



The **Overprint**

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

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NO MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Editor's Update:

Happy New year to you all.

I had hoped that with this issue we would be celebrating restarting our meetings after a hiatus of two years, However the latest COVID surge has delayed that for one may be two months. So, per a previous email, there will not be a meeting on February 1st.

As we start the new year I will be continuing to issue an Overprint on a bi-monthly basis and would welcome contributions from our members. Otherwise, I will be scouring the internet for articles that might be of interest to all. I trust you are all keeping well and be safe in these snowy, icy days

Does anyone collect Greece. If you do see the last page I have great album to sell.

Mike Bach

RSCC Treasurer's Report:

Current Account: \$ 2,292.63 as of 12/31/2021 : CD \$ 3,156.04 as of 12/31/20

Dues for 2022 are NOW DUE: If you have already sent me a check..Thank You.

IF NOT: Please send check payable to RSCC to my address above as soon as possible.

Many Thanks, Mike

WE ALL FROM TIME TO TIME BUY AN ODD COVER ON A WHIM.
HERE IS ONE COLLECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE ON A PURCHASE THAT I FOUND
INTERESTING

Would you collect this tatty Barbados cover?

Written by [admin](#) Posted in [Barbados Postal History](#)



It really is in quite a sorry state. Creased down the middle from a filing fold and with the wax seals on the reverse long since gone, the cover has seen better days. Add to this the battered corners and general grubby appearance and most people would not look twice at this cover if they saw it in a dealer's box.

So, why did I buy it (because I really did buy it!)?



Well, what first attracted me to the cover was the block of four red/yellow 4d stamps as I have a soft spot for any used multiple. In this case, however, the block of four is intact, with no obvious damage to the perforations and the cancellation, whilst indistinct, means the stamps would be considered to be 'fine used' if they were soaked off the cover. Checking the latest Stanley Gibbons Part 1 catalogue, a single used 4d stamp (SG187) is currently valued at £14, so a block of four logically is £56. SG however also says at the very start of the catalogue section for Barbados, that the on-cover prices for these start from 4 times the value of the used stamp, meaning £244 as a start point. And so far we've only concentrated on the block of four.

Alongside this block is a single outlying stamp; a used copy of the George V [1d overprinted WAR TAX](#). Whilst this stamp has a far more modest used value of 75p, when added to the cover it brings about a whole different perspective.

The overprinted WAR TAX stamp came about in 1917 to support the cost to the Commonwealth of World War 1, by imposing a 1d surtax on all stamps going overseas to countries where the postage rates were 1d per oz (which in practice meant USA and GB). The stamps were only used for a short period, from October 1917 until the Postal Surtax Act 1917 was repealed at the end of March 1920. This means that all postally used copies of this stamp must have been used in a period of just twenty-seven months.

Whilst we cannot clearly make out the dates on the cancels over the Barbados stamps (though the one over the War Tax stamp looks to say 17 JAN 20), there is a tantalising glimpse of a half legible arrival cancel on the back, which suggests it arrived in London on 10th February 1920. This would make the cover an extremely late use of the War Tax stamp and a good example of how they were used, practically in postal history terms.

But if this cover had been cut up and the stamps removed, nothing of this story would remain.

More importantly, we would never know why a cover like this came to be saved in the first place, but as the original addressee is still visible, a little investigation uncovers the fact that Clifford Moss ran The Leeds Stamp Shop at 31 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds and whilst this cover is dated 1920, we know the shop was in existence beyond this as there are examples of his work still being produced in 1953. This one below is courtesy of the wonderful website [GB Cover Collector](#) which has been painstakingly assembled by its owner, Geoff.

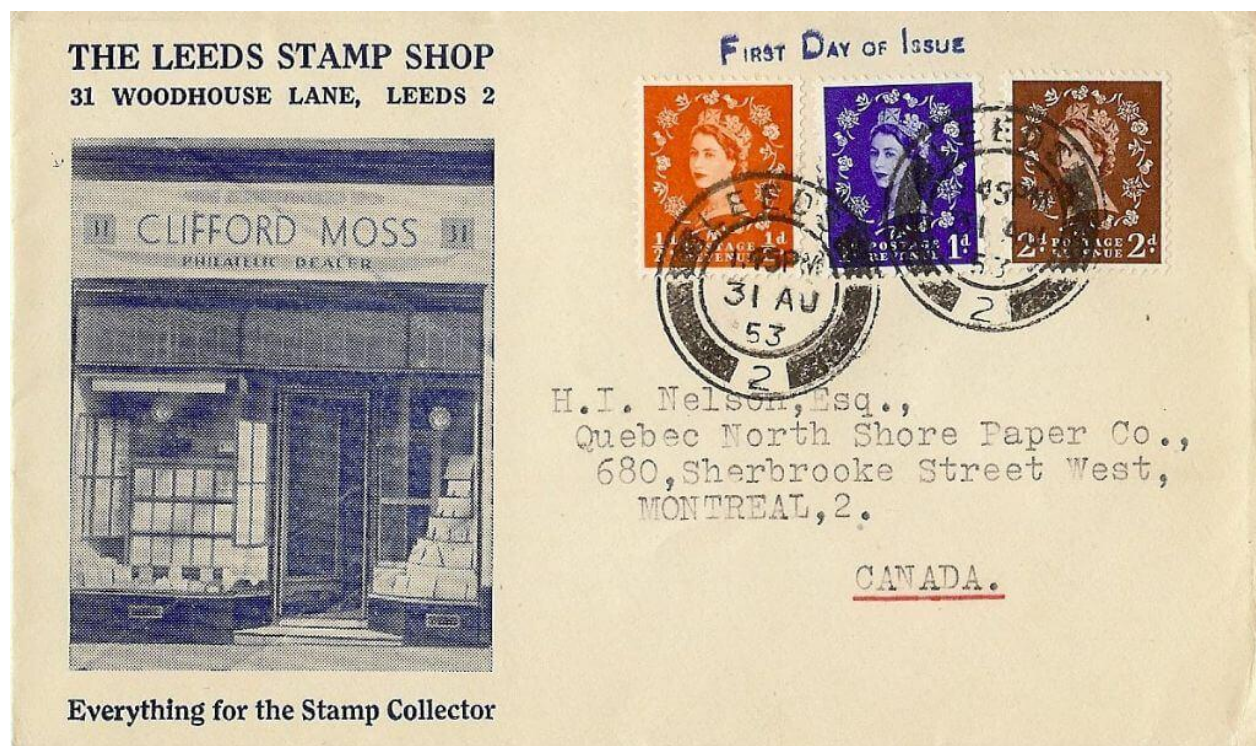


Image used courtesy of <http://gbcovcollector.co.uk/> – copyright remains theirs

The question, therefore, is whether the cover is philatelic or did it really see commercial use, albeit to a stamp dealer in the UK? I would favour the latter explanation, as to create a philatelic registered cover the rate would have been 2d for registration and 1d per ounce thereafter, meaning an empty cover could have been sent (including the War Tax stamp) for less than 6d. Instead, this cover was paid up to 1/5- implying that it contained something that had weight; some mint stamps perhaps?

Whatever your view on the merits of the grubby cover, I saw it as a chance to add a piece of postal history to the collection. Sure, it's probably not worth over £200 but as it didn't cost that in the first place, I'm not bothered. In fact, the value in this cover is not in the stamps, but in the story it tells of Barbados Postal history over 100 years ago.

IF you have a cover like this please share with me and I can include in a future Overprint

And as we are on the topic of Barbados,

[Home](#) / [Barbados Stamps](#) / Happy Independence Day, Barbados! Posted on [November 30, 2020](#)

Happy Independence Day, Barbados!

Today, 30th November 2021 marks 55 years of Barbadian Independence and is a National Holiday in Barbados. It's come a long way since the first year of Independence in 1966/67, where philatelically, it was celebrated with a special stamp issue.



On November 30th 2021 Barbados became a Republic cutting all ties to Great Britain and the Queen.

Below is part of an interesting article concerning the future of Barbadian Postage Stamps

Enquiries to the Philatelic Bureau have established that there are no plans to issue any special commemorative stamps to mark the occasion of the transfer to a Republic and the next new issue is expected to be a new Definitive set, as these are typically issued every five years. The last set, Builders of Barbados, was issued in 2016 so it's about time to replace them.

This brings us to the subject of stamp themes. We know that historically, pretty much all of the output from Barbados has been designed to represent the island to the world and features themes such as Barbados furniture, Bridgetown Synagogue restoration and Chattel houses to name three from the past few years. Will this thematic approach continue? Will Barbados continue to operate a modest issuing policy beloved by collectors and continue to focus on themes central to life on the island? We hope so, as this is part of the charm of collecting Barbados Stamps.

To see how badly this could go, just look at the output from the Grenadines of St Vincent, purely for the collectors market, themes which have nothing to do with the islands and prodigious annual output of high-value stamps which will never be postally used. The stamp catalogue makers treat these as labels and don't give them any catalogue space.

So, will the change to a Republic change the themes? We hope not and we look forward to seeing what the next set of definitives will be, though whatever they are, we are sure they will be integral to the island of Barbados. And as to becoming a Republic? Good luck we say, and as friends, we'll be watching and cheering you on from the sidelines.

STAMP ON STAMPS:

On May 28,2021 Hungary had a unique issue: A Triple SOS...



**They represent two stamps issued in 1973
(Scott: # 2221-8 - Issued: 11.5.1973 - IBRA '73 / POLSKA '73)**

**In turn they represent 2 stamps in a leaflet issued in 1971 (Scott: # B289-92 - Issued:
4.9.1971 – Centenary of Hungarian Stamps, Budapest '71)**



Which in turn represent two stamps issued in 1947 (Hungary # 1068 and Hungary # C196)



Many Thanks to my fellow SOS Collector, Plinio Richelmi in Italy who put this study together.

MY NEXT OFFERING IS:

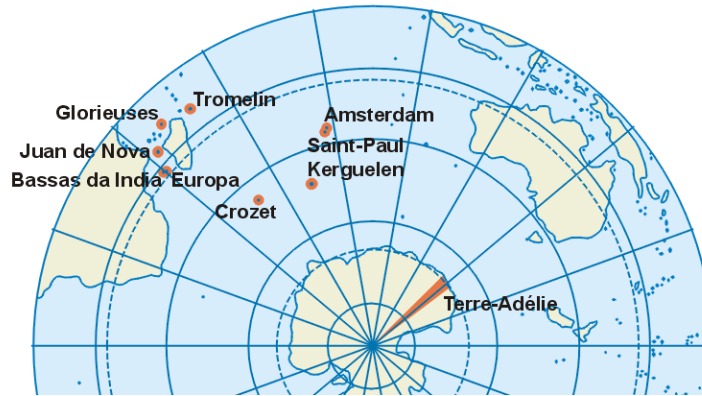
WELCOME TO TAAF 2022

YOU ALL KNOW WHAT TAAF IS AND WHERE IT IS, RIGHT?

WELL, IF YOU DON'T GO TO THE NEXT PAGE

TAAF IS “TERRES AUSTRALES ET ANTARCTIQUES FRANCAIS” OR “FRENCH SOUTHERN LANDS (OR TERRITORIES)”

TAAF is a collection of French owned islands located off the east coast of Madagascar, in the Southern Indian Ocean and a slither of Antarctica



I found this article in <https://bittergrounds.com/taaf-2022-oh-yea> written by CATPAW
January 9th 2022

“French engraving fans rejoice, its time for the TAAF 2022 stamps. Some of the best French designers & engravers return for a dive into the history of the Antarctic. January is a who’s who of French artists from Yves & Sophie Beaujard to Line Filhon and Pierre Barra.

Preparing TAAF is like writing up French stamps, I never know when to stop looking for new information. It’s like summer camp for art and history lovers. So, yea, I kind of nerded out on this page. You’ll need to grab an espresso and settle back for this one. There’s a lot to digest, for such a small issuing office.” Enjoy, *Catpaw*

Here are a selection of the stamps being issued, if you are interested learning more go to the site references above

Claude Pieri (1922 – 2002)



Vice-Admiral, administrator of TAAF from 1982-1987

[Death of Claude Pieri, Vice-Admiral \(lemonde.fr\)](https://lemonde.fr)

Designer/Engraver: Yves Beaujard

Beaujard’s first stamp design was the 1999 *Frédéric Ozanam* for French Post. He is both an engraver and artist.

[Yves Beaujard – Art of Engraved Stamp \(artdutimbregrove.com\)](https://artdutimbregrove.com)

Release date: January 2, 2022

Star Base or Moonrise on the East Island (Crozet)

East Island is part of the Crozet archipelago. It's a large rock about 130 km² (50 sq mi) in size. For those who love looking up coordinates, you can find it here 46°25'S 52°12'E.

Designer: Sophie Beaujard

Sophie's first stamp was the *L'art roman*. She engraved this 2010 stamp which her father Yves Beaujard designed. Beaujard won the Grand Prix de l'Art Philatélique in 2019 for her Montpellier stamp. She designed La Poste's 2021 *Napoleon* stamp and the TAAF 43 *Anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty*.

Release date: January 2, 2022



Shipwreck and Archaeology: the Meridian (Amsterdam Island)



We have to report a most destructive shipwreck, which has occurred on the Island of Amsterdam, whereby the British barque *Meridian*, of and from London to Sydney, and her cargo, have been totally lost. News of the disaster was brought here by the American whaler *Monmouth*, which picked up the whole of her crew and passengers who were on the Island, amounting to one hundred and five in all. We regret to state that her captain, cook, and a Swiss passenger named l'Fau, were drowned.

WRECK OF THE MERIDIAN

Empire newspaper, Tue 13 Dec 1853

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The NLA also has a collection of digitised articles you can look through. They include contemporary newspaper articles

Designer: Claude Jumelet

Jumelet has been designing stamps since 1968. The first one was *Locomotive type PLM 241 A* for Monaco. His most recent stamp was last year's *Clostermann and Roman* for France. Release date: **January 2, 2022.**

Designer: André Lavergne

There are many more stamps described in the article .. all well documents.

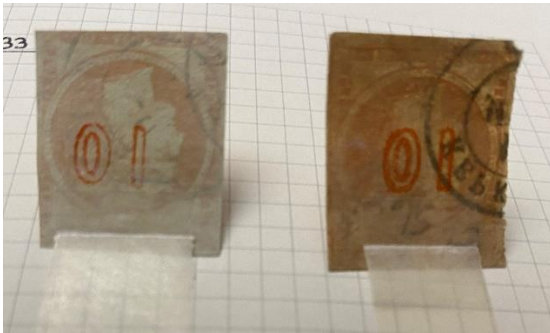
TAAF may make an interesting collection in it's own right.

ANYONE OUT THERE COLLECT GREECE?

I am looking to sell an album of 130 pages with stamps from 1861 through to 1997. There are also 5 pages of Charity Stamps and several pages of Greek Occupation stamps.

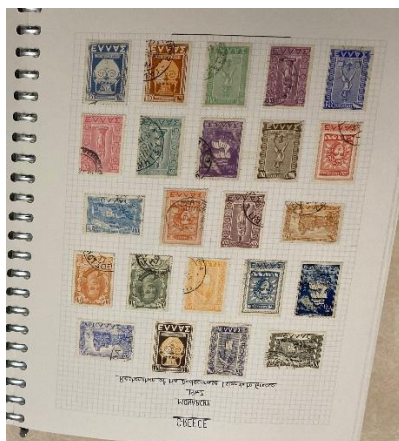
Approx. 1,500 stamps

The first page is a gem and could have some value as several have numbers on the reverse.

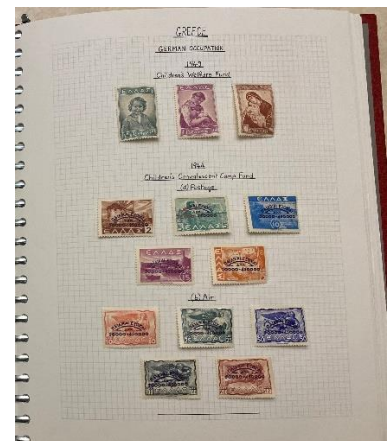


To the left are reverse images of the two orange
10 L

Above upper row to the right



Sample Pages



If interested contact me (Mike Bach) at mbach1@comcast.net