



Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago

(Founded May 1942)

P.O. BOX 596, PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, W.I.

PRESIDENT & BULLETIN EDITOR: MR. JOHN CHAY, 42 ELIZABETH ST., ST. CLAIR, PORT OF SPAIN
TEL: 622-1673

HON. SECRETARY: MR. ROBERT FRANCO, 33 VERBENA RD., VICTORIA GARDENS, DIEGO MARTIN
TEL: 637-3603

PORT OF SPAIN MEETINGS: 6pm second Wednesday every month, St. Mary's College, Frederick St.

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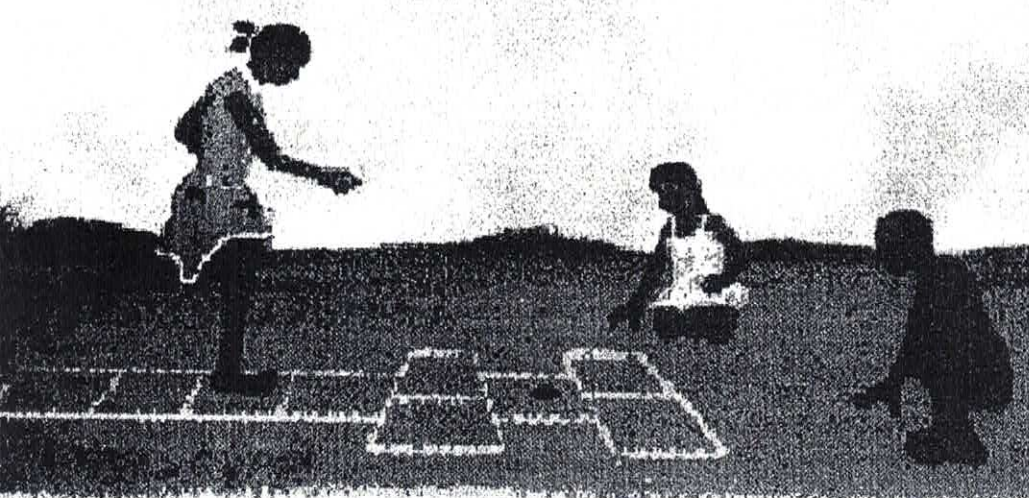
BULLETIN NO. 235

NEW ISSUE NEWS



Trinidad & Tobago Postal Corporation

"Games We Used To Play"



GAMES WE USED TO PLAY FDC

The ninth and final issue released for this year was the 'Games we used to play' on the 29th November. The issue consisted of four stamps: \$ 1 - Driving the rim (an old bicycle rim); \$ 2.50 - Spinning De Top !; \$ 3.75 - Playing 3A; \$ 4.50 - Farmer in de Den. A souvenir sheet was produced with a single \$ 15.00 stamp in it featuring a tyre swing.

The issue was printed by Thomas Greg & Sons de Colombia S.A. Both the paintings and the graphics were done by Troy Rhodes of DesignWise. The FDC's were sold at \$ 19.00 each and the Souvenir Sheets at \$ 15.00 each.

We can look forward to the new issues of 2007 starting in February with Cricket (five stamps and one S/S) and Steelpan Pioneers / Inventors (3 stamps).

Below is a summary of the philatelic calendar 2006.

- 1) 10th April. His Holiness Pope John Paul II - \$ 1.00, \$ 2.50, \$ 3.75, \$ 4.50 and \$ 5.25. Souvenir Sheet with one \$ 15.00 stamp.
- 2) 17th June. International Year of Desert and Desertification - commemorative cover.
- 3) 26th June. First Appearance at FIFA World Cup - \$ 1.00, \$ 2.50, \$ 3.75, \$ 4.50 and \$ 5.25. No Souvenir Sheet was produced. An 'Official Collectors Pack' was on sale.
- 4) 3rd July. Caribbean Single Market and Economy - \$ 1.00, \$ 2.50, \$ 3.75, \$ 4.50 and \$ 5.25. Souvenir Sheet with one \$ 15.00 stamp.
- 5) 18th August. Orchid Society's 50th Anniversary - Souvenir Sheet with one \$ 15.00 stamp. No FDC's were produced.
- 6) 1st September (EKD). Two aerogrammes featuring Orchids.
- 7) 22nd September. Carifesta IX - commemorative cover.
- 8) 11th October. Chinese Arrival Bicentenary - \$ 1.00, \$ 2.50, \$ 3.75, \$ 4.50 and \$ 5.25. Souvenir Sheet with one \$ 15.00 stamp.
- 9) 29th November. Games we used to play - \$ 1.00, \$ 2.50, \$ 3.75 and \$ 4.50. Souvenir Sheet with one \$ 15.00 stamp.

Members who have a Standing Order with the Hon. Secretary, Robert Franco, should be aware that we experience a considerable delay with obtaining our requirements from TTPost. TTPost has a contractor preparing the stamp products for sale. For example, preparing the FDC's involves printing the envelope and brochure, affixing the stamps, printing the cancellation and finally sealing each FDC in a plastic bag. With all the new issues, the contractor may be overwhelmed at times.

With the FIFA issue (26th June), it was several weeks before we received our order. A week later (3rd July), the CSME issue was released but only a very small amount of FDC's were seen on sale for the first few weeks. The International Year of Desert and Desertification cover (17th June) was only placed on sale in mid-August. Faced with these supply problems, we ask our members to be patient.

The FIFA Official Collectors Pack contains the four mint stamps in a clear pocket. Members are advised to place the stamps in stamp mounts such as those made by Hawid or Showgard. The reason is that we do not know what type of plastic was used, what type of adhesive or even the type of paper used for the folder. The wrong type of materials can result in damage to the stamps.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th February 2007 at St. Mary's College, Frederick Street, Port-of-Spain. Nominations are required for all posts for the 2007/8 sessions. Please respond and nominate any member whom you believe could serve well, but please have your nominee sanction their acceptance.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

All ordinary members are reminded that the 2007 dues were due by the 31st December 2006. The 2007 dues for local members are adults \$ 30.00 and juniors \$ 20.00. Please send early. Your dues can be paid either at the meetings or mail it to P.O. Box 596, Port-of-Spain. For our overseas members, the dues are UK £6.00 and all others US \$ 10.00. Please make cheques payable to the Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago. Ordinary members can pay two or more years at a time based on the annual given above. Life membership is TT \$ 300.00 for local members or US \$ 100.00 for the overseas members.

BOOK REVIEW: A PHILATELIC HANDBOOK ON MAHATMA GANDHI

A Philatelic Handbook on Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (Mahatma Gandhi) was written by Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon and edited by Dr. Rajagopalan V. Rajan. This handbook represents the first single source for general information on Mahatma Gandhi in the context of collecting, organizing and exhibiting philatelic material.

Compiled in this work include:

- * Postage Stamps (including provisionals, proofs, varieties, errors, etc.)
- * Commemorative Postal Stationery (postal cards, aerogrammes, prepaid envelopes)
- * Postmarks (slogan cancellations, pictorial datestamps)
- * Historical Correspondence
- * Banknotes, revenue and fisical items
- * Coins, tokens and medals

This book has already been awarded three silver medals. It is simply astonishing the amount of information compiled in this work.

T&T produced an issue in 1970 honouring Mahatma Gandhi. It consisted of two stamps SG # 476 and 377 or Scott # 181 and 182.

The book consists of 326 pages 8 ½ X 11 inches and full colour printing. The cost is US \$ 75.00 plus shipping. Shipping will be significant as it is a large heavy book. We will have a copy of the book at our meetings by June. For more information, please visit: <http://www.topicalphilately.com/gandhi> or send e-mail to: gandhi@topicalphilately.com .

SOCIETY NEWS

Joe Chin Aleong now has a website: www.westindiana.com . He has stamps, covers, etc. on sale. His e-mail address: info@westindiana.com

POSTMARK NEWS

In bulletin # 229/4 we reported the use of the BULK POSTAGE date-stamp in an administrative role. However, recently it has been seen in service as a regular date-stamp. An envelope containing business circulars with the BULK POSTAGE date-stamp on the front was dated 13th September 2006. Another example (Fig. 1) was seen on registered mail from a bank dated March 29, 2006.

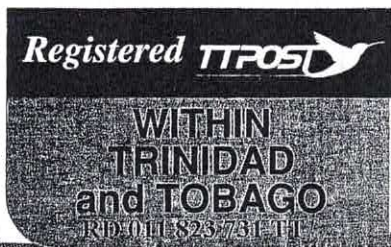
With the old Postal Service, when ten or more pieces of registered mail were submitted by a business place, the procedure was slightly different. The sender would include a list of names and addresses of the recipients. The Post Office would use this list and record the registration numbers (place tracking labels) on the list as the sender's receipt. An individual receipt for each piece of mail was not done. It is believed that the procedure is the same now which resulted in the registered cover (Fig. 1) receiving the 'BULK POSTAGE' date-stamp. This procedure was not done in the front of the Post Office, the mail was carried to the back. The BULK POSTAGE date-stamp in Fig. 1 is slightly different to the date-stamp used in Bulletin #229/4 illustration.

Joe Chin Aleong reports the use of a RETURNED LETTER OFFICE / TTPOST CUSTOMER SERVICE oval date-stamp (Fig. 2). An undeliverable piece of registered mail from abroad was returned to him in it.



THE MANAGER

87 ARIAPITA AVENUE
PORT OF SPAIN



R

REGISTERED

Fig.1: BULK POSTAGE OVAL DATE-STAMP

Est No 21/2006



J. Chin Aleong

P.O Box 4434

St. Annes



WITHIN
TRINIDAD
and TOBAGO
RD 002 606 977 TT

R

Fig.2: RETURNED LETTER OFFICE DATE-STAMP - 'MAR 29 2006'

DR. REUBEN RAMKISSOON COLLECTION AUCTION

Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon, a PSTT Life Member, sold his gold medal collection in December 2006. The auctioneer was H.A. Harmer Auctions S.A., Switzerland. His collection has been in the Championship Class, won many Large Gold Medals and numerous Gold Medals at international exhibitions. The collection can only be described as absolutely spectacular. It contained the crown jewels of T&T philately. The auction catalogue will be on view at our meetings. Ben has sold only his T&T collection to 1900, he kept his post-1900 T&T collection.

Below is one letter from his collection with the auction catalogue description. On the 16th February 1797, a British naval fleet under the command of Admiral Harvey and General Sir Ralph Abercrombie entered the Gulf of Paria. Out-numbered and out-gunned, the Spanish Admiral, Don Sebastian Ruiz de Apodaca set his fleet on fire off Chaguaramas. With the capture of Trinidad, 300 years of Spanish colonial rule ended and the British colonial era which lasted till Independence in 1962 began. This letter, datelined 20th February, contained an eye-witness account of this historic event.



- ☒ 1797 (20 Feb.) H.M.S. "Vengeance" to Falkirk, Scotland, datelined entire letter showing black "Portsmouth/Ship Letter" handstamp, manuscript "1" and "1/1" ratings for 1d Master's gratuity and 1s1d due from addressee, red "AP/1" Bishop's mark; slight paper loss from wax seal removal, Very Fine and early letter

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED LETTERS FROM TRINIDAD DURING THE LATE 1790 PERIOD.

Interesting content, "I am truly happy in the relation of our glorious & unequalled success in the present grand expedition against Trinidad the Vengeance has been left to take care of the bay in which the Ships were burned while the Admiral & General have made the town surrender. It is really pleasant to think that all this mischief has been to the Enemy without much bloodshed all that I hear of it being on(e) Captain in the army being shot by our own Piquet This letter will come to England by Captain Hurst of the Zebra one of my most sincere friends. The Ship we saved from the flames is the St. Thomas a fine 74 those which were burned were an eighty gun ship which bore the Flag, two Seventy Fours & a Frigate".