

Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago

(Founded May 1942)

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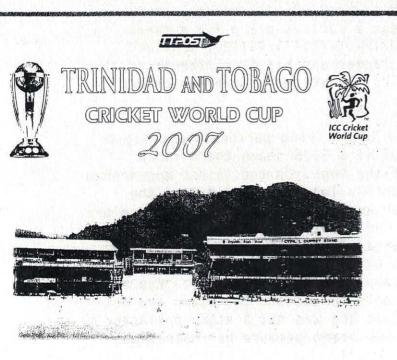
PORT OF SPAIN MEETINGS: 6pm second Wednesday every month, St. Mary's College, Frederick St.

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NEW ISSUE NEWS





CRICKET WORLD CUP 2007 FDC

The first issue released for this year was the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007 on the 15th March. The issue consisted of five stamps all featuring the ICC Cricket World Cup logo: \$ 1.00 - Batsman; \$ 2.00 - Bowler; \$ 2.50 - Bowler; \$ 3.75 - Batsman; \$ 4.50 - Wicketkeeper. A Souvenir Sheet was produced with a single \$ 15 stamp illustrating the ICC World Cup Cricket trophy, a map of the Caribbean and the national flags of the participating countries.

The issue was printed by Cartor's Security Printers and the graphics were done by Troy Rhodes. The FDC's were sold at \$ 19.00 each and the Souvenir Sheets at \$ 15.00 each. A brochure was prepared for the issue.

At the beginning of the year, the cricket issue was uncertain, but TTPost made a tremendous effort and successfully released it in time for the World Cup. The original idea in designing the stamps was to feature past T&T cricketers on the stamps. However, the approach encountered numerous problems relating to copyrights and fees. The final product avoided these problems by featuring players in general, no names.

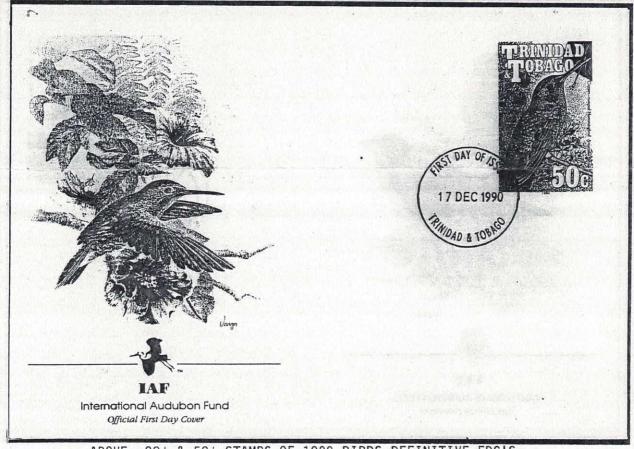
A letter to the editor of the Trinidad Express of 21st March 2006 had a query on the "Games We Used To Play" issue. On the \$ 4.50 stamp was stated a nursery rhyme "Farmer in de Den". The nursery rhyme is of English origin and the "Den" seems a curious place for a farmer to find himself. However, a "dell" (dell/dale/small valley) provided a very likely setting for an English farmer and his farm. Therefore, the rhyme should be "Farmer in the Dell". The writer of the letter was I.Lawrence.

We have been having difficulty identifying persons appearing on recent stamps. On the Pope John Paul II \$ 5.25 stamp there is an unidentified person to the right of the Pope. On the 'First Appearance at FIFA World Cup" issue we can identify local players but on the \$ 2.50 stamp there is foreign player and on the \$ 3.75 stamp there are two foreign players. If any member can identify these persons, please write to the Editor. On this same area of concern, someone contacted the Society sometime ago wanting to purchase a few of the 50c stamp of the Carnival 1978 issue. The 50c stamp featured the costume "Eye of the Hurricane". When asked why she only wanted the 50c stamp and not the complete set, she informed us that she was not a stamp collector but she was only interested in the 50c stamp because her mother was the person wearing the costume!

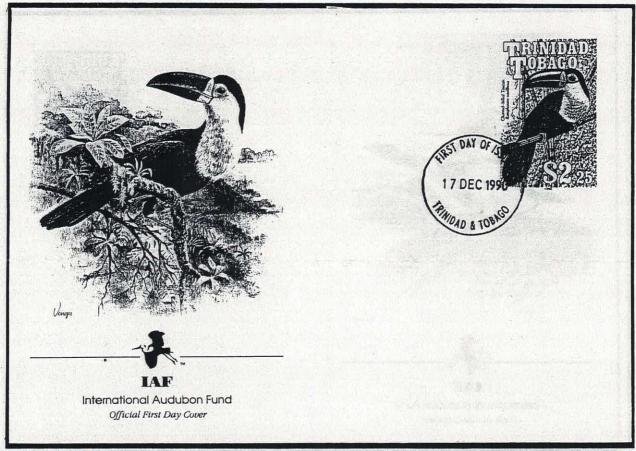
1990 BIRDS DEFINITIVE INTERNATIONAL AUDUBON FUND FDC's

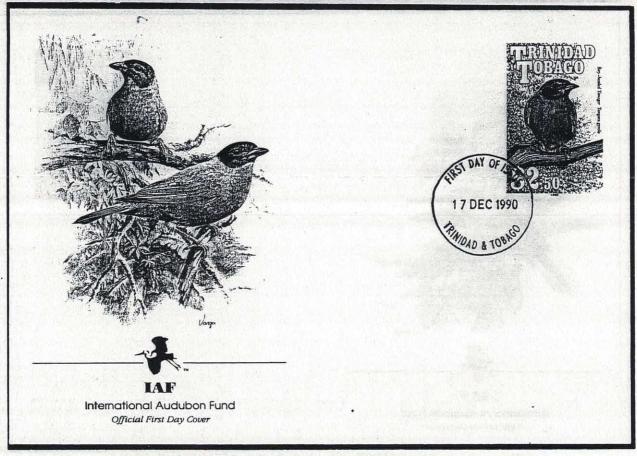
Albert Sydney reported that four stamps of the 1990 Birds Definitive were used to produce FDC's for the International Audubon Fund. The four stamps are the 20c (SG#787/Sc#509), 50c(SG#790/Sc#512), 2.25(SG#793/Sc#515) and 2.50(SG#794/Sc#516). The four FDC's have matching cachets illustrating the birds on the stamps. The four FDC's are from a series 'Birds of the World'. The FDC's were prepared by Fleetwood.





ABOVE: 20¢ & 50¢ STAMPS OF 1990 BIRDS DEFINITIVE FDC'S





ABOVE: \$2.25 & \$2.50 STAMPS OF 1990 BIRDS DEFINITIVE FDC'S

1911 Picture Postcards of Trinidad's Volcanic Island by Edward Barrow

The south of Trinidad is peppered with active mud volcanoes. These are caused by natural gas slowly leaking through underground layers of mud and water. Mud bubbles to the surface and can form distinctive cones. Often, however, the release of gas and mud can be explosive. Members may remember the 1997 Piparo eruption that spewed mud 150 feet in the air and blanketed the area with thick mud.

Such explosions can occur off-shore as well and create new islands. The area of Chatham on the South coast is a particularly active area in this respect. On October 31st 1911, fishermen in this area noticed bubbles rising from the water. This continued until on November 3rd a small island emerged. It was initially thought to be a log washed down by the Orinoco, but by the next day it was clear that it was a new island. On November 4th, Sergeant Wilkey, a police officer from neighbouring Erin, visited the island which was about an acre in size with 20 to 50 foot cone. (The island became known as Wilkey's Land as he was the first person to set foot on it).

Shortly after Sgt. Wilkey's visit the natural gas emanating from the crater caught fire and smoke was seen rising from the island. The sight of smoke filled the local residents with fear so Sgt. Wilkey asked them to all kneel down and pray. At this point a violent eruption shot flames 500 to 1000 feet in the air and the light illuminated the coastal village. Pandemonium ensued with villagers crying "Good Lord save us!" and fleeing inland.

After the explosion, the island was greatly increased in size (about 8.5 acres). The Coastal Steamer which usually moored at Erin stopped at the new island, allowing passengers to visit. (This was SS Kennet; postmark collectors will be familiar with the Coastal Steamer NO. 2 datestamp thought to be used on board.)

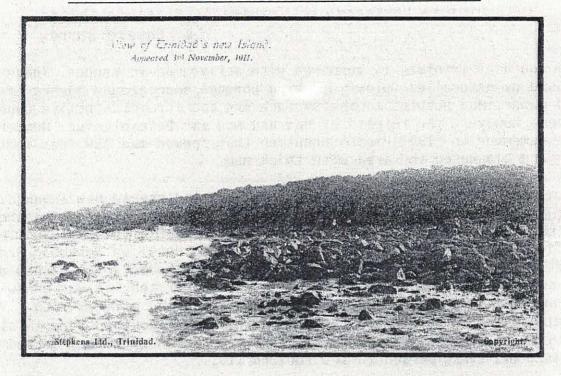
Islands have subsequently appeared in this area since, notably in 1928, 1964 and 2001. They are usually quickly eroded by the sea.

Reference: the Mirror Newspaper 1911.

Editor's update. At the end of July this year, muddy churning waters off Point Radix in Mayaro marked the spot of a growing island. It was an undersea mound, the depth of the sea in that area was reduced from approximately fifty feet (15 metres) to six to ten feet (2 to 3 metres) over the period of a week. Vessels were advised to stay away from this area due to the turbulent waters.

References: Trinidad Guardian / The Daily Express / Newsday 26th to 31st July 2007

1911 PICTURE POSTCARDS OF TRINIDAD'S VOLCANIC ISLAND



PPC: View of Trinidad's new Island. Appeared 3rd November, 1911



PPC: The Crater on Trinidad's new Island. Appeared 3rd November,1911.