

NEPAL STUDY CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 1

3, Orwell Grove,
Peterborough PE 4 6 XU
England

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Dear Friends,

Your response to my initial letter to have a newsletter has been excellent with 25 members who have replied so far. We have also gained two new members:

Mr. Hanns Wittmann,
Steinmetzstrasse 5
D.6200 Wiesbaden
West Germany

Dr. M. Allen Greenwood,
707 Jewett Avenue,
Staten Island
NY 10314,
U.S.A.

I would like to welcome these gentlemen to the Study Circle and hope that they will find it a useful source of information and perhaps be able to provide some articles or information for us.

Unfortunately one member Mr. Watterson of Doncaster, England does not wish to continue as a member so would you please delete his name from the original list.

I would also like to apologise to Dr. Armand Singer for omitting the letter R after his name. We all know from the numerous articles he has written what a tremendous amount of work he has done in the research field. (My typist now has sore knuckles!)

Mr. Dhruva Rudra from Kathmandu has written to say that the Nepal Philatelic Society has re-formed again, and he is the new Secretary. They hope to start publishing the quarterly magazine 'Philately' again, so if any member wishes to re-join or have details of the newly-formed Society I would suggest you write to him.

A number of you sent me your wants list of Nepalese stamps, but this does not seem a very practical proposition to put into a newsletter as many of you are searching for the same stamps. It would seem to me that a better idea would be for members to list material they have for sale or exchange.

I have a suggestion sent in from Dr. Pierre Couvreur that we should be called the Nepal and Tibet Study Circle. Well I am a Nepal only collector, but I am sure many of you also collect Tibet, but before we do anything with the name I would appreciate your comments on it - both for and against.

You will also find that the page size is now A.4 and not foolscap as I had first suggested as one or two members felt that this would be a more convenient size for filing.

Mr. Raj Bhandary from Kathmandu has a specialised collection of the half anna and is willing to help with any information he can on this subject. So you students of the half anna might like to contact him.

Mr. Leo Diamond from New York asks what has happened to the studies that have been carried out by members. Well, Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl and myself have just completed a large manuscript on the Native postmarks which includes items such as registered mail and telegraph cancellations, and other general collecting interest and problems. At the moment we are trying to find an interested publisher and we will keep members informed on progress made. Wolfgang is also working on the forgeries of Nepal and Tibet and would welcome any information on this subject.

Dr. Joseph Braun from West Germany has been working on an extensive study of the British Indian postmarks for a number of years and this I believe is almost ready for publication.

If any other members have any pet subjects they are working on, let us know, you will be surprised what information other members will send you.

The following is a list of subjects on which members have written asking for information:-

- (a) The correlation between the Nepalese and Western calendar.
- (b) Information on all types of cancellations.
- (c) When were stamps discontinued as pre-payments for telegrams?
- (d) Information on the various revenue issues and their uses.
- (e) The postal rates 1881 to the present day.

Well the answers to question (a) and (b) are quite comprehensively covered in our manuscript on the Native postmarks so for the moment I will leave these.

I would like to publish answers to question (c), (d) and (e) in our next newsletter BUT I need YOU to supply me with the answers. So if any of you have any of this information - no matter how small - send it to me, so that I can collate it together for the answers. As a help towards the answer on the telegraph forms I know that the Service stamps 1959-63 issue were also used as pre-payment for telegrams.

Now, who is going to break the ice and send me an article on an item/s from their collection (about 500-600 words)?

In the meantime I would like to wish you all good tidings for Christmas and good collecting in the New Year.

Colin Hepper