



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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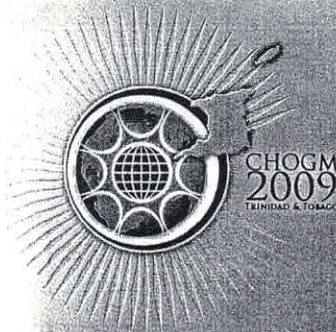
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2009

BULLETIN NO. 247

NEW ISSUE NEWS

TTPOST

Trinidad & Tobago Postal Corporation



OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER
TO COMMEMORATE THE HOSTING OF THE
COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT MEETING
(CHOGM),

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO,
NOVEMBER 27-29, 2009



FIG.1: COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING FDC

The second issue released in 2009 was the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) on the 16th November. The issue consisted of five stamps: \$ 1.00 - International Waterfront Centre, Waterfront Complex; \$ 2.50 - The Home of the Steelpan; \$ 3.75 - Pigeon Point; \$ 4.50 - H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, Chief Emeka Anyaoku of Nigeria, Hon. Kamalesh Sharma of India, Sir Shridath Ramphal of Guyana and Sir Donald McKinnon of New Zealand; \$ 5.25 - Scarlet Ibis. A Souvenir Sheet was produced with a single \$ 15 stamp on it with the CHOGM 2009 logo and the Cenotaph of Memorial Park.



FIG.2: LAUNCH OF THE CHOGM ISSUE. Ms. Nisha Smith (standing) sang at the musical interlude. Seated from left to right: Mr. Sheldon Cyrus, Managing Director, TTPost; Ambassador Luis Alberto Rodriguez, National Coordinator CHOGM; Hon. Mustapha Abdul-Hamid, Minister of Public Utilities; Mr. Anthony Hall, Chairman TTPost; Mr. David Basil, Director TTPost acting in place of Ms. Hazel Galindo-John, Chairman of the Philatelic Committee.

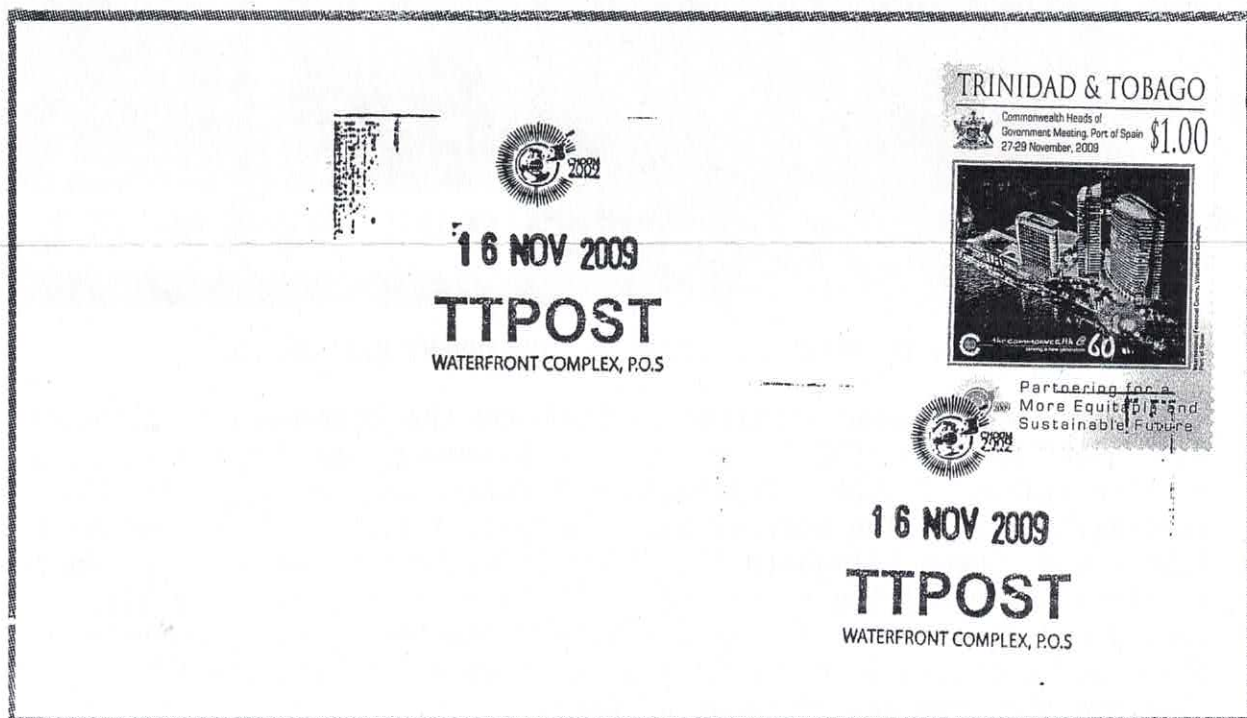


FIG.3: CHOGM CANCELLATION USED AT THE TTPOST BOOTH, CHOGM VILLAGE

The issue was printed by Cartor Security Printers SA, France. The issue was designed by Albert Sydney. The FDC's were sold at \$ 20.00 each and the Souvenir Sheet at \$ 15.00 each. A brochure was prepared for the issue.

The official launch of the CHOGM issue (fig. 2) was held at the new Carlton Savannah hotel, Cascade, on the 16th November. Invited were the media, government & TTPost officials and a few PSTT members. The Master of Ceremonies was Ms. Averline Scott - General Manager, Sales and Marketing TTPost. There were several government ministers and Permanent Secretaries at the ceremony. A musical interlude featured singer Ms. Nisha Smith. It was a wonderful ceremony and it was refreshing that the philatelic part of TTPost's activities was brought to the forefront for these senior government officials. During the speeches many references were made to philately.

At the Waterfront Complex, the ' Village ' which was created for the Summit of the Americas was rebuilt (see Bulletin # 246/2). TTPost had their booth (fig. 4) in the same location as the Summit. It was well stocked with some recent issues. The TTPost booth was in operation from the 14th November to 6th December. The special CHOGM cancellation began use on the 16th November (fig. 3)..

Due to a shipping problem with the printers, only limited quantities of the CHOGM stamps, S/S's and FDC's were available for CHOGM and these were sold only at the village booth. However, by January 2010 all TTPost outlets received their stocks.

T&T hosted the CHOGM in Port of Spain from 27th to 29th November. Approximately 42 Heads of Government attended. H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth opened CHOGM. The Queen previously visited T&T in 1965 (SG # 313/316 & Sc # 119/22) and in 1985. The Queen came to Trinidad on a British Airways aircraft and stayed at the Carlton Savannah hotel. One of the issues on the agenda at CHOGM was climate change. CHOGM's are held every two years and the heads of government meet in an informal retreat setting.

The Central Bank of T&T produced a \$100 banknote to commemorate the CHOGM / 60 years of the Commonwealth 1949 - 2009. Compared to the current \$ 100 notes in circulation, these are only two changes on the front of the note: the CHOGM logo and the words " 60 years of the Commonwealth 1949-2009 ". The back of the note was completely redesigned and featured the Waterfront Complex.



FIG.4: TTPOST BOOTH AT THE CHOGM VILLAGE. TTPost staff from left to right: Ms. Candice Cox-Garcia, Ms. Cheryl Parris-Williams, Ms. Patricia Clare-Gabriel and Ms. Pier Norton-Sealy, Retail Support Officer/Training.



FIG.5: REVERSE SIDE OF THE \$100 CHOGM BANKNOTE WITH \$1 CHOGM STAMP AND CANCELLATION (illustration enlarged).

A unique philatelic / numismatic confluence presented itself at CHOGM. The \$ 100 note and the \$ 1.00 CHOGM stamp both featured the Waterfront Complex and to top it all, TTPost had a CHOGM Waterfront cancellation. Therefore, the PSTT produced a \$ 100 CHOGM note with the CHOGM \$ 1 stamp affixed and cancelled on the first day of issue (see fig. 5). Several of these were done and are available to members only on a first-come basis. The price is TT \$ 120.00 each. Please contact the Hon. Secretary, Robert Franco, if you require any of these \$ 100 notes or CHOGM cancellation covers.

World Post Day 2009 was marked by TTPost with a special cancellation (fig. 6). Mail posted on World Post Day, 9th October 2009, received the cancellation. Sixteen rubber date stamps were made - fourteen were used at the Corporate Offices and two at the National Mail Centre. The date on the date-stamp was not changeable. Selwyn Gomes brought the use of these date-stamps to our attention as it was not publicized. Contact Robert Franco if you require any covers.

The first issue scheduled for 2010 will be the Tenth Anniversary of TTPost January / February. The issue will consist of a Souvenir Sheet with two \$ 10 stamps in it. One stamp will illustrate the old GPO building on Wrightson Road and the new National Mail Centre. The other stamp will illustrate an old P.O. retail counter and a new TTPost retail counter.

The second issue scheduled for release in 2010 will be the Carnival issue. Other issues under consideration are a Children's issue, Anniversaries of Cadet Force and Syrian / Lebanese Community, Flora / Fauna and Festivals.

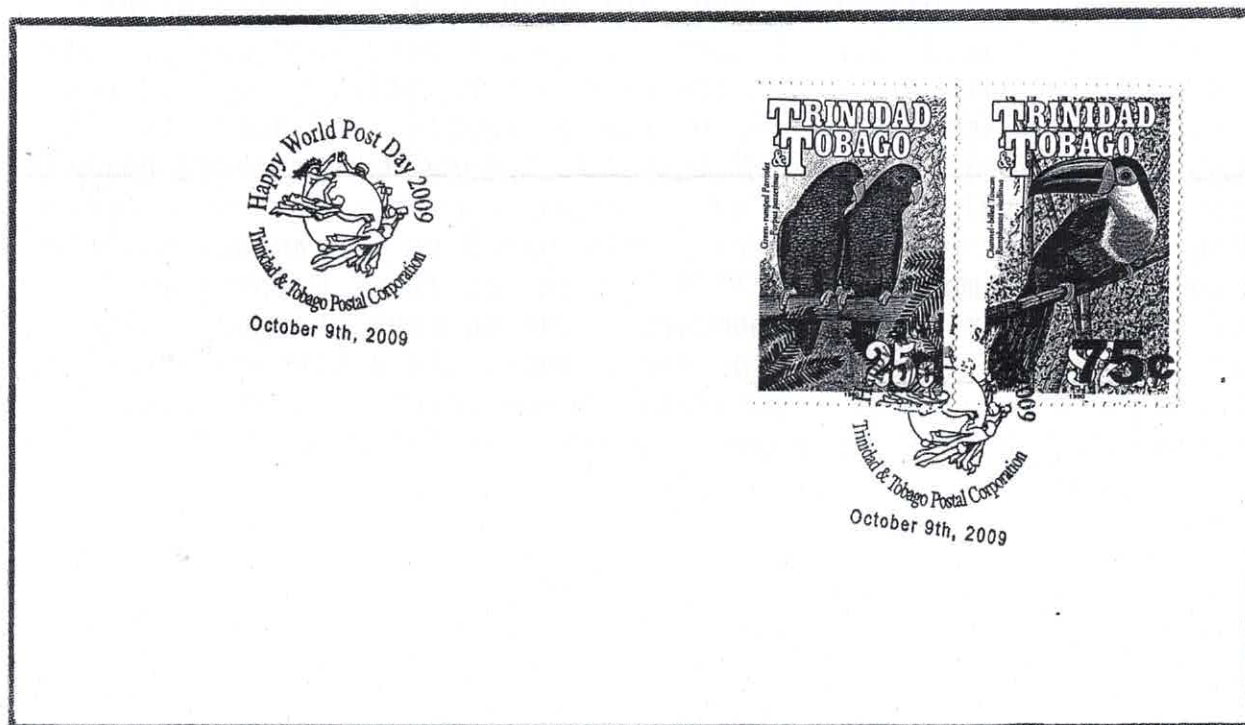


FIG.6: WORLD POST DAY (9th OCTOBER 2009) CANCELLATION

Below is a summary of the philatelic calendar 2009.

- 1) 13th January. Brazilian Porcupine: One Sheetlet containing two sets of four \$ 3.75 stamps. A sheetlet containing four sets of the four \$ 3.75 stamps was not sold by TTPost but was marketed by the I.G.P.C.
- 2) 9th October. World Post Day cancellation.
- 3) 16th November. CHOGM - \$ 1.00, \$ 2.50, \$ 3.75, \$ 4.50 and \$ 5.25 stamps. Souvenir Sheet with one \$ 15 stamp.
- 4) 16th November. CHOGM booth cancellation started.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th February 2010 at St. Mary's College, Frederick Street, Port-of-Spain. Nominations are required for all posts for the 2010/11 sessions. Please respond and nominate any member whom you believe could serve well, but please have you nominee sanction their acceptance.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

All ordinary members are reminded that the 2010 dues were due by the 31st December 2009. The 2010 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 \$ 500.00 for local members or US \$ 150.00 for overseas members. Due to bank charges in T&T, we ask our overseas members to send payment via a bank money order (manager's cheque) or a personal cheque drawn on a USA bank. Please do not make any payment using a Postal Order.