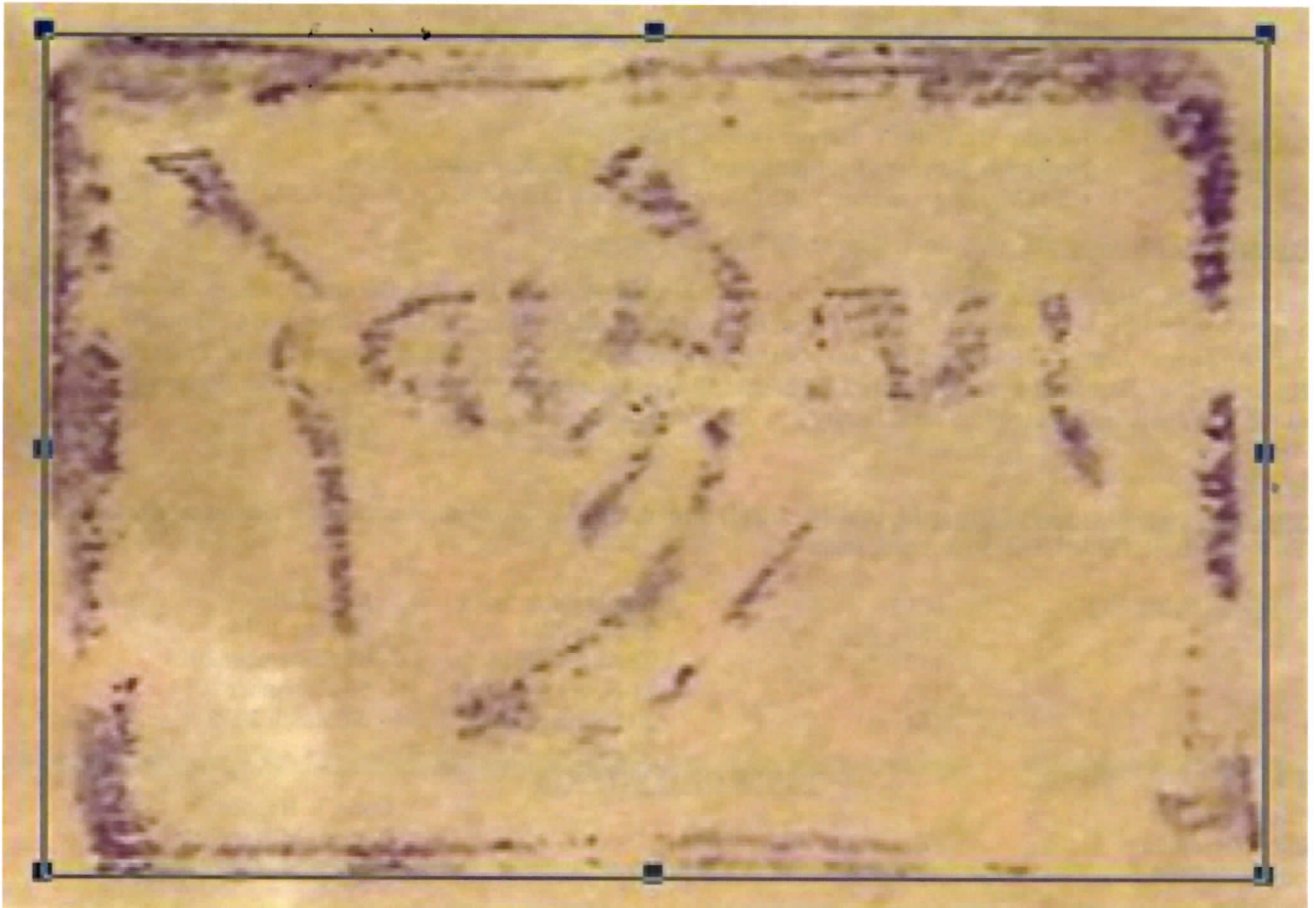


# Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

NTPSC Homepage (courtesy of Rainer Fuchs) <http://fuchs-online.com/ntpsc>





*Postal Himal* is a quarterly publication of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid in local currency at the prevailing exchange rate to the Society representative in your area.

	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Years</u>	<u>Life Member</u>
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	158	23 May 2014	06 June 2014
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	160	21 November 2014	06 December 2014
	161	20 February 2015	06 March 2015

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officer's Corner	Colin T. Hepper	1
Editor's Ramblings	Richard M Hanchett	1
Congratulations		1
Upcoming		1
Himalayan Airmails	Jeffrey Brown	2
Emails to the Editor		4
A Small Complement to Bibbins Plating Study Regarding the ½ Tranka Stamp	Bo Olsson	5
New Variety of Nepal Postal Stationery	Frank Vignola	6
Frank Warner - Nassau Street Dealer Who Stocked Tibet	Alan Warren	7
NTPSC Statement of Accounts for 2013	Skinner & Hepper	8
EXPTL P.O.s - Bhutan	Brian G. Vincent	9
Predecessors of Tibetan Postal Stationery	Rainer Fuchs	10
The Philatelist from Lalitpur	Colin Hepper FRPSL	12
Dhaulagiri Himalayan Expedition Cover	T. W. Weixlmann	13
Commemorative Covers	Surendra Lal Shrestha	14
Index for <i>Postal Himal</i> Numbers 153-156 (2013)	Richard M. Hanchett	15

## Officer's Corner

It has been a very quiet winter so far in my part of the world with very little cold weather and not the usual cold winds blowing down from Scandinavia. It does however have a downside; it has been raining almost constantly for three months which has created very difficult times for some areas that are flooded and likely to remain so for a few months more. Here in Peterborough the rivers are running high but not likely to overflow their banks.

WESTPEX is on the horizon and I have decided to visit the show again this year. It is a long trip for the weekend show but I enjoy meeting those of our members who attend. I would ask if any of our

members who cannot attend but would like to have a subject discussed at our meeting please let me know beforehand.

Finally I would like to thank Leo for the excellent auction he organized and I believe that he is going to try and run smaller auctions on a more regular basis for us. So if you have material for sale, please contact him.

Colin

[emails: Colin-inside front cover; Leo-[himalayan@att.net](mailto:himalayan@att.net)]

## Editor's Ramblings

**CONGRATULATIONS to Rainier Fuchs upon his election as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London!** Rainer joins Colin Hepper, Geoffrey Flack and Alan Warren as members of our Society who have been honored with an election to the FRPSL and Brian G. Vincent who was elected FRPSNZ (Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society New Zealand).

One of the items which we will be discussing at WESTPEX will be the long awaited electronic distribution of *Postal Himal*. We need to discuss the rates to be charged for

hardcopy only, hardcopy plus electronic copy, and electronic only. You can send your suggestions to either Colin or myself if you don't plan to attend WESTPEX. Our email and postal mail addresses are on the inside front cover.

Colin will be flying over for the WESTPEX. I hope that we have many members in attendance for this year's meeting. For those of you who haven't attend, it is really a worthwhile show. And there is free transportation from the airport to the hotel.

## CONGRATULATIONS:

**Rishi Kumar Tulsyan** was awarded Small Gold for his exhibit "Nepal: The Prestamp and Classic Period 1779-1907" at Brasiliana

**Kin Chi Danny Wong** was awarded Large Vermeil for his exhibit "Development of Postal Services in Tibet" at Brasiliana

**Sandeep Jaiswal** was awarded the ARIPEX Reserve Grand Award plus Gold plus the APS Pre-1900 Medal of Excellence plus the ASDA Back of Book Award plus the UPSS Marcus White Award for his exhibit "British India Queen Victoria Postal Stationery" at ARIPEX

## UPCOMING:

**WESTPEX 2014** 25-27 April at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel. NTPSC meeting Sunday 27 April at 1:00 PM

**NAPEX 2014** 06-08 June at Hilton McLean Tyson's Corner Hotel

**NY2016** 28 May-04 June Jacob Javits Convention Center

## Himalayan Airmails

by Jeffrey Brown

[As mentioned in *Postal Himal* 156:2 Jeffrey Brown has passed away. This is the last of the 6 articles which he sent me. I am sure that we all join in extending our sympathy to Jeffrey's family. I also wish to thank the editor of *India Post* for his kind permission to reprint these articles, all of which first appeared in *India Post* -ed.]

[for Part 1 of this 6-part series, see *Postal Himal* 146:3, Part 2 see *Postal Himal* 151:2, Part 3 see *Postal Himal* 152:4, Part 4 see *Postal Himal* 153:11, Part 5 see *Postal Himal* 156:2 -ed.]

### Part 6 Houston Mount Everest Expedition Second Flight over Everest

The Expedition aimed to fly over the summit of Everest, two attempts having been sanctioned by the King of Nepal. The first flight was successful except that the vertical survey cameras had not operated properly, giving photographs of disappointing quality. The cameras were re-tested on a flight over Kanchenjunga and, despite the fact that a second flight would not have been covered by insurance, the second flight went ahead on 19 April 1933

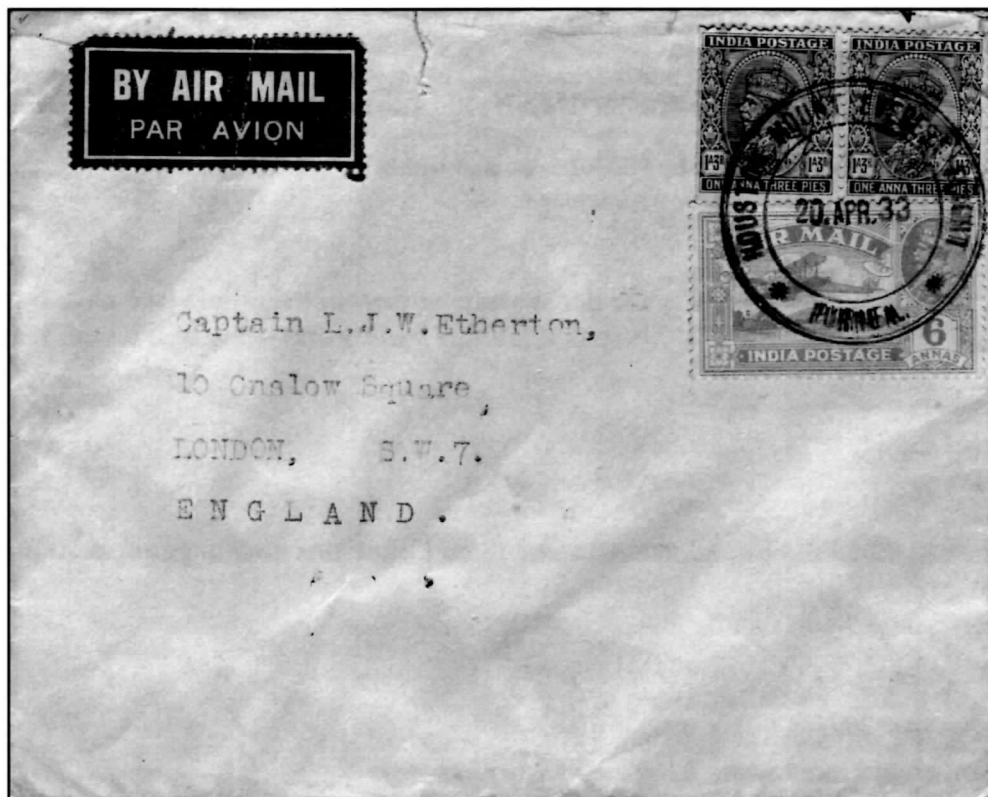
The crews were Lord Clydesdale and Col Blacker in the Westland PV-3 G-ACAZ and Lt McIntyre and A L Fisher in the Westland Wallace PV-6 G-ACBR. Such was the success that *The Times* wrote

"The second flight to Everest, which took place yesterday, may well be described by historians of great achievements as a piece of magnificent insubordination. Made in uninsured aeroplanes and without authority from home, it was carried through with the greatest success and has yielded results of the highest scientific value".

It is not clear how many covers were flown on this second flight, but it seems certain that there were somewhat fewer than on the first flight. To date, I have identified 7 covers. In most cases, I have seen either the cover itself or a photocopy; I have given the source of information for those where their existence is reported. I should be delighted to hear from anyone who owns, or knows of, a cover that I have not listed.

	Addressee	Cachet dated	Sent By	Letter	Certified by
1	Captain E J W Etherton	20.APR.33	Etherton		
2	The Hon Sec, The I.A.M.S., Calcutta	20.APR.33			(S H Smith)
3	Miss Dolly Semple, Bray, Irish Free State	20.APR.33	Shepard	Yes	
4	Mrs E Pohill, London SW7	20.APR.33			
5	Karachi ( <i>see note below</i> )	20.APR.33			
6	Miss Evelyn Coats, Paisley	21.APR.33	Clysdale	Yes	
7	1a 3p stamp cut out	21.APR.33			

*Note: In Asiatic Air Mail, (The Philatelist November 1960) A R Binns records a cover with a large rectangular cachet and circular cachet and is addressed to Karachi, 21<sup>st</sup> April. It is possible that it is addressed to Charles Hawes, the Mechanical Supervisor when the Westland aircraft were assembled at Karachi.*



Cover flown over  
Mount Everest  
20 April 1933  
(Col P V Etherton  
was the Secretary to  
the Expedition)

### **Books - Old and New** **Nepal's Sri Pashupati issues** article sent in by Alan Warren

In 1906 it was decided to let Perkins Bacon & Co. in London print Nepal's postage stamps. The design was to depict Siva Mahadheva (Pashupati) amidst the Himalayan mountain ranges. The first four stamps were issued in 1907. There were then two additional issues, with a different year indicated, in 1930 and 1935. As it was difficult to obtain new supplies of stamps from London during the war years, there were local printings. The same design was used from 1907 until well into the 1960s on most of Nepal's postage stamps.

It was a most interesting issue which has been studied extensively by a number of philatelists. In 1982, a book describing the Pashupati issues was issued by the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle in Britain. In 2011, there was a new and completely revised edition of *The Sri*

*Pashupati Issues of Nepal* written by Colin Hepper, FRPSL.

Siva Mahadheva is the guardian deity of Nepal and in his introduction to the book Hepper gives a description of the deity. You probably need to be a Nepalese scholar to fully understand the significance of Sri Pashupati.

The 133-page large size book contains a most detailed description of the various issues and their many printings. The treatment of the locally printed 1941-1945 issues is particularly extensive. Many of the higher values were used on telegraph forms and one chapter is devoted to telegraphic cancels.

The book's weak point are the illustrations which are frequently unclear. But apart from that it is an extremely useful work dealing with a fascinating period in Nepalese postal history.

## Emails to the Editor

### from Doug Hall

I am willing to give away my entire collection of Postal Himal issues to the first NTPSC member to request the same. The issues in my collection are #34—#156 with the following exceptions: 79, 82-116, 121-124 and 138. Also included is the Cumulative Index of issues 1-132 published in 2008.

Contact me by email: [doughallnh@comcast.net](mailto:doughallnh@comcast.net). I will ship these by USPS media mail within the US. If you want them shipped outside the US, you will have to make arrangements to reimburse me for shipping costs.

### from Frank Vignola

I got an email from Colin Hepper and his Wa 16 is exactly the same as the variety in the article [see page 6 for article-ed.]. I expect that there may be other Wa 16's out there that are this variety and some will be the same as in the van der Wateren book.

### from Bo C. Olsson

#### TIBET FORGERY WARNING

Dear recipients of this warning list,

Although I mostly ignore eBay because of all the forged items on sale there I think this now ongoing auction is worth to mention.

Seller is a company **Smits Philately** in the Netherlands.

eBay item number: 231116210220

Starting bid is only USD 5,169 (How did the 69 dollars come in?)

But of course for that moderate sum you will get free delivery.

There are ten images to check if you would like to take a look at eBay.

Beware!

### from Bo C. Olsson

The auction lot of Tibet 1912029 mentioned above sold for €350 to a happy buyer at Christian Arbeiter.

I have received a question whether both the 4 trankas and 8 tranka in the John Bull, Hong Kong auction are forgeries. The simple short answer is YES.

If you are tired of all the forgeries in the market you could, as an alternative, visit Rainer's Tibet pages at <http://fuchs-online.com/tibet/>. Genuine Tibet you will find at <http://fuchs-online.com/tibetsammlung/15.htm>.

### from Harmers International

Announcing that after 15 years they are reopening their Private Treaty Department. To see the offerings go to [www.HarmersInternational.com](http://www.HarmersInternational.com) and click on Private Treaty.

### from World Stamp Show- NY 2016

World Stamp Show NY 2016 is providing newsletters detailing prices for hotel rooms in NY and NJ as well as things to see and do while attending the show. Newsletters can be downloaded at <http://www.ny2016.org> or directly through the link <http://www.ny2016.org/images/ny2016newsletters/2014-02-newsletter3.pdf>. There are also Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest feeds there.

### from Sankar Shrestha

Announcing items he has for sale at his website [www.nuphil.com](http://www.nuphil.com)

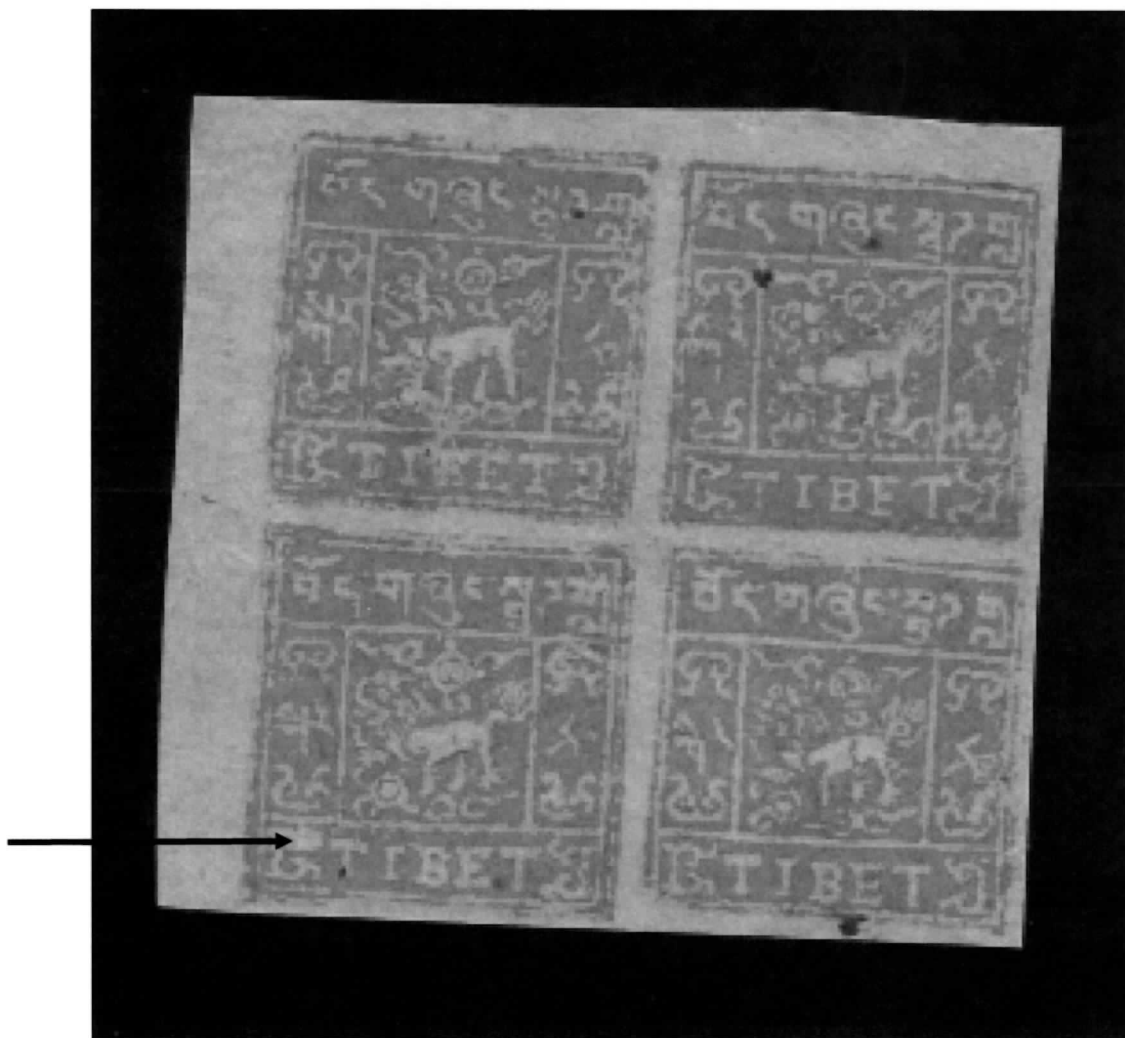
## A Small Complement to Bibbins Plating Study Regarding the ½ Tranka Stamp by Bo Olsson

I, of course, use Bibbins excellent plating study [for book reviews of Bibbins plating of the 1st issue see *PH* 71:37, for the 3rd issue see 73:8, for the 2nd issue see 94:19-ed.] when I examine and classify stamps from Tibet's 3rd stamp issue 1933-56. Over the years I have, now and then, found diverging details while adding new additions to my collection, especially regarding the 4 tranka value. I have unfortunately not made any notes about it. We shall not blame Bibbins excellent work because of divergences. He would have needed access to all colour shades (printings) to make his work 100 percent complete. And I doubt that even Waterfall was 100 percent complete. At least he missed the printings we have discovered after he published his handbook.

The block of four ½ tranka stamps depicted here I have had for some time, but did not have time to examine further. It is a part of a sheet from setting III in Bistre-Yellow (W118). Bibbins states that in the bottom panel on cliché 7 a white "blob" appears on the upper curl of the left scroll during setting II. My block has such a "blob", but it is setting III.

If a W118 stamp from setting III has such a "blob" it would, of course, be interesting to check whether also W114 to W117 has it on cliché 7. My own collection is not available as I am writing this not, so I leave it to other students to check this matter themselves.

So, for all who think Tibet is not interesting because the subject is limited and everything is already researched





## New Variety of Nepal Postal Stationery by Frank Vignola

Nepal philately is always full of new surprises as the Nepalese printed their postal items when they were needed. It seems that each time they went to print a new batch of items, they made minor changes when they cleaned their plates or reset their type. Therefore I was not totally surprised when going through a stamp auction I came across a postal card of HG 18 (Wa 16) on thick paper being offered for sale. After checking the image with the van der Wateren *Nepal Postal Stationery* book I determined that the postal card differed slightly from both Wa 16 and Wa 17. Figure 1 is an illustration of the new postal card. Figure 2 (Wa 16) and Figure 3 (Wa 17) are given for comparison.

This postal card is printed on a heavy card stock with just a faint outer frame line showing at the top. Its inscriptions are very similar to Wa 16 except that

the first two characters of the third word in the bottom inscription are shifted to the left and fill in the space between the second and third word. This gives the inscription the appearance of having five words instead of six. The inscription in Wa 17 has four words as the third and fourth and fifth and sixth words are joined. Several other differences are more related to Wa 17 than to Wa 16. The vowel mark in the second word has been shifted to the left as compared to Wa 16 and is similarly placed over the ornaments as in Wa 17. The final difference is the bottom frame line that extends further to the right than either Wa 16 or Wa 17.

Therefore this variety is different from Wa 16 and Wa 17 although it fits in with the general series that was printed during this time period. Should it be classified as a new printing or a subprinting of Wa

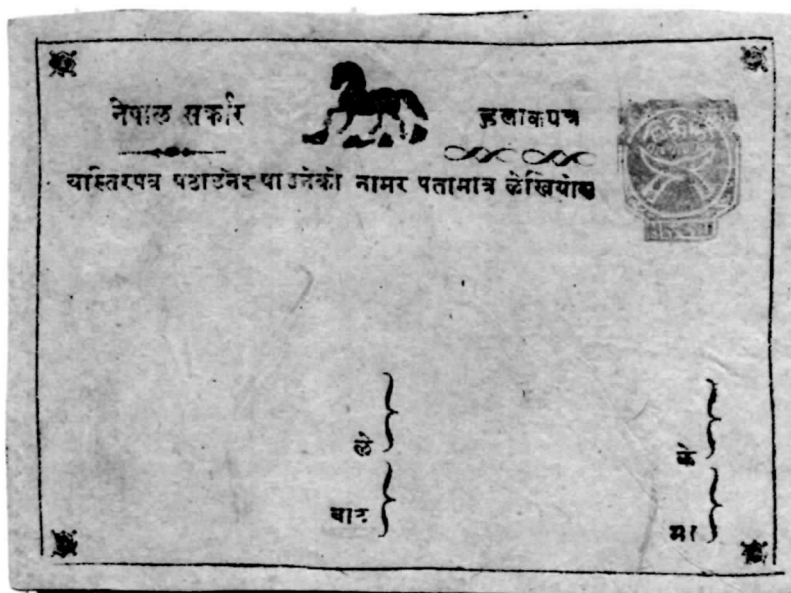


Figure 1



Figure 2

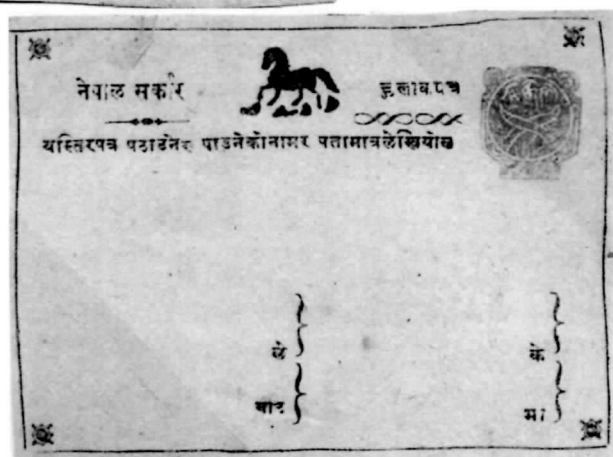


Figure 3



## Frank Warner-Nassau Street Dealer Who Stocked Tibet

by Alan Warren

One of my favorite dealers back in the 1960s (!) was Frank Warner who was one of a myriad of dealers with a store front on the popular Nassau Street in New York City. He opened his business in May 1940, sharing the rear area of a shoe repair shop. After the war broke out, the cobbler decided to close his business, and Frank took over the entire shop. He built his stock and his clientele until he had customers in every state. He claimed to be able to sell mint sets of most countries from 1920 to date, keeping up with the new issues as they appeared.

Frank was assisted by his wife Madeline who took care of the drop-in trade at the front counter-collectors who spotted something interesting in the window-while Frank and his teen age son Walter filled mail orders from want lists. My few purchases from Frank were of Tibet for he knew enough to distinguish the genuine from the counterfeit. He also once observed that to tell if a cover from Tibet was genuine, one just had to smell it and if it smelled like a yak, then it came down out of the Himalayas on a pack animal.

In 1955 Frank Warner published his 20-page *Market Report*, an annual practice he began five years earlier. He reminisced about travels to Europe to visit his counterparts abroad and also to buy material for his stock. Then he launched into a brief discussion of countries around the world and the more difficult items that collectors should watch for. His report also reflected the popular collecting areas. He did not compete with the many dealers on Nassau Street who focused on United States stamps. He was proud of the fact that he could show a customer a rather complete stock of any country, including lesser ones

like Andorra, Ifni and Tonga. On the subject of Tibet, in this issue of his report, Frank had this to say:

Tibet is a favorite country with many American collectors. This is one of the "magic words" of stamp advertising; all we have to do is mention the word "Tibet" in one of our ads and we are sure to receive a couple of dozen inquires. Scott has added six additional stamps to the 1955 edition and has provided quotations for two rare items which were hitherto unpriced. Except for #14-18, every stamp of Tibet is elusive.

We have never seen #6, nor #9-13. O1 is virtually unobtainable. #7 is even rarer than #8 and should be listed accordingly. Covers are very much in demand and are usually sold on the day we receive them. Supplies from Tibetan sources never amounted to more than a trickle. Now that Tibet has been absorbed into Communist China and Chinese stamps are in use, it seems certain that Tibetan material will become even rarer than it already is. Highly recommended!

Unfortunately Frank died in a swimming accident in 1958. His son and wife continued the business on Nassau Street. However, as Nassau Street rents began to increase dramatically, Walter moved the business to an office building near Grand Central Station. This area also became a high rent one, forcing him to move his business to his home in Westchester County. As a consequence he had to reduce his stock and focus on the scarcer issues of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**NOW 20 PAGES!**

**Frank Warner's** *Brand New* **PRICE 35c**

**1955 MARKET REPORT**

"One of the most complete stocks of the world -- in the world"

Published at 109 Nassau Street  
NEW YORK 38, N. Y.

**FIFTH ANNUAL EDITION** Permission is hereby granted for the use of excerpts taken from this report, provided proper acknowledgement of the source of the material is given.

**The Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle Statement of Accounts**  
**01 January 2013 to 31 December 2013**  
 by Roger Skinner and Colin Hepper FRPSL

**USA Accounts (\$)**

	<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>
Subscriptions	450.00	<i>Postal Himal</i> Printing	1690.00
Transfer from UK	1566.76	<i>Postal Himal</i> Postage	551.70
Auction 72	6498.04	Auction Refund	380.00
		Miscellaneous	4.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8514.80</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2585.70</b>
Balance (Income-Expenditure)	5929.10		
Balance Brought Fwd from 2012	1459.53		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7388.63</b>		

**Europe Accounts (£)**

	<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>
<b>Current Account</b>			
Carried Fwd from 2012	1356.04	Postage	3.50
Subscriptions	957.98	ABPS Subscription	24.20
Auction 72	1801.07	Transfer to USA Account	1000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4114.69</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1027.70</b>
Balance (Income-Expenditure)	3086.99		

**Business Account**

	<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>
Carried Fwd from 2012	2714.75		
Bank Interest	1.01		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2815.76</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Balance (Income-Expenditure)	2715.76		
BALANCE (Current+Business)	5802.75		

**COMBINED TOTAL (£)**

USA \$ converted to £	4766.86
Europe	5802.75
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>10569.61</b>

## EXPTL P.O.'s—Bhutan

by Brian G. Vincent

In *The American Philatelist*, June 1970, Vol. 84/ No. 6, Robert D. West reported the use of the Exptl P. O. datestamps in Bhutan (see his article 'Postal Progress of the Druk-pa', pages 519/520). He advised that certain Exptl P. O. datestamps with 'C' numbers had been used as follows: C.2594 (Chimakothi in 1968), C.2353 (Chapcha in 1968), C.1778 (Puylibhir), C.2840 (Lamidara) and C.2096 (Tongsa). Robert comments in his article that the terminology was somewhat unclear—Exptl meaning either experimental or extra-departmental. Extra-departmental being described as Post Offices operated by shopkeepers, etc., but which are not part of the normal postal organization. Apparently these 'C' numbered datestamps were used on a temporary basis to determine the need before a permanent post office was established.

I have only four covers with Exptl P. O. postmarks

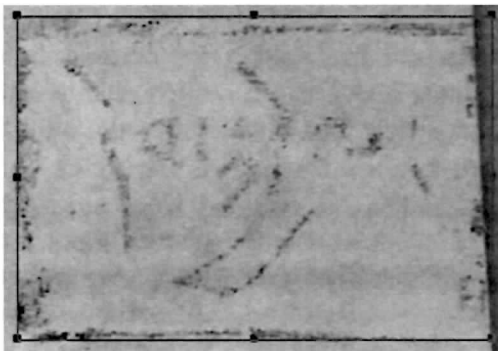
and my cover with C.2096 is dated 2 Mar (no year); it cancels two stamps that were issued in 1971. The other three covers all have the C.2594 datestamp. One is dated 20 July 1985, and is addressed to Calcutta with a postmark on the reverse dated 6 Aug 1984(!). The other two covers have the datestamp on the reverse, both dated 11 May 1985 (one having a 50ch stamp postmarked at Daga on the address side—the other has an indistinct postmark, but likely is the same).

Does nay member have further and more definite details about these Exptl cancels and their periods of use? Also whether the same C number was used at different offices? I would appreciate any information, either by way of an article in our Journal or direct to me at: B. G. Vincent, P O Box 1321, Wellington 6140, NEW ZEALAND or [bgvincent@etra.co.nz](mailto:bgvincent@etra.co.nz)

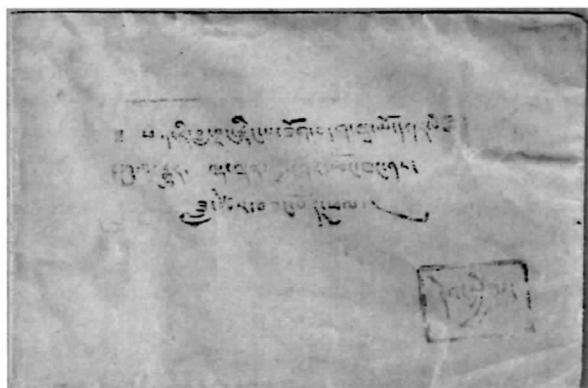


## Predecessors of Tibetan Postal Stationary? by Rainer Fuchs

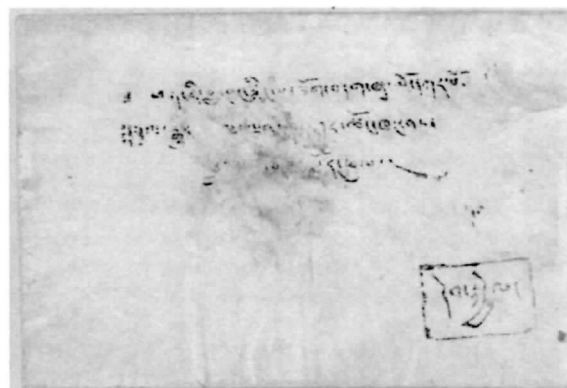
I have long had the covers shown and described in this article and I believe Ed Boers also has a similar one in his collection. The four envelopes (one mint, three used) are all the same size (110 x 161 mm), paper color, envelope type and are stamped on the front with a Directional Marking Type 09, a Registration Postmark from Lhasa IX, Hellrigl Type T92 in some slightly different shades of violet. Only one has the registration marking in red.



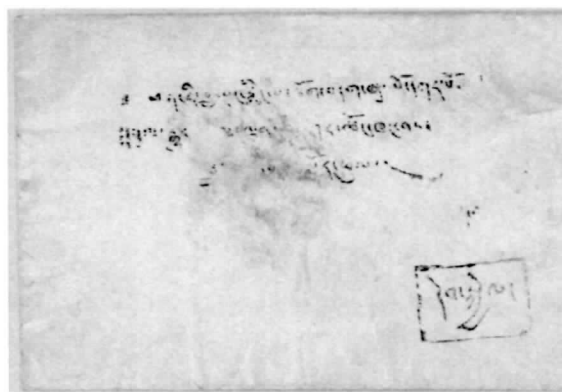
At first I thought the registration handstamps were somehow different, but a close cut-out and enlargement proved the contrary; they are indeed identical.



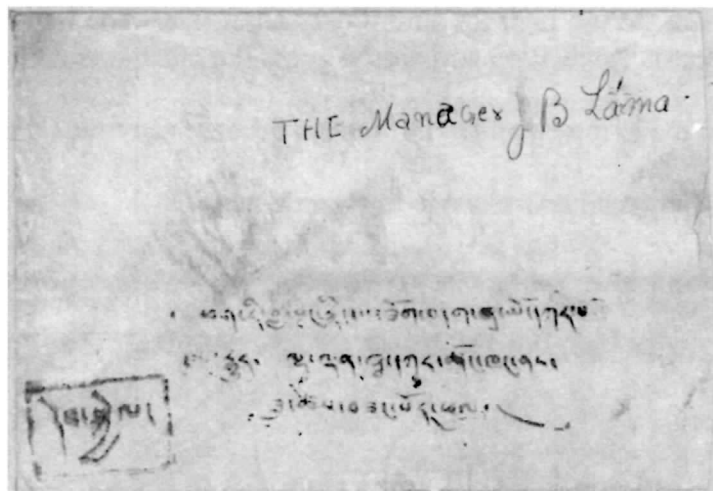
Front side of mint envelope



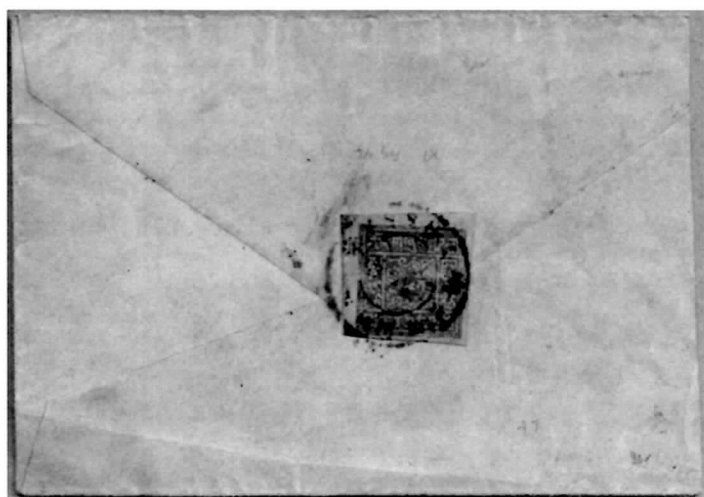
Front side of used envelope



Front side of second used envelope



Front side of third used envelope with the Lhasa IX Registration Postmark (Hellrigl Type T92) in red



Reverse side of the above envelope franked with a 4 Tranka yellow green and postmarked with a Lhasa T42 postmark

Of course, I do not believe that these envelopes were officially issued by Tibetan Post, but it can be assumed that they have been produced for stock and used when needed.

Since the envelopes shown do not have any other receiver address written on the envelope, I assume the address is mentioned in the Directional Handstamp and the text of the handstamp says more than "From Lhasa to Phari" as otherwise how would Tibetan Post have been able to deliver the cover?

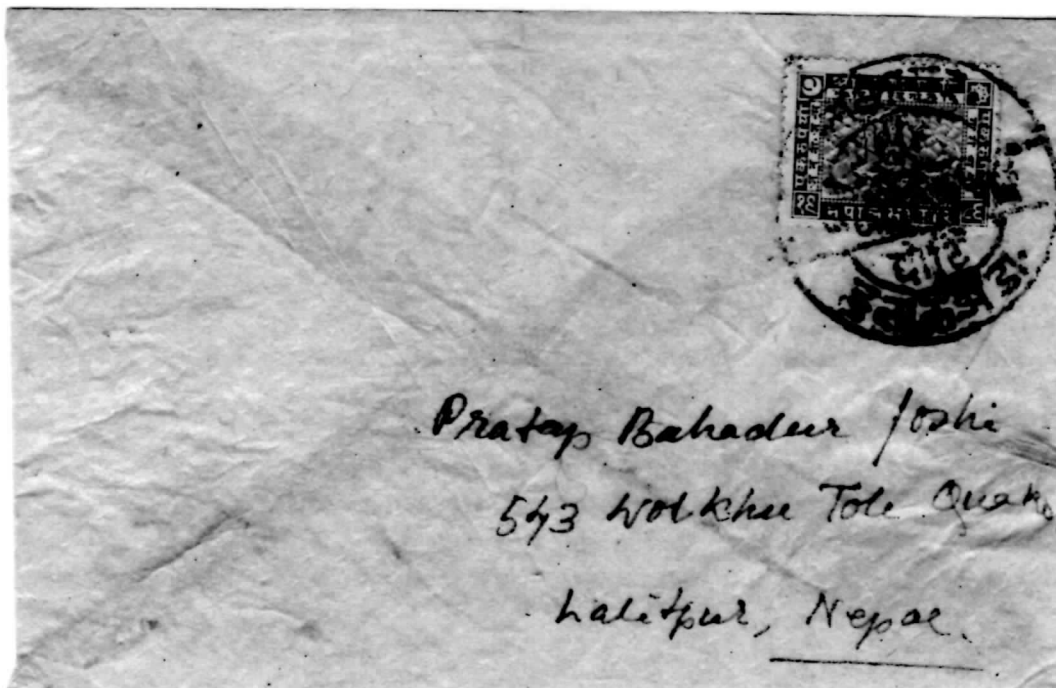
Have any members already tried to translate the complete text of the Directional Handstamp? I would be very interested to receive a detailed translation. Any information can be sent to [rainer@fuchs-online.com](mailto:rainer@fuchs-online.com).

## The Philatelist from Lalitpur by Colin Hepper FRPSL

Quite recently I was browsing through various sections of my collection to assemble an exhibit for the show at WESTPEX, when I noticed that the two covers illustrated were sent, presumably by a Pratap Bahadur Joshi to himself at his address in Lalitpur. One has been franked with a 1936 issue 2 pice stamp and the other has the 1930 1 Rupee stamp for postage. They were obviously done by favor, as the 2 pice should only be used on either postcards or for official mail and the 1 Rupee was far too high for an ordinary letter rate. The Lalitpur postmarks do not have very clear dates, the 2 pice letter is dated 1943 so I would guess the other was done at the same time.

It would seem that Mr. Joshi was a philatelist who made these 'philatelic' covers because they would not normally be found in the mail.

I would be interested to know if other members have any mail addressed to this gentleman.





# Dhaulagiri Himalayan Expedition Cover

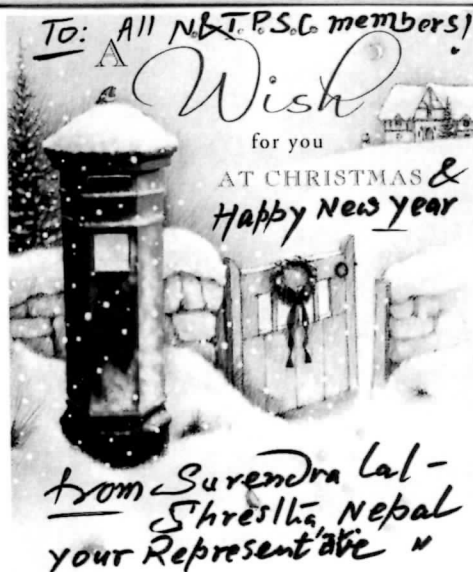
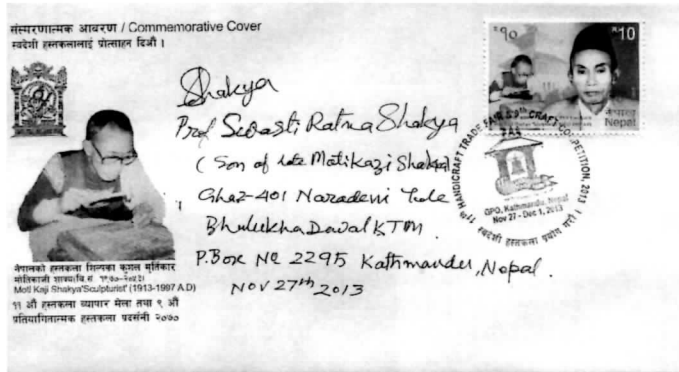
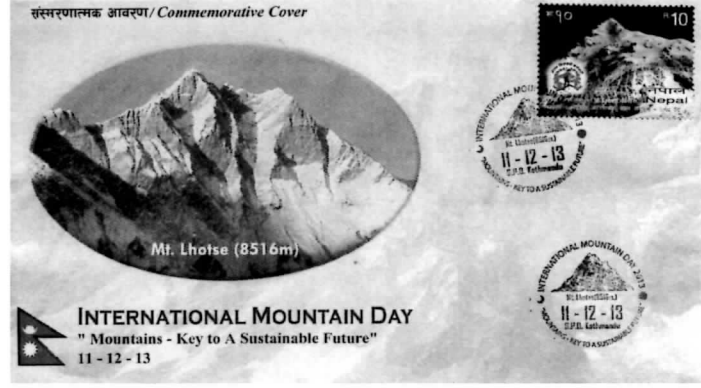
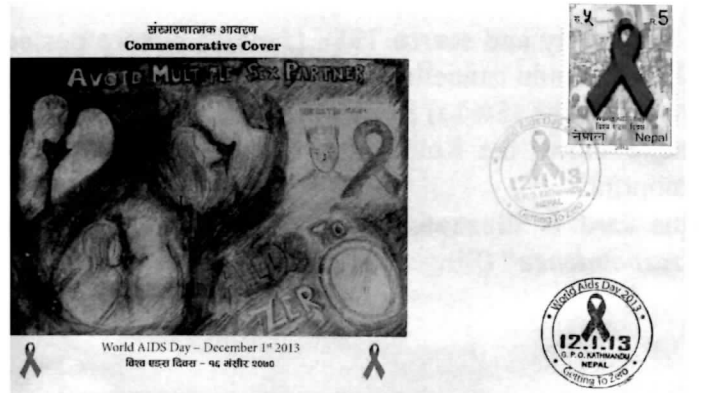
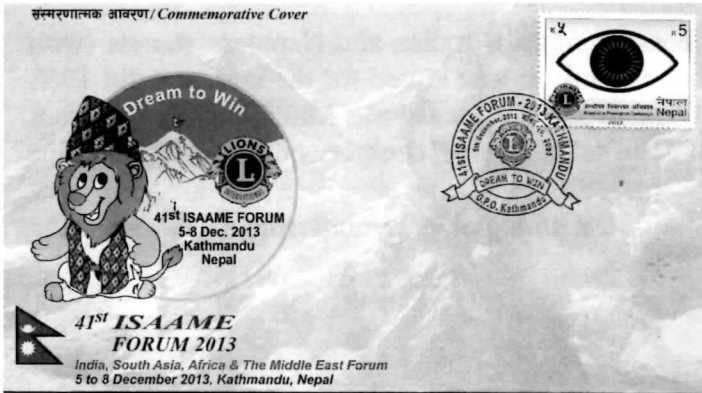
by Chief T. W. Weixlmann, Sr. USN (Ret)

A very early and scarce 1958 (June 3) picture postcard bearing franked Indian and Nepalese stamps (with dual Kathmandu cancellations) tied by a commemorative handstamp. It was issued for the unsuccessful 1958 Schweizerische (Swiss) Dhaulagiri Himalayan Expedition. The expedition leader was Max Eiselin. The front vignette shows the Route Map and various illustrations. The address side contains eight signatures plus thumbprints.

This card is illustrated (page 123) in the 2nd edition of *A Catalogue of Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence* (Singer and Gould).



# Commemorative Covers from Surendra Lal Shrestha



Index for *Postal Himal* Numbers 153-156 (2013)

**Articles**

- Sikkim - The Stamp Papers by Brian G. Vincent 153:2  
Some new Historical Facts of Tibet by Ed Boers 153:3  
A Visit to Kathmandu by Colin Hepper 153:6  
Saltero Expedition by Thomas W. Weixlmann, Sr. 153:9  
A New Type Kathmandu Postmark? by Colin Hepper FRPSL 153:10  
Himalayan Airmails - Part 4 by Jeffrey Brown 153:11  
A Remarkable Nepalese Cover from 1882 by Colin Hepper FRPSL 153:13  
Mysterious Mark Revealed by Bo C. Olsson & Wolfgang Scharlipp 153:14  
Index for *Postal Himal* Numbers 149-152 (2012) 153:15  
Nicholas Gervase Rhodes by Brian W. Smith 1946-2012 154:2  
Tibetan 1 Sang Multiple by Brian W. Smith 154:3  
Forged Tibet Increases at Traditional Auction Houses by Bo C. Olsson 154:4  
Combined NTPSC Financial Accounts for 2012 by Colin Hepper FRPSL 154:7  
Early B4 Gyantse Postmark by Brian W. Smith 154:8  
The Mount Everest Stamps of Tibet by Alan Warren 154:9  
Custom Mark of Listi by Dick van der Wateren 154:11  
A Bailey Cover? by Brian W. Smith 154:13  
A Message from the President by Colin Hepper FRPSL 154:14  
Frealon Bibbins by Leo Martyn 155:2  
Early B4 Gyantse Postmark by Bruno Le Peut 155:3  
Tibet - The Three trangkas "Forwarding Rate" by Bruno Le Peut 155:6  
Tibet Specialists Study Group Members Needed? by Rainer Fuchs 155:10  
Tibetan 1 Sang Multiple, Again by Alan Warren 155:11  
Auction #72 Additional Information 155:11  
Personalized Stamp Issues of Bhutan Post of 2008, 2009 and 2011 by Leo Van Der Velden 155:12  
More on My Bailey Cover by Brian Smith 155:16  
Himalayan Airmails-Part 5 by Jeffery Brown 156:2  
An Unrecorded Postal Stationery Card by Dick van der Wateren 156:3  
"Aupaharik" Gift Exhibition Post Office by Jaya Hari Jha 156:4  
Chispani by Dick van der Wateren 156:6  
Bhutan Postal Stationery—Some Questions by Brian G. Vincent FRPDNZ 156:7  
Mail to South America by Colin Hepper FRPSL 156:8  
Curious Cover 1 by Colin Hepper FRPSL 156:8  
Prices Realized for NTPSC Auction 72 by Leo Martyn 156:9  
1936 Cover to D. D. Tsarong by Brian W. Smith 156:10  
The Text for All Tibetan Stamps: Postal, "Officials: and Telegraph by Dr Wolfgang Scharlipp and Bo C. Olsson 156:12  
Curious Cover 2 by Colin Hepper FRPSL 156:14

The Design of the Classic Nepal Postal Stationery by Johannes Bornmann 156:15

### **Congratulations**

153:1, 154:1, 155:1, 156:1

### **Commemorative Covers**

by Surendra Lal Shrestha 154:15

### **Cover Illustrations**

Issue 153 Color from "Sikkim - The Stamp Papers" by Brian G. Vincent 153:2

Issue 154 Color from "Tibetan 1 Sang Multiple" by Brian W. Smith 154:3

Issue 155 Color from "Tibet - The Three Trangkas "Forwarding Rate" by Bruno Le Peut 155:6

Issue 156 Color from "1936 Tibet Cover to D. D. Tsarong" by Brian W. Smith 156:10

### **Editor's Ramblings**

Richard M. Hanchett 153:1, 154:1, 155:1, 156:1

### **Emails/Letters to the Editor**

155:4

### **Miscellaneous**

Photos from Nepal by Alfonso G. Zulueta, Jr. 154:16

Awards and Honors 155:5

### **Officer's Corner**

Colin Hepper (President) 153:1

Geoffrey Flack (Vice President) 154:1

Colin Hepper (Secretary) 155:1

Colin Hepper (Treasurer) 156:1

### **Upcoming**

153:1, 154:1, 155:1, 156:1