

Epping Forest & District's Cake celebrating 80 Years



See p. 32



The ABPS News is also available
online at www.abps.org.uk



Selling your stamp collection?

Warwick and Warwick have an expanding requirement for world collections, single country collections, single items, covers, proof material and specialised collections. Our customer base is increasing dramatically and we need an ever-larger supply of quality material to keep pace with demand. The market is currently very strong for G.B. and British Commonwealth and the Far East. If you are considering the sale of your collection, now is the time to act.

FREE VALUATIONS

We will provide a free, professional valuation of your collection, without obligation on your part to proceed. Either we will make you a fair, binding private treaty offer, or we will recommend inclusion of your property in our next public auction.

FREE TRANSPORTATION

We can arrange insured transportation of your collection to our Warwick offices completely free of charge. If you decline our offer, we ask you to cover the return carriage costs only.

FREE VISITS

Visits by our valuers are possible anywhere in the country or abroad, in order to assess more valuable collections. Please phone for details.

ADVISORY DAYS

We have an ongoing programme of advisory days, in all regions of the United Kingdom, where you can meet us and discuss the sale of your collection. Visit our website for further details.

EXCELLENT PRICES

Because of the strength of our customer base we are in a position to offer prices that we feel sure will exceed your expectations.

ACT NOW

Telephone or email Warwick & Warwick today with details of your property.



Warwick & Warwick

Auctioneers and Valuers
www.warwickandwarwick.com



Get the experts on your side!

Warwick & Warwick Ltd., Chalou House, Scar Bank,
Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB England

Tel: (01926) 499031 • Fax: (01926) 491906
Email: info@warwickandwarwick.com

/warwickauctions

@warwickauctions



ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

The Magazine of the Association of British Philatelic Societies is published four times a year: spring, summer, autumn, winter.

ABPS is a company limited by guarantee (3326534), founded 1st January 1994. Material from *ABPS News* may be freely reproduced, but acknowledgement of the source would be appreciated. Copyright of images may belong to parties other than ABPS, who must also be consulted.

Volume 31, Number 1, Spring 2024 (whole number 121)

Editor: Keith S Burton

(ISSN 1353 6869)

CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 Chair's Message: <i>Steve Harrison</i> | Edward Point, Base Commander |
| 5 Editorial: <i>Keith Burton</i> | Letter, 1974 <i>Keith Lillywhite</i> |
| 6 Obituaries: Peter Pugh <i>Steve Williams</i> ; William Merrett <i>Des Kent</i> ; Michael R Thompson <i>Michael Goodman</i> | 20 A Collecting Tangent - The Azemar Experimental Cancellation <i>Mathew Shaer</i> |
| 8 Anniversaries: Yeovil (70) <i>Newton Jones</i> ; Swindon (80) <i>John Wand</i> ; Nottinghamshire (110) <i>Sandra Poole</i> | 22 British Long Distance Mail Packets Vol 2 The Harwich Packets 1816-1834 <i>Stuart Rossiter Trust</i> |
| 10 Stamp Collecting, the Right to Roam, the West Highland Way and Yul Brunner <i>Russ Walker</i> | 23 On The Club Circuit: Locals |
| 12 What I Collect & Why <i>Tim Usher</i> | 48 Specialists |
| 13 Decline in Competition Entries at Local Level <i>Mike Moody & Salisbury</i> | 53 Federations |
| 14 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain | 54 Amendments |
| 15 South Georgia, Falkland Island Dependencies Post Office, King | 54 Stamp Active |
| | 55 British Stamp News |
| | 56 Diary of local events, national exhibitions and international exhibitions |
| | 58 ABPS Executive, other officers and associates |

An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage www.abps.org.uk a few months after publication. Contact details for ABPS are on the page by the inside rear cover.

Copy dates: please send your material as soon as ready; at present the copy deadlines are 15th January, 15th April, 15th July, 15th October. We cannot guarantee to include items in specific editions. Items may be edited for publication. Email copy is preferred (unformatted). Send copy to the editor: Keith S Burton (editor@abps.org.uk) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR:



2024! Where do the weeks, months and years go? The more philatelic material I have to write up, the faster time seems to go. When I retired some years ago, I had this notion that I would have all the time I needed to write material up and expand my collections. I think even now, I need at least another 30 years to catch up - and that's ignoring all the material I might buy as time goes on!

In reading philatelic magazines and journals, a new area of philately that is emerging is *Context Philately*. It goes beyond just collecting stamps based on their designs or countries of origin - it focuses on the historical and cultural context surrounding the stamps. Collectors in this new area are interested in understanding the stories behind the stamps, the events they commemorate, and their social or political significance. It's like putting the stamps in a historical narrative, turning them into small windows that offer glimpses into different eras and cultures. For example, a stamp might not only be valued for its aesthetic appeal or rarity but also for the represented historical moment, the personalities featured on it, or the cultural symbols it showcases. It adds an extra layer of meaning and to the hobby, making it a blend of history and philately. I will be very interested to see how *Context Philately* develops!

Looking at what's happening in 2024, one of the stand-out events of the year is the **Philatelic Congress of Great Britain** in Southampton from 11th to 14th July. It will be based at the Leonardo Grand Harbour Hotel, close to the harbour and city centre. The programme will have as its theme ***new directions in philately*** with contributors from around the world exploring this area. We can share the latest developments and best practices in philately. This is an event for everyone with an interest in philately, with displays by local collectors as well as leading overseas collectors. The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists will be joining Congress this year to make it a very special event! Full details about Congress can be found in this edition of ABPS News.

One job we, the Executive Committee of the ABPS, always find difficult is finding new individuals who are willing to join us actively. At the moment we need to find a willing volunteer to take on the role of Director of Communications – to lead and manage all aspects of communications between ABPS and societies, federations and external audiences. This is a key role in ensuring that we serve as a central hub for information exchange keeping all members informed about the latest philatelic developments. If you would like to know more about this role, please contact me directly to have an informal chat. In almost the words of Lord Kitchener, your ABPS needs you! As ever, I will end by stressing the importance of communication. Without good communication who knows what's going on or what the current issues are in philately that need addressing? Please do let me know what you think about all that is happening in philately at the moment. My email address is chair@abps.org.uk and my postal address is Steven Harrison, ABPS, c/o RPSL, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW or write to Keith Burton, the editor of ABPS News at editor@abps.org.uk Steve Harrison

Editorial



Recently it was pointed out to me that *real idiot* is an anagram of *editorial* nicely tying together two of my main leisure activities - crosswords and philately. Certainly both can take a lot of thought and time. Thinking of something new to write about every quarter is not easy and I feel that I might be becoming repetitive after penning so many. How professional editors manage is beyond me - but perhaps their pay helps. This time I want to stress a few positives and ask a few questions. I am delighted to see the care shown by some societies and individuals in responding to the points raised about competitions, local societies and other matters in the past articles by David Rennie and Richard Smith. The consensus is not hopeful but more thought is likely to produce new ideas. My own society, unlike many, has increased the number of meetings - for a paltry annual fee we can now attend four meetings per month - two regular evening more formal meetings, one informal afternoon meeting and one Zoom meeting. Each contributes a different view of philately - social, focused, researched, visual, even comedic. Informality allows for humour, exchange of information, material and views - don't forget we are in the hobby for fun too.

My questions relate to what you see as the point of ABPS. This has been brought home to me by societies that have withdrawn because they don't think that ABPS does anything for them - as the members don't do competitions at national or international level. Presumably they don't want there to be a national federation. Am I wrong in thinking that membership is about putting something into the situation? Ability, time, money, general support are all needed for a society, a group of societies in a federation or all the societies with common interests in a national federation. Do we have to expect to get something from our membership or affiliation all the time - or can we see the need to contribute to the whole picture, even if that does mean that we stop thinking that a paltry sum for our membership is enough (or too much in some cases)? I am sure that I am not alone in being willing to pay two- or three-figure sums for the right material (and I don't mean pence) but I am unusual in being willing to argue strongly for a fee that will provide the sums needed for my hobby to be run. We ask for answers and comments regularly - where are they? Probably I am preaching to the converted as you are still affiliated but if you know of unaffiliated societies can you ask them why they are being so isolated? What do we, as a whole, need to do and say to convince them that their hobby is under threat of extinction, or are local and specialist societies and federations content to be the 21st century dinosaurs?

If you live within 50 miles of Southampton (or further away) why not come to the Congress in July? You could exchange views and ideas with each other and ABPS and be involved in the future.

Keith Burton

Peter Pugh

20th February 1949 – 3rd November 2023

It is with great sadness that I relay the sad news of the passing of Peter Pugh.

A great many societies in the ABPS will have enjoyed a visit from Peter with one of his many Hong Kong related displays, whether it was Treaty Ports, Security marks, Hong Kong or in recent years his ever-growing display of mails from Hong Kong & the Treaty Ports via the Trans-Siberian Railway which started as one display and finished as six. It would be an understatement to say that Peter enjoyed giving displays as it had become his passion since small beginnings in the early 1980s to encompass a wide range of societies throughout England as well as a few in Scotland.

He began his long-standing membership of Rugby Philatelic Society in 1975 and was twice chairman, from 1981 to 1994 and again from 2017 until his untimely death. Alongside his commitment to his local society he was one of the longest-serving members of the Hong Kong Study Circle which he joined in the mid-1970s. This involved his using his interest in security markings to publish a listing with Philippe Orsetti (USA) which became the basis for a website listing them. In recent years he was also a member of the South Midlands Philatelic society which he supported wholeheartedly.

It would have been a matter of personal pride and satisfaction to him that, despite his diagnosis of MND and the restrictions this put on him, he had chaired the meeting of the Rugby Society the week of his death and had displayed to them only two weeks previously, ably assisted by his wife Rosemary. Such was his determination to fight his illness that he had plans to visit societies in his diary for the rest of this season.

Peter has spent most of his working life as a baker, predominantly in the family business based in Rugby and following his father's retirement with a local supermarket. When he retired, he devoted hours to his philatelic interests and research, meticulously writing up his collections for display whilst also spending time with his family.

Philately has lost a passionate and knowledgeable ambassador who matched his desire to build his collection with sharing it with others and an enthusiasm to grow his local society.

All our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

Steve Williams



William Charles Merrett

'Bill'

25th August 1931 – 9th September 2023

Members of the Cornwall Stamp community were saddened to hear of Bill's passing peacefully at home on the 9th September 2023, aged 92. He had endured a number of health issues over twelve years, including a heart bypass operation, but retained his sense of humour and mischievous smile throughout.

Bill was born in Cheam, Surrey and his career in the building trade brought him to Plympton in 1967, and on retirement he moved to North Hill near Launceston Cornwall.

Bill, being a stamp collector since his childhood, joined the Launceston Stamp Club, and it was not long before he took on the role of Cornwall Federation Packet Secretary, a post he held for over 11 years. Bill was meticulous in keeping the records of the Federation Packet sales and will be remembered for his neat figures in green ink.

Des Kent



Michael R Thompson

The National Philatelic Society has been saddened by the news that Michael R Thompson, its immediate past president and former auctioneer, passed away on Tuesday 16th September 2023.

Michael became the society's auctioneer 1997, running its monthly auctions for over twenty years. For a decade from 2012, he combined this with the role of president. Many NPS members will recall enjoying his president's displays of *Lundy Island*, *Classic Ceylon* and *Philatelic Congresses* - three of his main interests. With his drive, determination and thirst for hard work, the society owes a great deal to Michael and it was indeed unfortunate that the end of his term of office coincided with the Covid pandemic and the onset of illness. Outside his NPS activities, Michael played an important role in the Kent philatelic scene and the London & Provincial Stamp Club, and was also involved in Stamp Active where he conducted the children's stamp auctions at Stampex for many years. A fuller obituary and tributes appeared in the December edition of *Stamp Lover*. His funeral took place at noon on Friday 17th November at Thames View Crematorium, Gravesend, followed by a wake at the Civic Centre, Gravesend.

Michael Goodman

Do you have something that you would like to share with other societies? Don't forget that each society is entitled annually to ask to have an advert included, particularly for a special event. If space permits it will be included free of charge. Word documents and good artwork in jpeg or equivalent are needed.

Society anniversaries

According to the date of foundation shown in the societies' information on our records, significant anniversaries include those shown below (though several societies have not let us know their foundation date, so there may be more). Heartiest congratulations to all involved in these milestones:

Yeovil Philatelic Society - 70 Years

The society will be celebrating its seventieth anniversary in March 2024. It is still active with twenty-five members and nine dealer members. It is therefore one of the largest societies in the Somerset and Dorset Federation. Meetings take place monthly in Yeovil from September to June. Members have a wide range of collecting interests, and have put on a varied programme each year which includes talks on a wide variety of philatelic interests with speakers from within the society and from around the region. For example, subjects covered recently include Australia, North Borneo, the German Occupation of the Channel Islands and Austrian Classics. A talk on Helicopters on stamps was very appropriate in Yeovil! Other activities include regular auctions and displays. Competitions take place although these are not as well supported as in the past. An Annual Stamp Fair is also arranged by the society every October which has attracted up to ten dealers and latterly has included postcards.

We have always taken an active part in firstly the Wessex Federation and subsequently, on its formation in 1972, in the Somerset and Dorset Federation with members holding various offices. Over the years, there have also been a few active members at national level; latterly one has been Chairman of the Austrian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

New members are always welcome, especially if they are moving to the area and have been members elsewhere.

Newton Jones

Swindon Philatelic Society - 80 years

The society was founded on 10th December 1943 in the middle of WWII and with the meeting being interrupted by an air raid. Eighty years on 55 members and guests met in the comfortable surroundings of the Swindon Marriot Delta hotel for a day of displays and socialising to mark the event. The society was pleased to welcome representatives from the other members of the Wiltshire and District Philatelic Federation, and of the Federation itself, plus several other local societies. Our many trophies were on display, not only to show the range of serious and not-so-serious competitions run by us, but also to remember past members, each trophy having been donated by a former member.

As many partners of members do not collect, the day's displays were thematic. Our morning display was by Wendy Buckle, a long-term member of the society. The first part of her display was on *Writing Materials Through the Ages*, and the second half on *Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts*. Wendy informed us that the penknife was originally a sharp knife used to trim quill pens by the writers of such manuscripts.

After a buffet lunch our President, **John Wand**, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the society's history and some of its past and present members. This served as an introduction to a small booklet on the society's past and present that was given to attendees as a memento of the occasion; further copies are available on request (john.o.wand@gmail.com). During production of the booklet it became apparent how much of the early history had been lost in the mists of time; probably this is not unique to Swindon PS. It was therefore important that the booklet included articles from our longest-serving members which made 'younger' members aware of some of this history. This uncovered the fact that a member in the 1950s and 1960s had been commemorated with a blue plaque, (albeit not for his philatelic activities), something that is unique amongst our members. The origins of our annual stamp fair, Swinpex, also became apparent; whilst established to help the society out of a financial black hole, it is now a significant event in the philatelic year and an important contributor to our funds which has helped to finance activities, including the day's event.

Colin Mount followed with *A Pig in the Post*, a very well-informed display which covered, amongst many other things, the origins of 'piggy bank'; a bank loan to farmers in anticipation of the sale of their pigs at market. The event was concluded with the chance to eat some of the cake made by **Carol Gibbon**, depicting stamps from each decade of the society's existence. It was cut by Carol and husband **Dave**, well-known for his organisation of Swinpex for many years.



Dave and Carol cutting the cake

John Wand

Nottinghamshire Philatelic Society – 110 Years

On 17th November 2023, we celebrated our 110th anniversary - actually a week late, as the inaugural date fell between two meetings. The inaugural meeting took place on 10th November 1913 at the Victoria Station Hotel. The society has run more or less continuously since then but not without some disruption and reduced programme during the two World Wars when a number of our members were away on active service.

At the inaugural meeting there was an attendance of 55 persons; 110 years on, there were 17 members, but that was quite acceptable for these days now that some people are no longer fit enough to attend meetings. It is in direct contrast, however, to our 75th anniversary event which was held at the Mechanics' Institute in Nottingham on 5th November 1988. This had philatelic displays to view and was open to the public and other philatelic societies. Over 150 people including our own members turned up.



Nottinghamshire PS Members and Friends at their Anniversary meeting

At the first general meeting on 6th December 1913, as was reported in the Nottingham Guardian, one of the exhibits was an Assyrian letter impressed in clay and dated 2000 BC. Even in those days, the bar was set high! Also at that meeting, the subscription for the 1914 season was set at 5/-.

At our 2023 celebration, we were also treated to a fine, possibly unique, display by a fellow member on the postal history of an English market town. At half-time, we enjoyed party food before reassembling for the second part, which was just as interesting and informative as the first.

Sandra Poole

If you think we've missed you out, please let the Editor know.

Stamp collecting, the Right to Roam, the West Highland Way and Yul Brynner.

Stamp collecting is often seen as a lonely, indoor occupation but here in Scotland one stamp dealer, very well-known to generations of collectors, played a very important part in opening up our great outdoors to ordinary people from all around the world.

BBC Radio4 recently ran a programme about a group called the Hutterers at Carbeth, a rural spot just north of Glasgow and base for one of the early outdoor rambling movements. A founder was a very interesting man, William Ferris, OBE.

William Ferris was known to all Glasgow stamp collectors as the owner of the Glasgow Stamp Shop in Cowcaddens. His philatelic sales however did not go into a collection of his own but mainly into supporting his many interests in the Scottish outdoors - rambling, youth hostels, free camping, rights of way.

William Ferris was born In Govan on the south side of Glasgow in 1894. Govan was a very working class centre of shipbuilding and suffered from very poor living conditions in a heavily industrialised area. His son says that only William and a sister, Mary, survived out of eight children. William worked after school each day. His school days over he got a job in one of Glasgow's many theatres, the Pavilion, where he was involved with world-renowned stars such as Houdini and Harry Lauder.

Ferris served through the First World War and after demobilisation he wrote to the landowner of Carbeth estate, Allan Barns-Graham, seeking permission to build a camping hut. The landlord had been supportive of the Clarion Movement which promoted "the clarion call of socialism" and had allowed the Clarion Cyclists to camp on his land. Ferris was allowed to camp, but quite quickly the camp became a hut.

At the same time Ferris started a small business in Glasgow selling antiquarian books and fine art at 157/159 West Nile Street. In a few years this became The Glasgow Stamp Shop, which was the major source of funding for his various voluntary efforts relating to the outdoors. His son says that the stamp side of the business started in the 1920's *"when a salesman for Stanley Gibbons, Willie Pragnell, came into the shop and offered an envelope of stamps to be displayed on an antique plate in the window and sold with the plate"*. Soon stamps took over the whole shop and the books and paintings had to move to other nearby premises.

Most collectors in central Scotland still remember the shop and its unusual triangular extension (two streets met at the junction) where stamps from around the world were on display. It opened the joy of collecting to many young

enthusiasts and attracted some famous names including Yul Brynner, who was in Glasgow to open his latest film. He was quoted in the local paper talking about his stamps *"I love collecting them. It's a hobby you start quite innocently, and then you find you're stuck with it."* Possibly a sentiment that many of us share. Along with his involvement with the hutting movement, William Ferris was also vice-president of the Camping Club of Great

Britain and Ireland, vice-chairman of the Scottish Council of Physical Recreation, Chairman of the Scottish Rights of Way Society and the Scottish Ramblers' Federation, and a member of the Scottish Tourist Board. He is also credited with helping to establish youth hostels in Scotland. An interesting and more detailed description of his life and activities can be found on the website:

www.carbethutters.co.uk/code/w-ferris/html



A website dedicated to Scotland's most famous long- distance footpath, the West Highland Way, also acknowledges Ferris's part in helping to get it established: www.westhighlandway40.org/ys2022-carbeth

In 2020 a well-known journalist, Lesley Riddoch, issued a book called “Huts - a place beyond”, which also recognised the role of William Ferris in opening up the countryside to everyone. She notes how Nordic countries have around 400 000 summer houses or huts, whilst Scotland had 630 at the time of publication. An initiative called Reforesting Scotland Thousand Huts campaign aims to improve that number and let folk discover the Nordic notion of “*friluftsliv*”, an idea of Henrik Ibsen, where recreation, rejuvenation and restoring life balance are found through being in nature.

A grandson now owns and runs Mapes of Millport, a very well-known bicycle-hire business on the holiday island of Cumbrae. On the premises he stores the original signage of the Glasgow Stamp Shop owned by his grandfather. So if you visit, call in and see this bit of philatelic heritage! And remember, if you roam the Scottish hills freely, it might all be down to collectors such as us sitting at home collecting stamps... *Russ Walker*



The American Stamp Club of Great Britain recently produced issue 250 of its journal *The Mayflower*. The editor, **John Edwards**, decided to hold a competition open to all members. The subject was “*What I Collect and Why*” in a maximum of 300 words. The winning entry was by **Tim Usher**. It is reprinted below by permission of John and Tim.

What I Collect and Why

I was tennis coaching in America in 1969 after finishing my studies. One day I visited a small town in the Catskill Mountains and on walking down the main street, I espied in a general store a small display of mint Civil War patriotic covers. Up until that time I had collected USA stamps as my father had a friend living in Hartford, Connecticut, who regularly sent me 1st day covers. On hearing from the store proprietor the history behind these covers, I instantly became intrigued especially being a newly qualified History teacher. I then began to seriously seek out covers which mocked the antics of the Confederates or which promoted the patriotism of the Union. I progressed to used covers, particularly those that contained letters sent by soldiers to their families, detailing their camp life or a request for news from home. Boredom and sickness featured highly in many letters. On one occasion I was fortunate enough to acquire four covers that gave very interesting details of battles fought such as at Bull Run and Gettysburg. I invariably admired the beautiful handwriting displayed in these letters, even those which had been written by men who were hardly literate. Many of my covers in my collection are tatty and stained, having been in the pockets of soldiers marching to the next battlefield. However, their appeal is

enduring as is the thought that these covers are a testament to a bloody period in American history. As a teacher, I have used many of my collection in the teaching of my subject. My pupils are always fascinated by the details that are revealed to them.

Tim Usher

Decline in Competition Entries at Local Level

1. There is little interest in returning to former glories. SDPS has eight cups to be awarded for various categories. Twenty years ago there would be several entries for each category, now many categories have no entries.

2. Reasons why:

a Too complicated and obscure rules.

b Unlikely to win as serious philatelists in the society.

c A nuisance to break up a collection and rewrite for competition criteria.

d Not competitive.

e No feedback as to how to improve entries

f I enter because I enjoy competing. Those that do enter see how valuable it can be to add a story to a straightforward collecting theme. Taking items and developing them into a nine or sixteen sheet entry is felt to be rewarding. They produce entries of a very high standard.

3. Comments on above:

(2a) As secretary this year I will be sending out the rules and publicising the event. This may improve entries.

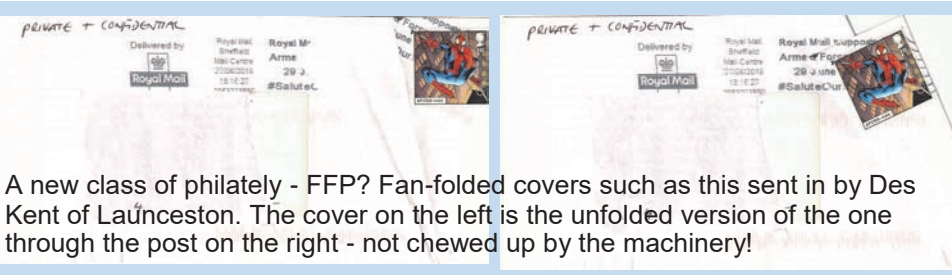
(2b) As it is the entry point for the federation, this is unlikely to change. It is a slightly hollow reason as we have a category for novices and we now get no entries.

(2c) Difficult to change. A suggestion was that it might be easier if entries could be just scans.

(2e) A chicken and egg problem. When we had a decent number of entries we had a judge. Now with so few entries a judge would have very little to judge and it would be a waste of his time. Sending scans to a judge might overcome this and also make it easier to prepare an entry.

Mike Moody

Mike and Salisbury produced discussion points and comments on many other aspects eg Retention, Advertising, Recruitment. The sum total is at least 5 times as long as this section so I cannot include it all in one issue - I hope to have their permission to use their thoughts in stages. You can start answering. Editor



A new class of philately - FFP? Fan-folded covers such as this sent in by Des Kent of Launceston. The cover on the left is the unfolded version of the one through the post on the right - not chewed up by the machinery!



PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN - 2024

Congress 2024 is being held in Southampton from 11th to 14th July 2024. It will be based at the Leonardo Grand Harbour Hotel, close to the harbour and city centre. The programme will have as its theme ***new directions in philately***. We will be sharing the latest developments and best practices in philately. This is an event for everyone with an interest in philately, with displays by local collectors as well as leading overseas collectors. For 2024 the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists will be joining Congress to make it a very special event!



Leonardo Royal Hotel Southampton Grand Harbour

West Quay Road, Southampton, SO15 1AG

Southamptongrandharbour@leonardohotels.co.uk
+44 23 8063 3033

Bedrooms are available to book now at special rates for Congress.

Bed and breakfast - £195.00 single occupancy or £207.00 double occupancy per night.

Superior room with a view - £30.00 upgrade fee per night

Superior with a balcony - £50.00 upgrade fee per night

Executive room - £60.00 upgrade fee per night

To book a room please call +44 23 8063 3033 - select option 1

The web site is at: Southamptongrandharbour@leonardohotels.co.uk

When booking quote – Philatelic Congress of Great Britain OR Block Code – PHILAT110724

There will be special dinners on each evening of Congress, as well as the RDP dinner on the Friday evening.

All details and a booking form are now available, together with full details of the Congress programme, at: www.abps.org.uk/philatelic-congress/

from / respond to: **Andrew McGavin**Are You **THINKING** of **SELLING?**

This is How The Stamp Trade Works

Philatelic Expert Lets You into his Selling Secrets so you can benefit from a totally different (and New) Selling Experience

1 If You want to learn how the stamp trade works, please read on... When I was 15, I did. I wondered if there was some secret source of supply? So, I bought my 1st stamp mixture, (wholesale I thought), broke it into 50 smaller units, advertised it in Stamp Magazine 'Classifieds', and waited for the orders to roll in... I'm still waiting, 51 years later!...

~~Wrong Offer X~~ ~~Wrong Price X~~ ~~Wrong Place X~~
(naive seller) ✓ = me but I was only 15 at the time!



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

About The Author ▶ Andrew found his Father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He 'socialised' in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year; he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that his collecting / trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp 'Tips' articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV, promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 51 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'lifetime' interlinked Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Rarities up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka LUPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps from 54 different countries 'in his international auctions'.

Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them... He loves working in stamps



2 Three years later, attending my first public stamp auctions I wondered how some bidders seemed to buy everything, paying the highest price? It didn't occur to me that they were probably Auction Bidding Agents, paid by absent (dealer) bidders to represent them. I wondered why two collectors sitting side by side muttered to each other "he's a dealer" as if that justified him paying the highest price...

...but did it really? What was the real reason? How could a Dealer pay a higher price than a Collector? It doesn't make sense, does it? Collectors are customers. Customers usually pay the highest price, unless... for a Collector, this was...

~~Wrong Presentation X~~ ~~Wrong Place X~~
therefore Wrong Price X

3 Fast-forward 48 years later to a British Empire collection, lot #1 in an International Stamp Auction – Estimated at £3,000, but we were the highest bidder at £21,000 – YES – some 7x higher. Including Buyer's Premium in the extraordinary sum of £4,788 we actually paid GBP£25,788= upon a £3,000 estimate... however, we broke it down into sets, singles, mini-collections etc. We made a profit. Some might say it found its price. Others may say:

~~Wrong Estimate X~~ ~~Wrong Presentation X~~
~~Wrong Structure X~~ ~~Wrong Protection of Price X~~

– Lucky for the seller that 2 well-heeled bidders saw the potential value that day or it could have been given away... the seller could easily have lost out couldn't he? or she?

So, by un-peeling the layers of obfuscation, hopefully we can all agree:

The Secret is Simple – it's ALL ABOUT: TIMING

Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's' –

Presentation ✓ Place ✓ and Price ✓

4 Understanding the problem... I always remember the car trade had their own little 'bible' – Glass's Guide. I've no idea, I've not even looked – in this internet-dominated world, it may even have disappeared. Well, there's an insider Stamp Trade publication for Stamp Dealers called "The Philatelic Exporter". There's nothing that special about it – and you won't learn much or find massively reduced prices by subscribing – BUT – it is a forum, a paper focal point, a last 'bastion' in this on-line transparent world that we inhabit... whereby dealers (and auctioneers) can try and communicate with each other. I publish my own articles there...

Recently I discussed the outcome of my 10 years' simple research, asking dealers and auctioneers 'what is your biggest problem?'

To a man, (why are we almost all men), they replied – "my biggest problem is stock, if I can get more of the right stock I can sell it easily"

Strange that, nobody ever asked me the same question back – because my answer would have been entirely different (and I don't treat it as a problem) – I seek to satisfy more collector clients than any other stamp auction

This is the reason why my company has such massive advertising. This is the reason why we spend up to 8% of turnover – up to £200,000 per annum in marketing costs. (Most dealers don't even sell £200K per annum).

5 Why is that? Because, as the world revolved the Stamp Market, imperceptibly Changed, and incrementally –Massively

So, although few will tell you this, it's clearly evident that the problem for most Sellers of Stamps today is no longer absent stock – but absent collectors in

the place they choose to sell their stamps in. Simply put, other Dealers, Auctions, Stamp Fairs have not invested in marketing to have a strong Customer-core. To be fair, this is not true of all – but it is true of most – so that our former competitor 'Apex' had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 20,000+ lot UPA 77th Auction we had 1,793 different bidders from 49 different countries, 95% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers – so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) – so that when you sell through them – you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% and more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc... **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it – TO DEALERS (and some collectors),** but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive...

6 Now, let's examine the cost implications – Example: Your stamp collection sells in public auction for £800. Upon a 25% buyer's premium, the dealer pays £1,000 and it could be more. He breaks it into £2,000+ selling price (much lower and he'll go out of business). The auction charges you a seller's commission of up to 18% (VAT included) upon the £800 sale price. This is GBP£144. Therefore you receive approaching £656 – which is approximately 33% of the dealer's £2,000+/- retail selling price - **BUT...** now that we have identified the problem...

Isn't the Solution Staring us Right in The Face ?

7 Why Pay an Auction to Sell to Dealers: Sell to Collectors instead? In our example with buyer's premium, sellers commission, lotting fees, extra credit card charges, VAT and even insurance - you're already being charged in different ways up to 40% of the selling price to sell, possibly or probably, **to the wrong person.**

Why not direct that 40% cost you're paying to sell to Collectors instead? Sounds good, so why hasn't this been done before ?

8 Truth is, it has been done before... Sometimes the 'old' ways are the best ways aren't they? But in today's enthusiasm to obscure the



Contact UPA: 01451 861 111

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

Dear Folk at UPA,

I've dealt with the public for 37 + years, and as both a consumer, and a businessman, I have created huge numbers of orders from all over the world from a complete range of suppliers from all aspects of our daily lives.

But I don't believe I have ever encountered such sensitivity, such kind thought, such understanding as I have with you in our initial meeting, our subsequent successful transaction, and now this.

I recall well the item you highlight, and realise that this one item has such colossal personal value, I could never part with it. It has been an absolute pleasure dealing with yourself, and I am more than willing for you to use this e-mail as commendation to others who may be thinking of disposing of their collection.

Many, many thanks for a memorable experience, and I will try to emulate your thought and care in my own business sphere.

Yours sincerely
D. E. B. Bath, UK

obvious so that money may be taken, almost surreptitiously, in numerous different ways, (without us apparently noticing until we see the cheque in our pocket) – the transparent 'seller pays' has been deliberately 'obscured' – so much so that, **amazingly,** the latest 2017 European Auction Selling Legislation just introduced – now requires auctions that charge 'buyer's premiums' **to warn the buyer in advance.** Just imagine going into the petrol station, and being warned that the price you're paying to put fuel in your tank is not the real price, you have to pay a premium! Obviously, there would be an uproar...

9 How can you cut out the middleman and sell to Collectors instead? Well, I can think of two ways. 1). **DIY** - Do It Yourself selling on eBay. That may be fine for lower grade material – but, would you risk auctioning relatively unprotected rare material on eBay ? We don't and we're professionals, so we should know what we're doing. Or 2). **Use my company UPA, which reaches collectors instead.** Here's how it works: Continuing from our previous **Example:**

The auction sold your stamps to a dealer for £1,000 – but You received circa £656

UPA sells them to collectors for you for up to £2,000 – even after 40% commission you receive up to £1,200. Up to £544 more. Now that's amazing, isn't it?

10 Sounds Good Andrew, but Can You 'Deliver'? Obviously, nothing is as simple as that, and as we auction stamps to collectors some collections may 'break' to the example £2,000+/- but the stamps may be sold for more or less – especially as we reserve all lots at 20% below, (Estimate £2,000 = £1,600 reserve) and not everything sells first or even 2nd time so prices may come down... Naturally, it's not that straightforward for a dealer either – he may sell at a discount to 'move' stock **OR,** like many dealers he may be sitting on the same unsold stamps, that you see time and time again, in dealer's stocks years later and still at the same unattractive prices... So, I think it is more reasonable for you to expect up to 36% to 50% more, indirectly or directly via my **Collector's Secret Weapon:** Universal Philatelic Auctions, which moves material more quickly, by incrementally reducing estimate (and reserve) price in a structured selling system...

Request Your Next FREE Catalogue NOW



UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS ABPS

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297



11 Q.) What is the Collector's 'Secret Weapon'?

A.) It's called the Unique UPA Reducing Estimate System... ★★

This is a rather long explanation, I don't want to bore you, but 20 years ago, when my wife and I set up Universal Philatelic Auctions I detected that the stamp trade's biggest problem then was not what sold – *but what didn't sell...* So, because I didn't want to try to keep on offering the same either unsaleable or overpriced stock I created the unique UPA Reducing Estimate (and reserve) Selling System. Simply put, if a lot doesn't sell in the 1st auction we reduce the estimate (and reserve) by 11% and unlike other dealers and auctions **WE TELL YOU** – 'US' = once unsold. If unsold after the following auction we **reduce by a further 12%** and **WE TELL YOU 'US2'**, if unsold after a 3rd UPA auction we reduce by a further 13% and **WE TELL YOU 'US3'** and so on till the lot finds its price, is sold or virtually given away... ✓

12 Any Scientist will tell you

that combinations of ingredients can produce powerful results. So we created the unique combination of my UPA Reducing Estimate System, married (in stone), with UPA's fair 'NO BUYER'S Premium' policy, PLUS each lot carries my total 'no quibble' guarantee – this formula is the reason why within the span of 4 auctions (one year)... 90%-95% of lots broken from a collection have sold. This Unique Philatelic Selling System **Formula** is the reason why we are the largest stamp auction in the UK today with more than 2,250 different regular bidders. 📞

In Hindsight Dealers warned me 20 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 20 years later I think I've proven that it does. (Reader: Please Request a complimentary UPA catalogue – using the contact details further below)

13 OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer?

All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon

your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman – then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stock. Now is the time to let 'time' do the 'heavy-lifting' and consider making 'time' work for you, so that at UPA you can make time your friend. 📞

14 AND the SMALL PRINT? Some

lots are too small in value for us to offer this system. Other lots may not be suited to selling in this manner (e.g surplus mint British decimal stamps best used for postage) – especially if the market is heavily compromised by stock overhang in specific areas. Some Collectors will not wish to use time and systems to leverage price, others will want to agree a specific price and know that they are paid precisely this amount. No client is treated like a square peg into a round hole. 📞

15 OK, What Do I Do Next?

- You contact UPA to discuss with Andrew or a highly-qualified Auction Valuer/Describer what you have to dispose of and your options bearing in mind your specific interests / requirements.
- If you wish, get a 2nd opinion, but investigate what type of auction / dealer you are dealing with. Is it a Dealer's auction with relatively few collectors? Can you see where / how the Dealer sells? If you can't easily see any pricelists or high quality selling catalogues – that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers...
- Finally you ask U P A to collect your stamps, insure in transit for an estimated replacement retail value... 📞

16 What Happens then? A member

of my Team telephones/e-mails you to confirm safe receipt. 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale of your collection. Provided only that you feel well-informed and comfortable do we agree strategy. 📞

17 How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market?

Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire. Post-Independence / QEII material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre 1952 is regarded as the industry 'norm' and therefore desirable – but genuine never-hinged commands a premium. Europe sells but at reduced levels, Americas is good, as generally is Asia but the 'heat' has come off China which is still good – and Russia which can still be good. East Europe is weaker. Overall, Rarities throughout can command their own price levels and real Postal History has good demand.

18 What Should I Do Next?

Discuss your collection with U P A. Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team now... 📞

19 Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure

So If You're not sure we'll transport and return your stamps for FREE up to £200 in actual shipping cost at our expense. It sounds generous (and it is), but it's far less than the cost of driving 100+ miles each way and 3 to 6 hours in your home valuing your stamps 😊

20 My Double Cast Iron Guarantee:

We can do a better job valuing your stamps in our office than in your home. If you don't agree I'll pay you an extra £50 for you to pay somebody trusted to open the boxes and put your albums back, in the same place, on the shelf they came from. 📞

21 Act NOW: Contact Andrew

or an experienced member of his Team using the on-line selling form at our website, by fax, telephone or by mail. We'll work harder for you not to regret the decision to sell all or part of your collection... 📞



Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,
Author: Managing Director,
Universal Philatelic Auctions UPA

UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS ABPS

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297

www.upastampauctions.co.uk • info@upastampauctions.co.uk



The Collectors' Secret Weapon

Discover the UPA reducing-estimate system ...
... Look for the 'US'? (Unsold lots)

Join 2,000+ regular bidders, 95% Collectors from 54 different countries who have discovered the Collectors' Secret Weapon – No Buyer's Premium, ALL Lots Guaranteed, Loyalty insured Airmail Post-Free delivery Auctions, **PLUS ... your 1st £55 value lots are on me ...**

Collectors – New to my UPA auctions?

Let me tell you an open secret ... with up to 19,000+ world-wide lots in each auction, unsurprisingly ...

Not everything sells 1st or even 2nd time offered

This is your chance to turn this to your advantage ... in 'archaic' philately, it is high time for a refreshing change, isn't it?

If you are tired of unrealistic Dealer's selling prices, don't be any longer, because unlike the rest of the stamp trade, each time an auction lot is **UNSOLD** – we reduce the estimate (and reserve), and furthermore ... we inform you!

Instead of typical trade 'cover-ups' (altering descriptions, repeated same estimates and reserves) ... here is how my 20-year time-proven unique UPA reducing-estimate and reserve system works, allowing lots to find their own value, and you to find extraordinary value, even bargains:

When you see ...

'US' after a description – 'US' indicates the number of times that a lot has been **UNSOLD**, and how many times the lot has been reduced in price by initially 11%(US), a further 12%(US2), a further 13%(US3) etc.

Yes, each time a lot is unsold the reduction is 'ramped'...

... and because reserve is always 80% of estimate ... a US4 lot will start at ... as little as 46% of 1st time estimate...

This is the reason why some collectors do not even bother to bid in our auction! ...

They simply wait to buy unsold lots at reserve !!

So ... looking for the 'US' makes sense, doesn't it

... and you can join them. If you would like to spend some philatelic time, looking for the 'US' (Unsold lots) ...

... and because most clients support UPA by bidding in future auctions, I'm making this easy for new clients like you to get started –

Dedicated to De-mystifying Philately



Andrew McGavin
Andrew McGavin,
Author, Managing Director
Universal Philatelic Auctions
(UPA)

Collect Your Next Complimentary UPA Auction Catalogue:

www.upastampauctions.co.uk

Apply now in any way today.
Go to coupon below

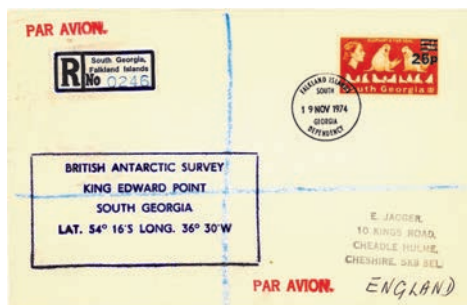


Request Catalogue Now:

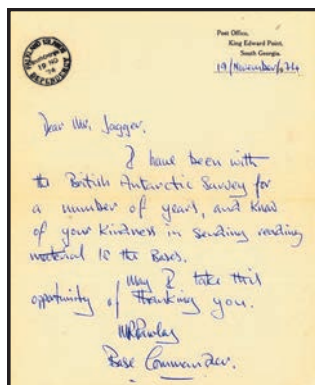
www.upastampauctions.co.uk

We're OPEN: ☎ 01451 861111

South Georgia, Falkland Island Dependencies Post Office at King Edward Point. Base Commander's Letter of 1974



The above Air Mail cover was sent from King Edward Point Base, South Georgia, to the Postal Historian Eugene Jagger who was instrumental in obtaining many postmarks from the Falkland Islands and the British Bases in Antarctica in the Post War years. The cover bears a South Georgia Registration Label and a British Antarctic Survey, King Edward Point Boxed Cachet with a Falkland Island Dependency, South Georgia M12. Postmark 19th Nov 1974.



To the left is the enclosed letter from the Base Commander at King Edward Point to Eugene Jagger thanking him for sending reading material to the Bases. The Commander has thoughtfully used an old M8. Postmark in the top left hand corner of the letter. In the 1950s – 70s there were relatively few collectors seeking Antarctic Base Handstamps but today the demand has reached such a point that the British Antarctic Survey advertised for two Post Officers to be stationed at King Edward Point

for the 6-month Summer Season to deal with the post generated by the expected 14 000 tourists this year on cruise ships, yachts and research vessels. The Post Officers' other duties will be as part of a team to run the Grytviken office, a museum and a souvenir shop. Obviously two jobs for the well-organised.

Alongside to the right is the photograph of the work station that successful applicants would go to. Anyone ready to apply? Keith Lillywhite





A Collecting Tangent – The Azemar Experimental Cancellation



As fellow collectors I'm sure the concept of collecting tangents is familiar. The core collection gaps narrow, you see something different that piques your interest or you simply

want to diversify. So, off you go into a new collecting rabbit hole.

For me, one of those long-standing tangents has been the Azemar Experimental Cancellation. More on that topic in a moment. My main collection is focused on Great Britain postal history (another tangent!) and stamps from Queen Victoria through to King George VI. I collect to the Concise Stanley Gibbons catalogue listing. It was in the pursuit of that goal that took me to one of the annual Stampex Philatelic Shows many years back. The iconic dealer, Bill Barrell, introduced something he felt would be of interest to me, a small display of the Azemar Experimental Cancellation from the former Pinkus Collection. That was it, the tangent was created.

Since that time, I have come to really appreciate what was one of the first serious attempts at introducing a mechanical postmark machine rather than relying on the traditional hand-stamped postmarks.

The name 'Azemar' is actually rather incorrect to quite a few people. Mr J C Azemar, of London, was only the sales representative of the German machine, invented by Carl Fischer and JCW Mass. The machine itself was manufactured in Germany by Robert Hinrichsen following a patent being granted in 1867. Some do refer to it as the Hinrichsen machine.

The mark consisted of two parts, a small circular date frank indicating day, month and year of postage, together with a postage stamp obliterator, to ensure that used stamps could not be re-used.



Typical Azemar Experimental Cancellations (also found with only 1 x A1 'Diamond')

Your article?

We are always pleased to consider articles by our readers. Please send your item to the Editor who will let you know if it can be used. 500 words roughly please, and a picture relating to the subject matter is always a help (300dpi jpg or photograph). We do not pay for publication, and any items may be edited for length or content.

Most articles on the Azemar Experimental Cancellation suggest there were three trials of the machine;

First Trial – 31st March 1869 to 24th June 1869

Second Trial – 17th May 1871 to December 1871

Third Trial – 17th May 1872 to 8th November 1872

However, there is some excellent research by Tim Schofield (presented to the Great Britain Philatelic Society in 2006) suggesting the machine was used in England for a short time in 1868.

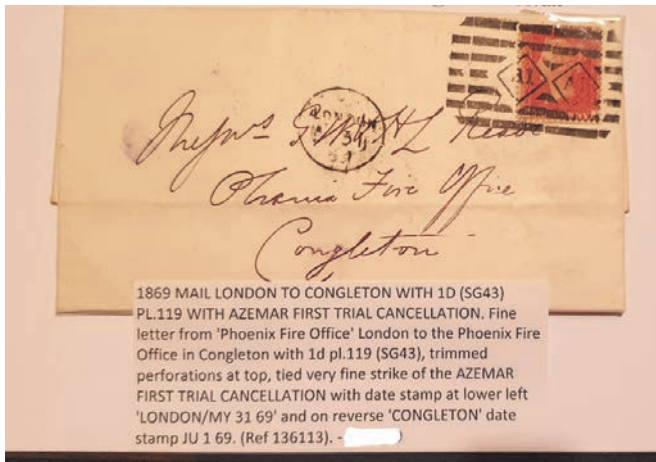
Ultimately, all three trials were deemed unsuccessful, with the machine not effectively postmarking 10% or more of the mail which passed through it, and it required a high level of maintenance!

Although the Azemar Experimental Cancellation is not rare, there are certain stamps upon which it is rarer, and indeed difficult, to locate. The most common source is the SG 43 1d Rose-Red, or Penny Red. The more difficult line-engraved stamps to find the Azemar postmark on are the 2d Blue, ½d Rose-Red (exceptionally scarce) and 1½d Rose-Red/Lake-Red (I've yet to find one!). On surface printed stamps, the mark is also particularly scarce.

Recently, to bring things full circle, I was in discussion with Bill Barrell who has encouraged me to take a leap into the philatelic display territory with my Azemar collection. I will keep you posted on that development!

NOTE: All photos are from my own collection.

„ Mathew Shaer

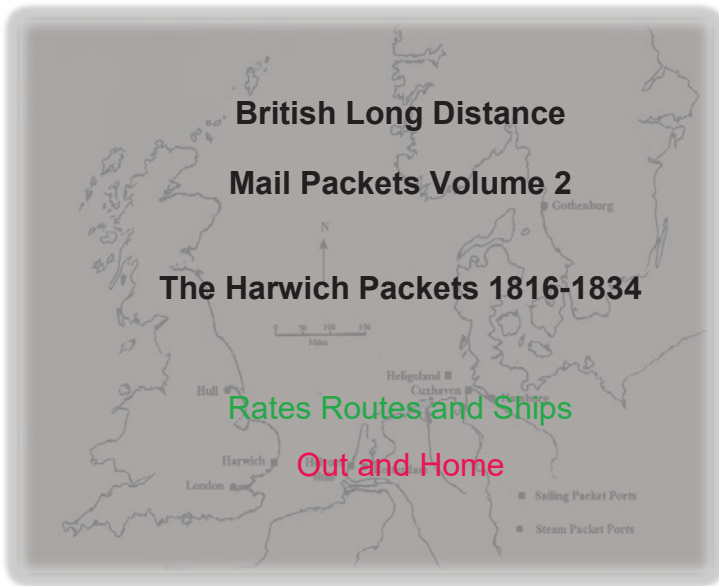


Your society information?

Please let the ABPS Secretary know of any changes to the details, including the information on the ABPS website about your society. Contact details are on p 58. Please tell your Federation Secretary too.

Also if you want changes in times, venue, website or email addresses and telephone numbers of your secretary to appear in the Amendments List, send them to the Editor - details also on p 58.

Stuart Rossiter Trust presents:



By Colin Tabcart

294 pages A4, hardbound £30 post free in the UK.

A detailed study of Harwich packets based on original research from newspapers of the time. This book aims to show how packet mails between the United Kingdom and northern Europe travelled during the final years of the sailing packets era, and how such letters were rated. The various markings used by despatching and destination postal authorities and transit markings collected en route have been ignored unless they have a direct bearing on the route, or the rates charged. They are important, of course, but have largely been covered in other works. Their importance in the context of this book is to confirm dates, allowing the mode of transportation to be determined. With this book a collector should be able to determine by what route a letter travelled, how it was rated, and in most cases what ship or ships carried the mail. The book includes an Index and a Ship index.

Order from www.rossitertrust.com/

In the next pages there will be reports from many societies and a few federations. I am often asked why a particular society (yours?) doesn't feature. The answer lies at the society - you need someone to write a short report (not necessarily for every issue) and send it to editor@abps.org.uk Go on - try!

On the Club circuit

A roundup of events and speakers at local and national societies.

Please send your reports direct to **the Editor**. We cannot undertake to include every report sent to us, and reserve the right to edit the reports we receive in the interests of space; short reports are best please. Contact details for the societies are on the ABPS website. **Visitors are welcome** at all societies listed.

When submitting photos please ensure that any people shown (especially children) have agreed to their photo appearing in this national newsletter (Data Protection and all that...). "➔" Indicates contact information.

Local Societies

Amersham & District



Viewing the three-sheet competition entries

Activities prior to the Christmas break included a good mix of displays, the November Auction, the AGM followed by the final event before the break - a display of postcards and the three-sheet competition which attracted 16 entries ranging over *GB* and *Commonwealth*, *Estonia* and *Eritrea*, traditional stamps, thematic entries and postal history, demonstrating the wide variety of interests engendered by philately. The winning entries were on *Southern Rhodesia*, *Bechuanaland* and *Morocco Agencies*. Members took the opportunity to chat, enjoy a coffee and mince pies to herald in the festive season.

➔ <https://stampersham.org.uk>

David Lee

Ayrshire

To celebrate our 85th anniversary, we had a meal for members and guests at the Riverside Hotel in Irvine. Following the meal the president, **Ian Smith**, had arranged a quiz on matters that had arisen in 1938, the year of the society's foundation. This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation by **Alasdair Malcom** on the *Ayrshire Coastline from south to north*, using early postcards and other ephemera to illustrate his talk. Starting at Finnart's Bay he made his way north with some slight detours inland, showing how some of the coastal villages and resorts had developed over the years. In November we welcomed four members of the Glasgow Thematic Society to display. **Dr**



After the end of the dinner



Congress Medal

ABPS Awards Committee

We are always pleased to award the Congress Medal to a Collector, and likewise to present the Award of Merit annually to collectors who are nominated by societies who are affiliated members of the ABPS. The closing date for the 2024 awards is 1st March so now is the time to submit nominations.

In any club or society, there are always people who work away quietly getting all the jobs done. Such people are the backbone of the club, but very often their work is taken for granted and they receive little in the way of a "thank you". Again, there are people who have performed outstanding work for the hobby over a long period and who deserve some special token of esteem.

If you know of someone who has given outstanding service to philately in their area, please think about nominating them for an award. All you need do is to complete the nomination form which you will find on the ABPS website www.ABPS.org.uk and submit it to the Chairman of the Committee. Full Guidance Notes are on the website detailing the criteria for the awards.

Yvonne Wheatley
Chairman ABPS Awards Committee
Weltevreden, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds, LS15 9BW
awards@abps.org.uk 0113 2601978

Brian Dow, Gary Cheyne, George Henshilwood and Frank Beattie brought *Scottish Superlatives, WWI collection, Maps, Flags and Envelopes* and *Buddhist Kingdom of Bhutan*, giving the story of the House of Wangchuck that has ruled since 1907. We closed the year with *My Favourite*, though there was some latitude with the interpretation. The displays by eleven members included *Four Voyages of Columbus, Early Iceland, Loch Ness Monster postcards, Cumnock postmarks* and *services provided by the Great Western Railway*. The new year's programme started with an *Alphabet Night* which is traditionally a request for displays based on the President's initials. This time the initials were I, D and S – for *Islands, Interpol Covers, Denmark, GB Definitives, Siberia* and *Ayrshire towns and villages beginning with S* – amongst many others. ➔ Ken Gibb at ayrstamps@yahoo.com David Rossall

Basildon

In October, the Committee entertained us with four separate and very different displays. Later for President's Night, **Len**

Stanway started with the continuation of his display of mail carried on the London Underground and related railways. Many rare and (so far) unique items were included. He continued with the postal history of Richmond Yorkshire, from a reproduction of a Roman letter of AD90 from nearby Catterick via the mid-18th Century handstamps to 2019 counter handstamps. In November we enjoyed *Essex Postal History from 1840* by **John Copeland**. He started with the Fourpenny Post of early 1840, then proceeded in a fascinating trip from the Penny Post Maltese Crosses through to the postmarks of the modern era, including the rarely seen FPOs of the wartime and postwar bases in Essex. *Triangles* was **Maggie Thompson's** subject



Len Stanway with Roman philately

in early December – postal service triangles not a lesson in geometry. The French-influenced world used triangular stamps extensively for postage due purposes, while triangular handstamps were almost universal. Her display included artwork and complete sheets to give a very impressive display. Rocket post vignettes completed round one. Round two began with red and orange triangles used for cash-on-delivery (remboursement) services. A very enjoyable evening was completed with triangular airmail and airline labels. A well-attended pre-Christmas event started with the annual Tomex Quiz, named in memory of the late Doug Hex and Albert Thomas. One set of challenges involved deciding which of two images was a real stamp and which was forged. *Fly on the Wall*

Bookham



Bill Barrell in full flow.

Our October meeting was our annual auction with 255 lots. In November we were entertained by **Bill Barrell** with his amazing and rare collection entitled *The development of the Royal Mail, postal reform and the 1d value 1840-1880*. We saw very rare posters and an incredible array of penny reds. Bill explained the differences, errors, plates etc. A fabulous display enjoyed by everybody who witnessed an amazing afternoon. Our usual Christmas buffet lunch with a few glasses of wine in December was attended by 42 people. We had our hugely popular raffle with a record number of prizes, the top prize being a £90 hamper. We enjoyed a light-hearted and fun PowerPoint presentation from **Barry Feltham**, our secretary, on *The History of Christmas* including the origins, traditions and facts from Neolithic times to the 21st century, along with some funny video clips. The afternoon was a great success. Our club, founded in 1993, meets every 4th Tuesday of the month (except for December) at the Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Great Bookham and our very popular Trading Tables open at 1.30pm, with displays commencing at 2.15pm.

➔ www.bookhamstampclub.com

Barry Feltham

Bridlington & District

We opened the programme for 2023 with our two society competitions of 12-16 sheets which were judged by members present. The winning entry for the John Eaton Memorial Trophy was a display of *Spanish Franco Heads*, whilst the Peter Pearson Postcard Cup was won by a selection of *Postcards made in different types of material*. In early June The North Star Hotel in Flamborough was the venue for the annual dinner that we were able to subsidise from our

healthy funds. The visit from **Mike Kentzer** with his display of *Scarborough, Whitby and the Railway inbetween* attracted a record attendance. The evening was of interest to local historians as well as philatelists and we welcomed members from the Scarborough and Hull societies. Recalling his early days living in Scarborough he took us on a tour of the resort with his vintage postcards together with postal history items, and the second half covered aspects of the railway between Scarborough and Whitby. In September **Yvonne Wheatley's** display of *Czechoslovakia* highlighted the stamps issued in the first year of conflict from late 1918 after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire when the Republic declared its independence. This was followed by **Richard Wheatley's** thematic presentation of *The Spitfire* which also included memorabilia from the Schneider trophy in 1929. Our year was rounded off with the popular 1-4 sheets competition, followed in December by our Christmas Social.

Roy Stephenson

Bromley & Beckenham

We rounded off 2023 with two outstanding guest displays. **Grace Davies FRPSL** showed *Peace* from the end of the Boer War through to WWI. Japanese postcards celebrating the Treaty of Versailles featured, as did material marking the Armistice of Mudros on 30th October 1918. A James Berry essay for the New Zealand peace issue of 1st April 1946 was displayed. Many interesting items from the formation of the United Nations, the Swiss peace conference of 1912 and the origins of the League of Nations to the first UN charter of 24th October 1945 contributed to a fascinating display. In November Lewisham member **Geoffrey Richardson** gave an outstanding display of *Bosnia and Herzegovina* starting with the early Bosnian issue of 1894 followed by varieties and numerous perforations. A display of the 1910 Francis Joseph 80th birthday commemoratives was followed by a range of Serbian overprints and postage dues, military post office markings and forgeries Geoffrey is currently researching. President **Graeme Ashdown** put together an exceptional display of *New Zealand* in December. The first issue of New Zealand was from a portrait of Queen Victoria by Edward Chalon. Graeme showed use on cover both internal and external mail. The 1923 Map stamp was displayed including a FDC. Crash covers rounded off an entertaining display. Christmas fare and wine completed a very convivial meeting at Beckenham Halls. *David Milsted FRPSL*



Graeme Ashdown in mid-display

Burnley and District

We are now halfway through the season and have been to the *Faroe Islands, Egypt, Oxford and Cambridge, the 19th century* and *Edinburgh*, all with the assistance of guest speakers. In between Burnley have given talks in Harrogate, Rochdale and Lostock. During the winter period we have a president's evening, two members' evenings and reciprocal visits from other regional societies. This is our 80th season and on 18th April 2024 we will host **Bill Barrell** to guest and celebrate our birthday with a GB night. Our final meetings are in May then a break for summer. → barry.ribbywood@gmail.com Barry W Evans

Cambridge

At the beginning of October we had the annual President's Display when **Graham Wyld** gave a very detailed display of *GB Queen Victoria Line Engraved Used Stamps* which covered the period 1847 to 1902. The display included the different watermark varieties and plate numbers from this series of stamps. In early November we had an excellent display of *Edinburgh Postal History up to 1900* by our member **Tony Crowther**. He displayed a very comprehensive range of postmarks on cover from 1765 which included the introduction of the 1d Post in 1793 and also the Uniform Postal Arrangements introduced in 1839. 2024 started with a members' evening based on the letters *D, E & F*. We will continue with the format of a face-to-face meeting in Cambridge on the first Wednesday of each month and also a Zoom presentation on the third Friday each month. → info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk Peter Morton

CALLING ALL SOCIETY SPEAKERS: FINAL REMINDER

The ABPS is in the process of reviewing and updating the speakers list on the ABPS website. This periodic review is a key requirement of compliance with data protection regulations. ABPS has written to all speakers who are currently on the list and everyone involved is encouraged to return the compliance form and update their entry, if required. **Anyone who has failed to respond by 31st December 2023 will, unfortunately, have to be removed from the listing on the website.** This is also an opportunity to add a photograph of yourself and images from your display, if you choose to do so. Forms and images can be emailed to vicechair@abps.org.uk

If you are a society speaker and would like to add your details to the ABPS website, you can do so by going directly to the Speakers section of the ABPS website and complete the form by clicking on "Add your details to our Speakers database here".

There is generally a shortage of speakers for societies and you will be greatly assisting programme secretaries by adding your personal details to the website.

ABPS would also like to compile a list of societies that have a ZOOM programme. If you do so, please email pr@abps.org.uk

Chelmsford & District

In early November **John Copeland** gave a display entitled *Essex Postal History -1840 Onwards*. His presentation included a few envelopes pre-Penny Black, although most were from 1840 to 2000. Examples of the Maltese Cross cancellation as well as a variety of other cancellations from a number of locations within Essex were displayed. John's presentation showed various changes over the decades including the development of machine-cancelled post, as well as franked mail. At our next meeting **Chris Norton** give a display entitled *Hong Kong Airmail*. This included maps to show routes covered by KLM & Air Orient (forerunner of Air France). He displayed envelopes and photographs of boats and sometimes coaches used to convey post on initial stages of journeys to Europe. Then he gave details of the first airmail service direct from Hong Kong by Imperial Airways (forerunner of BOAC), supported by handout of a very informative route map. For the final meeting before our winter break members were invited to present material on a theme entitled *My Favourite Things*. **Eric Lienhard, Tor Torkildsen, Paul Green, Nick Harris, Chris Norton, John Rawlins, John Copeland** and **Pat Adams** rose to the occasion with a range of items including *Swiss Postcards, Stamps from Victoria's Empire, Norwegian Charity Christmas Seals, GVI "Sea Horses", Illustrated Covers for Boer War Post by A Lyons, Mail by Boat to Ports on the Chinese Mainland to be transported on the Trans-Siberian Railway* and *Local Historic Postcards*.

David Everard

Chichester & District

We were very privileged to host **Peter Davidson**, Portsmouth PS's secretary, in late October. His presentation, entitled *The Evolution of Steam*, was an education in rail gauges, curves, iron used in rail construction and locomotive history. Who wouldn't be intrigued by the history of Richard Trevithick who in 1801 began construction of a stationary steam boiler? He continued with his inventions and in 1804 he invented the world's first steam locomotive for the Merthyr Tramroad in South Wales. In four hours and five minutes it travelled 15.69 km (9.75 mi) with a speed of 5 mph! In 1811 John Blenkinsopp patented a design for a locomotive for the Middleton Railway. Other inventors and engineers were mentioned, but the father and son team known to most schoolchildren was George and Robert Stephenson who in 1813 built the 'Puffing Billy', followed in 1814 by 'Blucher'. As Peter quoted, "Things were getting bigger and better". His presentation was backed up with numerous picture postcards, special commemorative covers with fancy cancellations and intricate cachets, and stamps from Great Britain, Nevis, Funafuti-Tuvalu, Guyana, Nevis and more. His second half included discussion about steam locomotion and engines through to the 1960s.

Martha Brown

Croydon

At our November meeting **James Podger** showed material related to *Welsh Postal History*. James began collecting this in 2017 and has quickly acquired a



James Podger and president
Pauline McBroom

range of material. Covers were arranged in county and date order and mainly comprised pre-stamp material. Before the penny rates were introduced in 1840 counties had their own handstamps. The cover often contained information on the distance to London which determined the cost of the postage. Mileage marks were usually shown in black but there were also examples of red marks and a yellow mark. Letters were often written by lawyers and clergymen as many common people were illiterate. From 1840 there were a few letters with Penny Red stamps. Finally, James showed several envelopes with Penny Black stamps. Most of the mail was internal to the UK but there were covers of overseas mail, for example from the West Indies. Our last 2023 meeting was for members' displays. **Richard West** showed *Abu Dhabi*, **Brian Asquith** brought *Chinese Airmail the British Connection*, **Chris Board** had *Union of South Africa*, **Peter Wood** displayed *Christmas in Ireland* and **Mike Hewit** showed *Stamp*

Collection, started at the age of 9 with the gift of his first album from his older sister. The second half was the Christmas Social with a wonderful selection of food arranged by president **Pauline McBroom**. This included hot sausage rolls, quiche slices, cheese and biscuits, lebkuchen, hearts, stollen bites, cake and baklava selection.

Graham Harker

Dawlish

At our November meeting we were entertained by a programme of *Music on Stamps* by **Robin Buchanan** covering all forms of music from classical music to rock and roll accompanied by appropriate music relating to the subject being shown. This related to a display that had been shown in the tent during Carnival Week. The subject for our Zoom meeting in late November was *Torquay Mail* by **Maurice Buxton**. The link for these meetings can be found on our website and all are invited. Our Christmas meeting on 13th December in the Manor House was a display of *Christmas Stamps* by **Jim Wigmore** plus a single sheet competition on the subject of Christmas, plus nibbles and mince pies etc. Our chairman invited an excellent series of displays in January covering *Initial Stamps introduced by Canadian States*, *French*



Postcards from WWI and WWII, Some very interesting Flaws on stamps of Great Britain, Interesting odd material that has been handled by the Post Office, receiving a variety of hand stamps and French Railway markings on letters posted on the train to a variety of locations. Club members had previously visited Exmouth Club giving a series of displays using Dawlish club's projection and computing equipment, something that we have become a leading light in using here in the SW. ➔ 01626 864844 or our website. *Jim Wigmore*

Dundee & District



Norrie Kelso with his Revenue stamps

President **Norrie Kelso** opened the season with *Revenue Stamps of Canada*. He gave an outline of the history of revenue fees and explained how the destruction (in error) of revenue stamps resulted in very few now existing. The first Zoom meeting of the season in October was a display by **Adrian Pearson** on *Crimean War Postal History*. His talk and display of mail gave a fascinating insight into the events in the Crimea.

Adrian also spoke of the cultural and technical advances including the use of electric telegraph, prefabricated hospitals, the use of

photography and the first war correspondents. In late October **Mike Turnbull** of Falkirk gave a talk and display on *Aviation* that concentrated on the Zeppelin starting with the history of Count Zeppelin and the improvements from LZ1 to LZ III. The commercial use changed to dropping bombs on Britain during WWI. In November **Stephen Kennedy** entertained his fellow members with a Zoom display on *The Postal History of the USA*. The first PO opened in the Fairbank Tavern in 1639 and Stephen gave an interesting account of the development of the postal system including the use of helicopters in 1938. He ended with the stark news that the USPO made a loss of 9 million dollars in 2020! **James Podger's** *West Indies Postal History A to V* Zoom display included items from Antigua to the Virgin Islands and pre-stamps covers from 1758 and a number of rare covers. *Colin Campbell*

Epping Forest & District

We started the new programme with the traditional *All Members' Recent Acquisitions Evening* although it normally tends to be material that members have had for some time but have only recently got round to writing up /mounting. All displays are greatly appreciated and those displayed showed the wide range of countries and subjects collected by our members. Members at our October meeting were treated to a display of GB material entitled *Ron Davis Entertains*

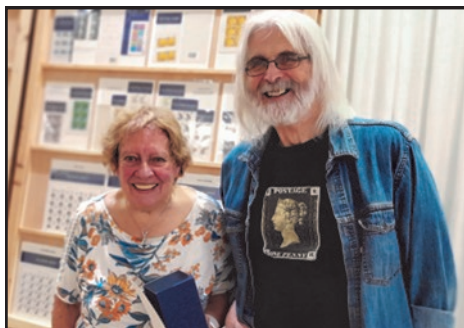
which consisted of examples of the early Penny Post special handstamps produced by each Post Office to show that the 1d or 2d fee had been prepaid. Ron then finished the evening with a selection of early stamps from Chile. Our November evening had a most interesting display of *Post Office Railways & London Underground* by **Len Stanway** of Basildon PS. Len is the hard-working lead of the AEPS and his local society. To round off the year we had our Christmas Social Evening complete with quiz and displays of Christmas-themed material and WWII period humour postcards. As it is the club's 80th Anniversary a special cake was prepared and enjoyed by all attending which was unfortunately few due to some members having other seasonal commitments. Sadly the club lost three of its longstanding members this year, **Colin Francis**, **Ron Owen** and **John Wickens** who will be greatly missed for their knowledge and friendship, but thankfully we have been fortunate in enrolling three new members to keep our membership numbers up.

Keith Lillywhite

Ferndown & West Moors

Jean Alexander was warmly greeted when she showed her *Supermarket Philately* which she began when under the hairdryer. She saw a soup advert by Heinz which promised 'New Stamps for Old'. Here was an opportunity to collect brand stamp coupons and exchange them for official Christmas stamps. From that a marvellous collection grew and developed. **Albert Jackson** began by explaining that *Anschluss* referred to the unification of Austria with Germany. He showed material that illustrated the turbulent politics that defined Austria throughout the 1930s, ending with Chancellor Dollfuss and the Fatherland Front.

Hitler had aspirations to assimilate Austria, the country of his birth, and following the Chancellor's assassination and replacement by Kurt von Schuschnigg, peace attempts failed. On 12th March 1936, the Germans simply 'walked' into Vienna unopposed, welcomed by cheering crowds. Hitler launched a campaign to annex Austria, calling for a referendum to legitimise his decision. Among other organisations, the post offices of Germany and Austria were instrumental in presenting propaganda to encourage people to vote: a special cancel "On 10th April say 'yes' for your Fuhrer" was one such. Propaganda cards and other items were produced. Special election-day stamps, postal stationery and cancellations also appeared. The result of the *Anschluss* referendum was a resounding 'Yes' and postcards were issued celebrating victory. With Austria becoming a German province known as the Ostmark, all national events and festivities were commemorated with special postmarks and postcards, culminating with "The First People's Christmas in the Ostmark". *Paul Barry*



Jean Alexander and Hugh Jefferies

Glasgow

Our Christmas meeting was on 19th December. It was well-attended with 20 members and guests enjoying philatelic displays and “Philatelic Fizz and Fare”. There was a wide range of displays from 13 members and guests including the *Isle of Man*, *Canadian Revenues*, *Swiss postcards*, the work of *Jennifer Toombs - stamp designer*, *United States FDCs*, *Japan and Korea* and *German WWII Zones*. The attendance at the society has been relatively good this year and has benefited from the introduction of joint meetings with the Caledonian Philatelic Society and an increase of members of each society attending the other as guests.



Alex McIntosh points out a detail in his display

Stewart Gardiner

Grantham

December in the Club brings us together for the annual Kirk Hillard Cup competition (nine sheets) which was this year won by **Mark Ellis** with Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) entitled *Saving Lives at Sea*. An excellent display, Mark. Second place went to **Maria (Mack) McLoughlin** with her display on the *QEII 4d Ultramarine Wilding* and third place was taken by **Phil Clarke** with his display on *British South Africa Company (BSAC) Remainders Printed in London*. All entries for the competition were of a very good standard. The evening finished with a Christmas buffet with non-alcoholic beverages and a great time was had by all.

Steve Carter

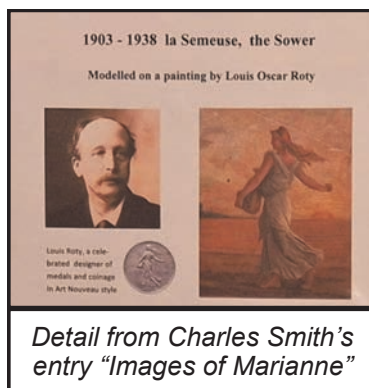


Mark Ellis with the cup

Guildford & District

We won the Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies' Mason Cup at the annual competitions hosted by Redhill PS on 29 October 2023. The entry by the GDPS team comprised: *Rhodesia & Nyasaland: First Definitive Issue 1954/56* (Traditional) by **Rob Cooke**, which was Highly Commended; *People Who Appear on the Stamps of Trinidad & Tobago* (Thematic) by **Susan Taylor**; and *GB: 1½d Foreign Postcards, Forerunners & Contemporaries* (Postal History) by **Simon Burke**, which was Highly Commended and awarded the Derek Nathan Cup. GDPS has retained the Derek Nathan Cup because **Susan Taylor** and **Charles Smith** won it in the previous two years. Susan also submitted two solo thematic entries in the Open Competition: *Birds of the Caribbean* and *Belgian Railway Stamps*. Our annual competition was held at the Christmas meeting in December, each display comprising up to four pages in any philatelic category with attendees choosing the winners. This year there were six entries showing material from *Anguilla* (**Susan Taylor**), *Unstamped Covers to/from Montserrat*

(**David Taylor**) and *The Lion Rock in Ceylon* (**Barry Stephens**). **Rob Cooke** won the Ester Peacock Memorial Cup for his display on *Amy Johnson - Aviatrice*, **Charles Smith** was awarded the Geoff Freeman Cup for *Images of Marianne*, while **Alan Hammond** received the Novice Cup for *Cop-a-Card*. A quiz entitled *Flyers on Stamps*, i.e. aircraft, birds and insects, followed which was won by the Taylors. The evening concluded with a raffle, every ticket holder receiving a prize. → www.spanglefish.com/guildfordstampclub
Rob Cooke



Harrogate

We have enjoyed several excellent displays since mid-September. We had a visit from two members of Burnley PS and a display of *Swiss Sidelines* by **Alan Green**. **Daphne McMillan** showed us *Various Aspects of WWII including Illustrated Airgraphs*, which caught the imagination and approval of our members, many of whom admitted that they had never seen anything like these items. Then in November **Derek Lilley** took us to *The Peoples' Republic of China* showing the wide variety of the nation's stamps. Later **Richard Hindle** introduced us to *Hubert Wilkins – his Extraordinary Life*. As an explorer and photographer he went on Arctic and Antarctic expeditions and in WWI won the Military Cross – lots of material for a fine display. **Richard Smith** opened 2024 for us by showing us *The Trials and Tribulations of the 16-sheet competition* by taking us through many different displays, each related to a particular topic. Each was presented by a short PowerPoint introduction followed by a full sixteen-sheet story. The diversity caught the imagination and approval of our members. **Colin Pease** introduced us to *Danzig and Paris Stars* – described as a fascinating show of two very differing halves. Between these displays we had Zoom displays from **Wendy Buckle** (*The Art of Illuminated Manuscripts*) and **Richard Moss** (*The New Hebrides*) which were also rated very highly by the participants. Add in a Zoom visit to Southampton, various Zoom mini-displays and members' evenings and our first additional afternoon meetings and you see that we are very active.
Keith Burton

Hereford & Mid Wales

Our current president is an all-world collector, so we were kept in suspense as to what we were going to see in the president's display for December. There was a good turnout, and we won't be churlish and attribute this to the Christmas refreshments after the display! **John Setchfield** gave us a whistle-stop tour of all the 13 countries and colonies in South America in under 60 minutes, which included both classic and modern stamps. John had selected to show us examples of the most significant items from each country, such as the Bulls Eye of Brazil which was the continent's first country to issue stamps, the huge 1950s

arms issue of Venezuela, with plenty more besides. January provided members with a chance to show *Something New*. Whilst most members showed recent acquisitions ranging from a rare postal card from Brazil, through postally used covers from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and Belgian railway stamps, to a collection of Penny Reds and Commonwealth issues for the new king; **Helen Etherington** chose countries that had new names and **Victoria Archard** showed New Zealand. February brings our regular society and charity auction, then, as the weather improves, our programme takes in a selection of visiting speakers. Guests and visitors are always welcome at our meetings, which are held in Hereford.

Janet Nelson FRPSL

Hinckley & District

Meetings included *My Other Hobby*, in which members were invited to present their other interests. Six members provided a mix of entertainment of *Films, Woodturning, Scouting, Rambling and Archaeology*, and perhaps most unusually, a collection of *Tarantulas*. Luckily there were no escapees! The evening ended with a philatelic display of *Hawaiian Airmail Covers*. **Les Percy** of Matlock made a return visit on 3rd October with his thematic collection of *Cacti*. At the following meeting, an auction was followed by a display *The Story of a Protest*, a collection of covers produced in 1968 by the late **Jon Baker**, one of our founder members, as a personal protest against the Two-Tier postage rate system introduced that year. On Halloween Night, entertainment was provided by eight members, showing *Hitler's Legions, Hong Kong, From the Pitcairn Islands to Warwickshire, UK Prime Ministers, Post-war Constantinople 1919/20, Wiltshire Regiment Postal History, Nigeria*, and ending with the *Christmas Islands*. *The House of Windsor* was the display given by **Ian Varey** on 14th November, illustrated by stamp issues from the reign of KGV through to the new stamps of King Charles III. **Andrew Dove** paid a visit on 28th November, with a two-part display beginning with *New Zealand Military Mail*, and following with the story of the *New Zealand Postal Service*. Meetings of 2023 ended with a Christmas social night with a quiz and single-sheet/open philately competitions, won by *The Wanderings of a Lost Soul* and *Stamp Forgeries & Stamp Forgers* respectively.

Peter Thomas



North Devon's Leading Independent Wealth Managers

Contact us today to begin your free consultation to see if we can help you with...

Wealth & Portfolio Management* Personal Accountancy & Taxation

Retirement & Financial*

Attorneyships, Wills, Trusts &

Tax Planning*

Probate Administration

*Authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Find
us on...



Chowere House, 21 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, EX31 1RP
www.miltonpj.net 01271 344300 info@miltonpj.net

Huddersfield

In November **Brian & Julie Hitchcock** were our presenters. **Brian** showed *Pages from an Album, with a King George V theme*. This was a full coverage of the reign, from the Mackennal profiles to the Silver Jubilee, including a comprehensive collection of the Postal Union Congress varieties and a dramatic, and visually very appealing, reconstruction of a 2/- Silver Jubilee booklet.

Julie's presentation had an *Alice in Wonderland* theme, including postcards, stamps and cigarette cards. This was fully written-up to provide a fascinating profile of the well-known children's story and the life of Lewis Carroll. The main December

presentation was from **Mike Pennington** on *Jersey Post Dues & Instructions*. This included a range of covers, with a variety of postal instructions and postage due stamps, from 1984 to 1986. With Christmas getting ever closer, **Charles Squire** concluded the afternoon by giving us a presentation of his *GB Christmas stamps*. The January meeting brought **Peter Clemenson** showing his *Germany* collection. He began with stamps from the German federation of states, before moving on to the German republic from 1918, including the inflationary period of the 1920s, the Winter & Summer Olympics of 1936, commemoratives of Hitler's birthday, propaganda material and German post offices in China.

→ jtaylor3@ntlworld.com

Jon Taylor



Brian Hitchcock with GV

Hull

Our Winter season has been wide-ranging, beginning with **Yvonne Wheatley's** display showing all things *Railway*, from TPO material illustrating the bureaucracy of the service to late fees and foreign mail, plus a 'parcel' with historic string still attached. A successful members' afternoon brought an offering from every member present, including *Denmark in WWII, the Cricket World Cup, Namibia* and *Antarctica*. Having shown *Sixteen Topics in Sixteen Frames* at the previous meeting did not exempt the president (your reporter) from providing a frame so as not to spoil the full house! Our guest in December was **Bill Barrell**, better known to many as a dealer but now gaining international recognition for his outstanding *Great Britain Postal History and Line Engraved*. We were treated to a comprehensive talk on production methods, experimental perforation and rouletting techniques, different alphabets used for



Bill Barrell with a favourite item

corner letters on 1d blacks and how to identify dies. All this was accompanied by a display of beautiful and often rare or even unique material which kept the audience asking questions. It is unusual for a speaker to refer to the value of the material on show, however to a partly non-specialist audience, this underlined the rarity and perceived value in the philatelic world of some of the spectacular large blocks and the multiples on covers of which Bill is happy to be the current custodian. We were also pleased to welcome Samuel, acting as roadie and salesman for the day.

Daphne McMillan

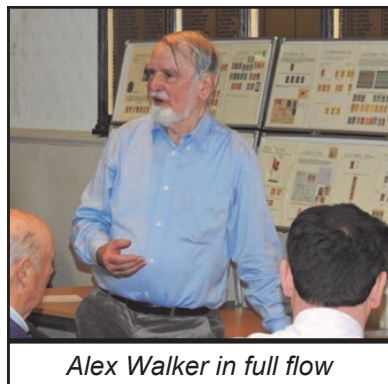
King's Lynn

The last two Zoom presentations of 2023 enjoyed by attendees were *Paris Pneumatic Post* by **Andy Soutar** and *Apollo Moon Landing* by **Barry Feltham**. During October members were entertained with **Richard Moss's** display of *Machins in the 90s and 2000s*. Richard's extensive study started with the 1967 introduction of Machin stamps, with many items illustrating all the changes in printing, paper, gum and phosphor bands etc. At the end of the month, **Terry Harrison** displayed *Leamington Spa Postal History*. Terry illustrated the development of the postal service in the town with many examples of postal handstamps for each period of change. The display finished with social history items - famous people, local stationery, invoices and picture postcards of the period. The meeting on 10th November consisted of a members' bring and buy whilst **Jon Higgins** and **Terry Wagg** judged the competition for the traditional, postal history and thematic entries. On 24th November **Terry Wagg** gave a display of *Slania Engravings*, providing a background to Slania's life and work using stamps, cards, photographs, covers, magazines, proofs of his engravings, bookmarks, forgeries, bookplates and colour trials. Then **Mike Kentzer** entertained members with *Something Local*, taking us on an illustrated journey from King's Lynn to Hunstanton via Castle Rising and various railway stations down the line. The year ended with a members' evening of picture postcard displays, followed by seasonal refreshments. On 5th January the first Zoom display of the year was *Crimean War Part 1* by **Adrian Pearson**.

Dahlia Harrison

Lanarkshire

Over the last few months we have viewed some fascinating displays. A visit from Ayrshire PS in November brought displays from **John Chalmers** with *Historic Postcards of Kilmarnock, Prestwick, and Auchincruive in Ayrshire*; **Alan White** with local stamps issued by various of the small *Scottish islands*; **Ken Gibb** showed interesting historic views of *St Kilda* and **Ian Smith** displayed a postal history of *Mauritius*. **Alex Walker**, ASPS president, braved atrocious weather to travel from Aberdeen and, using stamps, letters etc, gave a



Alex Walker in full flow

wonderful display of the historical development and postal history of *Samoa*. Also a few postcards illustrating Robert Louis Stevenson's home. The Glasgow Thematic Society president, **Paula Cleary**, brought *Exploring Environmental Issues* and gave an inspiring and concise talk - showing postage stamps issued - of the positive and negative aspects affecting the environment today. *Irish Philately* was the title of the display presented by **Jean Osborne** of Falkirk PS. With stamps issued throughout the years she gave a fascinating view of the history of both the country and the post in Éire. It was back to displays from members for the theme of *Christmas*, including *Christmas Mail by Balloon Post* and *Embroidered cards* etc. Also, not quite fulfilling the theme: *Erupting Volcanoes and the Surge and Demise of Cholera in Lanarkshire!* In January *The Committee Entertained* with an amazing variety of displays including *Cinderellas of Film and Pop Stars* and *Flaws and Colour Discrepancies issued by Fiji for the Silver Jubilee of King George V.*
Elsie Miller

Largs & District

Members were treated to an excellent evening's entertainment with a visit by **George Henshilwood** who brought *Victoriana*. George started with a Penny Black with control letters G and H which he was sure must have been a present, and followed this with a selection of Mulready covers and caricatures. There then followed a display of ½d bantams with plate numbers, various uses and



Looking to insure your collection?

- Stamps • Coins • Medals
- Postcards • Model Railway
- + Many more!

We also offer insurance for Collectors Clubs & Dealers

Contact us now for a quote

Call 01636 858 249 

info@magnetinsurance.co.uk 

magnetinsurance.co.uk 

Magnet Insurance Services Ltd
 Newark Beacon, Cafferata Way, Newark, NG24 2TN
 Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority No.489228





George Henshilwood receives his certificate

multiples. The first round was completed with part of a fascinating selection of hand-drawn illustrated covers. The second round started with the Victoria Jubilee issue, mint and used in various ways, plus the numerous overprints for government departments and for use overseas in such places as Bechuanaland and Niger Coast. This was followed by items from the 1890 celebration of the Jubilee of the Uniform Penny Post and the display finished with more illustrated covers including some from the prolific King-Harman family. Our meeting on 29th November was our traditional *Alphabet Night* when each

member was allocated a different letter on which to base a one-frame display. This can give a wide range of material on display and sometimes a lot of ingenuity to correspond to the letter allocated. With a total of 17 displays this gave us three rounds of material to look at. We now look forward to opening the New Year with a postcard night on 10th January. → David Rossall at

davidrossall@sky.com

David Rossall

Launceston

At our October meeting **Bryan Short** from Plymouth showed *Aden*. He started by outlining the postal history of Aden before its first stamps were issued, showing examples of Aden postmarks on the stamps of India and other countries. Bryan then introduced members to the first stamps of Aden often referred to as the dhows, explaining the importance of the dhow as a means of the trading and transporting of goods in the area. The later definitive sets followed, complemented by photographs and illustrations of the

features depicted. Bryan's local knowledge, gained while living there, came to the fore throughout, enabling him to convey much historical and geographical information behind the issues. The States issues completed an excellent display. At our December AGM the existing officers and committee were re-elected to serve another year. Then chairman **Viv Sandercock** displayed a selection of pages from his *KGVI Collection of Used Definitives*. Viv explained that he collected used stamps because he had lived in West Africa and Northern Queensland both of which had climates which were not particularly kind to mint stamps. Finally he showed a selection of items recently acquired in a job lot, mainly items from Bude and Holsworthy areas. He included an unusual wrapper



Viv Sandercock and Brian Short

advertising 'The Tail Wagger', a magazine for dog enthusiasts. We have changed our meeting day to the first Thursday of each month at 2.30pm. New members and visitors always welcome.

Viv Sandercock

Leeds

Autumn leading into a wet and windy winter has been a fruitful time for us. In October **Steven Harrison FRPSL** recalled many of the *GB Philatelic Congresses* several of which used Harrogate and Leeds inputs. Leeds is twinned with Dortmund. Over 40 years ago philatelic societies in both cities exchanged exhibitions and speakers. This was revived in November 2022 when **Michael Waugh** gave a PowerPoint presentation in Dortmund on *GB mail to Germany in the reign of Queen Victoria*. In November 2023 **Dr Udo Kittler**, the Dortmund chairman, visited us, giving a masterly presentation, *Dark Times in the German Reich from 1923 to 1925*, the inflation period with French occupation of the Ruhr. He also attended the annual Pudsey Stamp Fair which was graced by a 2-hour visit from the Lord Mayor. Our grateful thanks go to **Derek Baron** who has organised the Fair with much skill for many years. In December, the president **Stuart Stanley** gave his annual presentation, *A Brief History of Post Office Training Stamps and Services*. The display was first class including much about postal orders.

Michael Waugh

Lewisham

Our first meeting of the year, on 2nd January, featured a light-hearted display on *Trains and Boats and Planes* given by **David Britton**. Using stamps from right across the globe, he traced the development of these forms of transport (plus a few others) from their earliest beginnings to the present day. Supported by some well-chosen artefacts – a model steam engine, wooden boats, and a cardboard space shuttle – this was an entertaining afternoon for the dozen or so members in attendance. → hickey_anthony@hotmail.com

Tony Holdsworth

Lostock

In October our visiting speaker was **Stephen Freeborn** with *Keep taking the Tablets*, which was a talk about the weird and downright wacky world of the pharmacist. Stephen graduated as a pharmacist from Manchester University in 1974. **Mark W Everis** showed *After the Russian Civil War* in November. The following month our fellow member **Henry Lisowski** displayed *UK commemoratives 2021 - 23 and Austrian Kristingle postmarks*. Finally as this meeting was also our AGM, members held a discussion on finances and the future of the society. It was agreed to continue with one meeting planned per month until June and then review the situation.

David Morley

Lothian Philatelic Group Incorporating the Edinburgh & Scottish Philatelic Societies

Our 2023-24 season of sixteen meetings resumed with its ninth meeting on January 9th with a combined display entitled *Five Kings* featuring material from both the secretary and the president. The meeting also celebrated the New Year

with coffee and cakes and hoped it will see us returning to a refurbished church hall sometime soon. We find ourselves currently having to manage our meetings and displays in the main area of the church which has rather poor lighting, while the roof repairs in the hall are being undertaken. Although our membership and meeting attendance numbers



Glasgow Thematic Society visitors

have fallen, we continue to see interesting and sometimes unusual material displays by our members, and have also been pleased to welcome members to display from two other societies, and look forward to a visit from a third in March 2024. → edinphil.wordpress.com/ which includes contact information.

Steve Cowles

Maidstone & Mid-Kent

Our first half of the 2023/24 season has been well-received with good attendances for both evening and morning meetings. There has been a good range of subjects, covering postal history with *History*, *Be Careful What You Buy*, *Thematics* and our President's Evening with his fine collection of *2d Blues*. The morning meetings have also had a good selection covering *Medical*, a very good display of *Fiji*, *Smaller Islands* and *The Falkland Islands*. There have also been the usual members' displays, auction and competitions. In the second half of the season we can look forward to *Hungary*, *Irish Airmails*, *Newfoundland*, *Postcards* and *New Zealand* along with further members' displays and competitions.

Brian Stonestreet

North-West Kent

In September we welcomed former member **John Killick** who showed *QEII British material* in depth. Later **Philip Clarke** gave us the *History of the League of Nations*, leading up to the UN as we know it today. Our in-house 8-

page competitions were in Thematic and Traditional, featuring some stunning and interesting displays. **Bill Hedley** visited us in November with his *European Excursions*, not just a display but a history lesson, this time featuring Venice and its wide-ranging power and possessions. Our last display of 2023 involved the effervescent **Tony Hickey**, who explained the *Versailles Treaty* and its aftermath leading to Neville

The Propaganda War : Private initiatives in Austria to raise campaign funds by selling stamps

As soon as it became clear that the future of the disputed territories would be decided by plebiscite, pro-Austrian propagandists proposed to raise funds by selling privately-produced red stamps for postal purposes.

The initial plan failed but a design in 4 values (right) was rejected by the Philatelic Commission and the Austrian Post refused to accept that the stamps could be used for postal purposes.

However, the idea was not dropped. 6,000 sets of vignettes in 7 designs were printed in Klagenfurt and Innsbruck and sold to supporters for 75 kronen, raising around 400,000 kronen.

They were not authorized for postal use but examples exist on covers

The designs, shown below, were intended to arouse patriotic feelings.

'Taking the Oath'

Propaganda and Stamps

Chamberlains "Piece of Paper" and WWII. Our Christmas social had small displays, a raffle and much fun. Over 2023 we gained three new members but unfortunately lost three senior ones with a wealth of knowledge. These included **Don Brookfield**, one of our founding members. He had served in every role and was our long-term packet supervisor.

John Sinfield

Oxford

Our President, **Dave Armit**, sadly died after a relatively short illness. In October he led on an evening of practical philately, showing us his hot water/hot iron way of removing stamps from their backing paper. Two months later he had passed away, with stamps appropriately added to the outside of his coffin at his funeral in December. His naughty fun and broad philatelic knowledge have already been missed at subsequent meetings and local auctions. A morning meeting on the *Letter A* produced a wide variety of displays from members:

Australian Antarctic Territory, Roald Amundsen, Altrincham's POW Camp, Nigeria's Akassa, Abutshi and Abeokuta,

as well as lots and lots of *Art*. In November, **Julian Bagwell** gave a terrific display on the *German occupation of Guernsey* covering local, international, feldpost and Red Cross mail. December was a busy month. *Stamps with stories and controversies* produced stamp designer *Czeslaw Slania putting himself and his girlfriend on stamps, Stock Exchange forgeries, Nagaland, Crimea, Northern Nigeria's first stamp and its £25 stamp and Ceylon's plucking tea 20c variant*. Ten members of the society celebrated Christmas together in the VIP area of



Dave Armit ironing stamps



Warwick & Warwick

TRUSTEE DEPARTMENT

Are you concerned about leaving a specialised stamp collection to your heirs who do not have a knowledge of stamps or the stamp market? Plan ahead by registering details of your collection with the free and confidential "Warwick & Warwick Trustee Service". The department will ensure the correct method of sale of your valuable collection after your death and in accordance with your instructions.

Write, phone, fax or email for your free copy of our "Trustee Service" brochure.

*Warwick & Warwick Ltd., Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick, CV34 5DB, England.
Tel: (01926) 499031 Fax: (01926) 491906 Email: info@warwickandwarwick.com*

Cosmo's all-you-can-eat world restaurant in Oxford. The month ended with the visit of **Giles du Boulay** who gave us a fascinating *Danzig Miscellany* covering many centuries and involving detailed knowledge of Danzig's complex philatelic history. The first meeting of 2024 involved *Recent Acquisitions* which reassuringly showed that many of the members continue to actively collect and enjoy their philately!

Dr Simon Heap

Poole & Bournemouth

A vast array of topics and material gave us a busy year. During the year we had eight evenings with members' displays covering various topics. Some very scarce and desirable items were on show at these meetings. Six evenings were taken by guest speakers, three of them our own club members. Topics included *Janos Kass, Pills, Potions and Quackery of North America, A Philatelic History of Turkey, An Evening in Brazil, Transatlantic Mail between USA and GB and USA 1851-2011*. We held four auctions which were well-attended, and the first Stamp Fair since 2019 - a success. The dealers attending were pleased with their results.

The club competition was held in March, winners being **Mike Goodman** (Traditional), **Rick Wilmot** (Postal History and Thematic), **Ray Saunders** and **Tony Arnold** (Open), and **Robin Humphries** won the Novice Trophy. Two winners were entered in the inter-club competition, the Traditional and Thematic. This is the competition held between local societies and hosted by Ferndown Club. → philatelyinbournemouth.co.uk

Rick Wilmot

City of Preston

Our 2023 season ended in December with a pleasant lunch in Longton. Highlights from the season included **Ken Knight** on *Egypt*, **Barry Evans** on *George VI*, **Norton Wragg** showing *Railways* and **Andrew Brooks** with *Germany*. We had an interesting evening in November when members were invited to contribute to *What else do you collect?*. The answer could be summarised as LOTS!!! We have agreed changes to our programme and now avoid the cold dark nights of January and February. Our next meeting is on 7th March with, we hope, a lively presentation on *New Acquisitions*. Meetings are held at the Thurlby Social Club in Ashton, Preston.

→ website or Bernard at Bawalmsley@aol.com

Bernard Walmsley

Ringwood

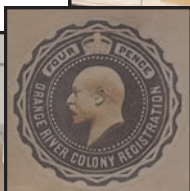
Mike Smith has many crowning glories. He is an international judge, an authority on postal stationery, secretary of the federation of International



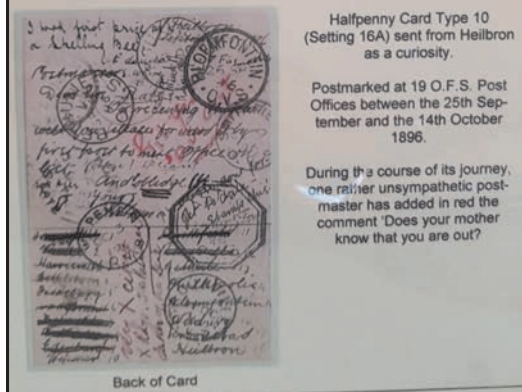
philatelists' philatelic society commission, has four Large Gold medals, and recently returned from Essen in Germany, having presented at the seminar: *Current Trends in Postal Stationery*. (May 2023). Setting the *Orange Free State* in context, Mike explained that the state principally benefited from its agricultural and mining activities. Mike skilfully traced its postal history in some depth. First administered by GB, this tiny country found itself at the centre of international affairs, being a major focus of the Boer War (1899). It was inevitable that a chequered philatelic path would evolve. A complex web of official stationery card



Mike Smith



printings, (De la Rue) with some locally produced, ensued, with many observed within the display. The presentation was far-ranging, covering stamp and card production, including overprints (Bloemfontaine), and rarities. Mike made good use of anecdotes which included insights into how his collection was formed. Amongst the fascinating points made was that on asking dealers to reveal their stock of Orange Free State items, frequently bargains could be obtained, since this was a largely unstudied area of philately, and their lack of knowledge could be to his advantage!! Perhaps with more recent publicity, it is harder to strike such bargains from dealer stock books!! This was a wonderful presentation of philatelic material, being of clearly international status.



A lettercard that has had a difficult journey

Paul Barry

Rochdale

Our club's French specialist, **Eddie Dunne**, presented part of *his Postal History Collection of Covers and Postcards*. Most French towns and villages issue their own unique postal covers. Eddie has been collecting French postal history for over 30 years and especially since he acquired a static holiday caravan in the south-west département of Tarn (81). After refreshments Eddie displayed a nearly-complete collection of both definitive and commemorative stamps. The latest rate of French new issues exceeds 200 stamps annually. In addition many towns also issue their own local adhesive stamps, too numerous to be included in stamp catalogues. Peter Grimshaw

Rugby & District

Since the last report we have had to come to terms with the sad loss of **Peter Pugh**, who had served as our chairman for many years. He will be sorely missed, and our thoughts are with his family at this sad time. Pete provided us with one of five displays that we have enjoyed since the last report, all of which have been very well received. **Dahlia Harrison's** display on *Red Cross Humanitarian Aid* was an example of where you can wander when you interpret the rules; with some very original supporting material a sombre subject came to life, highlighting the bravery and sacrifice of people in extraordinary circumstances. **Gerald Marriner's** display on the *German Occupation of the Channel Islands* was a very informative evening on a very dark time in British history, with a wealth of well-researched material that was excellently presented. Pete entertained us with yet another part of his display on the *Trans-Siberian Railway*, his passion project. As with all his displays it was well-researched and presented, with very wide-ranging quality material. Original supporting material was to the fore of **David Hutchins'** display *Tonga to Togo* - a hybrid thematic/traditional display which was both informative and light-hearted, and covered two under-collected countries by an interesting route. Which leaves the display by yours truly. A split evening with *Latvia, Ten Years of Change* and *Shipping*, a thematic/postal history display. Hopefully eclectic enough to meet the members' expectations of me. Stephen Williams

Salisbury & District

We have sent off the results of our questionnaire and discussions on the future of local societies to ABPS in the hope that it might assist discussion and action. Sadly there is no magic bullet or a focused target audience on which to concentrate our efforts. But we need to change our image, target all groups of people of all ages, by all methods. We have suggested some ideas about how this might be done. Above all it needs to be done in a professional, centralized and coordinated manner. Our active membership is small but we have a hard core of 14 who attend meetings. It has been a busy period including two excellent and interesting outside speakers: **Robin Cassell** with his world-class display of *Mulreadys* and **James Podger** with his personal collection of *Africa and Islands*. Local societies are very lucky that such high-class speakers come out on a winter's night to give us such excellent talks. We had two members'

meetings with the usual display of interesting and eclectic material. Our social side is very important and we had our usual happy fun Christmas Social. 21 members and partners enjoyed an evening of wine, food, and a quiz. There was also a single sheet competition, for the Jeremy Martin Cup, judged by all present. A great end to the year before we take a break for Christmas and New Year.

Michael Moody

Sheffield

The new season started with a most interesting Zoom display of *Parachuting through the Ages* by **Barry Stagg**. This included early designs by Leonardo da Vinci and the first parachute jump by a servant of the inventor, Sir George Cayley. The next meeting was *The Royal Franking Privilege* by our own **Keith Branigan**, who showed how various royal family members as far back as George III were able to send mail without payment. Later, we had an informal meeting to discuss "The value of Specialist Societies". We concluded that they are a most valuable asset as their publications inform about their subject which will not appear in stamp catalogues. Also, they provide a network throughout the world who can be contacted by e-mail to discuss "new" finds before going into print. One Wednesday afternoon meeting was a most interesting display of *Bulgaria* by **Rodney Knight**, which combined both the history and philately of the country. The November Zoom meeting was given by **David Ball**, president of the American Air Mail Society, with *Trans-Oceanic Mail*, which included items from both Lindbergh's and Byrd's Trans-Atlantic flights. It was followed by Trans-Pacific, Trans-Polar and World circumnavigation flights. At the first Wednesday meeting, **Robert McMillan** gave a most interesting display of his QEII stamps and some postal history of the *Falkland Islands, Falkland Islands Dependencies and British Antarctic Territories*. Finally **Richard Hindle** gave a display of *Scott and Shackleton and the Race for the South Pole*.

Richard A Hindle

Shropshire

The new season started with *Recently Acquired Material* resulting in a wide range of items including *coils, Australian Roos, Shropshire Postal History* and *GB postmarks*. In September we had a wonderful display on *Danzig WWII*



TRIMSTONE MANOR
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL & COTTAGES

The perfect place for a peaceful country break, celebration, wedding or business conference.

trimstone.co.uk ~ 01271 862841 ~ info@trimstone.co.uk
Trimstone, Nr Woolacombe, Nr Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 8NR

presented by **Giles de Boulay**. The next two evenings were members' evenings, the second being on the *Letter X*. Humour and imagination were necessary for this but we rose to the occasion and gave an Xciting Evening. In November we had two contrasting events. The first was a presentation by **John Thatcher** on *The James Webb Telescope*. This was a highly visual and educational display; additional astronomical material being provided by members. The display by **Tony Marsland** and **David Petley Jones** on *France and French Colonies* was wide-ranging and well-received, with some extremely rare material on show. December was time for some fun with our one-page competition and bourse. The competition was won by **Andy Neal** for his *Sudan* display. People treated themselves in the bourse for an early Christmas present - for themselves of course. Mince pies were enjoyed by all. A date for your diary is 5th October 2024 for the Shrewsbury Stamp and Postcard Fair.

➔ Tony Marsland on 07532 277599.

Terence Jones

Wakefield

On the evening of 18th October we held a well-attended and successful *Catalogue Auction*. On 1st November members enjoyed viewing an amazing collection of postcards belonging to **Robert Barnes** which related to the Local Wakefield area and was entitled *Now and Then*. On 15th November we welcomed **Rod Unwin** and **Douglas Armitage**. Rod presented *Postage Rates During the Machin Period* and Douglas displayed *Turkey*. At a Zoom meeting in November **Gerald Marriner** gave a display of *Spanish Andorra Postal History*. December opened with



Mike Rego on *British Guiana*

Mike Rego visiting with a display of *British Guiana*. The **West Riding Stamp Club** paid Wakefield a visit at the end of December with a good variety of presentations. These included **Barry Lomas** – *125 years of Coronations, Jubilees, Anniversaries and, Weddings* - stamps, coins, medals and documents, **Jonathan Taylor** – *A range of Christmas related material from Edwardian times to the present day*, **Adrian Lee** - *Christmas seals*, **Charles Squire** - *Great Britain collection* and **Graham Winters** - *The Philatelic X*. The new year commenced on 3rd January with a members' *Bring, Buy and Swop Evening*.

Julie Hitchcock

West Riding Stamp Club

Our Christmas meeting enjoyed a reverse treasure hunt with **Ken Moody** matching nine of the twenty listed postage stamp requirements and receiving the prize from guest judge **Susan Roberts**. There were three members who achieved eight matches so it was a close contest. Thanks to Hornbeam Park,

Harrogate for their sponsorship of the list. We were invited to visit Wakefield PS for their 20th December meeting, with displays given by **Barry Lomas** with various *British Monarchs* – Jubilees, Weddings, Coronations, material from Queen Victoria to our present monarch. The display comprised special issue stamps both Royal Mail and from private organisations, churches and charities with exhibits including medals from similar sources including the police, St John Ambulance and military sources; **Jonathon Taylor** with his *Post Office Christmas cards* - examples of Edwardian Christmas Day deliveries and meter marks, **Adrian Lee** with examples of *Christmas Seals* from various countries including South Africa ecclesiastical church-related seals, British Military issues used in Egypt in the 1930s, **Graham Winters** with examples of *X-related philatelic material* with manuscript cancels, Railway X related material, India large format stamp X cancellations and re-issued redundant WWII stationery, **Charles Squire** with *GB Christmas issue* and *QEII 1966 World Tour* material. The president **Philip Reynolds** thanked attendees including those who provided the Christmas food and presented WRSC with a certificate of appreciation for what he believed was their best attended meeting of the last couple of years.

Adrian Lee

Specialist Societies

Channel Islands Specialists'

We have completed a project to digitise and make searchable 167 issues of our quarterly journal, *Les Isles Normandes*. Our chairman, **David Winnie FRPSL**, commented "This was a mammoth task involving the scanning and keywording of some 48 years of published journals. It could not have been achieved without the full and active support of all the society's committee members along with that of **Ed Martin** of Jade Resources, the CISS website administrator, who worked tirelessly to upload all the created PDFs onto the system and manage the keywording process. His help and guidance proved invaluable in helping the committee to understand and manage the technological aspects of the project. This is without doubt a very important new service for our members, providing a wealth of information to assist them in researching their collecting interests. It is also hoped that it will be a key resource in attracting new members".

- All the journals from 1975 Volume 1 to date are now viewable online.
- 167 journals are now able to be searched.
- Over 2100 articles have been indexed.
- Nearly 300 authors have been recorded.
- In excess of 2500 keywords have been logged to assist with the search process. → www.ciss.uk/

Steve Wells

The Czechoslovak PS of GB

Fifteen members gathered at The George in London on 4th November 2023 to judge entries for the **Kay Goodman Trophy** – the winner was **Roger Morrell** with *Parcel Post During Empire Times* – and to enjoy **Yvonne Wheatley's**

presentation on *The History of Czechoslovakia Told Through the Postal System*. Yvonne began by focusing on the three founders of the new Republic: Masaryk, Beneš, and Štefánik. A national anthem was needed – celebrated in 1934 with a set of stamps and much-sought-after miniature sheets. In carving up the Austro-Hungarian Empire to create Czechoslovakia, other countries lost territory. Poland led the complaints, leading to the Seven Days' War in Silesia. A wealth of material illustrated the Sudetenland crisis, including a set of stamps prepared but never issued. The

independence of Carpatho-Ukraine lasted 24 hours – just enough time to issue an overprinted stamp! The story of Theresienstadt was included, with a display of parcel permit stamps and related postal history: letters in and out of Theresienstadt, ration stamps, and a repatriation certificate for a survivor. Stamps illustrated those involved in Heydrich's assassination, Lidice (with before and after photographs), and Nicholas

Winton. Yvonne reminded members that the late **Robert Kingsley**, a member of the society, was one of the children rescued by Winton. Stamps and postal history also illustrated the communist party postwar takeover, currency devaluation in 1953, the Prague Spring in 1968, the Velvet Revolution in 1989, and finally the dissolution of the country in 1993.

→ www.cpsgb.org.uk

Forces Postal History

Since my last report we have held monthly meetings either at the Union Jack Club or Banstead (our all-day Christmas meeting) as well as holding Zoom meetings. These have generated a wide variety of material by our members, including our 9-page President's Cup competition in October, won by what must be our youngest member **Tiegan Berry** with her entry on *Ruhleben Christmas Cards*; Ruhleben being a camp outside Berlin where British civilians were imprisoned during WWI. Our proposed meeting with the West Africa SC has had to be postponed until 2nd March. Of our Zoom meetings many of the displays shown are available on our website (under 'displays') as are our meeting reports, with illustrations (under 'meetings'). Attendance at our meetings has



Viewing the display

Tony Holdsworth



Tiegan Berry receiving the cup

increased slightly but we do hope that more of our members will return to them. Our quarterly Journal is a 60-page magazine packed with a variety of articles and queries, both long and short, and well-illustrated (with no adverts) - something to suite everyone. Society matters are restricted to an 8-page Newsletter also issued quarterly. Looking forward we have our 15-page competition in February, our AGM and Auction in April and a presentation by who would be then our immediate Past President in May, followed by a presentation on *The History of Submarines* by a guest speaker at Banstead in June. → www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk Michael Dobbs

Great Britain

Our March meeting at the Royal PS in Abchurch Lane, London will include a display from **Michael Sefi LVO RDP FRPSL** entitled *A Mixed Display Featuring GB Material from 1900 to 1936*. The display will focus on the Profile Head one penny definitive stamps of GV through to 1936. Michael has spent some years studying the Transatlantic Post Office, which operated between the United Kingdom and New York from 1905 to 1914, involving operating post offices providing some services to passengers and crew on board ships exclusively of the White Star and American Lines. The afternoon session will focus on the Annual Competitions and will consist of a Zoom-based PowerPoint critique of entries, presented by the judges. There will then be the opportunity, for those present in-person at the meeting, to view all the entries in full, and for those entering to ask further questions of the judges regarding their entries. The next meeting will also be held at the Royal. **Bob Galland** will present an overview of *The Penny Lilac Postage and Revenue Stamp* as a prelude to members' displays in the afternoon. Throughout its 20-year or so lifespan more than 33 000 million stamps were produced. Two versions of the stamp are known: Dies I (14 dots) and II (16 dots). However, other differences are apparent such as the shape and alignment of some of the letters in the legend. The Penny Lilac would have been an easily recognisable feature of Victorian life. John Davies

Malaya Study Group

In October was the Overprints meeting. **Andrew Norris** showed a display of *Perak 1900 Surcharges* from the collection of the late **Iain Dyce**, some the stock of **Oswald Marsh**. The Thinner t in Cent on the \$1 was positioned and demonstrated. **Susan McEwen** showed some *Dai Nippon overprints with extra markings*. A second part was on the travails of the background of the *Early 1884-1891 Johor/Johore overprints*. **Nick Hervey** showed the *Provisional Issue of 1867* and a selection of *Bangkok B overprints* and many *Surcharges of North Borneo*. **Dominic Morris** showed many varieties of the *Trengganu Red Cross*

ABPS accredited judges

The current list of ABPS accredited exhibition/competition judges can be found on the ABPS web site www.abps.org.uk Click on the "Exhibiting" tab, then the "Judges" tab which is on the 2nd line of tabs.

Overprints and Varieties. **Roger Barry** gave a superb display of *Overprints of Sungei Ujong*. **Len Stanley** showed examples of some 1981 Singapore surcharges and discussed the curiosity of how some first day covers occurred. **Peter Cockburn** followed with some very rare North Borneo 19th surcharges. On 18th November in a Zoom meeting **Henry Ong** from Singapore showed *Postal Stationery of the Federation of Malaya 1948-1957* - Postal Cards, comprising Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Malacca, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Penang, Perak, Perlis, Selangor and Trengganu. In December was Members` Displays Q to T. **Michael Waugh** showed *Queen Victoria, Stamps, Stationery, Covers of Straits Settlements with surcharges*. **Peter Cockburn** brought *Queen Victoria North Borneo covers*. **Susan McEwen** showed *Straits Settlements Newspaper cuttings at the end of WWII*, **Nick Hervey** showed early *Sarawak stamps* and **Andrew Norris** showed rare examples of the \$5 *Malaya-Borneo Exhibition of 1922* .

Michael Waugh

National

Members at the London meeting in September were treated to a superb thematic display by **Brian Sole FRPSL** on the subject of *Cycling*, while the online meeting in October featured colourful *Issues of Labuan and North Borneo* presented by **Dr Higgins FRPSL**. Meanwhile, the NPS has gained about 80 new members following the decision by the London and Provincial Club to merge with the NPS. In addition to regular meetings and a bi-monthly journal *Stamp Lover*, we offer an extensive exchange packet, which circulates nationwide. Membership enquiries to Peter Mellor.

➔ npsmemsec@ukphilately.org.uk or 01582 762284. Michael Goodman

Orange Free State

The Study Circle is now in its 70th year and the *OFS Bulletin* – published in colour for its 70th year - has good items reported. The December 2023 issue includes a postal auction listing of a fine range of OFS and ORC material. The 2023 AGM was held via a Zoom/ Face-to-Face Meeting in August, with an open Zoom meeting afterwards. Members from four continents joined these meetings. The Historical Membership List, which details members from 1953 onwards and their contributions, had been updated. At the Southern Africa Societies Conference in Meriden in November 2023, **Michael Smith FRPSL**, Chairman of the OFS SC, was delighted to be presented with the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion by the president **Richard Stroud RDPSA**. The award



Michael Smith and Richard Stroud

was made by the Philatelic Federation of South Africa for *Excellence in Philately, Research and the sharing of Knowledge* at the 85th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, convened at the Kyalami Country Club, Midrand,

South Africa on 13th October 2023. It is the second highest award achievable in South African philately. → www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk or Richard-stroud@outlook.com
Richard Stroud

Postal History

A very successful and convivial Conference was held on 3rd to 5th November at the Milford Hall Hotel, Salisbury with 40 members enjoying very high-quality speakers and entertaining members' displays. **Steve Ellis FRPSL** commenced the weekend with *French Transatlantic Mail from 1783* followed by **Barry Hobbs** with *Mind your Ps & Qs - American Pills Potions and Quackery*. On Saturday morning, we had a master class on providing a PowerPoint presentation by **Garrie Naden** with *Pre-Mail Coach Era 1660 - 1785*. **Julian Tweed** provided his final display as our president with his *Express Mail* and the final main display of the weekend was given by **Robin Cassell FRPSL** and his marvellous collection of *Mulready Caricatures*. Interspersed were no less than 21 displays on a wide variety of subjects from around the world by fellow members. During the weekend, time was found for a very successful 300-lot auction which realised more than £5500 in sales. Thanks go to **Claire Scott FRPSL** for stepping in at the last moment to convene the event. In 2024, the conference will be held from 18th to 20th October at the Abbey Hotel, Redditch.
→ www.postalhistory.org.uk
David Winnie



Robin Cassell in action

Royal

The Falkland Islands Philatelic Study Group celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2020, marked by a set of stamps issued by the Falkland Islands. An anniversary display to the Royal was another casualty of Covid, but took place last October.



Mike Roberts with Peter

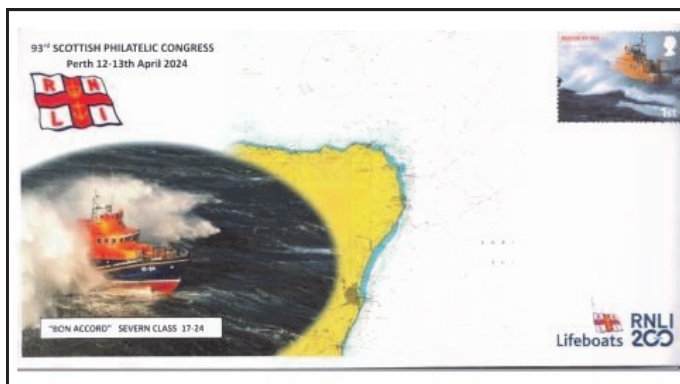
Eighteen Group members presented a total of 30 displays ranging from early mail through to a look at the 50th anniversary set of stamps issued on 7th September 2020. The November display by **Howard Hughes FRPSL** was entitled *The Maltese Cross*. The display won the Grand Prix National when shown at the London 2022 International Stamp Exhibition. It explains how the obliterator was used – including the need to change the ink composition and design of the obliterator – and why and when it was replaced, including examples of late usage. *Aspects of Great Britain Postal History before 1840* was the title of the display given by **Peter Chadwick**

FRPSL in late November. What was on show was an incredible array of material from the Bishop Marks up to the introduction of Uniform Fourpenny Post in December 1839. Peter revealed that he had been a collector for 77 years, having decided in 2006 to concentrate solely on postal history. The superlatives were fully justified when **Richard Berry FRPSL** presented an incredible collection, immaculately written up, of *Classic Afghanistan* in December. Camellia Plc owns the collection which covers the First Afghan War of 1839 to 1842, the classic stamps of Afghanistan, and the Second Afghan War of 1878 to 1880.

Federations

Scottish

Aberdeen PS will host the 93rd annual ASPS Scottish Congress in Perth on 12th and 13th April. One of the host's duties is to produce a commemorative cover linking to some event or anniversary. For the 200th anniversary of the RNLI



we have a cover with the Aberdeen Severn Class boat *BON*



ACCORD. The postmark uses Aberdeen's logo with the 1820 post office within the arches of our Mercat Cross, which was contemporary with our first *BON ACCORD* 1800s lifeboat. Covers, (a limited number franked with the 1st Class Rescue at Sea) may be ordered by email from → seafield28@gmail.com priced at £3 or signed by the coxswain £5
Alex Walker

Surrey

We held our annual individual and inter-society one-frame competitions in conjunction with the AGM at Redhill on 29th October, hosted by Redhill PS. All the entries were pre-judged by **Pat Reid** and **Susan Burn**, and written feedback provided to the entrants. The inter-society competition for the Mason Cup was won by Guildford. At the AGM, we elected a new treasurer (**R Mott**) and re-elected the other officers of the federation. Sadly, we have lost one member society with the closure of Wallington & Carshalton.
Peter White

Wiltshire and District

We held our 16-sheet competitions concurrently in Swindon with our AGM in December. The winners were **Tony Howgrave-Graham** and **Paul Latham-Warde** both of Salisbury. Tony's entry that won the Federation trophy was *Franco-Italian Maritime Mail of the mid-19th Century not posted in a Post Office*. Paul won the Victor Hutchinson Memorial Trophy with *Barbed Wire*. Our thanks go to our judge, **Keith Chadwick** of Bath. Our next significant event will be our nine-sheet competitions to be held as part of Swinpex on 10th June but in a new venue, the Grange Leisure and Community Centre, Swindon, SN3 4JY. As usual, entries will only be received as best quality colour photocopies with the closing date for submissions on 1st May. Paul Latham-Warde.

ABPS updates

The details below are those which could affect your contacting a society or speaker. Other less immediate changes will appear in the details on the website abps.org.uk I will be grateful if you will send any more amendments or error notifications as soon as possible to me at editor@abps.org.uk I will pass them on and/or use them as necessary. Please note the changes below.

Federations

Surrey has a new treasurer - R. Mott

Specialist Societies

Germany & Colonies has rejoined ABPS - welcome back.

Local Societies

Launceston Stamp Club now meet on the first Thursday of each month, starting at 2pm.

Lostock PS now meets from 1.30 to 3.30 on the first Friday of each month. secretary's number is 07378195359 email david18alex@gmail.com

Wallington & Carshalton PS and **Worcester Philatelic and Postcard Society** have closed.

STAMP ACTIVE YOUTH STAMP COMPETITIONS

The Stamp Active Network, the voluntary organisation that promotes stamp collecting for children in the UK, is organising the national youth stamp competitions to be held as part of the senior competitions to be displayed at York in July 2024. Full details of the competitions and entry forms can be found on the Competitions section of the Stamp Active website.

For further information, go to www.stampactive.co.uk



British Stamp News

As happens every year Christmas comes round and produces some more stamps, this year based on the Christmas story. I thought that you were unlikely to have received other than the 2nd Class stamp and personally I consider these to be some of the best for 2023 - old-fashioned perhaps but with a clear message. Some of mine appeared



with good cancellations, others with the more common black marker pen or biro lines. It is hard to find good used copies these days. So what was to open the 2024 productions?

I wasn't keen on the Spice Girls when they were singing, so hearing that there was to be a stamp issue of their successes and careers was not inspiring for me. Then I was sent the information about what was to be available. I suspect that for what would have to be paid for the full issue with all its extra items would have been more costly than downloading their entire musical



output. I haven't received any post bearing these and am not hopeful that I will - not sure that I care either. Instead of five varied stamps, there were ten stamps, five different ones in a miniature sheet, a prestige booklet, presentation packs, first day covers and so on - all



to separate us from our money if we are serious Spice Girls fans. Not for me - and I don't like the stamps either!. *The views expressed are those of the editor personally, not those of ABPS Executive or members.*

Diary

Local and regional events by ABPS members

March

- 2 Launceston Stamp Fair: 10-3: Central Methodist Hall, Castle St, **Launceston** PL15 8BA → 01288 381489
- 9 AEPS Annual Seminar: DISPLAYING, Henry Dixon Hall, Henry Dixon Road, Rivenhall End, **Witham**, Essex CM8 3HR.

April

- 12 ASPS Scottish Congress hosted by Aberdeen PS: 10-5: Dewars Centre, Glover St, **Perth** PH2 0TH
- 13 ASPS Scottish Congress hosted by Aberdeen PS: 10-3: Dewars Centre, Glover St, **Perth** PH2 0TH
- 13 Falmouth Stamp Fair: Emanuel Baptist Church, Western Terrace, **Falmouth** TR11 4QJ → 07764 409335
- 13 Telford Stamp Postcard & Coin Fair: 10-2: Belmont Community Hall, Wellington, **Telford** TF1 1HJ → Richard Camp 01952 405458

May

- 18 Redruth Stamp Fair: 10-4: Jubilee Hall, Wesley Building, Wesley St, **Redruth** TR15 2EG → 07927 198758

June

- 1 RINGPEX Ringwood Annual Fair: 10-4: Greyfriars Community Centre, 44 Christchurch Road, **Ringwood**, BH24 1DW → Gordon Masson 01425 470410

July

- 14 Telford Stamp Postcard & Coin Fair: 10-2: Belmont Community Hall, Wellington, **Telford** TF1 1HJ → Richard Camp 01952 405458

August

- 31 Yeovil & District Stamp Fair: The Digby Memorial Church Hall, Digby Road, **Sherborne**, Dorset DT9 3NL

National Exhibitions 2024

- British National Qualifying Exhibition, London. 28th - 30th March 2024; The Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW. Entries closed
- York Stamp Fair, Knavesmire Grandstand, York Racecourse. 19th - 20th July. Entry deadline 31st May
- Royal Challenge at Stampex, Business Design Centre, Islington, London. 23rd - 25th October

International Exhibitions 2024-2025

To enter an international exhibition your entry must first qualify by achieving a large vermeil medal (75 marks or above) at a national exhibition. Literature does not need this pre-qualification. To enter please contact the UK commissioners shown. Exhibitors from outside the United Kingdom should contact their national commissioner.

- **Efiro 2024:** Bucharest 16th - 19th April 2024: Website <https://www.efiro.ro> Entries closed. A FEPA Patronage exhibition with FIP recognition. 2000 frames. Contact UK Commissioner, John Stimson at john.m.stimson@gmail.com
- **Mare Balticum:** 26th - 28th July 2024, National Museum, Tartu, Estonia: Website marebalticum.ee 500 frames with FEPA recognition. Entry deadline 29th February 2024. Contact UK Commissioner Jon Aitchison at jonaitchison.uk@outlook.com
- **Hafnia 2024:** European Stamp Exhibition, Copenhagen, Denmark. 17th - 20th October 2024 at Øksnehallen in central Copenhagen. Website www.hafnia24.com A FEPA exhibition with 1300 frames for all FIP classes except Astrophilately or Maximaphily. Contact UK Commissioner, Steve Harrison at sharrison500@btinternet.com Entries closed.
- **EuroPhilEx 2025:** Hall 9 NEC, Birmingham. 7th - 11th May 2025. 2000 frames with FEPA Patronage. Website www.europhillex2025.co.uk All FIP classes at £100 per frame or £120 for single frames and £40 for Literature. Open for entries now through the website. UK Commissioner: Daphne McMillan. Royal Commissioner: James Podger pee-j-aggie-boo@ntlworld.com Entry deadline: 8th May 2024
- **PhilaKorea 2025:** Seoul, South Korea. No frame fees or deadline yet. FIP Patronage with FIAP Auspices. Contact UK Commissioner, Simon Richards at simon@sidebell.co.uk
- **Boston 2026 World Expo:** 23rd - 30th May 2026 www.boston2026.org

UK handling charges are now standardised for all international exhibitions at £30 per frame for shows in Europe or £35 for events anywhere else in the world, whether single or multiple frame exhibits or per literary entry. This is to cover the cost of getting exhibits to and from exhibitions, FIP capitation fees and other costs relating to processing the exhibits. Overall this runs at a loss. Exhibits that are carried to and returned from an exhibition by the exhibitor are charged at half price. There is no UK handling charge for Youth exhibits. If you are interested in becoming a United Kingdom international exhibition commissioner please contact **Jon Aitchison** at britishlocals@aol.com

Details of FEPA exhibitions are at <http://www.fepanews.com/>

Web information Further information can be found on the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk on the "Exhibiting" tab. *Simon Richards, Chairman ABPS International & Exhibitions Committee* Simon@sidebell.co.uk

ABPS General Information

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Brian Asquith, John Baron, Tony Bosworth, Mike Brindle, Peter Chantry, Mike Elliott, Hugh Feldman, John Hammonds, Margaret Morris, Susan Oliver, Pat Rothnie, Frank Soutar, Richard West

Executive Committee

* Denotes also a Director of ABPS Ltd

Chair: **Steven Harrison ***

Vice Chairman: **John A Davies ***

Secretary: **George L Henshilwood ***

Company Secretary, Treasurer and Small Grants Coordinator:

Nigel RN Gooch *

Membership: **Barry Stagg ***

International & Exhibitions Chairman: **Simon Richards ***

Public Relations Director: **John A Davies ***

Awards Committee Chair: **Yvonne Wheatley**

Youth: **Susan Henderson**

chair@abps.org.uk

vicechair@abps.org.uk

secretary@abps.org.uk

treasurer@abps.org.uk

membership@abps.org.uk

simon@sidebell.co.uk

pr@abps.org.uk

awards@abps.org.uk

suziemy1960@gmail.com

Other Officers

Congress Committee Chair: **Steven Harrison ***

congress@abps.org.uk

Dealers Representative:

Editor (ABPS News) & Minutes Secretary: **Keith S Burton**

Distribution (ABPS News): **John Woodson**

Advertising Manager: **Ian Bergel**

Representative for Specialist Societies Liaison: **Dane Garrod**

Representative for Federations: **Daphne McMillan**

Philatelic Fund Representative:

Webmaster: **Maurice Buxton**

Postal addresses:

ABPS, c/o RPSL, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW

Please use this RPSL address for all correspondence apart from the following:

Membership (if not emailed):

ABPS Membership, 1 Naunton Way, Cheltenham GL53 7BQ

Society reports (if not emailed to the editor) for the ABPS News:

Editor ABPS, 6 Old Trough Way, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 3DE

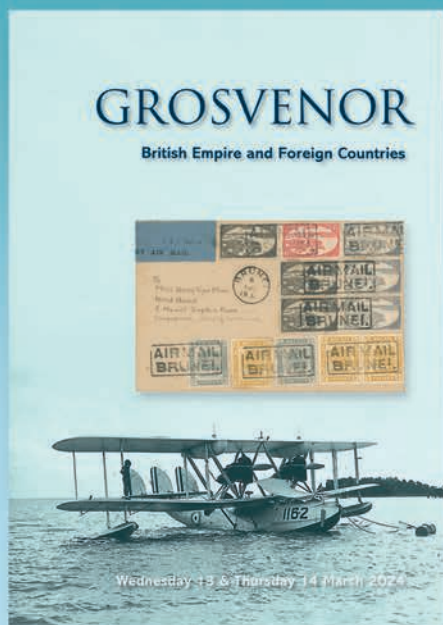
Stamp Active Network: please write to:

SAN, c/o 21 The Bridle, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4TH

ABPS News is published by the Association of British Philatelic Societies.

Website www.abps.org.uk This also holds further information on Committees.

GROSVENOR



Grosvenor's regular public auctions present specialised material from the whole World, our carefully crafted catalogues and extensive client base of international buyers promising exceptional results for vendors. Commission rates are generous and fully inclusive with no add-on fees or charges for unsold lots. Contact **Constanze Dennis**, **Tom Margalski** or **Bethany Pascoe** at the address below for further information.

399-401 Strand Third Floor London WC2R 0LT
T: +44 (0)20 7379 8789 E: info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk

www.grosvenorauctions.com

Cavendish House
153-157 London Road
Derby
DE1 2SY



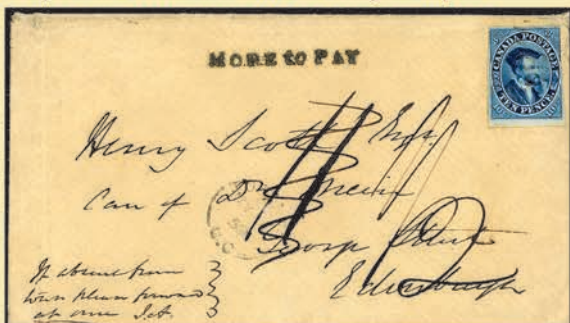
Over 70 years'
Service to
Philately

March 5th, 6th & 7th 2024

Worldwide & Great Britain Stamps & Postal History Auction

Featuring the **Denis Vandervelde** collections of Avis de Réception, Worldwide Forwarding Agents, and Lloyd Austriaco mail; the **John Wilson** WWII Pan Am Transatlantic Airmails collection; the **John Lea** FRPSL collections of Crash & Wreck Mail; the **Malcolm Montgomery** Collection of Anglo-Canadian Transatlantic Mails, 1859-1900; the **Jeff Pattman** collection of Lombardy & Venice early postal history; the **Don Hilditch** collection of the postal history of Elgin; and the **Ken Norris** Scottish & thematic collections.

Also including a superb collection of Aden stamps & postal history, Great Britain stamps with over 100 lots of Penny Blacks, and a specialised collection of KGV Downey Head proofs.



LIVE ONLINE BIDDING in association with easyLiveAuction.com

Search our catalogues on PhilaSearch.com and StampAuctionNetwork.com

Consignments welcome for our future sales. Please contact us for further information.

www.cavendish-auctions.com

stamps@cavendish-auctions.com

Phone +44 (0)1332 250 970

Fax - +44 (0)1332 294 440