

Celebrate with Lanarkshire - 50 Years Old



Lanarkshire Philatelic Society 50th Anniversary Dinner on 8th September 2017



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ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

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

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Cover picture: *The Past Presidents: Standing: Ken Norris, Jim Grassom, Mike Cleary, Lindsay Freeland, Alex Magowan, Ken Liddell, Alan Wishart, Chris Moffat, Philip Longbottom, Ray Baldock, David Haig, Brian Dow, Ed Archer, Bill Wilkie, Bill Izett, Derek Wiltshire and seated: Margaret Lyth, Maureen Mathieson, Sheila Sinclair, Terry Woods, Ellen Currie, Julia Macleod and Elsie Miller*

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 by the inside rear cover.

Copy dates: please send your material as soon as ready; at present the copy deadlines are 15th January, 15th April, 15th July, 15th October. We cannot guarantee to include items in specific editions. Items may be edited for publication. Email copy is preferred (unformatted). Send copy to the editor: Keith S Burton (see p 54) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.



A Stamp Day

Ladies and Gentlemen

So, where have I got to with my three main aims?

Well, I suppose the honest answer is not far yet!

I have spoken to a lot of people about the best way forward and I have made some progress, at least in my own head, about establishing a "steering group" to guide the work of the executive committee.

I have discussed finances with several experts about raising more money, and I hope to be able to bring a proposal to the executive soon. We have received one generous donation of £1000 from a famous philatelist to help us forward. Of course, the ABPS would welcome any further donations, but we really must work to help ourselves.

I have been concentrating my efforts on developing ideas for a National Stamp Day. Initially, I would like to ask every philatelic society in the country to designate a meeting at the beginning

of May to be their Stamp Day meeting. If possible, to make a special event of that meeting. This would not mean huge changes in the first instance, but I would like to build on this by accepting the 6th May as British National Stamp Day. I would like to see a regular issue of stamps to celebrate it, which would, over a number of years, illustrate key events, people and places in our history. I would like to know what you think. What would you like to see depicted on these stamps?... let me know.

I am sure our editor will publish as many of your views as he can.

I believe that establishing a National Stamp Day would go quite a long way towards helping the image of our hobby but we need to get word of what we do and what we can offer onto social media and other modern methods of communication. Any ideas or offers of help here would be most welcome.

As we go to press, I have just been informed of the resignation of our Vice President Rufus Barnes, for personal reasons. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Rufus for his work for ABPS, especially his chairmanship of the Cambridge Congress in 2017 which was such a stunning success. I wish him well and hope that he will stay in touch with the executive committee; his views will always be welcome.

I will look forward to giving details of the appointment of a new Vice Chairman and a Federations Liaison Officer in my next Chairman's message.

*Graham Winters FRPSL.
Chairman ABPS*

Editorial

After the improved number and quality of exhibits at the York Fair in July, I was interested to see what would happen at Stampex. I was delighted to see the positive response from so many Federations to the re-formed Inter-Federations Competition. The number of entrants and the standard of the exhibits were outstanding and there was a great deal of interest and some very positive comments from the collectors that I was talking to. I hope that there will be further competitions like this and that even more federations will rise to the challenge, perhaps linking their entries to the entries for their own federation competitions. My main hope is that we will see many different participants as the years go by. The individual entries and displays were equally interesting and showed that there is much that I can learn from seeing the material, the work done and the different forms of presentation. Many thanks to all concerned.

The attendance at Stampex seemed to me to be good despite the bomb incident at Parsons Green though that might have affected the number of children who came to the Saturday Quiz and Auction. It is unfortunate but understandable that the Autumn Stampex is not at schools' half-term break unlike the February Spring Stampex. I am sure that it affects the number attending as so many youngsters who might otherwise want to come are involved in sports, music, cultural and other activities connected with the school term and so cannot find the time or persuade their parents to allow them to visit Islington.

One cry which we hear repeatedly is the difficulty of persuading new members to join our societies. I hope that the efforts and achievements of the Leeds society (see page 18) will inspire others to try something similar or completely different. Unfortunately I was unable to visit them as their day was during Stampex when I was in London. Sharing ideas is one of the ways in which we can help each other.



Over the last two years I have been including the list of amendments to the ABPS Handbook of Societies and Speakers. We know that there were a number of errors and omissions but hope that the majority of those are now clarified. The amendments now seem to me to be as expected—in other words changes in personnel as some officers retire and others take over. Keeping a copy of the handbook up-to-date is difficult and can be rather messy. I have therefore prepared a list of all the amendments which have appeared during the four issues of ABPS News since the handbook was distributed. If anyone in a federation or an affiliated society wants a copy please let me know. Send me your name and society or the federation which you represent. I will email the list as soon as possible after receiving a request. For those who prefer a printed copy please send a stamped addressed envelope to me at my Harrogate address on page 54. The listing will be in page order and if there are significant changes I will re-write the relevant section. *Keith Burton*

Society anniversaries, 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:

Kingston upon Thames and District Philatelic Society 90th Anniversary

Our celebrations for the 90th anniversary began with a Luncheon at Berrylands Hotel on 27th September 2017.

Our first Book of Society Minutes commences "A meeting was held at The Lodge, St James' Road, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday October 24th 1927 at 8.30 p.m. with the object of forming a Philatelic Society." 25 persons attended including Mrs Dibben, a stamp dealer in Kingston on Thames for 60 years. It was agreed to form the Society with Mr H R Harmer FRGS elected as President and Mrs Dibben as Secretary and Treasurer.

We have 40 members and meet twice per month at the Surbiton Library Hall on the first Thursday and third Friday, from 8pm to 10pm. The varied programme of visiting speakers and members' evenings remains popular with the addition of joint auctions, a competition night and a Christmas Social. A packet circulates and a Newsletter is issued 4 times per year.

Kingston PS is affiliated to ABPS and the Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies. In 2011, 2014 and 2017 we organised a successful Stamp Fair in Claygate Village Hall at which the Federation's AGM and Competitions were held.

Brian Sole

The 70th Anniversary of the South African Collectors' Society - www.southafricacollector.com



The Society was formed circa October 1947 by Eric Sherwood from Sale in Manchester. Eric was a specialist dealer of South Africa and a well-known figure in the stamp trade. He passed away at a ripe old age in January 1987.

At first the members circulated a 'News folder' but that became impractical as



the membership progressed to three figures. In January 1953 the first society journal was published called The Springbok. It is still going strong after 60+ years. For almost 40 years it was a bi-monthly publication and then from 1993 became a quarterly journal. Issue No 339 was published in August 2017. Eric Sherwood promoted and advertised the society in The South African Philatelist starting in October 1949 and this 'PR' exercise continued to the end of

December 1972. In January 2014 a society website came 'online' and has been developed into a valuable source of information, especially a section entitled 'Collect Southern Africa'.

The website includes an index to all its journals The Springbok and there is an extensive list of the society's comprehensive library. Regular meetings are held in the North and the South plus a Philatelic weekend in May/June in the Midlands. Each year in November it hosts an Annual Southern Africa Philatelic Conference which is already in its 16th year. This important annual event is open to all the various societies with an interest in Southern Africa philately. On the Saturday there are invited displays and on Sunday morning anyone is welcome to present a short display. The Conference ends on Sunday afternoon with a 'live' auction.

The 70th Anniversary is being celebrated by a customised webpage that may be accessed from our Home page, also a sixteen page Special (Souvenir) Edition of The Springbok has been published and may be downloaded free in PDF format from our website.

By 1954 the society boasted 229 members and nowadays it is in the region of 130. There is no pomp and ceremony and the society is run in a casual and friendly manner...thus if anyone has an interest in this area of collecting they ought to consider joining. The current annual subscription is UK £18, Europe £22 and Overseas £25. There is a PDF option for a mere £10 per year.

Enquiries may be directed to info@southafricacollector.com or write to our Secretary Chris Oliver, 46 Woodville Road, Ham, Richmond TW10 7QN
olivers.of_ham@virgin.net

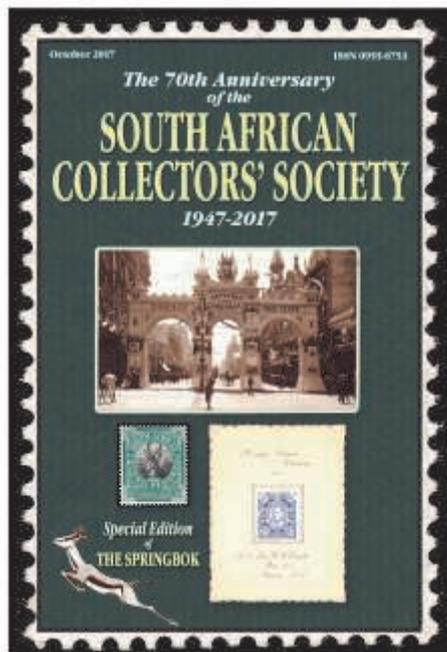
Oliver Peetoom

Lanarkshire Philatelic Society - 50 years old!

We celebrated our 50th Anniversary on Friday evening, 8th September, with a most enjoyable Dinner at the Bentley Hotel in Motherwell. It was attended by many members both former and present – and this included 22 Past Presidents, one of whom travelled up from the south of England to be present.

The beautifully iced Celebration Cake was cut by the President, **Terry Woods** and Honorary Vice President, Mrs **Sheila Sinclair**, assisted by 2 founder Members, Miss **Margaret Lyth** and **Kenneth Norris** - he has never missed a meeting in all the Society's 50 years!

After Grace was said by Past President, Rev **Bill Izett**, members thoroughly enjoyed the Dinner, after which the President, **Terry Woods**, reminded





Cutting the cake—Ken Norris, Margaret Lyth, Sheila Sinclair and Terry Woods

members of some of the History of the Society. It had its beginnings in a member's home and continued through the years in various places including Motherwell Library and St Andrew's Church in Hamilton - and so to its present abode in the Caledonian Bowling Club in Hamilton. The President of the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies, **Richard Cuthbertson**, presented his congratulations to the Society for attaining 50 years – and wished

it every success in the future. Mrs Sheila Sinclair gave the Vote of Thanks to all who had organised the wonderful evening.

Elsie Miller

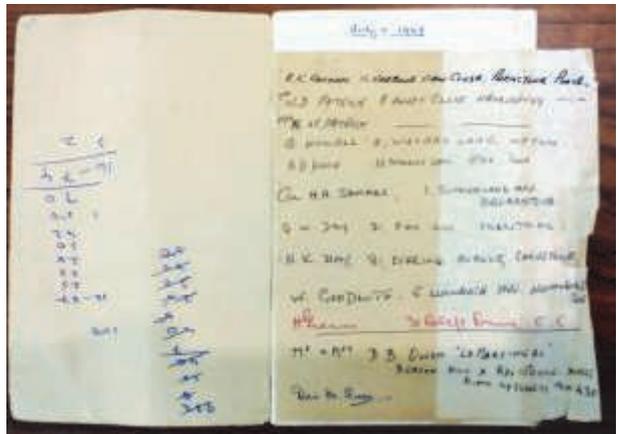
Poole and Bournemouth's 50th Anniversary Evening

Special Inter-club event - *Alice in Wonderland and beyond* by Paul Leonard, FRPSL

This was a memorable evening, starting with a most enjoyable meal at the local hostelry, where members met the evening's speaker and enjoyed some pre-meeting time together.

Meanwhile other members had arranged the club's room ready for the display, but also with "50" flags, and tables for the raffle prizes, refreshments and club archive material - an exciting sight as members from the club and visitors from neighbouring clubs arrived.

Paul had tailored his talk with A4 sheets explaining his display, but specially prepared with the club's logo



The first Club entry 7th July 1967

and presentation title on them, a very pleasing effort appreciated by everyone. There were five sections to his talk, all most interesting and entertaining, and so well presented. In essence because the Post Office would not consider a commemorative issue for Lewis Carroll, Gerald King decided to do his own. But using the basic design and history of the regular GB stamps, he went one better with his Wonderland stamps in Winks values (40 Winks making a Golden

Slumber)! implying that his issues were released before the GB ones, and so the GB ones were copied from his designs. Hence the first 1d black was issued on 5th May 1840, the first Mulready in 1862, and so on. His humour expanded into the production of Alice stamps and covers mimicking those of the Post Office in all aspects of the Post. Examples were shown from his and Gerald King's collection, of a wide range of interesting items including flaws, forgeries, different watermarks, rarities, specimens, overprints, different papers and inks, cardia



Paul begins his talk

envelopes, printers waste and reprints. Not stopping there, we saw examples of burnt covers, crash covers, salt water damaged covers, and more.

A third dimension to all this was the mimicry of the story of Alice reproduced in all these examples, so there were bantam stamps for when Alice grew smaller, emergency inflation stamps for when she got larger, the Scowling Boys of New Zealand instead of the

Smiling Boys, the cracked plates, cat in the tree and cucumber stamps. There was humour and imagination everywhere. A further dimension was that due to the now high value of lots of these items, many are being sent to the expertising committee, of which Paul is a member, and he was able to explain some of the processes used to verify, or otherwise, stamps submitted for appraisal.

The chairman thanked Paul on behalf of everyone, presented him with a special Alice Certificate, asked a few questions about how the production was funded and marketed, and then members were able to study the material, ask lots of further questions, and finally enjoy the raffle and refreshments. All the raffle prizes were Alice in Wonderland sheets, stamps or covers, directly relating to the evening's talk.

Chris Wheeler

Ringwood Philatelic Society Celebrates 50 Years

In September 1967 having just finished delivering programmes to publicise the Ringwood Carnival, three members of the Ringwood Musical & Dramatic Society were chatting and refreshing themselves at the Crown Hotel in Ringwood and somehow the discussion got round to stamp collecting and they were amazed that they all had an interest in this wonderful hobby. The three were **Gillian Habbin**, **Rowan Brockhurst** and the late **Walter (Wally) Crumb**. It was then that they decided to start a philatelic society. On the 16th November 1967 an inaugural meeting was held at the Greyfriars Community Centre at Ringwood with Rowan Brockhurst in the chair and 16 excited potential members



Rowan Brockhurst, Founder Member & Past President, Colin Mount FRPSL, Current President after 29 years as Chairman and Gillian Habbin MBE, Founder Member

in attendance and so Ringwood Philatelic Society was formed and has continued to progress over the past fifty years.

For the past 15 years the Society has held its own annual stamp and postcard fair "Ringpex" drawing collectors into Greyfriars from a wide geographical area. Two of its members have been honoured with a Fellowship from the Royal Philatelic Society of London and several have competed in competitions at County, National and International level.

The Society meets on the second Tuesday of every month except in August and some of the finest collections have been displayed by some of the country's greatest philatelists.

On November 24th the Society will be holding a special dinner at Greyfriars, its home for the past fifty years, to celebrate and look forward to the next fifty years. Both founder members Gillian Habbin and Rowan Brockhurst will be attending.

Colin Mount

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

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Why exhibit?

You have spent years, and probably some of your hard-earned money, putting a collection together on a subject that interests you. Why not show it to other people so that they too can enjoy the fruits of your labour and perhaps learn from it? Why not also get some recognition for the work you have done, and maybe ideas from other friends on how you could take it further? There are many ways in which you can exhibit your collection - from club meetings to international exhibitions. Do what suits you best. Apart from the pleasure it will give you today, it will stimulate the next generation of collectors. Eventually they may be the people who will want to buy your collection.

Learning about exhibiting and judging

If you would like to learn more, there are seminars you can attend. On the horizon at the moment are:

25th – 26th November 2017 **Exhibiting and judging** – focused on existing and prospective Federation-level judges but all are welcome. This will take place at the Sun Hotel in Hitchin, Herts. If you would like to come, please contact **David Alford** at apsinfo@ntlworld.com

17th February 2018 *'Exhibits on Special Studies in Postal History (Class 2c)'* led by **Chris King RDP, FRPSL**. This will be held as part of the Spring Stampex at the Business Design Centre in London and is free to all comers.

News from the Exhibition Halls

Two very successful national exhibitions have been held during the summer period. First there was a show in York in July where, for the first time in living memory at a national, we had more applications than there were frames available. Then in September we had another excellent Autumn Stampex in London with a good range of exhibits in all the major classes.

The winners of the Silver Mailcoach were **Colin Hoffman** in York for *Rhodesia Arms Issues 1890-1909* and **Joseph Hackmey** in London for *Western Australia*.

Bill Hedley



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Something different from Stockport

We are a strange society as we have no list of members, no officials, no membership fees and we meet only once a month in the daytime for eleven months of the year. We are now in our fourth year and originated to serve members from Trafford, Oldham, Macclesfield, Stockport, Poynton and Marple philatelic societies who are finding it harder to come out on dark and cold nights. We operate purely on donations and the profit from a £1 charge for a cup of tea with biscuits. Meetings are held in the Masonic Hall, Stockport alongside the Postcard Fair which is held on the last Tuesday of every month except for August. Despite our humble beginnings we believe that we have just made philatelic history by holding the first International 16-page (1 frame)



The Mayor congratulates Stephen Parkin

exhibition/competition using scanned and printed pages sent via 'Dropbox'. This saved the cost of sending expensive material around the world, insurance costs and frame fees etc. The competition was held under the auspices of the North West Federation between Stockport and Pretoria, South Africa.

Stephen Parkin of Stockport and East Cheshire PS won the Stockport leg and

Professor Mike Dove of Pretoria PS took the South African leg, with Stephen Parkin coming out on top when points were taken into consideration. Already interest has been shown from Canada, Australia, Germany and France with considerable interest being shown by Stampex Youth and schools. An unexpected by-product is the interchange of speakers between Stockport and South Africa using the same Dropbox method and Skype. Anyone interested?

→ jamiesmith1935@hotmail.co.uk

Jamie Smith

Your article?

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

Autumn Stampex

Congratulations to all the competitors at Autumn Stampex. Whether or not you agreed with the judges, we enjoyed seeing your entries and recognising the work that you have done.

Special congratulations to **Joseph Hackmey** for his Silver Stagecoach winning entry on *Western Australia*.

Large Golds were won by: **John Davis, Peter Wood, Károly Szücs, Roger Van Laere, Atif Sarian and Philip Waud.**

Dr Jon Higgins, Grace Davies, Anthony Whitehead, Hugh Osborne, Graham Booth (2), Peter Cockburn, Christine Earle, John Crowe and Simon Martin-Redman all won Gold.

A further 9 Large Vermeil, 6 Vermeil, 6 Large Silver, 2 Silver, 1 Silver-Bronze and 5 Bronze were awarded. *From information sent by David Alford*

The event also saw the revival of the Inter-Federation Competition in which eight Federations entered three 16-page exhibits. Each team consisted of three different exhibitors, each with an entry from a different philatelic category, i.e. Traditional Philately, Postal History, Revenue, Thematic Philately, Open Philately and Postcards.

The event was a great success with many very fine exhibits vying to be the overall winning team. This was achieved by the Hampshire Federation, with Yorkshire in second place and Kent & Surrey in joint third place. Such was the quality of the exhibits that only 4 points separated the top five teams. The event drew a lot of interest from the visitors to Stampex. Throughout the show there were always people viewing and enjoying the many varied exhibits.

The three Federation Judges for the Competition were **Sue Spring, David Belton & Alan Druce**, with National Jurors **Dr Patrick Reid** and **Christine Earle** aiding in their roles of Jury Secretary and Jury Chairman respectively.

Christine Earle FRPSL

Affiliated Societies advertising in ABPS News for free

The Executive committee of the ABPS have agreed that all affiliated Societies, Clubs and Federations who wish to advertise a local philatelic event may place one free advert in 'ABPS News' – subject to space and editorial considerations. Subsequent adverts for the same event will be at a reduced rate, again subject to space and editorial considerations.

If you are interested in this offer please contact the editor at editor@abps.org.uk for details of copy dates (which are often around 2 months before publication) or for the required technical details. Contact me for costs and general ABPS News advertising enquires at membership@abps.org.uk

Barry Stagg ABPS Advertising Manager

A Stamp Roadshow Success

After several weeks of detailed planning members of Leeds Philatelic Society organised a highly successful Stamp Roadshow. Over 100 adults and 30 children visited the event at Leeds Central Library, on Saturday 16th September between 10.00 and 5.00. The colourful, varied and “non-specialised” displays drew many comments from the visitors who expressed their surprise at the many different ways the world of stamps could be explored. The activity table for children was an integral and popular part of the Roadshow. Children, most of whom had never written a letter, enjoyed addressing a specially designed commemorative envelope, sticking on the



Naming old postcards of Leeds

correct value stamp(s) and posting it to themselves. There were many activities at the Roadshow for adults and children including competitions, addressing a commemorative envelope, naming streets in Leeds from old photographs, weighing the mail, valuing stamps and finding their country.

The success of the venture was a direct result of the superb commitment and contribution of our members. It was important to include as many members as possible in the preparation and delivery of the Roadshow. Some “direct” requests were needed to secure this. Members contributed to a considerable supply of free philatelic gifts that were available for adults and children. Over 20 members prepared 4-sheet displays, ensuring that each was colourful, attractive and accessible. On the day, members engaged with the visitors and created a lively and inviting atmosphere generating a strong sense of team work and support. All were keen to put on a welcoming show and enjoyed their role as ambassadors for our fascinating hobby. Members’ willingness to engage with

and discuss with visitors is a key element in the Roadshow’s success. We sought and received excellent cooperation and support from the head librarian in Leeds Central Library who was keen to get community groups into the library. The librarian prompted us to consider displays that followed the theme of WWI – a topic used in the library throughout the current 100-year anniversary.



We generated good publicity for the event by distributing city-wide flyers and by coverage in the local and national press. All visitors were given free philatelic gifts. Each child was thrilled to receive a large bag full of stamps, an album, tweezers, etc. A specially prepared welcome pack was given to each adult. It contained stamps and an application form offering free one-year membership. Five visitors signed up on the day for membership and the positive response leads us to expect more in the coming weeks. Several young people visiting the Roadshow, once they had seen the wider appeal of stamps, considered how they might continue their interest. One young man, an architect, said that he would look for famous buildings



Leeds young photographers in action.

on stamps and use those images in his work!

Several older visitors – who had once been stamp collectors – were pleased to learn about the Society and indicated that they thought stamp collecting was a solitary activity!

Those intending to organise a Roadshow should not underestimate the work involved and the time needed. It is very important to have varied and colourful displays. Our four sheet displays included space travel, Concorde, post boxes, changing stamp design, thematic sheets, WWI silk cards, humorous cards and three displays relating to our city. We had more four sheet displays than we could display at one time – so we could rotate the topics and also respond to any requests about a particular topic from visitors.

Our four sheet displays were supplemented by having some “completed” albums for examination – including a delightful album that one of our members started when she was a young girl and that interest had continued throughout her life.

To ensure the future of our hobby, we have to explore different ways of reaching out into the local

community and generating awareness of and interest in the wide world of stamps – a Stamp Roadshow may be one of those ways.

Richard Smith

Assistant Secretary –
Leeds Philatelic Society



Delving into old albums

On the Club circuit

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

Please send your reports direct to **the Editor**. We cannot undertake to include every report sent to us, and reserve the right to edit the reports we receive in the interests of space; short reports are best please. Full contact details for the societies are in the ABPS handbook and website. **Visitors are welcome** at all societies listed. *When submitting photos please ensure that any people shown (especially children) have agreed to their photo appearing in this national newsletter (Data Protection and all that...).* "→" Indicates contact information.

Amersham & District

The 2017/18 season ended on 8th June with another successful auction. The pleasant weather helped to attract a total of 47 members and visitors. After our summer break nine members displayed at our first meeting of the new season *Fill-a-Frame using the letters M and/or N*. As usual the exhibitors showed considerable imagination with titles *Malaya and Native States, Rhodesia Miniature Sheets, Mackennals (South Africa), GB Booklets catalogue numbers M1 to M74, Malawi and Lake Nyasa, Postmarks of Lake Nyasa and North East Rhodesia, Bechuanaland Postal Stationery Mint and Newly Acquired, New Republic (South Africa pre 1910) and Nondescript*, being GB postmarks including one outstanding cover of Amersham dated 1785. Although again well supported the first auction of 2017/18 did not match recent successes perhaps because the overall quality of the lots was not quite so impressive. Recently we enjoyed an excellent presentation from **Nick Kerridge** entitled *Wei Hai Wei Postal History 1898 to 1930*. Without a single

note Nick offered countless interesting facts and statistics about these three British military enclaves of their time on the mainland of China. *Jim Drummond*

Basildon

In July **David Tett FRPSL** showed us *Prisoner of War Mail from Burma and Thailand*. David is an expert and author on Far East PoW mail. He began with very scarce civilian internees' mail from Burma. PoW mail itself is dominated by the infamous Thailand-Burma Railway, built using PoW and conscript labour, including Federated Malay States Railways engineers. David's display included incoming and outgoing mail from both countries' work camps with biographical information on some of the people involved. It was an outstanding evening's display. In August Chelmsford visited. **Pat Adams** showed us further parts of her Norway collection with early items from the period before Norway even had handstamps. Early ship letters were followed by the tales of explorers, advertising stationery, and postcards and covers from Notodden, and **Eric Lienhard** took a *Humorous Look at Switzerland*. Later **Jim Charlton** and

Brian Nunn from Rayleigh showed *Images of Ford and London Underground* - two excellent displays of material relating to their former employers. *Transport or Sport* was our members' display topic. **Alf Potter, Maggie Thompson, Len Stanway, Ian McElwain** and **Claude Crowder** rose to the challenge. In September **Geoff Miller** took us to *Falkland Islands*. Starting with the first postmarks, he continued with important postal history, such as the stamp shortages of 1971 and the Argentinian issues used during the Falklands War of 1982.

Len Stanway

Bolton

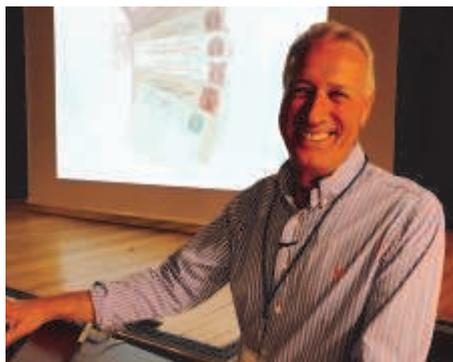
At our July meeting members were asked to display 9 sheets on *Any subject from their collection*. The August meeting is always competition night, competing for four trophies. The Armitage Postal History Shield was won by **Howard Anderson** with *The Carlisle & Ayr Sorting Tender*. The Frank Mills Plate went to **David Brigden** for his *Stamp Exhibition* display. **Jack Lindley** took the Brian Fielding Plate with *Captain Cook Landing*. David Brigden was also successful with his display of *TPOs in Egypt* for the John O' Shaughnessy Plate. The September meeting was as usual the Quarterly Auction; over 400 lots were offered to members, visitors and postal bidders. Members from any ABPS Society are invited to bid for any of the lots in our auctions.

Howard Anderson

Bookham

In July **Reg Dixon** entertained us with *The Deutsche Nothilfe*. This welfare organization, founded in 1923 as a fund for national disasters such as

floods, issued an annual series of charity postage stamps from 1924 to 1935 to raise funds. Reg displayed the stamps and booklets, issued annually from 1925, and postal stationery cards from 1927. The organisation was hijacked by Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi Propaganda Minister, and became the Winter Relief Fund of the German Nation popularly known as WHW. Its slogan was 'Help us to Fight against Hunger and Cold.' 17 million people received assistance during the first winter, mainly potatoes and coal. In August 50 members attended **Graham Booth's** display of *Cayman Islands*. Graham began with a pre-stamp cover from 1829, and then some uses of Jamaican stamps in the Caymans. We also saw the first recorded cover using Cayman stamps, dated November 1900, and the earliest dated registered cover. He continued with covers showing the long transit time to other West Indies destinations. Censored mail from both world wars included a cover allegedly censored in Cayman, but posted in British Honduras. Then we saw the only recorded Cayman POW cover. Finally we saw a substantial range of Postage Due covers. At our September meeting two



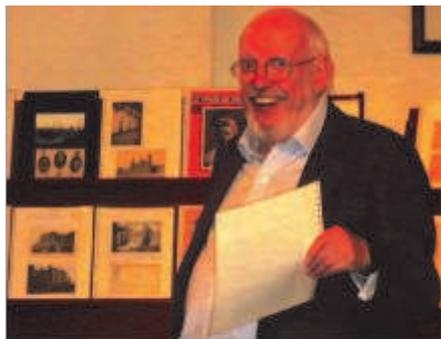
Barry Feltham

members, **Simon McArthur** and **Barry Feltham**, presented displays on *Aspects of the Third Reich* and *Victorian Postal Stationery Postcards* respectively. Displays with such varied subjects made it a fascinating afternoon, much enjoyed by all.

David Bravery

Bromley & Beckenham

Our members' evenings in June and July were our annual Postcards evening and "Thematics", both wide-ranging in content. Postcards included *Lighthouses*, *The Farne Islands*, *South Atlantic Weather Stations* and *RAF Cranwell*. *William Shakespeare's Life and Times* by **Helena Butcher**, President of the Croydon Postcard Club, was the highlight. The thematic displays included *King Edward VII's Funeral*, *NATO Anniversary FDCs*, *Oil*, and *The wreck of the OLIVA on Nightingale Island 16th March 2011*. In August, **Dr Chris Board** displayed a wonderful collection of *The 1910 2½d South Africa Union Stamp* with much background information both of the stamps and the politics surrounding this issue. To start our new season **Jeremy Gaskell** enthusiastically gave us four displays on *Queen Astrid of Belgium*, *Nurse Edith Cavell*, *Fernando*



An enthusiastic Jeremy Gaskell

Poo and a first-time display of *The port of Jeremie in Haiti and its history* (cf. Jeremy). Next **Michael Farrant** gave us *Zanzibar*, dividing the postal development and history into four main periods and spheres of influence. Stamps of India were used from 1865 until, in 1895, Zanzibar became a British Protectorate, when Indian stamps were overprinted Zanzibar. There was a German Postal Agency from August 1890 to July 1891 and a French Post Office from 1899 to 1904. In 1896 the first Sultan designs were issued, continuing until Zanzibar became a republic in 1963, subsequently merging with Tanzania in 1968. Michael presented many covers and cards illustrating these periods and usages. → David on 02087787001, Chris on 02084021263 or www.beckenham.net/leisure.asp

David Rennie

Burnley and District

Our season got off to a good start in September with a night of *Latest Acquisitions* on the 7th and *Egypt* and *Railway Cinderellas* with **Richard** and **Yvonne Wheatley** on the 21st. In the centenary year of the October revolution we had the privilege of a talk from **Edward Klempka** on *The Russian Civil War* and a *Postcards and Envelopes Night* with **David Hudson** of Rochdale.

Barry W Evans

Chelmsford and District

For our first September meeting **Tony Bosworth** came from Kent. He began his presentation on *The 1936 Olympic Games* by giving a brief insight into previous modern Olympics and how Germany finally were awarded both the Summer and Winter Olympics for 1936. He displayed not only interesting

philatelic material but also examples of Nazi propaganda both before and during the Games. We saw material on the Winter Games held in Bavaria with examples of postal memorabilia. Then came the more well-known Summer Olympics held in Berlin, with the carefully managed propaganda that enabled the Games to proceed despite protests from USA and UK citizens. The Games were epitomised by Jesse Owens winning four gold medals. He was very popular with those watching his performances in the Stadium and they chanted his name. Contrary to held belief he was not snubbed by Hitler at the awards ceremony. The Führer had been told that he could not select who he presented medals to and therefore did not present any medals after the first few. Hitler did, however, congratulate Owens by shaking his hand at a later reception. For our next meeting **Paul Green, John Rawlins, Pat Adams and Eric Lienhard** stepped in at short notice with four excellent and varied displays. In October we saw *Recent Acquisitions* from **Cyril Ebbage, Nick Harris, Ray Goodey, Alan Boyce, Eric Lienhard, Paul Green, John Copeland, John Rawlins and Pat Adams**. As expected this was a fascinating mix of topics.

David Everard

Croydon

In July and August we held members' evenings. Ten responded to the first when it was a free subject *5 sheets in 5 minutes* and 14 to the second on *The letter S*. In September **Robert Hurst, Rodney Pomfret and Alan Hall** of Redhill gave 5 displays between them. Robert showed *British Antarctic Territory in 1973* and *2nd class British stamps in 1985-6*. Rodney began with

US Airmails from 1918 to 1990 and followed with *Stamps of The Gold Coast and Ghana from 1875*. *United Nations Peacemakers* was Alan's topic. There were letters and covers from Korea, Middle East, Cyprus and Lebanon. There was a great variety of material on view all carefully written up. The next session was a members' evening to show part of their own collection. **Graham Harker, Chris Hitchen, Paul Elliott, David Taylor and Brian Asquith** rose to the occasion. In October **Peter White** presented his display on *Monaco*, covering the period from 1885 to 1956. Monaco has been ruled by the Grimaldi family since 1303. The first issue of



Peter White en route to Monaco

stamps was in 1885. Peter's display showed all issues from then to 1956, all of them used. There was a large display of postal stationery as well as envelopes, letter cards, postcards, covers, registered covers, airmails and miniature sheets - all illustrating the rise in postal rates over time. The conclusion of the display was of postage dues – one set being triangular stamps. Is this the only

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example of triangular postage dues in the world?
Graham Harker

Dundee & District

At the start of the new session members stood for a minute's silence in memory of **Dennis Collins** who died recently. He had been a member from 1946 and was the longest serving member of any Scottish philatelic society. It was President's Night when **David Millar** gave a fascinating display showing his skills with a computer where, in part one, he displayed a stamp from every country mentioned in Scott's catalogue along with a descriptive paragraph. Members viewed stamps and information relating to some obscure countries. It is doubtful if such a display, which gained the attention of the Guinness Book of Records, had ever been attempted. Part two followed the same approach using a variety of headings related to German stamps. These included military, newspaper and local stamps as well as stamps of occupied countries during WWI and WWII. The longest journey made by any of our presenters coming to our meeting was made by **Colin Fraser**, a stamp dealer from New York. Colin is a Dundonian whose family left in 1966. He moved to New York in 1991. His last visit to the society was in March 1985. He displayed some of his collection on British Central Africa (1891-1908). Unusually his display was of (excellent) photocopies of his collection due to previous difficulty with US customs paperwork in getting his original material out of the country. However

this did not diminish the enjoyment of seeing and hearing about the display.

Colin Campbell

Ferndown & West Moors

In August our members produced *9 in 4 – Anything GB*. No less than 11 members stepped forward to contribute to a fascinating evening. Topics ranged from *Mulreadies*, through *The 1887 Jubilee issue* and *The Wembley Exhibition* to a *Cunard* presentation via colourful stamps, postcards and pictorial covers, complete with an enticing travel brochure. 13 members responded to *6 in 2 Your Choice*. The choices included a 1770 ship letter to Scotland amongst other *Ship* items from **Terry Everett** and *1900s Dorset postcards* with lots on railways from **John Duckworth**. **John Davis** shared his newly adopted interest in all things *Venice*. Later in September, **Reg Dixon FRPSL** brought us *Border changes in the Balkans*. He covered the 20th century period in this troubled region with great ability and knowledge,



Reg Dixon receives thanks from Albert Jackson

A report from your society could give hints on good speakers to other societies. You might even gain some members.

underpinning his presentation with his superb scarce philatelic material. Particularly around the WWII period, border changes were very numerous. These came from Germany's aggression and the many pacts and alliances established at that time. We needed the map provided to keep up with the changes in all the countries. The second half presentation included looking at personalities, including King Carol and his son Prince Michael. Despite all the upheavals throughout the Balkan region it is amazing that not only postal administrations operated, but that numerous commemorative issues were achieved, many suitably overprinted. The evening's presentation was certainly an in-depth study of a most miserable slice of European history, greatly enhanced by superb delivery and philatelic quality.

Paul Barry

Harrogate

Our season began with a visit by **Norman Hudson** of Chester. He took us to 50 Scottish Islands from Colonsay via Harris and St Kilda to Skye and then on to the Orkneys and Shetlands. His display included covers, including some with fascinating combinations of stamps and unusual cancellations from some of the smaller islands such as Barra, Foula and Fair Isle. There was some wonderful WWI material from Forces personnel at Scapa Flow where censor marks identified the personnel and place despite other cancellations having been stopped to avoid showing where forces were based. There were also postcards and photographs showing life on the islands and the post offices in use. Our next meeting also gave us a view of life on other islands – this



John Wilks discusses a cover with Norman Hunter

time New Zealand as **Elizabeth Nairn** from Glasgow showed us *Aotearoa Unwrapped*. This covered the travels of the Maoris, their mythology, the volcanoes and earthquakes, wildlife and flora, regions, banknotes and much more – a fascinating display which would make a fine introduction for non-philatelists. *Keith Burton*

Launceston

In the absence of the evening's speaker **Richard Wiggins**, **Viv Sandercock** presented Richard's display of *The Guianas Region of the North-eastern coast of South America*. The name "Guiana/Guyana" derives from an Amerindian word signifying "Land of Many Waters". It is fitting that the subject countries rely extensively on their waterways for transport. One page of stamps from Venezuela promoted its territorial claims over a large part of what was then British Guiana. The display was well researched and showed stamps, village postmarks (one was for Her Majesty's Penal Settlement in British Guiana) and items of postal history. In September **John Harrison** presented *The Wessex Roadshow* on behalf of

the Wessex Philatelic Federation. This display was part of a bigger collection of facsimile copies of its members' original competition exhibits. The Roadshow enables a far wider audience to view copies of high quality philatelic material which would not normally be on display in original form. It included *Austrian issues from 1850*, *"A Dog's Life"* a thematic collection and GB QV *collection of Penny Blacks on covers, Plates 1 to 11*. We held our AGM and Autumn Auction in October. Membership remains at thirty-three making it one of the largest clubs in the CPF. Treasurer, **Des Kent**, proposed that existing members could again benefit from a "holiday" from subscriptions. The Auction of 312 lots followed, raising over £56 for Club funds. Several members brought along unwanted stamps in support of the Children's Hospice South West Stampember appeal. *Howard Hamblin*

Leamington & Warwick

Start of new year: To launch the new season we saw an excellent display of *Switzerland, Nazi propaganda postcards from Ukraine* and *Original artwork for Maltese stamps designed*



Martin Robinson on Postmarks

by *Emvin Cremona*. **Martin Robinson** gave us a most unusual display of *Postmarks from post offices located within railway stations, from around the world*. Most of the British ones have now closed, but it was fascinating to see just how many there are in other countries, and how many there used to be in the United Kingdom. Collectors of all levels always welcome, from beginners to experienced. We meet on alternate Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Oddfellows Hall, Clarence Terrace, Warwick Road, Leamington Spa. → Nick Bridgwater on 01926-423685 or via the web page. The web page also gives details of the programmes at sister societies in Stratford, Coventry and the South Midlands Stamp Club.

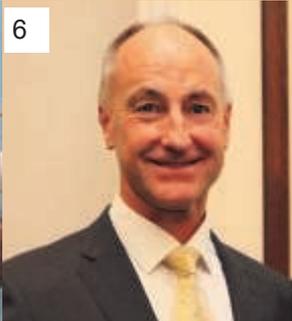
John Gledhill

Leeds

The last report was sent out in May just after our AGM when some major changes occurred in the Society. Since then the Society has a new treasurer **John England**. Over the summer we do not hold meetings but the society year 2017-2018 has a varied programme with focus on local speakers. Already two meetings have been held. 12th September was a members' evening *Australasia* – with what would be expected a variety of interests from Australia and New Zealand. This was followed on 27th by a truly spectacular display of philately - *Serbia*, given by a well-known postal history dealer in Yorkshire, **John Church**, with stamps and wonderful postal history, the latter including the Austrian Post Office in Belgrade, covers from all sides in the Balkan wars after 1912, and during the Great War with some remarkable mail from the various courageous British women

I Spy...

A selection of images sent from clubs and societies. No prizes for spotting yourself ...





volunteers who provided medical and nursing aid in dreadful conditions, as well as the rare and highly collectable mail under the auspices of the French authorities from Serbia via Corfu. Like many societies, we have an increasingly aging membership. To correct this **Richard Smith** our Assistant Secretary and Society Curator put a tremendous effort into organising "The Stamps Roadshow" at Leeds Central Library on 16th September. (see p 18) *Michael Waugh*

Maidstone & Mid Kent

Our 95th season got under way in September with a fine display by **Ken Burr** showing *Egypt* in the first half followed by *GB Postal History*.

Ken showed how the designs had reflected the politics of Egypt which Britain occupied up to 1956. The GB Postal History started with GVI and included High Value stamps on covers used at the beginning of the war and went on to show censored letters along with restrictions that were imposed on the export of stamps and antiques.

Colin Evans showed *The American Civil War* at our next meeting. Colin's knowledge of the subject plus some remarkable material made it a very interesting evening. Our first morning meeting of the season was a members' one on *Transport*. As usual there was a great range of material shown which was enjoyed by all. For the first time we are trying a meeting three days after Christmas - a members' evening with *The letters M, N & O*.

Brian Stonestreet FRPSL

Newport & Gwent

The Autumn issue of ABPS News reported on the 2017 Congress at Cardiff, at which **John Perry**, our

retiring club secretary, was one of the two local chairmen. In all ten Newport club members contributed to the organisation and the displays, thoroughly enjoying the event. The club then followed up by hosting the South Wales Federation autumn fair in Newport on 23rd September. With publicity in the local paper, the South Wales Argus, the fair attracted a constant stream of collectors making a memorable day for both dealers and club members. The events leading up to the club's 70th anniversary on 16th October continued with a dinner for members and guests at the Parc Golf Club in Newport on 4th October, at which the club also made a



Roy Bentley, John Perry & Les Ashton-Smith

presentation to John Perry, celebrating his thirty years as secretary. In conjunction with these events, the club produced a postcard with a view of the Civic Centre Newport, its home for meetings for thirty years, and a perforated miniature sheet comprising three labels. There is a small stock of both for collectors who would like to purchase at 50p for the postcard and £1.25 for the sheet with 65p postage.

→ newportgwentphilatelic.weebly.com or through our new secretary, Bev Davies newport.philatelic@gmail.com

John Perry

Oxford

The new season began in mid-September with a silent auction. Many auction lots attracted a lot of bidding with pens but not much silence amongst the chatter of the evening as members paid their subs, some new members joined us, and an extra copy of our recent history publication was distributed to members who had donated to get one in the first place. In early October, *The Letter "L"* guaranteed a wide variety of philatelic translations by members, amongst which were *Lebanon, Lithuania, Leopards, Lions, Llama stamps of Peru*, as well as *QV Line-Engraved, Lifeboats, Lace, and Lacrosse*.

Dr Simon Heap



Bavarian stamps overprinted

Ringwood

10 of the 15 members present displayed on *G,H & I* - the best result for many years. First up was **Keith Clements** with *History of Germany*. He went from the Treaty of Versailles to

Re-unification. **Peter Pierson** provided an insight into the mysterious world of 2009 GB overprinted stamps, entitled *The Hidden Codes*. **Clarewyn Smit** considered in some depth and with passion the 1976 UN Year of the Disabled. This strongly underlined

Captions for pages 28 and 29

- 1: Michael Farrant brings Zanzibar to Bromley & Beckenham
- 2: Alan Hall brings Peace to Croydon
- 3: Rodney Pomfret from Redhill at Croydon
- 4: Dr Chris Board at Bromley & Beckenham
- 5: Rosalind Ragg explains at Stratford
- 6: Klaus Weis, President of DASV, at the Royal
- 7: 9 of the Newport 10 at Congress in Cardiff - they know who they are!
- 8: Frank Storr presents at Stratford
- 9: Poole enthralled by Alice
- 10: Robert Hurst brings British Antarctic Territories to Croydon
- 11: Elizabeth Nairn explains a finer point to President Rachel McHugh at Harrogate
- 12: Paul Davidson congratulates Brian Marshall, Julian Jones and Brian Hague for winning the InterFed.
- 13: Southampton on view at Hampex
- 14: Simon McArthur of Bookham
- 15: Annual Postcard viewing at Bromley & Beckenham
- 16: The Croydon Five: David Taylor, Paul Elliot, Graham Harker, Chris Hitchen and Brian Asquith
- 17: Jim Etherington receives BTA's Brian Sole Cup from Barry Stagg

Human Rights of the Disabled. **Gordon Masson** presented *Geography of Tasmania in the Victorian Era* including maps, stamp enlargements and printing details. *Gibraltar* by **Burt Burton** gave members access to just a glimpse of a fascinating study of the U-boat War in the Mediterranean, making excellent use of maps, photos, cigarette cards and military information. Using *G (Greenwich)*, *H (Huddersfield)* and *I (Ironbridge)*, **David Etchells** shared his research of 1841 penny reds. *Australian KGV Penny Reds* was **Colin Mount's** subject and revealed a highly detailed study. 'Never give up, keep looking' was his message as he revealed a recent near-impossible gem of an acquisition. **Chris Wheeler** shared an interesting colourful display on *International Peace Year*. **Wendy Buckle** took the subject *Guttenberg*, studying printing and engraving, issued stamps, covers and photos. Finally **Paul Barry's** *Great Britain Jubilee Series 1887-1901* focussed on various stamp values on cover, including an early cover to the London Russian Embassy and another to a certain British gentleman in Moscow, having no stated address - none being needed in Victorian times. Paul Barry

Royal Tunbridge Wells

This year we have enjoyed displays by **Colin Evans** with *US Civil War postal history* and **Ron Burn**, of Bromley & Beckenham PS, showing *Tristan da Cunha*. Our members also showed a wide variety of items from their collections connected with the *Letters A, B and/or C*. Our morning meetings have been as well attended as evening meetings. Displays included **Paul Cahill** with *A Flight Around the Baltic*, **Robin Tapper** with *The Postal History*

of Plymouth, **Dr Brian Austen** showing *Indian Mail by Sea and Air* and a fine display by **Dee Pullan** of *Aspects of Australian Postal History*.

From Kent Federation Bulletin

Scarborough

In May **Martin Snowdon** of Redcar brought *The Work of Karl Bicket* for our last meeting of the year. Karl was a renowned Swiss stamp designer and engraver. In his early years he worked printing postcards as an apprentice lithographer. By the age of 23 he was running his own business printing letterheads, fashion magazines and postcards. After recovering from TB and affected by the suffering caused by WWI he began to build the Temple Of Peace. He spent 6 months in every year building the Temple in the mountains, by himself. It took 25 years! He was employed by the Swiss Post office to design and engrave Peace Stamps for victims of war, special airmail and children's charity stamps. Later he redesigned the definitive stamps showing the scenes of mountains etc. His portrait stamps are very intricate and very close to the likeness. In September ABPS and YPA President Graham Winters visited from Wakefield. He gave us a fascinating talk about his lifetime collecting of stamps, starting by showing us the earliest items from his childhood. He was about 6 or 7 when he began collecting stamps from every country named in his early albums. His pride and joy was 4 pages of Ceylon, due to his father having been stranded there after WWII. This Ceylon collection has developed into medal winning collections. He also has an interest in goats, thanks to collecting goats on stamps and postcards. Chris Phillips

Sevenoaks & District

We have enjoyed many visits including **Ray Barton** with *Things I Like* which covered an unusual mixed assortment and accumulation of covers and some stamps with no set sequence. **Geoff Hanney** gave us a showing of *Haiti* which is a territory we have not seen before, with an interesting historical background. **Peter High** entertained with *The Postal History of the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905*. We were helped by his having a friend in Japan who provided translations, thus helping us understand the relevance of the mail. Our season concluded with a visit by **Mike Clark** who displayed *Hungary*, a country with a surprisingly large overproduction of stamps, many of which seem to have been overprinted.

From Kent Federation Bulletin

Solihull

At our second meeting in September, **Peter Pugh** gave a comprehensive display of *Mail from Hong Kong carried on the Trans-Siberian Railway in the period between the two world wars*. Starting out from Hong Kong the mail had to travel by boat to reach rail links to the Trans-Siberian line. Transit was often disrupted by bandits or acts of war. Peter's presentation contained numerous photographs of these events together with details of the boats which carried the mail on the first part of the long journey. Our Stamp and Postcard Club which meets in the morning on the second Thursday of the month continues to attract collectors from the surrounding areas. Members' displays at this month's meeting were on the theme *Compass Points*; as usual, a very entertaining morning was enjoyed

by all. → Paul Woodness 01564776879
or www.solihullphilatelicsociety.org.uk
Paul Woodness

South Midlands

Stamps not previously shown: After a really exciting AGM on 18th September, members showed displays on the subject *Something Hot*. The interpretation of this was somewhat flexible. Stamps from hot places, such as *Australian Desert*, *Barbados*, *Cacti* and so on might be expected, as would be *Mail damaged by fire*. Less predictably was a display of *ABPS*



Cacti and stamps not shown before

Congress forgeries ("hot" in criminal jargon), *penguins* (which find it hot in the Galapagos and South Africa), *fire engines*, *French art* stamps with sparsely clad models, and best of all *Stamps I've not showed before* - on the grounds that "showed" sounds like "chaude" which is the French for "hot".

→ John Gledhill 01789 842112
or www.sites.google.com/site/warwickshireps/smidsoc John Gledhill

Southampton & District

We had been through a very busy period celebrating our 85th Anniversary, so August gave us a chance to catch our breath before the start of the very busy autumn /winter period. However **Eddie Spicer's** presentation on *The German Catapult Mail of the North Atlantic* was very

informative and well received by a slightly reduced audience. When we gathered again in September **Peter Wingent** stood in at short notice with his *East African Airmail & Beyond* collection, which was exactly what it said on the tin. Then in the second meeting we welcomed the Postcard Society again. Different but the same! We had a stand at the Hampex 2017 exhibition. **Brian Hague** and **Julian Jones** brought home some of the silverware for us. October started with a bang. We had our annual lunch at the West Wellow Golf Club which was well attended and a very pleasant event. Thanks to **Jim Rankin** for all the hard work he did in organising it. Then **Malcolm Montgomery** travelled all the way from the northern reaches to tell us *Why Southampton was the centre of the World*, philatelically speaking. At our Auction the total hammer price was in excess of £8000. On 16th January we will auction the British Postal History collection of John Dorrington MBE. This dates from the 1700s to the present date with much interesting material from Southampton and Hampshire. The catalogue will be available in early December. → Dr Mel Bradshaw 02380 785785 or www.southamptondps.org.uk

Eddie Mays

Stirling & District

Our 2017/2018 season started with a move to our new home at the Allan Centre, 25 Fountains Road, Bridge of Allan FK9 4AT. Members were unanimous in their approval, particularly those who appreciated the step-free entrance and the generous car parking space. The 12th September meeting was the traditional display by the season's new President, **Bill**

Troup, who showed a superb collection of *Early 20th century Great Britain* plus some *Pacific Islands* material from the same era. On 26th September we were entertained by **Bob Catto** and **William Torrance** from the Edinburgh Philatelic Society. Bob opened with a *History of Great Britain on Stamps* and continued with his special interest in *Space Aviation*. He concentrated on the 60th anniversary



Bob Catto, Bill Troup (President) and William Torrance

of the appearance of Sputnik and the 40th anniversary of the launch of the Voyager probes. Bob had worked in the space industry in the USA and was able to give many personal comments on events. William gave his *Ideas for thematic collecting based on the stamps of Jersey*. He certainly convinced his audience of the wide range of suitable material from this island. Bob concluded the evening with his wife **Irene's** *Maritime display*. She was unable to be with us. Her attractive presentation included Antarctic Exploration, Maritime Greenwich and Historic Portsmouth. → www.nzstamps.org.uk/sdps

Richard Beith

Stratford upon Avon

Acquisitions and disposals: For the first two meetings we started off with the

traditional “new acquisitions” but added “and disposals” to give members a last chance to show us material they were about to sell. The displays included (in



Colin Fountain present and correct

either category) *Gloucester mobile post offices, Swiss official perfins, Trinidad “Sorrel” plants* replete with actual seeds attached to the stamps for World Food Day, *Slania designs*, and an 1840 “1d” handstamp. At the next meeting we saw *Provisional Overprints on postal stationery for Guernsey, Jersey and Isle of Man*, and a comprehensive display of *Swedish stamps from the start to recent years*. We also found it a great relief that the school room which we use no longer contained a skeleton right next to where we put the display boards. → Colin Fountain
01789841606

John Gledhill

Thatcham

Late in July *Thematics of your choice* was the order. **Graeme Stewart** opened the evening with *Postmarks of Thatcham*. **Ian Keel** was next with stamps relating to *Nobel Anniversaries*. **Mike Gurr** followed with items relating to *Windsor Castle* including commemorative covers. **Sue Hopson** took over with *German Shepherd Dogs*. **Bob Paterson** started part two

with *Observatories and Telescopes*. **Francis Connolly** followed with *German Propaganda Forgeries* showing examples of `Liquidation of Empire` overprints for the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago - some with forged postmarks. **Dave Tanner** then showed stamps *from Persia 1902-1906*. **Graeme Stewart** produced *New Zealand and the Ross Island Dependency* where his daughter had worked at the Research Base. To finish off the evening the **Monday Cup**, in memory of Jerry Wilson, was presented to **Juliet Keel** as she had been absent on competition day. Well done Juliet. In September **Grace Davies** returned with *Peace continued* and *The Peace Rose*. This was divided into three parts. The first was on the



Juliet Keel receives the trophy from Barney Bardsley

story of the Peace movement starting after the Boer War to the Peace Treaty of 2nd September 1945 which officially ended WWII. Part 2 was devoted to the “Peace Rose”. This was a 32-page award entry telling the story of its development by Francis Meilland. Part 3 continued the Peace story with illustrated worldwide sheets about the inception and awards of the Nobel

Peace Prize. What a fantastic display of beautiful material all superbly presented and discussed.

Martin Farr in Thatcham Newsletter

Wakefield

On 6th September **Valda Fountain** gave a very attractive display of *New Zealand Health Stamps* commencing with the 1929/30 issue. The display included the 1943 triangular stamps with pictures of the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret. This was accompanied by an interesting and knowledgeable presentation. On 20th September **Roger West** paid us a visit and gave a very original presentation together with a display which included some extremely unusual and entertaining items such as relating limericks to certain categories of stamps, auctioneers 'favourites' etc. On 4th October **Richard Wheatley FRPSL** gave an excellent award-winning display of *The Netherlands East Indies*, going from very early postal history items to the early 1900s. *Julie Barnard*

Federations

Hampshire

HAMPEX 2017 was held in September with over 20 dealers and an exhibition of its annual competition. **Ferndown & West Moors PS** took the main honours with the Howard White Inter-Society single frame Trophy (**Wendy Buckle** and **Geoff Hood**). The Jan Kaluski Cup for the best two-frame entry was won by **Albert Jackson** (also of Ferndown & West Moors). The Hampshire Sixteen Cup was won by



*Judges, hard at work! Dr. Pat Reid,
Chris King, Birthe King and
Christine Earle
(photo courtesy of Brian Hague)*



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Peter Mills (Winchester). The competition was judged prior to HAMPEX exhibition day. Trophies and medals were presented at HAMPEX. We were delighted by our success at the ABPS Inter-Federation Competition /STAMPEX 2017. **Brian Marshall, Brian Hague** and **Julian Jones** were selected to enter a single frame entry each to represent Hampshire in the Inter-Federation Competition in a contest of eight federations. We won beating Yorkshire.

Julian Jones



Paul Cahill receiving the Francis Field trophy from Tony Bosworth

Kent

In the Federation Competitions the winners were as follows: 8-page The Parnall Cup Thematic trophy competition (4 entries) - **Bromley & Beckenham**; 8-page The Francis Field Aerophilately trophy competition (3 entries) - **Cinque Ports**; 16-page The Roy Garland Traditional individual trophy competition (3 entries) - **Lewis Giles** (Maidstone & Mid Kent). We entered a team in the ABPS Inter-Federation Competition at Stampex: **John Crowe** from Sevenoaks displayed *Flying the Tasman* the Australian - New Zealand Air Route in

the Aerophilately class and received Vermeil; **John Shaw** of Eltham and Woolwich showed *South Africa: The 5/- Ox Wagon Stamps* in the Traditional class and won Gold; **Colin Tobitt** of Lewisham entered the Postal History class displaying *Austrian Postage Dues usage during German Occupation "Ostmark" (4th April - 31st July 1938)* and also won Gold. The KFPS team scored a total of 251 points; this was third in the standings with Hampshire being deemed the 2017 winners. Very well done to our KFPS team and

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congratulations to the winning Hampshire team. Also congratulations to **John Crowe** who won Gold with *The Trailblazers - Pioneer flights of the England - Australia Route* in the Aerophilately class.

From Kent Federation Bulletin

Midlands

MIDPEX 2017 was hailed a success with good attendance and positive feedback. It is the largest stamp event in the Midlands and allows specialist societies to show off their interests to other collectors, to recruit members and identify common ground with members of other societies. The event in 2017 included post card dealers as well as stamps, thematics and postal history. Over 50 dealers and 40 Specialist Societies supported the Show with many holding their regional meetings at the event including Opal, Pacific Islands, BPS, The Forces Postal History Society, TPO, Malta, Meter Mail, Revenue and Iran Study Groups. **John Gledhill**, Chairman of the Midpex Committee, said "We were delighted to get a wide range of comments from both dealers and collectors on the quality of the venue, organisation and displays. Although some would like us to hold the show every year or extend it to two days, we are sticking with what we believe is a successful formula and have already booked the next show for July 6th 2019." **John Enfield** wrote in the BPS Society News "Midpex is a well-organised event at a spacious venue with ample parking and good catering facilities. I urge any members who have not previously attended to come along in 2019, when I hope the BPS will again be represented". Many societies took the opportunity to recruit

new members, sell their publications and raise funds by selling philatelic items and were generally pleased with the interest shown by visitors.

John Davies

NorthEast

For the third year, Northern Stamp & Postcard Fairs are proud to work in conjunction with the North East of England Philatelic Association and be part of the 2018 Convention and Stamp Fair which will be held on 28th April 2018 at the Bowburn Community Centre, Durham Road, Bowburn, County Durham. DH6 5AT. Admission is free and light refreshments will be available. There are disabled facilities and nearby car parking. There is very easy access to the Bowburn Community Centre from Junction 61 of the A1M. On display will be the results of the annual philatelic competition open to all associated philatelic societies. There are nine competition classes for seniors, and two for junior entrants, there is also a trophy for first time competition entrants. The Tennant's Trophy is awarded to the



NEPA Convention & Stamp Fair 2017

entry with the highest overall score. There will be between 25 and 30 competition entries available to view, covering the range of philatelic classes. The most recent addition is the

“Postcard” class. As part of the 2018 convention the guest speaker is Mrs **Margaret Morris** with her thematic stamp display *Astronomy*. This is the largest philatelic Stamp Fair to be held in the North East with stamp and postcard dealers attending from as far away as Dumfries, Bury and Mansfield. Dealers will have stamps, postal history and postcards for sale. →Mike Lewis 07742 153669
Mike Lewis

Somerset & Dorset

The Federation competitions were held at Wells Town Hall on 26th September. The individual winners were **B Hunt** (Open), **F R Blackah** (General & Postcards) and **B Paull** (Postal History & Airmails) – all from Bridport & Charmouth SC. **R Gillard** of Bristol PS won the Thematic Class. The other entrants winning places came from Bridport & Charmouth, Bristol, Poole & District and Yeovil clubs. *Dave Bryant*

Sussex

The South of England Stamp and Postcard Fair organised by the Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies and generously supported by Cavendish Auctions was held at Ardingly in Sussex on 14th October. The 40 plus dealers present, spread over two floors, were kept busy throughout the day by over 250 collectors from around Sussex and neighbouring counties who attended the fair.

At the Association’s AGM held in the afternoon **John Wright** retired as secretary after 14 years service and a new secretary, **Norman Sansom**, was elected. As is usual on these occasions the majority of the remaining officers and committee were elected for another year. *Jim Etherington*

National and specialist societies

Austrian

The annual weekend for 2017 was in Peterborough in early September. It was our third visit so only a few members got lost in the one-way street system. We started with a very successful Grand Auction on the Friday evening, where 94 of 116 lots were sold; perhaps the most unusual was a full-size original poster announcing the new postage stamps and rates for 1858 issued in Verona. The remainder of Friday was devoted to Attitude Adjustment in the bar. Saturday began with 21 excellent displays by 14 members, covering a wide range of Austrian philately old and new. After a buffet lunch, **Colin Tobitt** gave the President’s Invitation Display, *1945-1955: 10 years to freedom*. This covered the philatelic and, inescapably, some of the historical and political, events as Austria emerged from the Third Reich and was accepted as a truly independent nation following the final departure of the American, British, French and Russian occupation forces. The fiercely contested 9-sheet members’ competition was next. This year’s subject was *M* and the winner was *Magyar Allamvasutak* revealed to be **John Bathard**. A members’ bourse followed, before we adjourned for dinner. On Sunday the remaining members’ displays were shown together with further



John Bathard

presentations by two members who were commuting from their nearby homes, so had been able to bring supplementary displays. Following this the AGM and a review-of-the-weekend concluded the proceedings. Next year's weekend meeting will be in Derby on 21st – 23rd September. → www.austrianphilately.com

David Bravery

British Thematic

Response to the revamped BTA's annual competitions was very encouraging with no less than 12 entries across the three classes. In addition to the BTA Cup that has been awarded to the winner of the Thematic Class for many years two new classes, Open and Postcard, were introduced this year. As might be expected the themes covered by the various entries in the three classes were wide and varied and the standard of the entries was very good. The winner of the BTA Cup was **Grace Davies** with her thematic entry *Alfred Nobel and his legacy*. The John Fosbery Trophy for the Open Class was won by **Wendy Buckle** with her entry *The firm of John Dickinson, papermaker*, and the Brian Sole Cup for the Postcard class was won by **Jim Etherington** with his entry *A Failed Expedition: the BEF in France 1939-1940*. All the competition entries were on display at the



Wendy Buckle with the John Fosbery Trophy

Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies' South of England Stamp and Postcard Fair & Convention held annually at Ardingly in Sussex.

Jim Etherington

Channel Islands

The theme for our Stampex meeting was *Transport*. **Jon Aitchison** provided 8 frames on *Guernsey horse-drawn carts and buses*. The display concluded with a multitude of bus tickets from the 1970s and 1980s. **John Hirst** showed 33 post cards and real photo cards of *Sark's Ambulance*, from its early days as a horse-drawn vehicle to the period when it was tractor-hauled. **Nick Stuart** based his display on the horse and cart that appeared on the *1948 Great Britain 2½d stamp for the Third Anniversary of the Liberation of the Channel Islands* issue. Nick showed a self-addressed FDC by the designer, Edmond Blampied, and a card with the 2½d stamp signed by Blampied and Wilfred Paling, the then Postmaster General. **David Laurillard** showed an item of mail from Guernsey to Herm "carried" by a swimmer from the Guernsey Swimming Club to Herm during their annual race. **David Winnie** produced two recently acquired items of mail, both relating to WWI and Jersey Sub-Post Offices. The first was from St. Martin's to Holland opened by censor and sealed using black on pink censor tape during the first week that UK civilian mail to Holland was censored. The second item was sent from St. Aubin's Sub-Post Office. To close the meeting **Richard Flemming** showed examples of his collection of *Guernsey and Jersey ship letter handstamps on mail*, including the only known example



Peter Cooper, Henk Heiden, Mark Wright, Mark Routh, Brian Asquith, Michael Thompson, Brian Service, Keith Palmer and Bill Baillie

of the sloping JERSEY/SHIP-LETTER in blue used in 1851. *Steve Wells*

Concorde Study Circle

When we met at Autumn Stampex it was a golden opportunity for a group photograph (taken by **Stewart Carter**), the exchange of ideas and a chance to explore our interest in this fascinating aeroplane. This was our last meeting before our 40th Anniversary next year.

Brian Asquith

Gibraltar

Our annual competition weekend was at The Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke at the end of September. An excellent hotel in all respects and one to be recommended. We began with the mini-auction, followed by the 9-sheet displays featuring *Latest acquisitions*. On Saturday we were invited to view the competition entries before **Simon Richards** gave his critique. The afternoon's main event was a superb display by **Bob Neville** on *HMS Hood*, which included a tampion from one of the battlecruiser's 5.5in guns. Bob also showed his baptism certificate, having

been baptised on the ship. **Bert Burton** then showed a different display *The Battle of HMS Hood and Bismarck*, **Jennifer Schofield** followed with 4 frames of *Force H items* including covers and photographs. The displays ended with Bert showing *Royal Navy mail*. Competition winners were: Premier class: *Elaboration & artwork of the 1977 Flora & Fauna set* **Stan Lawrence**; Postal History - The Rock Racer trophy: *Gibraltar Mail via sea to Cadiz (Combination covers) 1840 – 1869* **Eric Holmes**; GB used in



Stan Lawrence receives the trophy from Tony Puckridge

Gibraltar - The Duplex handstamp: *Great Britain 6d adhesives used in Gibraltar 1857-85* **Eric Holmes**; Open Class - The Tercentenary Handstamp: *Gibraltar & aspects of the U-boat war* **Bert Burton**. On Sunday morning we held the bi-annual auction. The next meetings of the Society will be the half-day meeting in London (date and venue tbc) and the AGM weekend to be held at the Golden Lion Hotel, Northallerton, North Yorkshire 23rd – 25th March 2018. ➔

ericholmes@talktalk.net Bert Burton

The Great Britain

We ended Stampex 2017 on a happy note, when members from home and abroad were treated to a display by **Peter McCann** during the Saturday afternoon. Peter's display *Queen Victoria's Stamps and Covers* showed particular emphasis on Postal History covering the vastly changing times during Her Majesty's reign. The covers illustrated differing points in history – from sailing ships to steam ships, the various political attitudes around the world at that time and the increase in foreign trade. The covers, remarkably, had very nearly all the Victorian stamp issues from the Penny Blacks to the late surface printed issues suitably franked. This was a display greatly appreciated by an attentive audience.

➔ membership@gbps.org.uk or www.gbps.org.uk Janet Bygate

Italy & Colonies

21 members and partners, including four from the USA, were on our group visit to Bologna and Pesaro in early October. It included three nights in Bologna and seven in Pesaro. As well



Group with Signor Vaccari under a tree

as enjoying the usual extensive lunches with copious amounts of wine, members visited Vignola castle and paid a visit to the Vaccari auction premises. We were presented with complimentary reference books and were able to repay Signor Vaccari's generosity by purchasing some very nice items from stock.

In Pesaro we had time to visit the Rossini and the Civic Museums. We saw a wonderful display of very early Majolica and the 1474 Bellini Altar piece. Excursions were to Recanati to visit the Theatre and Gigli Museum, Fabriano for the Watermark Museum and to see the manufacture of watermarked paper, and Loro Piceno, where we visited the Postal History Museum presented by the local Philatelic Society, Vin Cotto wine museum and finally the War Museum.

Your society information?

Please let the ABPS Secretary know of any changes to your society details, including the information on the ABPS website about your society. Contact details are on p 54. Please tell your Federation Secretary too.

The tour, expertly led by **Susan Chislett**, was considered a great success and members are now looking forward to 2018 and a possible trip to the Pulia region. → LR Harlow on 0208 977 8737 or www.icsc-uk.com

Paul Woodness

Royal

The members of The Royal Philatelic Society London have enjoyed the privilege of seeing much outstanding material at recent meetings. At the start of the season **Michael Sefi LVO RDP FRPSL**, Keeper of the Collection, and his two assistants, **Ian Greig FRPSL** and **Rod Vousden FRPSL**, showed

extracts from the albums of West Indies from the royal collection. It included examples on cover of the authorised bisects of the first Jamaica issue of 1860 and the only known plate block of the 2½d on 4d of 1908 of the Cayman Islands. On 28th September **Jean Voruz FRPSL** of Switzerland presented *Geneva from the Cantonal to the Federal Post*, covering the period from 1839 to 1862. The display embraced three periods, from the time when the Swiss cantons enjoyed full postal sovereignty, until 1st October 1849 when the canton of Geneva had to comply with the new federal rates even though the currencies were not

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If you are interested in joining us, please contact our secretary:

Rodney Frost FRPSL, 42 Lonsdale Road, Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset
TA5 2JS 01278 652592 rodney.frost@tiscali.co.uk

We will look forward to hearing from you. With very best wishes,

Graham Winters FRPSL, Chairman of the Ceylon Study Circle.

01924 259713 j.g.winters@hotmail.co.uk



Jean Voruz with Patrick Maselis

the same. Then from 1st January 1852 the whole of Switzerland aligned with the currency of Geneva. The material on 12th October was shown by no fewer than 31 members of Deutscher Altbriefsamler-Verein (DASV). Our appreciation was expressed by **Robin Pizer FRPSL** who congratulated those who had shown for their 'superb displays spanning a period of nearly 300 years'. If you wish to visit The Royal Philatelic Society London at 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, or be a guest at one of its meetings → Administrative Office (020 7486 1044)

Richard West

The Royal Philatelic Society of London is seeking nominations for The Crawford Medal

The prestigious Crawford Medal of The Royal Philatelic Society London will be awarded in 2018 'for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period'. It is open to all authors, whether members of the Society or not.

The medal, in silver-gilt, features a portrait of the Earl of Crawford, bibliophile extraordinaire, and was instituted in 1914 but not awarded until 1920 owing to the First World War.

The medal is open to worldwide competition. In the case of joint authorship the Council of the Royal may award a medal to each author, but in the case of books compiled as a result of collaboration on the part of more than two authors, Council may award a medal to the sponsors or editors of the work instead of to the authors.

Nominations are invited of books published in 2016 or 2017 to be considered by the selection committee, who will make a recommendation to Council. Nominations close on 1 February 2018.

Brief details should be submitted by email to secretary@rpsl.org.uk or by letter to the Society at 41 Devonshire Place London W1G 6JY, in every case using the subject 'Crawford Nomination' or marking the envelope in the same way.

The Society solicits nominations from as wide a selection of books as possible and would expect to have a copy in the Society Library. If the book is not in the Library the nominator will be requested to supply a copy for the committee to consider. The Society would much appreciate that such copies be donated to the Library after adjudication.

ABPS Handbook & Directory: updates

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

Federations

Yorkshire Philatelic Association (p 63) has a new secretary:
Daphne McMillan
mcmillandaphne@yahoo.co.uk

Specialist Societies

The Bechuanalands and Botswana Society (p 67) is no longer affiliated to ABPS. We regret their decision.

British Society of Australian Philately (p 68):
Editor: Graham Keates
Meetings: 9 a year plus regional meetings and Annual Convention

Cumbria Postal History Society has become an affiliate and should be added to p 70. The secretary is Mike Roberts, mike@mikerobe.co.uk

Exhibition Study Group has become an affiliate and should be added to p 71. The secretary is Don Knight 0204 403574 donaldrk@btinternet.com

Local Societies

Caledonian PS (p101) has a new secretary: Ray Welland
secretary@caledonianphilatelic.org.uk

Fenland Stamp Club (p 114) has a new secretary:
Richard Lewis 01945700954
richard@lewis8571.plus.com
Meetings: 2nd & Last Thursdays
September - April, 1.45pm

Haverfordwest Stamp & Postcard Club (p 118): In the last issue I gave the wrong telephone number for the Secretary - it should be 01646 278826

Lanarkshire Philatelic Society (p 128/9):
Venue: Hamilton Caledonian Bowling Club, Motherwell Road, Hamilton ML3 7BL

Poynton Philatelic Society (p 146) has a new secretary:
Ron Phelps 01625 877643
janronwebmates@supanet.com

St Albans, Harpenden & District Philatelic Society (p 152) has a new website:
www.spstalbharpstampclub.org.uk

Warminster Philatelic Society (p 167) has a new secretary:
Geoff Frost 01985 840433
gwfrost19@gmail.com

I regret to inform you that **Farnham & District Philatelic Society** (p 111) has closed.

Speakers' List

Dr Patrick Reid (p 237):
pge.reid@tiscali.co.uk or
pge.reid@gmail.com

Apology: In the last issue in the report on Congress (p 6), we failed to note that John Hotchner RDP is a Fellow of the Royal. We incorrectly gave that honour to Colin Tabear RDP.

Editor

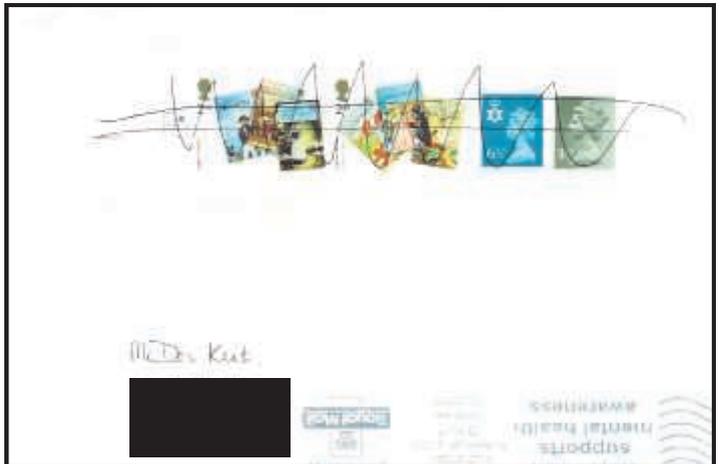
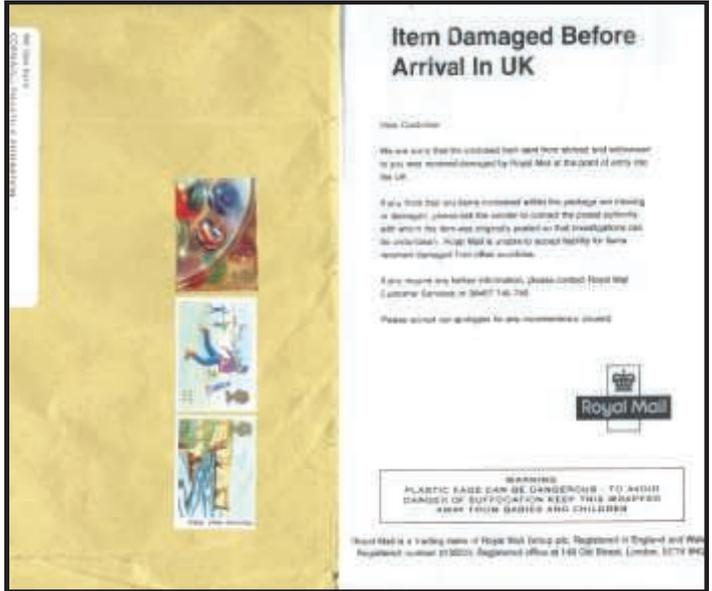
When things go wrong

We sometimes hear of problems with copies of ABPS News becoming separated from their envelopes. What happens next depends on the particular sorting office at which it happens. Recently Des Kent of the Cornwall Federation got in touch. This is what he received. The envelope was chewed but there was no obvious way that the copy of ABPS News had been removed. The remainder was enclosed in a plastic envelope - but presumably the only ones available were those relating to mail damaged before arrival in the UK - a strange route when going from Southampton to Cornwall.

Naturally when Des contacted us we arranged for another copy to be sent by John Woodson. There was no problem with that as we always have a few spare for such eventualities and to distribute at any event which we are visiting, if required. So off went another copy. This one arrived safely but the envelope went through the system

upside down so the postman took out his biro and vented his frustration on the carefully chosen commemorative and regional stamps. It would make us cry if it wasn't so funny. Still - we got an article for the News if nothing else.

Des Kent, John Woodson & Keith Burton



Book Review

Newlands Road to Success by Chris Phillips ISBN978-0-9574259-1-0

We all started collecting stamps at different times of our lives and for different reasons. For each of us there is a different story to tell and at club displays many of us, I am sure, give a potted version. Chris has gone one step further in this 200-page book. Rather surprisingly he starts before man came to Great Britain but soon reaches the point where his own family life began in Newlands Road, Tunbridge Wells. Clearly the children of the area were resourceful and gregarious - no computers and Ipads being used in isolation at home in the 1950s. Newlands Road Philatelic Society was formed in 1953 as one of the offshoots of the Newlands Road Club. To his friends Chris was clearly a born organiser so when they brought a copy of "Stamp Finder" containing "How to Organise A Stamp Club" he went into action. This was thought to be the only club run and managed by youngsters. It grew from strength to strength with competitions, a newsletter "The Newland Post", speakers, auctions and lots of children involved. They drew the attention of the local adult society - Tunbridge Wells Philatelic Society, who gave them great support. Newlands even got heavily involved in the campaign for pictorial definitive stamps - writing to MPs and the House of Lords. Members reached the stage of entering the Melville Cup (with regular successes) and designing their own First Day covers. Chris has kept copious records, newspaper clippings, photographs and other memorabilia and many are illustrated in the book - though some are hard to read and you might need your magnifying glass and good light to see the finer details. When we are all thinking of how we can keep the hobby going and interest younger people in collecting, this little book might give some ideas to either us or the youngsters. It is clear that the ideas came from the children and young people out of the initial lead by the "How to Organise..." booklet. We cannot all relate to children but we can try to emulate the support given by the Tunbridge Wells PS members. I commend this little book to you. It is not a great work of philatelic knowledge in the usual sense but it shows the fun that can be got from stamp collecting being a sociable hobby and not one just for the solitary elderly male. Chris Phillips can be contacted on chris@philatelic.org.uk

Rossiter Trust

David Tett FRPSL, the distinguished writer and publisher has resigned as a Trustee of the Trust after 15 years of excellent service. Full information about the Trust, its books and support for new authors is on www.rossitertrust.com

Seminar in Exhibiting and Judging

There will be a national seminar for existing and would-be Federation judges, and for potential and existing exhibitors on **25th - 26th November 2017** at the Sun Hotel in Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

For details contact David Alford at apsinfo@ntlworld.com

Some covers received.

The number of reports is down after last time's 67 so I have the opportunity to show a few of the covers which have been on show at displays. I hope that you enjoy them - often I cannot use them in the main reports because they would be

indistinct if seen in a small box.

1. A fine Jersey large circle cancellation on a card to Manchester (Channel Islands Study Circle)
2. Illustration of the German Army invading Poland (Ferndown & West Moors)
3. A postcard from Hong Kong to Bournemouth via



Siberia (Ferndown & West Moors)

4. Double postage dues totalling 4 cents on an internal cover in Malaya with 2 BMA/MALAYA overprints of Straits Settlements (King George VI Society)

British Stamp news



I am quite keen on birds though not to the extent of twitching here and there in order to catch sight of a rare visitor to our shores. I have enough difficulty in identifying some of the more common species that come to our garden or the countryside nearby. I liked the thought of the May issue celebrating British songbirds - but not one of the used variety has made it through my letterbox. Has anyone else been successful in trapping one of these 1st-class specimens? Nostalgia also has been a theme with more Star Wars characters (not one of my interests) and Ladybird books. (For the Post Office view of two of those



see page 46.) I was able to go down Memory Lane thinking about these, and remembering my children having a number of them on the shelves and

enjoying sharing them at bedtime. It was good to see that 2nd class values were included this time. Though again none have arrived here so far - perhaps they are only for mint collectors and blue pen cancellation.

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



Stamp Active Network

Young collectors again provide fine exhibits

This Autumn, for the first time, the Stamp Active Network has held not only the British Youth Stamp Championships, but also the Stamp Active competition. The later will now be held twice a year, in Spring and Autumn. As always the judges were impressed with the high standard, and were pleased to see new exhibitors and exhibits in both competitions. The judges were **Dave Armitage, Brian Asquith and Richard West.**

The judging was kindly hosted by The Royal Philatelic Society London, sponsored by Stanley Gibbons Ltd and the Great Britain Philatelic Society, while the area at Autumn Stampex in which the exhibits were displayed was kindly provided by the Philatelic Traders' Society.

British Youth Stamp Championships 2017

There was just one entry in each of the four classes: each entrant receives £25 to spend on philatelic items. The overall best exhibit is *Winter Sports* by Carys Llewellyn who receives a further £100.

Class B (17 and 18): Small silver: Toby Asson - *The American Dream*;

Class C (14 to 16): Silver-bronze: Ben Matthews - *Invasion and Target Sports*;

Class D (12 and 13): Large silver: Carys Llewellyn - *Winter Sports*;

Class E (under 12): Small silver: Rhys Hart - *The Battle of Britain.*

Stamp Active Competition Autumn 2017

The overall winner, who won £50 to spend, was **Ellie Dodge** with *Snake Facts*, also receiving £25 for the best exhibit in Class C.

The best exhibit in Class B is *The Great Romantic Composers* by **Sara Llewellyn** who receives £25.

The Schools Trophy goes to **Prendergast Community School**, Haverfordwest.

Class B (12 and 13): Gold: **Sara Llewellyn** - *The Great Romantic Composers*

Class C (10 and 11): Gold: **Dorothy Wild** - *Endangered Animals*; **Ellie Dodge** - *Snake Facts*

Silver: **Evie Mills** - *The Coast*; **Joyce Bazley** - *Cats and Dogs*; **Sam Evans** - *All Creatures Great and Small*; **Thomas Absalom** - *All about Space*; **Wilfred Bazley** - *A brief history of Aviation*

Silver-Bronze: **Alex Faversham** - *All about Stamps*; **Iwan Morgans** - *Transport*; **Max Fenn** - *Wales*; **Melisa Thomas** - *Flowers*; **Toby Roberts** - *Famous Britons*

Carys Receives Top Award

Carys Llewellyn was presented with the Anne Dummer Trophy as our Young Collector of the Year 2017 at Autumn Stampex. The award, which is sponsored by Midpex, was presented by **Rob Swain**, Publisher, from Stanley Gibbons. Carys received a trophy, a Penny Black cover donated by **Ian**



Carys Llewellyn

Park of Beckett Philatelics and a Teddy Bear donated by Royal Mail. Commenting on the award, **John Davies**, Chairman of Stamp Active, said "Carys has been a wonderful ambassador for the hobby. She has built a fine collection but has also played a key part in helping others in local junior clubs."

Bring A Child to Stampex Winners

Stamp Active continue to run their regular promotion to "Bring A Child to Stampex" with excellent prizes for those who bring a young collector to the Kids Zone in Gallery Bay 15, which is sponsored by The Philatelic Trader's Society at every Stampex.

The winners at Autumn Stamp 2017 were:

- 1st: Royal Mail Year Book 2016, donated by Royal Mail: **Tony Jones**, Orpington
- 2nd: Subscription to Stamp & Coin Mart, donated by Warners Group: **Sarah Swan**, London
- 3rd: Stampex Smiler Sheet, donated by the PTS: **Matthew Merkies**, London
- 4th: Subscription to Gibbons Stamp Monthly, donated by Stanley Gibbons: **Hayley Hart**, Banbury
- 5th: Guernsey First Day Covers, donated by Guernsey Post: **Jessica Doidge**, Banbury



Tony Jones with John Davies

Commenting on the competition, **John Davies**, Chairman of Stamp Active, said "We are very grateful to all our sponsors for their generous support of Stampex. We are trying to encourage more parents and grandparents to bring kids along to the show. They all have a great fun time but we need to see more here. It is expected that this promotion will also be run for Spring Stampex, so please come along."

Alex Cuesta Wins Penny Black

Alex Cuesta from London was the latest winner in the free prize draw for a Penny Black, sponsored by Mulready Philatelics, that takes place after the youth auction at Stampex. The enthusiastic young collectors compete for 30 lots in the free auction using the points they have gained by taking part in the free activities in the Kids Zone. They all receive a draw ticket with the lucky winner picking up the Penny Black. The auction is conducted by the ever-cheeky **Michael Thompson**, currently President of the National Philatelic Society.

Information about the Stamp Active Network can be found on their website www.stampactive.co.uk

Donations of stamps, particularly of first day covers and thematic stamps would be welcomed by the organisers to: Stamp Active Network, 3 Longfellow Road, Banbury, OX16 9LB



A very happy Alex Cuesta receives his Penny Black

David Rossall

Diary for the next few months

Local and regional events by ABPS members

2017

November

- 25 Autumn StampEssex: 10 - 4: Hampton's Sport & Leisure (formerly Marconi Social Club), Tydemans (off Beehive Lane), **Chelmsford** CM2 9FH

2018

February

- 10 Bromley & Beckenham PS Stamp & Postcard Fair hosting Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies Spring Rally & AGM: 9.30 - 4: Langley Park Boys School, South Eden Park Road, **Beckenham** BR3 3BP → 020 8778 7001

March

- 10 Launceston Stamp Club Stamp and Postcard Fair: 10 - 3: Central Methodist Sunday School Room, **Launceston**, Cornwall PL15 8BA
- 24 WESTBEX: 10 - 4, The Kennet School, Stoney Lane, **Thatcham** RG19 4LL → Graeme Stewart 01635 866942

April

- 28 NEPA Convention and Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Bowburn Community Centre, Durham Road, **Bowburn**. County Durham. DH6 5AT
- 28 Spring StampEssex hosted by Basildon PS: 10 - 4: James Hornsby High School, Leinster Road, **Laindon** This includes an exhibition to mark the Golden Jubilee of Basildon Philatelic Society

June

- 19 YPA Convention hosted by Scarborough PS: 10 - 5, Westborough Methodist Church Hall, opposite the railway station

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 2018 - 2019

Please note that fees at UK National exhibitions will be £25 per frame or literature entry from 1st January 2018. This includes Spring Stampex 2018.

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

- February 14th -17th 2018: Spring Stampex 2018: Full National Exhibition. Includes a special display by the Channel Islands Philatelic Society as lead contributor. In conjunction with the Ephemera Society, we are also looking at introducing exhibits of ephemera at Stampex for the first time on an

- experimental basis. Frames will be available as usual for individual exhibitors. Deadline for receipt of application forms: **8 December 2017**.
- July 20th - 21st 2018: York 2018: Following the success of this year's exhibition, another Northern National will be held at York Racecourse Grandstand with 150 frames. Details and application form will be published later.
 - September 12th - 15th 2018: Autumn Stampex 2018: Full National Exhibition. We are expecting the American Philatelic Society to visit, and the Forces Postal History Society and Civil Censorship Society have also offered to provide displays to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War.
 - 13th - 16th February 2019: Spring Stampex 2019. To mark its 150th anniversary The Royal Philatelic Society London will be the lead contributor with a display on the theme of 'King George V'. This will also be the last opportunity in the UK to qualify for London 2020.

International Exhibitions 2017-2020

- 27th - 31st May 2018 ISRAEL 2018 World Stamp Championship, Specialised exhibition under FIP patronage covering Traditional, Postal History, Modern Philately and Literature. 1000 frames UK Commissioner: Simon Richards Simon@sidebell.co.uk
- 8th - 10th June NORDIA 2018 Gardabaer, Iceland : Multinational, Nordic countries. United Kingdom exhibits have been invited. UK Commissioner: Mike Smith mikesmith.philatelist@gmail.com Closing date for applications is 16th January 2018.
- 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
→ www.PRAGA2018.cz
- 23rd - 25th November: ITALIA 2018, Verona as part of a philatelic exhibition devoted to the Great War. The Literature Class has moved from Milan. The exhibition has been postponed as the Milan venue had not been confirmed. Revised regulations will be published shortly and will be available at www.italia2018.eu
- 29th May - 2nd June 2019 STOCKHOLMIA, Waterfront Congress Centre, Stockholm, Sweden, RPSL exhibition with ABPS recognition & Congress Commissioner: Mike JY Roberts. Closing date for applications which must be sent to the Commissioner General, Jan Berg, is 30th April 2018.
- 2nd - 9th May 2020 London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH → www.london2020.co UK Commissioner: Mike JY Roberts. The deadline for applications will be around the end of February 2019.

All exhibitions are listed at: fepanews.com/International%20Exhibitions

Web information

Further information on exhibiting and forthcoming exhibitions can be found on the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk on the "Exhibiting" tab. *Bill Hedley, Chairman ABPS International & Exhibitions Committee* ewlhedley@gmail.com

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

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

Stamp Active Network: please write to:

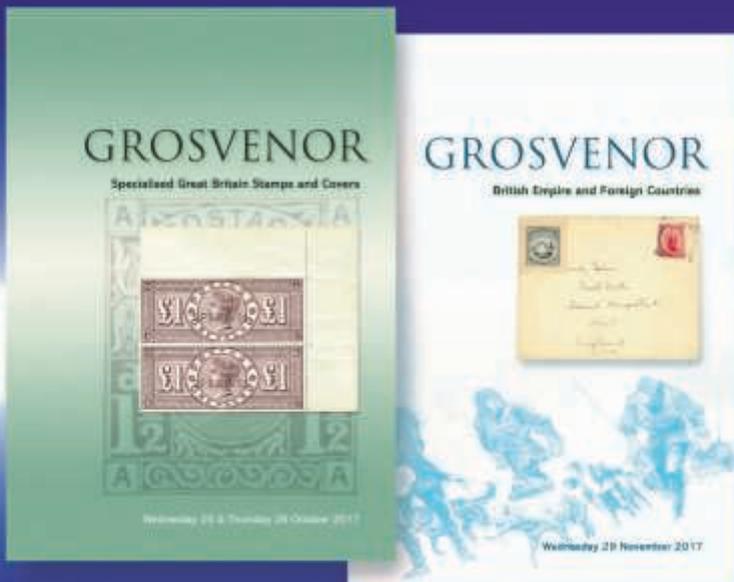
SAN, c/o John Davies, 3 Longfellow Road, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9LB

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

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

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