



Postal Himal



QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

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

西藏郵局所及郵路圖
TIBET POST OFFICES AND POSTAL ROUTE

- ☐ 郵界總局
- ◎ 郵局所
- 沿途驛站



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.

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USA/Canada	\$20.00	\$50.00	N/A
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PayPal for All Others	£19.08 or €23,32	£47.70 or €58,30	
Email anywhere	\$10.00 or £6.00 or €7,50	\$25.00 or £15.00 or €18,75	N/A
PayPal for Email anywhere	\$10.60 or £6.36 or €7,95	\$26.50 or £15.90 or €19,88	

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Officer's Corner

This will be the first time that Postal Himal has been sent by email to those that requested it and hopefully everything ran smoothly. For those that needed to renew their subscription this year approx. 20% have taken up this option, with the remainder staying faithful to the hobby and having it sent by post.

Europhilex is being staged in London this year from 13 to 16 May. I expect to be going to the exhibition on Thursday 14th. If any of our GB or European members are likely to be attending on that day, if you would care to let me know perhaps we could arrange to have a coffee together and a chat.

We are very pleased to announce that Danny Wong has decided to accept the position of Vice President. The duties are almost non-existent but

we do need the position filled should I happen to fall by the wayside, there is then someone to take over the reins.

On a more personnel note, the hobby of a member of the family is genealogy and after many years of searching, has traced our family tree back to 1800. The difficulty was tracing the family back into Germany but he succeeded with the help of a German organisation and it seems that in 1800 the family member was a carriage driver in Tubingen (South of Stuttgart) but at later stages they became butchers. They carrier on this trade when moving to London in the 1870's. It is a fascinating subject but I don't think I could spend many hundreds of hours searching through many records, I will stick to stamp collecting.

Colin

Editor's Ramblings

Your editor is very pleased to have been awarded Gold for his very first exhibit ever. The story about how this came to be can't be told in this issue, as there is insufficient space, but will be told in the next issue. Hopefully it may encourage some of you to exhibit.

As noted in the Officer's Corner we are very pleased that Danny Wong has decided it accept the position of V P for the NTPSC.

As you will see from page 2, we have a new member, a changed address, and a rejoined member. The rejoining of Bo Olsson adds yet

another very experienced voice to our list of Tibet experts. And our new V P is also an experienced Tibet hand. I expect that we will be having more articles on Tibet in the near future, which will fill in very nicely with our Bhutan and Nepal authors. It has been a while since we have had an article on Sikkim - does anyone have an article?

If you have asked for an email copy, please let me know if you don't receive it or if it was damaged in any way. Hopefully there were no problems.

CONGRATULATIONS

Rainer Fuchs was awarded Gold plus a Special Prize for his Tibet Exhibit at the Alpen-Adria Exhibition in Switzerland

Sandeep Jaiswal was awarded Gold for his single frame exhibit "Indian Postal Stationery for the Boxer Rebellion" at APS AmeriStamp Expo 2015 in Riverside, CA

Sandeep Jaiswal was awarded Gold for his single frame exhibit "Jaipur - The 1911 "Jail Print" Postal Stationery" at APS AmeriStamp Expo 2015 in Riverside, CA

Richard M. Hanchett was awarded Gold for his single frame exhibit "Late Mail Strikes on 19th Century Indian Mail" at APS AmeriStamp Expo 2015 in Riverside, CA

UPCOMING

WESTPEX 2015 24-26 April at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel. NTPSC meeting Sunday 26 April at 11:00 AM

NAPEX 2015 05-07 June at Hilton McLean Tyson's Corner Hotel

NY2016 28 May-04 June Jacob Javit's Convention Center

In Memoriam

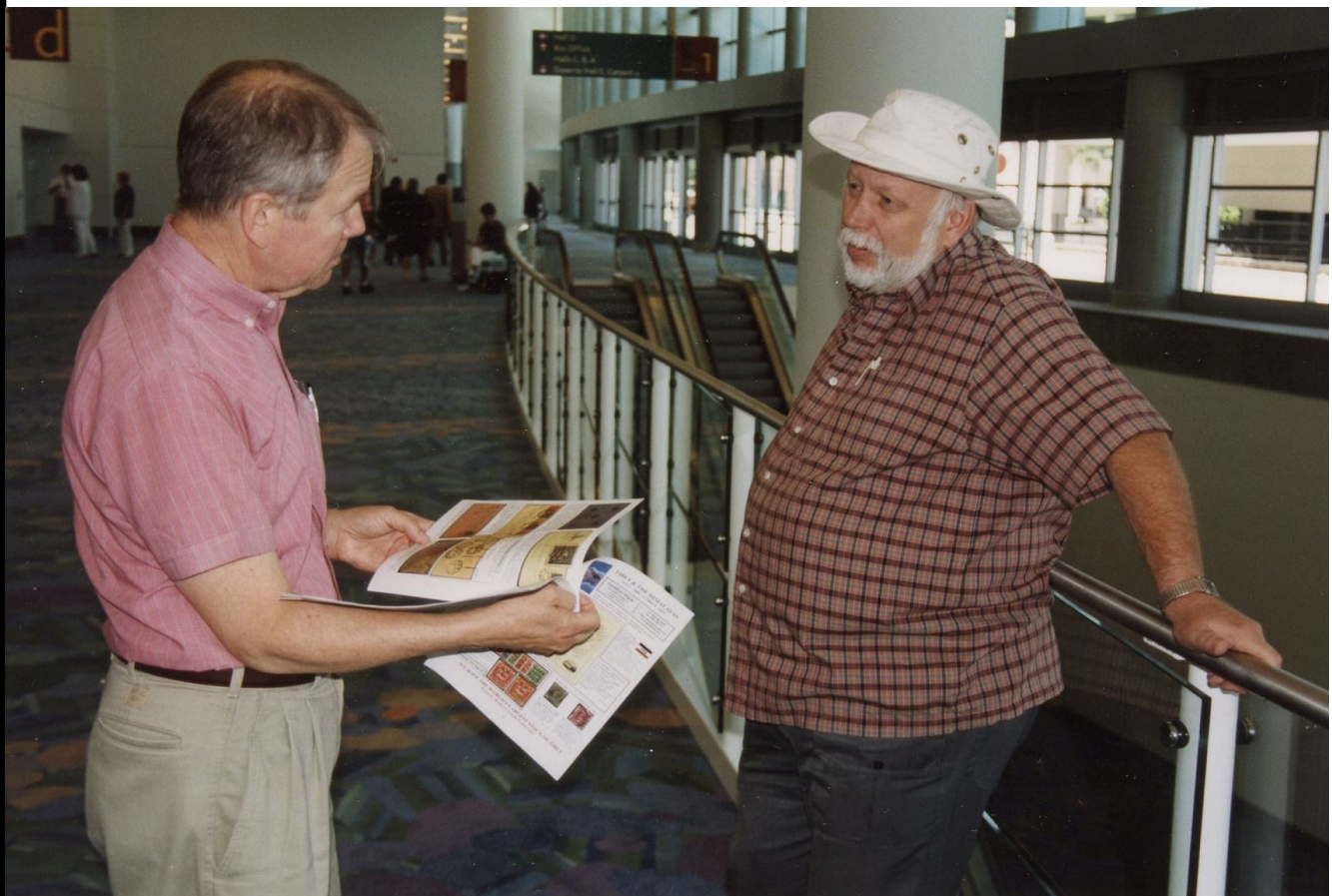
Geoffrey Flack, Vice President Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle

So sad to hear of Geoff's demise. He has left a hole in the Tibet philately world which can probably never be filled again. I had only been his customer for about ten years, and always found him very helpful and totally honest in his dealings.

I met him just once - at the N&TPSC meeting in London 2010 where he gave an interesting talk on Tibet. I had taken two 1933 sheets of Tibet stamps to ask him if he could verify their authenticity. He looked at and felt them for a minute or two then said "I've never seen any on this kind of paper before - but they could be genuine". It turned out that the stamps had been printed on the reverse side of the paper!.

With Condolences to his family.

Brian W Smith



Alan Warren and Geoffrey Flack discuss one of Geoff's pricelists during World Stamp Expo 2000 in Anaheim, California

Towards the beginning of this century, as I wanted to improve my Tibet collection, I began to search on the web, when, by chance, I came across Geoffrey's fantastic website.

That was the start of an extensive correspondence, scientific and humorous at one and the same time. Over the years, he has helped me to build up quite a fair collection.

Geoffrey often informed me of items he had outside his website, and when sometimes I inquired, just in case, whether he possibly has this or that, the answer usually was "Yes!"

Also, he was not sparing in generously sharing his knowledge, and it happened at times that we had some scholarly level e-mail discussions to clarify a particular point.

I have twice had the pleasure of a visit at home from Geoffrey, once with his wife. As there is a small Laotian restaurant nearby, they were delighted not only by the food, but also by the fact they could speak Thai with the Laotian owner.

Geoffrey always had with him his almost proverbial leather bag, well loaded with treasures, which he showed me and explained the items to me concisely and passionately. For although not in the religious meaning the Tibetans give to this word, Geoffrey was indeed a «gter ston», i.e. a treasure-finder, a treasure-revealer, and most of his discoveries were and are really historical museum pieces.

Ga le phebs, Geoffrey. My thoughts are with your family.

Edmond Weissberg

Yes, Geoffrey Flack will be missed by all of his Nepalese friends who knew him. I have known Geoffrey for more than 30 years. I would like to remember him with the following remarks, made by him, since 1995, in my Visitor's Book.

I have enjoyed working with you for over 20 years. I hope that we can remain friends and can continue to do business together.

June 27, 1995

Pleased we were able to do some business and hope to work with you in the future.

Oct. 11, 97

I have known Mr. Shrestha since the early 1970's. Since then we have met many times in Kathmandu and once in Washington, D. C. Over the years he has shown me some very interesting items. I wish him the best in his philatelic future.

Dec. 7, 2007

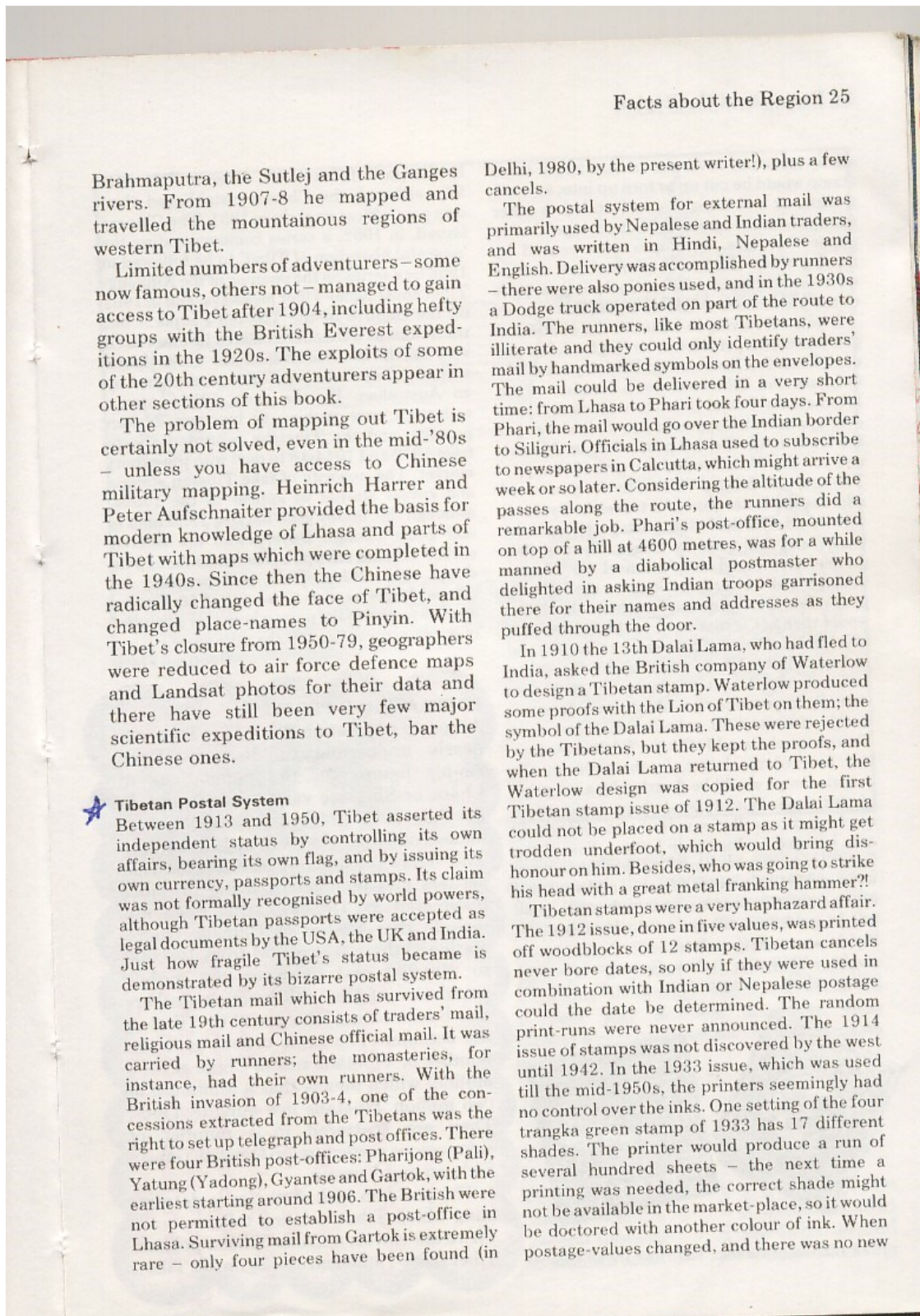
27 July 2009

On this quick visit to Nepal I have enjoyed meeting with my old friend S. L. Shrestha. We first met over 30 years ago and we have had the opportunity to meet and share our passion for stamps on numerous occasions over the years.

S. L. Shrestha

Article on Tibet by Geoffrey Flack in Lonely Planet article supplied by Surendra Lal Shrestha

This article was from 'Tibet - A Travel Survival Kit (pages 25 and 26) published in April 1986 by Lonely Planet Publications. It was written by our past Vice-President Geoffrey Flack



Facts about the Region 25

Brahmaputra, the Sutlej and the Ganges rivers. From 1907-8 he mapped and travelled the mountainous regions of western Tibet.

Limited numbers of adventurers – some now famous, others not – managed to gain access to Tibet after 1904, including hefty groups with the British Everest expeditions in the 1920s. The exploits of some of the 20th century adventurers appear in other sections of this book.

The problem of mapping out Tibet is certainly not solved, even in the mid-'80s – unless you have access to Chinese military mapping. Heinrich Harrer and Peter Aufschnaiter provided the basis for modern knowledge of Lhasa and parts of Tibet with maps which were completed in the 1940s. Since then the Chinese have radically changed the face of Tibet, and changed place-names to Pinyin. With Tibet's closure from 1950-79, geographers were reduced to air force defence maps and Landsat photos for their data and there have still been very few major scientific expeditions to Tibet, bar the Chinese ones.

★ Tibetan Postal System

Between 1913 and 1950, Tibet asserted its independent status by controlling its own affairs, bearing its own flag, and by issuing its own currency, passports and stamps. Its claim was not formally recognised by world powers, although Tibetan passports were accepted as legal documents by the USA, the UK and India. Just how fragile Tibet's status became is demonstrated by its bizarre postal system.

The Tibetan mail which has survived from the late 19th century consists of traders' mail, religious mail and Chinese official mail. It was carried by runners; the monasteries, for instance, had their own runners. With the British invasion of 1903-4, one of the concessions extracted from the Tibetans was the right to set up telegraph and post offices. There were four British post-offices: Pharijong (Pali), Yatung (Yadong), Gyantse and Gartok, with the earliest starting around 1906. The British were not permitted to establish a post-office in Lhasa. Surviving mail from Gartok is extremely rare – only four pieces have been found (in

Delhi, 1980, by the present writer!), plus a few cancels.

The postal system for external mail was primarily used by Nepalese and Indian traders, and was written in Hindi, Nepalese and English. Delivery was accomplished by runners – there were also ponies used, and in the 1930s a Dodge truck operated on part of the route to India. The runners, like most Tibetans, were illiterate and they could only identify traders' mail by handmarked symbols on the envelopes. The mail could be delivered in a very short time: from Lhasa to Phari took four days. From Phari, the mail would go over the Indian border to Siliguri. Officials in Lhasa used to subscribe to newspapers in Calcutta, which might arrive a week or so later. Considering the altitude of the passes along the route, the runners did a remarkable job. Phari's post-office, mounted on top of a hill at 4600 metres, was for a while manned by a diabolical postmaster who delighted in asking Indian troops garrisoned there for their names and addresses as they puffed through the door.

In 1910 the 13th Dalai Lama, who had fled to India, asked the British company of Waterlow to design a Tibetan stamp. Waterlow produced some proofs with the Lion of Tibet on them; the symbol of the Dalai Lama. These were rejected by the Tibetans, but they kept the proofs, and when the Dalai Lama returned to Tibet, the Waterlow design was copied for the first Tibetan stamp issue of 1912. The Dalai Lama could not be placed on a stamp as it might get trodden underfoot, which would bring dishonour on him. Besides, who was going to strike his head with a great metal franking hammer?!

Tibetan stamps were a very haphazard affair. The 1912 issue, done in five values, was printed off woodblocks of 12 stamps. Tibetan cancels never bore dates, so only if they were used in combination with Indian or Nepalese postage could the date be determined. The random print-runs were never announced. The 1914 issue of stamps was not discovered by the west until 1942. In the 1933 issue, which was used till the mid-1950s, the printers seemingly had no control over the inks. One setting of the four trangka green stamp of 1933 has 17 different shades. The printer would produce a run of several hundred sheets – the next time a printing was needed, the correct shade might not be available in the market-place, so it would be doctored with another colour of ink. When postage-values changed, and there was no new

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stamp issued to cover the rates, a larger value stamp would be cut up or torn up into, say, a ½ trangka or a ¼ trangka – and added to other stamps to make up the correct postage. Due to paper shortages, envelopes were reused by turning them inside out. Sometimes stamps were entirely ignored for internal postage, a gift to the postmaster would do the trick.

If you were living in Lhasa in the 1930s and you wanted to get a letter to England, life got complicated. There was no British post-office in Lhasa and Tibet was not a member of the International Postal Union (it's not clear if they ever applied). What you had to do first was get the letter to the British post-office in Gyantse and you therefore needed two sets of stamps – Tibetan, and Indian. Alternatively, you could address the letter care of a trader in Gyantse, who would affix the Indian postage, forward the letter, and bill you. In Lhasa, by the first method mentioned, they'd cancel the Tibetan postage and forward the item to the Tibetan post-office in Gyantse. Somehow the letter would then get across town to the British post office in Gyantse, and then go on to Yatung and India, and the letter would enter the international postal system. Incoming mail was virtually impossible to orchestrate unless you could address it to a trader in Gyantse or Pharijong, who would affix the Tibetan postage and forward the letter. In the process, the actual stamps would be dwarfed by a selection of wax seals, handstamps, chops, registration-marks and cancellations. Red wax seals could only be used by Incarnate Lamas. Few of the Dalai Lama's letters went beyond Sikkim, they were carried by private runners, and enclosed ceremonial silk scarves and perhaps a small bag of gold-dust. They could only leave the Potala on auspicious dates.

After 1947 the Indian Government, now independent, continued to operate the old



1912 1/2 Trangka stamp, 1933 2/3 Trangka stamp

British post-offices within Tibet until the mid-50s, although the Chinese established their own post-offices as early as 1951. The Chinese issued, in 1952, a series commemorating the 'peaceful liberation of Tibet' to be followed in 1956 by a series on the opening of the Xinjiang-Tibet and Qinghai-Tibet highways, and in 1961 on the Rebirth of the Tibetan People – but these stamps were not circulated in Tibet itself very much. In Dharamsala, the Dalai Lama authorised a private set of stamps, designed by an Australian. By the early 1950s, stamp collectors were rushing to buy any Tibetan postage, and the Tibetans reprinted sheets from 1912 and 1914-18 to deal with the export market. The majority of fake Tibetan stamps and covers started to appear in the 1950s, although this hobby goes back to 1920 (and is still going strong). Buyers who are offered earlier Tibetan stamps in Kathmandu, and no doubt soon within Tibet, will probably be offered forgeries nine times out of 10. Covers are now forged to the point where only a handful of world experts can tell the difference.

– Geoffrey Flack

POPULATION & PEOPLE

Accurate population figures for Tibet are nearly impossible to discover. Even simple figures for the populations of Lhasa or Shigatse vary considerably. In the July 1982 Chinese census, the population of Tibet was given at 1.89 million. This figure presumably includes the Han settlers and technicians living in Tibet (estimated at 150,000), but does not include the number of Chinese troops stationed there (estimated from 100,000 to 300,000 and up), nor the mobile population of Han construction workers and businessmen who travel to Tibet in the summer. The same census gave the number of Tibetans within China at 3.87 million, which means that a minimum of two million Tibetans live outside Tibet. They are scattered in a number of autonomous prefectures in Qinghai, Gansu, Sichuan and Yunnan.

The problem with statistics is determining which Tibet is being talked about. There are two identifiable Tibets: political Tibet (post-1950) and ethnographic Tibet.

More on Everest Base Camp by Brian W. Smith

Further to the article on Mount Everest Base Camp in Tibet by Brian G. Vincent, FRPSNZ, in *Postal Himal* [159:5], I recently noticed in my collection the Postcard, illustrated below, which I have owned for some years. It was published by the Posta & Telecommunications Administration of Tibet Autonomous Region in 1988 to commemorate a joint China-Japan-Nepal Expedition to Mount Everest.



The postmark dated 5 MAY 1988 clearly shows (in Tibetan) that it was posted at Rongbuk and thus predates the date given by Mr. Vincent by some years. On the occasion of my visit to Tibet in 1988 I did not get the opportunity to visit the Base Camp as our bus drove by on the main road back to Kathmandu, otherwise I might have been able to establish just when the Rongbuk Post Office had really opened.

Tansen Post Office, Palpa District photos curtsey of Doug Hall

I have begun a project to collect, digitize, and catalogue photos of Nepal taken between 1962 and 1975 by US Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs). Many of those PCVs are now retired and in their 70s. In many cases their photos are the earliest images of the towns and villages where they served. While I am at the beginning of this project, the collection already has 2,300 photos from 20 volunteers. I expect it will have over 50,000 by the time I decide it is complete. Two recently contributed photos might be of interest to NTPSC members. These photos were taken inside the post



The mail clerk sorts the day's mail on the floor of the post office.

The Tansen postmaster at his desk with the ledger book in which he recorded all incoming and outgoing mail.



The Local Printed Sri Pashupati Stamps - Perforation Errors by Colin Hepper FRFSL

Much of the information we have with regards to the perforating of the local printed stamps came from articles written by the early students of these printing, in particular those written by E.A.Smythies who was working in Nepal at the time.

The information we had was that the perforating machines could only perforate a single line at a time with the 'A' machine being able to produce a longer run of perforations than the 'B' machine. So 'A' did the vertical lines and 'B' did the horizontal lines. Everyone seems to have been satisfied with this explanation as I have never come across anyone saying anything to the contrary.



However in the last Study Circle auction there was a sheet of the 4 pice printed in 1946 where all the horizontal perforations ran at an angle of approx. 30 degrees across the sheet. Apart from the top two rows the remainder are all 20mm apart and they all start at exactly the same point on the left hand side of the sheet.

I have difficulty in accepting that an operator using a single line machine would perforate all ten lines at the same angle across the stamps and also keep them exactly the same distance apart. It would therefore seem that this could only occur if he was perforating more than one sheet at a time and this particular sheet was not lined up with the others. If this was so, then the start point would also be at an angle on the sheet, but it is not, the lines all start at the vertical line of perforations.

So the only conclusion I can come to is that this sheet was perforated with a machine that was capable of perforating ten lines at a time.

I would be interested to hear the views of other members.

The Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle Statement of Accounts
01 January 2014 to 31 December 2014
 by Roger Skinner and Colin Hepper FRPSL

Statement of accounts - USA (\$)

	Income		Expenditure
Subscriptions	90.00	Postal Himal Printing	1369.96
Transfer from UK	1820.00	Postal Himal Postage	1480.98
Auction 72	340.75	Auction	732.40
		Miscellaneous	56.04
		NY-2016	125.00
TOTAL	2250.75	TOTAL	3764.38
Balance (Income-Expenditure)	-1513.63		
Balance Brought Fwd.2012	7388.63		
TOTAL (Balance + Fwd. Balance)	5875.00		

Statement of Accounts - Europe (£)

Current Account Income		Expenditure	
Carried Fwd. from 2013	3086.99	Auction Payments	4130.00
Subscriptions	624.31	APBS Subscription	20.90
Trans. From Business Acc.	2000.00	Transfer to USA Account	1055.00
NY-2016 (Donation)	75.00		
TOTAL	5786.30	TOTAL	5205.90
Current Balance (Income— Expenditure)	580.40		

Business Account

Carried Fwd. from 2013	2714.75	Transfer to current account	2000.00
Bank interest	3.34		
Subscription	19.47		
TOTAL	2737.56	Total	2000.00
Business Balance (Income—Expenditure)	737.56		
Balance (Current + Business)	1317.96		

COMBINED TOTAL (£'s)	£'s Sterling
USA converted to £'s	3790.32
Europe	1317.96
TOTAL	5108.28

Press Release from the Royal Philatelic Society London
submitted by Alan Warren

On 29 and 30 January the members of The Royal Philatelic Society London were treated to an incredible display of the 'Imperial Gems of China'. No fewer than 22 philatelists from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau, plus one from France and one from Singapore, contributed to what Patrick Maselis, Vice President of the Society, described as 'a great exhibition'.

The displays encompassed: Pre-adhesive Postal History; Hong Kong and the Treaty Ports with Shanghai Local Post; Customs Mail and the Chinese Imperial Post; the Republic of China and Liberated Area; the Frontier Islands; the Colonies, Port Arthur, Macau and Taiwan.

The exhibition had been organized by Danny Wong, Andrew Cheung and Anna Lee, who were joined in London by Charles Chan and Robert S. P. Kong. Introducing the exhibits, Danny Wong commented that all had 'shown our best' to create a 'representative array covering all periods and all territories, thereby making history'.



Philatelists who contributed to the 'Imperial Gems of China' exhibition, and who came to London for the event - left to right: Danny Wong, Chris King, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London, Anna Lee, Charles Chan, Andrew Cheung and Robert S. P. Kong.

The Bhutan 2005 Nu 5 Surcharge Overprint on the 1979 Antiquities

by Leo van der Velden

In 2005 Bhutan Post produced a Nu. 5 surcharge overprint on three stamps of the Antiquities set of 1979. In the Scott Catalog only one is mentioned, #1409 on Nu. 1.-, Leather container or Kem (#298). However, the overprint exists also on Nu. 1.25, Brass teapot or Jamjee #299, and on Nu. 1.70, Vessel with elephant-head legs or Sangphor #300, and all these have been postally used. The original set of 1979 had two main color varieties for at least the Nu. 1.- stamp, light and dark brown, a result of the simple printing process, which then can also be seen at the overprints. Full overprint sheetlets reflect as well the cutting of the smaller sheets out of the original printer's sheet resulting in border perforation varieties. Note that Bhutan Post doesn't take any stamps out of circulation, so some of the old stamps which had been produced in remarkable quantities are still in their stores, and are used from time to time for overprinting purposes, as in this case.



The Nu. 5 overprint on the Nu1.- stamp has at least four varieties: a serif font overprint with no space between the “Nu” and the “5”, so “Nu5”, the same with a space between them, so “Nu 5” and one with a sans-serif font without any space, so “Nu5”. The first variety overprint, serif with space, exists printed on



There exists also an inverted overprint on the Nu. 1.70 stamp



Doubtful Tibetan Post Offices

by Bo C. Olsson

In Haverbeck's handbook "Tibet" we find that official Chinese information list Chinese Imperial Post Offices in Gyamda and Shobando. In the latter place for one year only. No Imperial mail or postmarks from these places are known. If one has not turned up during 100 years I doubt it will in a future. Where Gyamda is situated is well known by philatelists. Hellrigl's excellent work "The Postal Markings of Tibet" had a map showing the Tibetan post offices 1912-1956.

Showing a place named Shobando first seems as impossible to do as putting Shangri La on the map. Shobando, to me it sounds almost Japanese, but it isn't. Apparently this should be a place in eastern Tibet with an early Imperial Chinese Post Office. But no postmark has been found and a place named Shobando did not exist on any of the geographical paper maps I consulted. However an internet search gave the location of such place in eastern Tibet and the information "Shobando is a place with a very small population in the province of Xizang, China. Cities, towns and places near Shobando include Xobando, Shihpanto, Shihtu and Shuopando". Xizang is the Chinese name for Tibet. Since the place is of no importance even

today one really wonder if it was a place to locate an Imperial Post Office? Haverbeck however wrote: "The Postal Administration of the Republic of China also reports that a Chinese post office existed at Sobando for one year 1910-1911." This information was probably given to George S. Russell who publish it in his article "Tibet Part II - The Chinese era". And he also mentioned Gyamda 1910-1911. Let's now see what Waterfall could tell us about Shobando: "*A colonel Thompson wrote in an article published in Livingstones (USA) Philatelic Folio that no evidence has come forward so far as to it's ever existing*". That's all he could tell us.

Now I intend to check what the book "Prize selections from the ROCPEX TAIPEI'81" can tell us about a possible Shobando. A special chapter with a map including all known post offices in Tibet makes this source most interesting. The text however is short: "In Chinese postal historical data, there is no mention of Sobando". But contrary to that Sobando is mentioned in a list of Tibetan post offices in the same book.

CHAMDO CHASAMDO CHABDO CHANGDU CHANGTU
CHAMUTO SHOBAO SHOBDO CHABDO

Above are a number of spellings used for Chamdo. Like most of us I am not an expert in the Tibetan language, but it occur to me that Shobando could be a mistaken spelling for Chamdo. That could eventually explain why the place is non-existent on any maps. However, in Waterfall's list of modern Chinese post offices in Tibet there is a place Shitu alternatively named Shobando. This place is included in Hellrigl's map in his handbook "The Postal Markings of Tibet" showing places of modern Chinese post offices.

During the time of the Republic of China on the mainland the Eastern parts of Tibet, even if they were under the government in Lhasa's administration, were mapped as the Sikang province. From the map in the ROCPEX book we

can clearly see the province border and that Gyamda, Chomorak and Chamdo are considered to be in Sikang. But no Shobando anywhere in that map!

Another place, Gnashi isn't even mentioned in the index in Waterfall's handbook. Gartok in western Tibet is listed having a Tibetan Post Office in the ROCPEX book. This is surely a mistake for the British one which existed there a short time. A Halkar is mentioned in the list, but missing in the map. This is Oka Dzong which Hellrigl's map showed to be in the wrong place, a matter Hellrigl later corrected. Waterfall however mention Shetang in his list of Native Cancellations and Handstamps. And Shetang is listed as a Tibetan post office in the ROCPEX book. No native cancellation is so far recorded

from this place. If a Tibetan post office ever existed here it is really strange no postmarks have turned up during the years. Evidence of such postmark should have turned up by now if existing. Waterfall says the place had 50 shops as early as 1905. The Nepalese traders had much business mail. Russell state he has seen an early native postmark from Shetang. Waterfall do not agree with him. However, around 1955 a Chinese P.O. opened in Shetang.

In Hellrigl's map showing places of modern Chinese post offices a Hongma (south of Gyantse) is marked. This is probably the same place as Ganhma in the map of the ROCPEX

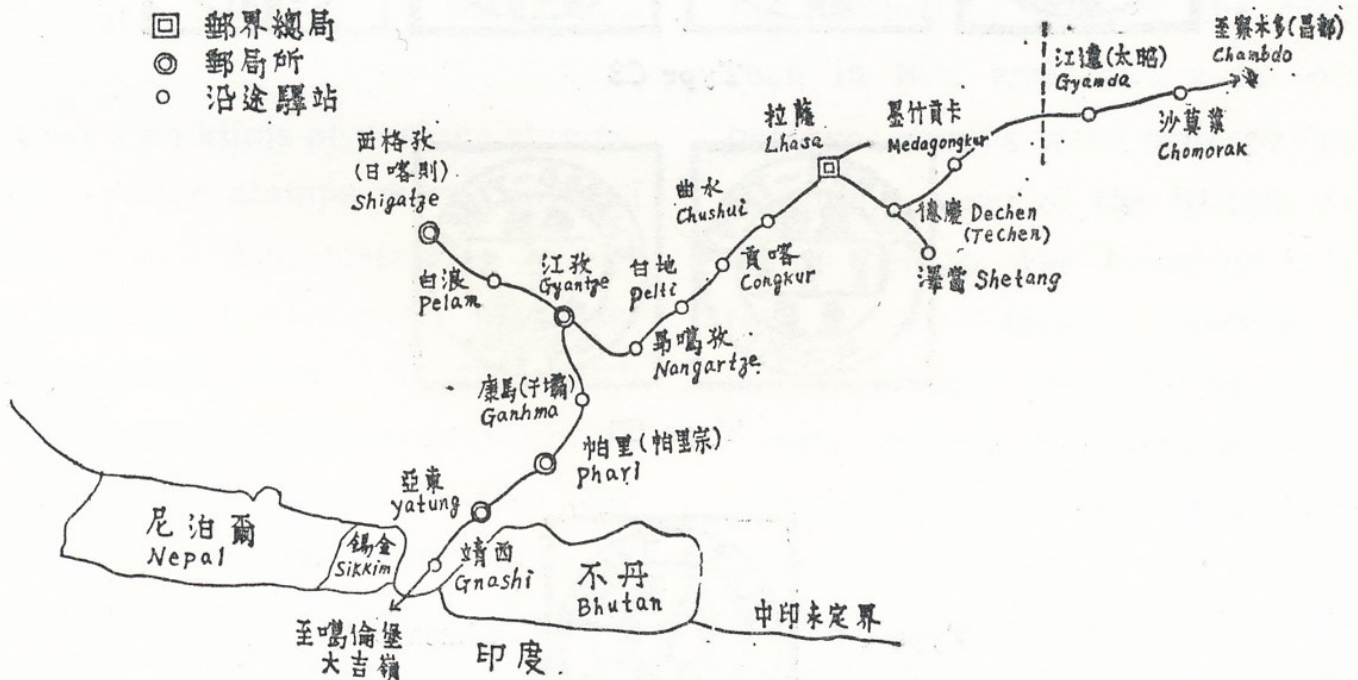
book. A modern Chinese Military Post Office is known there, but probably never any civilian post office.

Robert A. Gilbert pointed out for us that Dongkur was situated close to Lhasa. And the official mail bag strips also confirm Dongkur is between Lhasa and Chushu. In the map in the ROCPEX book Dongkur, however, is wrongly placed between Chushu and Pelti. Unfortunately I don't know if this map was drawn especially for the book or is giving us an earlier perspective.

So there are still uncertainties to solve regarding Tibet.

西藏郵局所及郵路圖
TIBET POST OFFICES AND POSTAL ROUTE

- ☐ 郵界總局
- ◎ 郵局所
- 沿途驛站



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