

Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

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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.

American Philatelic Society Affiliate #122
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| <u>Publishing Schedule:</u> | <u>Issue</u> | <u>Cutoff for Articles</u> | <u>Into Mail</u> |
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Officer's Corner

Another philatelic year is coming to a close which I have found quite fulfilling. Another visit to WESTPEX is always very enjoyable to be able to meet some of our members from the west coast, although the desserts at dinner don't do much for the waistline. Some of my time was also taken up with visits to Cambridge University to get our magazine online. I find it very encouraging to see the number of different members who have submitted article for Postal Himal, a trend which I hope will continue as it makes life much easier for Richard our editor to produce the magazine. I have also spent more time this year having a look at the discussion page on our web site that Rainer organises for us [see front cover for email address - ed.],

which he still finds the lack of use very frustrating. So I would ask you make more effort and look at this site as I am sure that there must be some of our more recent members who have questions to ask and have items that they would like to discuss.

Finally it is sad to report the passing of Peter Holcombe who died on 16 August 2011. Peter was a long-time member of our society until he resigned due to ill health in 2004. His collection of Tibet was well known and he handled much of the Perkins Bacon archive material of Nepal. He was a member of the BPA Expert Committee for over 50 years and in particular was extremely knowledgeable of some of the worlds' difficult collecting areas'.

Editor's Ramblings

As you will notice in the UPCOMING section below, NY 2016 will soon be here. It is not too soon to start planning for this once-a-decade show. I presume that we, along with many other organizations, will have a meeting during the show. And hopefully some of our members will enter exhibits and be rewarded with high level medals and prizes. Those of

you who will be coming long distances will hopefully do some sightseeing around the area, especially if you have never been to New York City before. And for the spouses there will be plenty of shopping available. So start making those plans.

And don't forget next year's WESTPEX. We always have a good time there.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Danny Kin Chi Wong was awarded Vermeil for his exhibit "Development of Postal Services in Tibet" at Philanippon, Japan

Ujjal Kapoor Shrestha was awarded Large Silver for his exhibit "Shree Pashupati Issues of Nepal" at Philanippon, Japan

Edward Gosnell was awarded Gold for his exhibit "Nepalese Seals, Postmarks and Cancellations 1795-1911" at APS StampShow Ohio

Sandeep Jaiswal was awarded Gold plus the India Study Circle award for his exhibit "Dhar - Philately" at APS StampShow, Ohio

Sandeep Jaiswal was awarded Vermeil in the Literature Section for *India Post* at the APS StampShow, Ohio

Paul Hagar was awarded Gold for his exhibit "The Pashupati Era of Nepal" at Indipex

Dick van der Wateren was awarded Large Gold plus a special book prize for his exhibit "Nepal Postal Stationery" at Chur, Switzerland

UPCOMING:

WESTPEX 2012 April 27-29, San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel. NTPSC meeting April 29, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

NY 2016 Javits Convention Center starting 28 May 2016

***The Classic Issue of Nepal* by Frank Vignola and Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl**
By Frank E. Vignola III

My father and I first heard of the Nepal and Tibet Study Circle at about the time Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl and Colin Hepper were finishing their book on the postmarks of Nepal. My father had gotten a copy of the postmarks found to date and we started looking through our Nepal collection to see if there were any that were not included. At that time, my father had been collecting the pre-1881 postmarks and we found that these were not included in the list of postmarks being circulated. The list of additional postmarks and ensuing correspondence started a long friendship between Dr. Hellrigl and my father.

A few years later, when Dr. Hellrigl wanted to write a book on the classic issues of Nepal, he asked my father to be co-author. My father had corresponded with many Nepalese collectors around the world and was able to get photocopies of many of the existing large collections. Dr. Hellrigl had the concept of organizing the book and together they worked on correlating and organizing the information that was available. Without email, the correspondence was by letter. I remember coming home on visits and seeing my father getting letters from Hellrigl and going to his desk to digest the latest information. Identifying the settings and devising the order of the printings required considerable discourse. Deciding which colors belonged to each setting also took a considerable effort. It is hard enough deciding between shades in a printing, let alone communicating this via letter.

As the chapters were being written and refined I was able to read the drafts and was impressed by what was being produced. On each new visit home I watched the drafts grow slowly into the fine finished product. My father had a considerable respect for Hellrigl and they worked well together. Both my father and Hellrigl were sticklers for detail and having both agree on the finer points took a long series of letters.

Hellrigl found a publisher in Italy to print the books, and my father let me contribute to the effort by financing his share of the cost of printing. Of course the book was a sellout and a winner of a number of gold awards for philatelic literature. It also cemented a lifelong friendship between Dr. Hellrigl and my father.

Dr. Hellrigl's contributions to Nepal philately covered the major topic areas and the books that he published are classics. In the philatelic community as in the personal contacts that he made, Dr. Hellrigl will be greatly missed.



London 1980

Wolfgang with Leo Martyn [middle] and George Alevizos [left]. The caption at the top of the board to which Leo and Wolfgang are pointing says "COLLECTIONS FOR SALE" and was a listing of a Nepal collection for sale by Argyl Etkins. The collection was priced at over \$400,000, leading to the surprised look on Leo's face.



Photo by Armand E. Singer 1986
Wolfgang, Geoffrey Flack, Fred De
Ridder, Frank Vignola, Leo Martyn,
Mary Singer



c. 1986
Al Zulueta, Leo
Martyn, Fred De
Ridder, Wolfgang,
Frank Vignola

London 1980
Armand E. Singer, Frank Vignola,
Leo Martyn, Colin Hepper, Garry
Adams, Wolfgang, Ved Parkash
Dhawan, Dick van der Wateren



In Memory of Wolfgang Hellrigl

by Dick van der Wateren

The passing away of Wolfgang brings many memories back to my mind. About 1990 I visited, with my good friend Peter, an auction at the Hague where I was trying to buy a large lot of Nepal stamps. What we did not know was that Wolfgang and Dr. Werner were also present at the auction and had more to spend than we did. Nevertheless, we were happy to meet these two very prominent Nepal philatelists who were to have far-reaching consequences for our philatelic lives. In the following years, I visited Wolfgang three times in Italy and some ten times everywhere in the world from Delhi to London and from San Francisco to Germany.

A memorable event took place, also at the Hague, where I was exhibiting for the first time internationally. The exhibit was awarded Gold, but the jury thought that the exhibit was not mine. "No", they said, "it was an exhibit of Dr. Hellrigl's". I was very surprised to be thought to be the owner of a collection worthy of Wolfgang. Fortunately Wolfgang was also visiting the exhibition and, of course, refuted the assertion of the jury.

The day after this incident I invited Wolfgang for a walk and talk through the town of Delft - the residence of Peter Planken - only a few miles from the Hague. We dined at a small traditional restaurant serving what we call 'poffertjes', a kind of very tiny pancakes, with our typical small canals beside the building.

Alas, that is the way it is. Wolfgang was a great inspiration to me personally, and his death is a great loss for Nepalese collectors. He has done so very much for the upliftment of Nepalese philately.

He will always be in my memory.

Wolfgang Hellrigl

by Julie Marshall

My first contact with Wolfgang Hellrigl was back in early 1985, soon after I first began collecting Nepal. I wrote to him for some advice and he was to continue to help me on a regular basis as I built up my collection. I have also benefited enormously from the books and articles he has published. Many of the better items in my collection, both stamps and covers, were bought from him over the years. I still have the first letter Wolfgang wrote to me dated 3 May 1985. It began as follows "I really enjoyed your letter for two reasons: firstly, I love hearing from Australia as this brings back many memories of my stay there (in Sydney, from 1966 to 1975) and, secondly, I must congratulate you for being the first woman I know interested in the stamps of Nepal! All the women I know find the stamps awful, extremely ugly and 'without teeth'". This was typical of the friendly tone of our correspondence over the years until around 2000 when my interest began moving to other areas.

My last contact with Wolfgang was early last year. I wrote to say that I was going hiking in the Dolomites not far from Bozen and was hoping that I might be able to visit him. It was then that he wrote that it was impossible because of the leukaemia from which he was then suffering. I deeply regret that I never had the opportunity to meet him but really appreciate all the advice and help he gave me over the years.

***The Postal History of Mongolia 1841-1941* by Wolfgang Hellrigl RDP FRPSL**

Frank Walton FRPSL, Chairman Publications Committee

THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE the availability of a new book: *The Postal History of Mongolia 1841-1941* by the late Wolfgang Hellrigl RDP FRPSL. This book is the culmination of many years of research which concluded with Wolfgang passing his completed manuscript to the Society for publication. Sadly he died very shortly after we had agreed to publish.

This volume embraces the period from 1841 (date of the earliest French missionary letter recorded from Mongolia) to 1941 (issue date of the provisional surcharges on the first pictorial set). This 100-year span can be considered as the classic period of the country's postal history, and it truly displays all facets of the spectrum that the philatelic hobby has to offer. The handbook contains full details of the postal history of the Russian period (1861-1920), the Chinese period (1910-1919), and the postage stamps of independent Mongolia (1922-1941). Those first 20 years of the country's independence may be considered as a special challenge for any philatelist due to its difficult provisional issues and their countless forgeries.

Dr Hellrigl paid particular attention to the postal markings which are the key to Mongolia's postal history. All known types are illustrated. They include a considerable number of previously unrecorded markings, both genuine and forged. The same applies to the numerous registration labels and handstamps of the Russian period, sadly neglected in the past.

My thanks go to John Sacher CBE FRPSL who took on the role of reading and finalising the manuscript. John's meticulous editing put the finishing touches to a marvellous publication.

Before Christmas 2010 the book was entered into the literature class at Philanippon 2011; in the event the proof reading, typesetting and printing took longer than was anticipated, and we only made the deadline for judging by hand-delivering the first two copies off the production line. Clearly the judges did not deduct marks for wet ink as the book was awarded 96 marks, a Large Gold medal, a special prize and also 'best in class'! I cannot recall another example of a book being awarded a Large Gold prior to its official launch.

The book is A4, hardback with dust jacket and has 350 pages. It is illustrated in full colour throughout.

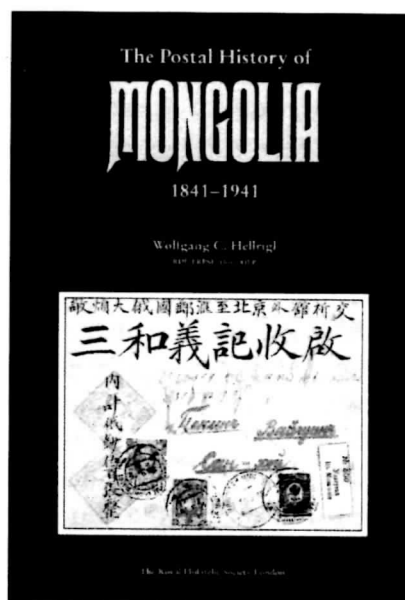
It is anticipated that a significant proportion of the sales of this new title will be in the Far East; to minimise postal costs, arrangements have been made to warehouse stocks in Hong Kong as well as in the UK. All orders will still be managed through the office at No. 41 as before.

How to Order a Copy

To order a copy of this book, please visit the website or contact the office by email, letter or telephone. *The Postal History of Mongolia 1841-1941* has a retail price of £50 per copy, or £45 for members. Copies may be ordered to be collected post free at No. 41, or postage is charged at £7.50 UK, £12.50 air Europe, £24 air Americas/Africa, £8 Hong Kong, £10 surface Asia, £20 air Asia or £15 surface worldwide.

Trade terms for members of the trade or for bulk purchases are available; please contact the office for details.

Cheques should be made payable to the Royal Philatelic Society London and in sterling drawn on a UK bank. Contact the Society's office via email on secretary@rpsl.org.uk for details of payment by credit card or PayPal.



[Reprinted from *The London Philatelist* September 2011 - ed.]

Is this an Unlisted Setting of the 2 Anna?

by Doug Hall

The block consists of 12 unused 2 anna stamps on thin native paper. I purchased it in 1981 from Downeast Stamps.

In this block there are two inverted clichés, the two adjacent to each other at the lower right as shown in the scan.

The setting tables on pages 114-115 of *The Classic Stamps of Nepal* by Wolfgang Hellrigl and Frank Vignola lists the inverted clichés for each setting of the two anna known to them. However, I cannot find a setting in which this block would fit.

Hellrigl and Vignola list horizontal adjacent inverted clichés in quite a few different settings.

In settings 9, 10 and 12 they are in positions 20 and 21, but those settings have position 11 also inverted. If the inverted stamps in this block are 20 and 21, a look at position 11 shows that it is NOT inverted.

In settings 10 and 12 they are in positions 21 and 22, but those settings also have position 20 inverted. If the inverted stamps in this block are 21 and 22, a look at position 20 shows that it is NOT inverted.

In settings 18 and 19 they are in positions 7 and 8 which would be in the top row of the sheet. The inverts in my block are in the third or lower row and are therefore not positions 7

and 8.

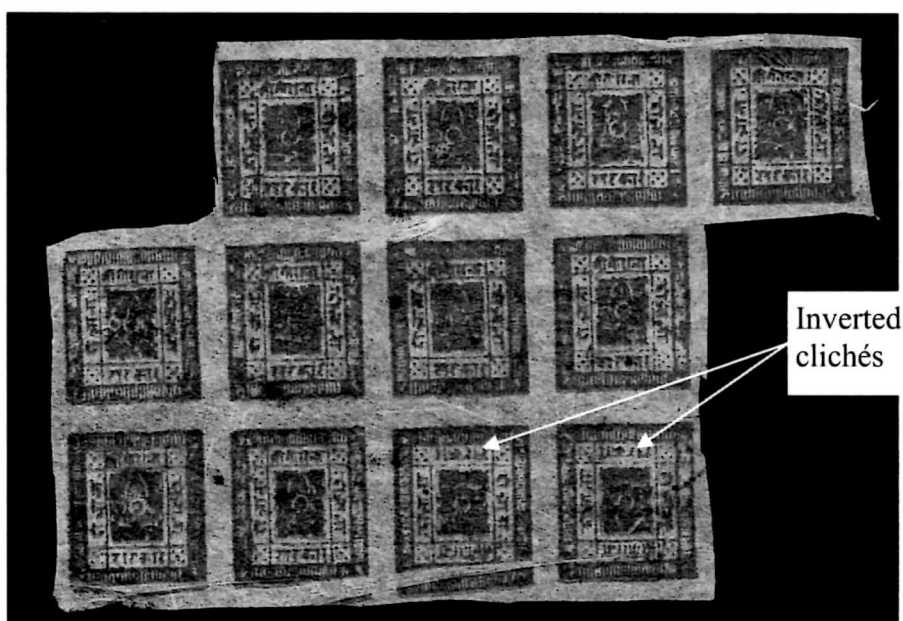
In settings 24-31 they are in positions 14 and 15 or 18 and 19 either of which would be in the second and third columns of the sheet. The leftmost invert in my block has two stamps to its left and is therefore not positions 14 and 15 or 18 and 19.

This block, therefore, cannot belong to settings 9, 10, 12, 18, 19 or 24-31, the only ones listed with horizontal adjacent inverted clichés.

Hellrigl and Vignola list a setting 11 for which they do not have knowledge of inverted clichés. However, if it fits in sequence between settings 10 and 12 as they imply, it likely had clichés 11, 20, 21 and 22 inverted in a similar fashion to settings 10 and 12. If so, my block would not belong to setting 11.

I do not have knowledge of any additional settings of the 2 anna that may have been discovered since the 1984 publication of *The Classic Stamps of Nepal*. Perhaps this block belongs to some more recently discovered setting. Can anyone help me identify such a setting or is this block the first proof of a previously unlisted and unknown setting of the 2 anna stamp?

You can email me with information at doughallnh@comcast.net



Alterations and Additions regarding Waterfall's Check List of the 1912 Issue by Bo C. Olsson

Although a few new colour shades of the 1912 issue have been found no reports has been made so far regarding any change of the order of the various shades.

I will here attempt to correct some omissions in Waterfall's list and also add the additional shades I know about.

1/6 tr. value:

This was the most printed value of them all in the set and there exist most probably more shades than Waterfall listed.

Furthermore, Waterfall in the text section of his handbook places the W29 shiny Apple Green after the shiny Bottle Green (1925). In

the Check List the Apple Green however was listed as the first of the shiny printings before the Olive-Green (1922). This is apparently a mistake.

I therefore suggest the W29 Apple Green should be placed after the W33 Bottle Green in the listing.

1/2 tr. value:

I have altered the listing for some of the shades of this value. This is based on dated combination covers bearing British Indian date cancellations.

I suggest the following listing:

| Waterfall No. | Colour | Methuen | Date | |
|---------------|---------------------|---------|-------|-------------|
| W49 | Purple | 16D8 | ~1925 | |
| W50 | Dull Purple | 14D3 | | |
| W53 | Dull Purple | 14E3 | 1930 | shiny print |
| W54 | Bright Purple | 15E7 | 1930 | shiny print |
| W51 | Pale Reddish Purple | 13D4 | 1932 | shiny print |
| W52 | Reddish Purple | 13E5 | | shiny print |
| W55 | Claret Purple | 12F5 | | shiny print |
| W56 | Slate Purple | 15F4 | 1933 | shiny print |

Additional Colour Shades

The W-numbers indicate where I think they should be placed in the Check List.

| Waterfall No. | Value | Colour | Methuen | Date | |
|---------------|--------|-------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| W28a | 1/6 tr | Dark Bottle Green | 27F8 | ~1920 | shiny print |
| W30a | 1/6 tr | Bright Green | 27D0 | 1923-1927 | shiny print |
| W31a | 1/6 tr | Deep Green | 26C6 | | shiny print |
| W31b | 1/6 tr | Dark Green | 27E7 | | shiny print |

| Waterfall No. | Value | Colour | Methuen | Date | |
|---------------|--------|--------------------|---------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| W58a | 2/3 tr | Brownish Red | 10D6 | December 1913 | Close to W62 Colour |
| W60a | 2/3 tr | Bluish Red | 12C7 | | |
| W62a | 2/3 tr | Dark Brown Red | 10D10 | | |
| W63a | 2/3 tr | Deep Vermillion | 9C8 | | shiny print |
| W65a | 2/3 tr | Brownish Red | 10C8 | | shiny print |
| W69a | 2/3 tr | Ruby Red | 12D8 | | shiny print |
| W70a | 2/3 tr | Pink | ???? | | One badly damaged copy known |
| W77a | 1 tr | Carmine | 11C8 | | shiny print |
| W77b | 1 tr | Deep Carmine | 11D9 | | shiny print |
| W78a | 1 tr | Deep Carminish Red | 10C8 | | shiny print |
| W83a | 1 sang | Sea Green | 25D5 | | Different than the other shades |
| W83b | 1 sang | Dull Grey Green | 28D3 | | |

In the above tables the columns represent the following:

Waterfall No. represents the number assigned by Waterfall to the various stamps.

Value is the value of the stamp.

Colour is the colour of the stamp.

Methuen refers to the *Methuen Handbook of Colour*. A code such as 16D8 is interpreted as follows:

16 represents the page in the book, D represents the column on the page (ranging from A to F) and the 8 represents the strength of the colour in steps from 1 up to 8.

Date is the estimated time of printing.

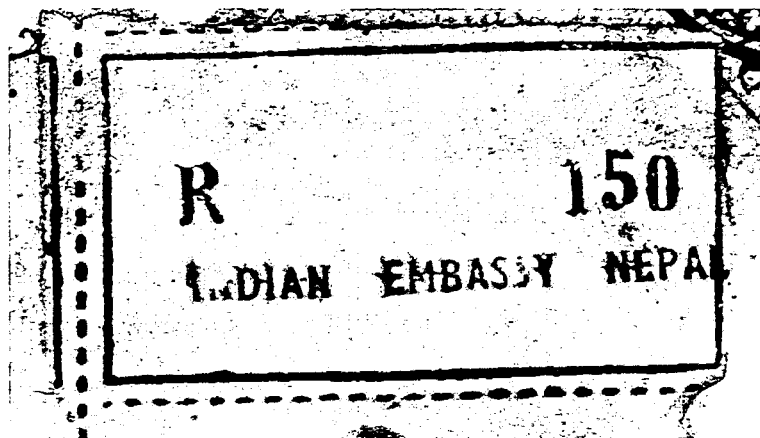
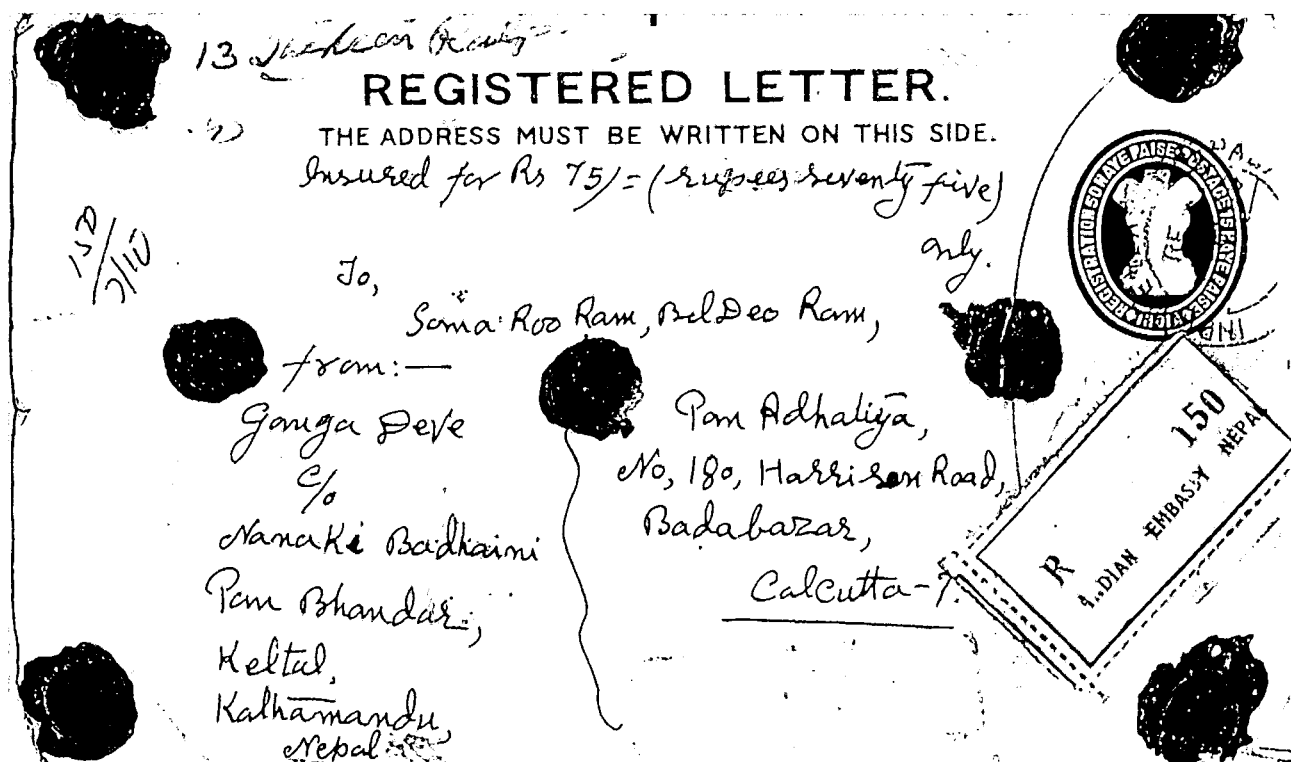
Shiny indicates that the ink looks shiny when holding the stamp at an angle to the light. These are late printings.



An illustration of W70a

A New Registration Label Hand Stamp from the Indian Embassy by Colin Hepper FRPSL

Browsing through a box of covers from a dealer I came across this Registered envelope that had been sent from the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu to Calcutta dated 8 October 1960. The large type numbered registration label had a small single line rubber hand stamp in mauve ink 'Indian Embassy Nepal'. I felt that I had not seen this before and as the price was very reasonable I purchased it and checked it against Wolfgang's very fine book *Nepal Postal History*. It is not recorded there, so it had not been seen by him at the time he was researching the subject, so there is now a new addition to the list of registration labels.



From EXPTL. P. O. to Drujegang PO - A Legacy Intact

by Leo Van der Velden

Drujegang is a small trading spot located in Dagana district, grown around the now middle secondary boarding school which lays at the end of the unpaved road. This feeder road originates some 9 kms further from the district's road between Tsirang and Dagana town. The post office in Drujegang is in a rickety, shaky, small, one story wooden structure, which gives space to the office itself and also to the quarters of the postmaster. There is still no electricity in Drujegang, except for the generator which lights up the school premises a few hours per day. The school and town also face water scarcity, which is being tackled and improvement is expected soon. The only decent restaurant is the canteen of Drujegang school.

We left very early that morning from Dagana town, as the district road would be closed between 7 - 10 AM because of ongoing rock blasting and road widening work as preparations for the transport of the big machinery for the recently started Daga-chu Hydropower Project. Even though we entered Drujegang "town" (the gewog or block surrounding it has the same name) just before 8 AM, the post office was already open, as were most small shops, restaurants and bars around it. The people of Drujegang speak mainly Kheng, although there is one village of Dzongkha speakers, and a little bit further on the district road towards Tsirang the language switches to Lotshampa, the Bhutanese name for Nepali.

The post master is a young chap, born on 16 October 1984 in Pegpela village under Jurme Gewog in Mongar district. His name is Dawa Gyalpo (Figure 1). He completed class XII at Gyelposhing High Secondary School, a very low-altitude place along the Kurichu river where the class rooms are all fitted with ceiling fans. It is just a few hundred meters from the Kurichu dam and hydropower plant, not far from Mongar town.

After completing high school Dawa studied in Thimphu for some years. Information and

Communication Technology (ICT) and financial management at private schools. After a stint of six months as an accountant in the capital, he joined Bhutan Post on 5th May 2008 on competitive basis after undergoing a written exam and an interview. For one month, from 12th May to 12th June 2008, Dawa received postal training on a hands-on basis at Gelephu PO, and then was assigned as postmaster in Drujegang (Figure 2) as of 13th June 2008. He took over from Mr Jamyang Dorji, who had been there exactly two years and decided to start studying again and join the teachers' training institute in Paro.

The landline telephone of the PO is working, but there are no fax or computer facilities, because of the lack of electricity. A few months ago the mobile phone network reached Drujegang and "the whole town" is now the proud owner of a mobile phone. Electricity is expected soon, too. The PO has the basic mail services letters (including registered), parcels, Express mail Service (EMS) and incoming and outgoing Money Orders (MO). Postage, revenue and legal stamps are for sale. Mailbags are directly received from Thimphu GPO and Dagana PO. Mailbags are received three times per week from Thimphu on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and from Dagana on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Mail is dispatched two times only to Thimphu, on Wednesdays and Fridays, and three times per week to Dagana, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

The number of mail items received is modest: some 30 per week on average from Thimphu and some 40 from Dagana, where the district's headquarters are. Outgoing is even less: some 20 per week average to Thimphu and 15 to Dagana.

Three gewogs are served by Drujegang PO: Lajab, Tsangkha and Drujegang gewog itself. The first two gewogs have each a Gup's mail carrier, who comes twice per week, on Tuesday and Friday, to deliver and pick up mail.

The Gup is the head of a gewog, an administrative unit known as a block, consisting of a group of villages. The gewog is the geographical administrative unit under the Dzongkhag or district. Bhutan is divided into 20 Dzongkhags with a total of 205 gewogs. They receive Nu 1,600 gross per month, or Nu 1,584 net from Bhutan Post. Bhutan Post receives these Gup's mail carriers remuneration back from the Royal Government of Bhutan, which sees this as a social service. Bhutan Postal Corporation is in principle a commercial enterprise, which ideally should make a profit. Therefore, a number of POs and Community Mail Offices (CMOs) which had hardly any business but were kept open by the government as a social service, were gradually closed or merged after Bhutan Post's inception in 1996. It should be remembered that many POs and Assistant Post Offices (APOs) in the south had already been closed because of the turmoil at the end of the 1980s and start of the 1990s because of the strict enforcement of citizenship rules and the government's drive against illegal residents in the southern, mainly in Nepali inhabited areas. APOs are no longer used, they have been changed to either a PO or a CMO. With the Royal Government's policy starting in the late 1990s of empowering the gewog administration, the policy emerged that every gewog should be reached by the postal services, and the Gup's mail carriers were put in place where needed.

The PO has three active seals, all metal, one used for cancellation of stamps (Figure 3), one negative seal (REG, with DUJEYGANG in English and Dzong kha) (Figure 4) for wax sealing of MO envelopes and outgoing mail bags, and one old-type oblong seal still used for the MO form. This is the only PO I have visited where this rectangular seal is still actively used. The post master had also a new rubber stamp stating in capital letters:

POSTMASTER

P.O. DRUJEGANG : BHUTAN

In addition to these the active seals [page 13], the postmaster had, to my surprise, all the seals in storage as described by Karl-Heinz Michel,

and even more. There I saw with my own eyes in front of me the mysterious EXPTL. P.O. metal seal, marked C . 2594 in upper inner area (Figure 5). This metal seal has two thin circles, with EXPTL. P.O. in the upper part between these circles, with two thin horizontal lines, without date in the center . A lone cross is in the center of the inner circle at the bottom. Also the old two rubber stamps described by Karl-Heinz Michel were there, still in good shape:

The round rubber cancellation seal with "P O DUJEYGANG * BHUTAN * " in the outer circle (with * representing a five tipped star), while within the wavy inner circle with an outline consisting of small first-quarter moon shapes looking like ")", there are two short horizontal lines (Figure 6). Note that no dots were used after the P and the O. The space in between the short lines in the center was used to fill in the date by hand. Remarkable is that at present again the post master has to date his seal by hand, except for the year.

The rubber "DUE" seal, horseshoe shaped with " P. O. DUJEYGANG " in the half outer circle, Bhutanese currency "CH....." (for chetrum) in the straight line below, while in the inner half circle, outlined with the same wavy ")" shapes as the round rubber cancellation seal, the word "DUE" is written (Figure 7).

Among the three dead [page 14] negative wax seals was one from Dagapela (PAR, without Dzong kha text), remarkable as Dagapela CMO itself has no longer a seal (all its mail is cancelled at Dagana PO). The other two state "DUJEYGANG" in English and Dzong kha letters; one is a PAR marked, while the other one has no further words or letters (except for the letters "MY" stuck in the date line). There are furthermore two similar metal stamps with DUJEYGANG in English and Dzong kha with two rhombuses, one "REG" and one "PAR"; the same type without any extra indication is still used for cancellation of stamps. There is also an old "Postmaster" rubber stamp in English, hardly readable, although with some effort one can decipher the following text:

? ? ? ? P O S T M A S T E R
 ?? DUJEYGANG . BHUTAN

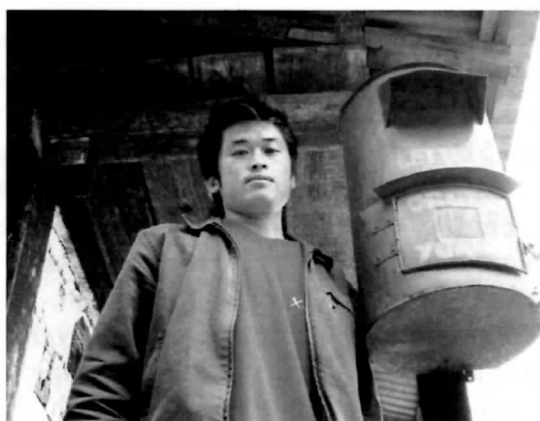


Figure 1

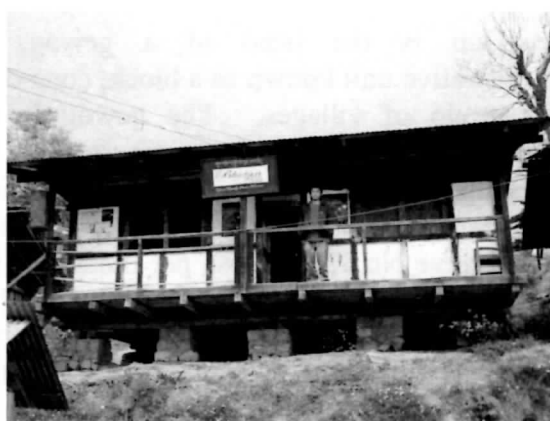


Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



From the Karl-Heinz Michel collection





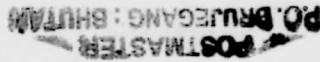






Figure 7

PO/CMO

POSTMASTER
PO. BRUJEGANG : BHUTANACTIVE
SEALS

Date

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Seal 1  | Seal 2  | Seal 3  |
| Comments: | Comments: POSTMASTER PO. BRUJEGANG : BHUTAN | Comments: |
| Seal 4  | Seal 5  | Seal 6  |
| Comments: | Comments: | Comments: |
| Seal  | Seal  | Seal  |
| Comments | Comments | Comments |

L V D V

Name Postmaster MR DAWA GYALPO

Other PO info

Active Seals

PO/CMO

POSTMASTER
RELEASED

READY
SEALS

Date 26 03 11

| | | |
|------------|--|------------|
| Seal 1 | Seal 2 | Seal 3 |
| Comments | Comments | Comments |
| Seal 4 | Seal 5 | Seal 6 |
| Comments | Comments POSTMASTER DUJEYANG TO DENTAB | Comments |
| Seal | Seal | Seal |
| Comments | Comments POSTMASTER DUJEYANG TO DENTAB | Comments |

LVBY

Name Postmaster MR WALA GYALPO

Other PO info

Dead Seals

On Tour

by Dick van der Wateren

Amsterdam International Airport, Friday October 20, 2010 time 23:30. I am boarding a jumbo jet for a trip from Amsterdam to Kathmandu via Bahrain. All is OK - ticket, reserved seat, etc. The flight can be started. This is the beginning of my 19th (and probably not my last) trip to Nepal to visit with my Nepalese stamp friends.

Sagar Man Shrestha, president of the Nepal Philatelic Society (NPS), and other members have been informed of my visit. Sagar promised to pick me up at the airport and to have a walking stick for me to use on the mostly badly paved streets of the capital. It is already late in the afternoon when I arrived at the Kathmandu Guesthouse. My good friend Peter Planken who arrived the prior day after a three week trip to Tibet welcomes me at the gate. We dine at Las Kus and discuss our trips before going to bed.

Next day Sagar informed us about the programme for the forthcoming week: Tuesday will be a talk, Wednesday a dinner in one of the Maharaja's palaces and Friday an auction in the NPS's office in Jhochen. By day, Peter and I will visit Bodnath, Patan and Changu Narayan, some seven miles north of Bhaktapur. Peter has never seen this very nice temple village, but I

have been there with Sagar and Jaya Hari Jha several years before.

Tuesday at 5 pm in the NPS residence, Sagar opens the Society meeting, welcoming about 15 members and especially both the Dutch guests, offering them a Kadha - the fine Tibetan greeting scarf. I give to the President, for the Society library, two books that I have published.

On Wednesday we started from the Society office to one of the palaces of the former maharajas for dinner. In a large room, with two lines of tables, about 100 guests were present for a fine dinner with live Nepali songs and dances. Really a very fine evening.

The Friday auction was, for me, the final day of my trip as the next day I was to return to my cold and wet country. However, I'm going home with a lot of fine memories of another week in a country I like very much.

The members of the Society are always so cordial and friendly to me. One year before - again the last week of October - the Society surprised me with a Certificate of Appreciation for my "valuable contribution for the upliftment of the NPS". I hope a next visit will be possible.

The walking stick is returned to Sagar Man Shrestha, thank you very much Sagar!

Article on Tibet's First Issue in British Journal

submitted by Alan Warren

Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle vice president Geoffrey Flack has an article in the November 2011 issue of *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*. His article, "An Introduction to the First Issue of Tibet," appears in a special insert booklet that also carries three other articles on Asian philately. The booklet, titled *Far East Collector's Guide*, recognizes the strong interest in Far East philately as reflected by some recent record-breaking auction results.

Geoffrey's article briefly summarizes the early 20th century philately of Tibet as marked by the Younghusband expedition and the interim Chinese period 1909-1911. During the latter time the 13th Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government

in Exile in India explored the establishment of a local postal system in Tibet and the preliminary design work conducted by Waterlow & Sons for a set of postage stamps.

Descriptions are presented for the first set of five native stamps and the later one sang value that was released c. 1950 for the wireless telegraph system. Geoffrey also discusses the postal history of this issue and points out which values of the set are frequently seen on cover and which are difficult to find or rare. A number of rare covers are shown in full color.

Geoffrey's article should bring attention to our collecting specialty.

An Unknown Directional Mark

by Bo C. Olsson

I have found an unknown directional mark. It is on an unregistered cover stamped with a 2 tr. yellow stamp of the 1933 type. Type 11a? - Shigatse to Gyantse

