

British South American Airways 1946-1949 - A Sourcebook for Aerophilatelists

By Richard Beith

Published 2004 by the author, Chester, England. Soft bound, 56 pages, A4 size. Price UK£16.50 post-paid within the UK, £17.00 surface small packet worldwide, £18.50 airmail outside of Europe. Order from Richard Beith, 14 Middlecroft, Guilden Sutton, Chester, England CH3 7HF.

The book grew out of articles written by Mr. Beith, which were published in 1994 in the journal of the American Air Mail Society and the Royal Mail's philatelic magazine. Since then, interest in collecting BSAA covers and ephemera has grown. The present book is an expansion of the previous magazine articles. It includes notes on earlier attempts at starting a British South Atlantic Airmail service, together with a range of appendices, such as a listing of the BSAA fleet, BSAA etiquettes & ephemera, instructional hand stamps, postal rates and reproductions of the airline's timetables.

The following is a summary of the book's contents:

1. The lack of British air mail services to South America in the 1930s
2. The thwarting of British Airways Limited
3. Air Mail routes between the British Isles and S. America during World War II
4. The formation of BSAA Limited
5. Route development
6. The air mails
7. Crashes and crash mails
8. The end of BSAA

Each section is supported by photos, route maps and covers carried by BSAA—both commercial covers and first flight covers. Ten crashes are listed. There is a good bibliography listing 55 books, periodicals and other references.