

Scandinavia PS at Gloucester in April



See p 53

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ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

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

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Cover pictures: *Peter Sondhelm receives the Norden Award for his article on the Faroe Islands from Editor Gwynne Harris, David Macdonald and John Perry, Wilf Vevers giving his display (© Michael Chapling), A new member to the weekend taking it in.*

An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage www.abps.org.uk soon after publication.

Contact details for the ABPS are on the page facing the inside rear cover.

Copy dates: please send your material as soon as ready; at present the copy deadlines are 31 December, 31 March, 31 July, 14 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 62) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.

A New Chairman's Message

Firstly, a word or two about John Baron who has led the organisation with distinction for many years. Congratulation on the award of the Congress Medal. If I can attend anywhere near as many events as he did, I will surely be doing well. I intend to consult John on a regular basis. Too often outgoing leaders simply leave and take much experience with them. I am sure that he will help me avoid many pitfalls as well as providing wise counsel.

A little about myself: I am currently a regional representative of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and a member of the National Judging Team for Postal History, Postal Stationery and the Pictorial Classes. I am chairman of the Ceylon Study Circle, President of the Yorkshire Philatelic Association and member of the Wakefield PS, the Great Britain PS, the Postal History Society and Associate Member of the SPH. In my spare time, I exhibit and display my various collections of Ceylon, Golf, Silk and other postcards, and King George VI GB to anyone who wants to see them. I intend to remain as ABPS chairman for a limited time - until the Harrogate Congress of 2021. It sounds a long time, but it is just 4 years. In that time I have a number of priorities. If you heard my Kay Goodman Lecture at the



Cardiff Congress, you will know what they are:

To promote a higher profile for the ABPS through a NATIONAL STAMP DAY while continuing to support International, National, Regional and Local events.

A better funded ABPS through sponsorship and other fund-raising activities.

To promote and encourage "joined up thinking" through the PHILATELIC HUB for the benefit of all collectors at all levels.

but above all, to remember that we do this for fun. If anyone has other ideas about how the ABPS can promote and benefit our great hobby in any way or at any level, please let me know.

Graham Winters FRPSL

Your society information?

Please let the ABPS Secretary and/or News Editor know of any changes to your society details, including the information on the ABPS website about your society. Contact details are on the last page of each issue. Please tell your Federation Secretary too.

Editorial

As usual I must start by apologising to all societies and correspondents who found errors, omissions and faults in the previous issue. I put it down to advanced years but you might have another view. My maximum apology has to go to the Scandinavian Society and Susan Oliver who sent me an excellent report with photographs on their April weekend meeting in Gloucestershire. It was in very good time and I even acknowledged receipt but I or my computer managed to lose it! You will find the full report in the main section and the photographs you have already seen. I hope that I am forgiven.

On a more positive note I was recently informed of two initiatives that deserve note and support where possible. The first is that a new society is in the process of forming on the South Coast - to be called the Adur Stamp Club. Jennifer Knight has been in contact with us to ask about affiliating to ABPS. How pleasant to find a group being so positive when some societies are deciding that there is no point in

supporting the National and International Philatelic scene.

The second is that the organisers of the Charing Cross Stamp Market, which takes place every Saturday in London near the Embankment Underground Station, are offering a unique opportunity to younger stamp collectors under the age of 25. There will be 2 tables provided free of charge for embryonic dealers to try their material in a well-attended central selling place. If you go there sometimes look out for the youngsters and try to give them some encouragement. See the Stamp Active News page for more details.

I have just returned from Congress in Cardiff and am looking forward to Stampex and the new season. I have seen brilliant displays and expect to see more. I have even started offering my own displays. It is good to share what we have and the enjoyment it can give. What a busy hobby we have.

Keith Burton



To all Local & Specialist Secretaries and Treasurers.

The ABPS sends out various emails to Secretaries and Treasurers throughout the year and, sadly, a good number fail to reach their intended destination because the email address is no longer valid. It would help the ABPS and your membership if all secretaries and treasurers used a generic email address such as secretaryXYZstudycircle@outlook.com or treasurerABCphilatelicsociety@gmail.com (many other email providers are available!). It takes only a few seconds to set up such an email address. This would ensure that the ABPS does not lose contact with its membership and that you receive all our correspondence. Please give it some thought.

Barry Stagg, ABPS Membership Secretary

ABPS Philatelic Congress of Great Britain 2017

All those attending enjoyed the 2017 Congress held at the Jurys Inn, Cardiff between 27th and 30th July. We started off on Thursday afternoon with a fine display entitled *Cardiff Postal Services* by **Ray Simpson FRPSL**. This included several rare pre-stamp items. It was followed by a presentation by members of the South Wales Postcard Club. **Jon Aitchison** then showed a short film (with acknowledgement to the British Library) which included fascinating clips of Philatelic Congresses during the years 1935 – 1940. There was a drinks reception in the early evening sponsored by **Barry Horne** of Stamp Insurance Services. Following an enjoyable buffet meal, there was a '4 sheets to tell a story' competition in which 20 delegates participated and everyone voted. **Yvonne Wheatley's** entry was the winner.

Friday's proceedings began with standing displays on *Monmouthshire* by members of the Newport and Gwent Philatelic Societies –

John Perry, Roy Bentley and **Martyn Britton**. It was a

privilege for members attending to receive a visit from the Lord Mayor of Cardiff who officially opened Congress. The first

presentation of the day was by **Dane Garrod FRPSL** entitled *EDWINSFORD - A*

Carmarthenshire social and postal history. This was the story of the Drummond family and included some rare

photographs and early correspondence. **Graham**

Winters FRPSL then delivered the Kay Goodman lecture. His topic was *The Future of ABPS*. He had several thought provoking ideas for the future. At the AGM of the ABPS, **Graham** was elected as the new Chairman. We look forward to him progressing these thoughts in the next four years. **Rufus Barnes** was confirmed as Vice Chairman.

Friday afternoon was for the Congress Medal and RDP Ceremony in the fine Council Chamber of the City Hall in Cardiff. The retiring Chairman of ABPS John Baron FRPSL received the 2017 Congress Medal. This was followed by the signing of the Roll by three of the four new RDPs – **Alan Holyoake FRPSL**, **Colin Tabcart FRPSL** and **John Hotchner**.



The Lord Mayor, John Perry and Alan Holyoake enjoying a chat.



Ray Todd and Brian Trotter in the Council Chamber

In the evening there was a drinks reception, kindly sponsored by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. This was followed by a superb banquet during which we were entertained by a magnificent Welsh Choir. On Saturday morning there was a standing display on the *Postal History of Pembrokeshire* by **Gerald Marriner FRPSL**. The first presentation of the day was by the new Congress Medallist, **John Baron FRPSL**. His subject was *The Union Bank of Scotland*. This was followed by presentations from the three RDPs – **Alan Holyoake English Postal History prior to the Bishop Mark**, **Colin Tabearth FRPSL via Torres Strait** and **John Hotchner U.S.**

Postal Counterfeits ~ a cautionary tale. Before lunch, there were short displays by members of the Philatelic Congress Committee: **John Perry Finland – Postal Services during WWII**; **Steven Harrison GB Express Mail**; **Rufus Barnes Abu Dhabi**; **Graham Winters Ceylon – QV postal stationery** and **Jon Aitchison Getting to the Bottom of Things**.

Saturday afternoon was free for the delegates to explore the local attractions of Cardiff.

John Sussex FRPSL began Sunday's presentations with a display on the postal history of *Welsh Regionals*. **Erne Grieve** followed with *Writing, Paper and Implements*, including unusual stamp boxes. Erne concluded her presentation informing us about her visits to schools where she introduces Stamp Collecting to Children. Finally, members of local South Wales Philatelic Societies entertained us to ten interesting short displays by **Nigel McGaw WWI – POW Internment Camps**, **Philip Marsden Bridges of Wales**, **Reg Lyon Lyon Postal History**, **Jan Kramer Catapult Mail**, **Alistair MacKinnon HMS Endurance 1968 – 1991**, **Neil Jones New Zealand – 1920 Victory Stamp Issues**, **Chris Griffiths GB Overprints**, **Paul Clarke South Africa at War – 1939 to 1945**, **Brian Brandon St Helena** and **Les Ashton-Smith Leonardo Da Vinci**.

This was a very enjoyable and friendly Congress which included several first-timers. Congress 2018 will be held during the last weekend of July in Gateshead. We look forward to seeing YOU there. *Gerald Marriner FRPSL*

To all Clubs and Societies

Any affiliated philatelic club or society can advertise an event in ABPS News for a very competitive price (subject to space being available). If you would like to advertise your event please contact Barry Stagg at membership@abps.org.uk Please note that copy dates are well in advance of the ABPS News publication dates so please book early! Of course a small notification goes in the Diary free.

A Letter from the Future

I was introduced to Runnymede Junior School when my two Grandchildren enrolled there in 2014. As a support volunteer I sat in on a talk given to year 3 by Erene Grieve. She captivated the children with a brief history of stamps then showed them the variety of subjects and how they could be collected and displayed in an album. Best of all was the selection of free stamps, which were given to the children in the class.

I knew little about stamps before that date, never having collected them as a child. However I did feel that the enthusiasm shown by the kids on the day should not go to waste. Previously the school had had a thriving stamp Club. The previous governor who ran it retired and there was no one left to take it over. As a result, I volunteered my time on a Monday and Thursday lunchtime to set up a new Stamp Collectors Club. We enrolled three members of the previous club from years 5 and 6 to act as mentors and 10 children from year 3.

With support from Stamp Active and some resources left over from the old Club we began a simple imaginary journey around the world. Children had to find stamps showing forms of transport, locations and animals that would be found on this imaginary trip. Their response had me hooked! Not only that but their friends from other years got to hear about it and we soon got extra members and we now have 25 children who turn up regularly. They each have an album, bought by a relative or supplied by me from funds allocated by the school (sourced by very supportive dealers at the local stamp fairs). We have had two school trips to the main Stamp Fair held each year at the Liverpool Liner Hotel. The generosity and support given to the children by the various dealers and stallholders has kept the momentum of interest amongst the children.

We gained some publicity in a couple of Stamp magazines and via twitter which attracted support from both the Isle of Man Postal service (who donated stamps and Aardmann Animation Stamp Postcards to the children). We also have had regular support from a Mr Brian Stanmore who had read the article and now sends me envelopes filled with stamps from around the world to give to the children.

I have filled three shoeboxes with envelopes sorted, alphabetically by country, subject matter, theme e.g. transport, sport, famous people, flowers, birds etc. The children take some home and keep what they want, returning the envelope to its correct position so as to keep things in order.

I too began to keep an album, concentrating on UK stamps from Victoria through to 2016. This has now grown to 4 volumes with all the swaps laid out in stock books so the children can fill in the gaps in their own collections.

Being retired, I do have time on my hands. The Club has given me a purpose and a hobby I can develop at leisure. What I didn't bargain for was the affection and respect shown by the children or the fellowship of the school staff and the various dealers I have met through the internet and at the fairs. It has kept my mind active (thinking of new competitions and activities to vary the routine) and I

now have a library of books. These help me to answer the numerous questions about history, rarity, value etc of stamps.

I would recommend anyone to get involved in starting a Club such as Runnymede's. The support from Stamp Active and the enthusiasm that has developed in the children, reinforces the lessons in school and widens their education outside the curriculum. The best of all, it taps into their natural tendency to collect things and no doubt will give them a hobby they can take away with them when they move to senior school. That is a reward in itself.

Steve Pye Co Opted Governor

Steve was not a stamp collector when he went to his grandchildren's school to help as a support volunteer at a talk given by Erene Grieve. His letter tells of what has happened since then and what it has meant to him, the children and the school.

It is with people like Steve that the future of our hobby lies, and his letter shows that there are gains all round for those who are prepared to give of their time and effort in helping youngsters to get started.

Dave Rossall

Disposal of ABPS Exhibition frames

The ABPS is disposing of its old exhibition frames and welcomes interest from all Federations and affiliated Philatelic Societies and Clubs to take some of these frames, free of charge.

Most of you will have seen the frames at Stampex, Midpex or at many other major philatelic events in this country. Each frame can be double or single sided and each face carries 16 sheets in a 4 by 4 configuration.

The frames are currently stored at the Business Design Centre in Islington and the Society or Club **shall provide staff (at least two fit people) and transport** to move and carry the frames from this location. Neither the BDC nor the ABPS has the resources to move the frames. Any subsequent maintenance, modification, storage, transport, erection, disposal and insurance costs will be the responsibility of the Philatelic Society or Club.

Frames which are already loaned out to Federations, Clubs or Societies will become the property of these Federations, Clubs or Societies, under the same terms as shown above.

If you are interested in having some of these frames **please contact the ABPS Membership Secretary by Friday 29th September 2017** to register an interest. Arrangements for picking up the frames will need to be coordinated with a number of people so **please do not arrive to pick up the frames without an appointment**. Further, because the BDC is a very busy place and due to parking restrictions agreed timescales will not be flexible. At the moment the plan is to scrap any unwanted or unclaimed frames at the end of the year.

Further information can be obtained from Barry Stagg, ABPS Membership Secretary.

Society anniversaries for 2017

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:

Bristol Philatelic Society – 120



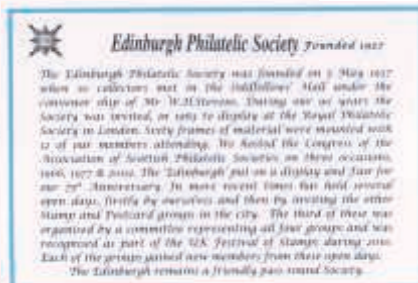
Top Table - River Cottage

Our 120th anniversary celebrations were held in style this summer at Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's River Cottage Canteen restaurant in Bristol. We invited the Lord Mayor to attend as our VIP guest and

she graciously accepted and unknown to us it was one of her first engagements in her new year of office. We were pleased to be included in her busy schedule. The meal was well attended with over thirty guests with members both old and new. There were addresses by both the mayor and the out-going president **Neil Jones**. As a special part of the evening, **Brian Purcell** presented us with his latest publication on the postal history of Bristol. This kind donation was rightly publicly acknowledged and we are sure it will become a new eminent reference source on the subject. The publication has gone straight into the society library for the benefit of all of our members. We meet fortnightly in Bristol from the autumn to the spring and new members are always welcome to join.

Les Ashton-Smith

Edinburgh Philatelic Society - 90



EPS was formed on 5th May 1927 with 10 members, currently we have 82. Unfortunately no original members survive. Our longest serving member joined us in 1964. We still have 9 members who joined between our 40th & 50th anniversaries and 3 who joined at "77". **James C Haggart**, immediate past secretary, celebrates 50

years with the society this year. Our Golden Jubilee “Edinburgh 77” was a three-day Exhibition and Trade Fair in the Assembly Rooms on George Street, in the city centre and a dinner with 131 attendees (131 was Edinburgh’s original post code and adopted as the Society emblem). Our President **David C Mekié**, was very much involved in “77” and also president for the 75th anniversary in 2002. We also hosted the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies (ASPS) Congress in 1966, 1977 and 2002. Though there was no major event held for our 90th year, **Mohamed Nidham Al Bulushi** created a 90th Anniversary cover (limited edition of 90) which went on sale at the “77” presentation and at our AGM. It was also available at Scottish Congress a few days later. Sales of these and surplus 50th & 75th anniversary memorabilia will go into the centennial fund “Towards 2027”.

Bob Catto

Crewe & District Philatelic Society - 80

On 8th October we will be holding a dinner to celebrate our 80th Anniversary. Over the years, we have met in various locations, moving from a small meeting place to larger premises as the society grew. Today we meet in St. Peter’s Church Hall, which is comfortable but not very good for parking. We hold the usual types of meetings: Members’ displays, competitions, auctions, visiting speakers etc. We also play our part in the NW Federation when our members give displays at other societies. Three mid-day meetings are also held in the summer months.

Fred Ikin

The Belgian Philatelic Study Circle – 70

Formed in 1947 as the Belgian Specialists Study Circle, we celebrate our 70th Anniversary this year. Initially membership was by invitation amongst well known philatelists with a shared interest in Belgium. They met to undertake research, exchange information and record the results in the English language. Over the years membership has liberalised and expanded and is now worldwide though particularly strong in Belgium. We now cater for collectors at all levels, be they interested in stamps, postal history or cinderellas. Belgium is well endowed with all of these being a country that offers a wide variety of collecting and studying opportunities in what people see as a rather small, possibly insignificant, nation. Over the years we have amassed what is surely the most comprehensive library on the subject, with items in English, French or Dutch. We also continue to meet the aim of preserving the information researched and incorporated in our members’ collections in a permanent record for future generations through our quarterly journal “Belgapost” and by publishing monographs on specific topics. Belgapost has an award-winning international reputation and is now moving into the 21st century by becoming available electronically. Currently catering for all levels of collecting, the Circle holds occasional friendly and informal meetings in London together with a “country” residential weekend, held in late summer at a different location each year. More recently these were joint weekend meetings hosted by the Netherlands Philatelic Circle. There is an exchange packet and several auctions each year providing members with the opportunity of new acquisitions. Regular visits are made to Belgium, usually

coinciding with a National Philatelic Exhibition. For details of membership and an application form → www.belgianphilatelicstudycircle.co.uk or Chris Howe at secretary@belgianphilatelicstudycircle.org.uk or chrishowe1947@gmail.com
Chris Howe

Cheltenham Philatelic Society - 70

Our 70th anniversary was suitably marked by a very enjoyable dinner at the Clubhouse of the Prescott Hill Climb attended by 62 members, guests and partners. Members were delighted to welcome special guests **Alan Godfrey**, representing ABPS, and his wife **Kay**, **Austin Mears**, Chairman of the Stroud Philatelic Society accompanied by his wife **Valerie**, and **Martyn Bailey**, Chairman of the Gloucestershire Philatelic Society.



Our society was formed in May 1947 by a dozen collectors involved in national security, forerunners of GCHQ, and high ranking ex-military staff. By the end of that year there were 50 members. Over the years the Society has benefited from the membership of many distinguished philatelists. These range from **Ron Alcock**, the specialist GB dealer and author of many outstanding reference publications relating to the line engraved issues and postmarks, to current member and thematic specialist **Barry Stagg**, recently appointed Membership Secretary and ABPS News Advertising Manager.

We pride ourselves on having an excellent speaker programme generating well attended fortnightly meetings between September and June. Following our formation, meetings have been variously held at the Town Hall, Playhouse Theatre, Victory Club and the Old Bakery before settling for many years past at the Prestbury Library.

Visits from other Societies in the region and reciprocal visits are an important element of the programme which now includes an annual Tri Club meeting with the Stroud and Gloucestershire Societies. An active packet circuit and annual

auction are equally important to membership retention and growth. With over 60 current members the Society aims to be around for another 70 years!

Simon Griffin

Loughborough & District Philatelic Society – 70

On 23rd June 2017 our society was 70 years of age. It was formed by Captain



Lionel Blower & Brian Williams

Emerson Huston, an eminent industrialist, entrepreneur and philatelist, of Barrow-on-Soar, Leicestershire, who with a few other enthusiasts met in the Loughborough library on 23rd June 1947. One of those members was Tom Blower, a postmaster from the village of Mountsorrel, Leicestershire. He used to take his son Lionel along to some of the meetings. Lionel is still a member of the Society. He and Brian J Williams are our two longest serving members. Ours is not a large society (32 members at present), however it is the variety and quality of its members' interests that cover

all aspects of philately and indeed anything to do with the post. On 30th June we held a special anniversary dinner. The Secretary (and this year's President) is Rowland F Tatton 01509-268073. Further details from sites.google.com/site/loughboroughphilatelic/

Rowland Tatton

Forces Postal History Society - 65

On 18th October 2017 we celebrated our 65th Anniversary. The inaugural meeting took place on 18th October 1952 when **Colonel G R Crouch** was appointed President and **John A Smith** appointed Chairman. These are names familiar to many military postal historians and not just because they are to be found on covers. Indeed John Smith wrote a regular column on British FPO postmarks in the weekly Stamp Collecting magazine for many years from the early 1950s. The first meeting of the Society did not take place until 24th January 1953 at the Lawns Hotel in South Kensington, then subsequently at the Imperial War Museum; we now meet at the Union Jack Club in Waterloo, London SE1. For the 65th Anniversary year we held a celebratory meeting in March and an anniversary dinner in York in a weekend away to coincide with the biannual York Stamp & Coin Fair in July and we will also be producing an anniversary booklet. We will also celebrate the inaugural meeting with a special members' display on 14th October.

Like many societies our numbers have reduced over the years but we still have a healthy membership. Despite the aging profile of our members we have also embraced modern technology with a website which is kept up-to-date with the society programme, meeting reports and displays of Forces postal history material. We also have a thriving "members only" discussion forum where most queries get answered, an expanding online archive of past Journals and the opportunity to receive new Journals online rather than clutter up homes with

paper! This requires active and forward-thinking members volunteering to assist in running a vibrant society - and we are thankful that such exist within our membership. 65 years young - I hope we can last for another 65 years!
www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk *Michael Dobbs*

Lanarkshire Philatelic Society – 50 years

We have been particularly busy and outgoing in our 50th year. We began with our annual Fair in Motherwell in February, but more significant was our hosting of the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies Congress in Perth on 21st and 22nd April 2017 at the Dewars Centre. For this we have a specially designed cover commemorating The Cameronians (a regiment that has deep Lanarkshire ancestry) and an associated special handstamp. We have already published a book on Lanarkshire Post Offices and Their Postmarks 1840-2016 (cost £20 + £3 postage) which will be a sequel to another book "Post Markings of Lanarkshire to 1840" which is still in press (unknown cost as yet). We have also produced a postcard of Lanarkshire Postmarks intended for the Congress. A party of 14 attended a Holyrood Royal Garden Party in Edinburgh in July and we have planned a 50th Anniversary Dinner in the Bentley, Motherwell on Friday 8th September. *Brian Dow*

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

Time to be thinking about nominations for ABPS Awards

With the new philatelic season under way it is time to be thinking about nominating someone in your society or federation for the ABPS Award of Merit or Congress Medal.

Both the Award of Merit and Congress Medal are ways of recognising collectors who have given outstanding voluntary service to British philately over a number of years in one or more levels: regional, specialist or local society and in the case of the Congress Medal, at national level. The nominee and proposers must be members of an ABPS-affiliated society or a Patron or Friend of ABPS.

The application forms and guidelines are on the ABPS website. Applications must be received by me by 1st March 2018 to be considered for next year's awards.

Yvonne Wheatley Chairman ABPS Awards Committee
awards@abps.org.uk 0113 2601978

**No report of your society? Why not send one to the editor?
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DENNIS FERGUSON COLLINS FRPSL

1930-2017



At the age of 15 Dennis attempted to join the Dundee and District Philatelic Society but was told to come back when he was 16! This he did on 3rd October 1946 and was to become the longest serving member of any Scottish philatelic society. He was President from 1974 to 1977 and was elected an Honorary Member in 1998. He was President of the

Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies in 1975 and, in 2005, was presented with the Award of Merit of the Association "in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the success and enjoyment of Philately in Scotland."

He became a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of London in 1981, a Fellow in 1995 and was one of the first recipients of the 30-Year membership lapel badge. He was a member of the TPO and Seapost Society, the France and Colonies Society, the GB Overprints Society, the Scottish Postal History Society, the Oriental Philatelic Society, the China Philatelic Society of London, the Hong Kong Study Circle, the Perfin Society and the Postcard Club of Tayside. His interest in pillar boxes led him to have one in his garden.

Over the years Dennis built up a collection of China and Hong Kong with special reference to the Boxer War and the Foreign Post Offices in China and displayed this to societies throughout Scotland and in London to the China Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society. His other collections were mails of the Royal Household, the Hotels and Steamers of Egypt and the Nile, the Steamers of the Italian Lakes, India Used Abroad, the Hotels of Madeira, the Trans-Siberian Railway and its Travelling Post Offices, and Postmarks of Faraway Islands. Recently his interests were the Postal History, Perfins and Postcards of Dundee, Swiss Hotel stationery and cachets, and the Perfins of Morocco, the Levant, Hong Kong and China.

He will be remembered for his depth of knowledge and his willingness to share this, his sense of humour and his excellent displays. He will be greatly missed and our thoughts are with his widow Elspeth, his children Ross and Catriona and his grandchildren.

Colin Campbell

THE THIRD GERMAN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION 1938-39

The Third Reich, under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, found they were spending too much money importing seal and whale products for manufacturing food products, such as margarine, and oil for lighting and lubricating machinery, etc. German whaling activities in the Southern Ocean rose from 3 whale factory ships in 1936 to seven factory ships in 1939. In both cases two ships were chartered from the Norwegians.

In May 1938, Reichfeldmarshall Herman Göring, who was in charge of assessing the logistics of increasing the German whaling fleet in the Antarctic, approached Alfred Ritscher to lead an expedition to Antarctica to collect information about the whaling grounds. Others in the government saw it as a means of expanding German interests in the southern continent and the establishment of a base in Norwegian Maud Dronning Land (=Queen Maud Land).

Lufthansa lent their catapult ship, *Schwabenland*, plus two Dornier Super Wal hydroplanes, *Boreas* and *Passat*¹. Lufthansa, as well as Göring, had an interest in how the planes coped with polar temperatures.

They dropped 1.50m (5ft) long arrows emblazoned with swastikas to delineate the territories, which became Neuschwabenland² (=New Schwabenland). Also three landings were made to reinforce their claim.



Illustrations 1. Cover from the Unitas, one of the whale factory ships in 1938.

2. Commemorative postcard for the Schwabenland's Antarctic visit.

3. Cinderella stamp for the Schwabenland with one of the hydroplanes.

4. Cinderella stamp showing a map of Neuschwabenland.

References: *The Encyclopedia of Exploration* by Raymond John Howgego.

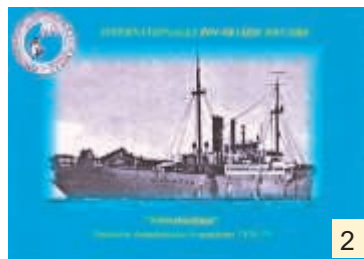
German whaling Activities in the Southern Ocean, 1936 to 1939. A philatelic display by John Youle of the Polar Postal History Society, 2009.

Antarctica: Great Stories from the Frozen Continent published by the Reader's Digest, 1985. ISBN 0-949819-64-6

1 The Germans did not have an aircraft carrier. Lufthansa had used the *Schwabenland* and others as floating supply vessels based in the south Atlantic midway between Dakar and Recife to refuel their hydroplanes which mainly carried mail between Africa and Brazil. The planes landed in the sea, then craned onto the deck to be refuelled and relaunched by catapult.

2 Although the Norwegian's claim had been ratified by the British and others of the Commonwealth countries operating in Antarctica, the Germans chose to ignore it. This claim, of course, was nullified when Germany lost the Second World War.

Richard A. Hindle, Sheffield PS



Post & Go at Freeling House – The End of an Era and a New Overprint

The Postal Museum has moved its Post & Go machine from Freeling House to its new home at The Postal Museum on Phoenix Place. The machine is available 7 days a week now that the museum is fully open.

On 25th July, all designs available changed to feature a new 'The Postal Museum' overprint without the current envelope marquee. The stamps on sale were:

- Machin 50 Commemoratives (1st class only)
- Underground Railway (all values)
- Mail Coach (all values)
- Machin (2nd class only)
- Union Flag (all values)

These stamps feature two variations of an overprint commemorating the museum's official opening. On Machin 50 Commemoratives and Machin 2nd Class this reads 'Official Opening 2017'. For other issues it simply reads 'Official Opening'. From 25th July, The Postal Museum has also introduced a new permanent postmark. Now the Museum is open and you can book your ride. Tickets cost £16 for adults including a voluntary donation to ride on a miniature train and go back in time to the railway's heyday. You can reveal



curious stories in the galleries and see if you could have made it as a Mail Coach Guard or a Mail Rail Controller. Our incredible collection spans five centuries of history, covering everything from groundbreaking design and quirky technology to the intimacy of personal letters. For further information visit www.postalmuseum.org

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.



David Macdonald and Sheila Den

Aberdeen

At our AGM in April President **Sheila Den** congratulated new Fellow, **David Macdonald**,

completely unaware that she was to be similarly honoured within the next few minutes! Both received "Certificates of Fellowship" recognising their valuable contributions to



Sheila and Ken Bruce

the running and promotion of the society. The number of Fellows being strictly limited by our Constitution, only 23 have been elected in our 107 years.

Alex Walker

Addlestone

We are still up and running, meeting on alternate Fridays at the Community

Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 2AJ. We would welcome visitors at our meetings as well as to ADDPEX Surrey Federation Stamp Fair & Exhibition in October - see the Diary page for details. →Mike Wilson, 01932844215

mikewwilson@virginmedia.com

Jean-Pierre Frossard

Amersham & District

We ended our 2016/17 season on the day of the general election 8th June with a very successful auction attended by 47 members and visitors, when 53% of the 510 lots were purchased. We break for thirteen weeks and start the new season on 7th September.

Competitions Evening, which was judged in February by the members present, attracted 26 entries for 5 trophies. At his first attempt **Tim Harrison** won the 9-sheet event for stamps with *The Rise and Fall of German East Africa* as well as our 3-sheet stamps competition with a very impressive display of *Rhodesia Double Heads*. **Brian Feakes**, **Michael Pitt-Payne** and **Tony Stanford** each won one cup with 9-sheet entries of postal history, thematic and postcards

respectively. Over the past four months we have enjoyed some high quality presentations including *German Catapult Mail*, *Channel Islands Mail*, *Early Canada and Newfoundland*, *Wiltshire Military Mail*, *Early Egypt Maritime Mail* and *Italy The Final Collection covering the rule of King Victor Emmanuel II from 1861 to 1878*.

Jim Drummond

Basildon

In April **Nick Kerridge** took us to *The Chinese Treaty Port of Wei Hai Wei* with a fascinating exposition of the postal complexities of this famous treaty port. We took a table at Mayfest in the town centre. **Ian McElwain**, **Len Stanway**, **Alf Potter** and **Claude Crowder** manned our stand and handed out some 120 flyers (double last year) to passers-by, many of whom stopped for a chat and to view our small display. Hopefully, this will raise awareness of the society and might lead to new members in the future. In May **Lynn Roberts** returned to Basildon and gave us a rare glimpse into the postal affairs of *Albania*. While **Ray How** was judging the 11 entries in our annual competitions in June, the members present participated in a "Silent Quiz" set by **Ian McElwain**, won by Claude Crowder. The Stamps competition was won by **Chris Cooksey** with *Southern Rhodesia 1947 Victory*. He also won in Postal History with *Southern Rhodesia WWII Internment Camps* and in Aerophilately with *Development of Airmail services from Rhodesia to Far East*. Thematics honours went to **Alf Potter** for 2012 *Olympic Games*. His Picture Postcard entry *Happy Birthday* won that new class.

From Basildon Philatelist

Bexley

Letters XYZ forced ingenuity from members but the most notable was the last presentation – *Stamps from the Island of Ascension* as "exit", as it was the last attendance of our longest-running continuous member, **Ray Jeal**, who has moved away to be closer to family. On 5th May, **Paul Cahill** opened his display of *Airmails and Airmail Postal History* by stating: "I know exactly what day I started stamp collecting: 29th May 2000". That was when Concorde came to Manston Airport, Kent, so he went into a stamp shop to buy Concorde stamps. The second half of his display was a *History of*



Paul Cahill finished off with a box of flies

Sudan Postal History. **Ernie Warden** traced the start of his collection back somewhat further, to 1940, when he was evacuated from Britain and stayed away for seven years in Australia. He showed *A Variety of Australian States Issues*, including the black swans of Western Australia. Early flight was plagued with technical problems, as we saw from the documentary evidence (airmails) in **Bill Trower**'s mid-June display of *Pacific Airmails*. For example, the first San Francisco-Hawaii flight ran out of fuel and landed on the ocean in August 1925; sadly its

radio batteries also went flat. The crew spent nine days at sea before being discovered by a submarine. Early on, getting across the Pacific involved island-hopping: San Francisco, Hawaii, Midway, Wake Island, Guam, Manila (and later Hong Kong). This is a boon for collectors, as there were lots of cachets. ➔ Adrian Smith, adethebeak@yahoo.co.uk or 01322559210

Will Dalrymple

Bolton

At our April meeting **Ken Knight** from Rochdale gave a very interesting display. The Annual General Meeting of the Society was in May. **Derek Earnshaw** took over as President for the next twelve months from **Eddie Dunn**. The June meeting was our second quarterly auction; over 400 lots were offered to members and visitors. Members from any ABPS Society can bid for lots at our auctions. ➔ Joan Foster 01942 720749.

Howard Anderson

Bookham

In March **Dr Patrick Reid** entertained



Patrick Reid—Hobart's History

us with *The Postal History, Stamps and Stationery of Hobart, Tasmania*. Patrick began with the first Hobart undated

handstamp. Also displayed was a set of postcards telling the story of the Port Arthur Penal Colony and its transition through settlement to tourist attraction. His grand finale was a very unusual item which he brought back from Tasmania – the lid from a complete wooden Shell Oil crate, complete with Parcels stamps. He showed this as his example of use on cover! **Jean Alexander** is best known for her Thematic *Waterfalls* and her fine collection of *1929 Postal Union Congress*. However, by special invitation she brought her 'Social Philately' collection of *Supermarket Philately* to show us in April. Jean explained that the Collection almost started by accident when one day in the late 1970s, she was shopping and spotted a tin of Heinz soup with a promotional offer of a GB presentation pack. She quickly snapped up the offer, and so began (unknowingly) the start of a unique collection. She brought along much of the packaging displaying the original promotional offers, drawing each one from her many 'shopping baskets' as she explained each of the promotions, along with many amusing anecdotes! This was philatelic fun at its best. Our AGM was in May and for June we had a Members' Afternoon. Seven members produced material - The comment of "I didn't even know he collected this stuff!" was heard on several occasions. *David Bravery*

Bromley & Beckenham

On 12th April we held our "Grand" Auction (the one with a catalogue) where 161 lots sold realising over £1250. Our speaker for the 26th was caught up in major traffic hold-ups on the M25, and **David Milsted** and **David Rennie** stood in at short notice with

displays of *Army Officials & EVII's Coronation*, and *Western Australia Recess Printed Swan issues* by Perkins Bacon and De La Rue respectively. Our next display of *Cayman Islands Postal History* given by **Graham Booth FRPSL** was off the scale in terms of rare items,



Graham Booth takes us to the Cayman Islands

presentation and a wonderful discourse on the events surrounding the introduction of stamps and the various provisionals which were needed. Graham showed 2 of the 3 known pre-stamp covers, one with the rare Kingsbridge Ship Letter, also 6 of the 26 known covers with the Jamaica 4d brown. Prior to the AGM on the 24th May, the President's Competition was held for entries of up to 12 pages taken straight from a collection and judged by the President, **David Milsted**. This year's winner was **Chris Sands** with *Monaco*. The new President is **Professor Adrian Thomas**, other officers remain in post, and two new faces join the Committee: **Andrew Harris** and **John Palfreman**. Also at the AGM were our oldest member, Bill Kirby, born in December 1919, and our longest serving lady-member Erica

Banks, who has been President on two occasions. → David on 020 8778 7001 or Chris on 020 8402 1263 or www.beckenham.net/leisure.asp

David Rennie

Cambridge

We held a dinner for members, partners and guests on 5th July at the Arundel House Hotel, Cambridge. This was a most enjoyable evening in a very friendly and relaxed atmosphere. On 21st July there was a members' evening for *Show What You Like*. As is usual at these evenings there was a vast range of material put up by the members across the 180 sheets displayed. We started with *Mint Stamps and Varieties of Malawi from 1964*, followed by *GB Cinderella Material* and then *Covers from the Ottoman Empire bearing GB stamps post WWI*. After 50 years of *Machins* we came back to earth with *Letters bearing Huntingdon area cancellations from 1709*. Highlights of the second half included *The Development of GB Postal Services over the past 50 years, the postal history of Newmarket*, a thematic display based on *Royal Opera House Covent Garden* and ended the evening with a large variety of *GB fiscals*. → info@cambridgephilatelicociety.co.uk

Peter Morton

Chelmsford

At the end of March 2017 8 members gave 10 presentations on *Something Beginning with I*. In April we were delighted to welcome **Dr Jonathan Higgins** from Kings Lynn as our guest speaker. Jonathan is a renowned expert on the philatelic history of North Borneo and his presentation entitled *British North Borneo – Planes, Trains and Stamps*

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was well received by an appreciative audience. **Christopher Cooksey** from Basildon took us to *Southern Rhodesia during WWII*. His excellent presentation was enhanced by extremely interesting material covering various facets including both military and civilian censorship cachets. He included material from a number of internment camps accommodating German and Italian troops from South West Africa and Abyssinia. In the final part of his presentation he highlighted the little known fact by the general public that there were three Refugee Camps in Rhodesia to accommodate displaced Polish citizens. We returned to Africa in May with **Nick Harris** to learn about *Boer War - Postal History*. He gave details of the sieges of British townships and their relief (Ladysmith, Mafeking and Kimberley) and displayed a fine collection of postal material covering these turbulent times. Later he provided details of POW camps set up to house captured Boer troops in such locations as St Helena, Bermuda, Ceylon and India. We saw envelopes sent to these prisoners from friends and relations. In June **Susan McEwen** and **Giles du Boulay** continued our journeys round the world by taking us to *British Levant* and *Danzig* respectively.

Dave Everard

Chichester & District

We have been fortunate to have several guest speakers since the New Year began: **Tom Gillespie** with *Western Australia*, **Derek White** with an interesting display of *Canadian Revenues*, **Mike Farrant** showing *Zanzibar stamps* and for President's Night **Martha Brown** with *German Stamps up to 1944* and *USA Revenues issues*. This same evening was partly

shared with **Howard Morgan's** award winning thematic display of *Viennese Composers*. March was the first of our



Martha Brown

two competition evenings with stamps from *Germany, USA, Cyprus, GB, Poland, Paris* and two thematic displays: *1900 Paris Olympics* and *An Alphabet of American Life A-Z*. Nice to see so many turn out for this highlight on the calendar! Finally **Mrs Martha Brown** was elected as President. She continues in her role as Newsletter editor too. Double-tasking!

Martha Brown

Croydon

In March **Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins** presented his display on *Aspects of Russia*. His first item was produced in 1788 and was a decree from Catherine the Great about horses for imperial messages. The items were numerous and varied – postal documents, essays, correspondence, damaged mail, printed matter, newspaper wrappers, and propaganda postcards to name but a few. The second part of the evening was given over mainly to Russian prison mail. Later that month three Wimbledon members visited: **Mike Warwick** with *Cinderella material*, **Steve Jeuma** with *Channel Islands during the War Occupations Years* and **Andy Donaldson** showing *Great Britain over-prints and under-prints*. Our April meetings were the Society Competitions and President's Evening at which **Ben Palmer** presented his display on *New South Wales 1888-*

1912. The first stamps were produced following a public essay competition in Australia to celebrate 100 years of European colonisation. It attracted nearly 100 entries. Ben showed the different denominations of the stamps – 1d, 2d, 4d, 6d, 8d, 1s, 5s and 20s (£1). The first May meeting was the AGM and presentation of the medals and trophies, followed by a mini-auction. Four members of Bexley joined us for the next meeting; **Colin Tobitt** (*Austrian Commemoratives*), **John Corderoy** (*Israel issued since 1948*), **Don Brookfield** (*Post Office Greetings Telegrams*) and **John Shaw** (*Bolivia issued in 1951/52*). In June **David**



David Sumpter

Sumpter took us to *Gibraltar* and **Grahame Lindsey** showed *Italy 1860-1929*. These were excellent displays with very

varied and fascinating material.

Graham Harker

Dundee & District

For our last display of the season **David Millar** organised a *Philatelic Miscellany* night with himself, **Doug Howkins** and **Mark Lendon** providing the entertainment. David Millar showed how e-Bay can be used for buying and selling philatelic products. Doug followed with a slideshow of *The Postal History of Spain from 1994 to 2007*. This came about from being sent a lot of material that needed sorting. It contained postal cancellations and usage, highlighting when postal rates



David Millar, Doug Howkins and Mark Lendon - the three wise men

increased and containing every sort of stamp. Mark's display was of how he uses imaging software on his computer to assist in creating albums of stamps with the images, providing examples of how to crop images, rotate them and also remove the background clutter to improve the image of an overprint. The final event on the syllabus was the Annual Dinner that was enjoyed by all who attended.

Colin Campbell

Edinburgh

To celebrate our 90th anniversary we displayed all the data from our 50th anniversary to our members. **Jim Haggart** prepared the art work for "Edinburgh 77" so he put it on display. **Alex Shepherd** and **Bob Catto** also displayed "Edinburgh 77" items from their collections, while **David Meki** displayed material the others did not have. Our thoughts were to show younger members what we did, so they can take the helm in 10 years' time. For this event we invited the three other stamp/postcard groups in the city to join us. Also we had a table at ASPs to promote the society; two new members will be joining us in September. Our Newsletter editor is leaving Edinburgh so Steve Cowles will take over as well as running the website.

Bob Catto

Ferndown & West Moors

Society visits bring mystery. Southampton kept up the tradition in March. *Bishop's Waltham* by **Mike Batty** was an excellent mix of philatelic and social history. **Brian Hague** followed with his superb *Jutlandia* study of a Danish cargo ship with an eventful history. The final presentation from **John Berridge** was *Hindenburg Air Ship* mainly in the 1936/7 period. In June eight members presented six frames of postcards on a variety of themes, from a collection of *Jersey postcards* which had lain unknown in a chemist's shop for several decades to cards relating to *Advertising of Edwardian Shows, Films and Concerts and the stars who performed in them*, and from the six *Bournemouth stations that had existed* to **Mrs Small's** "borrowed" *Scenes from Hamworthy and Old Poole*. **Tony Hickey** brought us *War and Peace*. Starting with the Treaty of Versailles he set the scene as he began a detailed presentation on the Treaty which 'has much to answer for'. He showed the main causes and events leading to WWII. The main



Tony Hickey and Bob Small

episodes of the war were covered, including Japan's involvement. The second half considered the closing

months of the war and the emerging peace. Perhaps the star exhibit was a peace leaflet from an air-drop campaign. The whole was "brilliant!".

Paul Barry

Great Yarmouth

On 8th May members displayed 20 to 30 sheets on any subject. This was oversubscribed and the 200 board spaces filled with no problem with a wide variety of material. A fortnight later **Larry Lewendon FRPSL** from Norwich gave us a very entertaining quiz which was greatly enjoyed. We held our 70th anniversary exhibition on 4th June in conjunction with the Hopton



On display at the Fair

Stamp Fair in the Hopton village halls. There were over 300 album pages of material on show, either on display boards or wall mounted. The displays covered many areas including: *Canada EVII, Europa, GB Machins, Japanese Occupation of Netherlands East Indies, Norfolk Old and New, Signed Covers, Queen Victoria of St Helena and Switzerland*. There were also Thematics including *Angling, Fish, Birds, Flowers, RNLi* and finally *Why I Collect Stamps*. The exhibition and dealers' stands were well attended with over 68 people coming in to view the material on display. Visitors came from as far afield as Ipswich, Norwich, Sherringham and Lincolnshire. It was an excellent day and well worth the effort put in by the organising committee, the result being a gain of

one new member to the club so far. June 5th produced displays of *Swiss Cinderellas* and *Japanese Occupation issues of the far East*. On 19th June our visiting speaker was **Peter Day** with *Crash & Wreck Mail, plus Terrorism & The Post*. 3rd July was another members' evening for 20 sheets of stamps or covers from Europe. Visitors to Great Yarmouth are always welcome. *Bernard Mabbett*

Haverfordwest

Norman retires after 37 years in post (a record for us).

After 37 years as Secretary and with his 90th birthday shortly, **Norman Jones** has decided it is time to retire. He was presented with a gift from the members in appreciation of all his hard work over the years. Chairman, **Erene Grieve**, will be taking over Norman's role and **Martin Lewis** will be the new Chairman. At the AGM that followed it was agreed that we would change our name to Haverfordwest Stamp and Postcard Club to reflect current interests of members. The new programme will reflect the change with a varied list of activities including dealer nights, auctions, talks, display nights, youth events and information about major stamp and



Norman Jones receiving his award from Erene Grieve

postcard events. With the increased interest in postcards generally, it was hoped that this might generate some new members. An item about the changes in the local paper has resulted in the desired effect with enquiries about membership (and several people wanting to sell their collections!). *Erene Grieve*

Huntingdonshire

Colin Hepper was our guest speaker in May with *Nepal Postal History*. When they joined the Universal Postal Union in April 1959 they had to change a lot of their Postal Services due to UPU regulations. Many new Post Offices



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opened and lacking hand cancellers some Post Masters had to cancel by hand initially. Aerogrammes for inland use came into being in 1959 along with Postal Envelopes. Hotel Post Offices were opened for visits by Heads of States and examples of this type of mail were shown. Between November and February each year the King travelled round the country and special Post Offices called Sawari Camps were opened in the towns and villages he visited. Mail from these camps was shown. This was an interesting display of mail from a rarely seen country. In June we welcomed four members from Leighton Buzzard. **John Spencer** showed *Stamps and Postal History of the Falkland Islands*. He showed many sets up until 2004 including some of the dependencies. **Paul Peacock** brought *Commonwealth King George VI*, including colour variations, flaws and perforations. **Richard Page** produced *Raptor Birds* on stamps and miniature sheets including many endangered species and **John**

Hassocks finished with *The Key Plate stamp issue of 1872 of Sierra Leone* and the *Definitive issues of Edward VII George V and George VI* and *Examples of Local and Freetown postmarks*. → D Birkert on 01480 468037 **David Birkert**

Isle of Ely

Mike Brindle began in Autumn with *Belgium: Stamps and Postal History* – not familiar territory. In October *Pirates - a glimpse at the world's 3rd oldest profession*. We tried to guess the 1st and 2nd oldest - fine on one but not the other! However, **Mrs Hiscock** kept us fascinated with her pirate stories, stamps and ephemera. **Dr Simon Kelly's** *An Evening with Newspapers* provided an informative look at amongst other things newspaper stamps, wrappers and deliveries. *Shipping issues*, the February subject by Val Roberts, covered a diverse range of ships and stories. In March, the Federation President, **Bill Gibb FRPSL** was invited and showed his

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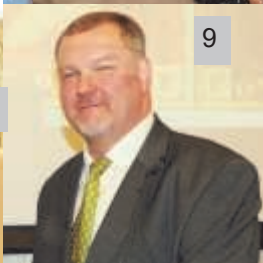




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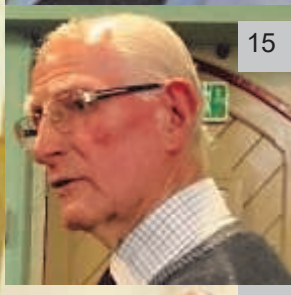
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marvellous collection of *Commonwealth Fiscals and Revenues*. During March, visits were made to and from Huntingdonshire PS. We are fortunate to have several teams of speakers prepared to travel to other clubs. In April, **Richard Page** entertained us with *Birds of Prey*, a marvellous evening of stamps, ephemera, stories and photographs. **Philip Illsley** displayed *GB Jubilees and King George V* with great enthusiasm and knowledge at our May meeting. Our last meeting in June was the AGM followed by a bourse. Thanks to **Chris North** for arranging an interesting and informative year with a wide variety of subjects covered.

Val Roberts

Kingston & District

We had two visitors from Henley. **Anne Stammers'** display was *From Rocks to Riches*. All good thematic presentations start with an introductory page and this certainly did – a gem of a display. **Bob Clements** gave a simplified view of *Early GB philately* – easy to understand. **Wendy Buckle** brought *The Write Stuff*. In this thematic she gave an insight into paper making and now re-cycling. We were also shown how watermarks were produced, originally as merchant marks, but more recently as security features. She described the second part as being bright and pretty. It was more about printing and printers from the Chinese to Gutenberg and Caxton to the present day, with particular reference to stamp printing and marketing. Wendy also explained some of the advantages brought about by the computer age. **Tony Hoad** showed us *Stamps of the Falkland Islands*. Initially cancelling used cork cancellers which



Tony Hoad takes us to *The Falklands*

has led to a number of forgeries. We were then treated to some philatelic items relating to the Dependencies. A cover from South Georgia to Pitcairn Island is unusual, especially as the latter is another of Tony's collecting interests. **Bob Neville** brought us *HMS Hood and Gibraltar* in May. Bob was baptised on board Hood and has Hood as his middle name. He described and displayed pictures and ephemera about the ship. He then returned to his first philatelic love by displaying *The Early Issues of Gibraltar*. → Brian Sole, FRPSL on brian.sole@btinternet.com or 01932 220677 Chris Oliver

Lanarkshire

We celebrated our 50th birthday this past session in which members travelled the world! Beginning with *Lithuania* – the new President's Display from **Ray Baldock** - and continuing with displays from guests **Keith Walker** - *New Zealand Airmails*, and **John McGonigle** - *Sweden* both of the Scottish PS, **Jean Osborne** - *Papua New Guinea*, **Ian Anderson** - *Gold Coast*, **Ray Welland** - *WWI POW Camps and Netherlands & Colonies*, **David Cumming** - *Iceland and Southern Antarctic Territories* and **Lyn Robinson** - *USA*. **Gordon Shepherd**

gave a great display on *WWI in German East Africa* and **Jim Fulton**, under the title of *My Collections – Old and New*, took us through historic events in Greece, Salonika and Hungary. Members were asked for displays on the theme of *LPS50* to mark our semicentennial. Two long serving members – **Sheila Sinclair** and **Ken Norris** – gave fascinating displays of *Covers issued by the LPS* for various events – including those issued on the occasions the LPS hosted the Scottish Congress – and the Motherwell Mod in 1983. A surprising evening came when the theme was *Unfinished Business* and members searched out shoeboxes etc – full of material to be ‘sorted out someday!’ Encouragement was given to continue and finish the display. The session ended with members giving an 8 page display - or paying 50p! *Elsie Miller*

Largs & District

The philatelic societies in South West Scotland will be holding their annual Stamp and Postcard Festival on Saturday 7th October 2017. Collectors and non-collectors alike are invited to come along to a warm welcome at the event being held at Prestwick Community Centre, Caerlaverock Road, PRESTWICK, Ayrshire KA9 1HR from 10am to 4 pm. There will be a total of 11 dealers from across Scotland with a wide range of stamps, postal history, accessories and postcards covering 30 tables. As hosts, we have arranged a special cover honouring the life of General Sir Thomas Makdougall Brisbane of Largs, soldier, astronomer and Governor of New South Wales (1821-25) after whom the City of Brisbane, Australia is named. The cover will be cancelled with a Largs postmark and will be available unsigned or signed by Major General The Hon Seymour Monro, his

Captions for pages 32 and 33

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|--|---|
| 1. Jean Alexander at Bookham | 11. Andy Donaldson presenting to Steve Teuma at Wimbledon. |
| 2. Chris Sands and David Milsted of Bromley & Beckenham | 12. Hans Strehlau, Doris King, Keith Pearce and Alan Leonard Tuck— some of the older Southampton revellers. |
| 3. Retiring Bristol President Neil Jones receives a 120th Anniversary present from Brian Purcell | 13. Phillip Harriman (R) receiving his trophy at NEPA |
| 4. Alan Huggins at the Royal | 14. John Davis with Tin Can Mail at Poole & Bournemouth |
| 5. Rowan Brockhurst with his postboxes at Ringwood | 15. Peter Chantrey at Launceston |
| 6. Ben Palmer on NSW at Croydon | 16. Mike Sharp explains to the Helvetia at Whaddon |
| 7. Bill Kirby and Erica Banks of Bromley & Beckenham | 17. Dundee dines out |
| 8. Francis Podger hands over to David Millar as Dundee President. | 18. Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins showing Russia to Croydon |
| 9. Scott Treacey after his display at the Royal | |
| 10. Bob Neville at Kingston | |

senior surviving descendant. These covers will be available at the Festival at £2 unsigned or £5 signed. Junior collectors are encouraged to attend and there will be an activity room for young collectors. Entry to the event is free, refreshments are available at very reasonable prices and there is free parking at or near the Community Centre. For further details about the event and the covers →

davidrossall@sky.com David Rossall

Launceston

Janet Cowlard talked to us about her book, *The "Royal Letters" Mystery*. The basis for her book arose from her husband's purchase of five handwritten letters at an auction in the 1980s. The lot cost just £2. They were on Royal Household headed notepaper with the names of Windsor Castle, York Cottage, Balmoral Castle and Buckingham Palace. The mystery was who the letter writer was and what was her royal connection. Janet was assisted with a PowerPoint presentation by Terry highlighting the book's contents and accompanied by over 100 period post card photographs of Royalty of the era. In June **Peter Chantry** gave two separate displays, *the Stamps of Touva* and *Correspondence of Italian POWs interned in East Africa*. For example, one of the stamps showed a camel racing a locomotive along Tuva's non-existent railway. There is still no railway in Tuva. The prisoners' letters to their families were mainly to reassure them that they were in good health. **Sue Burns** came in July with *WWII Mail between Great Britain and Australasia*. Her display was well researched with details of the way the mail travelled around the world and reached its

destination or was returned, by tracking the Postal Cancel and Date Markings and the stamps used or handwritten notes on the envelope. In 1941 the Kodak Airgraph system was used to photograph the mail. Copies of test letters were displayed.

Howard Hamblin

Leeds

Since spring 2017, some important changes have occurred. **Richard** and **Yvonne Wheatley** announced their retirement after

many years holding important positions in our Society. Their influence and voluntary effort locally and nationally



merits our grateful appreciation. Richard was President in 1977, and again in 2011-2013. Yvonne was President in 1987 and has been our Treasurer since 1989, 28 years. At the AGM on 23rd May, many changes were made. Names given here are those with whom communication might be needed. The new President is **Rick Rickwood**. The Secretary remains as **John Edwards**, Assistant Secretary **Richard Smith**. Annual Fair Organiser **Derek Baron**. Several of us attended the funeral of **John Barker** on 10th April. He was for many years our minutes recorder at every meeting.

Michael Waugh

Leicester

We commence our 112th season on 12th September with the President's Evening at new premises. During the past few years we have met in the

Evington area. We move to the Clarendon Park end of Leicester. → www.leicesterphilatelicsociety.webs.com or sarah.1p5ea@yahoo.co.uk

Sarah Roulston

Liskeard

Being a rural area we rely on members traveling to the meetings as there are only three members living in Liskeard. Recently a former member rejoined the club after a long absence due to work commitment so there are thirteen members now, eight of them belonging to more than one club. The finances of the club were secured in the late 1980s by hosting the Thompson cup competition and providing the refreshments with the then Treasurer **Lesley Marley** heading a team of members' wives doing a marvellous job. Like many clubs it is getting difficult to attract new members and many younger people never started collecting in their youth. We meet on the last Wednesday of each month except in December meeting. Our last meeting in June being the last of the season was the AGM and members' displays, The nine members present showed a total of 188 pages with all nine taking part - very good for a small club. Anyone on holiday in the area would be very welcome to attend the meeting. →

www.wessexpf.org.uk or cornwallphilatelic.co.uk J G Harrison

Lostock

As many readers of this magazine will recall we almost closed last year and details of a call to rally support were given in the Autumn 2016 ABPS News. This July one of our established members **Harold Howard** back from three months in New Zealand entertained us with lots of detail both in



Harold Howard
returned

stamps and a plan to show us *How to Exhibit Postcard Collections*. Towards the end of this year we are humbly awaiting a boost to morale when two members of the ABPS team have agreed to

speaking at Lostock. → Secretary 01204 389683 or david18alex@gmail.com

David Morley

Maidstone & District

2017 began with members showing *Letters DEF* - another great range of material with dubious letter interpretations. Then **Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL** gave us a fascinating display on *Moving the Mail by Rail*. We were taken from 1830 to TPOs and examples of Railway Companies' stamps. In March **Margaret Emerson** gave her first display here on *The 2012 Olympic Games*. It was a fascinating display. **Michael Dobbs**, Kent Federation, showed *Forces Postal History relating to the Rhine Army from 1945 onwards*. Michael is a very good speaker and has tremendous knowledge along with excellent material which resulted in a superb evening. After **Richard Stock FRPSL's Camel Post** which started with the 1897 Sudanese Campaign some of our Members looked a bit green – envy or the thought of camel-riding? **Gerald Marriner** returned in

May to show us part two of his *Belgian Congo* collection up to the start of WWII. In June **Paul Leonard FRPSL** and **John Shaw FRPSL** gave us a talk on *Forensic Philately*. Paul showed forgeries of stamps and postcards and explained how the Royal PS team determine if an item is genuine. John took over with a display on *The Fournier Forgeries* and other examples from his own collection. This is a truly fascinating subject and well worth an invitation. Our monthly morning meetings continue to be well supported with a visit from Sidcup, **Chris Hurt** showing *Newfoundland*, **Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins** with *Postal History of Serbia* and **Rosemary Dellar** with *A Miscellany*. **Brian Stonestreet FRPSL**

Morecambe & District

We enjoyed two excellent meetings in June. **Malcolm Deakin** visited from North Yorkshire with a two-part evening. *How I started stamp collecting* was followed by *Aircraft that I have been involved with*. The first was as something to fill the gap left by a boyhood injury and the second as a result of working for British Aerospace. The next was also a two-parter, this time from **Mark Everiss**. The topic was very different – *The Russian Civil War*. The postal and social history was something of which we were mainly unaware – so the great presentation gave us a good time. We recommend both speakers. *F Colling*

Newport & Gwent

At the end of April guest speaker **Norman Hudson** gave members a spectacular display of *Scottish Islands Postal History* that included very early postmarks from St Kilda. Used postcards and items relating to the



Scottish Islands over tea or whisky?

Post Bus service around the outer farms helped members gain a full picture of life on the island. The May programme started with an evening of entertainment by four of the lady members of the club. **Margaret Harding** displayed *Perfins with a Welsh connection*. **Diane Cannard** followed with *Red Cross Stamps with an Ambulance Theme*. **Bev Davies** was next with *WWII Germany* including exhibition covers and postcards. **Molly Lucas** completed the evening with *Mint stamps of Falkland Islands and French Year Packs*. This summer saw the end of an era with **John Perry** standing down as club secretary after 30 years, and **Bev Davies** taking over the task, ensuring the club continues to flourish.

Roy Bentley & John Perry

Oxford

In April members displayed their competition entries to be judged. At our AGM a few weeks later, certificates, shields and cups were handed out to entrants. The wide range of entries showed that we collect all sorts: *The Battles of Coronel and the Falkland Islands in 1914; North Borneo; Paquebot Marks of 1920-30s Japan; Tourism in Abbazia between the wars; Propaganda Mail of the Chinese Cultural Revolution; Art Work associated with the stamps issued in the UK postal strike of 1971; classic cars and tigers*. In mid-May, **Stephen**

Marks gave his final Presidential display on *Regime Change*, a fascinating evening including the stamps and postal history of *El Salvador and the overthrow of Arturo Araujo; Bosnia and Yugoslavia; Spanish Civil War's propaganda labels; Vichy France; Post-War Germany's four Occupied Zones*, as well as *Sardinia and Italy*, and *San Marino*.

In July **Tony Stanford** gave a very comprehensive display on the *Indian and British Post Offices located in the Gulf States of Muscat, Bahrain, Dubai and Kuwait*, finishing with *Das Island, the last ever British overseas post office*. Later that month, members of the society met at the hostelry of Sandford Lock, just south of Oxford, for a very sociable summer's evening together.

Dr Simon Heap

Poole and Bournemouth

John Davis is well known to us for his excellent displays, and this on *Tin Can Mail* was also exciting. Based on his successful competition entry at Stampex in 2016, John first gave a brief account of the history and geology of the island of Niuafu'ou, part of the Tonga Group. In 1882 a white marooned non-native sent a letter wrapped in greaseproof paper in a sealed container to a passing ship for delivery to the Tonga postal authorities and so Tin Can Mail was born. After a few years tourist ships seized on the idea resulting in a large variety of cachets in different styles and languages being designed and used. These were reflected in John's display which also included some newspaper articles, comical postcards, damaged covers and various other stories, such as the replacement of swimmers with canoes after one of the swimmers was



5 saucy visitors from Poole

killed by a shark. As part of our 50th anniversary nine members made the ferry trip from Lymington to Yarmouth and then on to Ryde to visit the Donald McGill Museum where thousands of his "saucy postcards" are displayed. There we were able to study his life story, the history of the business, his postcard design and their method of production; his association with George Orwell, and subsequent court hearings in Lincoln when some of his cards were banned and then seized by the police for being indecent or obscene.

Chris Wheeler

Redcar & Cleveland

The NEPA Conference in April was a great success for us this year, winning 40% of the awards. **Phil Harriman** won the Traditional - National Class with his superb *The Machine Booklet Trials 1976-77*, which also earned him a Gold Medal.

David Turner also took Gold in the Open Class and Best in Show with



David Turner winning Gold

Elihu Burritt's Quest for an Ocean Penny Post. Sadly this year we have lost one of our founding members, **Brian Simpson**, well-known in NEPA circles. His passion was Irish philately but he was also a member of Germany & Colonies and a regular attendee of their meetings in Durham. Born in London in 1935, he joined the Merchant Navy after an engineering apprenticeship. Not surprisingly he travelled far and had many stories to tell about his travels and his philately. We miss him. *Martin Snowdon*

Ringwood

Michael Elliott FRPSL gave us a fascinating display of *Finland at War 1939-45*. He demonstrated via his superb presentation, quality write-up and eloquent delivery, a considerable knowledge of the period. Amongst the treasured items, there were very scarce German postal history covers, some official covers and some with correspondence. The presentation was peppered with supporting items: stamps, overseas charity labels, photos, maps and propaganda leaflets. We learnt more when **Malcolm Price** brought his *Australian Forces in the Northern Territory during WWII* and



Malcolm Price and Colin Mount

their subsequent involvement in BCOF in Japan. His extensive display, supported by fine write-up, contained everything imaginable. Australian interests post-war were maintained until 1957 when the last Australian officials left Japan, closing an incredible philatelic story. **Rowan Brockhurst** took *A Look at Pillar Boxes* – so did we. We heard of wooden ones, of red, blue, green ones, of lots of different styles not just the Penfold, of Royal cyphers and of different types. On this subject of pillar boxes, author Bill Bryson makes numerous references, pointing out that this icon is truly engraved in the national consciousness, but perhaps we have to thank Anthony Trollope for their introduction – another story!

Paul Barry

Royal Sutton Coldfield

Ken Flint from Coventry gave a display of the *Postal History of Buxton*, from a pre-stamp cover dated 1768 sent from Buxton with a straight line Buxton postmark, through various marks and types of cover to covers and postcards from the Philatelic Congress held in Buxton in 1968 and postcards of the military camp at Hindlow in 1910. Ken ended the first half of the meeting with items from the *Midland Railway*, which ran from Buxton to Derby in the first half of the 20th century, including a waybill for one corpse. After a break Ken continued his display with *Items of Canadian Military Mail*, including covers and postcards from both World Wars. There were a number of items from the Granville Canadian Special Hospital which moved from Ramsgate to Buxton in November 1917. A series of covers and other items told the story of the service of a Canadian soldier,

Oscar Hurley, from his arrival in France in 1917 to his death in action in 1918. Ken finished his display with *Forces Post Office covers*. All this from a visitor standing in for the original speaker who was ill! *Albert Smith*

Salisbury & District

Another great season for us with thanks due to our Programme Secretary, **Claire Scott**, for inviting the speakers with such a diverse range of philatelic material and to **Tony Howgrave-Graham** who is double-hatted as our Day Meeting convenor and Auctioneer. Speakers were **Bill Pipe** – *Dorset Postal History*, **Gavin Fryer** – *Blindman's Mail*, our own **Alan Wood** - *Countries I don't collect* and **Jeremy Martin** – *KUT*, Lt Cdr (Retd) **Mike Hill** – *The Falklands Campaign*, **Dane Garrod** – *Your Very Loving Madeline*, **Graham Mark** – *WWI POWs in Britain*. We had two excellent day meetings, both held at The Grasmere Hotel, with outstanding displays from our own members and visitors. A really lovely venue with the backdrop of Salisbury Cathedral. **Tony Howgrave-Graham's** hard work paid off with a very profitable Auction. Thanks are due to **Brian Standley** for organising yet another "one off" Christmas social

evening and he has promised to organise this year's as well. → Colin French 07776 218323 or colinkrfrench@gmail.com *Colin French*

Southampton & District

After two productive evening auctions **Mel Bradshaw**, our Auctioneer, is now assembling the catalogue for the October Grand Auction with about 900 lots of a very high standard. The catalogue will be available in early September and the auction is on 7th October. Postal bidding is accepted and full details are on the website. Get your catalogue and start bidding. The speaker for the first Tuesday meeting was **Michael Sefi LVO**, Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection. He gave us a rare glimpse into the world of the Royal Collection which few of us have the privilege to see. A fortnight later the Society held a social evening to celebrate our 85th anniversary, well-attended by current and past members. Everyone was watered (wined), fed and entertained with competitions, raffles & quizzes. It was "a damn fine evening". On the following Saturday there was a joint day with the Aero-Philatelic Society which was very interesting and included lunch which was extremely well received. Finally by

the end of the month **Steve Gerrard**, Postmark editor, and **Eddie Mays** had put together a special edition of Postmark, which has also been very well received.



Salisbury Philatelists enjoying good food and sunshine

June's Guest Speaker was **Grace Davies** who returned to give her *Pages from Peace* presentation (part 2) and then in early July **Tony Bosworth** showed us *Behind the Scenes of the 1936 Olympics*. We filled a coach for Midpex at Leamington Spa for a very successful show. → prsoton@gmail.com or www.southamptondps.org.uk

Eddie Mays

St Albans, Harpenden & District

Our Members' Showing Evening with the theme *I or J* was a case of *I for Ingenuity with Interesting Anomalies* (from Britain, Australia, South Australia and Gibraltar), *Jamaica* (letters from a slave-owner), *Indian soldiers in Sudan*, *Jamaican stamps and ship mail*, *Illegal usages* (of US revenue stamps), *Inflation mail* and *International Mail (the UPU colour coding scheme)*. Later **Mick Bister** gave us *French Somali Coast*. Mick began with Obock and Djibouti and their striking imperforate pictorials with printed perforations. The stamps and postal history then took us through the history of the country including the irregular behaviour of the private printers of the first Somali Coast pictorials and the Allied blockade of this Vichy colony in WWII. Our Librarian **Colin Narbeth** provided the last display with *South Sudan*. With his knowledge of the Sudan and its military history, Colin introduced us to persons who had played a part in Sudan's history from Ahmad Arabi to Lord Kitchener. He then displayed material that revealed the background to the pre-independence revolt and demonstrated the difficulty of obtaining stamps and mail from this new state that sadly is still torn by war. The season ended with our AGM in May

which included the appointment of **Joe Neumann** as our new President. This was followed by two question and answer sessions on *How to get the Best out of the Packet and Participating in Philatelic Competitions*.

→ Peter Mellor 01582 762284 or p.mellor@btinternet.com Peter Mellor

Stratford upon Avon

We are trying daytime meetings in January 2018 to avoid the more difficult weather possibilities. To check on the venue for the January 2018 meetings please see the website or contact the Secretary. → 01789 841606 or cfountain@talktalk.net or sites.google.com/site/warwickshireps/stratfordps

John Gledhill

Thatcham

The last quarter's meetings have been very well attended and entertaining. The Monday afternoon sessions always have a captive audience – perhaps because the attendees choose the subject material for the sessions. We had displays from **John Shambrook**, **Ian Keel**, **Sue Hopson** and **Graeme Stewart** on *Presidents and Prime Ministers*. 10 members rose to the challenge of a *letter M* theme and seven responded to *Royal Families* – Belgian, British, Hawaiian, lots more British, Egyptian, Persian and from Liechtenstein. All proved to be popular items for members' displays. The Thursday evening meetings have also been well attended with members **Malcolm Hoskins** *Machins* and **Francis Connolly** *George V*, sharing a great evening's displays and **Sue Hopson** with *Out of the Wastepaper Basket* material. It was amazing and interesting just how much she found. Then **David Gibbon** gave us a

The Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2019. For this occasion an international exhibition will be held in Stockholm. H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has graciously agreed to be the Patron.



STOCKHOLMIA 2019

29 MAY - 2 JUNE

**THE INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION
OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON**

The exhibition will comprise philatelic dealers and auction houses from all over the world. The exhibition will have an extensive philatelic and social program.

Only Fellows and Members of the RPSL will be allowed to exhibit.

The competitive classes will be judged by an international jury appointed by the Council of The RPSL.



STOCKHOLMIA 2019

will be organised at
"Waterfront Congress Centre",
Nils Ericsons Plan 4.
It is Sweden's newest and most
versatile venue for large-scale
meetings and events.



splendid evening on *Mauritius* issues from the earliest days until the present.
From *Thatcham Postmark*

Wakefield

In March **Daphne McMillan** visited us with a display of *King GVI*, including single stamps, perforation types, cylinder numbers, controls, flaws, varieties, some booklet panes, covers and poster labels, a comprehensive range of postal stationery, greeting telegram forms and training school stamps. On 5 April **Ken Brown** showed us his *Great Britain*. We saw post town and mileage marks and many other items up to and including the reign of Queen Victoria. There were numerous attractive items with a strong Yorkshire postal history influence and some scarce EVII and GV material. **Joe Goodall** gave a display including stamps, postal history and covers from *British East Africa*. This display contained rare and interesting material from Victoria to Elizabeth and was accompanied by a very knowledgeable presentation. Finally **Robert McMillan** visited us to show his superb collection of *Falkland Islands* containing mail from WWII and the 1982 Falklands Conflict. The whole was historic and very interesting. Our next catalogue auction will be on Wednesday 25th October. If you wish to sell or would like to be included on our mailing list, ➔ Brian Hitchcock 01924 271218

Julie Hitchcock

Wallington & Carshalton

When **Brian Sole** brought *Go by cycle* to us the first four frames were of postcards followed by illustrated envelopes showing cycles, including some with original drawings and others printed with adverts. We also saw letter

headings such as Singer & Co penny farthing (also known as the ordinary). Singers were founded in 1874 by George Singer. An intriguing invoice for a "steam bicycle" invited speculation as to just how it worked. The comprehensive display covered Cinderellas, including the Australian Coolgardie Cycle Express. In addition Brian showed us local cycle posts from Italy and the USA. Postmarks showing cycles were much in evidence. One of the highlights of the show was some original artwork for the 1978 GB cycle stamps. Another was proofs of the 2012 Olympic Games winning cyclists stamps. We greatly appreciated Brian's award winning display. *Brian Asquith*

Watford & District

In April we held our annual auction. The auctioneer, **Brian Thurlow**, expertly knocked down 209 lots, eagerly assisted by some committee members. May was the AGM. Our President, **Alan Vincent**, began his second year and the committee were all re-elected. One significant development was the inauguration of a new cup for the annual single page competition: the '**Vic Punter Memorial Trophy**'. Vic, who sadly died at the beginning of the year, had been a member of the club since the 1960s, and was the editor of our newsletter and the Middlesex Federation newsletter for several years. Our last meeting of the season was held in June: the six page and single page competitions, judged by fellow members on the night. This year the six page competition was won by **Steve Birch**, with an interesting display (and history lesson!) of the *Battle of Waterloo*. The single page competition was won by **Wayne Cox** with *Imitation*

Watermarks. → Brian Thurlow 01923 243243 or watforddps@gmail.com
Wayne Cox

West London

John Shaw FRPSL gave us an impressive display of *Iraq*. We saw overprints and varieties, some 1949 airmail stamps, notable covers, die proofs and specimens and concluded with some republican overprints following the assassination of King Faisal. Four members from High Wycombe PS made a return visit in May. **Ken Richardson** displayed *Stamps of the Earlier Years of Greece* and contrasted them with the stamps of Cyprus which became more Greek in 1960s when Cyprus attained home rule. **Stuart Catchpole** showed some *British Commonwealth stamps up to GVI*. Many flaws and varieties were in this vast collection. *GB Postal History* was **Alan Druce's** subject. His awesome material included a Corsini letter of 1586, a letter from Dover to Antwerp during the English Civil War period and a letter of 1819 from Jacob Perkins, the founder of Perkins Bacon & Petch, amongst others. Alan concluded with a display of line engraved essays of the 1d stamp

(black & red). At our AGM in June **Chris Oliver** was elected as President with all other officers remaining as previously. This was followed by a short display by **Susan Oliver** on *The Faeroe Islands in WWI*. → Christopher Oliver on 020 8940 9833 or olivers.of_ham@virgin.net Chris Oliver

Wimbledon & District

Michael Round displayed *French Somali Coast* in November, from the early Obock/Djibouti period through to the new independent Republic of Djibouti. At the *I & J* evening in February, **Mike Warwick** opened with *Italian pre-stamp correspondence from 1810 to 1877*. **Barbara Priddy** followed with *Air mail routes from the Ivory Coast*, then **Steve Teuma** showed *Jersey 1940-45* and **Andy Donaldson** finished off with some *Jocular Postcards* including Bruce Bairnsfather and Donald McGill. In March, **Maurice Buxton** presented *A Collection of Registered Mail* and in May at the President's evening, **Andy Donaldson** showed us *A Potpourri* including GB Advertising Rings, GB Perfins and Yorkshire Postal History. Members gave presentations at Croydon and Camberley in March and May.

Stamp Active Needs More Help

The Stamp Active Network is urgently seeking more people to get involved to support youth philately in the UK. Stamp Active is a voluntary organisation that promotes stamp collecting to children across the UK. There are a number of administrative roles to be filled as well as practical help that can be given. Commenting on the problems, John Davies, Chairman of Stamp Active, said "Even if you can only spare one hour to help out on the stand at Spring or Autumn Stampex, we really could do with more help. At the moment, I feel we are over-reliant on a small number of people, so please get involved to support the future of philately in the UK."

Please contact John by email on davies1890@btinternet.com



High Wycombe visitors

Unfortunately we have lost four long standing members this year. **Ray Downing** had been a pillar of the Society and devoted himself to nearly fifty years of service, **Tom Rumbold** (the Society's auditor), **Tony Clark** (former Society Treasurer), and **Peter Dennis**. All are sadly missed.

Mike Warwick

Woking & District

An unusual start to 2017 came with members' non-philatelic interests, which produced items ranging from *Church Memorabilia, Jigsaws, Genealogy, Art and Pottery to Medals and Cigarette Cards*. Other evenings covered *Transport* (by whatever means!) which offered plenty of scope, *The Colour is Green, Postcards* and *The letter A*. However we did take a back seat on some occasions.

Following earlier displays, our country member **Gavin Fryer** continued his story about *The Use of GB high value stamps on mail during WWII*. After the wealth of 200 sheets, used high values seemed almost commonplace. **Chris Oliver** encouraged us to look at the *History of America through its Philately* in his display which took us from the dinosaurs through the American Revolution to more modern times.

Finally Camberley & District Stamp Club sent two speakers who brought widely different subjects. **Ron Jones** took us to *Poland* with stamps issued by the country during WWII, including by those in exile, and later covered a range of other Polish issues. **Alan Matheson** reminded us that *Nova Scotia* was a small territory on the eastern seaboard of Canada with which he had family connections. His early covers began in 1801. Picture postcards illustrated the aftermath of the massive explosion in Halifax harbour in 1917 when two ships collided resulting in a major catastrophe.

Ron Trevelyan

Yeovil & District

We have had a very good season starting with **David Muscott** showing *English Provisional Bank Notes*. Next



David Muscott—a man of notes

was **Roger Marsh** with *Line Engraved Stamps*, and our club auction. **Fred Evans**, now 90 years old, produced a display on *Royal Navy Philatelic Society*. The winners in our competitions were: **Roger Marsh** *Too Late Postmarks* (Postal History), **David Bryant** *Birds of Hampshire* (Thematic), **Dr Claude Leonard** *Croatia – Zagreb*

(General) and **Joan Garner** *The Queen and her Children* (Novice). We finished with a postcard evening.

David Bryant

Federations

Kent

Our Summer Rally was at Aylesford near Maidstone on Saturday 15th July, hosted by Maidstone & Mid-Kent who organised the fair with dealers, refreshments, tombola, philatelic competitions and displays. They also produced a leaflet welcoming people and with information about the Society and the 2017-18 programme. Our enjoyment was helped by the number and variety of homemade cakes to have with your tea or coffee! Our competitions attracted ten entries judged by **Lyn** and **Michael Roberts** from the Essex Federation. Bromley and Beckenham won the Thematic with *Captain Cook the Exploration of the Pacific*. Cinque Ports took Aerophilately with *Sudan Airmails First Flights of Imperial Airways* and the Traditional Individual winner was **Lewis Giles** (Maidstone and Mid-Kent) with *New Zealand Chalon Heads*. Well done to all at Maidstone & Mid-Kent for organising the event and to the army of volunteers who helped with the arrangements for a successful day.

Philately is all about volunteers - they are needed to run local and specialist societies and federations, and are the lifeblood of any organisation. Many organisations suffer because members are unwilling to step forward and put something back into the hobby. Age and infirmity is a sometimes justified oft-quoted reason but to all fellow collectors: "Ask not what your hobby can do for you - ask what you can do

for your hobby". Everyone should be doing something to encourage others to take up the hobby and join a society otherwise more will fail. *Michael Dobbs*

South Wales

The 48th annual convention of the Federation of South Wales Philatelic Societies took place in May at the Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot, as it has done since 1993. This is one of two events organised each year by the Federation; the other being an Autumn stamp and postcard fair that changes venue each year, being hosted by one of our societies. The senior competition attracted only five entries, all of a high standard. The one judged to be best in show was from **Rolf Scharning** (Swansea), on *Glider mail flown in Southern Germany 1925*. The junior competition had a remarkable fourteen entries all from Haverfordwest clubs



Erene between Carys and Sara Llewellyn

run by **Erene Grieve**. **Carys** is holding the cups for her winning entry in the secondary schools class and for that of her sister **Nia** who won the primary schools prize. As in 2016 **Councillor Sheila Penry**, Mayor of Port Talbot, presented the prizes.

Wiltshire and District

There was an excellent display of high quality material in the Federation 9-

Sheet Competition entries at Swinpex on the 10th June. Our Judge, **Jeremy Hutchison** of Devizes, graded five of the entries at Gold level. Winners were **Tony Howgrave-Graham** of Salisbury in the General and Postal History classes, **Mike Tanner** of Bristol (Cinderella), **Morva White** of Swindon (Social), **Lindsay Green** of Salisbury (Thematic), **Keith Chadwick** of Bath



Nigel Borlase-Hendry and Keith Chadwick of Bath

(Aerophilately) which was also judged as the 'Best in Show' and **Alan Fordham** of Devizes (Novice). Always a good sign to see entrants in the Novice class. Plenty of notice I know but our AGM and 16-Sheet Competition will be held in Swindon on the 2nd December.

→ www.wiltsfed.org.uk

Paul Latham-Warde

National & Specialist

British Thematic Association

New Look for 2017 competitions: We are inviting entries to three 16-sheet competitions this year; the BTA Cup for Thematic Class, the John Fosbery Trophy for Open Class and the Brian Sole Trophy for the Picture Post Card Class. All classes will be judged

according to National Rules as appropriate and will be displayed at the South of England Stamp and Post Card Fair, South of England Centre, Ardingly Showground, Ardingly, Sussex RH17 6TL on Saturday 14th October 2017. Entry to each competition is open to all, not just members of the BTA. The closing date for receipt of entry forms is Friday 29th September 2017.

→ www.britishthematic.org.uk or

Steve Cross, Fairmead, Marshfoot Lane, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 2RE, steve_cross58@hotmail.com
01323 840323

Jim Etherington

Channel Island Specialists'

46 people came to our weekend in Cardiff. We began with *The Telegraph Form* by **Jon Aitchison**. After dinner the *Three Sheets to Tell a Story* competition was won by Ron Osborne with *Friends, Family and WWII – a Tongue in Cheek Story*. On Saturday, **Gerald Marriner** displayed *Red Cross Message Service*. At the annual dinner President **Alan Moorcroft** gave special thanks for their dedication to retiring officers **Dave Edwards** and **Moira Edwards**. On Sunday ten members gave short displays, ranging from **Olaf Beecken** with *Into Alderney*, with items from Germany, Hungary, Spain and Ukraine to Alderney, through **David Gurney's Illustrated and Headed Covers** including four Mulready items and **Leopold Mayr** on *Red Cross Form 61* to **Richard Flemming's** single frame of *Mail to and from Sark*, including a 1609 item and a letter dated 22nd June 1815 including news of Waterloo. Other displays were by **Brian Sole**, **Gerald Marriner**, **Jon Aitchison**, **Gavin Wood**, **Ron Osborne** and **Alan Moorcroft**. At our London meeting in July on *Open*

Philately, **Jon Aitchison** opened with *What is Open Philately?* Then came **David Winnie** *112 years of the Post Office in Samares*, **Robert Shaw** *Channel Islands bus service ephemera*, **Ron Brown Alderney Occupation mail**, **Brian Sole's** *Occupation ephemera* and *Sark cycle tax discs* and **Richard Flemming** ended with *Recent Acquisitions*, including a 1902 pen and ink illustrated envelope from Yokohama to Guernsey. At the AGM **Alan Moorcroft FRPSL** handed over the Presidency to **Gerald Marriner FRPSL**.

→ www.ciss1950.org.uk or Mark Bailey membership@ciss1950.org.uk

Steve Wells

Concorde Study Circle

On 7th February 2017, Aerospace Bristol welcomed Concorde 216 - the last Concorde to be built and the last to fly - to her new purpose-built home. She made her maiden flight on 20th April 1979 and touched down on her last flight on 26th November 2003. Since then Alpha Foxtrot has stood alongside the Filton runway, cared for by Airbus UK. The complex move to her new inside home was conducted with the greatest care by engineers from British Airways and Airbus, who

towed the iconic aircraft across Filton Airfield and up a ramp into the new purpose-built hangar at Aerospace Bristol. Now thousands more people will be able to admire her sleek lines and the engineering that enabled her to fly. On 18th February we celebrated the move at our meeting during Stampex. *From CSC Newsletter by Brian Asquith*

Czechoslovak

About a dozen Society members together with some partners arrived in Kamperduinen, Zeeland, for our weekend. A full programme had been organised by **Hans van Dooremalen** together with the Dutch Czechoslovak Society. Others came from Germany and further so at times there were over thirty present helping to widen contacts. After the initial welcome Hans chaired the event. The programme consisted of over twenty displays of one to three frames and (mostly) short introductions to them. **Richard Wheatley** gave the Bill Dawson Lecture entitled *Would Bill approve?* Covering philatelic developments from Bill's heyday to now and beyond, Richard concluded that Bill would have approved of the ability to meet more people, to search wider for material, and to display more professionally. The



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Guest lecture after dinner was by **Luc Selis**, whose intriguing title was '*The Tolkovsky family: the story of my house*', a talk for both philatelists and non-philatelists. After local and distant research he had pieced together the family history of the first owners of his house in Antwerp, Polish emigrés connected with the diamond trade. The philatelic part was the remarkable purchase of some family letters at an auction and discovering that he had had a reply-paid postcard addressed to one of them in his collection for over twenty years. He finished the evening with a display of postcards of *French Locations to which Belgian children were evacuated during WWI*, a topic that was new to many in the room.

Peter Williams and Roger Morrell

Great Britain

Two of our members, **James Grimwood-Taylor FRPSL FSPH** and **Jeremy Piercy**, gave postal history displays recently to a good gathering of fellow members. James, showing *Great Britain used in Great Britain*, began with the pre-stamp origins of cheap postage and carried his attentive audience through to the 1940s concentrating on material mainly from the Derby area. Jeremy followed with *The British Post Office and the Environment*, a fascinating and colourful display of material mainly from the 1940s to the present day. In this, he included a section of WWII returned civilian mail. A very enjoyable day! At the June meeting **Michael Lockton FRPSL**, a past president of the Society, gave his display on *Early 20th Century Postal History* to a large audience of members and guests. We saw a remarkable range of items which Michael simply introduced as *Labels* –

from registered covers to labels for parcels of fresh eggs! In the afternoon session the AGM was followed by the presentation of the Annual Awards. To end we had short displays from nine members showing a good variety of stamps and postal history.

→ www.gbps.org.uk or
membership@gbps.org.uk

Janet Bygate

Helvetia

Our southern group meets three times a year just outside Salisbury and I am pleased to report that meetings continue to be well-attended. In June 16 members were present. The lead speaker was **Alison Kilpatrick** who entertained us with her collection of *Wartime Mail sent to and from Switzerland*. Inevitably this included censored mail and we learned much about Nazi/SS censorship, also British censorship on Bermuda that apparently caused friction with USA. Equally fascinating were covers addressed to 'secret' PO boxes in Switzerland that were used as clearing houses for mail sent to allies and underground organisations. Who would have known that GB postmarks on such mail were obliterated with indelible pens so that the senders could not be traced, in case such letters fell into the wrong hands? Perhaps most remarkable was the fact that Alison's father was a Scottish policeman who interviewed Rudolf Hess after his bizarre arrival in Scotland in 1941. It was a revealing presentation on a little-known area of Swiss postal history. Afternoon displays included the two superb cup-winning entries from this year's national meeting: *Postal history of the Interlaken region* by **Mike Sharp** and *The 1900 UPU issue* by **Marc**

Burgess. The next meeting will be on Saturday 7th October at 10 am. Meetings are very friendly affairs with excellent food at the Three Crowns, Whaddon - a welcoming and accessible country pub. New members will be most welcome! → www.swiss-philately.co.uk or librarian@swiss-philately.co.uk Bob Medland

Hungarian PS of GB

2017 is the 150th anniversary of the first Hungarian stamp commissioned independently of Austria. Many years ago **Gary Ryan** gathered the irrefutable evidence that finally resolved a long-running debate on the date of the first stamp, now recognised in philatelic circles. The anniversary is significant historically and naturally is being celebrated in Hungary but also here by the Hungarian PS of GB. 26 frames of material will be on display at Autumn Stampex. They will not only serve commemorative purposes but demonstrate the wide range of material and subjects that feature in collecting Hungarian stamps and postal history. We will welcome interest at the time.

Mervyn Benford

Italy & Colonies

24 members and partners attended our weekend meeting at Kenilworth in May and enjoyed the 14 in-depth displays on a wide range of subjects including *Italian Aviation 1905-1933*, *17th Century heavy letters between Italian States & France*, *Austro - Italian Treaty Mail*, *Italian POWs in the Middle East WWII*, *Lake Mail*, *Post Identity Cards* and *Italian Post Offices in Turkey*. The Richard Harlow Trophy was awarded to **Keith Brandon** for his competition entry of *Austrian Lloyd Ship Mail between Venice & Trieste*.



Richard Harlow & Keith Brandon

→ www.icsc-uk.com or Richard Harlow on 0208 977 8737 Paul Woodness

National

We have enjoyed a series of entertaining and enlightening speakers this spring and summer, including **Terry Page FRPSL** who presented *Russian Zemstvo local post stamps and postal history* in March, **Christine Earle FRPSL** and **Dr Patrick Reid FRPSL** who presented two very different aspects of *Australia* in April, **Anthony Miller** presenting a *Motor Car* thematic in May, complete with much memorabilia, and in June the President **Mike Thompson** treated members to his *Kent Postal History*. There was a members' display in July after the AGM when **Wilf Ververs** cooled the summer heat in August with *South Georgia*. **Ralph Bridgeman** will show *Birds of the World* in September and on October 14th **John Shaw FRPSL** is showing *Paraguay*, the first of a series of annual displays of Latin America by various speakers. We meet one Saturday per month (usually the first one) at The Welsh Centre, Grays Inn Road, London WC1. We run monthly 400 lot auctions at meetings, three packet circuits, and a bi-monthly magazine *The Stamp Lover*.

→ Peter Mellor 01582 762284 or
npsmemsec@ukphilately.org.uk

Michael Goodman

The Royal

In April 24 members from London and Surrey shared their diverse passions from *The Great Western Railway's Airmails to Telegraph Forms and Early Telegrams*, from *Protective Underprints and Overprints to South Georgia postal history*. Of particular note was the display of letters sent to the BBC World Service. Despite incorrect addresses the Post Office staff delivered correctly. Many of the letters bore stamps relegated by stamp catalogue editors to 'appendix' status. To non-aficionados *Great Britain Line-engraved Plate Repairs 1840-1855* does not sound very inspiring but **Scott Treacey FRPSL** kept everyone enthralled in



Paul Davey & Frank Walton

early May with clear images showing stamps in their original state, after plate wear and then following repair. Later in May a selection of material from our society collections was shown to members. This aids the Expert Committee of the Society as well as others undertaking philatelic research. The items have been donated by

members and others. **Frank Walton RDP FRPSL** displayed from his collection of *Chinese International Air Mail to 1949* in early June. His presentation was in three sections, covering the period before, during and after WWII. Then he presented **Paul Davey** with the Society's Tilleard Medal for the previous year's best afternoon display, *An Overview of China*. At the AGM on 22nd June, The Royal elected **Patrick Maselis** as President. Patrick, from Belgium, is the Society's first 'overseas' President. His election recognises that of the 2250 members over half reside outside the United Kingdom. → Administrative Office 020 7486 1044
Richard West

Scandinavia

We met in Gloucestershire for our annual weekend meeting in the Spring. For the first time a guest speaker was invited to attend and **Wilf Vevers** came and showed some most interesting and fascinating pages from his collection representing *The Scandinavian connection with Antarctica*, which was very much enjoyed. **John Perry** gave his final display as Society President and handed over the badge of Office to **David Macdonald** from Aberdeen. The AGM took place at which **Peter Rooke** was re-elected as Chairman, **David Williams** as Treasurer and **Susan Oliver** took up the General Secretary reins again. **Gwynne Harries** was appointed Editor and other officers stayed in post. **Peter Sondhelm** was presented with the Norden Award for an article he wrote in "Contact" – our club magazine - about *the Færoe Islands*. Over the weekend members gave short displays from most of the Scandinavian countries, chatted with each other, revived old friendships,

made new ones and had a great time.

→ susan.m.oliver@virgin.net

Susan Oliver

South African Collectors'

Our meetings in London and Carlisle on 18th March attracted a low number of attendees although the material displayed was of a high standard. We went to Meriden for our AGM weekend in May, when we discussed preparations for our 70th anniversary later in the year. Members' displays were many and varied thanks to our convener, **Simon Peetoom**, even though a change in venue was required on Sunday due to the inability of builders to complete their work to the dining room at Meriden on time. **Tony Howgrave-Graham** was awarded the Abell Trophy for his display of 1925 *Airmail stamps*. Our meeting continued at the Oak Hotel, Hockley Heath and the weekend ended with another successful auction. The society always welcomes visitors and potential new members to our meetings. → Christopher Oliver 020 8940 9833 or olivers.of_ham@virgin.net or www.southafricacollector.com/

Christopher Oliver

Strathclyde Postcard

Our very enjoyable session began in September with the new President, **Raymond Baldock**, sharing his historical and modern postcard views of *Cumbrae* (a small island in the Firth of Clyde). Many cards showed the changing face of Millport. We continued with *Paisley and Ardrossan Canal* (short lived) presented by **Guthrie Hutton**. In January two members of Bearsden PS were welcomed and members viewed an excellent display given by **Ian Mitchell** showing *The*

Development, History and Views of Rangoon, Burma (fascinating views of the city's development by two Scots – Dr William Montgomerie and Alexander Fraser). We also enjoyed a great display of *Castles, Locomotives, Geology, Rivers and the Great North of Scotland Railway* from **Frank Beattie**. In March **Margeorie Mekié**, of Lothian Postcard Club, presented members with a stunning display of wonderful postcards illustrating through the alphabet *A Postcard Dictionary*. Also two *Miscellany* evenings gave members postcard visions of a great variety of subjects and, as the title in December was *Your Choice*, interesting views were presented on a great array of subjects. *Elsie Miller*

Sudan Study Group

The weekend of 21st April was our biennial Conference at the Morley-Hayes Golf Club, near Derby. It was also the occasion of the club's 40th Anniversary at which 15 members gathered for a full menu of philatelic delights. Displays included: **Richard Stock** *1960s De La Rue Specimens* and *Early Campaign Mail and Historical Letters*, **Jack Davies** *Sudan Transit Mails* and *1980s Post Office Problems* – covers/pieces used irregularly with old stamps and revenues plus one cover from 2001 which had been tested for Anthrax, **Colin Narbeth** *Sudan Defence Force Mail*, **Andy Neal** *South Sudan*, **Paul Grigg** *Paquebot and Khedivial Line Mail*, **John Gibson** *WWII Air Routes and Free French Military Mail* and **Andy Neal** *Lady Wingate's Scrapbook* which included original photos of Marc Pourpe's experimental airmail flight of 1914 and autographs of Wingate, Kitchener and Slatin among others. The major Study

Topic was *WWII FPOs and SDF cancels*, admirably led by **Martin Kuriger**. The Norton Collier Trophy Competition attracted entries of a high standard and was won by **Niklas Eriksson** with *WWI Censorship Mail*. Other entries included *Camel Post Charity Stamps*, *Gordon Statue Airmails*, *De La Rue Ink Recipes* and *Experimental Airmail*. After the AGM we rounded off with a lively bourse and auction. → www.sudanstamps.org



Niklas Eriksson & Andy Neal

Anthony Brown

The Northern Philatelic Exhibition - York July 21st – 22nd

The third Northern Exhibition was held in conjunction with the York Stamp Fair, again sponsored by Corbitts. The exhibition was over-subscribed, so one or two would-be exhibitors were disappointed. We hope there will be more frames available in the future. The Exhibition was judged at National Level by members of the UK National team ably led by **Chris King RDP FRPSL**, one of the world's leading postal historians.

The standard of exhibits was quite superb with six Large Gold and six Gold medals being awarded. First time exhibitors did remarkably well: **Edward Klempka** took the lead with a Gold for his *Russian Civil War Postal History*, and a Large Gold for *GB Penny Post Evolution 1840-45*. **Neil Ritchie**, the ABPS Secretary, received a Large Vermeil for his *Russian Censorship*..... with the longest title in the show! Experienced Northern exhibitors, **Mike Roberts** and **Frank Walton RDP** received Gold and Large Gold respectively for *QEII British Postal History* and *Small Format Wildings*. Relatively modern material is becoming



At the Presentation

increasingly popular and gaining high awards. Perhaps the most visually stunning exhibit was **Peter Chadwick's** *Mulready Caricatures* which, after some debate, was eventually judged as a Traditional Exhibit, and received a well-deserved Gold.

There were some quite delightful One-Frame exhibits: **Rodney Knight's** *Spanish Guinea* (Post Card) – Large Vermeil, **Steve Schumann's** excellent *New Zealand POW Lettercards* (Postal Stationery) – Large Gold, **Philip Cheetam's** *Post Magazine Address Panels with decorative borders* – Large Vermeil. I could write more about the exhibits, but space does not permit.... A full results listing may be seen on the ABPS Website. *Graham Winters FRPSL*

Stamp Active Network

Stanley Gibbons Continues Sponsorship of the National Youth Stamp Competitions



Stanley Gibbons have announced their continuing support for the Stamp Active Network with sponsorship of the 2017 national youth stamp competitions. They have been regular supporters of the competitions since 2000 when the British Youth Stamp Championships were first launched. Commenting on this year's sponsorship, Claudia Cadete, Marketing Manager, said "Stanley Gibbons are delighted to continue to promote youth stamp collecting through Stamp Active. The Championships are the premier event for serious young philatelists with the very best going on to represent the UK in international exhibitions. The standards have been high in recent years and there have been an increased number of first-time entrants." Young collectors can begin with the one page competition, progress to the Stamp Active Competition with a minimum of 4 pages and then go on to Championship level with a minimum of 16 pages. The entries in the 2017 British Youth Stamp Championships will be on display at Autumn Stampex along with the entries for the "My Favourite Things" one page national competition. For more information visit the Stamp Active website www.stampactive.co.uk

Anne Dummer Award

We are delighted to announce that this year's recipient is Carys Llewellyn. Carys is a keen collector from South Wales who joined the stamp club at Neyland Junior School when she was 9 years old. Her enthusiasm was soon evident, not only in her own collecting and competition work, but also in her encouragement of other club members and in helping with the running of the club. Following her own success in competitive philately, she also encouraged her sister and two cousins who were soon competing against her.

For the last 18 months she has been the Raffle Stamp Club Junior Reporter, providing articles four times a year for their magazine on varied topics of interest to young collectors. Carys is now a member of her secondary school stamp club, her church stamp club, and has also addressed her local philatelic society on her Winter Sports competitive entry.

We congratulate Carys on receiving this award and wish her a long and rewarding philatelic career.

St. Clements Primary School's Stamp Collectors Club celebrates its 3rd birthday

We are so pleased, this term, to be celebrating our 3rd birthday and showing that from little acorns great trees can grow. In 2014 several children from year 5 started the Stamp Collectors Club following a suggestion from one of the



students to the Head Teacher. As then our aim continues to encourage other students to collect stamps, help others gain knowledge about what and why stamps are produced and have a lot of fun.

We have access to a wide range of resources including stamps and information sheets/books. We also aim to raise stamp collections with teachers and parents where stamps could be used to enrich discussion in projects etc. Stamp Active and the local Philately Club have provided newsletters and donated stamps. Great Britain Stamps recently made contact and now provide the monthly magazine.

At each meeting we look at a topic. Each of us collect different things so it is interesting to chat and see the stamps. We enter competitions e.g. designing stamps based on "Red Nose Day". We were so pleased when Natalia won the "Anne Dummer Award for Young Collector of the Year 2016" and travelled with her family to London to collect her cup and other goodies.

We have provided stamps to classes linked to their specific topics such as dinosaurs, the Great Fire of London and castles. The group enjoyed the recent set of new stamps on Windsor Castle. Several students reported on the interest shown by their families when they looked at the sets of "Musical Giants" i.e. Pink Floyd and more recently David Bowie. Displays shown in the Reception area related to "special days or events e.g. World Book Day, William Shakespeare Week, Science and Engineering etc.

Regular attendance is recognised at school Celebration Assemblies with termly certificates. Membership continues to grow and it is hoped that the excitement and interest continues for many more years.

Become a Stamp Dealer for a Day

The organisers of the Charing Cross Stamp Market, which takes place every Saturday in London near the Embankment Underground Station, are offering a unique opportunity to younger stamp collectors under the age of 25. They will allocate two tables (12ft) for any enterprising young stamp enthusiasts to sell their spare stamps or covers to collectors and public, some of whom come from overseas. The tables will be provided free of charge. Youngsters under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Bridget Pettecrew, organiser, said "We would like to encourage the new generation of stamp collectors to think about becoming the stamp dealers of the future. This will give them the chance to experience the trade at first hand, chat with experienced dealers and pick up a few tips. I will be available to provide encouragement and advice."

Anyone interested in taking part should email bridget@charingcrossmarket.com or call Jim Pettecrew on 07971 817925

David Rossall



An additional class, Revenues, has been included in PRAGA 2018

PRAGA 2018 is a specialised World Stamp Exhibition with FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. The exhibition which will have approximately 1500 frames will be held at the Clarion Congress Hotel, Prague from 15th to 18th August 2018.

The Exhibition Classes are: Traditional, Postal History, Philatelic Literature, One Frame, Modern Philately (21st century), Open Philately, and now the Revenue class has been added.

The exhibition will celebrate the centenary of:

- The Independence of Czechoslovakia from the Austro-Hungarian Empire
- The issue of the first Czech stamps and
- The end of World War I

The regulations and application forms are on the Exhibition website www.praga2018.cz

The UK Commissioner is Yvonne Wheatley, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds, LS15 9BW
UK 0113 2601978 whyareuu@outlook.com

The closing date for forms to be with the Commissioner is 1st November 2017

ABPS Handbook & Directory: updates

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

Federations

Kent (p 58) has its own website www.kfps.website

South Wales (p 55,56): delete British Rail (Cardiff) as it has closed

Wessex (p 62,63) has a website www.wessexpf.org.uk

All affiliated societies' details can be accessed via the website clubs page. Please note that West of England Thematic Society is affiliated to ABPS and should not be in italics.

Specialist Societies

The Bechuanalands and Botswana Society (p 67): Secretary: Otto Peetoom
01964 670239 ottopeetoom@btinternet.com

Belgian Philatelic Study Circle (p 67): Secretary's email
chrishowe1947@gmail.com

France & Colonies Philatelic Society (p 73): Secretary: Davis Hogarth
secretary@fcps.org.uk

The GB Overprints Society (p 76): Secretary: Nick Harris 01621 927048
secretary@gbos.org.uk

Postal Order Society (p 81): Secretary: Mark Rollason
mark.rollason@tesco.net

Postal Stationery Society (p 81): Secretary: Neil Sargent
Neil.sargent@btinternet.com

Local Societies

Axe Vale (p 90): New Secretary: Nicholas Arrow
nicholasarrow@btinternet.com 01297 552482

Bristol (p 98): Secretary: Arlene Powell arlenepowell@sky.com

Cheltenham (p 105): Secretary 01242 528648

Edinburgh (p 111): New website: edinphil.wordpress.com/

Epsom & Ewell (p 112): Secretary: Anthony McLelland
ajmcllland@clara.co.uk 01372 722192

Haverfordwest Stamp & Postcard Club (p 118): note the new name
Secretary's new number: 01239 820983
and a new venue: St Thomas Church Hall, St Thomas Green,
Haverfordwest.

Hereford & Mid-Wales (p 121): Secretary: Janet Nelson
fascinatinglady@hotmail.com 07887 997932

High Wycombe & District (p 122): meetings are from 7.30 to 10.00.
Remove 8 -10 pm on the last line.

Leeds (p 130): New website: www.leedsps.org.uk

Leicester (p 131): New venue: The Christchurch 105A Clarendon Park Road,
Leicester LE2 3AH New website www.leicesterphilatelicsociety.webs.com

Liskeard (p 132): Secretary has new telephone number 07731 508961

Newport & Gwent (p 139): Secretary: Bev Davies
newport.philatellic@gmail.com

Swindon (p 161): Secretary's new email: borlasehendry@btinternet.com

Taunton (p 161): Secretary: C R Catley shadow2004@tiscali.co.uk
01884 798370
and a new venue - Kilkenny Court, Clifton Terrace, Taunton, TA2 7QL at
7.15 for a 7.30 start.

Taw & Torridge (p 162): Secretary's new email: andrewausten68@gmail.com

Twickenham & District (p 165) has resigned from ABPS.

Windsor & District (p 169) has decided to go dormant and so resign from
ABPS. The secretary Alan Beaven remains as a contact.

Woking & District (p 169,170) has a new website:
www.wokingphilatelicsociety.com

Meetings are now 2nd and 4th Mondays, monthly, September to June

Speakers:

John Cowlin (p 200): Remove address. Telephone number is 01984 623668
Prepared to visit within 60 miles radius of Taunton or by arrangement.

Richard Stupples (p 246): telephone number is 01179 678229

Eddie Weeks (p 254) is no longer giving displays

Peter Wood (p 257): please remove the given postal address as it is incorrect.



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Diary for the next few months

Local and regional events by ABPS members

2017

September

- 7 Poole & Bournemouth Stamp and Postcard Club 50th Anniversary Evening (all local clubs' members are being invited to this event): 7:30 Upton Community Centre, **Poole** BH16 5JA
- 9 Poole & Bournemouth Stamp and Postcard Club Annual Fair: 10 – 4, Upton Community Centre, **Poole** BH16 5JA
- 23 South Wales Federation Stamp & Coin Fair - hosted by Newport & Gwent PS: Graig Community Centre, Bassaleg, **Newport**
- 26 RPSL, Wessex Division: from 10 at Grasmere House Hotel, Harnham Road, **Salisbury** SP2 8JN → 01722 333404
- 30 HAMPEX 2017 - Hampshire Federation: 10 – 4, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, **Wickham** PO17 5AL
- 29 to 1 October Gibraltar Study Circle Competition weekend: Red Lion Hotel, Red Lion Lane, **Basingstoke**, Hampshire RG21 7LX

October

- 7 Germany & Colonies PS weekend stamp fair: 9.30 – 4.30, Aylesbury Holiday Inn, **Weston Turville** HP22 5QT 01296 488703
- 7 South West Scotland Stamp and Postcard Festival: 10 – 4, Prestwick Community Centre, Caerlaverock Road, **Prestwick**, Ayrshire KA9 1HR → davidrossall@sky.com
- 7 Yeovil & District Stamp & Postcard Fair: 10 – 4, Digby Memorial Hall, Digby Road, **Sherborne**, Dorset DT9 3NL
- 14 Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies Stamp Fair & Convention: South of England Showground, **Ardingly**, West Sussex RH17 6TL → Jim Etherington 01273 471897 sussexphilately@live.co.uk
- 21 Middlesex Federation Stamp Day: Methodist Church Hall, **Ruislip**
- 28 Banbury Festival of Stamps: 10 – 4, Blessed George Napier School, Springfield Avenue, **Banbury** OX16 9JD
- 28 Bolton PS Stamp Fair & North West Federation Annual Convention: 10 – 4, St Josephs R C High School, Chorley New Road, **Horwich**, Bolton BL6 6HW → 01942 813386
- 28 Cornwall PF- CORNEX: **Liskeard** PL14 3EA → www.cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/whats-on.php
- 28 Huntingdonshire PS Stamp Fair with Postcards: 10 – 3, Corn Exchange, **St Ives** PE27 5AD. Free admission → 01480 468037
- 28 Surrey Federation of PS Annual Event, hosted by Addlestone Community Association Philatelic Section: Addlestone Community Association Hall, Garfield Road, **Addlestone** KT15 3SN → Shirley Kemp albertedward.kemp@ntlworld.com

November

- 11 Maidstone & Mid Kent PS Stamp Fair: 10 – 3, Grove Green Community Centre, Grove Green, **Maidstone** ME14 5BT → Brian Stonestreet 01622 67874
- 17-18 Leeds PS Annul Stamp Fair: Pudsey Civic Hall, Dawson's Corner, **Pudsey** LS28 5TA

February

- 10 Bromley & Beckenham Stamp & Postcard Fair: Langley Park Boys School, South Eden Park Road, **Beckenham** BR3 3BP

When sending the Editor details of events please give the postcode of your venues - it helps people with satnavs.

For the next few years

National Exhibitions 2017-2018

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

- 13th -16th September 2017: Autumn Stampex 2017
- 14th -17th February 2018: Spring Stampex 2018
- 12th -15th September 2018: Autumn Stampex 2018

International Exhibitions 2017-2020

- 24th – 29th October: Brasilia 2017—World Exhibition, FIP Patronised →UK Commissioner: Frank Walton frank@frankwalton.com
- 23rd - 24th March: ITALIA 2018 Milan Literature exhibition
- 27th - 31st May: ISRAEL 2018 World Stamp Championship, Specialised exhibition under FIP patronage covering Traditional, Postal History, Modern Philately and Literature. 1000 frames
- 8th - 10th June: NORDIA 2018 Gardabaer, Iceland: Commissioner: Mike Smith
- 15th - 18th August PRAGA 2018, Prague, Czech Republic: Commissioner: Yvonne Wheatley Specialized world exhibition - Exhibition classes: 1) Traditional Philately, 2) Postal History, 3) Philatelic Literature, 4) One Frame Exhibits, 5) Modern Philately, 6) Open Philately 7) Revenues → p 57 & www.PRAGA2018.cz
- 29th May - 2nd June: STOCKHOLMIA 2019, Stockholm, Sweden, RPSL exhibition with ABPS recognition. ABPS Congress: Commissioner: Mike JY Roberts.
- 2nd - 9th May 2020 London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, **London** N1 0QH → www.london2020.co

Web information

Further information on exhibiting and forthcoming exhibitions can be found on the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk on the "Exhibiting" tab.

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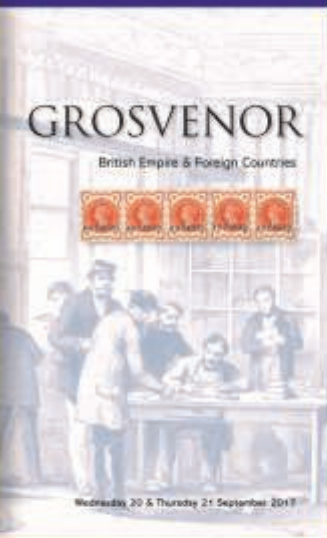
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