another example of this type of label from this Sub-Post Office as shown or on cover. Please contact me at davidwinnie1@aol.com.

Deportations from the Islands February 1943.

by Ron Osborne.

I have recently obtained a letter sent by the Bailiff of Guernsey on 3rd February 1943 to persons being deported in a second group. I do not think such a letter was sent to the first group deported in 1942.

THE BAILIFF'S CHAMBERS,
THE ROYAL COURT,
GUERNSEY.

3rd February, 1943.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I regret to have to inform
you that we have been notified that you
are likely to be removed to an internment
camp in Germany. You are therefore
advised to be ready to go at very short
notice.

Yours faithfully,

Victor B. Cressy

Bailiff.

Mrs. Quick,
Sausmarez Road,
Castel.

I also obtained the letter dated 6th February 1943 written in German and English from Feldkommandant Knackfuss with instructions concerning the deportation.

Augustine and James Quick were sent to Compiegne Camp, Paris in

Feldkommandantur 515	Jersey, den 6. Februar 1943.
Mrs. Quick,	
Saumarez Rd. 5, Castel.	
<p>auf höheren Befehl werden Sie und Ihre von Ihnen abhängigen Familienangehörigen evakuiert. Sie haben sich mit den genannten Angehörigen am 9.2.43 um 15 h in Gaumont-Kino, St. Peter Port einzufinden.</p>	<p>By higher order you and those family members depending on you shall be evacuated. You will have to appear at Gaumont Cinema, St. Peter Port, Febr. 9, 1943, 3 p.m.</p>
<p>Änderungen des Tages, der Zeit und des Treffpunktes werden durch die Constables der Parishes bekanntgegeben.</p>	<p>In case of alterations being necessary the new date or meeting place will be made known by the Constables of the Parishes.</p>
<p>Es ist mitzunehmen die vorliegende Aufforderung nebst persönlichen Ausweisapieren.</p>	<p>You have to take with you this order together with papers proving your identity.</p>
<p>Die Mitnahme warmer Kleidung, warmer Stiefel, etwas Mundvorrat, Essgeschirr, Trinkbecher und möglichst einer Decke ist notwendig. Das Gepäck darf nicht schwerer sein als Sie es tragen können und ist mit einem Koffer mit Ihrer Namensaufschrift zu versehen.</p>	<p>It is necessary that you fit yourself/yourselfs out with warm clothes, solid boots, some provisions, meal-dishes, drinking-bowl, and, if possible, a blanket. Your luggage must not be heavier than you can carry and must bear a label with your full address.</p>
<p>Jeder wird anheimgestellt, pro Person einen verschlossenen Koffer mit Kleidungsstücken zur Verschickung bereitzustellen. Auf dem Koffer ist genaue Anschrift anzubringen.</p>	<p>It is left to you to get, for each person, a trunk ready packed with clothes and locked for shipment to you. You must mark your full address on each trunk.</p>
<p>Es wird ferner freigestellt, Geld in Beträge bis zu RM 50,- in Reichskreditkassenscheinen pro Person mitzunehmen.</p>	<p>It is also left to you to take with you an amount of money up to Reichsmarks 50,- in German notes of Reichskreditkassen for each person.</p>
<p>Falls Sie dieser Aufforderung nicht nachkommen, haben Sie kriegsgerichtliche Bestrafung zu gewärtigen.</p>	<p>Should you fail to obey this order, you must expect to be punished by a martial court.</p>
<p>Der Feldkommandant: gen. Knackfuss Oberst.</p>	

February 1943. This was a temporary measure and they were transferred to Biberach in Bavaria in June 1943.

From what I have read the deportations in 1943 were in response to the British commando raid on Sark.

The group of people from Guernsey/Sark were under the control of Attorney General Ambrose Sherwill (later Lord) and included Robert Hathaway the husband of the Dame of Sark, They sailed on 12th February after three other proposed sailings were cancelled because of bad weather. A group of people from Jersey were also deported in February 1943. Their sailing was also held up by bad weather, but they sailed eventually. There is no indication that the civil authorities sent a letter similar to the one sent by the Bailiff in Guernsey.

When the question of the February 1943 deportations arose it was found that the numbers were larger than anticipated. The German Authorities did not want more deportees as they could not cope with them. The lists were re-examined and reduced by various reasons to arrive at the final smaller groups. Those deported in February 1943 were the last civilians to go from the Islands.

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 Societys' 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 or by telephone 01455 613826.

Guernsey Bisects during the German Occupation – A study by Bryan Elliston

Following the occupation of Guernsey by German armed forces on 30 June 1940, by the end of that year stocks of British 1d stamps had dried up and plans were put in hand for a local stamp issue. As an interim measure however, the diagonal bisection of existing 2d stamps was officially sanctioned from 27 December in order to meet the cost of the local 1d postage rate. Stamps so bisected remained valid until 22 February 1941, four days after the issue of the locally-produced 1d stamp.

Allowing the bisection of postage stamps during the German Occupation, whilst unusual, was by no means an exceptional occurrence. The practice is known to have occurred mostly in the early years of the postal system when, for example, local stocks of a certain often-used stamps ran dry and the postmaster resorted to cutting higher denomination stamps in half, thus producing two stamps each representing half of the original face value. The use of bisected stamps is known to have occurred in many countries. Indeed, Mexico is known to have used stamps cut in half, three-quarters, quarters and even eighths. An example from the USA is shown at **Figure 1**.



Figure 1: A 12 cent US postage stamp bisected with a January 12, 1852 Sonora, California cancellation.

Before their use in Guernsey in 1940, bisected stamps were known mainly during the 1800s, however examples from 1937 are shown below, as used in England (**Figure 2**) and, interestingly, one used in Guernsey (**Figure 3**).



Figure 2: An envelope sent across Surrey on 25 May 1937, with a 2½d King Edward VIII 1936 definitive bisected diagonally, together with a King George VI ½d definitive, to cover the then 1½d letter rate.

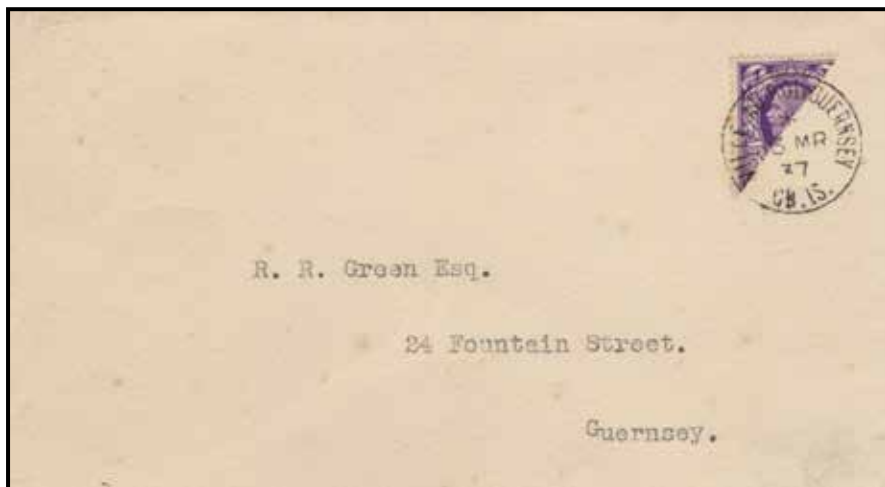


Figure 3: An envelope sent locally in Guernsey on 16 March 1937, with a 1934-36 King George V definitive 3d violet bisected diagonally.

In Guernsey, during the German Occupation, the diagonal bisection of existing 2d British stamps was permitted from 27 December 1940, as stated in the notice from the Post Office on the first day cover at (**Figure 4**). The envelope bears a bisected 2d Postal Centenary stamp from the May 1940 series, which was the 2d stamp most often used bisected.

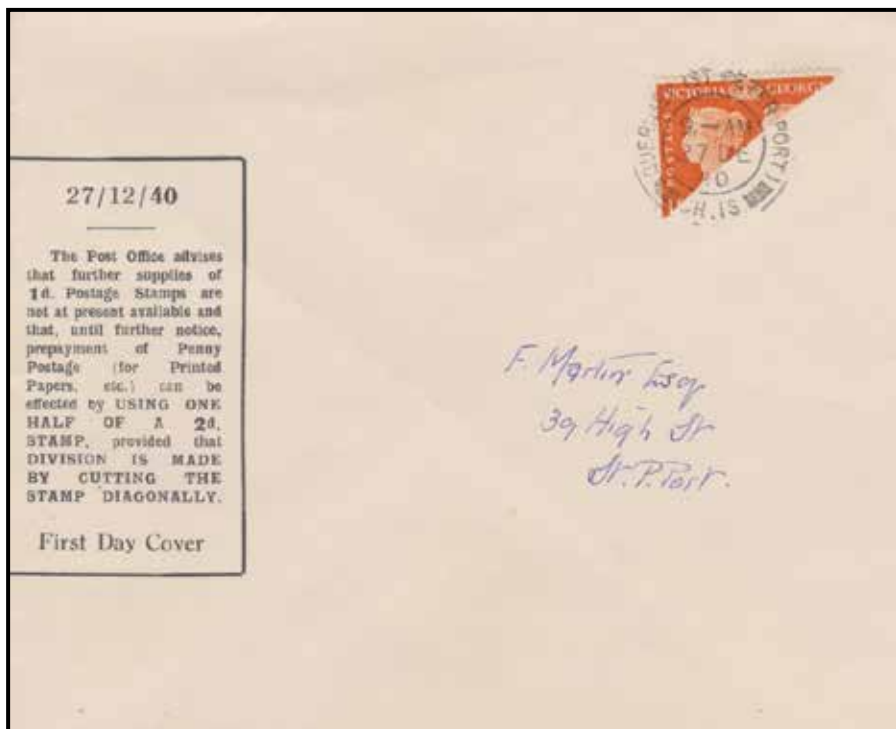


Figure 4: A first day cover for the use of bisected 2d stamps. The envelope bears a bisected 2d Postal Centenary stamp from the May 1940 series, to cover the then 1d postage rate.

In addition to the 2d Postal Centenary stamp, the 2d definitive stamps of the King George VI and King George V issues were likewise bisected (**Figure 5**), the latter being mainly those in the hands of collectors, who took advantage of the temporary sanction to create distinctive varieties.



Figure 5: First day covers with bisects of the King George V definitive, both typographed and photogravure, as well as the 2d definitive currently available at that time, being that from the 1937 King George VI series.

Of the Postal Centenary commemorative series of stamps, although the 2d orange was the most commonly used in bisected form, other values in that series were also used, as shown at (**Figure 6**). Examples of other bisected stamps are uncommon and some are scarce, as their use was not strictly authorised; however some examples slipped through the net, with many such bisected stamps being seemingly accepted by the Post Office if they contributed to the correct total postage rate. This leniency was not, however, applied in all cases.



Figure 6: Bisected versions of the May 1940 Postal Centenary 2½d ultramarine, 3d violet and 1d scarlet, all dated 2 January 1941. Note that the bisected 2½d and 3d stamps met the 1d rate, whilst the bisected 1d stamp should have resulted in an underpayment charge.

A very rare usage of a bisected stamp is illustrated at (**Figure 7**) on a 1941 cover to Sark from Guernsey, which shows a bisected 6d purple King George VI definitive cancelled with a Sark double circle handstamp.



Figure 7: A cover to Sark from Guernsey, dated 31 May 1941 and showing a bisected 6d purple King George VI definitive, cancelled with a Sark double circle handstamp “SARK.GUERNSEY / CHANNEL ISLANDS / A /31 /MY / 41”.

Whilst the Post Office was seemingly prepared, during the Occupation, to grant some flexibility as regards the specific stamps which were used bisected, it remained committed to ensuring that applicable postage rates were adhered to. This is shown by the envelope at (**Figure 8**). The letter required the sealed letter rate of 2½d, but only bore 2d and accordingly a “1d / 324” instructional mark was applied, such a mark being uncommon on occupation mail and particularly on bisect covers, with only a few being known.

The advice from the Guernsey Post Office was that one half of a 2d stamp could be used to prepay the penny postage, “... *provided that division is made by cutting the stamp diagonally.*” As can be seen from the cover at (**Figure 9**), not everyone appreciated the finer points of the guidance as regards how stamps were to be bisected. The cover, addressed locally and dated 31 December 1940, bears a 2d Postal Centenary stamp bisected vertically, contrary to Post Office regulations. It was cancelled with a machine datestamp and was either not noticed to be incorrectly bisected and hence underpaid, or else it was accepted as being within the spirit, if not, the letter of the law.

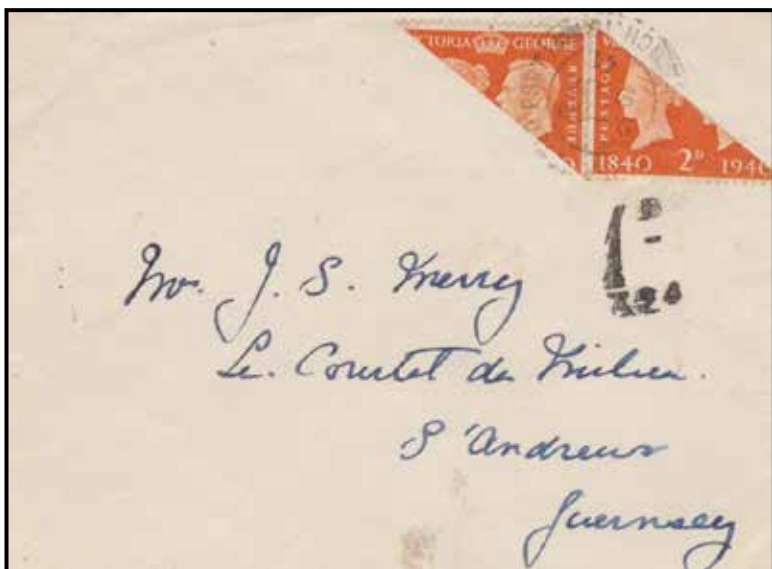


Figure 8: A scarce locally-posted envelope from St Peter Port to an address in St Andrews on 9 January 1941. This shows two bisected 2d Postal Centenary stamps making a total of 2d when the official rate for sealed mail was 2½d. This under payment of postage resulted in the “1d / 324” instructional mark being applied.



Figure 9: Addressed locally and dated 31 December 1940, this cover bears a 2d Postal Centenary stamp bisected vertically, contrary to Post Office regulations, which should have resulted in it being deemed underpaid.

As mentioned above, strict adherence to the Post Office requirements for the use of bisected stamps was not always kept, although some tolerance was shown, particularly when the stamps used made up the correct postage rate. However, the Post Office's patience was clearly tested too far in some cases, such as with the cover shown at (*Figure 10*), which used three local 1d Arms stamps, one of which was bisected, to make up the 2½d sealed letter rate. By the time the cover was posted however, bisected stamps were invalid for postage and, if that were not enough, the bisecting of local stamps was not permitted and hence the cover was endorsed "Stamp inadmissible" and was stamped with a "1d / 324" tax mark.



Figure 10: This cover used three local 1d Arms stamps, one of which was bisected, to make up the 2½d sealed letter rate on mail during the occupation. It is dated 25 February 1941, two working days after bisected stamps were invalidated for postage. In addition, the bisecting of local stamps was not permitted and hence the cover had "Stamp inadmissible" written in manuscript and initialled. In view of the consequent insufficient postage, the cover bears a "1d / 324" tax mark.

The cover shown at (*Figure 11*) was also determined to have insufficient postage. The stamps on the cover comprise a bisected 2d Postal Centenary, a ½d George VI definitive and a bisected 1d Postal Centenary, the latter of which was not strictly permitted and, even if it were, the stamps only total 2d and were therefore underpaid against the 2½d sealed letter rate; and hence the cover bears a "1d / 324" tax mark.



Figure 11: The stamps on this locally-posted cover dated 18 February 1941 were underpaid against the 2½d sealed letter rate as they total only 2d, even if one includes the bisected 1d Postal Centenary, which was not strictly permitted and therefore has not been cancelled. Accordingly the cover bears a “1d / 324” tax mark.

The decision by the Guernsey Post Office to allow the bisecting of 2d values from existing stamp issues, as a temporary move in 1940, gave the “green light” to philatelists to use such stamps to create individual varieties, some of which complied with the regulations established for the use of bisects and some which challenged these regulations. The registered envelope at (**Figure 12**), sent from Guernsey to Captain Hans Braun in Jersey on 8 February 1941, illustrates well the alternative ways in which the bisection of the 2d stamps could be performed, albeit somewhat excessive in its use of stamps. The 2d stamps shown bisected are the Postal Centenary and George VI definitive.



Figure 12: A registered envelope from Guernsey to Captain Hans Braun in Jersey on 8 February 1941, illustrates well the alternative ways in which the bisection of the 2d stamps could be performed, the 2d stamps shown bisected are the Postal Centenary and George VI definitive.

The registered envelope at (**Figure 13**), also sent to Captain Hans Braun in Jersey on 6 February 1941, is a companion posting to the one at (**Figure 12**), with the bisected George VI definitive being the matching halves of those on the other cover posted two days later. Clearly a philatelic posting, it would appear that Captain Braun may have been a keen philatelist.



Figure 13: A registered envelope, sent to Captain Hans Braun in Jersey on 6 February 1941, is a companion posting to the one in Figure 12, with the bisected George VI definitive being the matching halves of those on the other cover posted two days later.

Trinity, Jersey Sub-Post office by John Triggs FRPSL

I have been advised by Jersey Post that this country office closed permanently on the 19th July 2019.

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A major discovery on Chausey Island by Henri Chartier

A few months ago in the summer I purchased a small lot of postcards of Chausey and found postcards showing a Belgian Regiment of the line guarding the around 300 to 800 German prisoners held there by a Belgian



military garrison sent from Saint-Adresse near Le Havre from 1915 to 1918!

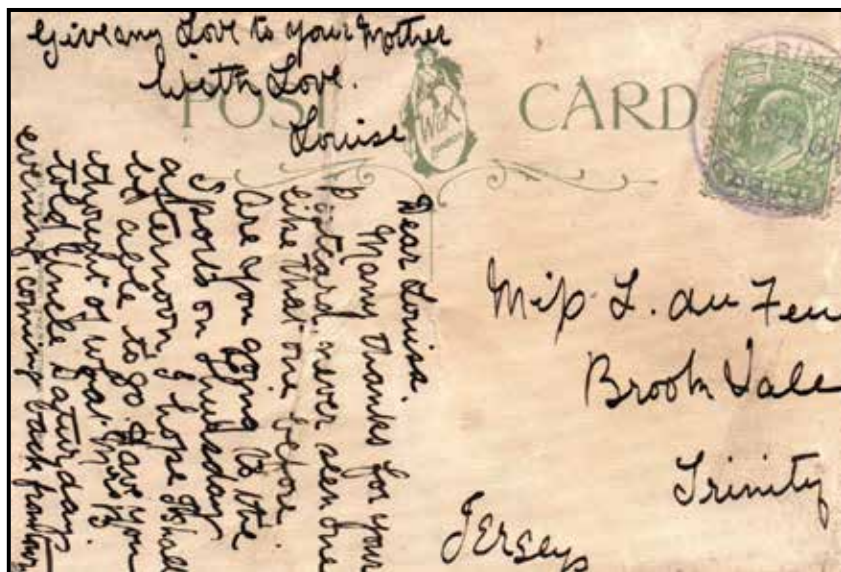
From 1914 to 1919 German Prisoners were guarded by two infantry regiments from Granville !!!

The French text in the postcard above reflects the strong feelings of the writer at the time and indeed probably much of the population then! Interestingly I got in touch with various collectors I know and surprisingly nobody knew anything about this!! I believe this to be a major First World War discovery!

Rubber datestamps of Jersey by Steve Power

This is an area I have recently taken an interest in, but having trawled through various websites, auction catalogues and the vast majority of the CISS publications – there appears to be little research into these date stamps.

I believe these were used at only three sub-offices in Jersey – Pontac (of which there is only one recorded on a parcel post label for 12th March 1900), Trinity (of which there is some debate about whether there are one or two types – *Les Iles Normandes* March 2009) - and finally St Brelades Bay, there being three differing types used at this office.



Trinity 'rubber' cancellation for September 3rd 1907.

For Trinity I can record used dates as 5th June, 3rd and 13th September, 18th and 23rd December (2) 1907, 4th Jan, 17th and 28th Apr, 21st Aug, 28th, Oct, 23rd Dec (3, of which 2 are in blue owned I believe by John Triggs and David Winnie) and 25th Dec - all 1908, 25th and 28th Dec, 1909 and twice in 1910 on 28th Mar and 24th Dec, and finally in 1924 for 12th Sept in black

(again owned by David, and featured recently in *Les Iles Normandes*. These are all reasonably clear copies.

St. Brelades Bay examples are more difficult to distinguish and the ink on the postcards I have seen is very often smudged or giving poor impressions, making it difficult to clearly distinguish the type and date – did this sub-office use a different type of ink perhaps?

Recorded dates of use for all types are 2/2/1902, 25/12/1908, 17/8/1909, 31/8/1912, 24/7/1913, 8/8/1913(2) plus one other 1913 (date unclear) and one other in such poor condition no date is available.

Can other members add to this fairly exclusive list for any of these offices please?

Editor.

Please refer to my three books on the Postal History of the Smaller Channel Islands, Guernsey and Jersey respectively and also to James A. Mackay's book on the Sub Office Rubber Datestamps of England & Wales wherein much history of these datestamps including their official title of Climax Daters can be found. Their purpose and usage is well documented and in so far as the Jersey Sub-Post offices are concerned examples were prepared for use at the offices of Pontac, St Belades Bay (three different styles), St. Martins, St. Mary's, Sr. Peter's and Trinity although in some cases no example has so far come to light. The Bibliography and Sources sections of my books mentioned need to be carefully consulted in each of these publications.

D.G.

71st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Held at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London on Saturday, 25th September 2021 commencing 11.00am

1. Present: The Chair was taken by David Winnie with 11 members present.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Ackroyd, Patrick Ager, Mark Bailey, Gerald Marriner, Mike Moody, Alan Moorcroft, Trevor Nichols, Ron Osborne, John Triggs, Robert Shaw, and Gary Wilcox.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the 70th Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 5th December 2020 at 11.00am via Zoom.

It was proposed by Nick Stuart that the Minutes of the 70th AGM, as published in *Les Iles Normandes* Vol 40, No. 1, pp 30-33 (March 2021), be accepted as a true record. The proposal was seconded by David Laurillard and by a show of hands, the Minutes were passed unanimously,

4. Matters arising from the Minutes:

Item 15.1 Refund of deposits for 2020 Members Meeting

Richard Flemming reported that all personal deposits had been repaid to those members who had booked with the Peninsula Hotel for the 2020 Member's Meeting. However, the deposit paid for the meeting room was retained by the hotel and will be carried over to the 2023 Members Weekend meeting at The Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey.

Item 15.2 Potential article for *Les Iles Normandes* on the late William Quin

Following discussion, it was agreed that David Laurillard would contact John Triggs to see if there is any further information on this story to see if there is sufficient copy for a future article in *Les Iles Normandes*.

Action point: David Laurillard to contact John Triggs to see if there is any further material on this subject and report back to the Secretary.

5. President's report

As the President was not present, Richard Flemming reported that he had not received a President's Report to present to those members attending.

6. Officers' report

6.1 Chairman's report

David Winnie presented his annual statement to the members attending the AGM as follows:

Since the last AGM, (and very first) held via Zoom on the 5th December 2020, the months have continued to be dominated by Covid –19 but, at long last, there are shoots of normality beginning to be seen everywhere and in the Philatelic World.

For us, this essentially began in July with the Society successfully running a stand at MIDPEX where a good selection of our books was sold. Also in July, we were able to hold our first "live" meeting at the Royal which was also very successful.

Given that lockdown had only just ended, a remarkable number of members ventured up to London, no doubt with a certain amount of apprehension, but it was not long before this dissipated. An excellent room auction was followed by a high level of displays which clearly established what our members had been doing during the lockdown! Hopefully, going forward, these “live” events will continue, and we propose a full programme of events for 2022 to include the postponed long weekend meeting in Market Harborough.

Your committee has continued to be fully functional during the lockdown period with two Executive meetings and one Full Committee meeting, each held via ZOOM. We have also held some ad hoc ZOOM meetings to discuss important issues that required immediate attention and I am pleased to confirm that, as these have been so successful, we are to continue to use ZOOM for all of our committee meetings going forward, thereby saving the Society travel costs and the Committee Members substantial travel time. The bonus of ZOOM is that the Society was able to hold its first Member’s Meeting by this medium at which our President, Gerald Marriner, and Auctioneer, Nick Stuart, provided the excellent Presentations. Members we do not usually see face to face, including some from as far away as New Zealand and USA, were able to attend, and from the very positive feedback we have received, another ZOOM member’s meeting will feature in our programme of events in the future.

I am delighted to report that our new Treasurer, Bryan Elliston, has settled into his role and committee life extremely well. As you will hear from Bryan, our Accounts and Banking is now fully “Electronic”. This has made this aspect of the Society’s operation much more efficient and effective.

Continuing with the electronic theme, I can also confirm that further enhancements to the “look” and “feel” of the Society’s website has recently taken place which I am sure you, the members, will like. Importantly, the site is now mobile responsive as between 10% and 15% of our website visitors are using mobiles to view the site. Navigation around the site has been made easier with an “all – new” menu on each page helping to identify which part of the website you are on and there is consistent styling across the board. This is a valuable Society resource and I strongly recommend that those members who do not visit the site on a regular basis, check it out as it is even more user friendly now and, more importantly, very informative.

The work on the major project to make our excellent Journal “searchable” continues at pace with Phase 1 fully completed. Journals from 2004 onwards have been fully indexed and “keyworded” with plans in place to digitise Volumes 23 to 31. Nick Stuart has kindly agreed to undertake this at the Royal Philatelic Society where appropriate equipment is available for us to use. We aim to continue with this large undertaking in bitesize chunks and my thanks go to the whole Executive Committee for their on-going work with this process.

During the pandemic, our auctions have taken place without interruption and have proved extremely successful in terms of the number of bidders participating and the amount of revenue acquired by the Society from sales. In addition, this year we held our first Postcard only auction which proved very popular. Therefore, another is planned for early next year. My thanks go to Gerald and Nick for the enormous amount of work needed to provide this important Society service.

It goes without saying that 2021 has continued to be a challenging period for everyone and the Society. Therefore, it is especially important for me to thank all my fellow Committee members for their wholehearted support during these difficult times. There are signs that the worst is now behind us, but I feel it would be wrong for any of us to be complacent, so please continue to stay safe and healthy.

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

Richard Flemming, Secretary, presented his report as printed on the C.I.S.S. website (www.ciss.uk), and provided reports received from the Membership Secretary and Packet Secretary and these, too, are available on the C.I.S.S. website. David Winnie added that a tidying up exercise had taken place whereby the longstanding separate Banking arrangements and associated Insurance policy for our Packet service had now been consolidated within the main Banking account and added to the Insurance cover in place for our Auctions respectively. This had resulted in a reduction in our insurance policy premiums.

6.3 Treasurer's report and adoption of Society Accounts for year ending 2020

Bryan Elliston presented the formal accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020 as published on the C.I.S.S. website.

It was proposed by David Gurney that the Society's Accounts for 2020 be accepted as a true record. The proposal was seconded by Jill Flemming, and by a show of hands the accounts were passed unanimously.

David Gurney thanked Bryan Elliston for his efforts in managing the Society's accounts during the pandemic and this was supported by all members present.

6.4 Auction Secretary's report

Nick Stuart presented his annual report, highlighting the success of the post card and Spring postal auctions for 2021. He also reported that the Autumn postal auction list is now available and that auction lists will be posted out for UK/CI members to receive by Wednesday, 29th September. Closing date for bids is 22nd October 2021.

Nick Stuart also reported that he had sufficient 'excellent' material for a further three postal auctions. He also wished to express his sincere thanks to Gerald Marriner for his efforts in describing the auction lots for the auction lists, and this was endorsed by all those members present.

6.5 Press and Advertising Officer's report

Steve Wells provided a verbal presentation of his report that also appears on the C.I.S.S. website.

7. Ex-officio Officers' reports

Richard Flemming provided verbal reports on behalf of the Archivist and then Book and Sundry Sales, highlighting the excellent sales achieved with Roger Harris's book *Pioneer Aviation in the Channel Islands*, resulting in a second printing of 25 copies of both volumes above the original 100 copies printed of the two volumes.

8. Annual review of Membership Subscriptions

8.1 Adoption of proposed Changes to Membership Subscription levels as per Rule 8(m)

Bryan Elliston presented his proposal as shown on the C.I.S.S. website. Following discussion, it was proposed by David Laurillard that the changes to the membership subscription levels be adopted, commencing from January 1st, 2022. The proposal was seconded by Alan Whittaker, and with a show of hands, was passed unanimously.

8.2 Charging for Society Publications

Whilst not a matter which requires Member's approval at an AGM, the Executive Committee felt it appropriate to advise Members of a decision it has taken as part of its focus on improving the benefits of Society membership.

The Executive Committee has decided to use some of the Society's cash reserves to subsidise periodic books and pamphlets purchased by Members, by charging a nominal amount, with the Society covering all printing and other publication costs and the costs of postage. The nominal price for future publications will be set by the Executive Committee and may vary between publications. The benefit which this subsidy will bring to Members buying the publications will be reflected as a cost in the Society's accounts.

9. Election of Officers for Full Committee positions.

Members attending the AGM were given a list of those members wishing to stand for the Full Committee positions, together with the names of proposer and seconder for each position.

As per Rule 8(c) David Winnie stood down as Chairman. As there were no other nominees for the position of Chairman, David Winnie was duly re-elected to serve as Chairman for the period to the next AGM in 2022.

It was proposed by Jill Flemming that, because there were no further nominees coming forward for each of the Full Committee positions, that the remaining proposed nominees for the Full Committee positions be elected *en bloc*. The proposal was seconded by David Laurillard, and by a show of hands the proposal was accepted, and all nominees were duly re-elected to serve on the Full and Executive Committees until the next AGM.

Despite notices within *Les Iles Normandes*, and emails to Society members, there was no nominee for the vacant Competition Secretary position, and as such the

Competition Secretary position on the Full Committee remains vacant. As a matter of urgency, this situation will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting, as the forthcoming Annual Competition Day, due to be held on Saturday, 5th February 2022, may be put in jeopardy should we have nobody to run the event.

Action point: Richard Flemming to add the vacant Competition Secretary situation as an item on the agenda for discussion at the forthcoming Executive Committee meeting.

10. Future Members' Meetings at the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Richard Flemming provided a list of Members Meeting dates for 2022 and 2023 which have been provisionally booked with the RPSL. The list of proposed dates will be presented for approval at the next Executive Committee meeting.

11. Update on Members Weekend meeting 2022 at The Three Swans, Market Harborough.

In the absence of Gerald Marriner, Richard Flemming provided an update on the current situation, informing members present that all arrangements had been made with the hotel, and that a booking form for those members and guests wishing to attend the meeting will be available with the December 2021 edition of *Les Iles Normandes*.

12. Any other business.

12.1 David Laurillard wished it to be placed on record that a vote of thanks should be given to the C.I.S.S. full Committee for all their efforts in keeping the Society functioning during the current Covid-19 pandemic. This was further supported by David Gurney who stated, *"As a Past President, I fully endorse the complimentary comments made by Past Chairman, David Laurillard, and would like to record the extra-ordinary progress that the new Executive Committee have achieved in advancing the various simplifications and very computer friendly situation I/we find this Society enjoys today. All this hard work has been so worthwhile to date. Well done!"*

David Winnie expressed his thanks on behalf of the Society's Full Committee to both David's for their kind comments and that they are very much appreciated.

12.2 Past Competitions Secretary, Alan Whittaker, highlighted the success of using photocopies of entries for the 2021 Annual Competition and that all entrants received the judge's feedback comments, plus a certificate for entering the competitions. Alan Whittaker further suggested that the Competition Rules be amended so that paper copies, rather than originals, be accepted for future Annual Competitions. It was agreed that this proposal will be discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Alan Whittaker also presented a proposal made to him by the Late Christine Earle, that there should be two judges, as per international rules, when judging our annual competitions. The name, Patrick Reid, was put forward as a possible second judge.

It was agreed this proposal will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Action point: Richard Flemming to add this proposal as an item on the agenda for the forthcoming Executive Committee meeting.

12.3 There being no further business, the Annual General Meeting was closed at 12.20hrs.

13. Date of 2022 Annual General Meeting: Saturday, 9th July 2022. Venue: Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London.

Richard Flemming. Secretary

FORTHCOMING NEW STAMP ISSUES – 2021/2.

GUERNSEY POST

December 2021 Year-set Folder£64.83

19th January 2022 Year of the Tiger – Chinese New Year

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First Day Cover£6.48

Presentation Pack£6.18

Sheets of 10£52.80

Souvenir Sheet£5.28

First Day Cover£6.48

Presentation Pack insert£5.48

9th February 2022 - Quartet series: Love Paper, Stamp 1 (Subject to Royal Approval)

Single stamp£1.00

First Day Cover£2.20

The Clematis Collection: Samaritan Jo (Subject to Royal Approval)

Miniature Sheet£3.00

First Day Cover£4.20

Presentation Pack£3.90

ALDERNEY

December 2021 Year-set Folder - £38.25

7th February 2022 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Set of 6 stamps	£5.28
First Day Cover	£6.48
Presentation Pack	£6.18
Sheets of 10.....	£52.80
Prestige Booklet	£21.12

Not part of the official stamp programme – our 8th pictorial Post and Go set – Guernsey Cuisine will also be released on the 18th Feb 2021.

Strip of 6 stamps.....	£4.70
First Day Cover	£5.90
Presentation Pack	£5.60

JERSEY POST

22nd November 2021 - A Visit from St. Nicholas

Set of 8 stamps	£6.83
First Day Cover	£8.08
Presentation Pack	£8.08
Miniature Sheet	£3.50
First Day Cover	£4.75
Presentation Pack	£4.75

4th January 2022 - Lunar New Year – Year of the Tiger

1 stamp	£0.88
First Day Cover	£2.13
Presentation Pack	£2.13
Miniature Sheet	£3.00
First Day Cover	£4.25
Presentation Pack.. ..	£4.25

20th January 2022 - Visiting Aircraft

Set of 6 stamps	£5.71
First Day Cover	£6.96
Presentation Pack	£6.96
Miniature Sheet	£4.00
First Day Cover	£5.25
Presentation Pack	£5.25

17th February 2022 SEPAC – Jersey Food & Drink

Set of 6 stamps	£5.71
First Day Cover	£6.96
Presentation Pack	£6.96

22nd February 2022 Jersey Post & Go – Harvest of the Sea

Set of 6 stamps	£5.71
First Day Cover	£6.96
Presentation Pack	£6.96

16th March 2022 Europa 2022 – Jersey Stories & Myths

Set of 6 stamps	£5.71
First Day Cover	£6.96
Presentation Pack	£6.96
Souvenir Miniature Sheet.....	£3.38

Please note:

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5. The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices (265 pp). £10.00
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7. Islanders Deported Part II (246 pp). £4.00
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