



**CHANNEL ISLANDS
SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY**

December 2022

Volume 41 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.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2023

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 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.

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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

Following the receipt of members' views to our recent Survey, one particular change your Executive Committee have put in hand is the manner by which future New Issues of the Islands' Postal administrations are included at the back of each quarterly Journal. In order that these listings can take less space changes are now made from 2023 onwards and please turn to page 38 for more information.

Please also note the CISS Competition Reminder for February on page 34. This is another edition of very wide ranging and interesting themes. New articles are always welcomed, especially on postcards, both by your Editor and the membership. This edition again has another 40 pages including the final part of Bryan Elliston's study of censorship in Guernsey during the Occupation and a look at different stories from the 18c to date. Also, see if you can help with the requests for information on pages 6, 12, 15, 18 & 33.

SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD

by Richard Flemming

I am pleased to report that thirteen members were able to join the Member's Meeting held at the Royal Philatelic Society London on Saturday, 24th September via Zoom, with a further 8 members attending in person. It was good to see members from the USA, Europe and the Channel Islands joining the meeting via the link. Thanks must go to Alan Moorcroft FRPSL and Jon Aitchison FRPSL who both provided two excellent displays via the Zoom link. The intention is that we will provide further displays for members via Zoom, so watch the Programme page on the www.ciss.uk website for further details as to when.

You should find the booking form for the Member's Weekend at the Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey enclosed with this journal. If not, please let me know, email address on inside front cover, and a copy will be sent.

Preparations are on the go for the forthcoming 2023 Member's Competition Day, so why not spend the darkening evenings preparing a display(s) for entry into one of the competition categories on offer for 2023. See page 34. Finally, on behalf of the committee members may I wish you all a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. Take care, keep safe and hope to see you in 2023.

Forthcoming meetings for 2023

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 11th February | Annual Competitions Day with a main display provided by Brian Sole on the post-Independence issues of the Channel Islands, plus member's new acquisitions. |
| 21st - 23rd April | Member's Weekend at the Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey. |
| 8th July | Annual General Meeting followed by room auction and main display by Gerald Marriner. |
| 16th September | Member's Meeting - Theme: Early Postal History |

Currently, all meetings are held at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15, Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW commencing at 11.00. Tea or coffee with biscuits are available from 10.30am in the Member's Lounge. For further details visit our website at www.ciss.uk.

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

Member's September Meeting Report by Richard Flemming

These meeting notes are focusing on the two excellent displays provided by Alan Moorcroft FRPSL and Jon Aitchison FRPSL for those members present at the Royal Philatelic Society London, and to the 13 members who had joined the meeting via the Zoom link.

Alan's display title was *Channel Islands - The Fortress Period June 1944 - May 1945*. Alan explained that after the D-Day landings on the 6th June 1944 the Channel Islands became virtually isolated and entered the 'Fortress Period' with the only mail into or out of the Channel Islands made by one of the 23 flights to Guernsey [the airfield at Jersey was not used]. Alan showed Red Cross messages dating from September 1944 to January 1945, with dated replies in early 1945, known to have been flown out on these supply flights. Alan also explained how mail from Channel Islands internees held in Germany was carried on these flights. To date, the only examples known to exist were from camps dated November 1944, including Christmas postcards produced at Laufen internment camp. Alan then moved on to explain the role the Red Cross ship *S.S. Vega*. In all she made six voyages carrying mail from internees and from the second voyage, summaries of Red Cross messages held in Lisbon and most importantly bulk food and medical supplies. Mail to internees and summary Red Cross messages were sent on the return voyages. Here, Alan showed examples of mail carried.

Jon Aitchison's display was titled *Skulduggery, smugglers, inappropriate marriages. A post office in a pub, and even an RDP*, etc., etc., starting with a brief history of the Island of Herm, followed by the artist's visual and photo-bromide proofs of the 1957 Neolithic Herm local issues. This was followed by a certified copy of the first lease, written and dated 1773, for the island of Herm. The 'smugglers' refers to a Lt. Col. Feilden, who was caught smuggling brandy and tobacco to Jethou. Jon explains the 'inappropriate marriage' of the 3rd wife of Prince Brücher, Princess Wanda; he was 69 and she 18 years of age. The item shown was an 1899 letter from Princess Wanda accepting a birthday invitation for her son. For the 'P.O. in a pub', John showed a 1929 post card with two Herm G.P.O. double circle datestamps (the Mermaid Inn served as the P.O. at that time). Later items included the only known example of the 1st-type registered label (**HERM/ No. 9**) dated 1930 on a letter to South Africa. This was followed by rare examples from the German occupation and liberation of Herm, ending, philatelically, with examples of 1969 Postal Independence stamps on cover cancelled with Herm datestamps.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Congratulations to our Chairman, David Winnie FRPSL, who was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London on the 19th October 2022. David has now been a member of our CISS for some 45 years and served in various roles.



Hayden Moorcroft, our youngest member, entered the National Youth Championships stamp competition at Stampex with his entry Guernsey Regionals. He could not attend because of the rail strike, but he achieved a large silver gilt, the highest award at Youth level and won best in his class (age group). He is delighted

and wishes to thank Nick Stuart who got him started on the regionals and supplied him with some material and Bryan Elliston who supplied him with nice large blocks and part sheets. He found his other material with Mint GB stamps, a dealer who has been very helpful and lastly on Ebay. I helped him with his first page and some information about the different perforators used, but he did the rest himself. **Alan Moorcroft FRPSL**

2023 GUERNSEY MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

**January 27th, March 31st, May 26th, July 28th, September 29th
and November 24th.**

At Stampex 2022 in the Palmares, Jon Aitchison FRPSL won Gold for his Embossed Postal Stationery Envelopes of Egypt and Preceding Essays and Large Silver for his Apollo 13 and Skylab Ground Tracking Stations.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

2226 Melvyn Borofsky, Florida

2227 Maureen Richardson, Jersey

2228 Claude Duperrex, Switzerland

2229 Robert Williams, Dorset

2230 Foster E. Miller, Maryland, United States

2231 Alan Cox, Bristol

Sadly, we very much regret to record the death of our members: 329, Leslie Bigland, Kendal, Cumbria and 949, Alan Hardwick of Vale of Glamorgan.

Our Guernsey member and Packet Secretary, John Triggs FRPSL, has recently found some typed notes in the Priaulx Library in Guernsey headed **‘SOME MEMORIES OF THE GUERNSEY POST OFFICE’** by A.G. Langlois who worked in the old GPO and Guernsey Post Office from 1926 until 1973. The notes are a series of extracts from letters exchanged between Dr J. (Tim) Whitney and A.G.Langlois and were first published by our then Editor, David Picton-Phillips, in Bulletin No.153, in December 1976. They include varied observations of the period from the 1930s to the 1960s, which may have been included in later publications,

Stopford Road, Jersey 1914 datestamp by David Winnie FRPSL



This unusual datestamp which I acquired from the David Gurney Sub-Office collection and is shown on page 350 of his Jersey Sub-Office book illustrating the outer rim of the Type 1 datestamp on a block of four GV 1/- definitives in June 1930. This was acquired originally from the Late John Simpson FRPSL collection and is a significant and scarce date stamp possibly quite forcibly struck. Please examine your collections and let me know if you have similar example with

scan to chairman@ciss.uk.

CENSORSHIP OF GUERNSEY MAIL by Bryan Elliston (Contd).

Internee mail censorship

During late 1942 and early 1943, more than two thousand Channel Islanders were deported from the islands and interned in camps in Germany. The internments were carried out on the personal orders of der Führer, Adolf Hitler, by way of reprisal for the internment, by Britain and Russia, of some 500 German men of fighting age who were in Iran in August 1941 when Allied troops invaded that country.

Single male deportees were interned mainly at a camp in Laufen in Bavaria on the Austrian border with Germany. Married couples and children, of which there were over 1,000, were interned mainly at Biberach an der Riss in Wurttemberg, southern Germany. Initially, the camps did not have correspondence stationery for the internees and so Prisoner of War post (“kriegsgefangenenpost”) cards were used, as shown at **Figure 15** below from Biberach to Guernsey in December 1942. The postcard carries the Biberach camp cachet used as a censor mark, with the boxed individual censor’s number 248.

Figure 15: A Prisoner of War post (“kriegsgefangenenpost”) card sent from Biberach to Guernsey in December 1942, bearing a Biberach camp cachet used as a censor mark, with the boxed individual censor’s number 248.

By early 1943, stationery specifically for Biberach, to replace the POW cards, was available, headed “Interniertenpost” (“internee post”). The two postcards at **Figure 16**, to Jersey in January 1943 and to Guernsey in February 1943, bear a camp censor mark “Internierungslager / Biberach/Riss”, firstly in large gothic lettering and then in smaller, single-line format, each applied by censor number 248; and also the OdW censor mark of Frankfurt, the bottom card bearing a rare machine censor cancel.

The internee card at **Figure 17** was sent from Biberach to Guernsey in December 1943. The card bears a circular Biberach censor cachet in purple ink and a “dumb” (no town or camp name included) Biberach camp cancel. The card is from George Bradshaw, the organiser of the Red Cross message service in Guernsey, before his deportation.

The internee card at **Figure 18** was sent from Biberach in August 1944 to Guernsey. The card bears a circular Biberach censor cachet in purple ink and a “dumb” Biberach camp cancel; it also bears an unusual number stamp – a grey boxed “046” – which could be the individual censor number of the Schutzstaffel (“SS”), who took over responsibility for mail censorship from the OdW in July 1944 following a failed attempt by the army on Hitler’s life. The card bears an English censor stamp, having been routed to England following the disruption to mail from Germany following the Allied invasion in June 1944.

A form of communication used from the UK to Channel Island internees in Germany was via Prisoner of War (“POW”) air mail letter sheets. Pre-printed 2½d envelopes were available, with plain envelopes being charged at 5d.

Examples of POW mail to Biberach from the UK are shown at **Figure 19**: a plain envelope bearing 5d in stamps from February 1944; and a POW letter sheet from December 1944. The former has a Biberach censor mark and has been opened and then resealed using UK censor tape. The latter has a UK censor mark and a Biberach censor mark within which is a “D 22” mark which was the only individual censor mark used at the camp and only used on mail from the UK from late 1944 onwards.



Figure 16: Communication postcards specific to Biberach, to Jersey (top) in January 1943 and to Guernsey in February 1943, bear a camp censor mark “Internierungslager / Biberach/Riss”, firstly in large gothic lettering and then in smaller, single-line format, as applied by censor number 248; and also the OKW censor mark of Frankfurt, the bottom card bearing a rare machine censor cancel.



Figure 17: An internnee card sent from Biberach to Guernsey in December 1943. The card bears a circular Biberach censor cachet in purple ink and a “dumb” Biberach camp cancel. The card is from George Bradshaw, the organiser of the Red Cross message service in Guernsey before his deportation.



Figure 18: An internnee card sent from Biberach in August 1944 to Guernsey, bearing a circular Biberach censor cachet in purple ink and a “dumb” Biberach camp cancel; it also bears an unusual grey boxed “046”, which could be the individual censor number of the SS, who had responsibility for mail censorship July 1944 following a failed attempt by the army on Hitler’s life. The card bears an English censor stamp, having been routed to England following the disruption to mail from Germany following the Allied invasion in June 1944.



PRISONER OF WAR POST
KRIEGSGEFANGENENPOST
 SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

POST FOR
CHRIS

RANK & NAME: **TREVORROW** **MRS E.C.**
(SURNAME IN BLOCK LETTERS) *British Prisoner of War*

PRISONER OF WAR No.: **3150**
PASSED (NOTE ON FLAP)

CAMP NAME & No.: **B 14/52 Biberach/**
(INCLUDING SUBSIDIARY NUMBERING OR LETTERING IF ANY - I.E. WORKING CAMP) *Riss*

COUNTRY: **DEUTSCHLAND**

Figure 19: Examples of POW mail to Biberach from the UK: a plain envelope (top) bearing 5d in stamps from February 1944; and a POW letter sheet from December 1944. The former has a Biberach censor mark and has been opened and then resealed using UK censor tape. The latter has a UK censor mark and a Biberach censor mark within which is a "D 22" mark which was the only individual censor mark used at the camp and only used on mail from the UK from late 1944 onwards.

Machine-printed parcel post stamps. Can you help? by Jon Aitchison FRPSL



From the late 1950s the British Post Office experimented with parcel post stamps that were printed and dispensed by machines, for any value between 1d and 19/11d. They were operated by counter staff who were instructed not to sell mint stamps, but only to attach them directly to parcels which were then placed in the post system. The stamps had the words 'PARCEL POST PAID', a value, date and the name of the issuing office. They were printed on white gummed, imperforate paper in red ink that was the same as used in franking machines. In reality only parcel rate values were produced. The machines were provided to most Head Post Offices.

In the Channel Islands, Jersey was first to receive a machine on 26 October 1959, followed by Guernsey on 1 February 1960. They remained in use until at least 1965 and possibly until postal independence on 1 October 1969. Their use was not publicised and few collectors appeared to be interested in them at the time. These stamps are scarce from any location, but particularly so for the Channel Islands. Most surviving examples are a bit tatty.

I am undertaking a census to try and find out what values and dates of usage have survived so am keen to hear from anyone who may have an example, and would appreciate a scan or photocopy. My contact details are Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Near Bishop's Stortford CM22 7TF, United Kingdom. Email britishlocals@gmail.com. Telephone +44 (0) 1279 870488.

Interestingly the concept of machine-printed stamps was resurrected by the Jersey and Guernsey Post Offices from 2009 with the introduction of EPOS labels. I had not looked at mine for a long time, but when I opened the album I discovered that most of the earliest types had faded away

completely, even though they had not seen sunlight for years. *Qué será, será.*

References:

Newport, O. W. and Simpson, O. J. 1961. *Further Channel Islands Postal History*. 20-21. Sidcup: Channel Islands Specialists' Society.

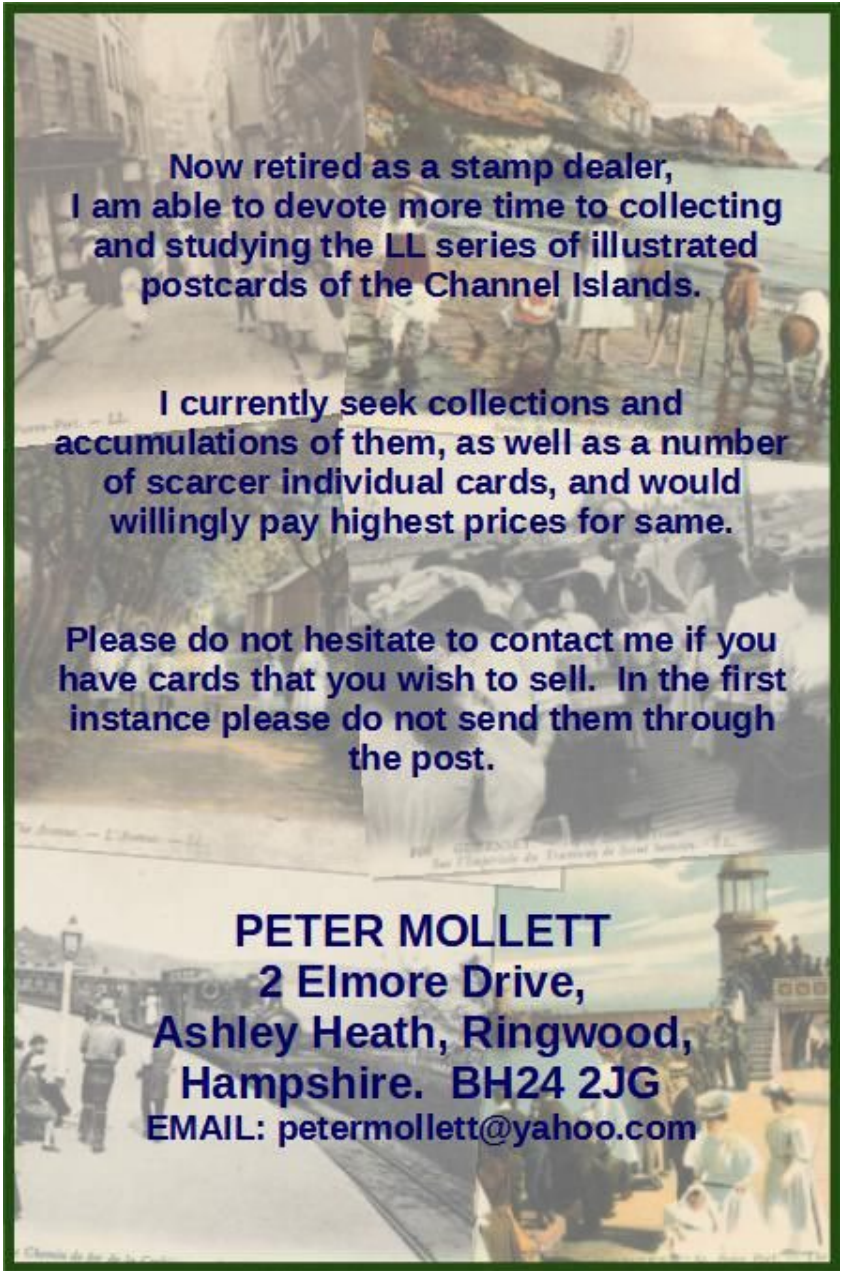
Newport, William. 1969. *Specialised Priced Catalogue of Channel Islands Stamps*, 18. 5th (and subsequent editions). Sidcup: Channel Islands Specialists' Society.

**CHANNEL ISLANDS' LOCAL ISSUES
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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

Occupation 1940-1945: PAID Cancellations and Meter Marks -
help sought by Leo Mayr

I would very much appreciate it if anyone could help me to complete the following list of PAID-cancels and meter marks (occupation period only). Do you have unlisted strikes or meter marks with alternative slogans or Royal Cyphers to the ones indicated? If so, please send me an email to zero@gmx.at. with scans attached.

Guernsey: Meter Marks N2 (Westminster Bank)

S/C PAID Handstamps 1d, 2d, 2½d and 4d

PAID Machine Stamps 1d (GT BRITAIN at bottom of date part)
 1d (semi circle at bottom)
 2½d (GT BRITAIN at bottom)
 2½d (semi circle at bottom)
 1d "324" in triangle instead of date part

Jersey: Meter Marks: N1 GvR (Jersey Electricity Co)
 N4 GvR slogan "J.W. HUELIN LTD"
 N5 GvR slogan "Le Masurier Ltd"
 N8 GvR used at Head Office
 N9 EvR slogan "ORVIS LIMITED"
 N30 GvR (Telephone Department)
 M1 GvR slogan "DON'T WASTE WATER"
 M2 GvR (Westminster Bank) both the "M2"
 and the Royal Cypher are indistinct

S/C PAID Handstamps ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 5d
 1d made from a ½d stamp with filed down "2"

PAID Machine Stamps 1d (GT BRITAIN at bottom of date part)
 1d (semi circle at bottom)
 2½d (semi circle at bottom)

Further questions concerning these marks are:

- can you report N1 and/or N4 from Jersey with the Royal Cypher GvR ?
- can you report N4 (Jersey) with the slogan "Timber Building Materials"?
- can you confirm that N7 exists for Jersey? (slogan? Royal Cypher?)

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, Jerry Moor Hill, Finchampstead Wokingham RG40 4UG or email:

membership@ciss.uk

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.

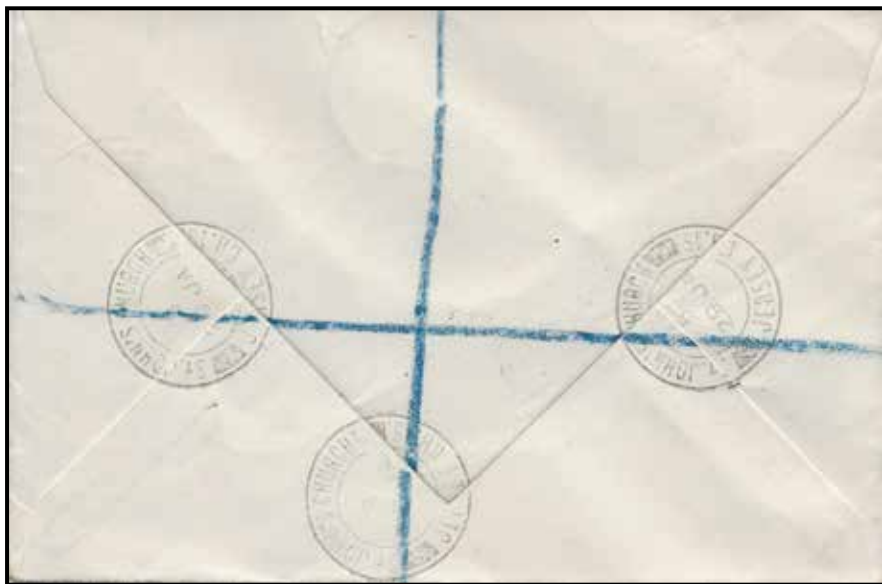
Unrecorded ST. JOHN'S CHURCH registration label, January 1942 by David Winnie FRPSL

I acquired a 1942 registered cover shown below at the Society auction in April and, whilst philatelic, it is nevertheless interesting in several ways. In basic terms, it shows 11 x ½d Arms stamps (making up the correct registered letter rate) used on the first day of issue of the ½d bright green Arms stamp, this being the 29th January 1942.



The cover has been cancelled by the scarce St. Johns Church double circle datestamp and shows the ST. JOHN'S CHURCH registration label in one line only. In David Gurney's *The Postal History of the Jersey Sub-Post Offices*, a perforated coil gummed registration label showing the full name of this rural Sub-Post office in one line is not recorded at the time of writing his book and thus was unknown then. David's book also states that the standard pattern double circle datestamp, issued to Jersey in the 1930s for this office, had the code B inserted from 1935 until early in 1939 when it was mostly used without a code inserted until 1953. The reverse of this

cover, illustrated below, not only shows the use of the code B, but also that the year date has been omitted from the datestamp.



It is my view that this is a very scarce Occupation item, and I would be interested to establish whether any similar covers exist from this Sub-Post Office. Please contact chairman@ciss.org with your information together with scans if possible.

Scarce London Letter Forwarding Agent Battier Zornlen & Co by David Gurney FRPSL

I was quite delighted to purchase this rare letter wrapper in a London auction recently which was posted from Guernsey in August 1795 and addressed to Monsieur P. F. Dobrée Consul Americain Nantes, France with the endorsement *'To be forwarded by Messrs Battier Zornlen & Co London.'*



Struck with the first Guernsey concave handstamp and rated 7d to London (1784.24 George 3.) being 5d for a single letter plus 2d for the Ch. Is. routing. However there is no trace of a text within this letter and thus there must have been an enclosure, perhaps

a small single thin sheet which should have been charged as a double letter had there been an enclosure which was possibly missed by the postal clerk when assessing the charge to be made.

The London datestamp on the back shows the original letter passed through London on the 17TH August 1795 and mistakes were rarely made by the London Chief Office.

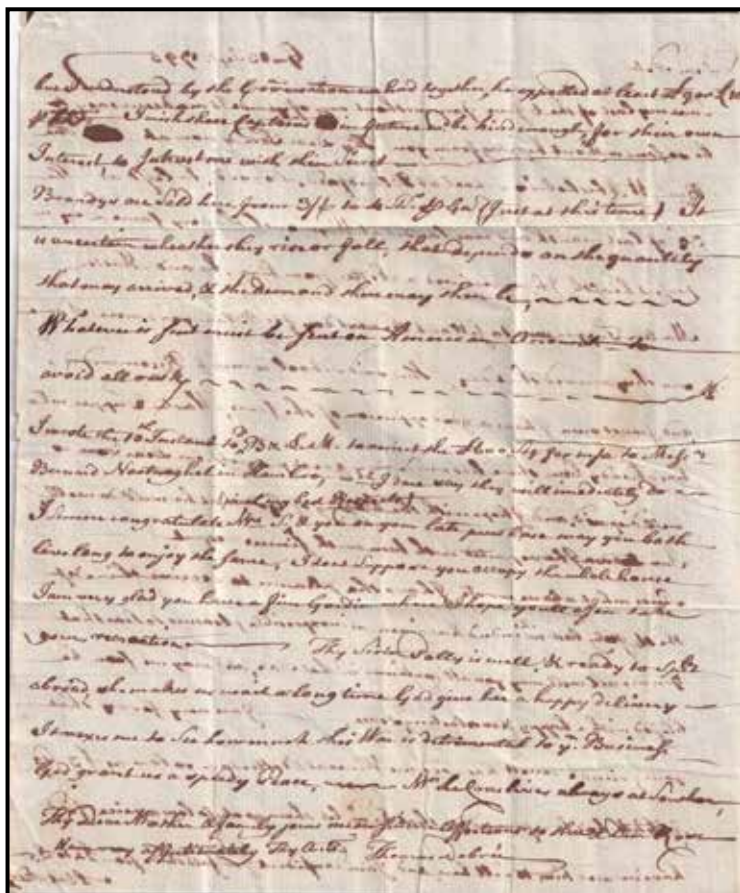


Dear Sister
G-13 Sept 1795

Some way lost of that June, I am without any of your letters, and I am
be so long without hearing from you. This is a very unusual circumstance
from W. H. Chubb's School at Plainfield, Dorset, he left the
30 of last month and was absent at Weymouth the very same day -
perfect health. I have received a letter from him, and
Monty Tupper went to find out the next day for Plainfield, where I
they arrived that day. This said School is much recommended,
and I am sure I have a good opinion of the same. Monty Tupper who
has already been there has made very great progress in Latin and
mathematics, and I hope with the blessing of God, that he will do well.
I am sure I have parted with him with sincere regret.
But what else can I do? I have the pleasure to receive them off
the 1st of July, but I indeed has given me inexpressible pleasure to hear that
you are all well, and my small children in that state, and may we soon be
helped with a happy & everlasting peace. Yours very fervently
your friend & sweet has said his Wives at Plainfield as long as he
lives, has he refused me that he will let them go at 10 years of age, I
have insured him to well have and I am confident you will then be satisfied
with this

20

different hand 'Guernsey 13 Sep 1795 T D' for Thomas Dobreé, the writer and addressed to another Peter Dobreé in this large and well spread family,



A very interesting letter as only four letters are known to be in existence for this London Letter Forwarding Agent to date with two in the Priaulx Library in Guernsey and one other in private hands, and now this very rare example which I have purchased for my collection of Letter Forwarding Agents handling Channel Islands letters.

Not only this, but the letter also shows further the spread of the Guernsey Dobreé family in international commerce in the late 18c.

New Occupation Period Find - SARK Parcel Tag by Olaf Beeken.

The occupation period is probably one of the best researched areas in the Channel Islands. However, there is one field of interest where our knowledge is very limited and virtually next to nothing. The specialists know that there was a parcel delivery service by the local Post Offices. Our standard handbook, published by Leopold Mayr and Michael Wieneke back in the year 2000, mentions on page 15 that *„Paket(stücke) aus dem lokalen Postverkehr sind bisher nicht aufgetaucht. Gegeben hat es diesen Service aber sehr wohl!“* (Translation: Parcels or parts of them from the local parcel service have not yet come to light. But there is one thing for sure which is that that service existed!)

That statement made more than 20 years ago has remained true up to this year. A Sark Parcel Tag dated 29 March 1944 was offered in Germany and it is now in my collection. Parcel rates were raised together with other postage rates on 1 July 1940. A parcel weighing up to three pounds cost 7d (see the seven 1d stamps on this parcel tag).



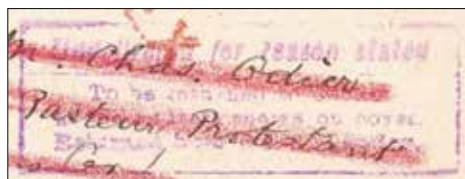
As exciting as this find may be, the story behind it is also worth telling. The addressee is Frida Riderer, a German lady who in the summer of 1939 came to Guernsey together with her

Unusual Postcard with Guernsey M.O.O. cancel by Luc Content



I illustrate above scans of an unusual postcard which I have recently acquired

1. This postcard was sent from Guernsey at the correct 1d rate and was addressed to a protestant priest in Ferney in France. The stamp was cancelled with the GUERNSEY M.O.O. datestamp for 6 October 1903.



This datestamp has been recorded in use between 1884 and 1936. There is an arrival datestamp for 8 October.

2. The addressee was not found at this address and the card was forwarded to the Bois Cerf Hospital in Lausanne, Switzerland (still open today). There are three Lausanne datestamps. There is an arrival datestamp for 9 October (LAUSANNE/ FACT. LETTER).
3. A similar datestamp was applied for 10 October. There were two attempts to find the addressee at this hospital. However, neither were successful. There are two manuscript endorsements by the postmen "Inconnu à Bois Cerf" [Unknown at Bois Cerf].
4. The card was then returned to sender on 10 October. The card received a label 'Unbekannt/ Inconnu' [unknown] at the Lausanne Post Office together with a Lausanne departure datestamp for 10 October - inscribed 'LAUSANNE/ EXP. LIT'. This was applied alongside the GB KEVII 1d stamp.
5. The card was returned to Guernsey via London where a London transit datestamp was applied in red, dated 19 October. It is probable that the red 'EX' handstamp [= EXAMINED] was applied in London. The London Post Office would have deleted the French address with red crayon. On the front of the card, the words 'P.O. Guernsey' have been highlighted in a red frame and similarly the name of the sender. The London Post Office then inserted the final destination "*Guernsey*" in red on the reverse of the card.
6. A framed violet four line handstamp was applied. This was inscribed: 'Undelivered for reason stated/ to be returned to sender/ at the address shewn on cover/ Returned from R.L.O. [Returned Letter Office] London'.

I cannot record seeing any example of a similar four line 'Undelivered for Reason Stated...' handstamp used in Guernsey or Jersey. I can record a couple of examples with a similar three line handstamp used in the Channel Islands.

I wish to thank Gerald Marriner FRPSL for his help with this article.

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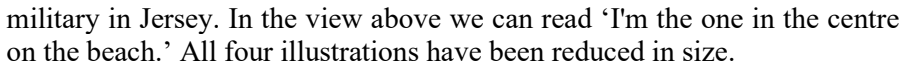
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Tower Road**

ST Helier Jersey JE2 3LW

TEL: 01534 723084

E.MAIL: robbestamps@hotmail.com

I just came across an interesting CARD:Saint-Helier Havre des Pas S.M
Belgische Legerposterij 1917. So far I never knew about some Belgian





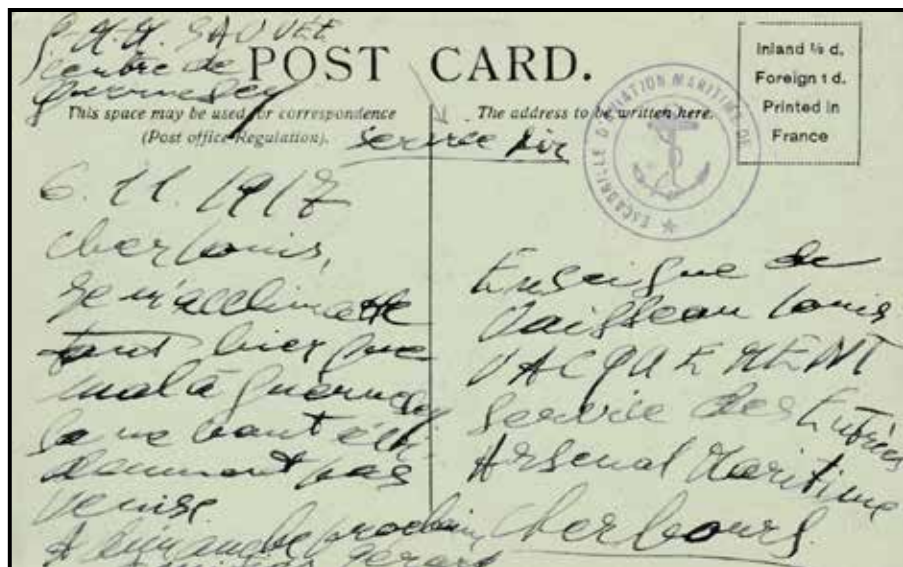
In 58 years of collecting Jersey postal history I have never seen anything like it !!!!!!! A VERY RARE FIND.

Secondly a card below from GUERNSEY to FRANCE in 1951 with the tax 7 frank +T 50, a nice item which I have consulted with Gerald



Marriner and Gerald writes to say 'the rates charged are interesting and your surcharged postcard to France has been assessed as seen above viz. postage paid was 2d. However the correct European postcard rate from October 1950 was 2½d so a ½d underpaid. Hence the hexagonal Tax handstamp which shows the postal deficiency. This was not 50, but 5 ct (gold centimes). The correct postcard rate from France to England in 1951 was 18 Fr. thus the postal deficiency calculated = $0.5/2.5 \times 18 = 3$ Fr 60 thus the surcharge is double the deficiency = 2×3 Fr 60 = 7 Fr 20ct. Rounded down to 7 F hence French postage due stamps to the value of 7 Fr were applied to this postcard.'



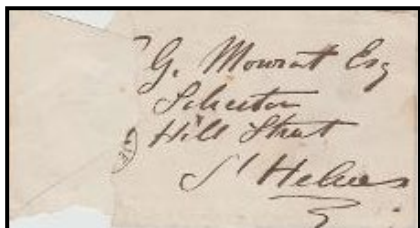




The Mystery of the St.- AUBYN'S type 7 datestamp. by David Gurney FRPSL

My original researches in the 1990s had always shown this particular datestamp with a code P recorded in the GPO Proof Datestamp Impression books as issued to Jersey on the 30th December 1870.

Thus a mystery arose when our member in Guernsey, John Triggs, FRPSL acquired an example shown below as a backstamp dated April 25th 1870, with the 'P' code which could not be found in the GPO Proof Datestamp Impression books before this earliest known date nor till 30th December 1870 as noted!



Thus it became clear that the 19c GPO Proof Datestamp Impression books were not as accurate a record as we had always believed to be the case as other later examples of the St Aubyns datestamps until the entry of the 30th December 1870 were not to be found. The searches made by the Archives Manager on my behalf with whom I had a most interesting conversation also showed to my own satisfaction that the original searches I had made twenty five years ago were thorough based on the original documentation at that time held in the Archives. Measurements then could be taken from original records which is no longer the case today as only copy records are available to the public.

Our member in Jersey, Steve Power, has also provided three later examples, two of which are shown on the next page in 1883 and 1885 which have slightly different measurements between the 'S's of ST.-AUBYNs which I believe on examination of highly magnified examples to be a variance between the strikes of the datestamps on the back of the envelopes either due to the angle and strength of the strike and also the residual ink remaining on the datestamp at the time of the strike.



These two backstamps are dated in 1883 and 1885 and have been slightly enlarged here to show the tiny variance which could arise from the angle of strike particularly with the shadow to that on the left. This could well be more apparent if the envelope was thick in paper content. Basically of the examples seen to date the measurements are more or less the same thus it is evident we have just one datestamp, albeit with different codes seen. Why there is no Proof Book impression prior to the 25th April 1870 is not known and can only be guessed!

The examples reported so far on cover are:

25th April 1870 code P, 30th December 1870 code P, 9th December 1873 code B, 7th July 1878 code P, 20th May 1883 code P, 11th Sep 1883 code P, 29th July 1884 code P, 15th Sep 1885 code P, 13th June 1895 code A, 5th January 1897 code A, 11th October 1899 code A, and one on piece is just dated AU 22 ???3 (could be 1873, 1883, 1893 or 1903).

On Parcel Post labels:

14th January 1897 code A, 9th February ??? code A, 10th April 1902 code A.

There must be more examples in your collections and I will be most interested to receive scans of any further examples of this datestamp with dates of use and the codes you may have on cover or on parcel post labels.

Scans please by email to nangurney1@aol.com. Thank you.

Guernsey registered M.O.O. cover to Algeria

by Gerald Marriner FRPSL



Fig. 1

I have recently acquired an unusual registered cover illustrated in Fig. 1 above. This was sent from Guernsey to Bone (now Annaba) in Algeria on

29 December 1906. This was originally a KEVII 1d postal stationery envelope which was uprated with two KEVII stamps to give the correct 4½d overseas registered letter rate. This included 2d registration fee which was in use between 1878 and 1921. The stamps are cancelled with GUERNSEY M.O.O. (Money Order Office) datestamps. These seldom seen datestamps have been recorded in use in Guernsey between 1884 and 1936. Alongside the stamps the Guernsey Post Office applied the 'R in oval/ FEE PAID' handstamp in violet ink. This use is one year later than that recorded in the SG Channel Islands Postal History catalogue (1991). The cover was routed via London where it received the London EC registered datestamp for 1 January 1907.



Fig. 2 (on reverse)

This was then forwarded to the town of Constantine in Algeria. The arrival datestamp is shown in Fig. 2 above. The cover was then re-routed to the addressees in Bone, a coastal town 100 miles north east of Constantine. I would be interested to know if any members of the Society have also got C.I. mail addressed to Algeria.

The CISS 2023 Annual Competition

Next year's Competition Day will be on Saturday 11th February 2023 and will take place at The Royal Philatelic Society London.

In line with last year, as many exhibits as possible will be available for viewing on the CISS website as well as at our meeting at the Royal. The rules can be found on our website at [Competitions - Channel Islands Specialists' Society \(ciiss.uk\)](https://www.ciiss.uk/competitions) where an entry form also can be found. Scans of entries will be accepted for members living outside the UK.

Entry forms and scans of entries **should be sent to the Competitions Secretary by Friday 27th January at competitions@ciiss.uk**

Please feel free to contact the Competitions Secretary, Nick Martin at competitions@ciiss.uk with any queries. Enquiries can be made by phone on 07703 766477 or 01285 653714.

As always, we look forward to your interesting and varied entries.

The First Flight into Alderney by David Winnie FRPSL

This postcard has a great story.....



The postcard was written on Alderney on Monday, 4th July 1921, addressed to a Mrs Bowman in Manchester, and posted on Wednesday, 6th July. At the time, the postage rate for postcards was the short-lived 1½d rate. The 1½d stamp has been cancelled by the Alderney double circle datestamp without a code letter inserted but, as the postcard was not of a standard size, the postage rate should have been 2d and the instructional mark '1d/324' has been added. The 1d postage due stamp was applied and cancelled in Manchester, but because the card was subsequently re-directed to Anglesey, a boxed 'CHARGE NOT COLLECTED/FRESH LABEL REQUIRED' cachet has been added together with initials in manuscript.



It is believed that this latter instructional mark was issued to all Head Post Offices in Great Britain (including Guernsey and Jersey) in or around 1920 and was withdrawn after Postal Independence in 1969. Examples of this handstamp used in Jersey only are recorded

The intrigue is in the message "*We flew over here for lunch today in 55 minutes*". With grateful thanks to Roger Harris, information has been provided which means that this postcard is an amazing discovery for the history of aviation in the Islands, as the first sea landing (accidental) at Alderney was on the 5th October 1919 whilst the first recorded land landing was not until the 4th August 1933.

The plane did not originate from Shoreham or Southampton as those airports were not built until the early 1930s, although airfields did exist there before. Southampton airport was originally 'Atlantic Park' opened in 1918 and manned by the U.S.N.A.F. as a WWI supply base. In 1921, it was a hotel that was virtually a self-contained township for over 3,000 emigrants and trans-migrants escaping Europe and Russia in the hope of going to America by ship from Southampton. Shoreham (Brighton Airport) is the oldest airport in the UK opened on the 20th June 1911, but was mainly used for local club flying at this time,

The normal flying route to the Islands would be by land plane from Croydon to clear customs with the shortest Channel crossing possible until they reached the French coast and then following the coast of France westwards to the Islands. This journey could take over 2 hours.

Civil seaplanes would leave from the Hamble using Southampton Docks Customs until 1923 when a seadrome was built on the Hamble with customs facilities. Royal Navy seaplane flights would be from Calshot on the other side of the Solent. The quickest time for crossing from the Solent with a tail wind helping for both civil and Naval craft was 95 minutes.

But our man Geoffrey says their flight was 55 minutes – therefore he must have flown in from France not England.

There was very little civil aviation in 1921 with no new aircraft being built, but there was a stockpile of over 20,000 ex-war planes. Most of the pilots at the time were ex-RAF war veterans and many of these bought old RAF

planes either for personal use or business such as joy rides or taxi services. Their favourite aircraft was the Avro 504K biplane which had been a trainer in the RAF, but when the dual controls were removed, could carry two passengers. Geoffrey refers to “we” so it is suspected that he was on a tour of France with one or two friends.

With further investigation, the pilot was undoubtedly Geoffrey Hilton “Beery” Bowman, a WWI R.F.C flying ace born in Manchester on the 2nd May 1891 – he would have been 30 in 1921. The Avro 504K or 504L had a top speed of 90mph and a cruising speed of 60mph so he set off from somewhere between 50 and 75 miles from Alderney. That places him on the Cherbourg peninsula or at St. Malo. **This landing, therefore, pre-dates the first known landing by some twelve years.**

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FORTHCOMING NEW STAMP ISSUES – 2023.

A change to the New Issues Section in the Journal

by David Winnie, FRPSL, Chairman.

As part of our offering to Channel Islands Specialists' Society members, we have for many years listed details of New Stamp Issues in our Journals. These listings have been popular as they have provided members with an overview of any new stamp issues planned over the following year.

We are very grateful for the assistance the Postal Authorities of Guernsey and Jersey have given us by providing details of the new planned issues over many years and this will, of course, continue with our revised arrangements with them.

In a recent survey of our members, it was made clear that they wanted more information on each of the issues planned. We have therefore looked to include a New Issues section on the Society website. We felt it appropriate to include not only the details of the individual items within each issue, but also a description of the whole issue, the specifications (designer/artist, printer, perforation etc) as well as an image of each item in colour. This information will appear around two weeks before the release date to coincide with the issue being available for pre-order at the relevant Postal Authority.

It is my hope that by advertising details of new issues to our members in a more detailed way, it will encourage them to purchase new issues at release time. This development will begin with the New Issues for 2023.

However, I regret that due to the death of H.M. The Queen, both Postal Authorities have had to make changes to their stamp production calendar and whilst we have received the information for Guernsey, at the time of writing, we still await that for Jersey. This will appear on the website as soon as it is available.

GUERNSEY POST

<http://www.ciss.uk/issuer/guernsey>

20th January 2023 Year of the Rabbit 2023 (Awaiting Royal Approval)

6th February 2023 Celebrating the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
(Awaiting Royal Approval)

15th February 2023 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Guernsey
(Awaiting Royal Approval)

Post & Go: Visiting Cruise Ships

ALDERNEY

<http://www.ciss.uk/issuer/alderney>

15 February 2023 150th anniversary of publication of Jules Verne's
Around the World in 80 days

Guernsey Year set folder

1904 Jersey-Austria Taxed Postcard

by Steve Wells

A rather attractive Beresford Series postcard entitled *Jersey Old – Farm House Mont-au-Prêtre* was acquired at the London 2022 International Stamp Exhibition by my Postage Due Mail Study Group colleague Michael Furfie.



The card was sent from Jersey on 26th April 1904 to Vienna in Austria. As usual at that time, underpaid mail from the Channel Islands going abroad was routed via London, hence the hexagonal T / 15 / L London tax mark. A divided back card, it was liable to letter rate, so the deficiency was 1½d = 15 centimes, due 30 centimes = 30 heller.



I am grateful to Michael for permitting me to scan the card and share it with C.I.S.S. members.

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- 2.** Pioneer Aviation in the Channel Islands in 2 volumes (527pp in all) special members price of £40.00 for both volumes, but £25.00 each volume if sold separately! £40.00
- 3.** The German Occupation of the Channel Islands 1940-45 – The immediate impact of the Occupation on the postal services and postage stamps during the Occupation period (114pp) £15.00
- 4.** 'waists getting waspish' – A Guernsey Red Cross study (76pp) £6.00
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