

Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

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	137	February 28, 2009	March 14, 2009
	138	May 30, 2009	June 13, 2009
	139	August 29, 2009	September 12, 2009

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Officer's Corner

In April of this year, at the WESTPEX stamp show in San Francisco, Colin Hepper was elected President of the Nepal-Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. At the same time I was chosen to be the Vice President. I have been a member of the Society for half my life, but this is the first time I have been on the executive and I look forward to working with Colin. I hope we can contribute to the well being of the Society and I believe that the executive and the membership should have as its aim making the NTPSC an organization worthy of the rich Himalayan philately that inspires us all.

Like so many others, it was Heinrich Harrer's "Seven Years in Tibet" which first introduced me to the fascination of these remote countries "on the roof of the world". I started collecting Tibet more than 45 years ago and have been fortunate to have seen and owned some wonderful stamps and postal history. For years it was Tibet that fed my fascination, but in the last ten years I have expanded my interests to include Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim as well.

As many of you know, I now work as a full time dealer specializing in a number of Asian countries, including my first love, Tibet along

with Nepal and the Himalayas (see" www.tibetanpost.com). The richness of the philately of this area has kept me fascinated for almost half a century. "Playing with stamps" (as my wife refers to it) is much more than a hobby or a business - it has become a significant part of my life and to some extent I am involved with philately 365 days a year.

I travel extensively and have met and continue to meet Nepal & Tibet enthusiasts - making long lasting friendships with collectors on four different continents.

If I can be of any help or assistance or if you have any thoughts on how we can improve the NTPSC - please feel free to contact me at: geoffrey@tibetanpost.com or write to me at:

Geoffrey Flack
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Looking forward to working with you.
Sincerely,

Geoffrey Flack

Editor's Ramblings

I must apologize to our Patron **Mac Linscott Ricketts** and our Honorary Life Members **Colin Hepper** and **Jit Bahadur Manandhar** for having left them off of the inside front cover 7 years. I have also omitted two of our Life Members **Manfred Lauk** and **Robert Wightman** for almost as long - I got them into a early issue and then they disappeared again.

I would also like to welcome our two newest Life Members **Steve Chazen** and **Douglas Hatch**.

This is the last chance to send in information for the Membership List: collecting interests, email addresses, corrections to postal addresses.

I need all information by 15 October 2008. My email and postal addresses are on the inside front cover.

Auction 72 which is almost all from Derek Pocock will be run in at least three issues of *Postal Himal*. Part I is in this issue and Part II will be in issue 136.

It is always a pleasure to have new authors and in this issue we have two: **Ed Gosnell** and **Brian W. Smith** who is also a new member.

You might like to know that *Postal Himal* Issues 129-132 (for the year 2007) was awarded Silver at APS STaMpsHOW 2008 at Hartford and that the Cumulative (continued on page 6)

CONGRATULATIONS:

Paul C. Hager was awarded Gold and the India Study Circle Award for his exhibit "The Pashupati Era of Nepal" at INDYPEX

Dick van der Wateren was awarded Gold for his exhibit "Nepal Revenues" at EFIRO (Romania)

An Interesting Pair of 1911 King Emperor Camp Postal Cards

Ed Gosnell

On December 12, 1911, King George was acknowledged Emperor of India at a grand Durbar held in the newly proclaimed future Indian capitol of Delhi. Weary from the pomp and ceremony of office, he accepted a gracious invitation to visit Maharaja Chandra Shamsher Jung Bahadur Rana, the Nepalese prime minister and de facto ruler. The two leaders being avid hunters and men of simple taste agreed to camp out at the Maharaja's private game preserve for a bit of hunting and royal bonding. A camp was first established for King George in the Terai or lowland region of Nepal about 20 kilometers north of the Indian border along the Rui River at Sukibhar. Then after five days the party moved eight miles upriver to Khasra where the King stayed in a modest 3000 square foot bungalow. And although the bungalow was equipped with electric lights and running water, the lights flickered on occasion, the water ran somewhat slow, and the velvet on the royal toilet seat was something less than downy soft. However, his royal highness allowed that such deprivations are to be expected when one gets so close to nature. Not to be outdone by the British King's rustic spirit, the Maharaja was housed in his equally Spartan camp a tad further up the river where he stoically made do with a skeleton staff of 14,000. It should be noted that although Britain was the leading navel power at the time, King George sportingly refrained from using any battleships in the hunt. Instead, the royal duo craftily stalked their prey assisted only by a paltry 600 elephants and just a few thousand beaters. None the less, the royal party was able to bag 39 tigers, 13 Asian rhinos, and 4 bears. The hunt was not without its tragic injuries. King George suffered a severe crease to his left pant leg and a very disfiguring scuff to the toe of his right boot. The Maharaja received multiple blemishes on both of his white gloves.

As might be expected when dealing with an entourage of over 14,000, the two camps at Khasra were actually sizable military encampments. Both the British and the

Nepalese set up post offices which used special postmarks created for the occasion. The two pictured postal cards, a Nepalese card (Figures 1 and 2) and a British/Indian card (Figures 3 and 4), were mailed from these camps. As Dr. Hellrigl notes, the primary British postmarks (Hellrigl B76) featured a crown and the initials "GRI" for Georgius Rex Imperator. This postmark was used to cancel the various Indian stamps on both cards and the Indian postal card as pictured. These British-Indian postmarks are clearly dated December 27, 1911. The British-Indian post office also used a small receiving datestamp (B77) not found on these cards.

Both cards also bear a special Nepalese commemorative postmark which was used to cancel the native Nepalese postcard (van der Wateren 18) and a group of Nepalese stamps affixed to the back of the British-Indian card. This native postmark (Hellrigl D112) is inscribed completely in Nepalese and reads, "Sawari (Royal) Camp" across the top. The date is written across the middle band. There is an "Epsom" English receiving postmark on the back of the native card which is dated either "JAY" or "MAY" 13, 1912. The first letter of the month looks at first glance to be a "J". However, upon further examination it appears to possibly be a very poorly printed "M". Thus, the card took either seventeen days or almost five months to reach its destination. Since seventeen days seems rather fast service between Nepal and England in 1912 and since "JAY" seems an odd abbreviation for January, I am inclined toward the "MAY" interpretation. The one anna Indian stamp affixed to the lower left front corner of the native card would have paid the postage to England since Nepal was not a member of the UPU. Nepalese stamps before 1935 could only be used for internal mail. After 1935, they could also be used to destinations within the Indian postal system. In 1959 Nepal finally became a full member of the UPU allowing for full international usage. The English destination of this card is noteworthy. All other similar

examples of the #18 native card with which I am familiar bearing the Sawari camp cancels appear to have been philatelic handbacks that never actually passed through the mail. Of course, the pictured cards although having actually passed through the mail would be considered philatelically inspired as undoubtedly would have been the larger portion of the camps' mail.

A particularly interesting feature of the two cards is that both were mailed to the same address in England and that the message on the Nepalese card refers to the Indian one. This message reads as follows:

*Dear Dad,
Keep both of these.
They may be worth
keeping. On the other
card are six Nepalese
stamps unobtainable elsewhere.
Love to Mother. George*

Six Nepalese stamps are indeed on the back of the British-Indian card. They have been cancelled with the Nepalese camp cancel. These stamps include the three standard classical values of one, two, and four annas apparently from the last of the postal settings, as well as, the four, eight, and sixteen paise values of the 1907 Pashupati issue. Interspersed among these stamps are the following sentences:

*Hope you are both well.
Tired from the Jungle.
Love to all.
Will write a long letter on return to
Pinde.
From your loving son George*

I find it significant that the three classic Nepalese stamps were apparently available in 1911 at the Nepalese camp post office. They, of course, were discontinued from general sale in 1907 after the introduction of the first Pashupati issue. A comparatively small remainder stock of the three pictured values plus a similar stock of the half anna were then consigned to the royal treasury where most were stored until their

reissue for telegraph use in 1917.

The British King was himself a serious stamp collector; and his Imperial Coronation and Indian tour had a major philatelic component as indicated by the special cancellations. It is known that sheets of all four classic values which I assume were from the treasury remainders were presented to the King during this visit. The stamps on the card seem to indicate that a stock of the remaindered classic stamps was also brought out of retirement for sale to other members of the imperial entourage. Obviously Mr. Maskell, the writer of the cards, appreciated their exotic appeal.

While larger than most, the Imperial Hunt of 1911 was not a unique event. The Nepalese Prime Minister spent a significant amount of time each year on tour at his hunting camp. Indeed, the ½ anna stamp was supposedly issued in 1899 specifically for mail posted from the camp to cover a special half price discounted camp rate. Thus, although not found on the pictured card, it should come as no surprise that the ½ anna classical value was also apparently available for postage during the Imperial Hunt since a strip of that stamp with the Sawari cancellation is pictured in the collection of Dr. Singer. In addition, one would assume that the 1907 two anna Pashupati value was available since it was equal in value to the old ½ anna and is found used on mail cancelled with the camp seal (Hellrigl P120) posted during the Maharaja's regular hunting tours.

As noted by Dr. Hellrigl in *Nepal Postal History, The British Indian Post Office In Nepal*, both Imperial Hunt camp cancels have been forged. Examples of these forgeries are shown on the pictured cover (Figure 5) which also bears an English address. According to Dr. Hellrigl forgeries are always dated December 26 and the central initials are not interwoven as on the genuine. Also, the crown is completely different.

For an excellent set of official photographs of the royal hunt go to the following web address: [photographshttp://anulib.anu.edu.au/subjects/ap/digilib/sasia/tig/tigers.html](http://anulib.anu.edu.au/subjects/ap/digilib/sasia/tig/tigers.html) on a site maintained by the Australian National University. The

British/Indian postmarks are shown and Hepper's *The Native Postmarks of Nepal*. For an explained in chapter 15 of Dr. Hellrigl's *Nepal in-depth account of King George's imperial Postal History, the British Indian Post Office in coronation and tour of India refer to the Nepal*. The Nepalese camp postmark is *Historical Record of the Imperial Visit to India*, discussed on page 34 of Dr. Hellrigl and Colin 1911.



Figure 1 – Nepal card (Wa 18) front



Figure 2 – Nepal card back



Figure 3 – British/Indian card front

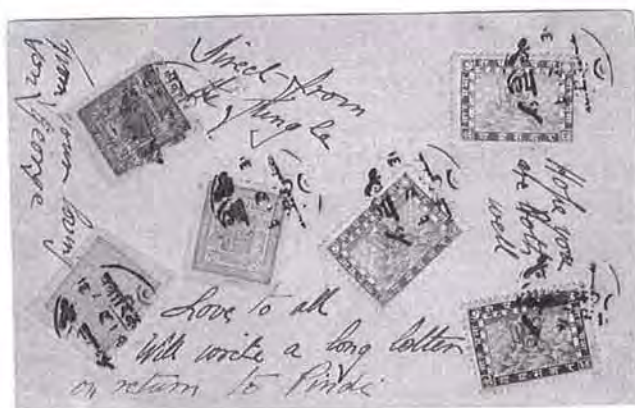


Figure 4 – British/Indian card back



Figure 5 – cover with forged cancellations

More Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence


Bob Gould

The postcards used by the 1980 American Women's expedition to Dhaulagiri I are interesting for two reasons. First, this was an all women expedition attempting to have the first woman summit the mountain and they were attempting to do it by a new route. Second, our own Roger Skinner was instrumental in the design and production of the different rubber stamps used on these expedition postcards. Some of the postcards have a rubber stamp of a Sherpa crossing a rope bridge with "By Runner From Base Camp" hand lettered below. Others have a rubber stamp of a runner with a mountain outline and some tents in the background and "BY RUNNER FROM DHAULAGIRI I BASE CAMP" printed alongside. For a \$20.00 contribution you could buy a signed postcard that would be sent from base camp. Unsigned postcards were also available at \$5.00. Because this was an all women expedition, Skinner told me that there

was some reluctance about having a man involved with the design of these rubber stamps. Roger also worked on the rubber stamps used on the 1978 AWHE (American Women's Himalaya Expedition) and the 1976 American Bicentennial Everest Expedition.

On October 5th, almost two months after this 1980 expedition left Pokhara they had finally established camp four at 23,300 feet on Dhaulagiri I. They did not climb on the next two days because of high winds and avalanche conditions. Then, on October 7th, camp two was overrun by an avalanche and member Lyn Griffith was carried away and disappeared. After searching unsuccessfully for her for two days the expedition was abandoned due to her presumed death and very poor weather conditions. Several years later the Belgian Lutgarde Vivijis did make the first ascent by a woman of Dhaulagiri I, by the standard route.



	\$ 10.00	May 2 1970	No. 228
	RECEIVED OF <u>Armand E. Singer</u>		
	Ten ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀ DOLLARS		
	with sincere thanks.		
INTERNATIONAL HIMALAYAN EXPEDITION 1971			
BY <u>Armand E. Singer</u>			

Index was also awarded Silver.

I would like to thank all of the contributors to the *Postal Himal* issues for 2007: Jeremy R. Brewer, Geoffrey Flack, Rainer Fuchs, Bob Gould, Paul C. Hager, Wolfgang Hellrigl, Colin Hepper, Jaya Hari Jha, Leo Martyn, Bo Olsson, Surendra Lal Shrestha, Armand E. Singer, Roger Skinner, Dick van der Wateren, Alan Warren and Alfonso G. Zulueta Jr..

I was informed at STaMpsHOW 2008 that INDIA 2010 will now be INDIA 2011 and will be held in New Delhi in February of that year. More details will follow as soon as they are known. Also coming up are LONDON 2010 and NEW YORK 2016.

The *Cumulative Index for Newsletters & Postal Himal Issues 1 (November 1976) to 132 (4th Quarter 2007)* will be mailed during the

last quarter of this year. It has just about everything that has ever appeared in either the *Newsletters* or *Postal Himal* and I hope that you will find it a worthwhile reference.

Dick van der Wateren has written to ask that Mr. Jaya Hari Jha be credited for translating the Double Sealed Document from Devanagari into English [see "Double Sealed Document" Dick van der Wateren *Postal Himal* 134:4]. Dick thanks Mr. Jha and notes that he has also translated many other documents for him.

REMINDER: The special rates for Life Membership (15 times 1-year rate instead of 20 times) expires at the end of this year. Also, next year the USA rate for a 1-year membership will increase to \$30 and the Life membership will therefore be \$600.

The following photos were taken at WESTPEX 2008 and were submitted by Frank Vignola.



Frank Vignola and Colin Hepper



Colin accepting the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle award for his exhibit "Nepal: Postal History 1810-1911". The exhibit was also awarded Gold.

Overland to Tibet - Kathmandu to Lhasa 1988

Brian W. Smith

With Tibet so much in the news in this year of the Chinese Olympics I thought readers might be interested in a trip my wife and I made to Tibet 20 years ago, in October 1988. The journey, by road, took us from Kathmandu, Nepal, through the Himalayas over the Tibetan plateau to Lhasa.

There had been much unrest in Tibet that year and the Chinese closed the border for some weeks prior to our departure. We did not know whether we would be allowed to proceed until 3 days before we were due to go.

Arriving in Kathmandu from England we proceeded by car to Kodari, the last stop in Nepal at the 'Friendship Bridge', the border with Tibet. After usual formalities with visa/passports etc we were informed by the Chinese authorities that the road up to Zangmhu [the first town in Tibet where we were to join the rest of our party & the Japanese tour bus] had been washed away by landslides. Undaunted, we hired a couple of local boys as porters (for tips of course) and set off on an arduous 3 hour climb to Zangmhu at 7,500 feet. On the way we were accompanied by Sherpas carrying large metal cans – a consignment of cooking oil for Tibet. As we entered Zangmhu we encountered flocks of sheep and goats being driven down to Kathmandu to be sacrificed in a Hindu Festival.

The following morning our bus set off through breathtaking scenery and presently reached the town of Nyalam(u) at 12,000 feet. Beyond here, from the top of Lalung Leh Pass (16,568ft), we were rewarded with a stunning vista of snow-capped Himalayan mountains: including Everest, Makalu, Lhotse, Cho Oyu, Shishapangma and Guarishankar.

Our first night was spent in a cold, spartan, Chinese barracks at Tingri, not far from Shekar Dzong and c30 miles from Everest Base Camp at Rongbuk. Nights were very cold (down to -6F), days hot and sunny. The roads were gravelled dirt roads, uneven and very dusty. There were no metalled roads till about 10 miles

west of Lhasa.

The following day after another high pass, the Lhakpa La, we stopped for lunch at Lhaze (Dzong). Then it was on to Shigatse, a large town quite Chinese in character much of which resembled a building site. Next day we arrived at Gyantse, a quaint, typically Tibetan town dominated by its old hill fort. It seemed largely unaffected by Chinese influence with a long main street flanked with old Tibetan houses. There was no sign of the Post Office and no time to go looking for it. Leaving Gyantse I distinctly remember seeing a line of old pillars heading south across the countryside. Was this the remnants of the telegraph line built by the British to connect Tibet with India?

Passing through the village of Ralung over the 16,500ft Karo La Pass to Nangartse, the road levelled out for a scenic 30 miles following the shores of the great turquoise lake, the Yamdrok Tso. After one more pass - the Khamba La - we dropped down into the Kyi Chu valley and into Chushu (Quxu), where many an independent Tibetan cover was posted. Soon we were driving along a metalled road. Presently the city of Lhasa and the distant Potala Palace came into view. We had arrived!

The Lhasa Hotel, built by the Chinese and run by Holiday Inn was our base for three nights. It looked somewhat incongruous and reminded me of a concrete bunker. In the vast foyer we were greeted on arrival by a small orchestra of immaculately dressed Chinese musicians playing Western classical string music!

Over the next few days we experienced the sights of Lhasa : these included the Jokhang, Barkhor Square with its market and street vendors, the Norbu Lingka, Sera & Drepung Monasteries, and of course the Potala.

We found the Lhasa Post Office, across the road to the East of the Potala. It was a disappointingly plain Chinese structure – my camera at this point had broken so was unable to photograph it. Inside we wrote postcards home plus a few philatelic covers to get the coveted

Lhasa postmark.

Heading back to Kathmandu via Gyantse we drove to Shigatse and stayed at the same hotel there as on our inward journey. This time we managed to get to the Shigatse Post Office. Again it was a modern Chinese building, much smaller than that at Lhasa. Glue pots were in evidence inside and the locals seem to relish using glue to affix their Chinese stamps (which are ungummed). I posted two postcards from here.

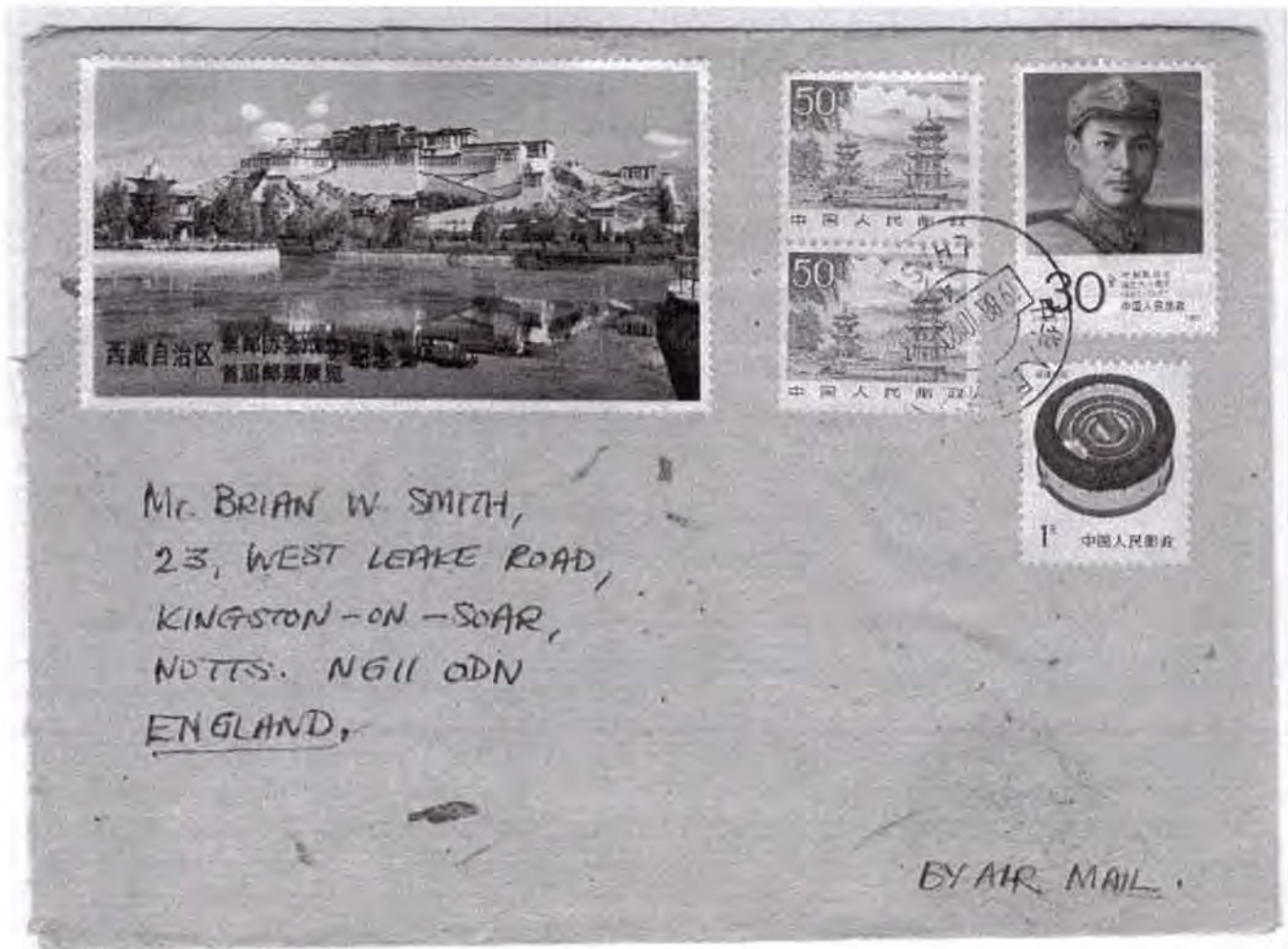
Next day, onwards, and our last night in Tibet was at a Chinese truck-stop "hotel" at the old village of Shekar Dzong. The early British Mount Everest Expeditions of the 1920s had pitched their camps nearby.

Shekar had a large dusty square surrounded by Tibetan houses and was dominated by the Gompa clinging to the mountainside behind it.

Yaks wandered aimlessly across the square soon to be joined by a group of dirty but very friendly young Tibetan children. It was getting dark and they wanted to take us up to the Gompa. We dissuaded them however, and they were content to beg us for pens and try and get us to play and dance with them.

Reflecting on our trip, back in Kathmandu, we thought Shekar Dzong one of the highlights. We felt truly privileged to have been allowed to visit this wonderful country and see its remarkable people and culture: Tibet had been closed since 1950 and had only reopened for travellers just a few years before our visit.

The biggest surprise awaited us when we got back home to England. All of our postcards and covers from Tibet had been delivered, but they had only taken 3-4 days to arrive!!



The Mount Everest Hotel, Darjeeling

Nicholas Rhodes

Although Darjeeling is located 7,000 ft up in the Himalayas, I am not aware of many articles having been written for *Postal Himal* on the subject of the postal history of the Darjeeling district. This has been one of my collecting interests for many years, so I hope that readers may like to share information about this subject. Aficionados of the early expeditions to Mount Everest will have heard of the Darjeeling hotel that bears the name of the highest mountain in the world, and which served as the launch pad for most of the expeditions to that mountain in

the 1920's and 1930's. Fewer will know that there was a post office located in the hotel for a short time. I have noted the "Mt EVEREST HOTEL" cancellation only for the years 1916 and 1917, and illustrate an interesting postcard showing the hotel and its cancellation dated 1 June 1916. I would be interested if anyone has discovered the precise dates when this post office operated, but I suspect that it was only for a very few years, as it seems to be difficult to find examples.



Paid Advertisement

MAIL AUCTION – WHOLESALE NEPAL

Dear fellow collectors, I am offering large, wholesale lots of Nepal with low starting prices. Usual NTPSC auction rules apply – winning bids are figured at one low increment above the second highest bid and high bids will not be disclosed (second highest bid can be given). Some of the lots will require extra postage due to their weights – please ask for lot weights if desired. Payment – paypal (no fee to the buyer for this service), cash, checks on U.S. banks. No bank transfers (too expensive and complicated). Actual postage will be charged – for lots totaling more than \$100: overseas buyers will be charged an additional \$10.80 registration fee and U.S. buyers an additional \$2.70 for certified mailing. Please address any questions for additional information to: Leo Martyn, P.O. Box 49263, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Email: himalayan@att.net. Phone: 310/476-2608. CLOSING DATE FOR BIDS IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 12 MIDNIGHT.

<u>LOT</u>	<u>STARTING PRICE</u>
1. 1886-1907, postally used group of 135 classic imperf stamps: 1a = 50, 2 a = 50, 4 a = 35. Most cancels are not clear. No faults (few with red gum stains). A good variety of printings and shades.	\$135
2. 1901-7, 30 imperf. postally used "recut" 1 a. Generally fine.	\$15
3. 1917-30, telegraph period, 634 used stamps: 1/2a = 109, 1a "recut" = 175, 1a "new design" = 100, 2a = 150, 4a = 100. A good variety of shades, cleaned clichés, clogged cliché printings.	\$200
4. 1917-30, 2annas, 15 imperf. tete beche pairs, all different shades. Telegraph cancels.	\$90
5. 1907 Pashupati, 500 (over 80 complete sets) mostly postally used stamps. Variety of shades and cancels.	\$50
6. 1930/35 Pashupati, 535 used (postal and telegraph cancels). Includes high values (1R = 13, tel cancels), 5R = 6 (postal cancels). Includes blocks. Many complete sets.	\$75
7. 1941 Pashupati: 360 mostly postally used stamps, including blocks. Variety of printings, shades and perforations. Includes 2 postally used 1 rupee.	\$40
8. 1907 Pashupati covers: 36 covers (33 single rate, 1 double rate, 2 registered). Useful group.	\$35
9. 1930 Pashupati covers: 51 covers (22 registered with 8 different frankings), 28 single rate.	\$95
10. 1930 Pashupati covers: 9 registered all with different rates and frankings.	\$100
11. 1935 Pashupati covers: 94 covers – 24 single rate, 62 registered (7 different frankings).	\$250
12. 1941 Pashupati covers: 143 covers – 63 single rate, 2 double weight, 59 registered, 8 to India.	\$200
13. 1941 Pashupati covers: 14 registered – all with different franking combinations.	\$100
14. 1949 Pashupati covers: 35 unregistered plus 3 registered. Duplication. Mostly lower values. Total = 52.	\$20
15. 1949 Pashupati covers: 27 different franked registered covers. All used within Nepal. Various rates and cancels. Generally fine – a few missing corners due to spindle filing (not affecting stamps or pmks.).	\$50
16. 1954 King covers: 7 registered, each with a different combination of stamps. Couple of missing corners.	\$20
17. 1954 King covers: 26 including 5 registered, diff with combinations, 4 single weight different combinations.	\$35
18. 1954 Map covers: 17 – 4 registered (different frankings) 2 single weight, 11 registered/unregistered.	\$25
19. 1957 Crown covers: 26 -19 registered with different frankings. plus 7 more. Variety of postmarks and rates.	\$50
20. 1959 U.P.U. covers : 32 – 6 single franked, 14 registered, 5 to India, 8 overseas incl. France, Switzerland.	\$65
21. 1949-60 issue covers : 12 different franked combinations (filing holes, small tears not affecting stamps).	\$25
22. 1949-60 issue covers: 6 different triple mixed issue covers (one missing corner not affecting stamps).	\$40
23. 1959-60: 25 registered covers – 19 with attached labels, 4 with handstamps, 2 with manuscript marks.	\$35
24. 1939-62: 18 covers with different printed return addresses (mostly merchants). Includes 7 Pashupati franked.	\$30
25. 1949-61: 31 covers, all bearing the lowest value in use at the time (2p – 1949-57, 1p – 1959) plus other values to make up rates. Few with creases. Variety of mixed issues.	\$50
26. 1949-59: 189 covers from the definitive issues. Duplication.	\$75
27. 1960s – 2000s: 100 covers (mostly 80s on) bearing various stamps. Many are registered.	\$40
28. 1956-1994: 108 different First Day Covers. A few bearing same stamp with a different cachet. Most bear a complete issue.	\$100
29. Fifty 40p + 6p postal reg. stat. env. with various added stamps. Used mostly in the 1960s.	\$40
30. 141 50p postal stat. aerogrammes. Variety of cancels including temporary. Duplication.	\$45
31. 100 30p mountain postal stat. cards. Good variety of cancels including temporary. Duplication.	\$35
32. 76 30p rice ears postal stat. cards. Good variety of cancels including temporary. Duplication.	\$30
33. 1959-1990s: 300 modern period covers bearing various stamps including higher values. Variety of cancels.	\$95
34. 1990s-2000s 80 large covers bearing a total of 950 stamps (mostly colorful commemoratives) . Some creases to covers and stamps. One cover bears 114 stamps from the 1982 mountain issue.	\$55
35. 1959-1990: 219 different First Day Folders (Scott #104-479). All appear to have been printed in Nepal.	\$285
36. 1920-60s: 1000 stampless official covers. Useful for the variety of postmarks.	\$75
37. 1959-70s: 200 covers bearing various values of the first official issue. Variety of cancels. Few tears.	\$90

For the Record - Two Items from Nepal

Ed Gosnell

During the last year, I have acquired two items that might be of some interest to other members of the Study Circle. The first is a copy of the classic 4 anna value showing a portion of the top marginal inscription. I bought this stamp at a small local Ohio show. I, of course, always pick up marginal inscription copies of any of the three classic values if the price is reasonable. Upon arriving home from the show and consulting my trusty *The Classic Postage Stamps of Nepal*, I was very pleased to discover that this particular stamp appears to be position 6 from the 4 anna H/V setting 3. Only setting 3 had outward reading inscriptions. Apparently no example of this particular position was known when *The Classic Stamps of Nepal* was published. According to the book only positions 1 and 8 were known showing the top inscription. The characters found above this copy of position 6 seem to show that the top inscription for setting 3 was not simply an inverted version of the inscriptions on either setting 2 or 4. The locations of the characters above positions 1 and 8 when combined with the location of the characters above position 6 appear to me to imply a much different spacing between the

words. I am curious to know if any members are aware of other top inscription copies or full sheets from this setting that have come to light in the intervening years.

The second item that might be of interest is an airmail cover posted from the British residency in Kathmandu. I found it mixed in with a group of India used abroad items that I bought on eBay. It is dated "7 JLY 32" which is more than a year prior to the earliest cover (9 Oct 33) recorded by Dr. Hellrigl in *Nepal Postal History, The British-Indian Post Office in Nepal*. The back of the cover has no markings. In contrast to the early airmail cover pictured in Dr. Hellrigl's book this cover is franked with Indian airmail stamps rather than the regular issue. Also, the stamps on this cover total 10 ½ annas rather than 8 ½ annas which Dr. Hellrigl lists as the normal rate. I chanced to see what appeared to be a single Indian airmail stamp with a 1931 Nepal B29 datestamp in an eBay lot a few months ago. Therefore, I would assume earlier covers are quite possible. I am curious if any other members have or have seen an earlier cover. Also does anyone know why 10 ½ annas worth of stamps was used on this letter?



Letters to the Editor

Surendra Lal Shrestha writes: "I was excited to see Mr. Colin Hepper's comments on the dateless cancellation in *Postal Himal* 134 [see "The British-Indian B25 Cancellation" Colin Hepper *Postal Himal* 134:10]. I agree that one should proceed with caution before accepting that it is a new type. I would like to send him the cover so that he can study it to see if he can find the non-existent date characters." [Mr. Shrestha also notes that there is not full inking on the right portion of the cancellation and that it is the nature of all strikes that appeared at that time.].

Mr. Shrestha also offers the following comments on articles which appeared in *Postal Himal* 134: "1) Mr. Hepper remarks that Roger Skinner reminded Mr. Hepper that Perkins Bacon went out of business in the late 1930s, so that the supply of stamps to Nepal and other countries that they were supplying would have dried up [see "The Local Pashupati Printings" Colin Hepper *Postal Himal* 134:5]. Mr. Shrestha would like to ask Mr. Hepper when and where Nepal's 1935 (Aug-Dec) Pashupati set of 6 (SG51/56) were printed and who supplied them? I think that they were printed and supplied by Perkins Bacon in 1935-40. The Local Pashupati Printings were done in Kathmandu by the Gorkha Patra Press from 1941-54. 2) the illustration of the 'Express Delivery Service' postal marking shown [see "Nepal Post Offices - A Continuing Series" Colin Hepper - photos by Jaya Hari Jha *Postal Himal* 134:15] with a photo of the Dhankuta District Post Office is from DHANUKHA District Post Office, Janakpur Dham, not from Dhankuta D. P. O."

Dear Sir, Madame!

My name is David. I am seven years old. I have a sister, her name is Gaja. She is five years old. I go to second class of elementary, while my sister will start going to elementary school in September.

Although we have many different interests we both collect postal stamps from countries all around the world. So we would be very, very happy if we received stamps from your country. Anyway we are also open for swapping of stamps.

We both hope that our wish of collecting postal stamps will encourage you to send us a friendly postcard or a letter. We would be grateful to you for this.

We look forward to hearing from you by surface mail.

Thank you very much for your support. Each and every one postal stamp will have an extra place in our stamp album.

Best Regards,
DAVID & GAJA VUK
JAKCEVA ULICA 28
1000 LJUBLJANA
SLOVENA
EUROPE

Auction #72 Part I -- Closing Date November 12, 2008

OSC = Official Stampless Cover **pmk(s) = Postmark(s)** **Ktm = Kathmandu**
SG = Stanley Gibbons **pts = points** **pms = postmasters seal**
msd = manuscript date **mSP = manuscript postmark** **npm = negative postmark**
nps = negative postal seal **Pash = Pashupati stamp** **Reg = Registered cover**

Postmark references taken from 'A Catalogue of Nepalese Postmarks (1879-1935)'

NOTE: The estimated prices are the start price and bids below that will *NOT* be accepted.

NEPAL POSTAL HISTORY

Lot	Description	£s
1	1883 OSC pmk Dandeldhura (D8, 100 pts), Ktm (D65), Fine	35
2	1884 OSC pmks Ridi (D30, 85 pts), Ktm (D65), some staining	25
3	1884 OSC pmks Kalaiya (D20), Ktm (D65), fine seal of dispatching office	25
4	1887 OSC pmks Pokhara (D28), Ktm (D69), very clean cover	20
5	1883 OSC 2 large wax seals, pmks not clear, appear to be Pokhara (D28) and Ktm(D29)	15
6	1893 OSC Chisapani pmk (H61, 70 pts)	15
7	1889 OSC pmks Pyuthan (D29, 70 pts), Ktm (poor)	15
8	1890 OSC with Trisuli pms (damaged) + msd (H107, 95 pts) blurred Ktm arrival pmk	15
9	1888 OSC with Taulihawa pms + msd (H67, 90 pts) Ktm arrival poor	15
10	1887 OSC with Taulihawa pms + msd (H67, 90 pts) Ktm arrival	15
11	1890 OSC with enclosures. Pmk Rangali (H4, 90 pts). Blurred Ktm arrival	15
12	1887 OSC with fine Banke pms + msd (H81, 90 pts). Ktm arrival. Very clean cover	20
13	1907 OSC with msp Dahaban (H137) Ktm (D79) arrival	15
14	same as lot 13	15
15	1904 OSC with msp Rasuwa (H162), faint Ktm Arrival	15
16	1907 with Kuti Court Seal , pmk Rasuwa)H162) Trisuli (H55)	15
17	1885 OSC with Palpa msp (H156)	15
18	1889 OSC with Jaleswar msp (H144) Ktm receiving (D70)	15
19	1891 OSC with Pokhara msp (H160), Ktm receiving	15
20	1893 OSC with Pokhara msp (H160), Ktm receiving	15
21	1889 OSC pmks Pokhara (H160), Ktm receiving, excessive wax spoils cover	10
22	1897 OSC pmks Kadarban (H146), Ktm (D72)	15
23	1891 OSC pmks Dalekha (H138, 60 pts), blurred Ktm (D72)	15
24	1904 OSC msp Tatapani (H33), Chautara npm (N14)	12
25	1906 OSC with Kuti Court Seal , msp Tatapani (H33) pmk Chautara (N14)	15
26	1906 OSC pmks Chautara (N14) Ktm arrival	10
27	1902 OSC pmks 2 x Chautara (N14) with different dates, faint Ktm arrival	10

Lot	Description	£s
28	1911 OSC with very late use of npm Llam (N28, 100pts) Ktm receiving, very clear pmks. Fine clean cover	25
29	1910 OSC with 2 x npm Jumla (N31, 70 pts), Karnali (N36, 80 pts) Ktm arrival	25
30	1910 OSC pmks 2 x Baitadi (N2), Ktm arrival	10
31	1910 OSC pmks 2 x Baitadi (N2)	10
32	1897 OSC with 5 npm of Kalaiya (N34). A fine example of a letter being held for 5 days before dispatch	15
33	1908 OSC pmks Hanumannagar (N26), Ktm receiving	10
34	1910 OSC pmks 2 x Hanumannagar (N26), Ktm receiving	10
35	1909 OSC pmks 2 x Bankey (N2), Ktm receiving	10
36	1893 OSC pmks Bankey (N2), Ktm receiving (D73)	10
37	1893 OSC pmks Doti (N24) Ktm (D73)	10
38	1906 OSC pmks Doti (N24) Ktm (D73)	10
39	1906 OSC pmks 2 x Kadarban (N32, 85 pts), faint Ktm receiving	20
40	1904 OSC pmks 2 x Pokhara (N44) Ktm receiving	10
41	1911 OSC pmks 2 x Birganj (N70) faint Ktm receiving	10
42	1908 OSC pmk Birganj (N70) faint Ktm receiving	8
43	1909 OSC pmk Birganj (N70) Ktm (D79)	8
44	1910 OSC pmk Birganj (N70) Ktm (D111, 70 pts) has been placed on top of Birganj pmk	8
45	1908 OSC pmks Chitwan (D110, 90 pts) Ktm (D111, 70 pts) two of the scarcer pmks on the same cover	20
46	1910 cover with 4p Pash cancelled npm Dhankuta (N29) Ktm receiving on reverse	10
47	same as lot 46 except all pmks on same side of cover	12
48	1911 cover with 4p Pash cancelled npm Pokhara (N44) Ktm receiving on reverse	10
49	1912 cover with 2 x 4p Pash cancelled Birganj (P44) Ktm receiving	10
50	1914 cover with 4p Pash cancelled Birganj (P44) Ktm (P70)	12
51	1903 cover with 1 anna recut, cancelled Okhaldunga (C18, 70 pts), back stamped npm Okhaldunga (N40), damaged at bottom right corner, not affecting stamps or pmks	30
52	1904 cover with 1 anna recut, cancelled Birganj (C31) with 2 x npm Birganj (N10) on reverse. Front of cover damaged, not affecting stamps	20
53	1904 cover with 1 anna recut, cancelled Palpa (C81), blurred npm Palpa	20
54	1909 transitional period cover with 4p Pash cancelled with Trisuli classic pmk (C86), msp Rasuwa (H162) on reverse, Ktm receiving. Some red ink on reverse	20
55	1905 cover with 1 anna recut, cancelled Birganj (C32), 2 x npm Birganj (N11). Ktm receiving, all on same side of cover. Small hole in one npm. Generally grubby	15

Lot	Description	£s
56	1928 Reg with 7 x 4p Pash. Faint Kadarban pmk (P55, 65 pts)	10
57	1930 Reg, 4p Pash (SG 31) cancelled by classic Chisapani pmk (C50), Ktm Step Pyramid receiving pmk	20
58	1930 Reg with 5 x 4p Pash (SG 31) cancelled with faint Chainpur pmk (P102, 65 pts). Ktm Step Pyramid receiving. Stamps have been removed from back of the cover.	10
59	1931 Reg with 7 x 4 Pash (SG 31), pmk Ridi (P23)	10
60	1932 Reg with 6 x 4 Pash (SG 31), pmk Bhadgaon (P80, 80 pts). Stamps are faded	12
61	1927 Reg with 1 x 4p Pash (SG 31), 1 x 8p Pash (SG 32), pmk Palpa (P18). Some stamps have been removed from the cover.	8
62	1933 Reg 4p Postal Stationery envelope with 2 x 4p Pash (SG 44), 1 x 6 16p Pash (SG 46), pmk Palpa (P18)	10
63	1931 cover with 1 x 4 Pash (SG 31), pmk Tatapani (P93), stained	5
64	1941 Reg with 3 x 8p Pash (GS 53), pmk Dandeldhura (P10), Doti receiving	10
65	1942 Reg with 1 x 24p Pash (SG 55). Stamp is cancelled with a fine unknown pms with a msd written across the stamp. Hulak Goswara receiving. Fine	15
66	1948 Reg with 1 x 4p Pash (SG 58), 1 x 24p Pash (SG 61), very clear Hulak Goswara pmk	10
67	1946 Reg with 3 x 8p Pash (SG 59) pmk Sarlahi	8
68	1948 Reg with 6 x 4p Pash (SG 58) pmk Sarlahi	8
69	8 x OSC, all with 'Sun and Moon' pmks of Dandeldhura, Chitwan, 2 x Kanchanpuri (1911 & 1948), 2 x Jumla, 2 x Trisuli	20
70	3 x OSC, all with 'Sun and Moon' pms, Lyanglyang, Tatapani, Bhadgaon	10
71	6 x OSC, all with 'Step Pyramid' pmks, Bhimpedi, Thak, Sherganj, Jaleswar, 2 x Rangali (1 with additional 'Moon and Crescent' pmks of Bijayapur, Dhankuta)	15
72	3 x OSC with large ornamental pmks Syangja, Syuraj (2)	10
73	3 x OSC with 'Hulak Arched' pmks Dhulikhel, Okhaldunga (2)	5
74	2 x OSC with 'Hulak Adda' pmks Bhairahawa, Nuwakot	5
75	5 x OSC with 'Hulak Straight' pmks Lyanglyang (2), Taulihawa, Chainpur (hand dated), Syuraj (hand dated)	15
76	2 x OSC with 'Exchange Nepal' pmks Jaleswar (1936), Bhairahawa (1938)	5
77	1942 OSC with contents, pmk 'Hulak Arched' Dhuduwapahad. This is the only known cover with this postmark.	50
78	1943 Reg with 1 x 16p, 1 x 8P 1935 Pash. Fine Sarlahi 'Hulak Arched' pmk + 1944 Reg with 1 x 24p 1935 Pash with the same Sarlahi pmk. 1 corner damaged	12
79	1847 Reg with 1 x 24 local Pash, fine nrm Kadarban with msd across stamp. Damage to 1 corner	15

Lot	Description	£s
80	1955 Reg Pashupati 8p envelope, nps Gulmi Chandrakot. Stamps on back have been removed but the Gulmi pmk is clearly hand dated	10
81	Reg with 1 x 8p, 1 x 16p local Pash + 6p SG ?? cancelled with nps East No. 3 District	10
82	1959 Reg with 3 x SG 107, nps Melung with msd stamps	10
83	1959 Reg with 1 x 2p, 1 x 12p, 1 x 32 p Service stamps, Surkhet 'S' ornamental pmk	10
84	1960 Reg w 7 x 2p local Pash + 3 x SG 119. Seal postmark not clear but could be Palung	7
85	4 x Reg from early 1960s with range of stamps. Each reg. label is completely different, i.e. manuscript, printed, hand stamped	10

Auction 72 - Part II will be in *Postal Himal 136*



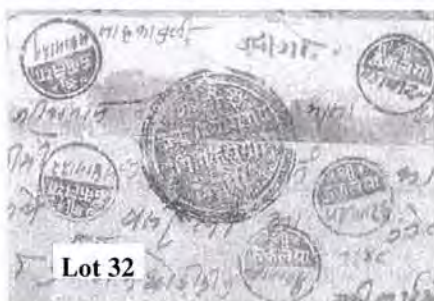
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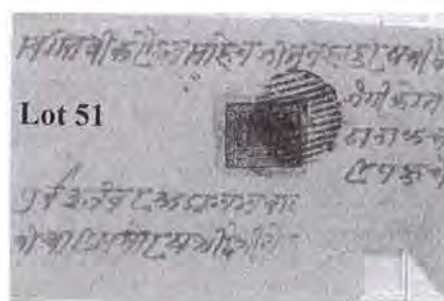
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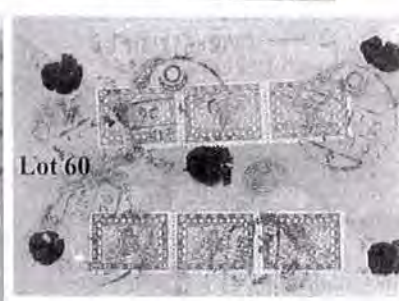
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Lot 32



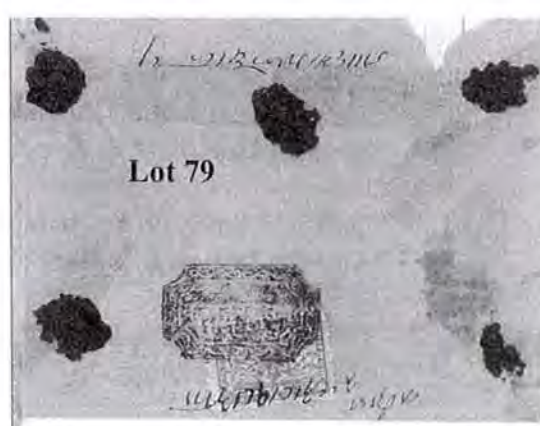
Lot 51



Lot 60



Lot 77



Lot 79

If you wish illustrations of any other lot(s), please contact Colin Hepper **email:** colinhepper@aol.co.uk or **postal mail** 12 Charnwood Close, Peterborough, Cambs. PE2 9BZ, England or **fax** 01733 349403