

Something to Celebrate



See p. 30

Cardiff PS was very pleased to celebrate John Peter's 100th Birthday. He and his wife Audrey were presented with a cake - which, I expect, all present then helped them to eat!

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



AUTUMN STAMPEX COMPETITIONS

The national competitions, organised by the ABPS, are expected to take place at Autumn Stampex from 30th September to 3rd October at the Business Design Centre, Islington. The competitions will feature all the usual exhibition FIP/ FEPA classes as well as the Cinderella and Ephemera classes. Exhibitors can submit from one to five frames (of 16 sheets each) or eight frames if they have achieved a Large Vermeil at a previous national exhibition. Full details of the rules and the process for sending in your entries can be found in the Exhibiting section of the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk

Also taking place at Autumn Stampex will be the Inter-Federation Competition. A regional Federation can enter a team of three people, each providing a display of one or two frames (16 sheets per frame), one of each must be a thematic, open philately or picture post cards entry. Only one exhibitor per team shall have achieved a higher award than Large Vermeil at any national or international exhibition. At least one exhibitor per team must not have entered a national exhibition before, and each such exhibitor will gain an extra five points. The Inter-Federation Competition Trophy will be awarded to the Federation achieving the highest aggregate of the marks scored in the three classes. Full details can be found on the ABPS website. Simon Richards, Chairman of the ABPS Exhibitions Committee, commented "The InterFed rules are designed to get the novice to exhibiting going and are weighted to achieve that. We hope this new initiative will encourage new people to take the step of showing their collections in national events."

A Good Suggestion

These difficult times have highlighted a problem which has already developed for some societies and could easily affect many more in the future, not just as a result of Covid-19. This was highlighted by Giles du Boulay of Germany & Colonies PS. Personally I am very grateful to Giles for this.

Philatelic societies in normal times should have resilience plans in order to cover rapidly changing circumstances such as the incapacity or death of a highly organised official. Many already have developed this but now, at this hugely difficult time, societies who have not done so should address this with some urgency. Where a key officer lives alone or in a household where no else has access to their computer, or even has no knowledge of how to use it, there need to be some concise instructions for someone in the family explaining who to contact in the society in the event of their death, and how to identify and forward vital files to those who need them.

One suggestion is that all key officers of a society produce information on the workings of their specific role(s) which are posted to a central 'cloud' for others on the Committee to access. Others are known passwords to a generic email address eg sec.anytownnps@gmail.com, and multiple account signatories.

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 27, Number 2, Summer 2020 (whole number 106)

Editor: Keith S Burton

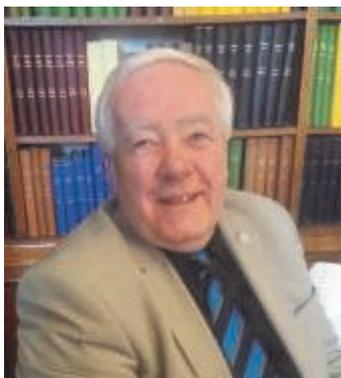
(ISSN 1353 6869)

CONTENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 Autumn Stampex 2020 and the Inter-Fed competition | 18 ABPS Congress Medal; Awards of Merit & FEPA Awards <i>Yvonne Wheatley</i> |
| 2 A suggestion in these difficult times | 20 - 62 On The Club Circuit |
| 4 <i>Graham Winters FRPSL</i> | 46 Austria's View of Brexit |
| 5 Editorial <i>Keith S Burton</i> | 50 A Plea for Help <i>David Rennie</i> |
| 6 Anniversaries - Revenue Society (30) <i>Andrew McIellan</i> | 63 BTA at Autumn Stampex |
| 7 The End of an Era - The Invalid & Lone Collectors' Society Closes. <i>Jean Osborne</i> | 64 Stamp Club Display Competitions <i>Richard Camp</i> |
| 8 FEPA <i>Bill Hedley</i> | 66 The Postal Museum - Mail Rail from Home |
| 9 Roll of Distinguished Philatelists 2020 New Signatories | 67 ABPS Handbook Updates |
| 12 Obituaries: Bill Earl <i>Paul Woodness</i>
John Campbell <i>Giles du Boulay & Steve Gerrard</i> | 68 British Stamp News |
| 17 Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose | 69 Diary of local events, national exhibitions and international exhibitions |
| | 72 ABPS Executive, other officers and associates |

An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage www.abps.org.uk soon after publication. There are no officially printed copies. Contact details for ABPS are on page 72.

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 (see p 72) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.



Chairman's Message

15th April 2020

So, we have been staying at home for several weeks. Lots of gardening done, several read plus other household jobs - long forgotten! However, at the last ABPS meeting which we held by conference call, I said that I intended to make some videos - probably just as well I could not see peoples' faces! To date, I have completed seven. The production leaves much to be improved, but they only last around 5 minutes and each one is based on a single 16-page frame. I started with one of my post card collections which I have been writing up: *Louis Wain Cats*. Several people have contacted me to say that they particularly like this one. It is not a competitive exhibit, but it does give a flavour of the artist's work. There have followed videos on *Canadian Pacific Railway Pictorial Stationery* -

Very pretty; *The Boer POW Camps In Ceylon, A Postal History*; Marcophily one frame; *Yorkshire Penny Blacks*, a frame showing uses of different Penny Black plates; *Ceylon, King George V Silver Jubilee*, a single frame traditional exhibit; *East African Airmails 1927-32*, an aerophilately exhibit but a subject which is clearly too large for a single frame and finally, to date, *The Goats* - Maximaphily, one of the new classes offered by ABPS at National level. This is really a tribute to **Francis Kiddle**, whose material this was. Interesting that he had just enough cards to make up a single frame. I think he might have had thoughts of doing something along these lines. If you would like to access any of these videos, Google search – "Graham Winters ABPS Youtube". I have a few more planned as an ABPS contribution to the hobby while we are not able to meet as usual.

In the meantime, if you have any ideas about what the ABPS could do for you or your society in these difficult times, please let us know. Remember, stay safe, stay at home and follow the Government guidelines. Too many of us are in the "at risk" group because of our age! Let me know if you like the videos.

Very best wishes

Graham Winters FRPSL

Chairman ABPS

As you have just read, Graham is waiting to hear from you at j.g.winters@hotmail.co.uk - Tell him what you like (or dislike) about his videos, even more important - tell him or me (editor@abps.org.uk) or both of us what you have and/or your society has been doing to spread the word and keep your fellow members involved. My own local society is trying Zoom meetings where individuals will talk about a single item from their collection - perhaps found in all that clearing of boxes. Will it work? - no idea, but better than sitting at home moping. May you find peace in your pieces of paper. *Editor*

Editorial

It is strange to be writing this in the current circumstances. I had expected to be commenting on the forthcoming LONDON 2020 but as it is now expected to be in February 2021 I think that it will be rather premature to comment now. I have been heartened by the way that reports have still been sent in and the comments that have come with them. A common line is that this period gives us time to do some of the sorting out of material, competition entries, displays and even our libraries which we have been promising ourselves to do. The number of competition entries could be astronomical - but don't forget to look at the rules and regulations for the particular competition that you are entering. If you are making up displays which you are willing to give to other societies please remember to let us know so that we can add your name and subjects for display to the ABPS Speakers' List on the website. We need more speakers to start the new seasons and years and for people to learn new things and have enjoyable meetings. I am very willing to show - are you?

One of the most heartening things has been the response of some members of particular societies. There have been entertaining articles sent out by email, video displays in YouTube and various methods of keeping in touch with members and friends. Has your society found a new way or new material to communicate and keep the older members in contact with each other as they are no longer able to come to meetings? Why not share them with everyone else? We need to stick

together and think outside the narrow boxes that we are so comfortable in inhabiting.

This edition is a fine example of that. There will be no printed version so you will be reading this online unless some kind person has printed it off for you. I know that this can be a problem for some collectors who are unhappy to use email, computers and all the modern technology, but without it ABPS News would not exist - this issue in particular. If we had produced printed copies, we would have made some printers, deliverers and our own distributor take risks to get them to your society distributor who then could not get them out to members at meetings as normal. By the time that we restart our meetings everything would have been out of date and not worth the paper and ink that was used. It has made me think that perhaps in future we should send just two copies to each local society, one to each federation and specialist society, and give friends and patrons the option of receiving a printed copy. All receivers would be informed by us when the issue is online so that they can tell their members. This would save a lot of money for printing and postage, a lot of paper and ink and time for distributors. What do you think?

There will be very few, if any, reports for the next issue - so I want mini and bigger articles on stamps, covers or anything connected to our hobby not too deep. Over to you. Keep safe and look after each other. *Keith Burton*



Society anniversaries, 2020

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:

30 Years - The Revenue Society

The Revenue Society was formed in 1990 and now has over 400 members from all corners of the globe. Founded to promote the research and display of revenue stamps and associated documents, we also publish *The Revenue Journal* every quarter and hold regular meetings in London as well as at national and international philatelic exhibitions.

The founding members included philatelic doyens of the highest calibre who also had enthusiasm and collecting interests in the subject of revenues. These members included Robson Lowe (who was the first President), Ron Butler, Gary Ryan, John Whiteside, Brian Lucas and Clive Akerman. In 1990 we started in our endeavours to raise the interest and popularity of revenue collecting, such as had existed nearly a century earlier. In the days before WWI huge numbers of revenue stamps were issued, as was shown in the Forbin revenue catalogue, and revenue collecting was almost as popular as traditional philately. However, with the outbreak of the Great War, interest in revenues fell into a decline which lasted really until the 1950s.

Slowly the 'Revenue Awakening' began to take hold, led by the USA and many of the larger European countries. Robson Lowe was instrumental in taking a leading position in revenue commercial philately, especially through his Bournemouth Auctions and his keen American interests. Ron Butler succeeded Robson Lowe as President of the Revenue Society, and he was succeeded in turn by Gary Ryan. Gary worked tirelessly to have Revenues recognised by FIP by having their own Commission.

During the past three decades revenue collectors have exhibited at all FIP internationals worldwide. As yet we have not won a Grand Prix, but Revenues have been nominated for a Grand Prix and have achieved runner-up status on two occasions.

Please feel free to visit our website www.revenuesociety.org.uk

Maybe you will develop the Revenue Bug and join us! *Andrew McClellan*

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

As this issue will only be produced digitally to go on the website, I have been able to break my rule of 250 words per report. It will give you more to read and perhaps to get a bit of extra information about what ideas people have come up with to entertain members. It also shows you the fun and games that I have in order to reduce reports to containable length. Enjoy your freedom - I have.

The End of an Era - The Invalid & Lone Collectors' Society Closes.

The society was the brainchild of Leonard Gibbons. He realised that a lot of people had been invalidated after the 1st World War and thought stamp collecting would be a hobby they could enjoy which would also give them contact with people in similar circumstances. It also applied to people who lived in small places who didn't have contact with other collectors. In 1921 he set up the group within the Junior Philatelic Society. To join you had to be a member of the JPS. The JPS became the National Philatelic Society.

Contact was by means of a circulating magazine, the articles being provided by the members. Members were encouraged to contact other members. There was no subscription to the group but members had to post on the magazine and had to be JPS members. It proved very popular and went from strength to strength.

There were a number of rules, one being that any articles must be the work of the author with his name stated and any other work referenced must also be stated. Queries, philatelic experiences, useful hints and favourite countries were also perfectly acceptable. All members were expected to contribute something each month.

All members seeing the packet had one vote as to what they considered the best article in that magazine and that article was then submitted to "The Stamp Lover" - the magazine of the JPS - for publication.

Round about 1990 one of our members attended the National Congress and asked if we could be affiliated to the ABPS explaining that we had limited funds. We were made honorary members, which pleased us all very much.

I joined the society in 1972 when I was a lone collector. We were no longer part of the JPS. In the early 1980s our editor and secretary, Den Wells, who had been trying to get someone to replace him for a while, said he was going to wind up the society if no one was found. I became editor and a secretary was found. I also became treasurer in 1987 when no one else volunteered. In 1996 Harold Mason took over as editor and ten years later I became secretary. Due in part to my work for the ILCS I was awarded the Congress Medal in 2016.

Now we are down to 12 members with very few contributors to the magazine so with the 900th edition of the magazine in January this year we reluctantly decided to call it a day. We were 99 years old.

Jean Osborne

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 72. 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 72.

The Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA)



Many readers of ABPS News, especially those who have exhibited internationally, will have heard of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP), the organisation based in Singapore that regulates philately around the world. Are you also aware though that there is a European Federation that brings together the national organisations in 44 countries to promote philately? I received the somewhat unexpected honour of being elected its President at a Congress last November and, when I communicated this to your editor, he suggested that you might like to know a bit more about what FEPA does.



Some brief background. FEPA was founded in 1989, largely on British initiative. Its first President was **Dr Alan Huggins**. Its members are the national federations of almost all European countries as well as Israel and Egypt. The UK is represented by the ABPS. FEPA's aims are to promote philately, to support the national Federations and to represent a European viewpoint where necessary, working in cooperation with the FIP. We do this in several ways such as running a website and producing a magazine (FEPA News) twice yearly to communicate news and best practice to our members; giving patronage and recognition to European exhibitions; and presenting honours and awards to individuals and societies for outstanding achievements.

FEPA is run by a board of seven, all in different countries, that reports to the members at an annual Congress. While this may all sound a bit remote from the individual collector, we are well aware that our purpose is to promote philately for the benefit of collectors, existing and new. The benefits are felt at different levels. Members appreciate the international support FEPA can give them in their activities as I remember well from my experience of organising LONDON 2015, which had FEPA Patronage. Clubs are also very grateful for the recognition they receive for their work.

The ABPS has always been a strong supporter of FEPA, not least in proposing candidates for awards, and I am pleased to say that this year the medal for exceptional service has been awarded to **Chris King**. Certificates of Appreciation were also awarded to the Stamp Active network for its work in promoting Youth Philately, and to the late **Edward Klempka** for his book on *Foreign Military Activity in the Russian Civil War 1917-1923*. These awards fairly reflect the high international standing in which philately in the UK is held and I am grateful to **Yvonne Wheatley** for ensuring that candidates from the UK are nominated for recognition each year.

Continued on next page

In philately, as in so many other fields, 2020 has not gone according to plan and many events including London 2020 have necessarily been postponed or cancelled. Like everyone else we do not know when the disruption will end or how long it will take to return to normal conditions. However, there is a very busy philatelic calendar planned for 2021 and 2022 and FEPA will play a full part in helping to revive European philately once the crisis is over.

In the meantime we are doing what we can to keep members informed of developments, and to provide interesting distractions for housebound collectors through our website (www.fepanews.com). Have a look! Bill Hedley

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

The new 2020 signatories

An invitation to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists is the highest and most prestigious honour in philately, which recognises achievement, research, publication and service in many areas of philately. The Roll was instituted in Harrogate in May 1921 and the signature of His Majesty King George V appears at its head as the first signatory. In its design, it contains the names of 42 so-called “Fathers of Philately”, names of great philatelists who would have been invited to sign had they been alive at the time. At the first ceremony in Harrogate the signatures of the initial 39 names were added to the Roll.

This year’s signing ceremony, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Roll, was to take place on Monday 4th May 2020 at The Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW during the London 2020 international philatelic exhibition. It is now hoped to be in October. The new signatories join 81 other current RDPs from 24 countries spread over six continents. More details on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists can be found at: http://www.abps.org.uk/Awards/Roll_of_Distinguished_Philatelists/index.xalter

At the annual meeting of the Board of Election of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists on 5th March 2020 it was unanimously agreed that the following five philatelists be invited to sign the Roll:

Dr John H Barwis RDP from United States of America

John Barwis brings together the study of science and philately. He was a founder member and is current president of the Institute for Analytical Philately and has led the organisation of the three international symposia on analytical methods in philately. John has formed several important collections. In particular, his early Victoria (Australia) gained many high awards at exhibition and his study of these stamps formed the basis for his large gold medal book *The Half-Lengths of Victoria: The*



Stamps and Postal History, 1850-59. His other award-winning collections include the three cent Continental postage stamp of 1873-79, China's Large Dragon issues and aspects of Philadelphia postal history from Colonial times to UPU.

A leader in organised philately, John has been President and Chairman of the US Philatelic Classics Society and a member of the long range planning committee of the American Philatelic Society. He was awarded the Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research in 2017 by the American Philatelic Society and, in January 2020, the Collectors Club Lichtenstein Award.

James L Grimwood-Taylor RDP FRPSL from United Kingdom

Generally accepted as one of the most knowledgeable individuals on the subject of pre-20th century British postal history, James has been active in philately from a young age and has held a number of senior positions, including as president of the Great Britain Philatelic Society and president of the Society of Postal Historians. He has collected a wide range of subjects, including the British postal reforms led by Rowland Hill, postal history of the British offshore islands, the postal history of Derbyshire, and New South Wales overseas mails, receiving many high awards at exhibition. His recent research into postal reforms across the globe up to 1850 covers every continent and is the subject of a major book *International Postal Reforms to 1850* to be published by The Royal Philatelic Society London later this year.



James has always given freely of his knowledge both to researchers and to other collectors and he is author of hundreds of articles in numerous journals. His displays to hundreds of societies around the globe are notable for their erudition, originality and humour.

Michael M Y Ho RDP FRPSL from Chinese Taipei

Michael Ho has been active in Taiwanese and Asian philately for many years. He was an executive member of FIAP (Federation of Inter-Asian Philately) since the mid-1990s, including being secretary-general from 2005 to 2009, and today remains an honorary member. He has been a jury member at many international exhibitions and was FIP co-ordinator for the Bandung 2017 World Stamp Exhibition. He has also participated on the expert teams at several exhibitions.



Michael has formed several significant collections, with his collection of China's Small Dragon issues winning the Grand Prix International in Bangkok 2003 and the Grand Prix d'Honneur in St Petersburg 2007, and his book *China: The Small*

Dragon awarded a large gold medal and special prize in Bandung 2017. Others of his collections, including the postal stationery of Nicaragua, the American Bank Note issues of Bolivia, and the postal stationery of Honduras, received high awards at exhibition.

Yamil H Kouri Jr RDP FRPSL from United States of America



Yamil Kouri is involved in many areas of philately, both in the United States and internationally. He has been the USA commissioner at a number of international exhibitions and is an accredited FIP juror in postal history. He is a board member of the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History and was vice-president of the American Philatelic Society from 2013 to 2016. As vice-president of Boston 2020 World Stamp Show, he is significantly involved in delivering this major, once in a decade, exhibition.

His collecting interests focus on the stamps and postal history of Cuba and he is author of several monographs.

His book *Under Three Flags; The Postal History of the Spanish-Cuban/American War (1895-1898)* received the literature grand award at StampShow in 2019. Initially forming award-winning collections of postal history, his traditional collection of the first postal issues of the Spanish Antilles received the Champion of Champions Award at StampShow 2019.

Charles J. G. Verge RDP FRPSL from Canada



Arguably the leading philatelist in Canada, with a worldwide reputation as an author, exhibitor and FIP judge, Charles Verge has been involved in large numbers of philatelic events in Canada and worldwide. Today he is leading the organisation and presentation of the FIP Jury Academies, whereby international judges get together to discuss and hone their skills in judging and assessing competitive exhibits. In the field of literature judging, Charles has had significant influence in the development of methods of assessment of philatelic literature and, in particular, electronic/digital literature.

As curator of the Brigham collection of Canada, he has prepared and developed exhibits from probably the finest and most comprehensive collection of Canada ever formed, winning many large gold medals and several grands prix. His own collecting interests are wide ranging and he has written numerous research articles, including regular philatelic articles in non-philatelic publications such as *The Ottawa Citizen*. He is currently vice-chairman of the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation and is involved in their expertising and issue of certificates.

Requiescat in Pace

William Charles Earl (Bill) - 31.01.1924 - 23.03.2020

Bill died peacefully in his sleep on Monday 23rd March 2020. He was born in Westminster but brought up in Dagenham where he trained as a toolmaker. During the war he tried to join the RAF three times, but was turned down on each occasion because of his reserved occupation. He worked for Ford in Dagenham until the end of the war, when he married Enid and moved to Northampton to work for the toy maker Metoy. In 1958 he moved to Knowle and worked for Briscoes in Tyseley. He later became a director at Quinton Hazel and then Burma Oil. His last role was as



director at Metalrax in Moseley. Bill was one of the early members of the newly formed Solihull Philatelic Society in 1970, and held the post of Secretary 1983-1994 and President on two occasions. Bill will be best remembered for his beautifully written up collection of Coffee House Covers. He also collected and studied the Penny Black and Penny Red and was helpful in plating these stamps for members. He later collected Japanese overprints on the stamps of Burma, accepting reluctantly that some of them were probably forgeries. Over the last 10 years he managed to build a very good collection of KGVI and a near complete collection of the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue, all beautifully written up. Bill was a keen tennis player in his youth and was Ford champion for several years, and with his tennis partner Ozzie, was just one match from qualifying for Wimbledon. In later years his main activity was playing golf, maintained into his early 90s. Bill played to a good standard and I never managed to beat him. One of his other collecting interests involved trying to find as many lost golf balls in the lakes. He was always being encouraged by his opponents to hurry up. He was a staunch Chelsea FC supporter and watched most of their games on Sky. Bill was popular, always smiling and never spoke ill of anyone. He will be sorely missed by his extended family and his many philatelic friends. Bill was survived by his wife and sons, Bob and Ian.

Paul Woodness Solihull PS

John Campbell

John recently died of the corona virus. He was Treasurer of Portsmouth PS and Germany & Colonies PS and the ABPS Hampshire Federation Representative. He will be sorely missed.

Giles du Boulay, Steve Gerrard

Are You **THINKING** of **SELLING?**

This is

HOW THE STAMP TRADE WORKSPhilatelic Expert Lets You into his *Selling Secrets* so you can benefit from a *totally different (and New) Selling Experience*

by Andrew McGavin

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

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 specialised (?) 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 he enjoyed swapping / 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 45 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 collectors & Barties up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka UPA) - the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps in 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries in his latest auction. Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them...

it into 50 smaller units, advertised it in Stamp Magazine 'Classifieds', and waited for the orders to roll in... I'm still waiting, 48 years later!...

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

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~~ ~~Wrong Place~~
therefore ~~Wrong Price~~

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 GBFS25,788 - 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~~ ~~Wrong Presentation~~
~~Wrong Structure~~ ~~Wrong Protection of Price~~

- Lucky for the seller that 2 well-healed 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...

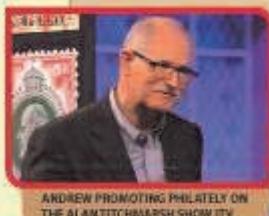
I always remember the car trade had their own little 'trible' - Glass's Guide. I've no idea, I've not even looked - in this internet-dominated world, it may even have disappeared. Well, there's an insider Stamp Trade publication for Stamp Dealers called "The Philatelic Exporter". There's nothing that 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 collectors

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).



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

REQUEST Your 'Tips of The Trade' FREE copy >



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 nearest competitor 'Apex' had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 20,000+ lot UPA 68th Auction we had 2,184 different bidders from 58 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 2% 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...

Is it the Solution Storing 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, seller's 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 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). Cut out the extra middle-man. 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 = \$1,000 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 30% 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...

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 15 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 2,184 different bidders in my recent auction. 🍷

In Hindsight Dealers warned me 18 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 18 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 over hang in specific areas. Some Collectors will not wish to use time and systems to leverage prices, others will want to agree a specific price and know that they are paid precisely this amount. No client is treated like a number and no client is forced like a square-peg into a round hole. 

15 OK, What Do I Do Next?

a). 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.

b). 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 price-lists or high quality selling catalogues - that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers.

c). 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/emails you to confirm sale 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



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

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

Request Your Next FREE Catalogue NOW



UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS (ARPS)

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

“This is My Promise to YOU”

“Massive philatelic Choice in a Unique Reducing Estimate System Delivering VAL-YOU with Absolutely NO Buyer's Premium PLUS ALL Lots Guaranteed”

THE COLLECTORS' SECRET WEAPON

The **£55** FREE WINNINGS



Andrew McGarvey
Managing Director Universal Philatelic Auctions



REQUEST YOUR FREE CATALOGUE

– send the coupon / simply request your next **FREE** catalogue in any way today!

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

OR VIEW / BID ON-LINE NOW - we'll take your £55 off
ONE OFFER PER COLLECTOR'S HOUSEHOLD

Do it today
£55^{1st} FREE

NEW CLIENTS

£55^{1st} FREE

Name.....
Address.....
.....
Postcode..... Tel.....
Country.....
email.....

REQUEST FREE CATALOGUE TODAY

KDPS



REQUEST YOUR FREE CATALOGUE

Returning UPA client? Not purchased for 12 months: £26 deducted if you spend more than £52, mention offer when requesting catalogue

UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS ABPS
4 The Old Coalyard, West End Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK
Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297



Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose

Social distancing in the 17th Century

Martin Brumby, Mervyn Benford, Bill Hedley (FEPA News) brought this to my attention. As those of you interested in postal history will know this was in the time of Charles II who set up a post office system. I wonder if they kept riding during the plague.

These are the Orders issued by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London in 1665 to combat plague.

ORDERS CONCERNING LOOSE PERSONS AND IDLE ASSEMBLIES

That all plays, bear-baitings, games, singing of ballads, buckler-play, or such-like causes of assemblies of people be utterly prohibited, and the parties offending severely punished by every alderman in his ward.

Feasting prohibited. That all public feasting, and particularly by the companies of this city, and dinners at taverns, ale-houses, and other places of common entertainment, be forborne till further order and allowance; and that the money thereby spared be preserved and employed for the benefit and relief of the poor visited with the infection.



Despite these measures the London plague lasted for 18 months and around 100 000 people died.

THE ABPS CONGRESS MEDAL FOR 2020



Nigel Gooch FRPSL has been named as the recipient of this year's Congress Medal.

Nigel has made and continues to make many contributions to UK organised philately at national, specialist and local society level.

If financial expertise is required Nigel is always willing to take on responsibility for national philatelic companies and societies. His services have been invaluable to ABPS. He has served on

the Executive Committee of ABPS as a Director of that company since 2007 in the position of Treasurer and Company Secretary with responsibilities for the production of the annual accounts for Companies House and HM Revenue and Customs.

Nigel is also a Director of ABPS Exhibitions Ltd and as a member of the ABPS Exhibition and International Committee which involves making international payments as well as day to day financial matters. As Company Secretary for Stamp World Exhibitions, which organises the exhibiting side of Stampex, he has the added responsibility for providing figures for VAT returns made to HM Revenue and Customs.

He served on the Organising Committee for Europhilex 2015 again with overall responsibility for finance, cash flow and budgets. He also spent five years as Treasurer of the Royal Philatelic Society London serving on both Council and the Management Committee and as a Director of RPSL Ltd. A member of Stamp Active Network since 2011 he acts as its Treasurer and a fund raiser not to mention working on the Stampex stand as a volunteer to assist in attracting and helping young collectors.

At specialist society level he has been a valuable officer of the Iran Philatelic Study Circle since 1969 and Past President of the Society of Postal Historians. At local society level he assists with the organisation of the annual local Crowborough Stamp Fair with which he has been associated for the past 25 years. In his quieter moments he is an active member of three local societies.

The above mentioned work in three different categories demonstrates that Nigel Gooch is a worthy recipient of the Congress Medal for 2020.

ABPS AWARDS OF MERIT

The following four collectors have been awarded the ABPS Award of Merit for 2020. All of them have worked tirelessly over the years for their various local

philatelic societies, specialist societies and federations. We thank them all for this work and congratulate them on their Awards.

Bob Barnes – nominated by Wakefield PS & Barnsley PS

Des Kent – nominated by Launceston Stamp Club

John Hammonds – nominated by Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies & France and Colonies PS

Barrie Knowles – nominated by Sheffield PS

FEPA AWARDS 2019

Excellent news. The ABPS nominations for the FEPA medals and certificates for excellence in 2019 achieved the following results:

The FEPA Medal for Exceptional Service to Organised Philately - Chris King RDP FRPSL

Chris has made a major contribution to just about every aspect of philately. He has been President of the Royal Philatelic Society London and has played a central role in the Society's move to new premises in the City of London. He also oversees the Society's collections including the Museum of Philatelic History. He is a member of the Board of Election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists as well as being an international juror.

FEPA Medal for Exceptional Philatelic Study and Research – Edward Klempka's book *Foreign Military Activity in the Russian Civil War 1917-1923* was a runner up.

Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Activities for the Promotion of Philately – STAMP ACTIVE

Stamp Active Network is the UK's leading organisation promoting stamp collecting among young people. It aims to support all young collectors and junior club leaders throughout the UK. It is the only nationwide organisation dedicated to encouraging and developing youth philately.

Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL Chair of the Awards Committee



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

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. Full contact details for the societies are in the ABPS handbook and 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.

Amersham & District

After the break for the festive season we reconvened in January with a Members' Display Evening which was oversubscribed to the point where two committee members had to retain their material for a future meeting. As is usually the case we covered a very wide range of subjects including the *British Empire Exhibition*, *GB spoon cancellations*, *Port Nyassa*, *How I started to collect*, *Southern Rhodesia*, *Early GB booklet panes*, plus two of *GB Postal Stationery*. **Mr and Mrs Peter Pugh** made a very welcome return all the way from Rugby to give us part 2 of their display about Manchuria entitled *Another Bloody Railway*, followed by **Michael Goodman** with his eclectic exhibit of *America*. Our third auction of the 2019/20 season attracted some competitive bidding from the very pleasing total of 53 members and visitors. Shortly after the auction the Coronavirus reared its ugly head in the London area and like all societies we had no choice other than to cancel our activities including the circulating packets, through until September when

we hope to be able to resume our meetings. *Jim Drummond*

Ayrshire

The New Year started with a meeting on 10th January under the heading *Gems from My Collection*. This gave members a wide scope for interpretation, which some of them took. The displays started with some of the highlights from **David Rossall's** collection of *York Postal History*, followed by **Willie King** with some *Philby correspondence*, a *Penny Black used on cover 100 years before his birthday*, and *50-year-old Congress covers*. **Fraser Murray** showed some *SG 1 Stamps* - the first issues from various countries, followed by **Dennis Gray's** *Lundy collection* and some superb *George V issues from the Caribbean* from **Ian Smith**. **Dan Ross** started the second round with the *1929 PUC set* followed by *Modern Machin Booklet Rarities*. **David Bowman** showed the *Stars and Stripes on US stamps*, with **Steve Clark** displaying *Early Austrian Day of the Stamp material*. **John Chalmers** put up an *Austrian miniature sheet decorated with Swarovski crystals* and **Ken Gibb**

brought the evening to a close with *Gems on Stamps* from his minerals collection. We continued with a Postcard Night when seven of our members brought along selections of postcards from their collections. **David Rossall** started the evening with items bought to complement his Swiss collection with *Gruss Aus cards, Swiss mountain railways* and *Pro Juventute*. He was followed by **Brain Keutzer's** display of *Art on Cards* collected from museums and galleries that he had visited. **David Bowman** had an excellent display of the *Royal Family from the 60s to the 80s*, and **Ian Smith** showed what could be picked up in charity shops including *Ceylon, France, Gibraltar, West Indies and the Peoples' Republic of China*. The first half concluded with **Jim Irving** showing *Peter Howson's Paintings of Robert Burns and other cards with Burns connections*. More Swiss material from **David Rossall** was followed by a light-hearted and amusing selection of *Seaside Postcards* from **Dennis Gray's** vast hoard, and **Dan Ross** brought the evening to a close with a selection of *Postal Stationery Cards from around the World*. We continued our 2020 programme with an Alphabet Night. Traditionally members are requested to bring display relating in some way to the President's initials - this time K and/ or G (for Ken Gibb). **Ian Smith** started the evening with four boards on *the Life and Times of John F Kennedy*, followed by *postmarks from up-country post offices in Sierra Leone beginning with the letter K* from **Roy Wickham's** collection. **David Rossall** showed *German Castles* on stamp, cover and postcard, and **David Bowman** ended the first round with items from the *Glasgow Garden Festival and Royal*

Garden parties. **Dan Ross** showed originality with a General Knowledge quiz, and **Ian Baker** followed with *Postmarks of Ayrshire post offices starting with G* - Galston, Garallan, Glenapp, Girdle Toll and Glengarnock. *German booklet panes* was **John Chalmers'** theme, and **Willie King** homed in on *General Gordon*. Our president ended the evening with *Gems* from a wide variety of countries - GB, Gilbert & Ellice, Greece, Greenland, Grenada, Kosovo and Kyrgystan - and finished with a souvenir of the Garden Festival with the logo made of gemstones. For our February meeting there was an excellent turnout for a display of *Jersey* by one of our own members, **Ian Smith**. Ian recounted that he had been collecting Jersey for 50 years and this was reflected in the range of material that he had been able to accumulate and have available for display. His postal history section started with a letter from 1732, with ship mail from Southampton and a selection of the various early post marks, including mail from Scotland. This was followed by mail between Jersey and France, plus later UK type cancellations. The first round continued with a superb cross-section of material covering the German occupation period, with field post offices, Red Cross message sheets, internee and POW mail as well as the Jersey-produced stamps used during that period. The second round was equally interesting, with postcards, postage dues, post-and-go labels and a selection of commemorative and definitive stamps from 1994-2000. Ian brought his display to a close with a display of stamps, covers and postcards of the Jersey Railway and the Jersey Eastern Railway. At our last

meeting we ran two of our annual competitions. The first on display was the three-sheet competition which attracted five entries ranging from *British Empire Tax on Stamps in the Great War* to *Robert Jameson, Professor of Geology*. The entries are judged by the members and voting was very close with only 4 points between the first three. The winning entry was adjudged to be *The Invasion of the Falkland Islands* by **Ian Smith**, followed by *Aftermath of Wars - Azerbaijan* by **David Rossall** and then *The First Galway to London Airmail Flight* by **Dan Ross**. The second competition, also attracting five entries, was the eight-sheet thematic competition for the Alec Hopkins trophy. Again marking was close with **David Rossall's** *Albert Anker* coming out top, with joint second places going to *Ayr Local Postcards* by **Jim Irving** and *Feld Post of the German Army* by **John Chalmers**. Other entries covered the *Royal Yacht Britannia* and *French Southern and Antarctic Territories*. The judging was coordinated by our treasurer, **Ian Pettitt**, who announced the winners. → David Rossall at davidrossall@sky.com David Rossall

Basildon

In January **Claude Crowder** gave us *A Tour of the West Indies* with definitive issues of Antigua, Leeward Islands, St Kitts Nevis & Anguilla, St Vincent, Cayman Islands, Bermuda, Barbados,



Claude Crowder with the West Indies

Jamaica, British Honduras, Virgin Islands, Dominica, St Lucia, Trinidad, Turks & Caicos, Grenada and Bahamas - a fascinating range of material rarely seen at the society. After the break, we moved to *Australasia* with New Zealand Health, Kiwi Mail, PHQs, Life Insurance, Postage Dues and Fiscals, followed by a medley of Australia including stationery and Australia used in Papua New Guinea. Later as Jeremy Gaskell was indisposed, an exchange of dates saw **Len Stanway** display his collection of *Labuan and North Borneo to 1964*, which he had never previously shown as a full evening, including a wide range of proof and specimen material, forgeries, printer's samples, etc. In February we had *May Dates* by **Davis Church**. As an experiment, this was a meeting of two halves. We

WORLD POST DAY

How can we get the hobby noticed in the UK on World Post Day 9th October, which marks the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union? Also we should be pushing for recognition of the importance of 6th May as the British Stamp Day – after all our entire hobby has built from what started on that day in 1840 – 180 years ago this year. Any ideas of how we could do either of these in the future? Adapted from *The Basildon Philatelist*

started with David showing his amazing collection of Penny Blacks on cover used in May 1840, of which he is missing only two dates. The meeting then continued with an informal bring-and-buy session. Next meeting was 8 *Pages From My Collection*. **Claude Crowder** opened proceedings with *Dominica definitives* from King George V to Queen Elizabeth II. **Dave Perry** followed with the *British issues of the New Hebrides Condominium*. **Maggie Thompson** entertained us with philatelically-inspired *Triangles of Britain, Latvia, Hungary* and the *Midland Stamp Club - of Zimbabwe!* **Alf Potter** closed the first half with postcards showing *US Marine Corps uniforms 1775 to 1985*. **Alan Taylor** opened the second half with *Singapore Disney MyStamp collectors' sheets*. **Claude Crowder** returned with *Montserrat definitives*. **Ian McElwain** showed *GB used in Malta* and **Len Stanway** closed proceedings with the *Transition from the Richmond Penny Post to the Penny Pink envelope as shown in the postal history of Richmond North Yorkshire*. March

began with **Jeremy Gaskell**. He gave us an excellent display of *North Borneo* with many unusual and scarce items, followed by an introduction to *The History of the town of Jeremie in Haiti*. He completed the evening's displays with *A Visit to the Island of Fernando Po*. In mid-March as our booked speaker was unable to be with us on health grounds, members who took part in our Away Team displays to other societies showed how a typical display went, in the hope that new members may be tempted to join the roster. **Maggie Thompson** opened with *Olympic Triangles of the Dominican Republic*, including proof material from the Waterlow archive. **Alan Taylor** completed the first round with *Royal Visits 1952 to the 1980s*. **Ian McElwain** started the second round with *Malta* showing pre-stamp, GB used in Malta and postage stamps to King George VI. **Len Stanway** wound up with the *Federated Malay States Survey Department essays and the genesis of the Malaya Key Type*.

From *The Basildon Philatelist*

Bolton

At the January meeting **Roy Williamson** was installed as President for the year 2020. He then gave an excellent display of *Stamps of The Seychelles Islands*. The February meeting was a display by **Clive Griffiths** on *Postal Aspects of the Hitler- Mussolini Alliance 1937-1941*. He also showed the display as a slide show. Unfortunately the March meeting had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus. *Howard Anderson*

Bookham

In December 62 members enjoyed an excellent Christmas buffet lunch



Jeremy Gaskell back from North Borneo, Haiti & Fernando Po

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, usually within 48 hours, in order to value larger and 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 Ian Hunter today with details of your property.



Warwick & Warwick

Auctioneers and Valuers
www.warwickandwarwick.com



Get the experts on your side!

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

 /warwickauctions

 @warwickauctions



Bookham enjoying their Christmas Lunch

followed by a raffle (of mainly booze!) conducted by our Secretary **Barry Feltham** and with a star prize of a superb Christmas hamper. Finally there was a mini-auction of over 120 lots. The wine undoubtedly played a part in the members' enthusiastic bidding. January's well attended meeting was the ever popular "Members' Afternoon" where ten members presented and displayed a wide range of subjects including *Canadian Chalon Heads*, *Papua New Guinea village cancels*, *Fish*, *German Colonies*, *Flying Boat Crashes*, *Crediton in Devon*, *Pictorial Air Letters*, *Colman's Mustard*, *Chaos in the Congo* and *Modern Postal History*. Clearly a great success even if time restrictions prevented all members from displaying their wares. In February 59 Members were assembled in the Old Barn Hall to enjoy a most impressive display of *Finland at War* by our guest speaker **Michael Elliot FRPSL**. The presentation covered the winter wars between Finland and Russia in 1939 and "The Continuation

War" in 1941-1944. Michael entertained us with a truly fantastic display of not only covers (many registered) but also registered parcel cards, pieces, special cachets and rare postmarks etc. A great deal was learnt about the fascinating history of this period and Finland's well established Field Post Office system (Kentta Posttis). Sadly in early March club officers reluctantly took the decision to suspend all further meetings for the foreseeable future because of the Coronavirus epidemic and the risk this posed to our members.

→ www.bookhamstampclub.com

David Bravery

Bromley & Beckenham

At our first meeting of 2020 two members put up displays. **David Rennie** showed 90 sheets of *King George VI period Malaya mint definitives*, virtually complete including the scarce 1938 Trengganu \$5, and also a good range of *Japanese Occupation issues* presented in their



David Rennie & Ron Burn

individual states. **Ron Burn** then displayed a spectacular range of *Early Tristan Da Cunha cachets*, with all represented, with suitable commentary on the circumstances of their issue. They were mostly on covers and cards, further augmented with letters, photos etc of the padres, administrators etc. Next was our annual dinner with 25 diners and super draw prizes. Our last January meeting was our annual Nugent Cup Competition, this year featuring the letters *R* and/or *B*, being the President's initials. The cup is presented for the most interesting and novel display. We included such diverse subjects as *Boer War Mafeking*



Nick Hervey, Nugent Cup & Ron Burn

Mail, Royal Mail Buses, Republic of Biafra, J S Bach Life and Times, Royal Black Border material for Queen Victoria's Funeral, and the Republica Espanola 1938 issues including the rare Submarine Service set as issued and with Muestra overprints etc. This last was adjudged the winner by five non-competing members and the cup awarded to **Dr Nick Hervey** for his first



2020 version of Table 1 at our Annual Dinner



The winning entry - Republica Espanola 1938 issues

competitive entry. Sadly we report the deaths of two of our oldest members: **Bill Kirby** (100) and **Tom Head** (90+). February has been relatively quiet. We started with the society table at the monthly Azelia Hall Fair. Next **Ian Reed** presented a half evening of *Channel Islands Postal History*, much routed through St Malo and later via Weymouth when regular Packet Mail services were established. A range of 18th century material was shown and early 19th century, including private ship mail, forwarding agents' mail, Ship Letters etc. Many stamped letters were shown after 1840, both incoming and outgoing, including a late-use 1d Black in March 1841, postcards, parcel cancels on QV values to £1 green. In the second half six members showed two frames each with subjects as

follows: *6th June 1944 D-Day leaders illustrated covers and Morocco Agencies Overprints on GB*, with all sub-office postmarks suitably placed on an enlarged map: a good run-through collection of *Sudan* from overprints on Egypt to 1950s: *St Vincent QV 1861-*



Ron Burn with Ian Reed



St Vincent 5/-

1893 mint including multiples and panes, with values to 5/-: *British 836 Force FPO135 postmarks, NATO Council Meeting covers* from 1959-60 to more recent: a wide range of

Oil Company Share Certificates with fine vignettes, often reused for different companies: and finally *Tristan da Cunha 2019 Children's Designs* accompanied by personalised certificates for the individual artists. On the 26th **Tony Hickey** showing *Germany 1917-1933* gave an

extremely interesting, informative and educational account of the politics and disquiet in Germany during this troubled period. This included the unrest in Germany at the end of the War, the Wilson 14 Conditions, the surrender and armistice, followed by the negotiations and imposition of the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, where reparations and re-defining of borders was to determine the course of the next twenty years. Throughout the whole period large numbers of picture postcards were produced of the leaders, the parties and especially propaganda messages helping to stir up unrest, to promote or oppose the territory changes, and to promote or denigrate particular ideologies. Tony showed dozens of these all written up with suitable background information

The Postal History of Jaipur State

by Adrian V. Kemmenoe & Ratan Chand Batia

Approx. 800 deluxe quality A4 pages, profusely illustrated in colour, in 4 hardbound volumes:

==**Limited Edition**==

Price: £85 (+ £30 Postage & Packing*)

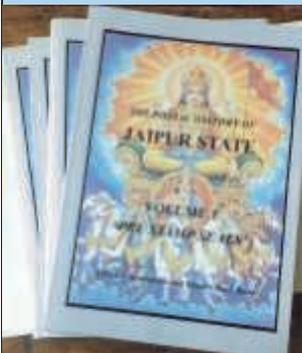
Vol. 1: 'Pre-Stamp Seals', Vol. 2: Circular Postal Markings, Vol. 3: Rectangular & Other Markings, Vol. 4: The Offices

Printed & distributed by:

Ajay Mittal, Kshitiz Enterprises New Delhi, India

To reserve your copy please contact:

adriankemmenoe@outlook.com



* The shipping costs are reflected in the fact that this comprehensive work weighs four kilograms! The information within could save many times its cost by avoiding fake cancels on Jaipur stamps commonly found on eBay!



Tony Hickey with Germany 1917-1933

and other relevant photos, press cuttings and documents such as voting papers etc. The rise of the various Nationalist parties and Communism came about because of the resulting economic situation in Germany which led to major shortages and deprivation, especially with soldiers returning to civilian life to find a shortage of jobs etc. The German fleet had been scuppered at Scapa Flow; there were restrictions on army numbers; no military planes were allowed. Germany had lost its colonies, and a number of plebiscites meant various territories in Europe were amalgamated into Denmark, Belgium, Holland, and France. Poland and Czechoslovakia became independent countries. The status of Danzig and Memel was determined, and Bavaria incorporated into Germany. The League of Nations had been established but without the participation of the USA, Germany or Austria. By 1923 inflation and hyper-inflation had reached a peak, until the "Gold Currency" helped to restore some normality. All of this nurtured a deep feeling of resentment within the population, but many of the newly formed but short-lived nationalist parties disappeared or amalgamated

and eventually the Nazis established supremacy. The Weimar Republic was established. Hindenburg was elected President. Many relevant stamp issues were also included, particularly the plebiscite issues, but also the black-edged Cinderella issues mourning the loss of both European territories and overseas colonies. The inter-state borders were finally accepted in 1926, and Hitler after his early release from prison determined to achieve power by "democratic" means rather than

revolution. He eventually became Chancellor when the Third Reich was established on the 30th January 1933. Our big event for 2020 was to be our Fair on 18th April when playing host to KFPS for its Federation Day and AGM. We were also having a table at London 2020 on the Wednesday but both of these have been Coronavirused. One happy note: two new members have enrolled. With over 100 members, an active packet circuit, two auctions a year and a lively programme of displays, competitions, members' evenings and social events, we are still actively looking for new members, particularly general stamp collectors who want to expand their interests. We meet in the Beckenham Public Halls, Bromley Road, Beckenham. → David on 02087787001 or Chris on 02084021263 or on <https://kentphilately.weebly.com/ca-bbps.html>

David Rennie

Cambridge

We held two special members displays at the beginning of the year. In late January **Graham Wylde** gave an interesting and very comprehensive display of *GB Surface Printed Covers*. Apart from some of the high values this encompassed all issued values and the

different plate numbers. Almost without exception the quality of the covers was extremely good with neat cancellations and clean covers. In early February **Mike Brindle** gave a fascinating and historical account of the *Belgium Post Services* and many of the issued stamps and covers. This included wartime issues and also postal covers from parts of Germany occupied by Belgium troops. Due to COVID-19 restrictions all our meetings from mid-March onwards were suspended for the time being. Nevertheless committee work via remote meetings will have to continue as arrangements for our centenary in October this year have to be finalised. →

info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk

Peter Morton

Cardiff

The meeting of the 4th February 2020 entitled *Centenaries and Birthdays* was mainly about our oldest and longest attending member. There was a great turn out with some old members and wives present. **John AV Peters** joined the then Cardiff and South Wales Philatelic Society on his return to Cardiff from WWII in 1946 – seventy-four years ago. He was in the Royal Army Pay Corps and was on the beaches at Mulberry Harbour in Normandy on D-day plus 2 in 1944, sorting out monies etc. He was 100 years of age on the 9th February and is still quite active at our meetings, attending most weeks. John is a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London and has been for more than 40 years, his collecting interest being Guatemala 1900 era. **Roger Tanner** displayed and illustrated with stamps *Pages of news and achievements that occurred during 1920* - he then

presented this to John as a memento. **Bill Hicks** displayed *Churchill Centenary stamps*. Bill Hicks

Chelmsford & District

Our first get-together of 2020 was an afternoon members' presentation meeting with displays covering *The Letters L and M*. First to display was **Paul Green** who showed *Envelopes and other Postal Stationery for Mosul*, which is in today's Iraq, illustrating the various changes in ownership of the area both pre- and post-WWI. Next up **John Copeland** displayed *Postcards illustrating places beginning with M* including Muscat and, nearer to home, Mountnessing. **Thor Torkildsen** followed with L & M both represented with stamps and postal stationery covering *Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova and Montenegro*. **Chris Norton** then entertained us with his display covering *Military Post from Field/Forces Post Offices in Hong Kong whilst under British Control*. The second half of the meeting began with a presentation from **John Rawlins** with *Letters to Kentwell Hall, Long Melford*, one from *Tasmania to Maldon* as well as material covering the *Lithuanian occupation of Memel*. **Pat Adams** gave a detailed display of *Money Letter Envelopes posted in Norway* and explained the information and processes required to send money through the post. Finally, **Eric Lienhard** showed *Postcards displaying Swiss Mountains, Myths and Legends, Mule Transport and the Swiss National Museum*. For the final afternoon meeting of our winter schedule before we revert to evening meetings we were delighted to have one of our members, **Eric Lienhard**, present a display

entitled *Swiss Surprise*. He began by showing sheets of stamps etc that he had displayed at a Stampex exhibition some 50 years ago which had earned him a bronze medal. These included different shades and dies as well as proofs of issues. He also displayed a range of labels, booklets, first day covers and mourning cards, followed by postage due stamps. Then came luggage labels, receipts with stamps affixed, postal stationery cards and details of a former British Railway's Office in Switzerland, hang glider post and telegraph office cancellations. For the second part of the meeting, Eric concentrated primarily on postcards displaying Swiss scenery with stamps showing the same scenes. Finally, we were treated to a display of stamps from international organisations based in Geneva. For our evening meeting of our spring/summer schedule we were delighted to have guest speakers from the Benfleet and District Philatelic Society visit us. **Colin Evans** presented first, covering a wide range of topics including *Stampex 1980, The Ross Dependencies, Elizabeth Tower (Big Ben), SS Great Britain berthed at Portsmouth, Rainbows, The Postal*

Strike of 1971 and Railways. The second part of the evening was divided between two speakers: **Harry Tabearth** and **Dennis Livermore**. Again a wide range of topics was covered including *Stamps of Puerto Rico, Britain's Islands' lighthouses* and the *Sistine Chapel* from Harry, whilst Dennis included a selection of *engraved stamps designed by Czeslaw Slania, George Guiderson and Annemarie Kalina* as well as *Historic Mail Envelopes*, and *Churchill* (including railway engines and boats honouring him by taking his name). Our meeting of 10th March was dedicated to *Dead Countries*. Our members did not disappoint with the variety of displays provided. Subjects included *Australian States, Rhodesia, Ifni, Hong Kong and Treaty Ports on Mainland China, South Africa* including the *Boer Republic and separate states created in 1977 under the Apartheid Regime*, a selection of *ex-British colonies, postmarks promoting the British Exhibition used from 1923-1925 in countries/ territories that no longer exist*, as well as *Postal Agencies in Morocco and the Ottoman Empire*. Following a break for refreshments the following subjects were displayed: *Mail*



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

and Post of Norway whilst under German occupation during the Second World War including German overprints for victory and examples of censored mail from the period, *Indian States, South West Africa, British Honduras, British Guiana* as well as *French Colonies*. Although not *dead countries* we were finally treated to a fine example of postcards showing Swiss Lakes with in some cases stamps depicting the same scene.

Dave Everard

Chichester & District

January and February were certainly monthly meetings where members could participate fully! January's title was *Anything /Being British*, while President Brown turned President's Night into a shared experience under the title *Wonderful, Wild and Weird!*. There was a fairly good chance that many held British items in their collections somewhere, and that we all had wonderful stamps. Whether wild or weird is another thing! 12 members contributed to these evenings with enthusiasm and panache. Topics were *1946 British Mediterranean Fleet Covers, Cricket on Stamps, 1878 Cyprus, Wildings, British Commonwealth and Australian Victoria, British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Stamps, GB mint issues* including some 'castles', *London Parcel Delivery Company, Tax Bands on Cypriot Cigarette Packets, High values on Covers from the 1898-99 Turk/Greek War, 1938 USA Presidential set* and other similar stamps, *African issues* and others with Presidents on them, *Western Samoa, Siege of Paris 1870-71, Horizon labels, WWII cancellations on piece* and *USA Cavalryman's Territorial Covers*. Oddities included

John Armstone's wooden box frontage with the stamp on it!; **Horizon** labels brought in by **Alan Bush**, with ghosting, stretched out fonts, double prints, and other weird markings on them; **Mike Asteris'** copy of the routing of the flagship in the British Fleet in 1946; **Tom Gillespie's** inclusion of numerous photos that accompanied a fine display of covers and **Mike Berry's** description of the use of pigeons during the 1870 Siege of Paris. **Howard Morgan's** Western Samoa was wild for its location, but he described some head hunting going on which would be wilder! **Fred Robinson** included his presidential stamps in honour of the president of our society, for which I thank him for his thoughtfulness. **Mr Podger's** cigarette tax bands are always interesting to see. Tax revenue issues are usually filled with intricate designs, and sometimes lots of colour. They are also examples of philatelic history that were just thrown away! **Ray Butler's** Wildings are beautiful. These fell under the heading "British" perfectly, but would've been good in the February meeting as simply "wonderful"! **Chris Dudeney** always teaches us a thing or two about Cypriot history. **Martha Brown** brought in collections that had been in her family for decades and **Bob Tebbit** demonstrated a full grasp of the cricket ball! As you can see, the Chichester and District Philatelic Society is going strong!

Martha Brown

Cockermouth

The Shortest Presidency: William Henry Harrison was President of the US for 31 days, the briefest incumbent at the White House (wrong - it was not built until after his death in 1841). I am writing this with a claim, only to be

ratified at the end of 2020, to have an even shorter presidency. The Cockermouth Stamp Club has a policy of replacing presidents after a year in office. I am the third (yes - we are a millennial stamp club of three years or so) to preside over our meetings which take place on the fourth Thursday of each month. I have only done two meetings, in January when we were royally entertained by **Nick Coverdale** and February when we had a splendid 'show and tell' with all members present displaying a frame or so. Then came the Coronavirus to scupper our March meeting which was to be another of our mega auctions of over 500 lots organised by **Mike Roberts** (Huddersfield). In the worst case scenario, we will probably not meet again until 2021 when a new president will be elected so my reign will have been two days long, or the time between our January and February meetings, some 35 days, a bit more than poor old Harrison but nevertheless by no means the longest. Meanwhile Mike's house contains vast numbers of ratching boxes and other auction lots, Mrs Roberts is not best pleased, and our members are luxuriating in all the extra time for soaking stamps off paper, writing up and generally becoming philatelically more up-to-date than ever.

Mike Mapleton

Croydon & District

Our first evening was a Members' Meeting to display material starting with the letter *D*. **Chris Hitchen** began with a display of *Decorative Envelopes*, mainly French, from the period 1870 - 1890 which included adverts for Beer & Syphon Manufacturers, a Brush Factory and Sewing Machines, all beautifully engraved. **Paul Percival**

followed with a colourful selection of stamps from countries including *Dahomey, Danish West Indies, Danzig (now Gdansk), Dominica, Dominican Republic and Dubai* from the early 1900s right through to the 1970s. **Dave Meaney** showed a number of *Different Dublin cancellations on covers franked with British stamps* including a Distinctive Dublin Maltese Cross, an 1855 Double Dublin spoon, with "Paid" in the cancel, which lasted for only 2 months. **Brian Asquith** presented two comic postcards which had been *Disapproved by the Blackpool Postcard Censor*. There followed mail which had been *Delayed and/or Damaged* and covers with *Postage Dues* and one with *Duty Paid*. **John Ray** produced material from Fiji including a cover from *Dreketi, Dues used on pieces, ordinary stamps used as Dues, Airport Departure tax stamps, Diplomatic mail, Damaged covers, Fijian Dancers on stamps* and a *Postcard showing the International Dateline going round Fiji*. **Chris Board** was the last to show with his *Inspectors' Marks with D and a number in a circle on letters to Transvaal post boxes after 1900*, from Canada, France and China, *French "D" stamps on cover in 1991* and an *Indian Coronation Durbar leaflet from 1911*. Our next meeting was a visit from Kingston upon Thames beginning with a display by **Peter Wood** of *Ireland, Uniform Penny Post to the Rising* which started with an 1825 entire from Ireland to London with £1 13s 4d to pay which was indicative of the need for the eventual Rowland Hill Reforms and the introduction of the Penny Post. The standard rate was reduced to 4d in 1839 and examples of this rate were shown in script and also in hand struck "4s" which were only used in a small



Peter Wood from Kingston to Ireland

number of areas. Mulready envelopes and letter sheets were introduced in 1840 along with the Penny Black. A variety of Mulreadys, including caricatures, were admired by all those present along with Penny Blacks cancelled by Maltese Crosses in red or black. Spoon Cancels bearing the distinctive Irish diamond shape, Christmas cards and Valentine cards introduced in the 1860s and fancy illustrated envelopes were displayed and the introduction of postcards in 1870 provided some fine pictures. **Chris Oliver** followed with his display of *Booklets of the South African*



Chris Oliver on South African Booklets

Republic for the 50 Year Period to 2011. First, issues from November 1987 following the Natal Flood Disaster with 15 cent definitives x 10 overprinted 'Natal Flood Disaster/ Vloedamp Natal' and surcharged 10c, followed by 16c definitives x 10 similarly overprinted were shown. Next were booklets of Aviation in South Africa with 45c x 10 illustrating different types of aircraft used in developing aviation in South Africa. This was followed in 1995 by The World Cup Rugby Championships, Increased Rates booklets in December of that year and at Christmas 1996 the first of the Big Five booklets was issued showing lions, elephants, rhinos, leopards and buffaloes. There were a number of issues to promote tourism in different parts of the country over the years together with birds, including raptors and ducks. The display featured lots of colour and variety including proofs and prestige booklets, self-adhesives and non-denominational stamps. Our first February meeting was the Presidential Evening. President **Graham Harker** chose *Croydon* as his display, which was made up of various aspects of the philately of Croydon. There were 23 letters associated with



Graham Harker in and on Croydon

Croydon before 1840. The letters usually had a CROYDON stamp and often the cost of sending the letter written on the front. None of the letters had postage stamps. Then came 18 letters produced from 1840. Most of the letters contained stamps – many with Penny Red or other Queen Victoria stamps, followed by a number of labels used by the post offices for Parcel Post. Each post office had its own label and many of the labels had Queen Victoria or Edward VII stamps attached. Next we saw a selection of postcards each one with a stamp of Edward VII and the appropriate postmark, 25 Registered Letters each with a registration label, a small display of Croydon Head Post Office, including some official documentation and finally a large display of the Post Offices of Thornton Heath, which included photographs of the post offices and the letters and material generated by the individual post offices. Members enjoyed looking at the material which aroused much discussion. Our second February display was of *Rhodesia UDI* from **John Schofield**. It is not often there is a speaker who has actually lived in the country he is talking about so it was a treat to hear stories which came from personal experience. The

display started in 1891 with the Malawi District/Nyasaland through to 1893 when it became British Central Africa. In 1908 Nyasaland Protectorate came into being followed in 1924 by firstly Southern Rhodesia and then Northern Rhodesia. The three Territories joined as Rhodesia & Nyasaland from 1954 until 1963 when they reverted to separate Territories. In 1965 Rhodesia (Southern Rhodesia) made a Unilateral Declaration of Independence which was not recognised by Great Britain. On display were examples of mail to the UK with postage dues for the full postage as the Rhodesian stamps



John Schofield



Philip J Milton
& Company Plc
Established 1982

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*

Retirement & Financial*

Tax Planning*

Personal Accountancy & Taxation

Attorneyships, Wills, Trusts & Probate Administration

*Approved & 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

were not accepted by the UK authorities. There were letters from the United States to Prime Minister Harold Wilson urging him to accept Rhodesian independence. In 1980 it became Zimbabwe under the control of Robert Mugabe. On show were definitive and commemorative stamps, mint, used and forgeries throughout these various periods together with relevant covers showing their usage. It was a wonderful, colourful display of material illustrating the history of the territory and the turmoil which ensued. In March **David Milsted** presented his display of *GB Army Overprints*. The rare original Post Office Circular "War Office Overprints" dated 25 August 1896 set out the basis of the "Army Official Overprints" issue. David proceeded to show examples of the stamps both mint and used, with outstanding postmarks of a very high standard and clarity. Large mint blocks were much in evidence. All the different printings were on show together with many varieties which were well illustrated with enlargements which left you in no doubt as to what the variety was. Material of such high quality and rarity, covering a relatively short period from 1896 to 1904, was a delight to see. Fine examples of these stamps used



David Milsted & Army Overprints

on cover included two used at the Siege of Ladysmith and two covers signed by Lord Roberts who was affectionately called "Bobs" by the troops under his command. Army Official Overprints were withdrawn on 12th May 1904 but examples of use between that date and 1914 were displayed. David made his article "Army Official Overprints 1896 to 1904" published in Gibbons Stamp Magazine Monthly available to all present which was a fine souvenir of an outstanding evening. *Graham Harker*

Dawlish

At the February AGM we only had one change of committee when our treasurer resigned and **John Wheeley** was appointed. The display of Members' Recent Acquisitions produced some very interesting items. The March meeting saw a return visit from Exmouth Club who produced some excellent displays featuring *Stories derived from Mailed Covers*, *Early American stamps* including those issued by the Confederate States and a superb display featuring the *Voyages of Captain Cook*. All meetings have been stopped due to Covid-19, however we have set up our own website <http://dawlischsc.org> which has been linked to the Wessex Federation and ABPS websites. We have also set up an email forum to keep in touch and pass around philatelic stories and information. *James Wigmore*

Halifax

The 2019-2020 season continued with **Mike Rego** who showed *Trinidad*. He displayed pre-stamp covers from 1800, just three years after the British took the island from Spain. The pre-stamp

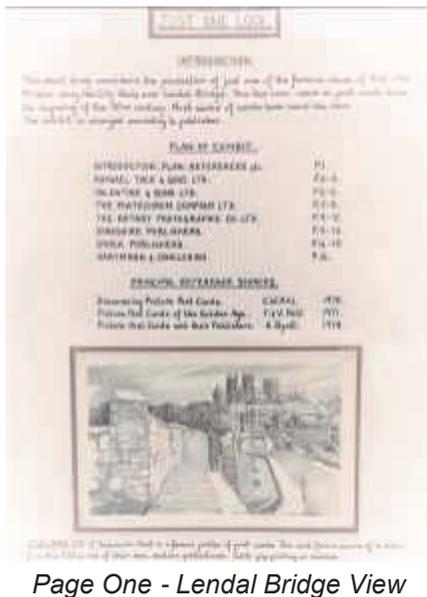
period showed plantation letters from merchants and missionary letters on behalf of the Wesleyan Church in London, who formed the first children's schools and education in the island, and throughout the West Indies. The private adhesive issue of 1847, the Lady McLeod, was displayed followed by a series of Britannia postage stamps from 1851 to 1882 which were eventually replaced by the QV head design. The Britannia one penny stamps in this period for about 30 years had no value printed on the stamp, purely TRINIDAD, and were issued in a variety of colours, and perforations. Examples of mail with the Anglo-French 1880 agreement accountancy marks were shown. The second part of the display showed postal cards from Trinidad, which were issued when the island joined the UPU in 1877, printed for use Inland, Regional and to UPU countries. Mike continued to the commencement of the airmails of Trinidad which were established on a regular basis in 1929 via a Pan Am service. The New York Rio & Buenos Aires Line started to call at Trinidad in Feb 1930. KLM broke the American airmail monopoly to Trinidad, but when the Netherlands were invaded in May 1940 by Nazi Germany, this service ceased and Trinidad established its own airline in Nov 1940, British West Indies Airways (BWIA). Our annual competitions produced an interesting selection of entries with **Douglas Armitage**, **Mike Roberts** (H) and **Adrian Lee** collecting silverware for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places respectively in the General Class and **Max Smith** and **Mike Roberts** with more cups for their entries in the Postal History class and **Alan Eastwood** with a successful and amusing thematic entry. The President

Mike Roberts (I) presented the awards and thanked **Brian Wilkinson** for sorting the scores and **Steve Saville** for providing interval refreshments.

Adrian Lee

Harrogate

In common with many societies our meetings this year have been limited. At the end of January **Graham Winters FRPSL** visited to give us *A Picture Postcard Evening*. He showed us how he prepared his displays with rough drafts etc. His main display covered a range of topics. Some unusual ones were from amusing his children at Stamp Fairs by asking them to find examples of a York view from Lendal Bridge for no more than 20p! and Maximaphily – stamp postcards with a stamp on the face side, however the stamp should have an image of the same subject (but a different view) complete with postmark related to the theme of the postcard. There must be a



Page One - Lendal Bridge View

better definition somewhere. The overall visual appearance of his display was outstanding. The next meeting was our Annual Auction which was well attended. Thanks to everyone for bringing material and to those who purchased it. Sales were over £500 and a large number of charity lots went to new homes. **Keith Burton** and **Alan Green** kept a check on the ££ and **Peter Rix** was our Auctioneer assisted by **Mike Wilesmith** - many thanks to all. Our final meeting in late February was a visit from **Bill Gibb** showing *Gibraltar 1806 -1990*. We learnt a lot from this outstanding display, not just about the philately but also about the history of the Rock colony. He included some rare cancellations from one of the sub-post offices which only ran for a short time and was mainly for the benefit of the Garrison, to save them having to go down into the town (where they might find other interests besides sending a letter home to Mum). Since shut down we have learnt to have Zoom meetings (funny as we coped with the technology) and our secretary has been delving in his stockpiles and producing weekly emails on what he has found: Mecklenburg, Iraq and other Middle East items, David Hockney and Saltaire on stamps. Whatever next? Versatile man, our secretary. *Bill Tait*

Henley & District

It has become a Henley tradition that for the first three meetings of the year our own members give displays, rather than risk inviting speakers who may need to travel in what can often be icy conditions in the area we meet. The first meeting was a Postcard Evening with many topics from *Old London, Old Reading, Cologne past and present, Norway and Mountain and Quarry*

Railways, Post Buses and Ocean Liners. At the following meeting we were transported to *The Antipodes* with New Zealand being the favoured country: from the early Chalon Heads, early airmails by the Empire Airways, examples from the reigns of all four Kings to modern Bird stamps. We saw the iconic Australian Kangaroo set, and some lateral thinking bought in Korea and China as the Antipodes of Buenos Aires! Also several other topics were shown. In February we saw members' *Favourite Stamps* from the early engraved stamps and commemoratives of Argentina, Art Nouveau jewellery, GB King George V including a display of the mint Seahorses to variations of Irish Postage Dues and a miscellany of QEII coil and booklet stamps. We were so lucky to hold our popular annual auction on March 11th at Bix Village Hall, just before the Coronavirus put an end to such social gatherings. A large proportion of the bids were on the internet but those of us, and our visiting bidders, in the hall enjoyed our last convivial meeting for some time to come. *Anne Stammers*

Huddersfield

The season continues at a new venue Lindley Liberal Club Lindley Huddersfield HD3 3EQ, meetings being held during the afternoon commencing at 13:30. During February we have enjoyed a visit from **Jack Lemm** with *Halifax Postal History from 1740 to 1866*. The current newsworthy item is a cover signed by Ann Lister (Gentleman Jack of Shibden Hall) together with 1d Red possible plate 11 and three Registered "Too Late" into Halifax Registered cancelled blue. Jack also produced some of his *Airmails collection*. He noted the changes

around 1910 when early air mail demonstrated the reduction in time for mail transportation over that of sea mail. Displayed items included Crash Mail City of Washington, Skipio, script issues to White Russian troops, Zeppelin mail, Alan Cobham's Flying Circus, Harry Newel covers and Persian Air Mail carried by Junkers 1924 to 1927. March brought us **Mike Roberts** with a display based on his presentation to the Royal in 2017 together with a paper *Pakistan beyond the Catalogue*. The display covered the period commencing with partition in 1947 (the birth of the nation) through marriage and then divorce, the separation of West Pakistan and East Pakistan to form Bangladesh. For the 1947 issues of stamps, Overprints on existing KGVI India stamps, the standard of overprinting was not all of good quality due to the postal authorities attempting to achieve a rapid change from India and promoting Pakistan. Items of Postal History shown included Brook Bond (tea) company correspondence from many regions. We saw covers used in Pakistan prior to 1st October 1947 with unoverprinted stamps attached, identified by the Zindabad cancellation. The display showed examples of machine-printed and hand stamp overprints. Mike explained that there are a great number of forgeries showing examples and how to identify them. Examples of SERVICE issues and postal stationery were also shown. 1961 Decimal surcharges commenced with a Paisa to Pies conversion chart followed by examples of the surcharges.

Adrian Lee

Huntingdonshire

Our guest speaker was **Robert Carr**. His subject was *Scouting from the Beginning*. At the siege of Mafeking Baden-Powell as a soldier organized the local youths with uniforms, the town folk with homemade money and a local postal system with its own stamps. The stamps were unique in that they did not bear Queen Victoria's head. Robert showed examples of the blue stamps which were for local posting only. The book "Scouting for Boys" was published in 1908 and the Scouting movement came into being in 1910. We were shown stamps from many countries showing Baden-Powell and the Scouting movement. Some UK Islands produced private Scouts stamps for mail which when sent reached the mainland and needed a valid postage stamp. Examples were shown on letters. Costa Rica was too small to have an army so used their scouts when they needed a uniformed body of men. When the Post Office workers went on strike in 1971 many scout groups had their own stamps printed and delivered mail. This was also done by some scouts at Christmas when they delivered mail locally. This brought back memories for some of our members who had belonged to the Scouting movement. *David Birkert*

Kingston upon Thames & District

Our first meeting of 2020 was a display of *Philatelic Aspects of France* by **Roger Niven**. The first part included a substantial history of the growth of France, including its postal system. We learnt of the Ceres series of stamps, Marianne as the symbol of France and the difficult relations with Germany over



Roger Niven

many centuries. The second half stressed the multitude of cultural aspects shown on their stamps, including art, architecture, literature, farm produce and the aftermath of both World Wars. It was an enthralling display. **Peter Wood** entitled his Presidential display *The Road to Irish Independence*. We received an Irish



Peter Wood with Irish History

History lesson from the time of Cromwell, through Wolfe Tone and Daniel O'Connell, The Potato Famine, the Fenian League and the various para-military groups to the Easter Rising and ultimately to Home Rule and the Partition. All of this was illustrated by ephemera and postal history items which included Mulready

Caricatures, 1906 Sinn Fein labels, GB stamps overprinted to the early Irish independent issues. It was a well-presented and fascinating explanation of troubled times. In late February **Susan Oliver** showed us some *Early Færoe Island covers* on the early ships



Susan Oliver on the Faroes covers

making the journey from Denmark. They had markings from Denmark, usually Copenhagen and an arrival mark on the reverse of Thorshavn, the Faroes capital. There were early letters addressed to the firm of Thomsen who lived in the south of the Islands and traded much around the islands as well as mainland Denmark. Covers were carried on the ships *Arcturus*, *Valdemar* and *Diana*. One 1884 letter was sent with a barrel of apples, and another with an 1852 boxed LERWICK mark from the Shetland Islands.

From *The Kingston Newsletter*

Lanarkshire

We have had a year of interesting displays. The President, **Andy Napier**, gave a wonderful view of *Stamps and Covers issued in Fiji during the World Wars*, also including a sample of

'Emergency money' issued when war prevented the delivery of Fiji coins minted in London. **David Haig** fascinated with *History of the Royal Marines and Royal Navy* and **Chris Moffat** charted the *Development of British Definitives 1840-2005*. On a lighter note, the late **Paul McGowan**, **Ken Liddell** and **Alan Rushworth** presented *Football – FIFA World Cup, Hamilton 'Accies'* and *Third Lanark* and **Brian Dow** gave a superb view of



Brian Dow presents Farming

Farming through the Years. Invited speakers gave displays: *Boys Brigade* by **Alistair Burrow**, *The Levant* by **Stewart Gardiner** and *Development of Airmail from UK to Australasia between 1921 and 1942* by **Robert Clark**.

Members of the Edinburgh PS presented an evening of truly variable displays: **Bill Torrance** - *The first 15 years of Independent Postal Administration of Jersey*, **Mike Humphries** – *Stars and Strips*, **Sid Morgan** – *Birds of the World* and **Bill Black** - *Philatelic History of Norfolk Island*. Members entered well into the theme of *Valentines* (on 14th February) with visions of *Hearts and Flowers*, of *Postcards issued by Valentines of Dundee* and of *Places they Loved*.

Coronavirus brought the session to an abrupt end. Elsie Miller

Largs & District

This year's meetings started with our traditional Vice President's Night. **Adrian Keppel**, our current VP, had invited **Ian Barker** to provide the first round with his excellent display of the *Birds of Ayrshire and Arran*, illustrated



Ian Barker, Adrian Keppel & Willie King

with both stamps and the superb postcards by the artist George Rankin. Adrian provided the second round with part of his collection of *Early Netherlands and Colonies*, covering the 1852 issues of William III through to Queen Wilhelmina who ascended the throne in 1890 at the age of 10. This was followed by illustrations of the work of three Czech engravers: Jindra Schmidt, Josef Hercik and Milos Ondracek. Following a very successful auction on 29th January when sales totalled over £500 including £60 for charity, our meeting on 12th February was an equally successful competition night. The general class competition for the Alec Hopkins trophy was won by **Ian Smith** with his entry on the *German Occupation of Romania 1917-18*. Runners-up with equal scores were **Bill Clark** showing *Tanganyika TPOs* and **David Rossall** with *The Fourth*

Seebeck issue of Ecuador. The thematic section, also with three entries, was won by **David Rossall's** entry on *The Swiss artist Albert Anker*, with *Britannia* by **Ian Smith** in second place and **Roy Wickham's** *Unilever Postal History* third. In the 3-sheet competition the winner again was **Ian Smith** with an entry on the *Invasion of the Falkland Islands*, followed by **David Rossall's** *Allenstein Plebiscite* and **John Chalmers' D4 Boxed Namestamps. Our new postcard competition for the Congress Cup attracted a very respectable eight entries which was very heartening for a new venture. The range of subjects was very wide, but local topics won out with first place going to a *Snapshot of Portencross* by **Gordon Shepherd**, followed by *Postcards of Old Ayr and District* by **Jim Irving**. Third place went to **Ian Smith** with *A Taste of Ceylon*. The Tom Clark Trophy, which is awarded to the member with the best entry who has not previously won any competition, this year goes to **Gordon Shepherd**, one of this year's winners, who had not won before. Our next meeting took us to *Eastern Canada*, courtesy of our visiting speaker, **Alan Blakely**. Alan introduced us to the history of Canada's maritime provinces, originally settled by the French but taken over by British settlers in the 1700s. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island were all separate colonies until the 1860s, all issuing their own stamps before they became part of the Canadian federation. Alan showed us examples of the early issues, denoted in pence at first until the influence of the USA caused a change of currency name to Canadian dollars and cents. We saw examples of post travelling between**



Alan giving his display

the three colonies, and also international mail including letters to Scotland. Whilst not part of Canada, Alan has added St Pierre et Miquelon to his collection as it is in the same region, and we saw a range of the early French colonial issues used there, through to the specific issues for these islands up to 1948. A March meeting was entitled *Members' Favourite Stamps*, which was widely interpreted by those members who brought along material to display. Over half those attending had brought something, which was very encouraging. The evening started with **Peter Smith** who brought, amongst other things, a *Tasmanian stamp postmarked for Daniel's Bay*, where he was born. **Roy Wickham** showed a *Zanzibar forgery that proved to be genuine*. He was followed by **Vic Currie's** *Composers* and **Martin McBurnie's** *GB castle series*. The first round was closed by **Angus Dodds** with *The 75th anniversary of Rotary International*. The second round opened with *Early Gold Coast* from **Robert Watt** followed by *Finland*, **Finlay Mitchell's** favourite country. **Ricky Boyd** showed a wide

variety of favourites and **Jim Irving** recalled *A Family Visit to Durban* in postcards. We even managed to fit in a third round with *ex-German Territories* from **John Chalmers**, *Early West Indies* from **Ian Smith** and *The Engraver Georges Betemps* from **Adrian Keppel**. **Dennis Gray** finished the rounds with *The Gold Medal GB issues from the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics*. Unfortunately that is our last meeting for now as the rest of the programme has been cancelled. We look forward to seeing all our members again in September, and anyone interested in joining us →

davidrossall@sky.com David Rossall

Launceston

Our January meeting was devoted to displays presented by the following Club members. **Roger Winn** had a display of some 24 *Interesting Postal Items from Around the World* including covers and stamps from Canada, Tangier, Natal, Ceylon, New Zealand, Australia, Gibraltar, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Malaya, Singapore. Interesting features of the collection were several stamps issued by one country and then being used in one of its neighbours and finally a wartime correspondence between a soldier in Cyprus and his girlfriend. **Evelyn Sandercock** showed a nice collection of *Covers and Correspondence from the USA Addressed to Members of the Noted Local Foot family*. Then **Barry Moody** brought a collection of postal items illustrating many of the privations and living conditions of the islanders during the *Occupation of the Channel Islands from 30th June 1940 until Liberation on 9th May 1945*. The collection traces the progress of the Occupation with photographs, newspaper articles,

pamphlets, documents and postal items including correspondence between family members living in separate internment camps. A small but fitting tribute to the loyalty, courage and fortitude of the people of the Channel Islands. **John Henderson** produced an interesting collection based around *50p coins issued by the Royal Mint from 2016 onwards to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Beatrix Potter*. The initial issue was a set of three coins, Beatrix Potter plus Peter Rabbit and Jemima Puddleduck. In 2017, 2018 and 2019 further issues of her characters brought the total to fourteen. John's collection comprises numerous sets of the special issue coins mounted on cards with appropriate postage stamps as applicable. As the issue by the Royal Mint of these 'special' 50p coins and associated presentation sets continues so John's collection has continued to grow. **Viv Sandercock** showed a collection of interesting *Old Post Cards* mainly associated with mining activities including Broken Hill, Australia, South Africa, Tanzania and Camborne. **Mike Tooley** brought a remarkable collection of individually illustrated *Folded Letters and Hand-painted Valentine cards* dating from the Victorian era together with later Edwardian letters and covers from the Boer War period. One had pen and ink thumbnail portraits of



The Magnificent 7 displayers

Kitchener, and another portrays caricatures of British soldiers being defiled and attacked (probably attributable to European anti-war protestors). Another fine Victorian letter dated 1865 was illustrated with a series of hand drawn cameos of fashionable gentlemen of the time. Finally, Mike included a hand-painted illustration of the 1948 Silver Wedding Commemorative issue. Finally **Dave Richards** gave another interesting display of *early postal and revenue issues from Trinidad and Tobago* between 1858 and 1900 together with a series of postal covers issued in 1948 for deliveries to each of the three geographical divisions of the island. We held our Spring Auction at the Yeolmbridge Methodist Chapel Hall, Ladycross on 12th March with 19 members and guests in attendance. Viewing of the 315 lots on offer started at 6.30pm and, prior to the auction, a raffle was held raising £30 for Club funds. The Club Treasurer, **Des Kent**, gave out Club notices and thanked all those who attended the successful Spring Fair on the previous Saturday. The auction started promptly at 7.30pm. Bidding was conducted by the Auctioneer for the evening, **Rex Eccott**, ably assisted by **Mike Tooley** and **Terry Munce** showing and distributing the lots with **Des Kent** and **Howard Hamblin** recording the sales. The auction closed at 8.30pm with 114 lots sold for a total of £301.10. £20.25 of the sales have been donated to club funds, plus commission on vendors' lots contributing a further £28. Owing to the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) situation Club meetings have been cancelled until July 9th 2020 at the earliest.

Howard Hamblin

Leeds

Your correspondent is writing this piece three hours after our secretary had to let members know that because of the pandemic of Coronavirus we would have to suspend meetings for the rest of the session, a necessary course of action. There are so many tasks to do at home in the way of philately that will keep us busy: sorting out accumulations that we have never got round to, getting displays ready, going through collections pin-pointing what we have not got, having more time to look at auction catalogues and dare I write Ebay. Well now back to LPS. January 2020 started with a splendid new diversion, *Cabaret*. 5 members sitting at separate tables gave 10-minute enthusiastic discussions on subjects dear to them ranging from *St. Vincent to kiloware*. The evening went as it should with a swing. **Richard Wheatley** gave a magnificent display on the *Ephemera of Spitfire* later that month. February began with the Society Auction run by yours truly with great help from our treasurer, making a nice contribution to LPS finances. Later the inestimable **Graham Winters**, a most welcome guest, led us through



Paul Kellett and Peter Rix enjoying the work of Czeslaw Slania

the many competition entries from our members. They get better and better every year and we learn so much from sharp criticism. March and what was to be our last meeting for 2019-2020 was another intriguing evening display, *The Work of Czeslaw Slania* shown by **Peter Rix**. Stamps of this master engraver are still easy to find.

Michael Waugh FRPSL

Maidstone & Mid Kent

We started off 2020 with *The Letters S, T & U* and as usual we had displays covering a wide range of subjects. This was followed by a further display from **Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins FRPSL** of Russian material covering this time *Russian Revenues*, as usual a remarkable display. February saw **Ray How's** brilliant thematic display on *Law and Order* which covered worldwide material with amusing anecdotes as well as a remarkable knowledge. We followed up with our annual Traditional and Postal History Competitions, which I didn't manage to win again!! In March we had a change of programme at short notice, so the committee stepped up and gave a variety of displays which made for an enjoyable evening. Our morning meetings have covered *Small Islands* by **Ian Reed**, which was followed by our post-Christmas lunch, and a further display of Russia covering *White Nights, Red Stars and Black Days* by **Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins**. Unfortunately due to the virus Maidstone have decided to cancel their meetings for the rest of the season, which also includes our Stamp Fair in April. We will look to start up again in September subject to the situation that faces us then.

Brian Stonestreet

Milford on Sea

Our club was founded in 1961 and is still in the original building! It was built as a Guide Hut, but its first use was for the ARP. It has only recently been redecorated, with a new roof, double glazing, central heating, kitchen and toilets. However it still retains a lot of its originality. Our longest-serving member is not far short of 60 years membership! We seem to keep steady numbers, approximately 40, with around 20-25 members at our afternoon meetings. We also receive good reports from our speakers at the numbers, quite a few ladies and our friendliness, which is excellent. Our speaker at our last meeting in March, was **Miller McGrath** on *Belgium*. It was really interesting and an amazing collection of postal history. It always astonishes me how much really old material survives in such good condition and easily readable, especially the beautiful writing! Shame we don't see it now! We have sadly cancelled our next two meetings as well as the auction.

Marion Adams

Morecambe & District

Over the past few weeks we have had the pleasure of presentations by two of the members of the Bolton-le-Sands PS. **Andrew Brooks** spoke on *Somewhere Even Colder*. This was a development from his previous *Somewhere Cold*. Not surprisingly the material was illustrating mail from both the Arctic and Antarctic regions. There was much more than we expected. Then on St Patrick's Day we saw *The Mysteries of the Irish Mail*. From 1840 under English post through to the troubles and Irish independence. We also received an explanation of the

strange practices carried out by the Irish Postal System. Both evenings were very enjoyable. *Frank Collinge*

Austria's view of Brexit

The single world Brexit stamp was produced by Austria. I received the information from two sources - the Poole & Bournemouth Report and from David Bravery of the Austrian Society. David commented that he loves the crossed-out date. He suspects that the Austrians think that we are a lot of bumlbers.



This is the sort of little item which will be great for the next issue. With very few or no society meetings I need you to send something in that will entertain and possibly educate. Please help - any of you.

Editor

Poole & Bournemouth

In February we held a members' display on *Space*. **Mike Trickett** opened the evening with a "mixed bag" of *Subjects, Areas, Format and Interpretation of Space*, starting with a selection of postcards, stamps on outer space, including humorous postcards of Germans looking at the passing of Haley's comet, and ending with some pictures of the Satellite production and testing facility on the Isle of Wight from which 22 launches took place. Mark followed with a range of stamps from his "poor quality" collection, including stamps printed with cancellations already applied. He concentrated on *Sets from Ecuador and Venezuela*.

Rick Wilmot put up a frame of used covers posted from all round the world, but all with *Czechoslovakian stamps, featuring astronauts*, each cover being well illustrated. The next frame was packed with stamps and a few FDCs from **Ken Parrott**, depicting sets from a host of countries, *A to Z, covering many aspects relating to the space programme*, all most colourful. **Chris Wheeler** interpreted space as an open area, with a frame of postcards showing *Views of Central Park, New York*, explaining its development from rough ground 2½ miles by ½ mile, back in the 1850s. **Tony Arnold** displayed six frames, starting with stamps on a



stellar wallpaper background, which was very effective, followed by postcards, miniature sheets, covers and the large holographic sheets issued by different countries showing the earth and space. Postmarks and space-related cancellations were included. The evening closed with a short article from The Telegraph showing the only Brexit stamp, one from Austria with Great Britain just a space on the map!

Chris Wheeler

Redcar



Geoff and his medal



GEOFF GETS 'GOLD' IN ADELAIDE

Geoff Reynolds our secretary achieved a Gold medal for his entry in the ADELAIDE AEROPEX 2019 Philatelic Competition. Geoff was up against stiff competition with entries from around the world when he submitted 80 sheets of Aerophilatelic material consisting of *Zeppelin flown purely commercial mail*.

ADELAIDE AEROPEX 2019 was staged to commemorate the 100 years anniversary of the First Flight from England to Australia in November 1919. Geoff has been involved in philately for almost 70 years and is a member of Germany & Colonies Society, chairman of the Postal History & Aerophilately Group and Secretary of Redcar & Cleveland PS. Among his collection is a splendid, very scarce

Zeppelin-flown cover from the Vatican to Brazil, South America. The superb cancellation strikes indicate its progress leaving the Vatican 8th September 1932 via Rome to reach Freidrichshafen, Germany on the 12th September, boarding the Graf Zeppelin flight (green strike) and arriving at Recife (Pernambucu) Brazil on the 15th September - a journey of 8 days.

Martin Snowdon.

Ringwood

Who would have predicted the enduring appeal of 'Alice...' with all its amazing characters, circumstances and ethereal considerations?



Numerous versions in both print and film have appeared, not to mention merchandising! Just when one might have considered all was 'said and done', we discover an intriguing new take. We were superbly entertained to *Alice in Wonderland & the World of Gerald King* by specialist philatelist **Paul Leonard FRPSL**. Gerald King is a philatelist and talented illustrator with a powerful sense of humour. Moreover, his passion for Dodgson's masterpiece led him to implore the Post Office in 1965 to celebrate the centennial of the book's





Paul Leonard with Colin Mount



Bob Small

publication by the issue of stamps. Considering the stuffy age, it is not surprising that a negative response was forthcoming! Gerald therefore launched his own philatelic 'Wonderland'! Over the decades he has produced numerous special stamps, illustrated covers and postmarks, all with a mischievous and amusing slant, and all totally unappreciated by the Post Office, who simply missed a trick! Reference to the internet will reveal a considerable wealth of information, about both the world of Gerald King and his amazing philatelic creations. In February we enjoyed a well-researched and eloquent presentation which revealed **Bob Small's** passion for his subject combined with a wealth of associated material, all of considerable interest to both war historians and philatelists alike. Bob set out a broad sweeping tapestry of *British political and military activity, from 1066 through to an insightful history of the RAF*. This was a superb write-up making excellent use of charts, maps, documents, letters and photos together with early postal items, eventually leading into modern postal administration and linked stamp issues.

A particular emphasis was placed on Napoleonic history and the display contained numerous items of correspondence, including an original letter relating to 'The Glorious 1st June'. Much consideration was given to this period and the material shown formed



but a part of a highly researched and collected resource. Other studies followed with topics which included the Boer War, WWI and WWII and the Korean War. Prisoner of War correspondence formed a further major interest.

Paul Barry

Rochdale

At our February meeting **Jack Lyndley** displayed *New Zealand Commemoratives*. He commenced with the first stamps printed for the Christchurch exhibition in 1906 and up to recent issues on various subjects. New Zealand commemoratives on covers were shown which are popular with collectors resulting in many scarce examples. Jack displayed a wide selection of printing errors including mis-cuts, missing colours, touch-ups and colour shifts. In March **Neil Wharmby** presented his extensive collection of *GB stamp booklet covers* beginning from when the Post Office began issuing booklets in 1904. In 1968 they started producing pictorial covers in variable set sizes but mainly in 4 designs. A wide variety of subjects were shown from pillar boxes to pond life and canals to cricket. In the second half **David Hudson** treated us to his collection of *GB commemorative stamps in cylinder blocks*. He explained the time line of multiple colour printing, the logic of stamp denominations and the progressive introduction of thematic subjects. → Neil on 01706 665698 or Neil.Wharmby@gmail.com

Peter Grimshaw

Royal Tunbridge Wells

It is nearly a year since we changed our meeting venue, moving to The Camden Arms in Pembury where our fortnightly Wednesday morning

meetings have been a success. We have four new members and an average attendance of 20 for our sessions is most acceptable. Alas the current situation has stopped all meetings for the foreseeable future, and this also means that the Annual Stamp Fair (which we host at Crowborough), scheduled for the Bank Holiday (8th May) is off. This is the 75th year of our society and we had planned to hold a special Anniversary Lunch to mark the event. As things stand, we hope that all our meetings will resume in September, but note on 19th September (a Thursday) not the 9th, and a new date for the Anniversary Lunch will be arranged. Thereafter we return to the programme already announced for the rest of the year. Our meetings so far this year have included the New Year Lunch with 31 members and friends attending, *WWII British Forces Postal History* by **Peter O'Keefe**, *The Treaty of Versailles* from **Tony Hickey**, *Egyptian Medallions* shown by **Jon Aitchison** and *German East Africa* by **John Farrant**. All had very interesting histories with very fine variety of material. *Peter O'Keefe*

Sevenoaks & District

The sudden restrictions on club meetings did at least give us three weeks' notice but for a small society such as ours, this might mean a falling off in interest. This would be a great pity as we have existed for 78 years with a membership ranging from over 100 down to our present 17. However we must look on the bright side and forward to a resumption of our monthly meetings. So far this year we have hardly had value for money but two displays have turned up trumps. We meet on the first Wednesday of each

month, but cancelled that on the 1st January this year as members might have other commitments on that day. In February, **Peter O'Keeffe** displayed *Zambia (formerly Northern Rhodesia)*. Since 1964 it has been independent, and has issued stamps now for 56 years. Due to inflation there have been many changes in postage rates, numerous overprints and a number of doubtful issues (all nicely produced) which are rarely seen by the general public. Whether the postal authorities, private companies or the government benefit from these issues is not revealed. In March we saw a very interesting display *The Red Coats*, being of stamps, cards and labels featuring soldiers of the British Army who wore red coats, both at war and in peacetime. This was given by **John Mortimer** (from Maidstone), standing in at short notice. It was a history of many British Redcoat regiments. Fingers crossed for a restart to meetings in September.

Peter O'Keeffe

Sheffield

Steve Cook gave his first President's Night display in January showing

Rugby Union. The collection started after he had a conversation with a fellow member at the ABPS convention back in 2011. What Steve thought was going to be a fairly straightforward collection turned into quite a complex one. Did William Webb-Ellis invent rugby? Evidence sways towards "no he didn't". The Royal family have been connected with rugby since George VI. Other areas covered by rugby are the Olympic, Commonwealth, National and Area Games. Also people who had connections with rugby but appeared on stamps in their own field. The likes of Che Guevara, Mussolini, Douglas Bader, Richard Burton, Paul McCartney and John Lennon amongst a host of others all had some link to rugby. The annual 8 sheets no-rules competition again didn't fail to produce displays as diverse as you can get. *Newspaper and letter railway stamps, Poland 1921, Old German Cities, 1956 Melbourne Olympic cancellations, South African Antarctic Expeditions*, to mention a few. Members voted on which they thought was the best. The winner was *Zanzibar independence*,

A Plea for Help

Bromley & Beckenham PS has a large packet circuit, and supplies quarto-size club-books produced by Dauwalders to members at cost. However we are finding that with computer printing, more and more of our members are producing their own books based upon standard A4 paper, folded which is of course A5. These A5 books are too big for the boxes used for the quarto size books, and I have been struggling to find a similar size and quality box to suit A5. They are basically known as telescopic as the lid rises to suit the height of the contents, and ours are made of stiff and durable cardboard - some have been in use for 20 or more years! The nearest I can get is double corrugated thin flute A4 size paper boxes. Far too big. A5 can be made to order but minimum quantity is far too many. Some Xmas cards boxes are the right size but far too flimsy and not deep enough. Other clubs may have similar problems. Does anyone have a supplier? Help please

David Rennie

gaining and losing. A quite entertaining evening.
Steve Cook

Shropshire

In January our guest speaker, **David Preshous**, gave a lively presentation of the wide range of *Greek stamps* ranging from those with a classical theme to stamps and postal history of the war issues. He also looked at those of individual Greek islands and the changing political nature of Greece including people such as Melina Mercouri. In February we were entertained by **Brian Hyner** with his amazing display covering *The Zeppelin Era*. He took us through the fascinating development of the craft and how it came to be used for postal purposes until the Hindenburg disaster. In February we also held a display in the library in Shrewsbury which ran for



Terry with our Library display

several days and attracted much interest. This was the brainchild of **Terry Jones**, our current President. We intend repeating the event next year. It was with sadness that we learned of the death of **Bob Viney**, until recently our Treasurer. Bob was a well-known postal historian, concentrating mainly on the Rutland area, and our thoughts are with his widow, Judith, at this sad time.

Andy Neal

Solihull

Amongst the displays given recently by our own members were: **Ray Sheppard** - *Early Flights and Zeppelins*; **Gerald Marriner** - *Channel Islands Revisited*; **John Hunt** - *Spanish Civil War* and **Bryan Jones** - *Stratford on Avon Postal History*. **Giles du Boulay** visited us at the end of February and gave an interesting and informative display on *Danzig* drawing on his personal knowledge from his many visits to the area and his contacts with people who had spent many years of their life in Danzig. Our 16-sheet annual competitions continue to attract some high quality entries. This year saw two new names to be engraved on



*Solihull 2020 competition winners:
Clive Jones, Alan Spencer, Theo Schilderman & Tony Whitehead*

the trophies. We are collecting gifts of stamps, postcards and coins for our 50th Anniversary Auction on 7th November with all proceeds going to the Marie Curie West Midlands Hospice. Any offers will be gratefully accepted. All auction lots will be on view at the Solihull Stamp Fair on 31st October when we host the Midlands Philatelic Federation's Autumn Assembly at Arden School, Knowle. For details see our website:

www.solihullphilatelicsociety.org.uk
or → 01564 776 879 Paul Woodness

Southampton & District

The guest speaker in February was **Tony Davis** who gave a splendid presentation covering all aspects of *The Development of the Victorian 2d Blue* from the rudimentary first print runs with their many anomalies to the more sophisticated methods used in the production of postal stationery, the Mulready envelopes and other both local and national examples. February's Competition Evening was a chance to have a taste of displaying at a competition but also a chance for feedback from more regular



Alan King, Hugh Jeffreys, Albert Jackson, Bob Small (Ferndown) with Julian Jones (President)
Photo © Steve Gerrard

competitors. Only five entries were submitted. The displays were very varied with the members voting **Steve Gerrard's** *The Berlin Motor Show of 1939* as the winner. The visit of the Ferndown Society on the 3rd March gave us a lovely variety from their four speakers. **Albert Jackson** (*Polish*

Underground Mail) started then **Hugh Jeffreys** followed with his collection of *Commonwealth Postmarks*. After refreshments **Bob Small** showed us *How Britain seemed to have been at war with everyone at one time or another*. Finally **Alan King** reviewed *The History of French stamps*. And that, as they say, is it. We have cancelled or postponed all our meetings until the end of June, with the situation being reviewed in line with Government Guidance. However, at the time of writing (mid-April), we have held a successful trial video conference with ten participants and are exploring the possibilities of holding 'virtual meetings' with in-house presentations for our members. *Eddie Mays*

St Albans, Harpenden & District

Our January meeting was subject to a last-minute change of date due to improvements being carried out to the hall at Childwickbury where we meet, and we had to find a replacement speaker at short notice. Fortunately, **John Bishop**, a member of our Committee, agreed to present a display simply titled *Poland*. On a night of atrocious weather, his audience was given a fine display that comprised a fascinating mix of history, politics and philately, all of which was greatly appreciated. As usual the February meeting was Members' Showing Evening, with *O and P* as the theme.

No report of your society? Why not send one to the editor? It could get you new members, and also gives hints on good speakers to other societies.

Equally valuable are interesting short articles on activities or specific philatelic or equivalent items.

Three members displayed and entertained us with *Pre-Stamp Postal History*, a thematic collection on *Music* and a traditional display of *Pakistan*. The pre-stamp display took us from 1711 to a Mulready used as late as 1871 and those present were fascinated by the content and markings associated with each item displayed. *O and P* then gave plenty of scope for a musical thematic collection with Orchestras, Organs, Operas, Opera singers, Opera Houses, Performers and Pop singers. Finally with *Pakistan* we took a look at some of that country's definitive stamps and learned of the time lag between Partition and the first officially overprinted stamps. A most varied and enjoyable evening.

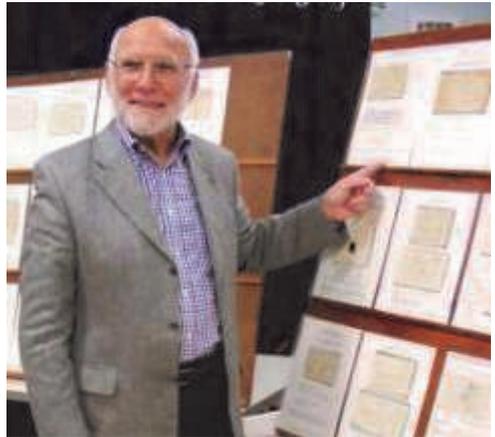
→ www.stalbharpstampclub.org.uk,
p.mellor@btinternet.com
 or 01582 762284

Peter Mellor

Thatcham

In January the theme was *Recent Acquisitions*. 13 members had been purchasing so we saw *Australian Postage dues etc* from **Alan Cross**, *American Presidents and comic strips* from **Malcom Hopkins**, *Japanese National Parks etc* from **Bob Paterson** and **Martin Farr**, *Postcards of visited places* from **Juliet Keel**, *GB issues* from **Ian Keel**, *Tramways* from **Barney Bardsley**, *Malta* from **Jim Anderson**, *Iran* from **Dave Tanner**, *Maltese Cross obliterations* from **Jeff Rogers**, *Botswana* from **Mike Smith**, *Covers to Boxford* from **Graeme Stewart**, and **Francis Connolly** finished with *GB*. In February the subject was *Revenue and Fiscals*. **Neil Hatton**, **Barney Bardsley**, **Brian May**, **Ian Keel**, **Dave Tanner**, **Mike Smith** and **Graeme Stewart** all responded with material from most corners of the world. **Julian**

Jones took us to *Transatlantic Postal History (USA/GB) 1757-1875* when he visited in late February. There were



Julian Jones with his display

many superb business and advertising covers showing the postal rates. Most charges had to be paid by the recipient if they were not free. Sailing ships and then later steamships were represented and then the introduction of the Ocean Penny Post was illustrated by a lovely sheet showing the Ocean Penny Post sent from Sheffield to New England via Liverpool and New York in 1851. We saw changes in charges, many shipping lines and accountancy marks on the various covers. Julian finished off with a wonderful picture of Liverpool docks showing a post arrival shed on the right where late mail could be delivered and paid for and then ferried out to the ship (in the distance) within 10 minutes of sailing and this was followed by a letter sent from Philadelphia to Manchester on board the Eagle line's "Schiller" which was wrecked in the Scilly Isles in 1875 and just 14 bags of mail from 62 were salvaged. It was a fantastic

evening's display. March's members' displays were on *Spring & Yellow*. **Heather Lawn** showed us *Parrots* and **Jim Andrews** followed with *Flowers*. **Neil Hatton** showed *Yellow on Postcards*, **Mike Smith** had *Yellow and Missing Yellow stamps*, **Judy Straughan** produce more *Yellow Flowers – mainly Spring ones* as did **Juliet Keel**. **Graeme Stewart** finished with *The Yellow Stagecoach* from our 50th Anniversary and some *Birds* material. From *Thatcham Postmark*

Wakefield

In January **Yvonne Wheatley** paid a very welcome visit and presented a fascinating display relating to the *Travelling Post Office* which started at Liverpool and Manchester in 1830. She included postal history items, postcards and some wonderful illustrations showing how the mail was sorted, carried and delivered. Later that month we were visited by **Robert McMillan FRPSL**, when he displayed his amazing collection of *Hull Postal History* which included very early covers prior to postal markings through to the twentieth century. Our first February meeting consisted of a competition briefing by **Graham Winters** followed by members' displays which included *Italian Post Offices in Tunisia, Concorde related items, Chilean Revenue Stamps*, a thematic display of *maximaphily cards depicting goats, Leather Postcards from America and Ladybird Johnson Centennial issues*. On 19th February **David Horner** presented an excellent display relating to the *1925 British Empire Exhibition* and mail sent worldwide, which included stamps, postal history, postcards and covers (including the ½d late fee). **Richard Wheatley** paid a

welcome visit in March with his very interesting display entitled "*Tales of a Loirer*" (i.e. a person born and bred in Leeds) consisting of "Crank Mail" sent to the Chief Constable of the police, postal history items relating to the "Yorkshire Ripper," and some remarkable items from both WWI and WWII, consisting of slogans, hospitals, German and Italian prisoners of war and much more. All of these displays were accompanied by very entertaining and knowledgeable presentations.

Julie Hitchcock

Watford

In February we held our annual nine-page competitions. Instead of having a judge this year, the members marked the entries themselves. The winner in the Stamps category was **Brian Coates** with *The First Halfpenny*. The Postal History trophy was won by **Brian Thurlow** with *Iceland Numerals* and the Thematic section went to **Wayne Cox** with *Something for Nothing*. In March our President, **Geoff Rooke**, gave a very interesting and highly personal display, based around *His Father's Collection*, which he had inherited and was now trying to sort out. All kinds of eclectic material were displayed (Geoff's father was a real magpie!). What made the meeting even more special was that Geoff was accompanied by his sister and also Barry Lobell, known by many members. Like every other society, all our meetings have now been cancelled until further notice due to Coronavirus.

→ watforddps@gmail.com or 01923 43243 Wayne Cox

West Riding

We hold two auctions a year, averaging over 500 lots per sale. The January

auction was the best attended yet, with over 40 bidding paddles issued and a very large number of commission bids. The twin attractions of the complete library of Huddersfield Philatelic Society (offered as 150 lots and realizing £2500) and free pie and peas for all participants were probably responsible for this. The top price amongst the books was £135 for a copy of Townsend & Hose "Stamps & Postal History of British Guiana". February meeting brought an interesting array of items from members' *My Other Hobby*, **Alan Eastwood** going down the horticultural path with his display of *Spider Plants*. At the end of the display members who requested one went home happy together with instructions on looking after their new acquisition. **Adrian Lee** displayed *Cigarette Cards* with the main subjects being medals and military orders, with some of the display items being the embroidered "silk cards". There were some cards which featured postage stamps. **Graham Winters** brought along part of his collection of *Books by Fletcher*, giving an interesting précis of their contents with **Mike Roberts** providing information on his son *Norman Stanley Fletcher*. **Rod Unwin** gave a talk and displayed material based upon a collection of postal history and personal information he had obtained about *Sergeant Parker* who sent a series of letters about his experiences during WWI in Iraq. The next meeting will be sometime! The next sale is scheduled for Monday 27th July and will feature a wide range of stamps, postal history, coins, philatelic and non-philatelic literature (strong sections of military history) including a large British Commonwealth collection offered as

single country lots and a specialized library of mainly Southern Africa (with an emphasis on Cape of Good Hope & Boer War) interest. Catalogues and more details available a few weeks prior from Mike Roberts → (mike@mikerobe.co.uk, 0788539622)

Mike Roberts and Adrian Lee

Yeovil & District

We have had a very good season though we had to finish earlier than usual on 5th March owing to the Coronavirus Pandemic. We had displays from **Peter Van-Gelder** on *Exhibitionism*, **Ian Hottway** showing *Franc Ghent Exhibition*, **Wendy Buckle** *The Write Stuff*, **Nigel Cox** *1945 British Commonwealth*, **Tony Nicholson** *USA Airmails 1918-34* and **John Coulton** *Postcards Boer War*. In the Society Competitions the winner of Postal History TK Brown Shield was *The Ocean Penny Post* from **Roger Marsh**, of the General Wessex Cup also Roger with *The Wear & Repair of the Two Blue Plate 4* and of the Thematic Cyril Swain Trophy **David Bryant** with *Birds of Hampshire*. Then we moved on to members' postcard displays.

David Bryant



Roger Marsh receives the Shield from James Hooper

Federations

Essex - AEPS

The 2020 Seminar on 25th January was well attended by 28 participants, of whom 20 displayed. **Len Stanway** opened proceedings with the first major display, showing *London Underground Mails*. Ten single frame displays followed, then **Ray How** presented the second major display, showing the *Milford Haven-Waterford Mail Service Postal History*, which was left up over the lunch break. A further ten displays followed. Displayers were **Derek Jefcoate, Shirley Watson, Bill Trower, Sue Stacey, Colin Evans, Maggie Thompson, Paul Green, John Copeland, David Haskell, Mick Carter, Mike Burt, Geoff Miller, John Dickenson, Trevor Potter, Eric Hutton, Mick Myall** and **Clair Urry**. An amazing variety of material was shown, including *British Postal Fiscals, Haiti, Operation Black Buck, Isle of Man TT, Mauritius, Falkland Islands, The Vikings, Alaska Postcards, The Anschluss, Pakistan Provisionals, Mosul, German Inflation, Postmaster Handstamps, British Occupation of Former Italian Colonies, Railway Art, Cartoon Postcards, Birds and Flowers*.

From *The Basildon Philatelist*

Kent

The Coronavirus has had a massive impact on the hobby with most, if not all, affiliated societies in Kent effectively closed down and having cancelled their meetings until the start of the new season in September. I daresay the same scenario applies to all other local and specialist societies in the UK. We have had to postpone our AGM to the East Malling Grand Stamp

Fair on 26th September and are hoping that it will take place. However, whether the Federation will survive is another matter. We have a shortage of volunteers, not helped by the age and health profile of club members along with dwindling club memberships. We no longer organise fairs or hold competitions and are in need of a Treasurer; we have not been able to produce a Kent Bulletin as our Editor moved home and started a new job towards the end of last year, and as she is in the NHS she is no doubt overwhelmed workwise with coping with the virus. I have kept my Kent contacts updated with a Kent Directory at the beginning of March and more recently by regular emails on club closures and stamp fair cancellations - all stamps fairs in Kent up to the end of May and a few in early June have been cancelled.

Michael Dobbs

Wessex

As a result of the Coronavirus all meetings have been stopped. In order to provide stimulus for members we have instigated a significant update to the website. All the Wessex Bulletins and WETS newsletters have been collected together and fully indexed by Title, Author and Subject. These are being loaded to the website providing a massive amount of data for all to use.

James Wigmore

National and specialist societies

Austrian

Joint Meeting with Czech PS of GB
Members from both societies held their now traditional meeting at the York Fair on 18th January, temporarily forsaking

ALBA STAMP GROUP



The Declaration of Arbroath

Alba Stamp Group Launches Commemorative Cover

The Alba Stamp Group will commemorate the 700th Anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath with a cover and special handstamp from Arbroath dated 6th April, 2020.

the 700th anniversary of the
declaration of arbroath



arbroath



6th april 2020

issued by
the alba stamp group

Availability

- Unserviced covers are £3 each.
- Serviced covers will be available from 6th April, 2020 at £4 each
- Postage and packing £1 UK (£2.50 overseas) per order.

For more information email g.mill@ntlworld.com or by post at address below.
Cheques should be payable to 'Alba Stamp Group' and orders sent to:

Alba Stamp Group, 20 Prestonfield, Milngavie GLASGOW. G62 7PZ

the dealers and being entertained with a wide range of excellent displays.

Joyce Boyer displayed her fascinating covers and stamps from the *Christmas Post Office at Christkindl*, celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2019, followed by

Alan Berisford's latest acquisitions from his visit to Numiphil in Vienna, the quality of which was outstanding.

Derek Walker displayed *WWI Feldpost*, commenting that the contents were often more fascinating than the covers, and **Barry Clark** put up a wonderful presentation of the *Village Post Offices in Voralberg, Austria*. As if this was not enough of a good thing

Andy Taylor displayed two themes, his *Hamburg Tram Post*, followed by a selection of *Mercuries – the elusive 1851 Austrian newspaper postage stamps*. Not to be outdone **Keith Brandon** then presented a truly wonderful display of *Mixed Frankings from the First Six Issues of Austria (1950 – 1967)*. Finally to round off a superb afternoon **Yvonne Wheatley** showed *TPOs of the Czech area*, including forerunners and cross-border items. It was clearly evident that the meeting was successful and had been much enjoyed by everyone, who now look forward to the next time!

→ www.austrianphilately.com

David Bravery

Cyprus Study Circle

The March meeting and the proposed meeting at London 2020 have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus. We have digitised all our Cyprus Circular Posts from 1974 to date, plus all the Study Papers. All this information has been loaded onto a memory stick (MS01v2.1), all fully interactively indexed. This stick was submitted to London 2020 - we await

judgement. Members will be able to order MS01v2.1 following issue of the next Cyprus Circular Post.

James Wigmore

Czech PS of GB

In February was the first meeting at our new venue, the Kings Head public house in Marylebone. It was well received by those attending. The morning part of the meeting was informal, with several members showing items of interest from their collections. The afternoon commenced with **Roger Morrell** welcoming everybody and announcing the result of the Bill Dawson Literature Award, won by **Alan Sobel** for his article on the *Removal of Czechoslovak Markings from Postal Cancellers in the Slovak State*. **James Hooper**'s display of *Bohemia and Moravia* covered almost



James Hooper in discussion with members

every stamp issue of the territory, and included Sudetenland overprints, overprints on the stamps of Czechoslovakia, plate markings and covers showing the various postal rates. Also on display were the Linden Leaf issue in various colours and the Hitler Head issue. Many printing flaws were shown, as well as plate blocks of several issues.

Bob McLeod

Forces Postal History

Like most other societies we have cancelled our meetings until the start of the new season in September due to the Coronavirus. That included our AGM which we have decided to put back until our 2021 AGM in April next year, effectively having a double AGM. Our President, **Richard Berry FRPSL**, has agreed to stay on for a further year in that post. We will start the new season on 12th September 2020 with an afternoon of displays by some of our past Presidents. However, we still hope to run our "War & Philately" stamp and postal history fair at Banstead Community Hall on 8th August 2020. In an effort to keep our members' attention during this bleak period we have come up with 'Cover of the day' on our members' only discussion forum to hopefully encourage others to do the same, allowing members to check the forum on a regular basis and see what is being listed. Remember, if you have an interest in military mails from any country, or any era → www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk where you will find write-ups of past meetings, online displays and details of membership.

Michael Dobbs

Germany & Colonies

We have been extremely active in the first half of 2020 with meetings luckily scheduled before the latest government advice to stay at home was issued. Those lucky enough to attend the North West's meeting in Frodsham were treated to a display on the *New Lufthansa* by **Geoff Robertshaw**. North of the border our Scottish group in Linlithgow were given a display of *WWI material* by **Ray Welland**. In London members

witnessed an exceptional display from **Mike Farrant** of *German East Africa 1914-17 during the First World War*. Lastly before the downturn of public gatherings we managed one last meeting of the revived and thriving Midlands group, meeting near Hinckley for a display by **Tony Bosworth** on *The 1936 Berlin Olympics*. We held our 300th Postal Auction featuring over 1800 lots of varied material from zeppelin covers to colonial material which created real interest. The society through its network of friends and fellow collectors is hopeful for our return to meet once again in the near future and wish everyone good health and happy collecting.

→ www.germanphilately.org or follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) @GermanPhilately. *Wesley Tierney*

Gibraltar Study Circle

Due to the Coronacrisis our meeting scheduled for the weekend 21st-23rd March was cancelled. As it was the AGM weekend and in our constitution an AGM is mandatory the preliminary rescheduling is for it to be held in conjunction with the competition weekend 25th-27th September at the Golden Lion Hotel, Northallerton. Of course, this may change depending on circumstances beyond anyone's control. Stay safe.

Bert Burton

Italy & Colonies

Paul Woodness and **Alan Moorcroft** travelled to the British Virgin Islands to present **Giorgio Migliavacca** with the Richard Harlow Trophy. Giorgio had been awarded the trophy by our members at the 2019 AGM, for his excellent editorship of our quarterly journal. It was by good fortune that

Paul and Alan were on a Caribbean cruise with their wives, and took the opportunity to present Giorgio with the trophy when they stopped at Tortola. Giorgio, who is also President, took over the Editorship of *fil-Italia* 6 years ago, and has taken the journal to new heights, winning Large Vermeil at Italia 2018 in Verona and Gold Medal at the



Giorgio receives the trophy

American APS Stampshows 2015 and 2018. Articles cover a wide range of subjects with full colour throughout.
 → www.icsc-uk.com or contact
 Richard Harlow 0208 977 8737.

Paul Woodness

Royal

From the birth of the railways they have been extensively used to transport the mail. Records show that in the United States contracts existed from 1832 that allowed the carriage of mail by railroad. In his presentation to the Royal Philatelic Society London on 9th January, **Hugh Feldman FRPSL** examined the first four decades of mail by railroad in the United States of America. Hugh's focus was centred on the rail operating companies, an area of study not previously covered by

published research. In addition to a thorough presentation, Hugh displayed a wealth of magnificent covers carried by the various railroad companies.

Claire Scott FRPSL achieved two 'firsts' on 23rd January when she presented *On The Fringes of Eastern Seas: Brunei 1895 – 1988*. It was the first time that Brunei had been the subject of an entire display to us, and the first time that an afternoon display had been accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation. The display revealed the fascinating philatelic story of the country, the study of the stamps being accompanied by essays, colour trials and proofs, as well as usage, while also shown were airmails, forces mail, postal stationery and postcards. Claire's illustrated presentation complemented the display by providing a clear insight into the historical and postal background of the country.

Extracts from the collections of members living in the Thames Valley area were shown to us on 6th February. The displays had been coordinated by **Dr Patrick Reid FRPSL**, and clearly demonstrated the diversity of interests. They embraced many aspects relating to Great Britain: from studies of the *Birth of the Adhesive Postage Stamp* and the *History of the 1d lilac*, to *Presentation Cards* for several issues and the *1948 Olympic Games set*, from the *Penny Postage Jubilee of 1890* to the *Development of Stamp Production at De La Rue*, from *Late Mail posted at the London Chief Office* to the *Scottish Additional Halfpenny Mail Tax*, and the mail service operated by the *Oxford Union Society*. The variety extended beyond Great Britain to include *Watermark varieties on Australian stamps*; *Queensland mail to the UK*; *Queensland Numeral issues*; *The 5/-*

postage due of Victoria; Tax marks on out-going mail of Victoria; Bahamas Queen's Staircase issue; Bechuanaland Protectorate; British Guiana Waterlow Lithographs; Colombia Transoceanico Airmails; Civil Censorship in Cyprus; Children's Evacuation Camps of Germany; Württemberg; Foreign cancels on the inter-War issues of Japan; New Zealand Advertisement stamps; New York Exchange Office markings; Man's Fascination with Gold. Probably the most comprehensive study of Rhodesia 1890-1924: *The Postal History and Stamps of the British South Africa Company*, was our subject on 20th February. Presenting the display was **Colin Hoffman RDPSA FRPSL** covering the period from the Occupation of Mashonaland in 1890 to a study of the Admirals issue. Throughout the quality of the material was superb, clearly thoroughly researched and outstandingly

presented. The celebrations of our 150th Anniversary featured an outstanding event on 29th February when 40 members filled the display frames with *Gems of Asian Philately*. The event took place at our premises at 15 Abchurch Lane in the City of London, with many of the participants having come to London specifically for the occasion. To mark this **Deirdra Morris** presented **Richard Stock** with a specially created embroidery. Based on a photograph of Her Majesty The Queen signing the Visitors' Book on opening the new premises last November, the embroidery by **Joni Zhou**, one of China's leading exponents of the art, took two weeks to complete. On 5th March **Robert Galland FRPSL** provided the display that told the story of the *Evolution of the British Franking System*. Bob explained that, before 1652, Official letters were carried either by Private Messenger or Carriers, or by the Court

Richard Stock (President) with (from top left clockwise): Hugh Feldman, Colin Hoffmann, Claire Scott, Dr Patrick Reid, Deirdra Morris and Bob Galland.





Jane Zhou with the embroidery of HM The Queen signing the Visitors' Book.

Post. When speed was of the essence, the letter would be endorsed 'Haste Post Haste', such a letter from 1643 being shown. The Franking System, introduced in 1653, allowed Parliamentary, Departmental and other official mail to be carried free. In its first year, some 8½ million letters were sent using the system. With just a signature needed as authorisation, the system was clearly open to abuse, such as offering signed pieces of otherwise blank paper in exchange for gifts or tips. A range of handstamps was used over the years to indicate mail that had been transmitted 'Free'. The system came to an end on 9th January 1840 with Uniform Penny Post being introduced the following day.

Strathclyde Postcard

We enjoy a wonderfully varied syllabus each year. In 2019-2020 the President,

Alex Magowan presented a most interesting history of *Hamilton, Lanarkshire* using historic postcards. He showed views of the town and its environs. From guests from the Ayrshire PS we viewed historic postcards of *Ayrshire* (**John Chalmers**), cigarette cards, brochures, postcards of St Kilda (**Ken Gibb**), *A Tale of 2 Cities – Coventry and Dresden* – both of which suffered badly during WWII (**Dan Ross**) and from **Stuart Gough**, a wonderful *Arran Extravaganza* illustrated with postcards, Stereoscope and Magic Lantern views, timetables of buses and trains which used to run on the island! By member **Gordon Shepherd** we were taken *In and Around Edinburgh*, with historic postcards taking members along the Coast from South Queensferry and into the City, showing various landmarks, and on to the Zoo and beyond – a fascinating view. A Members' Night on the theme of *I Also Collect* gave members a view of *Beer Labels, Ephemera from the Empire Exhibition of 1938, Cigarette cards on various themes, Pens of interesting shapes and with strange caps* and some *Miniature Books* – a thoroughly mesmerising evening. Coronavirus brought the session to an abrupt end! The new syllabus is being prepared and we are sure will be of interest to many. → elsiemiller@btinternet.com

Elsie Miller

Message to Every Reader

Please think of what you can send for the next issue. I would like short items, photographs, non-specialised material to entertain. I doubt that you will have many meetings to report. Copy must be in by 15th July. *Editor*

The British Thematic Association at Autumn Stampex

The British Thematic Association is the lead organisation for displays at Autumn Stampex 2020. The Association is encouraging both BTA members and non-members to participate fully in this event by entering a wide range of theme-based competitive and display exhibits that will highlight the scope of the Association's activities.

Those choosing to enter the competitive classes in Thematics, Open and Postcard should comply with the rules of those classes, but those entering display exhibits (that will not be judged), have the freedom to submit displays that follow a theme or tell a story and generally come under the umbrella of the pictorial classes.

Exhibits can be anything between one frame (16-sheet) and five frames, with no required qualification. Those wishing to enter eight frames in the competitive classes will require the necessary qualifications. Fees are £25 per frame. If you have not exhibited at Stampex before, the BTA will contribute £10 towards the fee of the first frame of your exhibit.

For information of how to enter please go to www.britishthematic.org.uk/events/2019-18-08-210-event.htm

Two talks relating to themed collecting have also been arranged. Barry Stagg, the BTA Chairman, will give a talk entitled "A Thematic Journey". This will be of interest to beginners and experienced collectors. On Saturday 3rd October **José Ramón Moreno**, past FEPA President, will address the question "How could I improve the evaluation of my thematic exhibit?"

BEWARE: E-MAIL VIRUS:

Even The Most Advanced Programs Cannot Take Care Of This One.
It Appears To Affect Those Who Were Born Prior To 1955

Symptoms:

1. Causes You To Send The Same E-Mail Twice.
2. Causes You To Send A Blank E-Mail.
3. Causes You To Send An E-Mail To The Wrong Person.
4. Causes You To Send It Back To The Person Who Sent It To You.
5. Causes You To Forget To Attach The Attachment.
6. Causes You To Hit "Send" Before You've Finished.
7. Causes You To Hit "Delete" Instead Of "Send".
8. Causes You To Hit "Send" When You Should "Delete"

It's Called
The "C-Nile Virus"

Juliet Keel of Thatcham PS

STAMP CLUB DISPLAY COMPETITIONS

It does appear, looking at some club programmes, that some clubs do not have annual displays which are competitions (presumably with awards made) and these are often some of the smaller-sized clubs where it may be felt that the number of members is not enough to sustain a competition. I thought perhaps the experience of the Telford Club in this area might be of interest.

When I first joined the Telford Club in the early 1980s there were 30 to 40 members with many being in the middle-aged group and therefore much more active in all things than now when most members are more elderly. The club had an annual competition (separate from annual displays) and these were 9-sheet displays, marked by a judge, usually invited from outside the club, to what were, if I remember correctly, national rules or based on national rules. The club has six trophies and in those far-off days they were keenly competed for by many members. The judge would comment on the competition entries to help members improve next time. Poor handwriting and little or no writing-up were always slated – hence no doctors ever won! The club competition was considered a precursor for entry into regional and then onto national competitions. We still have one member who made it into national competitions. The club also had an evening when members were invited to display on a set subject: A subject beginning with a stated letter of the alphabet, say, on *Anything beginning with the letter B*, or a named subject such as *Transport* would be set and any number of sheets could be displayed. I do not recall that our club marked these displays or had a prize for a winner. They were just an evening when members could display their own material without having to meet any set standards. I recall that one or two displays would be a comical interpretation of the set subject.

As the years passed the number of members decreased and entries decreased proportionally and the competition was in danger of disappearing by default. In one of my previous stints as club chairman some years ago I changed the format of the competition to make it easier and more attractive to members less keen on competitions. Gone was the imported judge and stringent judging rules. I set five marking headings for each competition section, being: Subject Suitability, Presentation, Material, Subject Knowledge and Overall Impression. Poor writing (but not illegible writing) and scarcity of material were explicitly excluded from the marking criteria because some members felt they could not meet high standards in these areas. Marking was by other members (no marking for one's own entry) with marks out of 10 in each marking heading – 6 being the average, above 6 being better and below 6 being not so good as average. One can see that it does not matter what standard was used by each member marking entries as long as he/she used the same standard for each entry. Full details of the marking system devised for the competition can be supplied on request.

The competition ran this way for a number of years but eventually the number of entries dwindled to the point where some categories had no entries or just the

one entry! Eventually the club competition ceased by default and the trophies went into store. The Members' Displays evening continued but a set subject was not stated and members were asked to display *Recent Acquisitions* or *Anything*. This continued for some years as the only form of members' displays and took up one evening in the club programme.

Eventually I became club chairman for the current period and last year club members astounded me when every member present produced something for display! The open subject members' display evening appears to be quite popular. At the end of the meeting last year I broached the subject of introducing a competitive element into the evening. Members stated they did not want to go back to the old system of set categories and voting rules. Then one member suggested that at the end of the evening members could vote which was "The Most Interesting Display" and a murmur of approval went around the room. So that is what we did in our recent Members' Displays evening on 9th March. Eight members brought material to display – three members were unable to be present due to illness. The subjects were: *Soldiers, Mauritius, Maidstone PH, PO Numbered Cancellers, GB 2018 Stamps, MacBraynes & Co, Royal Voyages, Miscellaneous Interesting Covers* and *The London 2010 International Philatelic Exhibition*. Quite an interesting range and all different from last year. Each entry was put up for display in turn. A maximum of 12 sheets was stipulated so each display took up one of our six display boards. Each display was numbered and members voted on slips of paper by putting the number of

their preferred "Most Interesting Display" on their slip of paper. There was a clear winner and it was: *Miscellaneous Interesting Covers* by **Bruce McLaren**. The winner received a certificate and one of the club trophies to keep for a year. I managed to find a trophy among the club trophies which did not have a named category on it.



So it seems we have found a winning format for a small club and I hope other clubs who do not run a club competition may like to give it a try. You can also

ring me on 01952-405458 for a chat about club competitions if you want to know more about ours.

Richard Camp Chairman, Telford Stamp and Card Club

Stamp Collector magazine offer

During these challenging times, we want to ensure people are still able to enjoy their stamp collecting hobby. We've currently got a special subscription offer (UK only) which is 3 issues for just 3p (worth over £13). No ties or contract. The link to claim is: <https://stamp.cm/3forfree>

There have been no reports from Stamp Active or any other Youth Activity, not surprising really. However this might be a time for grandparents, uncles, aunts and parents to do something philatelic with their younger family members. The report below might be one way to make a good start.



The
Postal
Museum

The Postal Museum launches their [Make a Connection online hub](#) for everyone to enjoy the museum experience virtually whilst its physical doors remain temporarily closed due to the

Coronavirus outbreak. For a limited time only, everyone will be able to experience the museum's star attraction - Mail Rail - from the comfort of their own home. Viewers of the Mail Rail from Home virtual



tour can explore the hidden subterranean world of the 100-year-old Post Office Railway on a miniature train transporting them through its original narrow tunnels. Mail Rail from Home immersive virtual ride lasts approximately 10 minutes and is narrated by Ray Middlesworth, former Mail Rail engineer. Ray guides viewers through the tunnels that run beneath the Mount Pleasant sorting office, stopping at various points along the way, including the largely unchanged station platforms, to give an insight into how the railway kept post coursing through London for 22 hours a day and kept Britain, and the world, connected. A story relevant now more than ever. An impressive audio-visual display transports viewers back in time to help them understand the impact of the railway on our ability to communicate with friends, family and business partners across the world today. Powerful events from our history, including the Blitz, are revealed

and a theatrical experience peels back the layers of time to bring the station back to its lively 1930s heyday. In addition to this virtual experience, which features footage usually exclusive to the in-museum experience, visitors to Make a Connection online can see the museum's off-site store where large objects like vehicles and pillar boxes are stored, explore objects from the collections, revisit past exhibitions and read stories of extraordinary communication from Postal Museum experts to inspire them to make meaningful connections during lockdown.

Make a Connection online hub is open for a limited time only at: www.postalmuseum.org/make-a-connection

Mail Rail from Home can be viewed at www.postalmuseum.org/mail-rail-from-home

ABPS Handbook & Directory: 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. We apologise for any errors that have caused problems or distress. Please note the changes below.

Specialist Societies

Alba Stamp Group (p 66): Secretary **Graham Mill** g.mill@ntlworld.com

Netherlands Philatelic Circle (p 79): Correspondence to:

Philip Longbottom prlongbottom@aol.com

Local Societies

Amersham & District PS (p 89): New Secretary is **Keith Wright**
keith_a_wright@btinternet.com

Dawlish Stamp Club (p 109) has a new website <http://dawlishsc.org>

Falmouth & District PS (p 113): Secretary David James has died: New Secretary is **Mrs D Draper** 01326 372991

Heathfield & District PS (p 119): Secretary contact bob.ely@outlook.com

Shoeburyness & District PS (pp 53 & 176) closed on 31st January.

Swale Philatelic Society and Postcard group (p 160) have rejoined ABPS.

The Secretary is: **Rodney Browne** 01795 425820

York PS (p 171) has a new secretary: **Edyth Knight** edythk33@gmail.com

Speakers

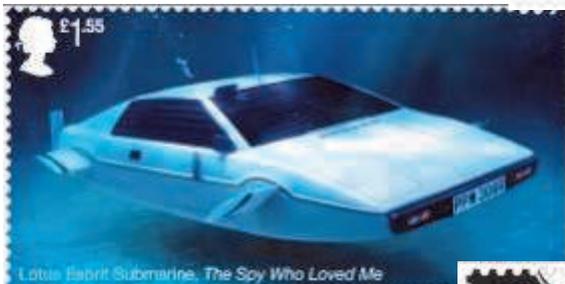
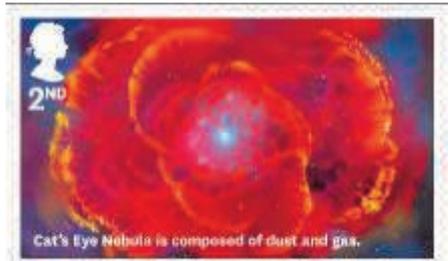
Alan Watson (p 253), **Richard Wiggins** (p 256) have died - please remove from list

British Stamp news



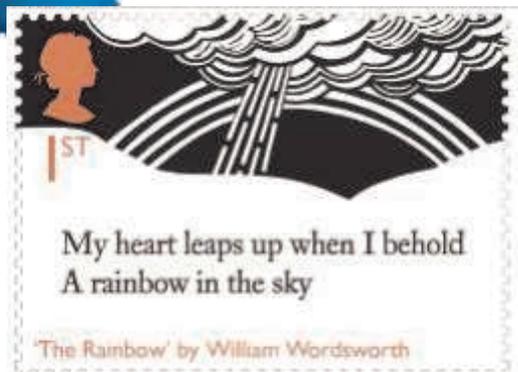
During lockdown some people might have been introduced to video games, especially if they are in contact with grandchildren. The set issued in January might well have been interesting to both oldies, recalling time misspent when thought to be doing work, and youngsters seeing where their current favourite originated. I was never any good at them

– too ham-fisted. In February we celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the Royal Society with a fine set of Astronomical representations. One of them, the Cat's Eye Nebula, arrived on an envelope recently – wonders never cease! March's James Bond issues



featured the six actors who have portrayed James Bond and four Q Branch stamps, each of which include hidden features, revealed when using a

UV light, and a special 007 perforation. Film buffs will no doubt be pleased. Finally in April came the opposite end of the Literary Spectrum, celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the birth of William Wordsworth. At least all of these can be seen to have strong links with Britain and us Britons. The choice of the rainbow is my tribute to key workers.



The Editor's views are not necessarily those of the ABPS

Diary for the next few months

Caveat: Many events might be postponed or cancelled. Please check before making a journey.

Local and regional events by ABPS members

Please give the postcode of your venues - it helps people with satnavs.

May

- 16 South Wales Philatelic Societies Annual Convention: 9.30 - 4, Princess Royal Theatre, **Port Talbot** SA13 1PJ
- 21 Redruth Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Jubilee Hall, Wesley Building, Wesley Street, **Redruth** TR15 2EG → 07927 198758 or www.cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/contact-us.php

June

- 6 RINGPEX - Ringwood Philatelic Society Annual Fair: 10 - 4, Greyfriars Community Centre, **Ringwood** BH24 1DW → 01425470710
- 13 SWINPEX 2020: 10 - 4, St Joseph's RC College, Ocotal Way, **Swindon**, Wiltshire, SN3 3LR → gibbon35@gmail.com or 01793813484
- 20 "Mayflower 400" Plymouth Stamp & Postcard Exhibition & Fair and Wessex Federation: 10 - 4, Plymouth Guildhall, **Plymouth** PL1 2BJ → 01752 402981

July

- 11 YPA Convention hosted by Wakefield PS & Barnsley PS: 10 - 4.30 Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, 154 Northgate, **Wakefield** WF1 3QX → 07805 509469 or life.draw@btinternet.com
- 11 Telford Stamp, Card and Coin Fair: 9.30 - 2, Belmont Hall, New Street, **Wellington, Telford** TF1 1LU → 01952405458
- 15 Grimsby & District Club Auction → Chris Dodworth 06549281651 for information and catalogue

August

- 1 NEWQUEX Stamp Fair: Trevisker St. Eval Community Centre, Orion Drive, **St Eval**, Near Wadebridge PL27 7TU → 01288 355918 or www.cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/contact-us.php

September

- 5 Poole and Bournemouth Stamp & Postcard Club Annual Fair: 10 - 4 Upton Community Centre, Poole Road, **Upton** BH16 5JA
→ <http://www.philatellyinbournemouth.co.uk/poole-club.html>
- 12 City of Preston Stamp Fair - see top of next page
- 26 HAMPEX 2020 Hampshire Federation: 10 - 4, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, **Wickham** PO17 5AL → www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfpfx.htm

October

- 3 Yeovil Stamp and Postcard Fair: Digby Memorial Hall, **Sherborne**



CITY OF PRESTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Stamp Fair (FREE Entry)

12th September 2020 (Saturday)

Doors open 10am and Close 4pm

Barton Village Hall (A6) PR3 5AA

(Plenty of free parking / Food & Drink available)

- 10 Morecambe & District Annual Auction: Viewing from 10, Auction starts at 1, The Memorial Hall, Poulton Square, **Morecambe** LA4 5PZ → 01524 733589 or 01931 715600
- 10 Telford Stamp, Card and Coin Fair: 9.30 - 2, Belmont Hall, New Street, **Wellington, Telford** TF1 1LU → 01952405458
- 24 CORNEX Pensilva: 10 - 4, Millennium Hall, Princess Road, **Pensilva, Liskeard** PL14 5NF → 01288 355918 or www.cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/contact-us.php
- 31 Taunton Annual Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, St James Church Hall, St James Street, **Taunton** TA1 1JS → Peter Hardie 01823 666371

For the next few years

National Exhibitions 2020-21

Held at Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, **London** N1 0QH unless otherwise stated.

- 30th September - 3rd October 2020: AUTUMN STAMPEX 2020: The British Thematic Association will be the lead society. Barry Stagg is the coordinator. It will include an inter-Federation competition. Details will be published in February / March 2020

- 17th - 20th February 2021 SPRING STAMPEX 2021
- 29th September - 2nd October 2021 AUTUMN STAMPEX 2021

International Exhibitions 2020-2022

- 10th-12th July 2020: Estonia 2020 International Stamp Exhibition at Estonian National Museum, Tartu It is a national show with international participation and FIP recognition. www.refse.ee
- 17th - 20th March 2021: IPEX 2021, Cape Town, South Africa. FIP patronage. UK Commissioner: Jon Aitchison britishlocals@aol.com Further information on classes, dates and IREX is at www.capetown2021.org
- 6th - 9th May 2021: IBRA 2021 Essen. FIP specialised international exhibition with FEPA recognition. Classes invited will be Traditional, Postal History, Thematic and Picture Postcard. → www.ibra2021.de UK deadline for entries is 23 September 2020 but this is extended to 4 October 2020 for anyone seeking to achieve qualification of a new exhibit at Autumn Stampex 2020 For entries please contact the UK commissioner Frank Walton Frank@FrankWalton.com
- August 2021: PHILNIPPON 2021, Yokohama. FIP patronage. To mark the 150th anniversary of the Japanese postage stamp. Details awaited.
- 19th - 22nd November 2021: NOTOS 2021, Peristeri Exhibition Centre, Athens. FEPA patronage with FIP recognition. All classes invited. → hps.gr/notos2021 or notos2021@hps.gr UK deadline for entries is 21 February 2021 UK commissioner Mike Roberts at mjyr@btinternet.com or 07724 124059
- 19th - 26th February 2022 The postponed LONDON 2020 International Stamp Exhibition: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, **London** N1 0QH. Specialised World Stamp Championship Exhibition with FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. 2750 frames (change-over of material after 4 days). Competitive classes will be Championship, Traditional, Postal History, Aerophilately, Revenue, Postal Stationery, Thematic, Literature (including digital), Open, Modern, Picture Postcards and Youth. IREX will be published shortly → www.london2020.co UK Commissioner: Mike JY Roberts. Assistant Commissioner: Kim Stuckey

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 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 that is on the 2nd line of tabs.

ABPS General Information

Honorary Life Vice Presidents

Brian Asquith, John Baron, Tony Bosworth, Mike Brindle, Peter Chantry, Michael Elliott, Hugh Feldman, John Hammonds, Phil Kenton, Margaret Morris, Susan Oliver, Pat Rothnie, Neil Russell, Frank Soutar, Richard West, Alan Wood.

Executive Committee

Chairman: **Graham Winters** j.g.winters@hotmail.co.uk
Vice Chairman: **Steven Harrison** sharrison500@btinternet.com
General Secretary: **George Henshilwood** secretary@abps.org.uk
Company Secretary & Treasurer and Small Grants Chairman: **Nigel RN Gooch** treasurer@abps.org.uk
Minutes Secretary & Editor (Newsletter): **Keith S Burton** editor@abps.org.uk
01423 569907
Awards Committee Chair: **Yvonne Wheatley** awards@abps.org.uk
Communication Director: **Alan D Godfrey** communications@abps.org.uk
Membership & ABPS News Advertising Manager: **Barry Stagg** membership@abps.org.uk
07858 332620
Specialist Societies Liaison: **Dane Garrod** dane.garrod5@btinternet.com
International & Exhibitions Chairman: **Simon Richards** Simon@sidebell.co.uk
PR: **John A Davies** davies1890@btinternet.com
Congress Committee Chairman: **Gerald Marriner** gerald.marriner@gmail.com
Webmaster: **Maurice Buxton** webmaster@abps.org.uk
Youth: **Susan Henderson** suziemy1960@gmail.com

Philatelic Fund Representative: **Christine Earle**

Dealers Representative: **Bill Barrell**

ABPS News Advertising Manager: **Eddie Mays**

Distribution Manager: **John Woodson**

bill@barrell.co.uk
adman.abps@gmail.com
jrwinrmh@gmail.com

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

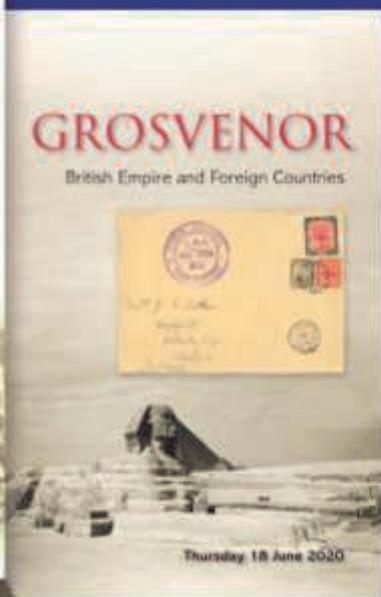
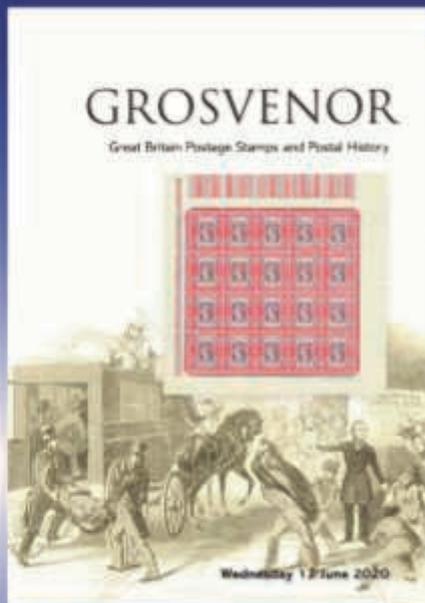
Stamp Active Network: please write to:

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.

Forthcoming Auctions



Due to recent events, the auction schedule is subject to postponements in accordance with government guidelines. All advertised dates are subject to revision. For latest information please refer to the Grosvenor website, www.grosvenorauctions.com.

Our auction of **Great Britain** has been rescheduled to **June 17** and the auction of **British Empire & Foreign Countries** will take place on **June 18**. The next specialised section of **Falkland Islands & Antarctica** will be included in our auction on **September 29**.

We are currently accepting consignments for our **Autumn 2020** series of auctions. Contact **Constanze Dennis** or **Tom Margalski** for further advice and assistance.

GROSVENOR

399-401 Strand Third Floor London WC2R 0LT

T: +44 (0)20 7379 8789 F: +44 (0)20 7379 9737 E: info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk

www.grosvenorauctions.com

DERBY OFFICE

Cavendish House
153-157 London Road
Derby
DE1 2SY



LONDON OFFICE

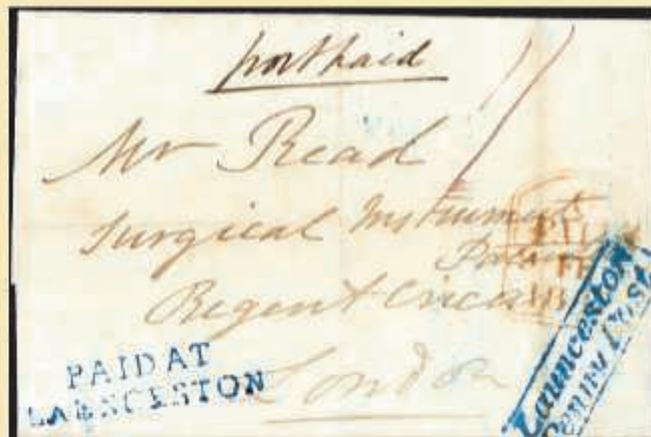
Suite G05
Dowgate Hill House
14-16 Dowgate Hill
London, EC4R 2SU

Over 65 years' Service to Philately

June 3rd 2020 - Great Britain & Worldwide auction

Featuring the John Sussex RDP collection of East Sussex postal history and part 2 of a collection of fine Mulreadies and 1d blacks. Also including other fine Great Britain postal history including Cornwall, Devon, Leeds, Lincoln, Manchester, and Nottingham.

For updates on the location of viewings and auctions, please see our website www.cavendish-auctions.com



Search our catalogues on philasearch.com and stampauctionnetwork.com

LIVE ONLINE BIDDING in association with easyLiveAuction.com -
If you REGISTER TO BID for these auctions,
Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd. will pay the £3 + VAT flat fee.

www.cavendish-auctions.com

stamps@cavendish-auctions.com

Derby - Phone (44) 01332 250 970

Fax - (44) 01332 294 440

London - Phone (44)020 8785 7750