

NEPAL PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE NEWSLETTER
(including Tibet)

3,Orwell Grove,
Peterborough
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England

PRESIDENT

Issue No. 5

DR. PIERRE COUVREUR

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Dear Friends,

Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl, our former President, and myself were invited to spend a week with our President Dr. Pierre Couvreur to discuss the future plans and possible development of our Study Circle. Our thanks must go to Pierre and his wife for their hospitality and being able to discuss our favourite collecting country in the most pleasant surroundings. We would like to welcome the following new members:-

Arun Bhallacharya, 60/1 Mahendra Banerji Rd., Calcutta 700060, India.

Gunnar Okero, P.O. Box 695, S-101, 29 Stockholm, Sweden

Robert Wightman, Mühlebachstr. 27, 8800 Thulwil, Switzerland

D. Dempster, 141, The Keep, Portchester, Fareham, Hants., England

K.W. Jones, 2149, Regent Street, Abilene, Texas 79605, U.S.A.

Surendra Lal Shrestha, G.P.O. Box 72, (Om Bahal Tole) Kathmandu, Nepal.

Rajesh Kumar Lodha, P.O. Box 16609, 27, Badridas Temple St., Calcutta 700004, India

Don Bahadur Shakya, 6/64 Bhimmukteswar, Kalimati, Kathmandu, Nepal.

STAMPS TO BE ISSUED IN 1977

The value of the issue on 2nd October 1977 to commemorate the ascent of Tukucho Himal by Nepalese Police Mountaineering and Adventure Foundation is R1.25. There will also be a further issue on 5th December 1977 for the 26th Consultative Committee of the Colombo plan value R1.

For those of you who are interested in collecting covers and cards associated with climbing expeditions, a German Himalayan Expedition led by Dr. Gerhard Lenser attempted to climb Mt. Manaslu in the spring of this year, but had to abandon the attempt on 10th May 1977 due to bad weather and heavy snow fall. However a very attractive cover, with a special G.P.O. handstamp was done and can be obtained from:-

Bishnu Lal Shrestha, G.P.O. Box 193, 113/1 Maru, Pyaphal Tole, Kathmandu 14

Prices:-
With Manaslu stamp without signatures 3 dollars
With other stamps without signatures 2 dollars
With Manaslu stamp with leader's signature 5 dollars
With Manaslu stamp with leader's and two other signatures. 6 dollars
All covers plus 30c extra for postage.

500 special covers were printed plus 300 plain ones sold at G.P.O. counter.

LIBRARY

In the near future we shall be making available to members a library of all articles that have been written on Nepal. Dr. Hellrigl will be having published, through George Alevisos a booklet listing in numerical order all articles known. These articles will be held by Dr. Couvreur in France, and by quoting the number from the book, photocopies can be obtained from him. Further details on the cost of these articles will be published in a later newsletter after Wolfgang's book has been published.

STUDY GROUPS

Enclosed with this newsletter is a form for members who are interested in doing specialised studies, which they can complete and return to me. The object being that we shall try to form groups of people together who are studying the same subject. These people would then be able to correspond amongst themselves and then compare their studies. After detailed studies have been done then we shall try to publish them for the benefit of all collectors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are always a 'thorn in our side', but unfortunately we have to have them to survive. To make things more manageable it has been decided to make all subscriptions due on 1st January each year and as from 1st January 1978 all subscriptions will be £1.50 (\$2.60) for one year, £4.00 (\$7.00) for three years. Providing members will keep sending in sufficient reports then every other newsletter will be of two pages instead of one.

EXPERTISING OF STAMPS AND COVERS

There are probably many of you who have odd items in your collection which you may have doubts about their genuine-ness. Wolfgang Hellrigl has now completed an extensive study on the fakes and forgeries of Nepal and Tibet and his findings will be published during the next 12 months. He has offered to help members, to identify their suspect stamps and covers. All we ask is that if members send material to him for this service they must include the cost of the return registered postage.

NEPAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Some of our new members have made enquiries about the Nepal Philatelic Society. To clarify the position for those of our members who do not know, the Nepal Philatelic Society is organised in Kathmandu and produces a magazine 'Philately' about three times a year. This Society has just started to function again after a period of about three years of inactivity. It is an entirely different body to our own Study Circle, which in the main consists of members who are interested in doing serious studies on the stamps and Postal History. Both Societies do however have a close association with each other and if any U.K. member wishes to join the Nepal Philatelic Society, they can send subscriptions to me which are :-

£ 3 for 1 year \$8 for 3 years \$ 40 for Life

WHO WOULD LIKE AN ANNUAL MEETING?

It is proposed to hold a meeting of the Study Circle in Les Issambres, France in either May or June 1978. The duration of the meeting would probably be three days, but members could combine this with a short holiday in the South of France. Any members who are interested - please contact me as soon as possible so that we can obtain hotel prices and book rooms for you.

THE NATIVE POSTMARKS OF NEPAL

It seems that in every newsletter I keep saying that it is nearly ready - well it is ALMOST ready. In fact the first proof copies have been run off, corrected and returned to the printers, so just be patient for a few more weeks and it will be on its way. I would like to point out that George Alevisos will be the main distributor of the book in the U.S.A, and would ask our U.S.A. members to contact him for copies. The Nepal Philatelic Enterprises will also be the main distributor of the book in Nepal.

NEW DISCOVERIES

We have recently discovered new settings of the early stamps, and new printings and perf. errors of the Pashupati issues. All details will be published in the next newsletter.

In future newsletters we should like to run a series and try to correlate the catalogue numbers of the main stamp Companies thus matching them to the very fine listing of George Alevisos. To do this I need some help from our members. I need photocopies of the pages from Scotts Catalogue, Michael Catalogue and Yverts Catalogue which relate to the early issues of Nepal up to 1946. So if you can help please send along a photocopy.

Colin Pepper