

Catalogue of Postal History Books Published by the Stuart Rossiter Trust

Text Catalogue

of

Postal History Books

Published by
The Stuart Rossiter Trust

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IRAQ POSTAL HISTORY 1920s to 1940s by Douglas Armitage and Robert Johnson

The main purpose of this book is to make sense of the airmail fees charged on airmail sent from Iraq to all other countries of the world in the period 1933 to 1946. Extensive tables are set out on 178 pages of this 328 page book. The problem that the authors identified was a total lack of information about many of the air fees and changes to them especially in the period of the Second World War. The availability of original postal information in the English version of the many successive issues of the Iraqi Government Gazette was the clue. Iraq was a country like Italy which continued to charge air fees in addition to surface postage long after countries such as the United Kingdom converted to combined air and surface rates. It became apparent at an early stage of writing the tables that all the other postal rates and fees, internal and external would have to be included in order that calculations of postage rates seen on covers could be accomplished. It was also evident that to put these air fees and postal rates and fees into context a reader would need narratives which described the involvement of various airlines in providing air services to and from Iraq as air routes to the Far East, Africa, the Americas and Australia and New Zealand were developed. Inevitably references to the position in the 1920's became essential and much detail of the 1920's is in fact included both in the narrative and in the supporting tables. The best way to indicate the comprehensive coverage of this book is to look through the Contents pages of the book which are reproduced after the pricing information.

328 pages B/W illustrations. Laminated cover. Published 2009.
Price £38.00 + postage & packing.

POSTMAN'S ROOTS. 2000 years of Letter Carrying in Breconshire by Mike Scott Archer

Handbook to accompany an exhibition in Brecknock Museum & Art Gallery March 1st to April 13th 2003. The handbook was published by the Welsh Philatelic Society, with financial support towards publication from the Stuart Rossiter Trust. '...it will bring back memories of those more recent times when the Post Office was one of the main arteries giving life not only to the village communities but also to those many commercial enterprises within the County'.

The handbook is illustrated with many maps starting with Roman Forts & Roads in Breconshire, medieval Drovers trails, Postal and Railway routes. There are lists of villages & post offices, and illustrations of postmarks and pillar boxes.

There is an excellent compact history of the postal service in the UK. The handbook is a good 30 page summary of the growth and changing role of the Royal Mail, and its social interactions.

Catalogue of Postal History Books Published by the Stuart Rossiter Trust

30+ pages ,B/W illustrations, coloured cover

Cover binding: laminated card

ISBN

Publication date : 2003

Price £1.00 + postage & packing

Places & Subjects: Great Britain Wales

**THE AIRMAILS OF MALTA by D Ward. Malta Study Circle
Study Paper No 29. 2000.**

This study updates information previously available on the air mail services of Malta. It covers the period from the first early flights until 1998 and the international aspects of mail carried to the east, Australia and South Africa. The effect of World War II and the implications on the postal services are covered as are all the known postal markings, air mail rates and air mail postage stamps. The Study Paper brings together the combined knowledge of the Study Circle and this is a useful monograph for those interested in air mails, the Mediterranean and, of course, Malta. Well illustrated, showing covers, handstamps, and instructional marks with a useful bibliography.

Malta

Mediterranean

39 pages B/W illustrations. Spirally bound with card cover. Published 2000.

Price £7.50 + postage & packing.

BRITISH INDIA POSTAL STATIONERY by Derek Lang

This is an illustrated history and listing of postal stationery issued in India up to Independence in 1947. It is the culmination of over 30 years research which resulted in the four volume work "The guide to the postal stationery of India". Since then the amount of new information and feed-back has made it possible to produce this updated and fresh study of the subject. It is the seminal work with chapters covering postcards, envelopes, newspaper wrappers, Victorian letter sheets, air letter sheets, airgraphs, telegraph forms and a chapter on post-Independence. A final chapter covers collecting extensions including specimens, dies, punches, essays and proofs, bands, labels and parcel wrappers used abroad and by the states. The book is profusely illustrated and cross-indexed with the Higgins & Gage and Jain reference numbers.

The original four volume version on which this is based was awarded a Bronze medal at London 1980 and a Silver at India International Exhibition 1980. Bronze and Silver Bronze medals were awarded at the British Philatelic Federation in 1979 and 1980.

India

"...the Author is to be congratulated on producing such a detailed work to add to his already impressive list of books on Indian Postal Stationery" London Philatelist October 1998.

222 pages. B/W illustrations Card covers. Published 1997
Price £25 + Postage and packing.

EARLY FORCES MAIL by Barrie Jay

This is based on the illustrated talk given by Barrie Jay, Past President of RPSL on the occasion of the inaugural Stuart Rossiter Memorial Lecture in 1995. The contents have been enlarged by other material from his collection. The contents cover a span of 400 years starting with the 30 years war, touching on the War of the Grand Alliance, the War of the Spanish Succession, the War of the Austrian Succession, the Seven Years War and the Napoleonic period (including the invasion of Ireland and Wales). There is also a section on prisoner of war mail including details on the regulations governing this. The subject is covered in a masterly way, combining the history of the period, with the history of written communications, often giving graphic eye witness accounts of historic events supported by material from Barrie's wonderful collection. A fascinating introduction to the subject which will appeal both to the serious postal historian and those interested in military and social history.

Austria
Europe
France
Germany

Holland
Great Britain
Ireland
Prussia
Russia
USA
Wales

“...Contains important information on the carriage of mail during the many European wars of the period” London Philatelist. February 1998.

57 pages. Colour and B/W illustrations. Card cover. Published in 1997.

Price £20 + postage & packing.

EXPRESS MAIL, AFTER PACKETS and LATE FEES in INDIA before 1870 by Max Smith and Robert Johnson

The book presents original information into a hitherto unresearched field using data from the Asia, Pacific and Africa Collections in the British Library. It describes the Overland mail within India particularly between Bombay, Calcutta and Madras and the ways by which a sender could get mail across India quickly in either direction. The period covered is from about 1840 up to about 1870, as mail cart and railway services gradually took over carriage of the Overland mail. For the first time, the Express, After Packet and Late Fee services and charges are described from official sources and their successes and failures explained.

A great deal of background information is also provided in appendices, which reproduce many extracts from original documents including the Post Office Annual Reports of the period. These discuss the changing routes of the Overland mail across India and the effects on postal services of the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857-58. Other appendices give the dates and closing times of Expresses to and from Bombay and the After Packet from Calcutta in connection with the Overland mail and the growth of the railway system. The final appendix discusses the service Thomas Waghorn provided across Egypt between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.

291 pages(A4), profusely illustrated in B/W with 8 colour plates. Card cover. Published in 2008.

Price £20 plus postage and packing.

India

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE POSTAL HISTORY OF DENMARK 1624 – 1950 by David Cornelius

The first publication in English to provide a detailed historical background to the growth of the Danish postal services, mail routes and postage rates for both inland and foreign mails within Europe.

Transport of the mails is covered in some detail (including a good section on the Anglo-Danish mails), together with the Wartime and military mails. There is a good range of illustrations drawn from the author's own collection, with useful explanations of rates, postmarks and accountancy markings. Appendices include extensive tables of inland and foreign postage rates for the difficult period before 1875. Throughout the book, references to further information are provided in footnotes, and there is a selective bibliography.

The book is designed to provide a "first reference" volume for both the advanced collector, in their research of a puzzling item, and a guide for the new collector. Much of the information has not previously appeared in English.

Denmark,
Germany,
Great Britain,
Norway,
Prussia,
Sweden

"The author has spent more than thirty years collecting and studying this arfea, and it shows in the quality of the information provided. This is a 'meaty' book that should be read, studied and then reread and restudied"

Joe Hahn American Philatelist September 2004

344 pages B/W illustrations Card cover Published 2004
Price £38 +postage and packing

KEEPING IN TOUCH. Communications through County Kildare before 1860 by N.P.J. Morrin

This book is the first publication to deliberately attempt to chronicle the means by which contact was maintained between the inhabitants of Co. Kildare and the rest of the country and beyond before 1860. It focuses particularly on the early postal systems and examines the carriage of mail through the county by foot, horse and coach. It also examines the impact of the coming of the canals and railway on the postal system and the terrible effect of the Great Famine of 1845-8.

This book is intended both for the serious postal historian in search of detailed

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information about the postal charges, post offices and marks used in the county and also for local and social historians seeking an understanding about the means of communication available without the need to undertake long and sometimes perilous journeys along the roads of Ireland

Great Britain
Ireland

“The book is a ‘must’ for the Irish or Kildare specialist and is an example to us all of how such a book should be presented and written” London Philatelist October 1998.

182 pages. Profusely illustrated in B/W. Card cover. Printed 1998.

Price £25 + Postage and packing.

LETTER RECEIVERS OF LONDON 1652 -1857. A history of their offices and handstamps within the General, Penny and Twopenny Posts by Hugh Feldman

The definitive study of the subject; this monumental work contains approaching 1000 pages. The core is an alphabetical list of the Receiving Houses, showing their exact locations, accompanied by a map of the period, details of the Receiver, illustrations of the handstamps including examples of letters, and a considerable amount of supplementary information of interest to the local and social historian as well as the serious postal historian. The workings of the post during the period are explained in a 50 page introduction and there are also over 100 pages of annexes providing additional information.

Awards include the Crawford Medal from The Royal Philatelic Society, London in 1998 and won the Rowland Hill Award from the British Philatelic Trust in 1998 and Gold Medal and Vera Trinder Rosebowl special literature prize at Stampshow 2000, London.

Great Britain
London

“The core of the book is an absolute mine of fascinating information – all you would ever want to know about the Receiving Houses and their incumbents. The retail price seems high but is actually very good value for money as this book is highly recommended to any student of postal history or London’s local history.” Gibbons Stamp Monthly May 2000.

“Essential reading for the true postal historian” London Philatelist February 1999.

Hardbound in two volumes with slipcase with foldout maps in rear pocket. B/W illustrations. Published in 1998.

Price £65 + postage & packing.

MARITIME DISASTER MAIL by Norman Hoggarth and Robin Gwynn

The book is based on the personal research of the two authors in Lloyd's records, newspapers, the Post Office Archives and other reference facilities at home and abroad. It significantly updates the standard works on the subject, recording many new discoveries. This is particularly evident in the two wartime periods.

The book following the introduction is divided into seven chapters, with an appendix for seized mail. This book should be of considerable appeal to anyone interested in wreck mail, with the comprehensive index a great help to all, including collectors of related subjects

Whole world

352 pages B/W illustrations Card cover Published 2004
Price £37.50 + postage and packing

NAVAL OFFICERS' LETTERS by Geoffrey Osborn GM

The author is a leading expert on mail sent to and from naval officers during the Victorian period (1837-1900) He has a legendary ability to identify the sender of a letter and his location from the envelope. This is a research paper of interest both to naval and postal historians. It covers mail sent from all over the world illustrated by covers from the author's collection and written up in his own hand A number of official postal regulations and rates are reproduced and the Introduction describes the way that research of this kind can be carried out. Part I covers mail by ship's bag to Britain and Part II, mail to the ships abroad. A valuable tool for researchers on naval history and for social and postal historians

Africa
America,
Central America,
North
America,
South Atlantic Islands
Caribbean
China / Hong Kong.
Far East
Great Britain
Indian Ocean
Mediterranean

“Readers will find each entry absorbing, there being an extensive amount of historical (i.e non-postal history) detail included, but which is not excessive.” London Philatelist March

1996.

133 pages Profusely illustrated in B/W Card cover. Published 1995

Price; £15 + postage & packing.

NINETEENTH CENTURY WARS IN EGYPT AND SUDAN by John Firebrace

Most of the pages are reproductions of selected covers, and autograph letters from the Author's famous collection that was awarded Gold and Large Gold medals in 1978 and 1980. Over 40 pages of specially written text and more than a dozen maps help to tell the story of the French Campaigns of 1798-1801, the Arabi rebellion of 1882, the Mahdi 1881-1885, the Hicks disaster of 1883, Suakin 1884, the Nile Expedition of 1884-5, the Suakin Expedition of 1885-6, captives of the Khalifa, the Donglola Expedition of 1896, Suakin 1896, Nile Expeditions of 1897-8 and 1898-1900, the Marchand Expedition of 1898 and the Army of Occupation 1882-1900.

Africa

Egypt

France

Great Britain

Sudan

".....an exceptional production" London Philatelist August 1997.

"...a book to be enjoyed and mulled over at leisure as well as consulted for instruction."
Gibbons Stamp Monthly. June 1998

218 pages 8 colour plates and numerous B/W illustrations Card cover. Published 1997

Price £40 plus postage and packing.

PIGEON MAIL THROUGH HISTORY by Salvador Bofarull

This book deals with the history of carrying messages and mail by carrier pigeon.

It covers The Ancient World; The Medieval Near East; Europe before 1867; The Franco Prussian war 1870 – 1871; America and Europe before 1914; European Colonies and Dominions; Russia; The First World War; The period between the First and Second World wars; The Second World war and the period after 1945.

There is an extensive bibliography and there is an index to both text and the many illustrations.

The book breaks new ground in its field and reviews in the UK and abroad have brought to the author recognition for his research.

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Alaska, Ancient Egypt
Arab World, Australia
Austria, Belgian Congo, Belgium
Canada, China
Cuba, Dutch East Indies, Egypt
Etruria, Fiji
Flanders, France
German East Africa
Greece, Greenland
Hungary, India
Italian Colonies
Italy, Japan
Middle East,
New Zealand, Nigeria
Persia, Poland
Roman Empire
Russia, Sierra Leone
South Africa
South America
Spain, Sweden
Switzerland
Syria
United Kingdom
United States
Venice
Western Europe

167 pages. B/W illustrations. Card cover with colour illustrations back and front. Price £25 plus postage and packing

A POSTAL HISTORY OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES IN EAST ASIA DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR - Volume 1 Singapore and Malaya 1942 – 1945 The Changi Connection by David Tett

This is the first of three volumes to deal with the subject of the main title.

The author combines the general history of the period with personal references from individual correspondences to give detailed context to the postal arrangements for POWs and internees into and out of Singapore and Malaya.

The chapters in the book are: Prelude to the Captivity; The Prison Camps; The mails that were returned; At home; The Bureau of Record and Enquiry; Three personal postal

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histories; The cards from POWs in Singapore; The mail to Civilian Internees in Singapore; Mails to those who were not returned; Unauthorised mails; Japanese Postal Stationery; Some went home.

There are seven Appendices dealing with detailed aspects of the postal history such as cards and covers addressed to POWs in Malaya and Singapore and Australian Red Cross Society Directions for Mail.

There is a good index and bibliography.

Australia
India
Japan
Singapore
Malaya

"... this is a goldmine of a book....the stuff of history....a priceless and universal appendix to so many singular stories" Martin Bell
387 pages. B/W illustrations. Hard bound with colour dustjacket. Printed 2002. Price £35 + postage & packing.

Volume 2 Dutch East Indies 1942-1946 Paradise Lost
published by the author in 2003 see www.fepowmail.com for price and how to purchase

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF SPANISH NEW ORLEANS by Yamil H Kouri Jnr

A comprehensive study of the mail system and written communications in New Orleans during the Spanish period (1763-1804). It includes the inner workings of the mail system, postal markings, rates, ships, and covers. This represents the most detailed and complete analysis of the finances of any Spanish colonial postal administration. The mail carried privately and by the postal systems of England, France, and the United States is also covered, as well as the transition to the U.S. postal administration.

USA,
Cuba,
Spain,
France,
Great Britain

"The author has taken a most arcane subject and through diligent research has produced a well written and documented book...it would be a boon if other areas of Spanish Colonial America were given such a thorough treatment
Joe Hahn American Philatelist September 2004

Considering this book is a pioneering effort. It is amazingly comprehensive. I doubt that

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much information could be added to the work, aside from the discovery of an occasional new cover from the Spanish period turning up. From that standpoint, the work covers an important segment of US postal history

Richard B. Graham Linn's Stamp News August 2004

306 pages B/W illustrations Card cover Published 2004

Price £38.50 +postage and packing

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE ARMY OF THE BLACK SEA 1918 –1923 by John Slingsby

A comprehensive study of the postal history and associated military history of the British and Indian occupation forces in the Balkans, Turkey, South Russia and Transcaucasia. Also covered are the Army's brief connections with Transcaspia and the North Persia Force.

Part 1 of the book deals with the postal history of the army and field post offices of the British and Indian Army Postal Services in this Near and Middle East theatre. All known locations and dates of use of the post offices are recorded, together with notes of grey areas still to be resolved.

Part 2 gives the order of battle by the various command headquarters and is followed in Part 3 by the locations and movements of the mounted and infantry regiments.

Great Britain
Bulgaria
Greece,
Ottoman Empire
Military
Persia
Roumania
Russia

250 pages B/W illustrations Card cover Published 2004

Price £30 + postage and packing

ROYAL REFORM. THE POSTAL REFORM OF 1837-1841 by Charles Goodwyn

This monograph covers the historically significant years of 1837-1841. Using material from the Royal Philatelic Collection, the Author, Keeper of the Collection tells the story of the invention of the world's first postage stamp. It also covers the reform in postal rates and the effects this radical change had on trade, industry and the family life. The contents include chapters on the reform of the postal service, treasury essays,

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parliamentary envelopes, Mulready envelopes and letter sheets, the Penny Black and embossed envelopes. Some of the many illustrations do not appear in any other published work, Appendices give further information on the history of the Royal Collection and treasury essays. This is an important book for the postal and social historian complementing the display of the Royal Philatelic Collection at The Stamp Show 2000.

Great Britain

“The author has achieved wonders, thanks to the unique contents of the Royal Philatelic Collection. An exemplary brief summary of a fascinating and significant period in world postal affairs” London Philatelist February 2000.

112 pages. B/W illustrations throughout and 24 colour plates. Card cover. Published 2000.

Price £35 + postage & packing.

THE TRAVELLING POST OFFICES OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA by A.D. Presgrave

Starting with a section on the road mails of the State, the book goes on to describe the development of its railways and the operations and functions of the Travelling Post Offices. There is detailed information on the specification of the specially adapted rolling stock. Each stage of the development of the network is covered very thoroughly and is accompanied by the details of the timetables and schedules as well as examples of all the known handstamps. This work will be of interest not only to the postal historian studying the development of mail systems in South Australia but also those interested in the railway itself. There are 32 pages in annexe providing information on postal regulations as well as a useful index.

Awards include a Vermeil at Trains 1999 and a large silver at Philexfrance 1999.

Australia

“Will be a standard reference for many years to come” London Philatelist September 1998

“...Will appeal to a far greater audience than just those who collect mail carried on the particular TPOs.A fine selection of illustrations and maps which will certainly please those interested in railways” Stamp Magazine August 1998.

132 pages B/W illustrations Card cover Published 1997

Price £25 + postage & packing.

THE ROYAL MARINES : Home and Abroad a Postal History 1664-1994 by Bob Swarbrick

The book covers 91 events involving the Royal Marines starting with their formation in 1664 as The Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot and a letter of 1666 and ending with South Georgia in 1994 where training in mountain and cold weather warfare was conducted. Each of the 91 stories is illustrated with entires or covers including the letters with some transcripts and often a portrait of the writer or addressee with a picture of a ship or shore location. The stories have been painstakingly researched and make a fascinating read of the social as well as the postal history of the Royal Marines.

Great Britain
Whole World
Naval
Military

250 pages 8 colour restB/W illustrations. Card cover Published 2006
Price £36 + postage and packing

UNDATED POSTMARKS OF WALES 1840 – 1860 by Roger W. Broomfield

This is a detailed study of the Undated Namestamps of Welsh post offices and receiving houses together with the pre- and post- 1840 usage of those handstamps prior to that date. Divided into three connected sections, the first gives a list of stamps alphabetically by location; the second shows all the Welsh post towns created up to 1860, together with their handstamps and this includes English offices with sub-offices in Wales. The third section provides an analysis of all the offices by County and acts as an index to the first two parts. This study introduces a wealth of new information and will be valuable to those studying Welsh and English postal history. It will also be of interest to the social historian in identifying small communities and the difficulties of some place names. Profusely illustrated and with maps. Great Britain
Wales

“The information provided is very thorough...postal historians will find this a very useful work” Stamp Magazine December 1996.

124 pages. B/W illustrations. Card cover. Published 1996
Price £10 + postage and packing.

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL – VOLUME No. 1: 2000.

Contents

On dragon's wings by Brian Asquith

Air routes to the Far East – the China connection.

An illustrated 21 page introduction to the development of air routes to China and the Far East. This covers the northern route via Russia and the southern route across India and the growth and development of Imperial Airways and other lines. Information is also given on the Trans Pacific route and the U.S.A. The effect of World War II is discussed and the steps taken to keep routes open. There is a short bibliography and summary of routes and carriers.

Africa Airmail. China and Hong Kong Philately and postal history. Far East, Postal regulations Great Britain. World War II North America. Russia USA.

The Factory Inspectorate in England by Geoffrey Lovejoy.

Postal matters relating to working and social reform in the Industrial Revolution

A 40 page article which traces the story of the Industrial Revolution and the development of the factory system in Great Britain in the 1800s and the appointment of factory inspectors following the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832. The Author has used his collection of postal history relating to these important social issues with examples of letters and documents illustrating various aspects of the subject. This is an important monograph for social historians and an opportunity for the postal historian to glimpse material seldom seen.

Great Britain Philately and postal history Social history.

Crossroads at Panama by Phil Kenton.

The short sea route to the East and the development of the Panama railway.

The Author is an acknowledged expert on the maritime postal history of this part of the world in his books and award winning displays. This 40 page article outlines the advantages of Panama as a crossing point and short sea route to the east for trade and the

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carriage of mail. The study examines the proposals of 1810 for the Canal project and other alternatives. Details are given of the construction of the railroad in 1846 and the postal conventions of 1847 and 1871. This is an important article for those interested in maritime mail and the development of the short route to the east. The article is illustrated by a large number of letters of the period.

America, North Maritime. America, South, Naval America, Central Philately and postal history. Caribbean Postal regulations Great Britain. Railway Panama. Social history. USA.

Westphalia and the Grand Duchy of Berg by Cornelis Muys.

Postal communications between Russia, Prussia and France and Holland 1790 – 1814.

This study of 11 pages examines the postal routes from the east to the west in the northern part of middle Europe and, more specifically, postal communications between Prussia and Russia and Holland and France between 1790 and 1814. The area concerned was extremely complicated politically and this article considers the postal conventions of the time and the routes they imposed on the carriage of mails. The Author is an acknowledged expert on the routes and rates of Europe and makes this an important article for postal historians interested in the Napoleonic period with reduced size illustrations.

Europe Military France Napoleonic Germany Philately and postal history Holland Postal rates Prussia Postal regulations Russia.

Africa
America, Central
America, North
America, South
Caribbean
China / Hong Kong
Far East
France
Europe
Germany
Great Britain
Holland
Panama
Prussia.
Russia
USA

“All are excellent examples of detailed postal history studies of well defined

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areas.....The article by Geoff Lovejoy deals more with social than postal history....Excellent delivery of information....I urge all postal historians to buy the volume (and its successors)" London Philatelist Feb 2001.

112 pages B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2000.
Price £15 + postage & packing.

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL – VOLUME No. 2: 2001.

Contents

The Goldfields of Victoria by Rod Moreton

The story starts with the discovery of gold in New South Wales in 1851. Later that year the State of Victoria was created out of part of New South Wales and rewards offered for the discovery of gold. An development of the gold fields is described leading to the need for post offices some of which were short lived. This is illustrated with covers to and from the diggings as well as maps, engravings and extracts from papers of the period. The story includes murder and arson and gives a glimpse of life from the first fifty years of this Australian gold rush era.

Pre Soviet Russia Registered and associated Mail by Ian Baillie

There was an insured mail system in Russia in 1691 which continued into the early 20th Century when it withered. The Russian registration system is generally accepted as starting in 1871 and the story of its development to about 1918 is told. This is a survey of the development of the registration systems and their postal rates profusely illustrated with the various types of registration labels including TPO labels, ship mail, Zemstvo, field post and ending with a small section on Finland, Poland and Russian POs abroad.

Early Mails between Constantinople and the West by Hans Smith

The background leading to the founding of Constantinople by the Roman Emperor in AD 330 is described with a brief survey of its subsequent history with the Byzantine Empire giving way to the Ottoman Empire in 1453. The postal history begins with an entire of 1453. The "capitulations" (minor treaties) granted to foreigners began in 1454 with Venice and in later centuries these formed the basis of the mail services between foreign post offices in the City and the rest of the world. The history over the next 400 years is summarised and interspersed with entires. Some postal rates from 1742 and 1788 are recorded as are some postal markings from 1780. Finally the Napoleonic Posts ending in 1815 are described.

Australia
Russia
Ottoman Empire
Austria
France
Great Britain
Holland
Italy
Spain

B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2001.
Price £10 + postage & packing.

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL – VOLUME No. 3: 2002.

Contents

The Railways of Finland and their Postal Service by Brian McCloy

The Finnish State Railways were established in 1862. Postal Sorting Wagons were introduced in 1870 on the line from Helsinki to St Petersburg and the station numbers on that line are given for 4 periods between 1870 and 1889. These numbers were incorporated into the railway datestamps. This treatment continues with other railway lines as they were opened. The changes following independence in 1917 are described until the last travelling post office ceased in 1995.

Wartime Cross Channel and North Sea Mails 1793-1815 by Geoff Oxley

Prior to the war between Great Britain and France which began in 1793, there were packet services from Dover to Calais and Ostende and from Harwich to Helvoetsluis. The story of what happened to these services is told until they were restored in an amplified form in 1815. This is illustrated with many entires on which the postal rates and routes are explained. The main ports where mail was received and despatched are listed along with relevant war events and their effect on postal services.

The Impact of the Anglo Boer War on the Orange Free State by Richard Stroud

The first Six Months : October 1899 to March 1900. Eight aspects of postal history are described these are the suspension of mail services to/from Cape Colony and Natal, the censoring of outgoing external mail, the use of a northern route via Delgoa Bay for overseas mail, the Orange Free State Red Cross and Ambulance Corps, the Republican occupation of parts of Cape Colony and Natal, commando activities within the Orange Free State, the British advance leading to the fall of Bloemfontein and the establishment of Kroonstad as a temporary capital, mail to Boer prisoners of war.

Finland
Russia
Great Britain
France
Germany
Netherlands
Denmark
Sweden
Orange Free State
Cape Colony
Natal
Great Britain

B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2002.

Price £10 + postage & packing.

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL VOLUME No. 4: 2004

Contents

The Post between Great Britain and Russia via Prussia 1852-1875 by Charles Leonard

An illustrated study of mail to Eastern Europe showing reductions in postal charges and improved transit times. During this time the preferred route from Great Britain to Russia was through Belgium and Prussia by rail. The period starts with the postal treaty in December 1851 between Russia and the new German-Austrian Postal Union. A new postal convention was signed between Great Britain and Prussia in October 1862. In 1866 Prussia defeated Austria in a short war leading to the formation of the North German Confederation so the next postal convention was between Great Britain and the North German Confederation in 1870. The German Empire was established on 1 January 1871 leading to a new postal convention with Russia in 1872. Rates for these years are explained and illustrated by covers.

Great Britain
Belgium
Prussia
Russia
Réunion
Seychelles

The Postal History of the Island of Réunion by Peter Kelly

The background, development and postal history of the railway on the French Island of La Réunion 1882 - 1956. The story starts with some background about the topography of the island and its commercial development from 1850 to 1950 leading to the construction of the railway which was completed in 1882. The postal history is divided into three phases 1882-1902, 1902-1929, 1929-1956. In the first phase there were two railway lines one from St Denis to St Pierre the other from St Denis to St Benoit. These were joined in 1902. The railway line to St Benoit was closed in 1952 and to St Pierre in 1956. The role of the Convoyeurs and the postmarks used in each of the three phases are described and illustrated. The final section describes the Moveable Boxes and the associated handstamps. The story is illustrated with covers and photographs.

Early Seychelles Air Mails 1926-1971 by Keith Fitton

The History of Airmail Services into and out of Seychelles up to the opening of the International Airport in 1971. Throughout this time most airmail to and from the island ended or started its journey by sea. Before World War II the sea journey was either to or from Mombasa or Bombay. An RAF station was established during the war but although they were not authorised to carry civilian mail, some was carried if properly censored. The introduction of the airgraph service in 1942 and the airletter service in 1944 is described with extracts from the Government Gazette. In the postwar years the sea journey to and from Mombasa and Bombay continued. With the construction of a USAF Satellite Tracking Station in 1963, an amphibian used to provide a weekly airmail service to Mombasa which took unregistered letters for the civilian population. The first airmail flight in 1971 from the new international airport is described. Throughout the airmail rates are explained and illustrated by covers.

83 pages B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2003
Price £10 + postage and packing

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL VOLUME No. 5: 2004

Contents

The Travelling Post Offices of Great Britain by Harold S Wilson CEng MIMechE

The development of the West Coast Services began with the opening of the Grand Junction Railway from Birmingham to Warrington in 1837 and eventually extended from Euston to Glasgow and on to Aberdeen. The apparatus used is described together with the late fee and the Experimental Sorting Carriage. Then follows a description of the development of the Travelling Post Office services tracing the amalgamation of various early railway companies into the London & North Western Railway Company in 1846. Details of the various postal markings applied are clearly pictured and described for both the Up and Down TPOs until closure in 2004.

Great Britain
Italy
East Africa
Germany

The Republic of Venice Posts by Richard Harlow

A brief account of some of the postal arrangements serving the Republic until 1797
There were some 50 or more courier companies operating into and out of Venice - one of the earliest being the Padua couriers of 1158. Letters of the 1300s are very scarce particularly those written before 1350. Letters of the 1400s are a little easier than the

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1500s while the 1600s are not too difficult. This account describes briefly the Rome Post (1533), the Milan Post (1584), the Flanders Post (1541), the Post of Vienna (1579), the Post of Lyon (1550), the Swiss Post (1615), the Polish Post (1558), the Ferrara Post (1573) and the Constantinople Post. The "Dazio" or letter tax of 1701 is described as are the manuscript and postal markings of the various types of mail (eg paid, unpaid, registered etc).

German East Africa by Michael Farrant

Wartime Emergency Measures 1915 & 1916

On the outbreak of war in August 1914, the German Colonies were cut off from the fatherland and were all eventually occupied by Allied forces. In the case of German East Africa the colonial authorities were able to continue to function as previously without the assistance of Germany and only gradually did the blockade by the Royal Navy have any real effect. One of the first shortages to be experienced was the diminishing stock of postage stamps as supplies could not be received from Germany. In order to maintain an effective postal system within the Colony, emergency measures were instituted and these were the facility of "cash franking" and the use of prepaid envelopes. Both measures were implemented solely to save the use of postage stamps and are described in detail.

60 pages B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2004
Price £10 + postage and packing

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL VOLUME No. 6: 2005

Contents

The United States of America: Suspension of mail services to other countries in Wartime, Revolution and Civil Commotion by Robert Johnson

The article mostly concerns civilian mails to, through or from United States citizens or residents which were affected by events of a military or a revolutionary nature and is not intended to be descriptive of mails to or from soldiers, sailors or airmen. The article deals with the American Civil War, the Spanish American War of 1898, the first and second World Wars and their aftermath, the Korean War, the events in Hungary in 1956 and the invasion of the Falkland Islands. It ends with the postal wars of the 1960s, the problems in Iran in 1979, trade union disputes, subversive activities and fraudulent mail. There are very useful appendices listing the conflicts for which suspended mail should exist and giving the dates when the mail was suspended to various countries. There are 41 figures illustrating covers with service suspended markings.

United States of America
World
Estonia

Latvia
Lithuania

Mail Routes through the Baltic States by Geoff Lovejoy

This is a detailed monograph relating to the Horse Posts and the documentation of the Coach Post in the nineteenth century before the advent of railways. It begins with a map of postal routes circa 1796 and shows several covers with various markings. Further maps of circa 1831 and 1850 show how the post routes changed. A public notice of 1821 in German and also translated into English is illustrated describing the stage coach service. About 10 other documents in Russian and German are illustrated with English translations give details of the coach service including timetables. In all there are 37 figures showing covers from the period with postal markings up to 1855 and providing an explanation of the rates.

120 pages B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2005
Price £12.50 + postage and packing

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL VOLUME No. 7: 2006

Contents

The West Indies & Pacific Steam-Ship Company: The Mail Contracts 1865-1888 by Colin Tabcart

The article describes the 5 Contracts that the Post Office entered into with the West India and Pacific Steam Ship Company between 1865 and their termination in 1888. The contracts concerned the carriage of mail from Liverpool to various places in the West Indies initially to Belize via Jamaica and to Tampico via Port au Prince. Later contracts included places on the Caribbean shore of South America and the 5th contract included Colon with the connection to Panama on the Pacific coast. Reports of sailings are very sketchy or missing from various sources consulted so it is not until 1874 to 1888 that details of sailings are given. These show the dates of departure or arrival at the different ports with an extensive number of footnotes providing extra clarification.

The Pneumatic Posts of Paris - including some extraordinary usages by Bernard Lucas

Paris as with a number of cities built a pneumatic tube system which was opened in 1866 but was not available to the public until 1879 and for which special postal stationery was issued. The article explains the background to the service and illustrates a number of unusual usages eg Hors Limites (beyond the limits), Trouve a la Boite (found in the box), BM (boite mobile or movable box), mail to the suburbs, items that were too large,

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messages sent at a reduced rate instead of telephone calls when various telephone exchanges were flooded in 1927, advice of receipt, registration, postage due, express/airmail, official mail, National Savings Bank mail, 1900 international exhibition, cards for recording details of corpses in the 1884 cholera epidemic in Paris and the centenary celebration in 1966.

West Indies
Paris, France

110 pages B/W illustrations throughout. Card cover. Published 2006
Price £12.50 + postage and packing

ROSSITER POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL VOLUME No. 8: 2008

Contents

The Post Office : the other side of the Counter or what the Customer does not see by Robert Johnson

The article is based on the Stuart Rossiter Trust lecture of November 2006 and describes some of the work and official rules that a postal clerk might have to deal with in the course of a day including letters, parcels, postal and money orders, the savings bank, the telegraph and telephone, insurance, licences, airmails and savings banks. These are profusely illustrated with pictures of forms and of pages from books of postal regulations. The forms are from the Great Britain and many other countries around the world are represented for example a savings form from Southern Rhodesia, a French Service Suspended label concerning nuclear tests in the Pacific, Belgian and French social security forms, a Netherlands authority to collect mail card, an Indian radio licence some of which bear postage stamps.

Great Britain
Australia
USA
France
Belgium
World
Netherlands
East Indies

Netherlands East Indies Postal History 1789 to 1877 by Richard Wheatley

Postal markings were introduced by the old Dutch East Indies Company (VOC) in 1789 and this forms an appropriate point to start to unravel the postal history of the area.

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This comprehensive article traces the routes and postal rates up to 1877 when the Colony joined the General Postal Union.

Both inland mail and mail to overseas destinations are dealt with. From the VOC Company period (1789 -1808), through the French (1808 - 1811) and British (1811 - 1816) Occupations and finally the Dutch Colonial time. Nearly all the pages bear a cover to illustrate a rate or route and there are many tables which provide this information. There is an exhaustive section dealing with the Dutch East Indies Landmail Labels - the Worlds' first Postage Due Stamp!

The considerable bibliography gives testament to the scope of research and translation that has been needed to present this study in English.

110 pages B/W illustrations throughout, one colour plate. Card cover. Published 2005
Price £12.50 + postage and packing