



**CHANNEL ISLANDS
SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY**

March 2022

Volume 41 No.1

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.

ADVERTISMENT RATES IN LES ILES NORMANDES

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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:

2211 Detlev Albrecht, Germany, 2212 Alex Camm, Hampshire, 2213 William Desheulles, Ireland, 2214 Ian Shuter, Yorkshire, 2215 Paul Smith, Merseyside, 2216 William Morris, Guernsey, 2217 Hayden Moorcroft, Essex.

Very sadly, we regret to record the deaths of the following members:

601 David Parsons, 1249 Hans-Ewald Lutter, 1607 Brian Coles

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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 edition of mixed and interesting themes particularly in the early postal history and the German Occupation periods. New articles are always welcomed both by your Editor and the membership. This edition again has another 40 pages including an excellent study by our Treasurer, Bryan Elliston, of the early handstruck numerals of Guernsey. Also Jersey Post have listed their New Issues planned up to the early summer of this year. Do please let me have some more interesting input for us all to enjoy. Also included is an illustrated Report on our record Autumn auction results. I am also much saddened by the death of my good and very long term friend, David Parsons, whose Obituary you will find on page 7.

SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD

by Richard Flemming

Looking back at my SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD of twelve months ago I stated that the Covid-19 pandemic is still here and unlikely to go away anytime soon. How true those words were. Even your Hon. Secretary is currently testing positive for Covid-19. I hope you all had a pleasant Christmas, and that 2022 so far has not been too bad for you.

The Member's meeting of the 4th of December went ahead as planned with our Chairman, David Winnie, and myself, providing the two main displays that were Zoomed out to other members. Sadly, only nine members turned up at the Royal for the meeting, and fifteen joined us via Zoom. Still, the feedback on the two displays was positive and further large displays, shown via Zoom, will probably feature in future Members' meetings.

By the time you read this the Member's Competition Day would have been and gone, and thank you to all those members, new and old, who entered the competitions. I am aware that our new Competitions Secretary, Nick Martin, has been busy getting the entries sent off to the judge.

The next big event is the Member's Weekend at the Three Swans, Market Harborough from the 22nd – 24th April 2022. You should have received your booking form with the December edition of *Les Iles Normandes*. If you do not have a copy, please contact Gerald Marriner.

Proposed forthcoming meetings:

22 nd – 24 th April 2022	Member's Weekend Meeting, Market Harborough
9 th July 2022	Annual General Meeting & room auction/displays
24 th September 2022	Member's Meeting – Topic to be decided

Currently, all meetings are held at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW commencing at 11.00am. Tea and coffee is available from 10.30 in the Member's Lounge.

Further information can be viewed on our website: www.ciss.uk

2022 GUERNSEY MONTHLY MEETINGS

CISS and RPSL members are welcome to attend bi-monthly meetings in Guernsey, contact John Triggs on 01481 725847 or guern1974@cwgsy.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:

May 27th, July 22nd, September 30th, November 25th.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Nick Martin has agreed to take on the Committee role of **Competitions Secretary** and the respective email address remains unchanged on the list of **OFFICERS** on the inside page to the front cover.

The following awards were made to members at Autumn Stampex 2021 –

Alan Holyoake	The British Post Office from Inception to the 1840 First Day of Use of Prepaid Stamps and Stationery.	Large Gold
Brian Sole	Story of the British Greetings Telegram Service	Large Gold
	Go by Cycle	Gold
	Cycle Past, by Postcard	Gold

And at Notos 2021 in Athens -

Jon Aitchison	Egyptian Officially sealed Mail	Gold
	Isle of Man Local Issues catalogue	Large Vermeil
	The First Herm Island stamp issue and how to identify the 18 Printings	Vermeil
	Egypt's Cassette post	Vermeil
Gerald Marriner	German Occupation of Channel Islands and disruption to mail	Vermeil

‘Unusual Aspects of Channel Islands’ Philately’ was the

title of the display given by Jon Aitchison FRPSL to the members of the Royal Philatelic Society London on 27 January at very short notice. Far-ranging in its appeal, the display covered such diverse areas as money paid to spies in



the 18th century, Ballon Monté to and from the Channel Islands, mail carried by rail and air, revenues and perfins. The vote of thanks was given by Gerald Marriner FRPSL, President of the Channel Islands Specialists’ Society, who commented that few appreciate the ‘variety and extent of unusual philatelic material from these small Islands’. Peter Cockburn FRPSL President of the Royal also thanked Jon for his ‘extraordinary exhibit’, presenting him with the Society’s plaque.

**Our warmest congratulations to the following
who have completed 50 years of continuous membership of this
Society:**

**525 Brian Chilton 527 Brian Thomson
542 Tom Norgate 586 John Clark**

**and to those completing 30 years of continuous membership of
this Society:**

1695 Ludwig Beil 1707 Ron Osborne

Notes on Members’ Meeting 4th December 2021 by Richard Flemming

Nine members attended the December meeting held at the Royal Philatelic Society London. Following the 60-lot room auction which saw 80% of the

items sold and realizing a total of £720, the remainder of the morning was taken up with Jon Aitchison providing an excellent 50-sheet display consisting of a cornucopia of material, starting with a 16th century document concerning the lease of the Island of Sark and an 1889 letter complaining about the non-payment of rent. Jon also showed one of the few known three Herm registered labels, whereby, due to the shortage of registered labels at the Sark Post Office, the word HERM was crossed out and the word SARK inserted in manuscript. Jon then moved on to items related to Channel Island railways and a near complete display of SS IBEX mail that was recovered from the ship when it sank off the Island of Guernsey on the 5th January 1900. Jon concluded his display with examples of printers' proofs of Channel Islands' revenue stamps in unissued colours, and rejected designs produced by Enid Marx for the 2½d regional design. Following lunch, two 45-minute Zoom displays, provided by David Winnie, viz. **The Sark Post Office**, and Richard Flemming, **Routes and Rates: Mail from and to the Channel Islands** were viewed by those members present at the Royal, plus another fifteen members who joined via Zoom. Both displays contained rare and unique items, and if members wish to see these two displays they can still be seen in full by visiting www.ciss.uk and click on the appropriate link. These two displays were then followed by a further five short displays based on the theme of Letters Q, R and/or S. Nick Stuart commenced proceedings by showing a 1725 entire from London to Guernsey sent via Thomas Bandinel, a Letter Forwarding Agent based at Southampton. The item features ornate curlique or talismanic writing at the top. This ornate script was first mentioned by David Gurney in *Les Iles Normandes* Vol. 38 / pp 22-26/ June 2019. A possible suggestion for these markings could be "God Speed"?

Mark Bailey showed several items related to the 2021 Sark, *Dark Sky* Island stamps produced by the Guernsey Philatelic Bureau, and 2d revenue impressed stamps used on Sark cheques from the Sark branch of Midland Bank, a sub-branch of the Guernsey branch of the Midland Bank. This was followed by Gerald Marriner showing a range of Channel Islands surcharged mails. Included in the display was an 1885 item of mail surcharged 1d, and an 1890 letter that was surcharged 1d for re-directing the letter to London. For the post-German Occupation period, Gerald showed an item of mail dated 1952 bearing a 2d 'Views' stamp of Jersey,

which by this time was invalid for postage use. Consequently, the item of mail was surcharged 4d, with a 4d/TO PAY/409 handstamp and bearing 2 x 2d postage due stamps. Gerald concluded with a 1962 item of mail from Australia to Jersey that was underpaid and consequently surcharged 1/2d. Robert Shaw showed some interesting ephemera relating to smoking and the Channel Islands, including many items from the companies who manufactured cigarettes and pipe tobacco in the Islands, many of which came with cigarette cards inserted into the packets. One interesting set of cards consisted of playing cards, which when the full set of 52-cards were saved, could be exchanged for a pack of full-size playing cards. To conclude the afternoons' displays, David Winnie showed two rare items, a St Aubin 'skeleton' handstamp, which is now only one of three such St Aubin 'skeleton' handstamps known, and an un-recorded single-ring St Aubyns datestamp, used on an item of mail to Switzerland, bearing the code letter B.

Obituary: David W. Parsons FRPSL

Born on 27th June 1951, David died after a long illness on 6th January 2022 remarkably describing for Spink until the end in his Nursing Home.

I have known David more or less since he joined Robson Lowe at 50, Pall Mall and then joined the Society in 1972. A good friend always helpful and willing to share his knowledge with everyone, he built a good collection of CI and professionally with Christies Robson Lowe and eventually Spink became one of the most respected philatelists and expert describers of recent years.



He was also a long-term member and on the Board of the BPA Expertising Committee and a well-known judge at Exhibitions in South Africa.

David married Gill in October 1981 and will be greatly missed by us all who knew him in the CISS, at RPSL, at Spink and his many friends and clients around the world. Gill and David attended some of our weekend Society meetings in the Channel Islands and made many friends – a popular couple of whom David will be much missed. **David Gurney. FRPSL**

Channel Islands Specialist's Society Annual Competition February 2022 Results by Nick Martin

Thank you to all entrants for your participation in this year's competition. The standard was very high, with varied and interesting entries in different classes.

All the entries are available to view on the CISS website. Please log on, and go to the Competitions menu and click on [CISS Annual Competition 2022](#) or go straight to this link:

[CISS Annual Competition 2022 Archives - Channel Islands Specialists' Society](#)

Congratulations to the following:-

Entrant	Title	Award
Ron Brown	Channel Islands Uniform 1d Postage 1840-1850	Large Gold
Ron Brown	Forwarding Agents of Mail to and from the Channel Islands	Gold
Ron Brown	Guernsey Arms Stamps 1941-1945	Gold
Ron Brown	Civilian Mail between the Channel Islands, Axis and Occupied Countries and Friendly Neutrals	Gold
Gerald Marriner	Jersey Surcharged Mail	Gold
Alan Whittaker	The International Red Cross Message Scheme to the Channel Islands 1940-1945	Gold
Richard Flemming	German Occupation of Alderney 1940-1945	Gold
Ron Brown	Alderney Mail during the German Occupation 1940-1941	Gold
Nick Stuart	Letter Forwarding Agents to and from the Channel Islands	Large Vermeil

Ron Brown	Civilian Mail between the Channel Islands and Occupied France	Large Vermeil
Julian Bagwell	Guernsey Early Philately - Boite Mobile	Large Vermeil
Julian Bagwell	120 Years or Early Philately, 1758 to 1878	Vermeil
John Goose	Guernsey Machine Cancellations	Vermeil
Detlev Albrecht	German Occupation Mail	Silver
Julian Bagwell	Unusual Inbound Items 1802 to 1940	Silver
John Goose	Airletters used in Guernsey	Silver-Bronze

Many thanks to Graham Winters, FRPSL for judging the entries.

PLEASE NOTE: The old SG Collect Channel Islands and Isle of Man stamps catalogue last published in 2016 has been reissued this year as **CHANNEL ISLANDS AND ISLE OF MAN stamp catalogue 2022 edition**, very much larger with 568 colour pages and priced at £37.95 which I am planning to review in the September Journal. **David Gurney FRPSL (Editor).**

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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

Mystery "WAR DAMAGE DEPARTMENT. 3 MAR 1948" circular cachet by Geoff Cory.

I recently acquired this interesting post WW2 Builders invoice and receipt for building works. The Builder was C. J. Solway of St Sampsons, his

ESTIMATES FREE PHONE 4277

Compton, Pointus Rocques, St. Sampson's,
GUERNSEY, G.I.

July 1946

Miss Peak Parbide, Delancey.

Dr. to **C. J. SOLWAY**

CARPENTER AND BUILDER

3 Sheets Laminated Wall Bd.	2	5	0
18 ft. 1 1/2 x 2		6	0
4 ft. 1 1/4 x 3 1/2		2	0
2 Panels W. Insul. 45 1/2 x 13 1/2		13	0
15 ft. 1 1/2 x 7. fld.		9	8
22 ft. 1 1/2 x 2 Batt.		4	4
2 Panels Glass 18 1/2 x 34		6	0
1 Lin Damp Resistance		4	6
1 Cupboard Knob.		1	8
1 lb. Paint.		1	4
1 Tin Stain		1	6
		1	1
		1	3
		1	8
		9	
		11	10
		18	14
		12	0
		19	6
		0	

14-8-1946

Received from Miss R. J. Peak being rising 2, Delancey

the sum of Nineteen Pounds

Six Shillings and Pence

£ 19 6 0

C. J. Solway

WAR DAMAGE
3 MAR 1948
POSTED

client was Miss Peak of Delancey and the date of the invoice was July 1946. The value of the invoice was £19.6.0 (approximately £800 in today's

money) and both the invoice and receipt have appropriate Sales and Revenue Tax stamps attached. To the bottom right of the invoice a circular cachet has been applied in purple reading **"WAR DAMAGE DEPARTMENT. 3 MAR 1948"** and it is this hand stamp that is of particular interest shown more clearly below in this enlargement of the covered lower part of the receipted invoice.



While I am aware that the States of Guernsey did set up a Rehabilitation Compensation Scheme in 1946 and terminated the scheme in 1953, I was unaware that a formal War Damage Department existed to deal with such claims. It appears likely that the purple cachet was applied to the invoice to confirm that it had been seen by the States Department and that it was agreed as a War Damage Claim. I would be very interested to know if this assumption is correct, if other Members have similar receipts with this cachet and any knowledge concerning the hand cachet itself. For example, was the cachet produced and used exclusively on the Island or was it provided by the British Government as part of a wider post war Compensation Rehabilitation Scheme in which the British War Department was involved?

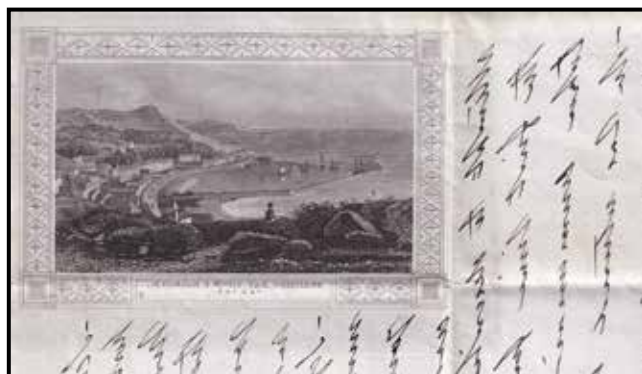
**An illustrated 1841 Letter sheet from Jersey to Leamington,
Warwicks** by David Gurney FRPSL

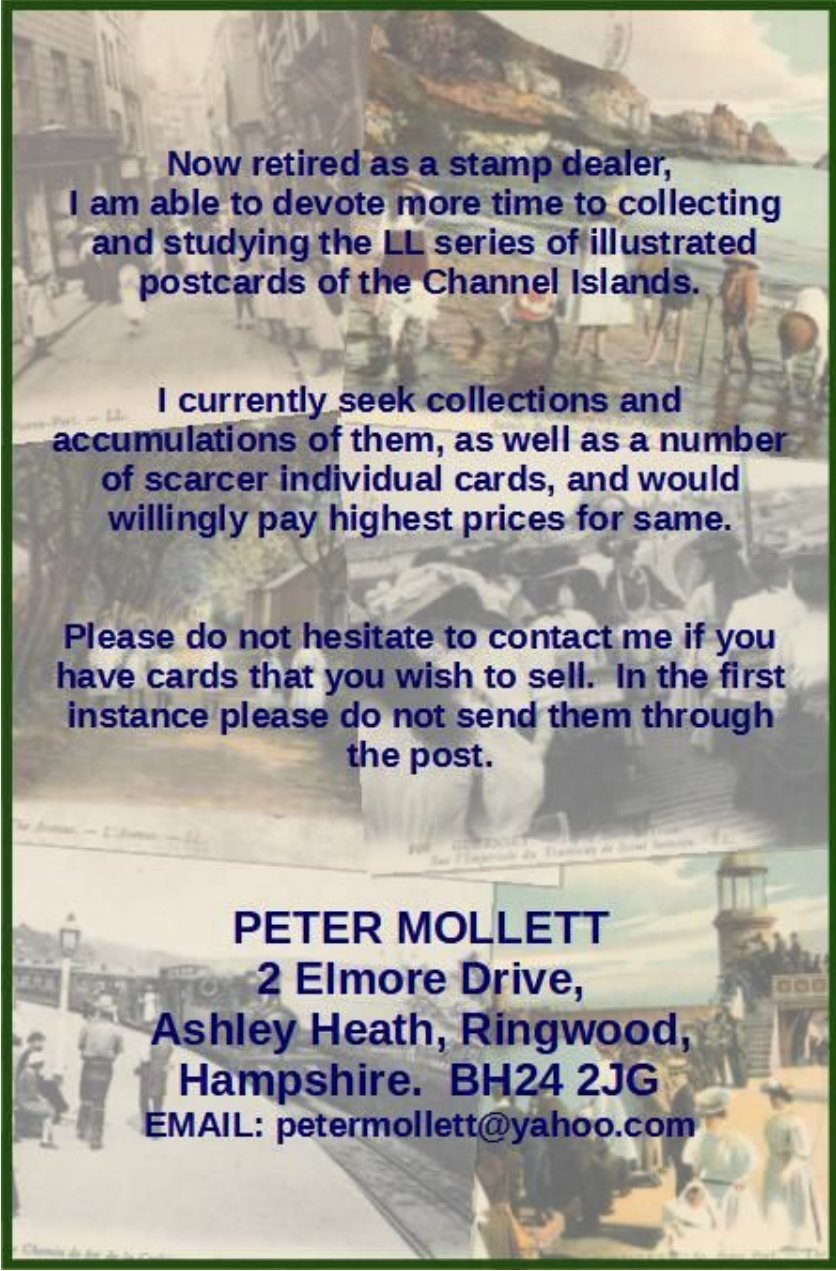
I was very pleased to acquire this unusual illustrated entire lettersheet in the Society Autumn postal auction in October 2021.





This illustrated letter sheet has been franked with an 1840 QV 1d black adhesive stamp and cancelled by the Jersey Maltese Cross in black ink, backstamped with the Jersey dated arc on the 15th March 1841 and a red London transit stamp for the 17th March 1841. Folded inwardly, the illustration of ST AUBINS BAY & HARBOUR./JERSEY is inside within the written part of the Lettersheet as partly portrayed below.





**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**

Jersey-France 1904 Carteret *Boîte Mobile* cover

by Steve Wells



A cover sent in September 1904 from the Hotel de l'Europe to France using the movable box service appeared on day one of Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner's 50th Jubilee auction – which closed on 21st June 2021 – as lot #08979 offered at €250. This attractive cover finally sold for €260.00

Bearing a strip of three KE VII ½d stamps and one KE VII 1d stamp cancelled at Carteret on 23rd September 1904, the cover also shows a superb PAQUEBOT marking. Initially addressed to Blois, where it arrived the following day, the cover was re-directed to Mesland.

Gibbons [1] records this type of Carteret three concentric circle cancellation as used between 1898 and 1908 on *Boîte Mobile* mail.



Reference

1. *Stanley Gibbons Channel Islands Postal History Catalogue*
Ringwood & London: Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd,
December 1991.

ANY UNWANTED SOCIETY JOURNALS?



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

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GUERNSEY HANDSTRUCK NUMERALS by Bryan Elliston

The Uniform Fourpenny Post was introduced, on an experimental basis on 5 December 1839. It lasted only until 9 January 1840 when the Uniform Penny Post was introduced, a charge of one penny then being levied per half ounce letter irrespective of the distance to the delivery address. In the early 1840s, wooden handstamps began to be introduced with marks to signify that the one penny postal charge had been prepaid; however, prior to their introduction, manuscript markings were applied as illustrated by the example at **Figure 1**, on an entire letter (a letter folded in on itself to create its own envelope) to London in 1841.

In this study, all examples and illustrations are referenced to the *Stanley Gibbons Channel Islands Postal History Catalogue*, 1991.



Figure 1: An entire letter to London dated 3 May 1841, with a London paid “tombstone” mark, dated 5 May and a manuscript “1” indicating that the 1d postage had been prepaid.

From the early 1840s, Guernsey had its own distinctive 1d paid handstamps in two forms, the first being used from 1843 to 1848 (**G10**) and the second from 1843 to 1849 (**G10a**). Both were struck in red. The first form of the handstamp is shown at **Figure 2** on an entire letter to Paris in 1847.



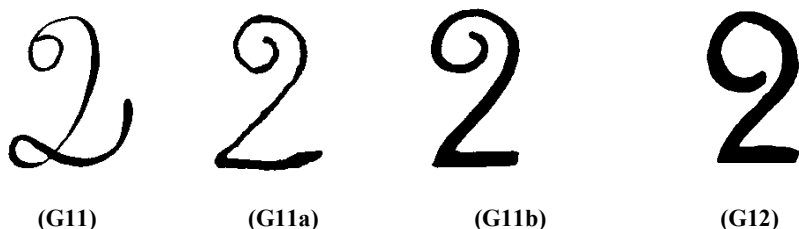
Figure 2: An entire letter to Paris dated 14 Nov 1847, with a Guernsey double arc postmark code A and a strike of the first type of 1d handstamp (G10).

The second form of the handstamp (**G10a**), longer and thinner than the first type, is shown at **Figure 3** on an entire letter sent to Manchester in 1844.



Figure 3: an entire letter sent to Manchester on Aug 5 1844, which also shows a London arrival "tombstone" postmark and a strike of the second type of 1d handstamp (G10a).

From the early 1840s, in addition to the 1d paid handstamps, Guernsey also had its own distinctive 2d unpaid handstamps (2d being the rate for mail between $\frac{1}{2}$ oz and 1oz). There were four different types for the 2d rate, all struck in black: the first (**G11**) was used from 1842 to 1843; the second (**G11a**) was used in 1843; the third (**G11b**) was used from 1843 to 1847; and the fourth (**G12**) was used from 1843 to 1849. Illustrations of each of these 2d stamps are shown below.



An example of the third type (**G11b**) of this handstamp is shown on the envelope at **Figure 4** to Sherbourne in 1844; and an example of the fourth type of this handstamp (**G12**) is shown at **Figure 5** on an envelope to Norwich in 1848.



Figure 4: An envelope to Dorset, dated 16 September 1844, with an example of the third type of the 2d unpaid handstamp (**G11b**).

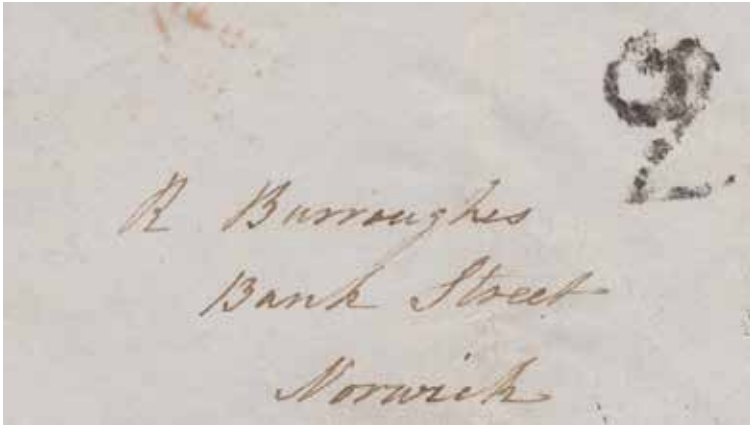


Figure 5: An envelope to Norwich dated 4 June 1848 with an example of the fourth type of the 2d unpaid handstamp (G12).

In use during the 1840s was a handstruck "8" (G13), which was used between 1844 and 1847 on mail from France arriving in the island unpaid, 8d being the "in all" rate for Ship Letters introduced in 1840. The example at **Figure 6** is on an entire letter from France in 1844.

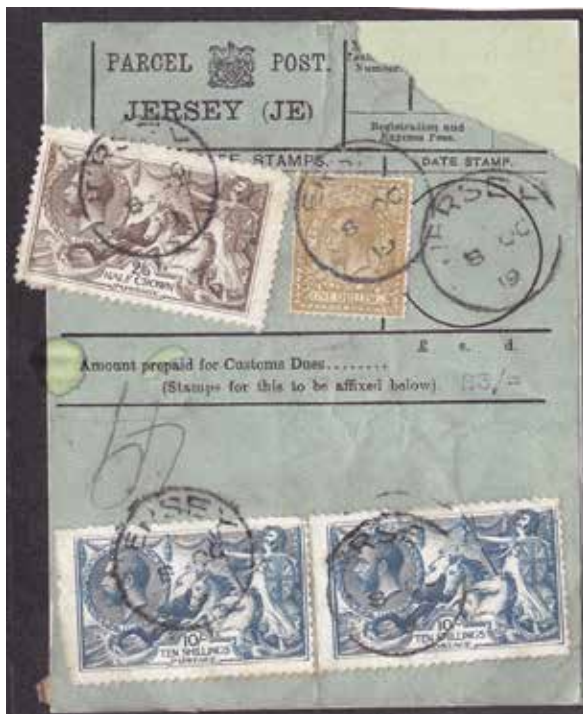


Figure 6: An entire letter from Pau, dated 15 Oct 1844, with an example of the 8d unpaid handstamp (G13).

The Parcel Post of the United Kingdom Vol.1. an update by Dr Max Melrose and Nick Wraith

This is an example which we were unable to show in our book at the time of publishing and which has come to light in an auction of January last year.

It was inaccurately described and in fact is in a blue green colour and was printed by De La Rue.



PAST JOURNALS and BULLETINS.

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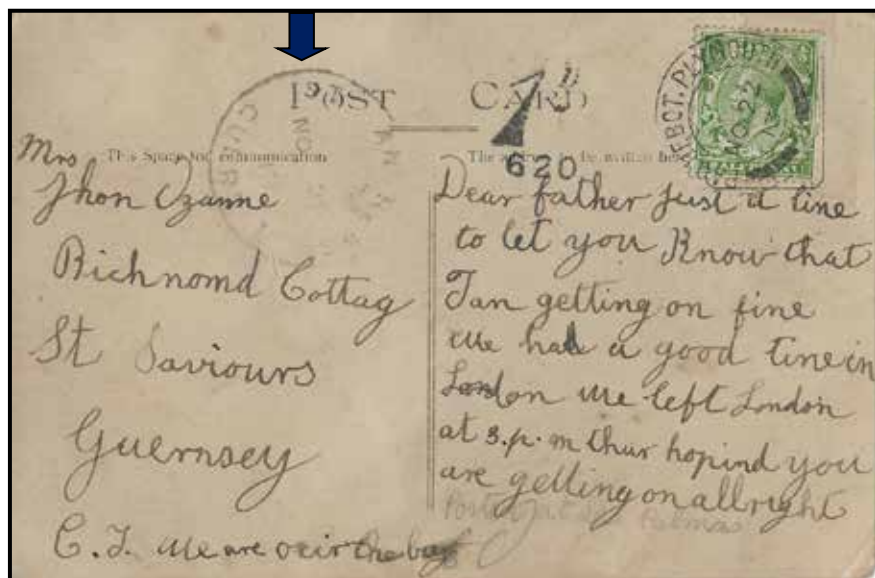
To enquire about past issues please contact, Mark Bailey at 36, Jerry Moor Hill, Finchampstead Wokingham RG40 4UG or email:

membership@ciss.uk

The 1913 St. Andrews, Guernsey skeleton datestamp.

by David Winnie

In David Gurney's "*The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices*", he records that 'two rare examples of a 31mm skeleton datestamp are known' used in November 1913. One has an * asterisk code and cancels the adhesive stamp on a local postcard and this is in my collection. The other example has no code and again cancels the adhesive stamp, but is only on a piece. In both cases, the dates are not discernible.



I was therefore very pleased to acquire at the CISS October postal auction another example on the postcard which is illustrated above. This has been sent to St. Saviours, Guernsey and shows on the front of the card the S.S. Ballarat. The KGV ½d stamp has been cancelled by a **PAQUEBOT. PLYMOUTH** double circle datestamp for the 22nd November 1913 together with a 1d/620 surcharge mark.

In addition, used as an arrival mark on this occasion, is the rare 31mm skeleton datestamp of 'ST ANDREWS/GUERNSEY without an * asterisk code used on the 25th November 1913.



Thus, this is therefore the only skeleton postmark from this office, used as an arrival datestamp and where the date is reasonably discernible.

Can any member report another example please?

Jersey in November 1944: Radio Message Card sent by Fortress Commander Oberst Heine - the man who later signed the instrument of unconditional surrender by Olaf Beecken

Radio Message Cards for the occupied Channel Islands were issued in Wilhelmshaven from the end of September 1944 onwards. Various types are known and they are much appreciated by specialist collectors whom usually go for these various types and try to get a complete set of these rare cards.

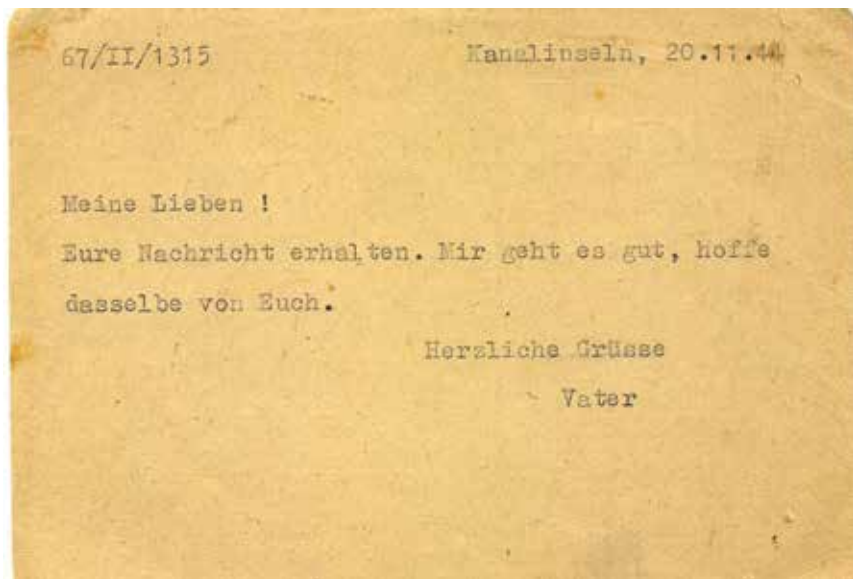
However, it is sometimes worth having a second look at these cards. Identical types of cards can be of different significance for the specialist collector. One of these examples is shown here.



This illustrated card is listed as ‘Heimann 1.07a’ and the type dates from November 1944 and is among the more common types, although needless to say, Radio Message Cards are among the scarcer items in the occupation field.

I was about to lay the card aside when suddenly the name of the addressee caught my eye and then I realized that the sender was not just anybody in the German army, it was the Fortress Commander of Jersey himself!

Oberst Siegfried Heine sent a message to his beloved ones in Küstrin, a town on the river Oder. Küstrin became a fortress later in January 1945. After heavy fighting the town was wiped off the map and the family moved to Berlin for the rest of the war. His wife was Charlotte von Rußdorf and on the card he calls her by her nickname “Lotti”.



Towards the end of February 1945 Oberst Siegfried Heine came to Guernsey and was promoted to Generalmajor. He acted as chief adviser to the new commander Generalmajor Wulf, who had followed von Schmettow. It was Heine who signed the instrument of unconditional surrender on board HMS Bulldog in the morning of 9th May 1945!!

Vale Road, Guernsey Type 2 single circle datestamp

by David Winnie

I write further to Nick Stuart's article in the September 2021 Journal together with updates by Bob MacDonald and John Triggs FRPSL in the December 2021 Journal regarding the earliest known use of the above datestamp.

I have recently acquired on eBay, a rather nice locally addressed cover with a QV 1d lilac cancelled by a Guernsey squared circle on June 15th 1898 and this is shown below on the next page.



On the reverse of the cover shown on the next page is the Type 2 single circle datestamp for Vale Road used as a backstamp. This is, therefore, almost two months earlier than the item recorded by John Triggs.

The backstamp is also shown below on the next page and although the year date is distorted it is quite clear in the squared circle used to cancel the QV 1d lilac stamp on the front of the cover. I have shown the entire back of the envelope depicted on the next page so that readers can see the distorted year in the back stamp which is clarified by the enlargement beside. As said the year date is clearly confirmed by the squared circle cancellation of the QV 1d lilac above.

With appointment of this office as a Money Order and Savings Bank Office from the 3rd August 1897 it is conceivable that the datestamp may have been brought into service earlier than the earliest date of use recorded so far?



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

The Commando who came back a Spy.

by Barry S. Mudie

Kriegsgefangenenpost

Postkarte

Tag VI/23
Geprüft: **An**
Goldföhrenfreil

Abesondere

Vor- und Zuname: **LIEUT. HUBERT NICOLLE (ARMY)**

Gefangenennummer: **16420 (Salagna)**

Lager-Bezeichnung: **No. 4. BATTALION**

Kriegsgef. Offizier: **lager VI B**

Deutschland (Allemagne)

PASSED
P.W. 3201

MR. V. H. COYSH,

LE GUET,

Empfangsort: **29 GORSEHILL ROAD**

Straße: **POOLE**

Land: **DORSET ENGLAND**
Landesteil (Provinz usw.):

Illustrated are two rather ordinary looking POW postcards the first shown above from Oflag VI/B (Warburg) is dated 1st June 1942 and the second shown below is from Oflag VII/B (Eichstatt) dated 20th March 1943.

Both cards are from Lieut Hubert Nicolle to Mr V Coysh in Poole Dorset. Lt Nicolle was a Guernseyman serving in the Hampshire Regiment at the time the Germans occupied the Channel Islands on the 30th June 1940. He was summoned to the Admiralty in Whitehall, London on the 5th July 1940. There he met Major Warren of Combined Operations who had been instructed to find out what was going on in Guernsey by Churchill.

A plan codenamed Operation Anger was hatched and Nicolle was warned that if caught he would be out on his own and shot as a spy.

Kriegsgefangenenpost

Postkarte

Oflag VII B
An 3
geprüft

20.3.43 10-11
PASSED
P.W. 2396

V.H. COYSH Esq.

Gebührenfrei!

Absender:

Vor- und Zuname: WEST, HUBERT F. NICOLLE

Gefangenenummer: 16420(31064113)

Lager-Bezeichnung: 2 Coy 1 Bn.
Kriegsgef.-Offizierlager VII B

Deutschland (Allemagne)

Empfangsort: LE GUET

Straße: 29 GORSEHILL ROAD

Land: POOLE DORSET ENGLAND

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

In the early hours of 8th July Nicolle was landed at Le Jaonnet, Guernsey, having crossed the Channel in a submarine, H43. He

stayed three days at his parent's home and gathered significant intelligence on the German dispositions at that time.

A second spying operation ensued and on the 4th September 1940 Lt James Symes and Lt Nicolle were landed from a motor torpedo boat. The mission was to again gather evidence of troop movements, gun emplacements, defences and the well being of the Islanders.

They were due to be collected by the same MTB three nights later, but it failed to show. For a further two nights they returned to the pickup point, but the Royal Navy did not show. Symes & Nicolle were in civilian clothes in German occupied Guernsey relying on friends and family to hide them until an escape plan could be devised. The risks were high for all involved and the Germans were becoming increasingly suspicious of some senior Island officials after various reports were received from anonymous sources.

Guernsey Militia uniforms were found in storage and purloined. British Army buttons sewn on and then Nicolle & Symes surrendered to the Island police on the 21st October 1940. In the ensuing German investigation fourteen friends and family were arrested. Nicolle and Symes were both court martialled and stood trial in their prison cells without any legal representation and found guilty of spying. They were sentenced to death.

Fortunately after intervention from the German Commandant in Guernsey, they were eventually treated as Prisoners of War.

Interestingly one of the fourteen civilians arrested by the Germans was a young lady called Jessie Marriette. She was Nicolle's girlfriend and a cousin of Victor Coysh, who was also Nicolle's best friend!

For their actions in this commando raid Nicolle and Symes both later received the Military Cross. There is, of course, much more to this story, all of which can be found in the book *'The Commando Who Came Home to Spy'* by William Bell.

A major discovery on Chausey Island

In response to this illustrated article on page 30 of the last Journal by Henri Chartier, Geoff Cory writes to say “I am sure that others, particularly Don Somerville, will have comments to make. I have been aware of the 1914 Camp on Chausey for many years, although from my research it is fair to say that little has been written about it.

The French Authorities decided in August 1914 that Germans and Austrians in particular, who were resident in the area of Manche, should be arrested on the basis that they were potential enemies of the State. They were transported to a number of isolated coastal areas and prominent among these was the ancient Fort on Chausey. This effectively became an Internment Camp, housing anything from three to six hundred Internees until 1919. In his article Henri describes “German Prisoners”. I can find no evidence that Chausey was used to house Prisoners of War captured during the many battles in Northern France, but Belgian troops were certainly stationed in both Granville and Chausey and might well have been used to supervise Internees.

The Camp was the responsibility of the French Ministry of the Interior. I have a postcard dated 30.12.1914 from Austria, routed through Munich, that was written to a Frank Koblitz and addressed to the Swiss Red Cross for onward transmission to Koblitz at, ‘Iles Chausey, durch Granville, Manche’. This clearly was from a close relative as it commences ‘Dearest’. I have also found an official record from the Vendee Region which shows that Frank Koblitz was transferred to an Internment Camp in that Region and that he remained an Internee until 1919!

Although this card is the only WW1 item in my collection addressed to Chausey, I am aware of other covers that refer to “Franchise Postale Interne Civil” and “Depot des Etrangers Iles Chausey”, have 1915 or 1916 Granville postmarks and large circular red Cachets that read, “Ministere de L’interieur, Depot D’Austro/Allemands de la Corderie Granville et de Chausey”.

I certainly agree with Henri that this is an unusual and interesting area for future study.

Rubber datestamps of Jersey

In response to Steve Power's article on page 31 of the last Journal Geoff Corey confirms for the record that he has a postcard with a Trinity purple rubber date stamp for 23.12.1909.

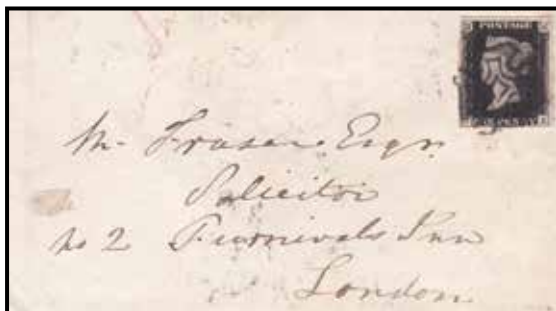
CISS Autumn Auction 2021 Report

This general auction, with over 730 Lots, covered early Postal History, WW1 correspondence, Occupation (Postal History, Bisects, stamps, Red Cross messages, Feldpost, Internee and POW Mail), Jethou, Herm as well as modern Postal History and stamps and a wide range of postcards. The reserves were from £3 to £300 and attracted over 100 bidders who generated the highest level of sales to date of £19,918. The bidding for many Lots was very strong such was the rarity of some of the material on offer and over 80% of the Lots were sold.

The highlights were:

Postal History

Two Entire 1841 letters from Jersey to London and Leamington Spa each with a good QV 1d black cancelled with the Jersey Maltese Cross went for £300 and £375 respectively. (NS16011 & NS16012).



An 1857 cover from Jersey to Dublin with an undated St. Aubin's date stamp sold for £200. (NS16024)

An 1871 scarce Ballon Monte from Paris to Jersey which had a reserve of £80 went for £220. (NS16039)



A very rare St. Andrew's Guernsey 31mm skeleton datestamp on a 1913 postcard with Paquebot Plymouth cancel fetched £450. This is one of just three examples known. (NS16147).....see article on page 24.

Occupation

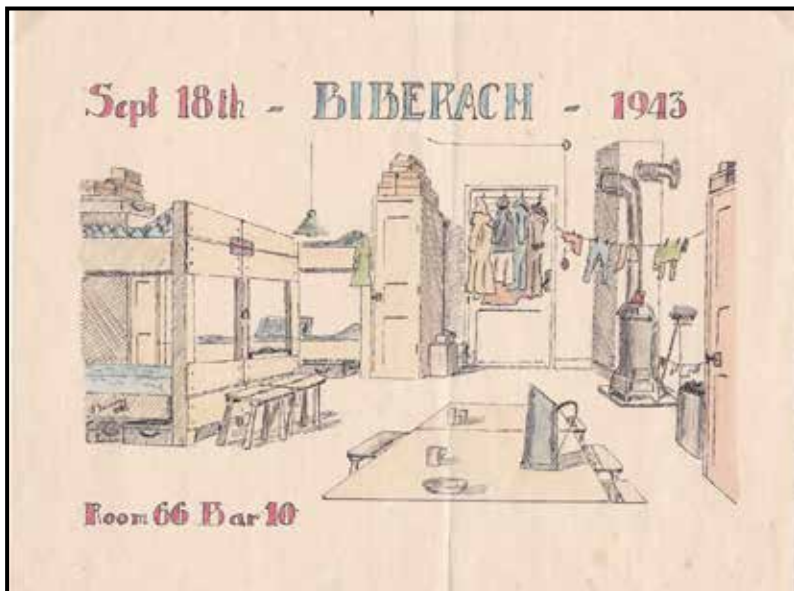
As usual the Occupation material attracted a large number of bids with virtually all Lots being sold with prices realised close to the reserves. A sheet of Guernsey ½d Olive Green Arms stamps sold for £400 and a sheet of the 1d Arms stamps on blue bank note paper sold for £350. (NS16256 & NS16260)

Instructional markings on Occupation covers are uncommon so an underpaid envelope with a 3d / 324 handstamp which had a reserve of £25 sold for £60 (NS16281)

A lovely 1943 postcard with a painted picture of a cottage and inscribed 'Birthday Greetings' attracted much bidding and was sold for £46 (NS16286)

A birthday card painted by the well-known Guernsey cartoonist, Bert Hill, of the old Sark Ambulance fetched £90 (NS16337)

Another drawing this time of Room 66 of the Women's barracks at Biberach which had a reserve of £40 went for £100. (NS16340)



Feldpost

Some unusual Feldpost covers were on offer: A coloured postcard of a Luftwaffe Flying Boat sent from Jersey to Sagau in Germany with several military cachets and a 1940 Jersey date stamp which was reserved at £80, sold for £140 (NS16342)

Red Cross

In the Red Cross section of the auction were some very rare items especially those into the Islands from unusual places. A green form from Ireland to Guernsey dated 30th April 1945 which was held in London until the Liberation in May sold for £475 (NS16378)

Another Red Cross form from Kenya to Guernsey with a rare Kenyan censor stamp went for £400 (NS16379) – see next page 36.



From WAR ORGANISATION OF THE BRITISH RED CROSS
AND ORDER OF ST. JOHN.

Foreign Relations Dept.

To COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
PALAIS DU CONSEIL GENERAL GENEVE

No. 3156

DEMANDEUR — ANFRAGESTELLER — ENQUIRER

Nom - Name..... LOWE

Prénom - Vorname - Christian name..... OWEN CHARLES

Adresse - Address: Red Cross Message Bureau, Kenya, No. 1,
P.O. Box 712, NAIROBI, Kenya Colony.

Lien de parenté du Demandeur avec Destinataire
Wie ist Fragesteller mit Empfänger verwandt
Relationship of Enquirer to Addressee
FRIEND

Message à transmettre — Mitteilung — Message.

(20 mots au maximum, nouvelles de caractère strictement personnel et familial)
(nicht über 20 Worte, nur persönliche Familiennachrichten)
(not over 20 words, family news of strictly personal character)

GRATERS ON ENGAGEMENT. HEATHER
IS ENGAGED TOO. I OLD BATCHELOR.
Am VERY BUSY HERE. INTERESTING PART
REMEMBER TO ALL FOLKS CHEERHO OWEN

Date - Datum 1-MAY 43.

DESTINATAIRE — EMPFÄNGER — ADDRESSEE

Nom - Name..... B. COCHRANE

Rue - Strasse - Street..... 1 DOYLE ROAD

Localité - Ortschaft - Locality..... ST. PETER PORT

Pays - Land - Country..... GUERNSEY CH. IS.

Réponse au verso — Antwort umseitig — Reply Overleaf.

28 JUN 1943



The only recorded Red Cross form from Jersey to Argentina with a scarce Argentinian cachet was sent in June 1942 and the reply was dated April 1944! It sold for £180 (NS16381)

Post 1945 Postal History

Material of the 3rd Anniversary of the Liberation of the Islands sold well especially a FDC with 'The Vale' date stamp and Registered label. It had a reserve of £15 and sold for £44. (NS16461)

A 1951 registered postcard from Guernsey to Wiltshire with a St. Andrew's datestamp and registration label was underpaid so a 2d to pay surcharge mark was added. It went for £55. (NS16477). A postcard with the very rare Herm double circle datestamp of September 1937 sent to Norfolk attracted some ferocious bidding and fetched £325 (NS16516).

Postcards

Another wide range of postcards including LLs and Allix cards were featured along with specific themes such as the Jersey Railway and CI Shipping. A coloured card of the Don Bridge Station sold for £85 (NS16564), a sepia card of the First Tower station with a train in the station



and showing the level crossing gates sold for £130 (NS16565) and a scarce coloured Allix card No. 58 of St. Catherine's Bay, Jersey fetched £150 (NS16579).

Two Guernsey LL cards No. 45 both of the ship 'Lorina' sold for £48 (NS16597), LL card No. 197 showing a tram at St. Sampson's Guernsey sold for £95 (NS16617).

LL cards of Sark remain popular especially those with unusual printings. Card No. 50 of La Coupee in a dark sepia print with B.B. & Co. printed on the reverse sold for £85 (NS16637).



Another card of La Coupee, also No. 50, but printed in France, in blue with a white border, for the Guernsey Press Co. Ltd. fetched £50 even with some damage to a corner. (NS16638)

The full lists of the prices realised for the auction can be found in the member's section of the CISS website under Auction Archive along with the descriptions and images.

FORTHCOMING NEW STAMP ISSUES – 2022.

GUERNSEY POST

4th April 2022 Voice-Vouaie

Set of 8 stamps	£11.45
First Day Cover	£12.65
Presentation Pack	£12.35
Sheets of 10	£114.50

4th April 2022 Quartet series: Love Paper, Stamp 2

Single Stamp	£1.00
First Day Cover (single stamp)	£2.20

21st May 2022 40th Anniversary of the Falklands War

Set of 6 stamps	£5.75
First Day Cover	£6.95
Presentation Pack	£6.65
Sheets of 10	£57.50
Prestige Booklet	£23.00

21st May 2022 EUROPA: Myths & Legends, Guernsey Witches

Set of 6 stamps	£5.75
First Day Cover	£6.95
Presentation Pack	£6.65
Europa Souvenir sheet (2 stamps)	£1.89
Souvenir sheet FDC	£3.09
Souvenir sheet pack insert	£2.09
Sheets of 10	£57.50

ALDERNEY**4th April 2022 Alderney Patois**

Set of 8 stamps	£11.45
First Day Cover	£12.65
Presentation Pack	£12.35
Sheets of 10	£114.50

9th June 2022 The Alderney Wildlife Trust (Awaiting Royal Approval)

Set of 4 stamps	£3.76
First Day Cover	£4.96
Presentation Pack	£3.66
Sheets of 10	£37.60

JERSEY POST**1st April 2022 Tractors Working in Jersey**

Set of 8 stamps	£12.36
First Day Cover	£13.66
Presentation Pack	£13.66

Souvenir sheet	£12.36
First Day Cover	£13.66
Presentation Pack	£13.66

10th May 2022 - Great FA Cup Moments – 150 Years of the FA Cup

Set of 8 stamps	£12.36
First Day Cover	£13.66
Presentation Pack	£13.66
1 souvenir miniature sheet	£4.00
First Day Cover	£5.30
Presentation Pack	£5.30
1 souvenir sheet	£12.36
First Day Cover	£13.66
Presentation Pack	£13.66
1 prestige booklet	£24.72

24th May 2022 SEPAC - Jersey Food & Drink

(Date changed from 17 February 2022)

Set of 6 stamps	£6.61
First Day Cover	£7.91
Presentation Pack	£7.91

1st June 2022 – Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee of the Accession 1952 - 2022

Single stamp	£10.00
First Day Cover	£11.30
Presentation Pack	£11.30
Sheet of four stamps	£40.00

Please note:

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

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