



C.I. popularity confirmed

A recent survey undertaken by the Urch Harris New Issue Service places the stamps of Guernsey and Jersey in their 'Top 20' chart for future investment potential and amongst those 'most worthy of support at the present time.' Jersey attained tenth place, while Guernsey was placed eleventh.

An analysis of the first ten years showed the following results:

Country	New Issue Cost	Cost as at 1 Sept '79	Average Growth per annum
Guernsey	£42.61	£496.28	193.58% p.a.
Jersey	£62.52	£470.02	118.51% p.a.

NOTES:

1. Cost is for one mint copy of every basic stamp issued. No reprints, etc. included.
2. Both percentages quoted are based on simple interest and have been verified by Bristol University.
3. 'Average Growth Per Annum' figures computed after allowing for the fact that stamps issued in 1969 had ten years to mature while those issued more recently have had less time to increase in value.

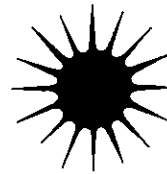
This survey has confirmed my belief that modern Channel Island stamps are not only most attractive but have also been a worthwhile investment. In fact Guernsey was second only to one country in the British Commonwealth (Tuvalu) in its average growth, while Jersey was sixth.

London 1980

Collectors of Jersey first day covers were given a rare insight into the printing of the envelopes at the London 1980 International Stamp Exhibition last May. Questa Colour Security Printers Limited (The House of Questa), were running-off sheets of the recent 60th Anniversary of the Jersey Motor-Cycle and Light Car Club commemorative issue.

The envelopes were printed in sheets of two on a single colour Heidelberg U.K. printing press using white paper stock. The black colour was applied first and was used for all the lettering (including a Questa 'balloon' symbol and 'The House of Questa' imprint), the outline of the club badge and guillotine guide lines. The design was finished off by the addition of red to the club badge on the second run through the machine.

On return to the Questa printing plant, the sheets were guillotined into singles, folded, gummed and made-up into envelopes and despatched to Jersey for the task of affixing sets, hand cancelling and posting to the thousands of collectors throughout the world on the day of issue.



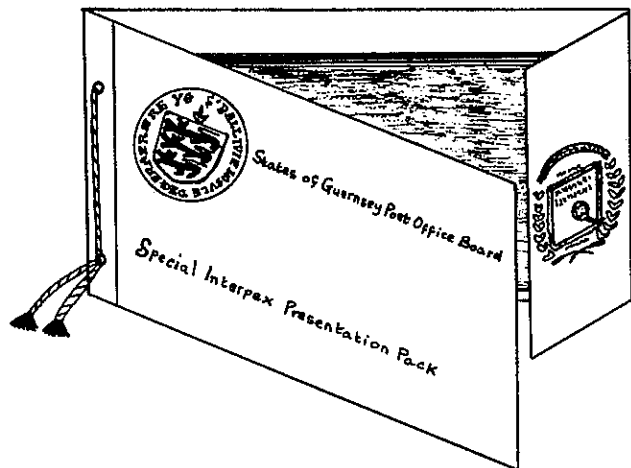
Commentary

Interpex presentation pack

To celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of Interpex, the Guernsey Post Office prepared a folder that was given away to purchasers of standard presentation packs.

On the opening day (9th March 1973), the folder contained the Decimal Currency Definitives ½p-4p, 5p-9p and 10p-£1, Guernsey Wild Flowers (together with the descriptive card insert and 5p Bull stamp), Silver Wedding 1972, Guernsey Mail Boats Second Series and the Postage Due Labels presentation packs. The final two days (10th and 11th March) saw the inclusion of the Guernsey Mail Boats Second Series

pack only. A print order of 500 was placed with the Guernsey Press Company Limited but only 300 were given away. The remainder were not taken back to Guernsey.



The folder measures 227mm x 159mm and is printed in green on white card stock. The cover bears the inscription 'States of Guernsey Post Office Board / Special Interpex Presentation Pack' and has the Bailiwick seal at top left. It is two hole punched at standard 80mm centres and has a white silk cord keeping the packs together.

Santa Mail

I am writing this article in early December in order to send it to the editor in good time for the printing deadline and am in the process of writing my Christmas cards. This reminds me that every year since 1974 the Jersey Post Office have replied to letters sent to Father Christmas by local children with a special card and cancellation.

The 1974 card measures 228mm x 150mm and is folded vertically. The front depicts Father Christmas in his night shirt and hat, carrying a candle and is printed in yellow, brown, black and red. The inside is 'handwritten' and printed in black. The cancellation was struck in red and showed Father Christmas. Apparently a mere seventy two cards were despatched

from *Santa's Grotto* (otherwise known as Postal Headquarters).

In 1975 a similar sized card depicting Father Christmas about to descend a chimney with a child looking out from a neighbouring house was used. Printing was in red, black, blue and yellow and the inside was once more 'handwritten' in black. The same cancellation as 1974 was utilised.

For 1976 a card depicting Father Christmas on a goose sleigh full of toys and pulled by a reindeer was used. Printing was in black, red, yellow and blue with a black 'handwritten' interior. A cancellation showed an owl on a branch of a tree.

Unfortunately I have been unable to acquire specimens of the 1977-1980 cards and cancellations but it is hoped that the foregoing will be of interest.

Jersey reflector badges

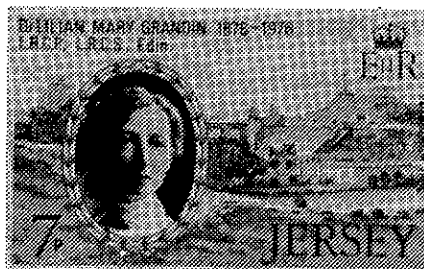
Since the first C.I. *Commentary* appeared, further details have emerged about these badges. Apparently the slogans are the result of a road safety competition organised through the English newspaper, *The Sunday Mirror*. I have since seen another four slogans. They are:

GLOW FIRST CLASS WITH JERSEY STAMPS
GLOW AHEAD BUY JERSEY STAMPS
WISE AND SHINE WITH JERSEY STAMPS
GLOW MAN GLOW WITH JERSEY STAMPS



Unadopted artwork

The five photographs reproduced are unadopted designs submitted by Gordon Drummond for the 1976 issue from Jersey commemorating Dr Lilian Grandin. The issued stamps were, of course, designed by Jennifer Toombs.



... **And, briefly:**

A Guernsey Post Office Guide made its appearance on 2 February 1970 priced at 2/6d (12½p). A second edition appeared on 15 February 1971 priced at 15p and a third edition in the middle of 1973. It ceased publication after this edition because it has become uneconomic to produce. The British Post Office Guide is now used with a suitable supplement detailing specific Guernsey rates.

An unofficial postal service operates in Guernsey. *Apology For Absence* forms from members of the States Committees are marked with a printed inscription. Pink forms are inscribed 'Postage Will Be Paid On Delivery To The States Office,' and blue forms 'Postage Will Be Paid On Delivery To The States Office Annexe.' Some forms are delivered without surcharge but most carry postage due labels for double the deficiency.

On 4 August 1974 a special handstamp was due to have been used in conjunction with the visit of *M.V. Kungsholm*, a Swedish liner, but owing to bad weather the visit was cancelled. One cover exists.

An ungummed proof of the Jersey 9d airletter form exists with uncut corners ... One sheet of the Jersey 1969 1d postage due label was discovered with the first vertical row of ten stamps having double perforations half way across each stamp.

After postal independence in Jersey, the surrender of Great Britain stamps for cash was permitted for a while. For every £1 face value returned customers received 85p, the other 15p being an administrative charge. During January 1970, 7,500 letters and parcels were still going through the Jersey sorting office bearing stamps of Great Britain. Hence the offer to repurchase.

For Expo '73 and Interpex '73 (in the USA), the Jersey Post Office provided a special envelope and cachets. The envelope shows a picture of Mont Orgueil castle by day and a map of the Channel Islands taken from the definitive issue. It is in sepia and has 'Jersey Visits the USA, 1973' and the Jersey Crest in red. The Interpex cover has a ½p or 1p stamp whilst the Expo one has a 4p and 5p stamp affixed. Very few were sold and only two hundred were purchased by a British dealer.

Three sizes of labels were printed by the States of Jersey Greffe for use on mail bearing stamps of post-independent Southern Rhodesia. They take the following form:

SOUTHERN RHODESIAN STAMPS

The States of Jersey has announced that stamps issued in Rhodesia of the kind used on this postal packet have no legal basis. The packet is accordingly surcharged.

The old red GPO label was used occasionally, as was the 'Stamp Invalid' marking. When the ban was lifted some letters received in September 1970, had the postage dues cancelled with the 'GPO Charge Not Collected / Fresh Label Required' with an 'X' in the centre.

Channel Islands Postal History

GUERNSEY

1844 Free Pardon for Thomas Fossey, convicted of assault in G. Very fine document signed by Queen Victoria at head £80

JERSEY

c1817 cover to Guernsey; on front, a superb Jersey scroll, type 1, SG JC4. Packet rate 1/2. Photo £210

1855 specially prepared envelope by the British Board of Trade for the Paris Universal Exhibition, to Jersey bearing French 40c, SG 64, superb. Very scarce £210

1858 fascinating entire from Paris to Elbeuf bearing French 20c. The item became entangled in the folds of a newspaper addressed to Jersey. On arrival, both items were delivered and the entire was opened, a note added to the foot of the original letter explaining the circumstances and a GB 4d SG 66 generously added directly on top of the 20c. It was then re-posted to Elbeuf. Various transit marks. Unusual £150

These are some of the items from our recent GB postal history list. It is free on request.



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