



December 2025

### 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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David Gurney, FRPSL

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#### **CONTENTS**

2026 Weekend Meeting	1
Editorial	2
New Members	3
New Maltese Cross Database	4
Secretary's Clipboard	5
Forthcoming Meetings 2026	
Annual Competition Day – 21 February 2026	
Jersey Scrolls – An Analysis	
Les Gravées, Guernsey – A New Discovery	
POST & GO Issues with the GB Union Flag	
Jethou Europa 1964 Issue Colour Trials and Proofs	
· •	

### 2026 WEEKEND MEETING

### Holiday Inn Hotel, Kenilworth, Warwickshire 24 to 26 April 2026

- Booking form enclosed and on our website
- Room bookings should be made directly with the hotel
- The booking form should be returned to Richard Flemming

#### **EDITORIAL**

We have reached the end of a year of very enjoyable events, including our display at the Royal Philatelic Society London, our few days in Guernsey and participation in the UK international stamp show in Birmingham.

We now return to a year of "normal" activities, but bolstered by a record number of new members having joined us in 2025. We hope that all our members have had an enjoyable collecting year, and that we will continue to meet more of you at our activities in 2026.

Enclosed with this journal you will find information and an application form for our conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Kenilworth, Warwickshire, from 24 – 26 April 2026. This is a new venue for us, but we have been assured by a number of societies who have used this hotel during 2025 that it is a good venue.

I would again like to thank those of you who have given your time to provide articles for our journals, and urge you all to try to let me have some contributions, small or longer. One small contribution from every member would do much to fill our four journals next year! You do not need to be an expert! A simple question may lead to another welcome contribution. It is obviously a truism to say that "No articles equal no journal" and this is the perennial plea of every editor. Please help – my cupboard of articles is nearly empty for 2026.

Your committee wish you all a successful winter of collecting and studying, and we hope to see many of you in Kenilworth in the Spring.

Best wishes,

### Nick

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

We are very pleased to welcome the following who have joined the CISS recently and will be pleased to meet some of you at our future meetings.

Geoff Leece of Clevedon, Bristol
John Massey of Massels, Lot-et-Garonne, France
Paul Baines of Nether Poppleton, York
Marie Bennet of Brockenhurst, Southampton
Richard Green of Alderney
Philip Cudworth of Locu, Derby
David Berry of Lyme Regis, Dorset

### NEW MALTESE CROSS DATABASE

Thanks to research carried out by David Gurney over a number of years we have been able to build a database of covers we are aware of which were paid for by line engraved stamps bearing a Maltese Cross.

The database is to be found under the Publications drop-down menu or by clicking on this link:

www.ciss.uk/research/maltese-cross

Brief information on each cover known is listed and can be sorted by date, origin or destination. Clicking on the <u>View</u> <u>Details</u> button, gives access to more details of the cover and we hope, in time, a good scan of the relevant cover.

Please check your collections with the data we have recorded and confirm the accuracy of the entry. Please also send us details of any unlisted covers you may have. A scan of any covers you have would be appreciated so that we can add illustrations to the database. Please send scans preferably as jpegs scanned at 300 dpi and attached to your email rather than embedded in the message or within another document.

Please send to <u>database@ciss.uk</u> for the data to be updated.

### SECRETARY'S CLIPBOARD Richard Flemming

The Society's 75th anniversary year is fast approaching its end, and what a wonderful year of celebrations we have had. We began the year with the President of the Royal Philatelic Society London inviting the Society to provide one of the major displays at the Royal for 2025. And what a display it was. The quality of the displays raised many eyebrows, as well as many words of praise. This was followed by the Society's 75th Anniversary Members' Weekend held in Guernsey, and a big thank you to those members who attended. Although numbers were down, the weekend was enjoyed by all those present.

On Wednesday 15 October we held another Members' Day Meeting at the Three Swans Hotel, Market Harborough. On the downside, only nine members and two guests attended the meeting, of whom five attendees were committee members. On the plus side, we saw some excellent displays, and the 50-lot room auction realised over £400, with some excellent bargains for those attending.

On Saturday 29 November the Society is holding a joint meeting with the Great Britain Philatelic Society (GBPS) at the Royal. The plan is that CISS members will show their display in the morning session, and the GBPS in the afternoon. Please note that as this is a joint meeting there will be no room auction on the day, allowing more time for members' displays.

Finally, on behalf of all committee members, may I wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. We Hope to see you in 2026.

### Subscriptions are due on 1 January 2026

Subscription renewal payments can be made through our website <a href="www.ciss.uk">www.ciss.uk</a>. 'Paper' membership provides a paper version of our Journal, whereas 'Electronic' membership gives access to the Journal electronically. In case of difficulty, please contact us by emailing <a href="mailto:membership@ciss.uk">membership@ciss.uk</a>.

All members will receive a renewal reminder via email, enabling renewal online through the Society's preferred online payment option. Members without email will receive a renewal request by letter. Members who have not renewed by 14 February 2026 will be assumed to have resigned.

If you prefer, you can pay your subscription using the same method of payment as last year, including bank transfer or PayPal, **but if you pay by cheque, please make this payable to "The Channel Islands Specialists' Society"** and send this to the CISS Treasurer, Bryan Elliston, at 5 Marine Drive, Seaford, BN25 2RT.

### Subscriptions remain unchanged for 2026:

### Paper memberships:

UK and Channel Islands	£15.00
Rest of World	£20.00
Under-18 Membership	£1.00

Electronic membership: £10.00

You can renew your membership by amending your profile: <a href="https://www.ciss.uk/membership-account">https://www.ciss.uk/membership-account</a>

### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS 2026

Unless stated otherwise, all meetings are held at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW with meetings starting at 11.00am. Tea and coffee is available from 10.30am in the Members' Lounge

Please see the Society's website at <u>www.ciss.uk</u> for dates of news and other events.

21 February 2026	Members' Competition Day with competition exhibits on view.
24 – 26 April 2026	Members' Weekend Meeting, Holiday Inn, Kenilworth, Warwickshire
16 May 2026	Members' Regional Meeting Chandlers Ford Convenor : Alan Whittaker
11 July 2026	Annual General Meeting together with members' displays
19 September 2026	Members' Meeting. – Cross-Channel Mail
28 November 2026	Members' Meeting –

Theme: Letters A, B and or C

### ANNUAL COMPETITION DAY – 21 FEBRUARY 2026

Next year's Competition Day will be on Saturday 21 February 2026 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 on the day at our meeting at the Royal. The rules can be found on our website on the <u>competitions</u> page, where an entry form 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 Saturday 24 January 2026 at <a href="mailto:competitions@ciss.uk">competitions@ciss.uk</a>. UK based members should then bring their entries to the Royal on Competition Day.

Please feel free to contact me, the Competitions Secretary, at <u>competitions@ciss.uk</u> with any queries. Enquiries can be made by phone on 01865 378012.

As always, we look forward to receiving your interesting and varied entries. The competition rules are easy to follow, and members often find that they can display previously written up material with relatively little amendment. I am happy to help members who may be new to competitions; feel free to contact me.

Julian Bagwell
Competitions Secretary
competitions@ciss.uk

### JERSEY SCROLLS – AN ANALYSIS Steve Power

### First Type

I have long been fascinated by the pre-adhesive handstamps of Jersey and have read as many articles, periodicals, catalogues and the like as possible over my twenty plus years of collecting.

One article that has always been a 'curiosity' is Tony Peters study of the (first type) Jersey Scroll with a full stop (Les Iles Normandes Vol. 26, No. 3 of September 2007), in which Tony asserts that there are four of these handstamps in use.

Personally (and I would stress that this is my personal view), I have always doubted this claim as the measured differences noted in Tony's article are so small as to probably be explained by under or over inking, which is extremely common on this handstamp.

In addition, I found it strange that there should have been four of these handstamps in use potentially at the same time, as I had concerns that the volume of mail at that time would not have necessitated these handstamps in such a quantity.

Recently I was fortunate enough to purchase Tony's collection of scrolls at auction and have thus now been able to study these much more closely, together with examples held in my own collection.

My initial assessment has to my mind confirmed my previous thoughts. On measuring both the length and height of the scrolls I cannot agree that there are four variants, the difference noted as between 36.7mm and 38mm in length is so small that

by very slight 'manipulation' of the ruler it was possible to come up with alternative measurements within this range.

The same was true regarding the height of the handstamp and scroll size.

Shown below (*Figure 1*) is the cover dated 9 August 1826 that was noted as a Type 4 in the Les Iles Normandes article, 38mm long, 15mm high with the scroll 7mm long and the height 4mm. Further it was noted the dot (full stop) was in a higher position.



Figure 1

On checking I can get the measurement to 38mm long, but also 37mm depending on where the verticals are drawn, note the smudgy outer frame adjacent to the 'Y' accounting for the longer length. Likewise the height I can record at 14.5mm, but this could easily be a 0.5mm either way.

Finally the higher dot is in fact aligned with other covers, but appears higher than the very smudgy base on the letter Y.

Likewise the Type 1 listed (dated Aug. 23rd, 1811) has a very poor impression of the J, causing it to look like an 'I'.

Curiously, however, the left side of the scroll is very straight, unlike all other examples in my collection which have a very slight 'indent'. Again this is heavily inked so may account for the straight side. Shown below is the scroll for 1811 (*Figure 2*) with a more typical example (*Figure 3*).



Figure 2 23 August 1811 "straight" left scroll



Figure 3

23 August 1811 "straight"

When further reviewing this scroll during its first period of use between 1810 and 1817 (according to the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue), the vast majority of the handstamps are of only poor to fair quality, with very few being complete (I have viewed over twenty examples during this period).

One of the better quality strikes of the first Jersey scroll, was dated in manuscript 1815, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> (*Figure 4 on next page*).

It is clear, however, that this first scroll was in use early in 1817, as I have two examples dated 10 January and 8 March respectively, although the latter example is poorly struck and the full stop is not easily distinguishable.

This scroll was then brought back into use in 1823 and was used until 1830 after the introduction of the second type Jersey scroll (without a full stop), which is listed as used between 1817 and 1830.



Figure 4 One of the better quality strikes of the first Jersey scroll, dated in manuscript 1815, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

This begs the question – why was the first type no longer used for some five or six years only to be re-used from 1823?

I can find no discernible difference between the scroll of the first period compared to the second period and again the quality of strikes is similar, with very few examples being of 'good' quality; this said having reviewed some forty-four examples first hand.

Shown below (*Figure 5 on following page*) is a 'good' example of the first type scroll from its second period of use, dated 2 April 1829 and sent to Fredrick Huth in London.

Additionally I can report two of these first type scrolls clearly without a full stop - dated 16 August 1827 and 18 July 1828 respectively, the earlier of the two being shown below (*Figure 6*).

It is likely that the stop was not inked as covers either side of these two dates clearly have the full stops inked in.



Figure 5



Figure 6 The long foot of the *J*, the sloping arm of the *R* and the letter sizing nevertheless confirm that this as a Type 1 scroll.

For completeness I can record the earliest use as 1 May 1810 to Guernsey and the latest as 29 October 1829 to Mexico.

In conclusion, therefore, I can find no conclusive evidence to support the previous article and thus believe that the differences noted are down to the amount of ink used (or not used), the angle of the strike and indeed the quality of the paper (woven or smooth, the former more easily leading to ink blurring).

### Second Type

The second type of Jersey scroll is recorded by Gibbons as being used from 1817 to 1830.

I am aware of a cover dated 27 November 1816 to Northumberland, which clearly shows the second type, and I believe this is the earliest recorded example and, in my opinion, shows that the switch from first to second type occurred sometime in 1816 and not 1817 as previously thought. It is thus clear that the two handstamps were used concurrently, albeit possibly only for a very short period.

Generally speaking this second type (*Figure 7*) is easily distinguished from the first type as there is no full stop after the Y of Jersey.



Figure 7

Some strikes are incomplete and thus do not show the end of the strike; there are also slight differences in the lettering of JERSEY, the second type being slightly smaller. The J also has a small dot (mostly) at the end, rather than the more elongated foot of the first type. The foot of the R is also more 'erect' and less splayed than the first scroll.

Again, care must be taken as strike quality can vary, thus making distinguishing identification of the two types slightly trickier in certain circumstances. As a general rule, however, the quality of the second type is much improved.



Figure 8

Comparison of strikes of the second type (*Figure 8*), the first from a wrapper dated 19 February 1818 and the second strike on a cover dated 25 February 1818 (so less than a week apart) - almost looking like two different handstamps. This latter example is probably the finest strike recorded of any scroll.

Notwithstanding the strike quality there appears to have been only one handstamp used.

Curiously, however, most strikes I have seen are dated 1824 or earlier. Indeed I am only aware of three covers after 1824, none of which I have seen first-hand; all are without a full stop, but the lettering size etc. as noted previously suggest these may in fact be the first type scroll.

I would thus be grateful for other members' thoughts on why there was / is a gap in the usage of the first scroll, scans of scrolls that they may have together with relevant dates, especially any late examples of the type two scroll.

# CHANNEL ISLANDS LOCAL ISSUES HERM, JETHOU, LIHOU,

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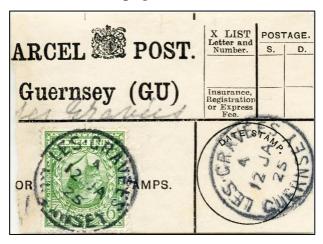
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### Les Gravées, Guernsey – A New Discovery Guy Dandoy

One of our members in Belgium reports the acquisition of an unrecorded parcel post label used at this town sub-post office in January 1925. This is Guy's second new find for this office following his example of a midget type label reported in *Les Iles Normandes* Volume 30 No.1 (page 32).



The parcel post label shown above was initially issued to the head post office in Guernsey, but was used at the Les Gravées sub-post office on an emergency basis when stocks of their own printed labels ran out. This is evidenced by the office name in manuscript below the words **Guernsey** (**GU**). Unfortunately, the label has been slightly trimmed but clearly shows the use of the Type 2 single circle datestamp with Code A inserted on 12 January 1925, used correctly as an office stamp and to cancel the KGV 9d definitive. In style, it is very similar to Type P8 in David Gurney's 'The Postal History of the Guernsey Sub-Post Offices' on Page 64 and is very late use of this type of label.

# POST & GO ISSUES WITH THE GB UNION FLAG Ray B Dixon

Before listing the Post & Go labels issued by both Guernsey and Jersey with the Union Flag, (not listed in the SG Channel Islands and Isle of Man catalogues) another error has been found and is shown below (*Figure 1*). This is in addition to those of Guernsey & Jersey Post & Go Errors discussed in the March and December 2024 journals (Volume 32 Nos 1 and 3).



Figure 1

During Autumn Stampex 2016 a Guernsey roll of stock was placed in JE01 kiosk in error on the 15 September, for approximately one hour (*Figure 1*). It has been suggested that at most only 10 strips were dispensed. Session Numbers seen so far are 0364 and 0366.

The GB Union (Jack) Flag Post & Go label was designed by Dick Davies from an illustration by Anton Morris (*figure 2*), making its UK Post & Go debut on the 21 May 2012.



Figure 2

Jersey introduced their first Post & Go stamps at the Spring Stampex in 2014. Guernsey followed one year later at the Spring

Stampex show of 2015. Both islands' machines were capable of issuing not only their respective island flag designs but also similar GB Union Flag labels. Guernsey postal administration ceased dispensing the GB Union Flag design at the Autumn Stampex of 2015. Jersey's final Union Flag rolls were loaded into the Broad Street Kiosk on 3 September 2015.





Figure 3 and 4 (reduced)

At the Spring Stampex show in 2014, kiosk J001 was used to issue the first GB Union Flag design (*Figure 3 on previous page*). The first Guernsey example (*Figure 4*) was dispensed from machine GG01 at the Spring Stampex Show of 2015. The UK rates on the Union Flag Post & Go strips changed three times for Jersey and twice for those issued by Guernsey.

The first two strips issued by Jersey kiosk J001, (*see Table A below*) were both issued with no date code in the security imprint but are also known with date code MA13 embedded in the background (*see figure 5*).



Figure 5

A table on the following page shows the details of labels issued by Jersey kiosks.

It is interesting to note that Jersey charged 5% VAT for those strips issued via the Jersey machines. At the GB and Korea locations no tax was collected. The costs of these 'crossover' items appear to be on the rise!

JERSEY LISTING OF GB UNION FLAG LABELS (TABLE A)				
DATES	OVERPRINT	DATA STRING	FIGURE	
19-22 Feb 2014	NONE (Spring Stampex)	B2GB14 J001 <sup>2</sup>	3	
11-12 Apr 2014	NONE (85th Scottish Congress)	B4GB14 J001 <sup>2</sup>	6	
7-12 Aug 2014	<b>Philakorea 2014</b> World Stamp Expo	B9KR14 JE01	7	
4 Sept 2014 to 16 Feb 2015	Broad Street	B9JE14 JE02*	8	
17-20 Sept 2014	NONE (Autumn Stampex)	B9GB14 JE01	9	
7-9 Nov 2014	NONE (Fort Regent Show)	BNJE14 JE01	10	
1 Dec 2014 to 23 Jan 2015	Jersey Post PHQ	BDJE14 JE01*	11	
3 Sept 2015	Broad Street	B9JE15 JE02 <sup>1</sup>	12	

<sup>\* =</sup> More than 1 Date Code Available

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  = This strip issued in error is overprinted with Jersey Rates. The session seen so far are 0646 & 0647.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> = Issued with and without date code 'MA13'

### Union Flag 1st Class Labels issued from Jersey Kiosk















Local letter up to 100g
Local large up to 100g
UK letter up to 100g
UK large up to 100g
UK large up to 100g
Europe up to 20g
International letter up to 20g

The following Union Flag designs were dispensed from Guernsey kiosks. All five strips (*Table B*) were issued during 2015.











GUERNSEY LISTING of GB UNION FLAG LABELS (TABLE B)				
DATE(S)	OVERPRINT	DATA STRING	FIGURE	
18-21 Feb 2015	Spring Stampex February 2015	B2GB15 GG01	4 & 13	
7-9 May 2015	Messe Essen 7-9 May 2015	B5DE15 GG01	14	
13-16 May 2015	NONE (Europhilex)	B5GB15 GG01	15	
From 2 Sept 2015	Envoy House	B9GG15 GG02	16	
16-19 Sept 2015	NONE (Autumn Stampex)	B9JGB15 GG01	17	



The Jersey Post & Go above is from the machine installed at the Fort Regent show on 7 November 2014. This is the only cover I have seen cancelled in the UK the same day it was issued in Jersey. As before if anyone can add or amend any details of this now 11 year old series of Post & Go labels please contact the editor.

# JETHOU EUROPA 1964 ISSUE COLOUR TRIALS AND PROOFS. André Dufresne RNCP

The popularity of Europa stamps was waning, and the total printing reflects this; from 130,000 sets and 125,000 souvenir sheets of the 1961 Europa issue to 100,000 sets of the Europa 1962 issue, 50,000 of the Europa 1963 issue and 105,000 sets of the Europa 1964 issue. Captain Cliff liked the Europa 1963 issue, and he decided to re-use the same design and the same printer in 1964. I don't have any original drawings of the Europa 1964 issue, and I suppose that De La Rue used the 1963 designs. However there are several imperforate colour trials on Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. cards showing a nice array of colours, and two perforated proofs in adopted colours. There are apparently three sets of these colour trials and proofs. There do not seem to be any similar colour trials for the Europa 1963 issue.

According to Backman & Forrester (1981), the printer did not use the 1963 plates to print this issue. The master sheets still contain four panes of 12 stamps but this time they were arranged vertically (*Figure 1 on page 26*). Colour registration marks in the margins allow to find the sheet's original position in the master sheet. One constant variety occurs on stamp 11 of the lower pane, called the jumping bird by Backman & Forrester, where the black printing is lifted 3mm (*Figure 2 immediately below*).



Figure 2



The six imperforate colour trials are shown here. There are three imperforate colour trials of the 3d. value and three of the 1/6d value, as follows:

Figure 3 shows an imperforate colour trial in dull green of the 3d. value with colour code 765-20 (no. 36 in Stanley Gibbons colour chart).



Figure 3

Figure 4 shows another imperforate colour trial in vermilion of the 3d. value, colour code 765-74 (no. 10 in Stanley Gibbons colour chart).



Figure 4

*Figure 5* shows yet another imperforate colour trial in slate violet of the 3d. value, colour code 765-37 (no. 64 in Stanley Gibbons colour chart), with a pencilled note reading "Selected".



Figure 5

*Figure 6* shows a first imperforate colour trial of the 1/9d value in slate violet, colour code 765-40, no. 64 in Stanley Gibbons colour chart.



Figure 6

*Figure 7* shows another imperforate colour trial of the 1/9d value in vermilion, colour code 765-71, no. 10 in Stanley Gibbons colour chart.



Figure 7

*Figure 8* shows the last imperforate colour trial of the 1/9d value in yellow brown, colour code 765-56, no. 90 in Stanley Gibbons colour chart, with a pencilled note reading "Selected".



Figure 8

Once the final colours were selected by Captain Cliff, the printer provided him with perforated proofs on cards:

*Figure 9* shows the perforated 3d. value in the selected colour and mounted on the company's card.



Figure 9

*Figure 10* shows the perforated 1/9d value in the selected colour and mounted on the company's card.



Figure 10

They also provided Captain Cliff with 50 imperforate sheets of each value for a total of 600 imperforate stamps of each value, sometimes called "proofs" but more appropriately, imperforate stamps (*Figure 11*).



Figure 11

In my next article I will describe the 1966 Battle of Hastings stamps artwork and proofs.



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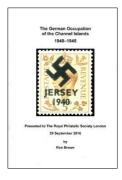
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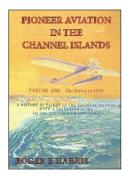
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