

First Issues

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The First Issues Collectors Club promotes the collection of the first postage stamps issued by any nation, province, city or other entity that has, at any time, issued postage stamps, and facilitates the exchange of information about these issues among stamp collectors.

First Issues (ISSN: 1547-2299), the official newsletter of the First Issues Collectors Club, is published quarterly. Submissions are welcome from members and others interested in the collection of first issues.

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Editor's Musings

I have received more email from or about the FICC web site in the last few months than I have for a long time. Two emails were from non-members who found the site and sent questions to me. These are shown in the Mail Bag section on page 2.

The other emails were from an FICC member who had recently accessed the web site and found it "lacking" (my word, not his). The emails stated, "the forum is no longer working. Reviewing the web site, it appears the auction has not been in operation for almost a year. ... Also, when I click on the newsletter, I see a summary of each article. How do I actually open the full newsletter? By the way, it too is dated 2013, but I assume it is really 2014. ... I appreciate the extensive lists of first issues [in the Catalog section]; does the club have them available in an alphabetical sort. If not, are these lists available in Excel files, so one can create his own alphabetical list for want list and inventory purposes?"

Regarding the FORUM: I explained that I do not see this being reinstated in the near future – but I would like feedback from the membership. Does this on-line question/answer service have enough general interest to put effort into reviving it. Or is simply sending an email to me (and I will attempt answering it) sufficient? Let me know.

Regarding the Auction and Newsletter summaries: These were posted on the web site as an experiment to attract new members to FICC (web visitors had to join FICC to bid in the Auctions or to get the full Newsletters), After updating this several times without attracting new members, I stopped the quarterly updates in early 2013. Nick has recently posted notices on these pages to indicate they are no longer active.

Regarding an alphabetical listing of #1s: The list on the web was done chronologically to make updating easier as new countries are formed. I shared an alphabetical Word list (from Edo Rajh) as well as my personal Excel spreadsheet of #1s. Would placing an alphabetical list of #1s (without detailed data) interest members? Again, let me know if it is (or isn't).

Tim Balm

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Bits & Pieces

Miscellaneous

Article Accuracy: *First Issues*, the editor, and other officers of the FICC cannot be responsible for accuracy or originality of any information printed herein. Opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by *First Issues*, the FICC or its officers.

Articles Wanted: Articles, letters, comments, suggestions, album pages or anything else connected with collecting first issues are always needed. Send your copy to the editor (e-mail address on front page, postal address shown in the return address on outer cover). To be included in V22N3, articles must be received prior to May 15, 2014.

Membership Directory: Members may obtain a free FICC Membership Directory by sending a SASE (No 10 envelope with 1 ounce US postage) to our Secretary. You can also request the Directory via e-mail as an Excel spreadsheet (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

Back Issues: Back issues of the newsletter are available from the Secretary for \$7.00 per volume or \$2.00 for single issues. Electronic copies are available on a CD-ROM for \$10.00. Refer to the web site (www.firstissues.org) or contact the Secretary for more information (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

Article Index: An index to the articles in *First Issues* from 1990 (V1, N1) to date is available. For a hard copy, send your request to Tim Balm (contact information is on page 1).

Bylaws: A copy of the FICC bylaws is available on the web site (www.firstissues.org). These were last printed in *First Issues* V18, N4.

Mail Bag

Web Site Contact - #1

I want to find the magazine article mentioned in a post [in the Forum section of the FICC web site] on June 18, 2005 about Chinese Treaty Ports. ... Could you direct me to [the cited] article?

> Elizabeth Heeren, APS member Email: December, 2013

[Editor: Although the Forum section of the web site has not been used since the site crashed in 20xx, Elizabeth found the posting via a Google search. It was my post, and I had mis-referenced some information as coming from Linn's Stamp news when it really came from Global Stamp News. I extended an invitation to join FICC, but Elizabeth was interested only in Chinese Treaty Ports, not First Issues.]

Web Site Contact - #2

I am a Masters student in History at the University of Malaysia, Penang. I am writing my final chapters on "History of Malaysian Philately". I have quoted from your page http://www.firstissues.org/ficc/catalog/catalog01.html. I have seen several names on the website. May I know whose name I should choose to put in my footnote of my dissertation. Please assist me at your earliest time convenient as I have to submit my dissertation on the 21st January this month. Your assistance and guidance in this matter is highly appreciated. Thank you.

> Kartini Keyan, Malaysia Email: January, 2014

[Editor: I replied providing Ms. Keyan with a footnote reference that did not include names]

Secretary's Report

Membership News: Two new members joined and one former member re-joined FICC since the last Newsletter went to press.

- George Cvejanovich, Jr, FICC #247, Miami Shores, FL, USA
- John Flanagan, FICC #248, Herndon, VA, USA
- Stephen Olson, FICC #228, San Francisco, CA, USA

Welcome George and John; welcome back Stephen.

2012 FICC Financial Report

Opening Balance 1-Jan-2012	\$3,680.08
Income	
Dues	\$558.00
Auctions #69-75	\$489.38
Donations	\$138.98
Back Issues/CDs	\$10.00
Total Income	\$1196.36
Expenses	
Newsletter Printing/Postage (V21N1-4)	\$581.52
Web Hosting/Domain Renewal	\$95.40
PayPal/Miscellaneous	\$3.74
Total Expenses	\$680.66
Ending Balance 31-Dec-2012	\$4,195.78

FICC S.

The First Issues of Buenos Aires – Revisited

Not long after I sent the V22N1 edition of *First Issues* to the printer, I received the December 2013 issue of *American Philatelist*. I immediately saw the article by Enrique Setaro on page 1128 entitled THE BARQUITOS STAMPS OF BUENOS AIRES. This is a great companion article to THE FIRST ISSUES OF BUENOS AIRES by Louis Laflamme in V22N1. If you are interested in collecting these Buenos Aires issues, I suggest you read both articles.

FICC >>

Largest and Smallest BOB#1s

As follow-up to Nick Blackburn's, FICC #175, request for the (physically) largest and smallest #1s, Nick has also requested any information regarding the largest and smallest "Back of the Book" #1s.

- For the largest airmail #1, Nick has tentatively identified the Grenada Sc#C1 as the largest overprinted and St. Lucia Sc#C1 as the largest non-overprint.
- For the largest semi-postal (charity stamp), he has identified Falkland Islands Sc#B1 and New South Wales Sc#B1 as candidates.
- For officials, Montserrat Sc#O1 has surfaced as a candidate.
- Nothing of consequence has been identified for Postage Dues, or any other category.

If you can help Nick with this endeavor, please contact him (or me). E-mail information is on page 1.

FICC >>

Scientific Methods Used in Stamp Collecting

For the more technically inclined members... The January 6, 2014 issue of Linn's Stamp News had an article describing a publication entitled *Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately*. The Proceedings are available as a free download (pdf file) using a link on the National Postal Museum's web site (www.postalmuseum.si.edu) under the RESEARCH tab. I downloaded the file and found the articles highly technical. Two intrigued me more than the others. The first was *A Scientific Analysis of the First Issues of Chile*. The other was *Statistical Estimates of Rare Stamp Populations*. These are not for the casual reader. Because I spent my "pre-retirement career" evaluating drug effectiveness and safety (with great efforts in identifying 'rare' drug side effects), I found the latter article most interesting. If anyone wants more information about this free download, feel free to contact me, Tim Balm (contact information on front page).

FICC >>

A "Stamp for Every Country" Album

Les Citrome, FICC #185, sent an email to me with an interesting link to something else on the National Postal Museum web site – a "Stamp for Every Country" album from the William H Gross Stamp Gallery at the Smithsonian Postal Museum. In broad strokes, the album pages are laid out by geography (N. America, S. America, Europe, etc.) with existing countries prominently displayed and "preceding countries" listed adjacent to the current country. This layout gives a great orientation of how countries are linked together through history.

Les asked me whether I thought it could be adapted to a #1 album. Unfortunately, the 132-page album (a free download) is in pdf format which is difficult to edit without the full Adobe program software – which I do not have.

As an alternative, I can envision creating an MS Word document with pages laid out identically to the NPM album. The Word document would contain information regarding the #1 stamps and formatted so that it could be printed on top of the pre-printed album pages to create the customized #1 album Les suggested.

I see this task taking a year or longer to do using "spare time". Given this, it is not something I could undertake. However, if anyone is interested in this project, let me know (Tim Balm, contact information on front page). I would love to collaborate on it.

FICC >>

Shahpura Exhibit Pages

By Sandeep Jaiswal, FICC #225

Shown on the next few pages are scans of 3 pages from my exhibit on the India Feudatory State of Shahpura. Figure 1 contains the background and introduction to this State. Figures 2 and 3 show covers and stamps from this State. Although not listed (yet) in the Scott Catalogues, this is very interesting material. This article wraps up the series of three articles on the India States Exhibits previously published in V21N2 and V21N3.

SHAHPURA - A newly discovered stamp issuing Indian Princely State

Background:

The September 1962 issue of India Post, Journal of the India Study Circle, made headline news when it reported the discovery of adhesives issued by the Indian Princely State of "Shahpura". Prior to this article by Mr. P.M. Medora, the philatelic world was unaware of the existence of a Shahpura State run Postal System let alone postal adhesives.

Scope & Purpose:

This exhibit is an attempt to display an in-depth study of the Franks & Adhesives (both Postal and Postal Fiscal as well as the exceptional postal use of Court Fee adhesive) issued and used by the State from it's postal inception to it's closure. This exhibit excludes philatelic material used to and from the Imperial (British) Post Office at Shahpura City with the exception of two combination covers that were handled by both the State and the Imperial Postal System in Shahpura.

History & Geography:

Shahpura came into existence in 1629 when Sujan Singh received from the Emperor Shah Jahan, as a reward for services, a grant of the Pargana (district) of Phulia. Sujan Singh changed the name of the district to Shahpura to please his benefactor. Shahpura is located in the Rajputana Agency (now Rajasthan State). Shahpura was a comparatively small state both in size (405 square miles) and population (54,233 in 1931). The Capital of the State was Shahpura City. There were 133 villages in the State of Shahpura.

Philatelic History:

The Imperial (British) Post operated just one post office at the State Capital (Shahpura City) from 1830's to 1947 when India gained it's independence. Other towns, villages and remote areas could not avail the postal services of the Imperial Post.

The State operated an elaborate postal system within it's boundaries initially for the purpose of transmitting Official Correspondence, which traveled for free. It is now believed, based on the existing examples of covers, that the State post started in 1870's and not in 1890's as was previously presumed by philatelic students of Shahpura. Private mail was accepted for transmission within the State boundaries for a fee of 1 pice (prepaid in cash) irrespective of size and weight. The prepayment of this fee at the time of dispatch was compulsory. Four types (two discovered by Exhibitor) of seals (Franks) were used during the pre-adhesive period.

Adhesives were issued in 1914 and the pre-stamp seals (Franks) were now used as a canceller.

Manuscript cancellations, incorporating date, initials of the authority and the place of posting, generally replaced the use of postmarks, obliterators and prestamp seals (Franks) as canceller by 1920's when the postal rates were increased from 1 pice to 1 anna (3 pies = 1 pice; 4 pice = 1 anna; 16 annas = 1 Rupee).

The State of Shahpura was incorporated into the State of Rajasthan on 15 April 1948. All unused remaining adhesives were ordered to be handtamped "RAJASTHAN". These remainders with handstamps were valid for use within the state of Shahpura until ordered by the Indian Government to close it's postal system on 1 April 1950.

Exhibit Layout:

- · Pre-adhesive Frank type 1
- Pre-adhesive Frank type 2
- Pre-adhesive Frank type 3
- Pre-adhesive Frank type 4
- 1914 1 pice Adhesive
- · 1917 1 pice Adhesive
- 1920 1 pice Adhesive
- 1928 1 anna Adhesive
- 1930's 1 anna Postal / Fiscal adhesive Die I (Perforated)
- 1930's 1 anna Postal / Fiscal adhesive Die I (Pin-Perforated)
- 1940's 1 anna Postal / Fiscal adhesive Die II
- Court Fee adhesive used for postage
- · Shahpura adhesive validated for use in Rajasthan
- Postage Due Seals

Highlights of the Exhibit:

- Only known example of the Pre-adhesive Frank type 1
- 1 of 2 known examples of the Pre-adhesive Frank type 2
- · 2 of 7 recorded examples of the 1914 1 pice adhesive on cover
- · Only known unused example of the 1917 1 pice adhesive
- · 2 of 5 recorded examples of the 1917 1 pice adhesive on cover
- Only known unused example of the 1920 1 pice adhesive pair
- 1 of 3 recorded examples of the 1920 1 pice adhesive on cover
- · 3 of 5 recorded examples of the 1930 1 anna adhesive on cover
- The only 2 recorded Br. India / Shahpura combination covers
- 1 of 5 recorded examples of the 1930's 1 anna pin-perf adhesive on cover
- 1 of 3 recorded tete-beche block/4 of the 1930's 1 anna adhesive on cover
- 1 of 2 recorded Shapura Court Fee adhesives on cover
- 2 of 3 recorded usage of the "Postage Due" seals

Figure 1 (65%): Introduction & Background to the State of Shahpura.

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Shahpura Exhibit (continued from page 4)



Figure 2 (75%): Two Shahpura covers showing the first issued stamp.

Continued on page 6.

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Shahpura Exhibit (continued from page 5)



Figure 3 (75%): Shahpura stamp and covers showing the 2nd stamp issued.

Auction #77

Welcome to FICC Auction #77. <u>The auction closes on April 30, 2014</u>; bids received that after will not be considered. Please read descriptions carefully; lots occasionally have very similar descriptions. If you have questions, please contact me. Also, I will email scans of any specific lots you wish to see.

AUCTION RULES

- 1. Highest bid wins. In the event of tie bids, earliest postmark or email date stamp breaks the tie. Bid what you are willing to pay; winning bids are rarely reduced.
- 2. Auctioneer reserves the right to reject unreasonable bids. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Auctioneer's decisions are final.
- 3. All lots are sold "as is" without warranty by auctioneer or FICC. In case of a dispute, the auctioneer will contact the seller and provide the name of the buyer and nature of the dispute to allow direct settlement.
- 4. An expertizing policy exists for lots with a realized price of \$75 or more (contact auction manager for details).
- 5. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold. The fee will be split between the seller and the buyer.
- 6. Shipping charges are added to buyer's total. Lots will be mailed using normal USPS rates. Winning lots totaling more than \$200 will be insured, certified or registered.
- 7. Payment may be requested before shipment.
- 8. Bidding in this auction constitutes agreement to these rules.

SUBMITTING BIDS

Submit bids by email (Auctions@firstissues.org) or postal mail (Tim Balm, 5580 Senour Drive, West Chester, OH, 45069-1135, USA). If you are submitting bids by postal mail, you can (1) enter your bids on the bid sheet on page 11 and mail that, or (2) you can place your bids on a separate sheet of paper giving lot number, description, and the amount you wish to bid. Please include your name, FICC#, and address. Phone bids are not accepted.

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	<u>#1s</u>				
<u>Lot</u>	Description	CV	Min Bid	<u>Your Bid</u>	Lot
1	Antigua Sc#1 mint-regummed f/vf	\$ <u>950</u> .00	\$200.00		1
	[APS cert states a crease, but is not seen]				
2	French West Africa Sc#1-3 mh vf	\$6.00	\$2.50		2
3	Fujeira Sc#1-7 used(cto) f/vf	\$1.75	\$0.80		3
4	Gibraltar Sc#1-2 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$15.00	\$6.00		4
5	Gibraltar Sc#1-2, 4 used(m-cxl) avg-f/vf	\$19.25	\$5.75		3 4 5 6
6	Gilbert & Ellice Sc#1-7 mh f/vf [#1-4 appear mnh]	\$203.50	\$85.00		6
7	Gold Coast Sc#1 (perf 12.5) mng f/vf [3mm thin at bottom]	\$550.00	\$110.00		7
8	Great Brit - Eritrea Sc#1-13 mlh f/vf [some mnh, #9 used]	\$62.55	\$25.00		8
9	Greenland Sc#1 mnh f/vf [mnh is approx 2.5 x mh]		\$0.25		9
10	Greenland Sc#1 mlh f/vf	\$0.30	\$0.10		10
11	Greenland Sc#1-5 mlh f/vf	\$10.55	\$4.25		11
12	Greenland Sc#1-7 used(I-cxI) f/vf	\$23.30	\$10.50		12
13	Grenada Sc#1 used(I-cxl) avg	\$50.00	\$17.50		13
14	Guinea Sc#168 mlh f/vf	\$3.00	\$1.20		14
15	Guinea Sc#168-69 mnh f/vf	\$6.50	\$3.00		15
16	Guinea Sc#168-69 mlh f/vf	\$6.50	\$2.60		16
17	Liechtenstein Sc#1-3 mlh vf	\$212.50	\$95.00		17
18	Mozambique Sc#1 mng f/vf [paper adh]	\$2.00	\$0.60		18
19	Norfolk Isl Sc#1-4 (white paper SG#1a-4a) mhr vf-f/vf	\$120.00	\$42.00		19
20	Russia - Off in Turk Emp Sc#1 mng hr close margins	\$375.00	\$125.00		20
	[signed Jemtschoujin, Schlesinger]				
	Change of Governmen	t #1s			
21	Austria Sc#405-31 (Styria) mh f/vf	\$380.90	\$150.00		21
22	Cameroun (Fed Rep) Sc#343-51+51a, C38-40+38a,	\$305.50	\$125.00		22
	39a-b,40a (17 stamps) mvlh f/vf	φοσο.σο	ψ120.00		
23	France #475 (AMG) mnh f/vf (formerly Sc#2N1)	\$0.35	\$0.10	. <u></u>	23
24	France Sc#475-76H + 523A-J (AMG, frmly 2N1-20) mhr f/vf	\$50.55	\$17.50		24
25	Gr Brit - Guernsey Sc#8 (Bailiwick) mnh f/vf [corner selvage]	\$0.25	\$0.10		25
ontinued	on nago 8				

Continued on page 8

Mail Bid Auction 77 (continued from page 7)

Change of Government #1s (cont'd)

Lot	Description	<u><u>CV</u></u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	Lot
26	Gr Brit - Guernsey Sc#8 (Bailiwick) mnh f/vf [vert pair]	\$0.50	\$0.20		26
27	Gr Brit - Guernsey Sc#8-23 (Bailiwick) mnh f/vf	\$47.50	\$21.40		27
28	Gr Brit - Isle of Man Sc#12-27 (Bailiwick) mnh f/vf	\$10.50	\$4.75		28
29	Gr Brit - Jersey Sc#7 (Bailiwick) used(I-cxI)	\$0.25	\$0.10		29
30	Greece Sc#249 (Venezilest) mhr f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15		30
31	Grenada Sc#237-40 (Statehood) mlh vf	\$1.00	\$0.45	<u> </u>	31
32	Guadeloupe Sc#27 (1st with non-overprinted name) mnh f	\$1.40	\$0.55		32
33	Guyana Sc#20 (1st non-overprinted name) used(I-cxI) f/vf	\$0.30	\$0.10		33
34	Guyana Sc#106-9 (Republic) mnh vf	\$1.00	\$0.50		34
35	Guyana Sc#106-9 (Republic) mnh vf [pairs]	\$2.00	\$0.95		35
36	Kuwait Sc#72-81A (Brit Postal Admin) mlh f/vf	\$106.75	\$42.50		36
37	North Borneo Sc#223-37 (Brit Colony) mlh f/vf	\$53.80	\$21.50		37
	<u>#A1s/K1s/L1s/N1s</u>				
38	German East Africa Sc#N101 (Brit Occ) mlh vf	\$1.75	\$0.80		38
39	German East Africa Sc#N101 (Brit Occ) mvlh f/vf	\$1.75	\$0.70		39
40	Germany - Baden Sc#LJ1 mnh avg	\$5.00	\$1.75		40
41	Germany - Baden Sc#LJ1 mng avg	\$5.00	\$1.25		41
42	Gr Brit - Guernsey Sc#N1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$3.50	\$1.40		42
43	Gr Brit - Jersey Sc#N2 (issued first) mnh vf	\$5.00			43
	BOB (Back of Book) #	ls			
44	Gold Coast Sc#MR1 mh f	\$3.25	\$1.15		44
45	Gold Coast Sc#MR1 mhr f/vf	\$3.25	\$1.15		45
46	Greece Sc#B1-5 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$8.75	\$3.50		46
47	Greece Sc#C1 mh f/vf [ink marks in selvage]	\$1.60	\$0.65		47
48	Greece Sc#CB1 mvlh f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15		48
49	Greece Sc#CB1-5 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$4.25	\$1.70		49
50	Greece Sc#RA1 mlh f/vf	\$0.30	\$0.10		50
51	Greece Sc#RA1-2 mnh f/vf	\$0.80	\$0.35		51
52	Greece Sc#RAB1-3 used(m-cxl) f-f/vf	\$0.75	\$0.30		52
	Misc Stamps from First Issu	ue Sets			
53	Mozambique Sc#6 mlh f/vf [toned gum]	\$1.00	\$0.35		53
54	Mozambique Sc#6 mnh f/vf	\$1.00	\$0.50		54
55	Mozambique Sc#7 mhr f/vf	\$3.00			55
56	Mozambique Sc#11 mng f/vf [toning]	\$0.75			56
57	Mozambique Sc#14 mng f/vf [rnd LL corner]	\$2.25	\$0.50		57
58	Turks & Caicos Sc#MR2 mnh f/vf [selv on rt, pencil on back]	\$1.40	\$0.30		58

End of Listing

Call for Mail Auction #78 Lots

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF LOTS FOR MAIL AUCTION #78 is May 15, 2014. Please send singles, sets, FDCs and covers related to first issues -- basically anything you think other FICC members would be interested in owning. The full set of guidelines governing the auctions is published in each auction mailing.

- 1. Submit lots to: Tim Balm, 5580 Senour Drive, West Chester, OH, 45069-1135 USA.
- 2. Include an inventory with your name & address, 1-line descriptions of the lots including cat#, current cat value, and minimum accepted bid. [Note: Scott catalog is the default; first issues listed by other catalogs are welcome.]
- 3. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold -- split between the seller and the buyer.

First Issues Collectors Club Membership Application or Renewal Form							
Membership includes four issues of the FICC Newsletter, First Issues. Dues for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have United States mailing addressees are \$10.00 per year. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are US\$14.00 per year. Make checks payable to <u>Kurt Streepy</u> and send to the postal address below or use the online PayPal feature at out web site, www.firstissues.org. Thank you for your renewal or new membership!							
New Membership	□ Renewal	□ Additional Contribution: \$					
□ Electronic Copy (by E-mail)		□ Paper Copy (by postal delivery)					
Name:							
		e-mail*					
APS# Other Memberships:							
* Your telephone number and e-mail address will be kept confidential if you wish.							
Send this form with your dues to: Kurt St	reepy, 3128 E. Ma	attatha Dr., Bloomington, IN 47401, USA					

BID SHEET FOR AUCTION #77

(Ĩ	Ē	Ç,

🖻 Bidding Deadline is April 30, 2014 🖘 🖘

(email bids to auctions@firstissues.org)

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Name:
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FICC#: _____

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid

First Issues Tim Balm, Editor 5580 Senour Drive West Chester, OH 45069-1135 USA



FIRST CLASS MAIL