



The

G. B. Overprints Society

(Affiliated to A.P.S. & A.B.P.S.)

This Society, popularly known as GBOS was founded in 1974 as a natural progression from a Study Circle which had existed since 1970. We are a Member of the Association of British Philatelic Societies and were the first Society in the United Kingdom to Affiliate to the American Philatelic Society, in 1977. Most of the membership is in the British Isles, but we have enthusiastic members in Europe, and throughout the World, including the Arabian Gulf, South Africa, Australia and the United States of America.

The GBOS attempts to study, research, and provide a service to all Collectors of G.B. Overprinted material, with particular strength in Bahrain, Bechuanaland, British Levant, the British Postal Agencies of Eastern Arabia, British Occupied Italian Colonies, Kuwait, Mafeking, Morocco Agencies, Nauru, Oil Rivers, Qatar and Tangier.

From the first officially produced G.B. Overprints for Cyprus in 1880, right through to the closing of the very last Overseas British Post Office, at Abu Dhabi in the Arabian Gulf on 31st December 1966, we find not only stamps, but many of the other services, offered by the British Post Office. Registered Letter Envelopes, Printed Postcards, Parcel Labels, Postal Orders and Airletters; all overprinted or used in one or more of the Overseas BPO's.

'The Overprinter', the GBOS quarterly journal, is usually of 30 page sides or more, 'A4' size, and well illustrated. The GBOS has a reputation of ensuring a very high percentage of new and original content, with news and views and participation by members of a high level. Although the journal has not been entered for competition in the U.K., it has received Awards overseas, and we believe we can fairly say that it meets with the satisfaction of GBOS members everywhere, and that is what we strive for.

Study Papers are published from time to time, the most notable achievements being a series covering the Stamps of British Levant and another covering the British Occupied Italian Colonies, which have received excellent reviews. More recently we have published booklets on overprinted Wildings and Postal Orders and jointly published Books on the Postal History of the Morocco Agencies.

The Society has an extensive Library with loan of books only within the United Kingdom, but the GBOS Librarian extends all possible help to Overseas members on request.

Postal Auctions are normally held twice a year, and are an important feature of services to GBOS members worldwide.

A Packet service is available to members resident within the United Kingdom on request. Dealer/Members now have an opportunity to advertise "overprint" material in 'The Overprinter'.

Meetings are regularly held in London and regionally whenever possible, providing an opportunity for members to meet socially, view and display material and exchange information and we have started having weekend meetings.

No matter what your interest in G.B. Overprints, whether Beginner or Advanced Specialist, it is certain that the Society can help you with research information, and you will find many other members with the same interests as yourself.

Society website is at <http://www.gbos.org.uk/>

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