

Reaching out



See p 10

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ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

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Cover picture: *Caledonian Philatelic Society introducing visitors at the Chinese New Year Celebrations in Glasgow to the delights of stamps and collecting; Bromley & Beckenham present £100 for the Mayor's Charities.*

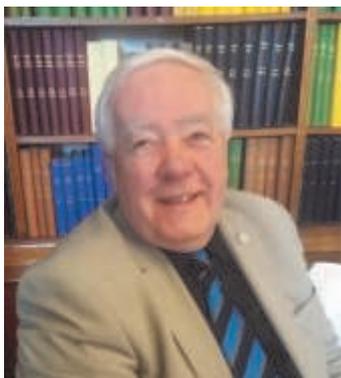
An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage www.abps.org.uk soon after publication.

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 58)

Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Everything seems to have been very busy since my last message. The York Fair was, as always, a great success, as was Stampex in February. Many dealers have generously promised adverts for the Congress booklet, which should again make a small profit for the ABPS.

Stampex was particularly noteworthy because of the new class - Ephemera! I did a small survey for Bill Hedley, the Chairman of the Exhibitions Committee. It took the form of asking people: the general public, collectors, exhibitors and judges what they thought. About 80% of the comments were positive, ranging from "this is great!" to "hopefully this will attract more people". The 20% negative ranged from "this has no place in philately" to "I think we have enough classes already". Several questioned the definitions used for ephemera. Others questioned the marking scheme, especially the need for the heading of importance. I will be taking my findings to the national judging seminar in Hitchin this month.

I have been continuing my rounds of the Yorkshire societies in my role as YPA President. I have received warm welcomes from Leeds and Bradford recently with my "Things that I collect" display. I am taking this to "The North-East Philatelic Weekend" soon. If you have not heard of this event, it is one of the best philatelic weekends. Friendly people, good food and drink, interesting variety of displays. For details, contact: Robert McMillan: robertfmcmillan@gmail.com tel: 01482 840836.

I am really looking forward to attending the Scottish Congress for the first time since 2012. If I remember rightly, our Scottish friends and fellow collectors certainly know how to celebrate. I have a particularly pleasant duty to perform while there....to present a well - deserved ABPS Award of Merit to Michael Turnbull of the Falkirk Stamp and Postcard Club.

Of course Stamp Day approaches as I am writing this.....it will have happened as you are reading it. I hope that you managed to attend your society's meeting. I'll report back on my experiences next time.

Finally, I hope everyone has now prepared their exhibits for the York Exhibition. Full details are still on the ABPS Website. Although deadlines for entries may have passed, it is always worth asking if there are places still available. Deborah Gooch is the person to ask: exhibiting@abps.org.uk or 01892 613176. Hand-in day is as usual, the Thursday before the show, 19th July at the Racecourse Grandstand from 11.00am. Corbitts are once again our sponsors. I will look forward to meeting new friends and old in York.

Graham Winters FRPSL

Editorial

When wondering what to write in this section I try to think back to what has happened, been said to me or sent to me over the past three months. Unfortunately many times the same matters are raised: the lack of people to do the jobs in societies or federations, the falling numbers of members, the fact that children aren't interested in philately, how competitions and exhibitions and so ABPS are irrelevant to the ordinary member and similar themes. Then a letter arrives from a couple of boys that I met at Stampex - clearly very keen on stamp collecting and wanting some help in getting stamps with cars or buildings on them, or I go to give a display of my Germany or Australia collections - still in their infancy and certainly not up to the high standard of written-up material that has been brought to my own society at Harrogate - and am thanked for a good evening, for being enthusiastic and not talking too long. Perhaps they are being kind but at least they make me feel wanted and that is probably the important thing. Don't worry if the display isn't fully written-up - start with the

members' display evening at your own society and then get out wider. I wish that I had more time to complete the write-up of one of my collections but instead I have to edit this magazine, or reply to the boys with a few stamps to keep them going whilst asking a few questions to help me to find the right ones to send, or do some work on my society's packet. They aren't important things for my collection but they do reach out to other collectors which I think is what we should all be doing. I can list my contacts from beginners to dealers to signatories of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and they have all been kind, helpful, interested and willing to talk about our mutual interest - stamps, covers, postal history, philately or stamp collecting or any other name. So my plea is that everyone who reads this finds one way to reach out to someone else interested in our hobby at whatever level and help them in any possible way. We can't draw in new members or participants if we don't put ourselves out a bit. *Keith Burton*



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Society anniversaries, 2018

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:

70 years

Middlesbrough & District Philatelic Society

On Monday, October 11th 1948 the following appeared in the Public Notice section of the Evening Gazette newspaper. This public notice cost 10/-. "Will all interested in the formation of a Philatelic Society in Middlesbrough kindly attend a meeting in the Park Methodist Church Schoolroom on Wednesday 13th October 1948 at 7.30pm". The following report appeared in the Evening Gazette on Thursday 14th October. "Stamp Collectors Meet – The first meeting of the newly formed Middlesbrough & District Philatelic Society was held in the Park Methodist Church Schoolroom last night, when over 30 collectors were present. It was decided that meetings would be held monthly, the next one being on Wednesday, November 10th. Officials elected were: President, Mr J Kirby; Vice-President, Mr TH Rodgers; Hon. Secretary, Mr W Fleming." During that year 38 members paid a subscription of 5/- and 10 junior members each paid 2/6d. At the end of the first season meetings were moved to the Dorman Museum, which was just a short distance away. The stay there was also short lived as meetings moved to the Temperance Institute. From 1960 to 1970 home was in the YMCA. The Grove Hill Community Centre followed and for the last 34 years the Society has been meeting at Middlesbrough Bowling Club. The longest serving member is Mr Barry Burns who joined in 1969. Over the years we have been hosts to Conventions for both the North-East Philatelic Association and the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. Six of the present members have been



Middlesbrough was entertained by NEPA President – Mr Ken Mitchell (2nd from right), a member of Middlesbrough with Barry Burns (3rd from right).

Presidents of the North-East Philatelic Association. Many of the members give displays to other societies and participate in Association and National Competitions.

Sadly, as with many other Societies, membership has fallen but those left are fully committed to their hobby. We are always pleased to welcome new members.

Phill Harriman

York Philatelic Society

1948 was a memorable year. Key events include: • a severe winter in 1947-48 • the continuation of war-time rationing • Germany under Allied occupation and the Berlin Airlift • the spread of Communism • the foundation of the NHS and the welfare state • the creation of British Railways • independence from the UK for Burma and Ceylon • the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi • the Silver Wedding of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth • the births of the Prince of Wales and York Philatelic Society. The 1st annual dinner of the society was held on 14th October 1966 at the Ainstey Hotel in Boroughbridge Road, York. The cost of the three-course meal was £1 per head! We have put together an exhibition of stamps from around the world which were issued in 1948, and stamps of later years commemorating events of that year. So far, we have assembled 50 A4 sheets covering 40 countries – a total of 453 stamps. We propose to hold an Anniversary buffet on Tuesday 26th June, when the weather might be better than in September. In addition, we are creating a mascot for our anniversary – an animated postage stamp with arms and legs, and wearing a cloth cap (as every good Yorkshire man should!). We will call him "Phil Atterley".



Roy Harrison and his wife; Keith Ranns, and Ralph Peacock. Ralph lives in Heworth, York, and is due to be elected as our next President

40 countries – a total of 453 stamps. We propose to hold an Anniversary buffet on Tuesday 26th June, when the weather might be better than in September. In addition, we are creating a mascot for our anniversary – an animated postage stamp with arms and legs, and wearing a cloth cap (as every good Yorkshire man should!). We will call him "Phil Atterley".

Richard Billinge

80 years

King's Lynn

On Saturday 10th February we held a celebration to mark our 80th anniversary. Some 45 members and guests from local societies and the Mid Anglia Federation joined the Borough Mayor, Councillor **Carol Bower** and her husband, present as guests of honour. After a welcome and introduction by society President **Mike Kentzer**, chairman **Paul Lascelles** escorted the Mayor around a 150 sheet display of King's Lynn postal history, while Secretary **Terry Wagg** accompanied **Simon Bower**. Councillor Carol Bower was amazed at the



Paul Lascelles, The Mayor and Terry Wagg, with Simon Bower and Mike Kentzer behind

range and quality of the display put together by three of the society's members. Paul Lascelles then presented the Mayor with two embossed albums of the postal history material she had been shown, as a gift to the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk. Councillor Bower clearly enjoyed herself as a whole new world of local history was made apparent to her and was further delighted to cut one of two special cakes and then to receive a bouquet from Vice

President **Donny Birdseye**. A wonderful buffet was provided by the local group of Girl Guides and this rounded off a wonderful gathering for the Philatelic Society. As a result of this event three of the society's members have been invited to put on a power point presentation at Lynn's Town Hall at the end of April, together with a display of the actual material. *Mike Kentzer*

Watford & District Philatelic Society

October 2018 marked our 80th birthday. To celebrate this landmark, we held a celebratory dinner, which most of the current membership and partners attended.

The club was formed largely through the efforts of **Mr S Forder**, who realised the need for a meeting place for local stamp collectors. Early meetings were held in the sitting room of his home, and he became the club's chairman. By early 1938 larger accommodation had to be found for the expanding membership, and the Cookery Nook Café in Watford High Street became the regular venue for the fortnightly meetings. In the early days the sole purpose of the club was for members to exchange stamps with each other, this being done on the basis of Stanley Gibbons catalogue prices. Members usually specialised in the stamps of one or two countries, and through the exchange system several were able to build up interesting collections. In 1939 three private exhibitions were held, then came the war. The call-up, Civil Defence and other duties took away half the members. At the end of 1940 it was decided to close the club until happier times returned.

In the years that followed, Mr Forder died, several former members did not return to the area and it began to look as if the Watford Stamp Club would be a thing of the past. In 1947 however, the club was re-started and its scope was widened. An increase in the number of members necessitated looking for larger accommodation, and the main lecture hall of the Watford Central Library was chosen. The use of the library hall, and an influx of members who wanted something more than exchange facilities, led to the mounting of displays by members and to invitations to members of other societies to display their treasures. One of these was **Mr H C V Adams**, who lived locally, but whose

collection of Penny Blacks was internationally known. After one of his displays he presented the society with some GB stamps, which were sold in order to purchase a silver trophy, which was named the H C V Adams Cup. This was an incentive for members to do more than the simple mounting of their collections. This led to success in the 1954 competition for The Bishop Cup, contested between members of the Middlesex Philatelic Federation, which had been formed in 1950.



A Bourse for Watford members

In 1968 the society started a junior section and the MPF Junior Stamp Day was organised by Watford & District PS with a special postmark and card produced to mark the occasion. The junior section was extremely active at the time, with the society running competitions between local schools, the winner receiving the Longridge Shield.

At its peak, the membership of the society numbered well over a hundred, but in more recent times, like so many other clubs (not just philatelic ones), the number of members has decreased to less than twenty. However, the members we have are enthusiastic, with a good attendance at meetings, now held at the Community Life Centre inside the local ASDA supermarket. The society also 'punches above its weight' when it comes to competitive philately. Indeed, Watford won the team award again in the 2017 Middlesex Federation 9-page inter-society competition.

Wayne Cox

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

Affiliation Fees

The ABPS affiliation year runs from 1st January to 31st December and at the start of the year I send out requests for each Club and Society, Friend and Patron to re-affiliate. At the start of April I send out reminders to those few who have not re-affiliated. This happens for a variety of reasons, often because the original email or letter has got lost or there has been a change in Club officers. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to check if you have affiliated for 2018 or if you wish to pay your affiliation fees. My contact details can be found in the ABPS News (p 58).

The money raised from the affiliation fees all goes to supporting philately in the UK. All the ABPS officers are unpaid volunteers and the sooner we have the affiliation fees then the sooner we know what our budget is for the year. The policy of the ABPS is that any Club, Society, Friend or Patron that has not re-affiliated by July will not be sent any further ABPS News or Bulletins.

Barry Stagg, Membership Secretary

Teaching old dogs new tricks - Chinese New Year and encouraging stamp collecting.

As all collectors know, there is never any shortage of new issues from all over the world that celebrate Chinese New Year. At the Caledonian Philatelic Society in Glasgow, we thought we might use the occasion to target younger collectors to encourage them into the hobby. For some time we have had good contacts with Glasgow Museums and learned that they planned a celebration of Chinese customs and New Year celebrations in Glasgow's celebrated Kelvin Hall and at the Riverside Museum, home of Glasgow's world renowned transport collection. The event was widely publicised on city websites and visitor and tourism sites. We were given the opportunity to come along with some colourful displays on dogs (Year of the Dog!) as well as to bring along material that children could use. The youngsters saw examples of early stamp collage postcards which were commonly produced in China and Hong Kong in the 1890s for sale to visitors. They were encouraged to produce their own collages.

We had also collected British stamps showing dogs and these were used by the children to send postcards to themselves, friends or family. Many children have received very little personal mail so this helps them realise how our mail systems operate. Our Society also produced a flier which was distributed to pupils at our school stamp club as well as other places. Most of the events were organised by a Chinese-Scottish charity called Ricefield Arts and the team of over 20 volunteers started setting up in one of the Kelvin Hall's large sports halls on the morning of the event. They had even organised a Lion Dance with the "Lion" travelling between venues. This generated a lot of interest and excitement.



President Sandy Kerr gets into the role

Children attending were issued with a sheet on which to collect stickers with each table or display providing a different sticker. This encouraged them to visit each display. At our table we had a constant flow of children and parents and our 100 "Year of the Dog" postcards ran out in the first hour or so. We estimate that in total several hundreds, perhaps up to 500, parents and children visited our display and activity tables. Many parents expressed interest and some were very enthusiastic about encouraging their children to start collecting stamps. Where we could, we provided starter packs for these children. We are planning further events in collaboration with the Museum service and will target different groups including the retired. We would like to spread interest in the various aspects of our hobby and perhaps encourage new members to join a local society. Working with the local museum service seems a very good way of doing this and targeting suitable groups.

Russ Walker

ATTENTION OWNERS OF LARGE/ VALUABLE COLLECTIONS -

Are You THINKING of SELLING?

This is

HOW THE STAMP TRADE WORKS

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

by Andrew McGavin

1 If You want to learn how the stamp trade works, please read on... When I was 15, I did. I wondered if there was some secret source of supply? So, I bought my 1st stamp mixture, (wholesale I thought), broke

About The Author Andrew found his father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He specialised in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year, he religiously brought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that he enjoyed swapping/trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp Tips articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 45 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create systems in 'lifetime' orientated Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Batches up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka UPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Refusing Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps to 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries in his latest auction. Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Lucky for the seller that 2 well-heeled bidders saw the potential value that day or it could have been given away... the seller

could easily have lost out 'couldn't be?' or 'she?'

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

The Secret is Simple -

it's ALL About: **TIMING**

Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's' -
Presentation **Place** and **Price**

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

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

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

Strange that, nobody ever asked me the same question back - because my answer would have been entirely different (and I don't treat it as a problem) - I seek to satisfy collectors

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



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW TV

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

So, although few will tell you this, it's clearly evident that the problem for most Sellers of Stamps today is no longer absent stock - but absent collectors in the place they choose to sell their stamps in. Simply put, other Dealers, Auctions, Stamp Fairs have not invested in marketing to have a strong Customer-core. To be fair, this is not true of all - but it is true of most - so that our nearest competitor 'Apex' had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 20,000+ lot UPA 68th Auction we had 2,184 different bidders from 58 different countries, 95% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers - so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) - so that when you sell through them - you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% and more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc... **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it - TO DEALERS (and some collectors)**, but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive...

6 Now, let's examine the cost implications

- **Example:** Your stamp collection sells in public auction for \$800. Upon a 25% buyer's premium, the dealer pays \$1,000 and it could be more. He breaks it into \$2,000+ selling price (much lower and he'll go out of business). The auction charges you a seller's commission of up to 18% (VAT included) upon the \$800 sale price. This is GBPS144. Therefore you receive approaching \$656 - which is approximately 33% of the dealer's \$2,000+/- retail selling price - **BUT...** now that we have identified the problem...

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

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

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

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

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

The auction sold your stamps to a dealer for \$1,000 - but you received circa \$656. UPA sells them to collectors for you for up to \$2,000 - even after 40% commission you receive up to \$1,200. Up to \$544 more. Now that's amazing, isn't it? 🍷

10 Sounds Good Andrew, but Can You 'Deliver'? Obviously, nothing is as simple as that, and as we auction stamps to collectors some collections may 'break' to the example \$2,000+/- but the stamps may be sold for more or less - especially as we reserve all lots at 20% below, (Estimate \$2,000 = £1,600 reserve) and not everything sells first or even 2nd time so prices may come down... Naturally, it's not that straightforward for a dealer either - he may sell at a discount to 'move' stock OR, like many dealers he may be sitting on the same unsold stamps, that you see time and time again, in dealer's stocks years later and still at the same unattractive prices...

So, I think it is more reasonable for you to expect up to 30% to 50% more, indirectly or directly via my Collector's Secret Weapon: Universal Philatelic Auctions, which moves material more quickly, by incrementally reducing estimate (and reserve) price in a structured selling system...

11 Q) What is the Collector's 'Secret Weapon'?
A) It's called the Unique UPA Reducing Estimate System...★★

This is a rather long explanation, I don't want to bore you, but 18 years ago, when my wife and I set up Universal Philatelic Auctions I detected that the stamp trade's biggest problem then was not what sold - but what didn't sell... So, because I didn't want to try to keep on offering the same either unsaleable or overpriced stock I created the unique UPA Reducing Estimate (and reserve) Selling System. Simply put, if a lot doesn't sell in the 1st auction we reduce the estimate (and reserve) by 11% and unlike other dealers and auctions WE TELL YOU - 'US' = once unsold. If unsold after the following auction we reduce by a further 12% and WE TELL YOU 'US2', if unsold after a 3rd UPA auction we reduce by a further 13% and WE TELL YOU 'US3' and so on until the lot finds its price, is sold or virtually given away... ✓

12 Any Scientist will tell you that combinations of ingredients can produce powerful results. So we created the unique combination of my UPA Reducing Estimate System, married (in stone), with UPA's fair 'NO BUYER'S Premium' policy, PLUS each lot carries my total 'no quibble' guarantee - this formula is the reason why within the span of 4 auctions (one year)... 90%-95% of lots broken from a collection have sold. This Unique Philatelic Selling System Formula is the reason why we are the largest stamp auction in the UK today with 2,184 different bidders in my recent auction. 🍷

In Hindsight Dealers warned me 18 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 18 years later I think I've proven that it does. (Reader: Please Request a complimentary UPA catalogue - using the contact details further below)

13 OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer? All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are

sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman – then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stock. Now is the time to let 'time' do the 'heavy-lifting' and consider making 'time' work for you, so that at UPA you can make time your friend. 🍀

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

15 OK, What Do I Do Next?

a). You contact UPA to discuss with Andrew or a highly-qualified Auction Valuer/Descriptor what you have to dispose of and your options bearing in mind your specific interests / requirements.

b). If you wish, get a 2nd opinion, but investigate what type of auction / dealer you are dealing with. Is it a Dealer's auction with relatively few collectors? Can you see where / how the Dealer sells? If you can't easily see any price-lists or high quality selling catalogues – that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers...

c). Finally you ask U.P.A to collect your stamps, insure in transit for an estimated replacement retail value... 🍀 📧 📱

16 What Happens then? A member of my Team telephones-mails you to confirm safe receipt. 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale



Contact UPA: 01451 861 111

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

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

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

I recall well the item you highlight, and realise that this one item has such colossal personal value, I could never part with it.

It has been an absolute pleasure dealing with yourself, and I am more than willing for you to use this e-mail as commendation to others who may be thinking of disposing of their collection.

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

Yours sincerely
D.E.B Bath, UK

of your collection. Provided only that you feel well-informed and comfortable do we agree strategy. 📧 📱

17 How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market? Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire, Post-Independence / QEII material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre-1952 is regarded as the

industry 'norm' and therefore desirable – but genuine never-hinged commands a premium. Europe sells but at reduced levels. Americans is good, as generally is Asia but the 'heat' has come off China which is still good – and Russia which can still be good. East Europe is weaker. Overall, rarities throughout can command their own price levels and real Postal History has good demand.



18 What Should I Do Next? Discuss your collection with U.P.A. Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team now... 📧 📱

19 Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure So if You're not sure we'll transport and return your stamps for FREE up to \$200 in actual shipping cost at our expense. It sounds generous (and it is), but it's far less than the cost of driving 100+ miles each way and 3 to 6 hours in your home valuing your stamps. 🍀

20 My Double Cast Iron Guarantee: We can do a better job valuing your stamps in our office than in your home. If you don't agree I'll pay you an extra \$50 for you to pay somebody trusted to open the boxes and put your albums back, in the same place, on the shelf they came from. 😊 😊

21 Act NOW: Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team using the on-line selling form at our website, by fax, telephone or by mail. We'll work harder for you not to regret the decision to sell all or part of your collection... 🍀 📧 📱

Andrew

Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,
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THE ABPS CONGRESS MEDAL FOR 2018

The ABPS Awards Committee has awarded the 2018 Medal to **Erene Grieve** who was nominated by Haverfordwest Philatelic Society.



Erene's name will be known to many for the tremendous amount of work she has done for young collectors. In 1997 she had the idea to get more children interested in stamps by setting up stamps clubs in schools. Erere started in the schools in Pembrokeshire where she lives and still runs four school clubs and a church group herself. For many years Erere has travelled all over the United Kingdom running workshops in over 500 schools. This has involved a remarkable 1000 workshops reaching 30,000 children.

The children in Pembrokeshire, under Erere's guidance, have for many years been involved in competition at federation, national and international level. Haverfordwest Philatelic Society hold youth presentation evenings and the members are always amazed at how many cups and medals the children have won. This is all due to Erere's work and encouragement.

Erene Grieve has been recognised for her youth work over the years. She won the Rowland Hill Initiative Award for personal contributions to youth in 1998 and 2003. The British Museum nominated her for the Marsh Trust Volunteers for Museum Learning Award in 2012 which she won.

Other youth work in which Erere takes an active part is as a member, for the last 18 years, of the National Youth Stamp Club (now Stamp Active). Since 2007 she has been the South Wales Federation Youth Officer and the Youth Co-ordinator for the Raffle Postal Stamp Club for the past 17 years.

Haverfordwest Philatelic Society has benefitted from Erere's enthusiasm for the hobby. She has been Chairman from 2002 to 2017 and is now the Secretary.

Erene Grieve is a very worthy winner of the ABPS Congress Medal for 2018.

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Important Awards for Great Britain Philatelists

Each year the Federation of European Philatelic Associations awards medals and certificates to philatelists and philatelic societies in various categories who make an exceptional contribution to European philately.

The awards for 2017 have been announced and Great Britain has won awards in two sections.

The FEPA Medal for exceptional philatelic study and research has been awarded to **Brian Trotter RDP FRPSL** for his book, *Southern African Mails, Routes, Rates and Regulations 1806 – 1916* published by the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Only one medal is awarded each year and it is construed as a literary prize to be awarded for study and research to the furtherance of philately having a European significance.



A FEPA Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding activities for the promotion of philately by societies has been awarded to **The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain**. In order to be nominated the Society had to demonstrate that it had given significant service or support to European Philately.

The award was created in 1999 and this is the first time a British Society has been awarded a certificate.

Photos of recipients, logos of societies and details are available at fepanews.com/news/fepa-award-winners-2018

Yvonne Wheatley ABPS Award Committee Chairman



TRUSTEE DEPARTMENT

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

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The Stuart Rossiter Trust

Susan McEwen FRPSL

Readers may have seen book reviews or reports of the annual lectures, without necessarily knowing much about the Stuart Rossiter Trust.

The Trust is a registered Charity (no. 292076) for Postal History - 'We Publish and sell books, we support Authors and Research'. To date the Trust has published 42 books and most, but not all, of them are available from the Trust.

The Trust hosts annual lectures with free admission. These have been held since 1995 and have covered a wide range of Postal History topics, with well respected lecturers on topics as diverse as "The more the rail the faster the mail" and "Theory v Practice in Postal History". Reports and Powerpoint presentations of these are on the website.

As well as publishing books, the Trust has sponsored societies and individuals to publish Postal History books, and has helped finance research leading to books.

Recent publications by the Trust include:

'Suffolk Postal History and Postal Markings to 1844' by Tom Slemons FRPSL.

'The Free French in London 1940 – 1945' by Peter Baker.

'Postmen at War - a History of the Army Postal Services to 1945' by Col. E.T. Vallance CBE ERD & Capt. S. Fenwick MSc, MBA, MInstRE.

'Great Britain: Failed Free Handstamps of the Franking System' by Robert Galland FRPSL & John Colton. An update to this work is available as a free download from the SRT website.

'Besieged in Paris' by Ashley Lawrence FRPSL.

Books published lately with help from the Trust on publication costs include:

'Fleeing from the Führer' by Charmian Brinson & William Kaczynski.

'The 1898 Pictorial Issue of New Zealand: its Design, Printing and Use' by Professor Derek R Diamond.

'The Postmarks and Postal History of Independent Cameroun - 1960 to Date' by Marty Bratzel, Michael Wright and Marc Parren.

Also with research costs on *'Postal and Airmail Rates in France & Colonies 1920 – 1945'* by Robert E Picirilli.

And with translation costs on the German language version of *'Fleeing from the Führer'*.

All of this costs money, and the Trust is funded by the bequest of Stuart Rossiter.

Can we help you or your Philatelic society with Postal History Research and / or publication ?

For more information contact our Corresponding Trustee at srtcorr@gmail.com
www.rossitertrust.com

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ABPS AWARDS OF MERIT

The Awards Committee is delighted that, after several years when the number of nominations has declined, this year the work of seven collectors has been recognised with the Award. They have all worked tirelessly for local societies, specialist societies and federations. We offer them our thanks and congratulate them on their Awards.

Jim Etherington – nominated by Mid Sussex Philatelic Society and Worthing Philatelic Society

David Hilton – nominated by Adur Stamp Club

Rachel McHugh – nominated by Harrogate Philatelic Society

Brian Morriss - nominated by Hullbridge Philatelic Society and Rayleigh & District Philatelic Society

John Smith – nominated by Faroe Island Study Circle

Michael Turnbull - nominated by Falkirk Stamp and Postcard Club

John Woodson – nominated by ABPS

Yvonne Wheatley Chairman of Awards Committee

'Don' Donovan



It was with great sadness that Bexley PS learned from his daughter Sheila of the passing of the longest-serving member, Alfred 'Don' Donovan, at 96.

Although he joined the club shortly after its formation in 1965, he was shortly struck down with the meningitis virus, which laid him low for some considerable time, so did not rejoin the club until 1977. Then, however, he became a regular member of the committee, until failing health forced him to step down just a year or so back. Until then, he hardly ever missed a meeting, and for many years he prepared the lists for the exchange packet. His interest in collecting stamps originally arose

following his suggestion to Sheila, then 11, to take up the hobby. Initially he concentrated on the early line-engraved issues (1d reds), spending many hours with the eminent club member H. Leslie Fletcher, of forgery tracking fame. Booklets became a serious interest, too. Over the years he gave talks particularly on the stitched booklet theme. Other aspects of his collection have been highlighted over the years. He concentrated particularly on the Belgian railway issues, especially waybills. We believe that he had one from most of the stations in the network. His collection, and research, will be donated to the Belgian Study Circle, of which he was also an active member. Perfins were his collecting interest too. A wonderful supporter of the society over the past 40 years, his cheery outlook, coupled with knowledge on many aspects of philately, will be missed by all who knew him well.

Will Dalrymple

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.

Aberdeen

On 8th February we were entertained by **Bruce Walker** who gave us a 160-sheet display of his favourite island in the West Indies *Tobago*, from the pre-stamp period to the 1979 Exhibition for the Centenary of the first stamp issue of the island. He was privileged to attend that exhibition. Bruce has been a member since December 1963, joining as a Junior member. He has held various offices in the society and was President 1981-83, being made a Fellow in 1989. His collecting interests include postal history of the North-East of Scotland, Trinidad & Tobago, Gibraltar, Aden and Zanzibar, Postage Due covers and a fascination in postmarks of the former British Colonies in the West Indies. He has given the society displays on numerous subjects since 1968. We appreciate his willingness to give displays and his participation in the various sponsored evenings. We look forward to future evenings' entertainment. *Sheila Den*

Amersham & District

After a five-week recess over the festive season we started 2018 with a

fine display of *British Postal Agencies in the Persian Gulf* by member **Tony Stanford**, followed by a visit from Pinner PS represented by **Lorraine Maguire** and **Gordon Catto**. Lorraine is a Kiwi and presented a wide variety of *New Zealand Oddities* including unusual shapes for stamps, while Gordon displayed *Harrow Postal History* material he had inherited from his friend and late Pinner member **Mick Stephens**. Some of the postcard views showed Harrow as a village with a horse-drawn wain on the main street. **Maurice Buxton** presented some of his excellent covers containing GB stamps from the reign of *King George VI* including material from WW2. One cover to USA carried 10 x 10/- dark blue stamps with perfect circular cancellations. On 1st March we made the right call by cancelling our regular meeting because of the blizzard warnings, but two weeks later we bounced back with our successful Spring Auction which attracted 46 members and visitors. This year sadly two of our longstanding members and Past Presidents **Michael Fletcher** and **Tony Bridger** have passed away. Both

gave sterling service to our Society and they will be greatly missed.

Jim Drummond

Ayrshire

We continued our New Year programme with a Postcard Evening. Nine members contributed wide-ranging displays. **Dennis Gray** started both rounds with *Not so risqué comic cards*. **Dan Ross** took us on *A Trip from Girvan* whilst **Bob McSherry** did a *Quick Tour of Arran*. *Castles in South West Scotland* and *Some Modern Swiss PTT cards* from **David Rossall** followed. **Jim Irvine** stressed *The Burns Connection*. **Roy Wickham** showed *Cards from Zanzibar* and **John Chalmers** *Austrian Correspondence Cards*. We finished with *Holiday Cards* from **Fraser Murray**, and *Cards of The Tower of London and Hampton Court* from President **David Bowman**. On 23rd February, we were thoroughly entertained by two members of the Glasgow Thematic Society. **Dr Brian Dow** gave a display on *Blood Transfusion*. As a former BTS staff member he was fully au fait with his topic, covering special covers and handstamps which he had been involved in producing for various Scottish anniversaries. This was followed by stamps and covers worldwide. His colleague, **Gary Cheyne**, then treated us to an excellent history of *WWI*, using a wide range of material. The prelude to the war with the personalities involved was followed by a sequence of the various phases of the war and concluded with the role of women, effects on everyday life, propaganda, war poets, entertainers, artists and the situation in Ireland and the USA. →

davidrossall@sky.com *David Rossall*

Basildon

In February we learnt about *German Inflation* from **John Rawlins**. He began before WWI, demonstrating that inflation was already a problem before the war began. He took us through the war years and through the out-of-control post-war inflation to its sudden, successful revaluation with clear and informative explanations of the various stages. Later that month, **Don Davies FRPSL** gave us *A very varied display*. He opened with the first issue of Chile including the forgeries and reprints from the original plates. He then explained the forgeries of UK Machins that have appeared since 1993, followed by censorship of GB seaside comic postcards, highlighting the disparities of opinion between towns. The bisecting of banknotes for sending through the post revealed that numbers were not always rematched! Irish St Patrick's Day postcards with incorrect flags were followed by mail franked with trading stamps, etc. His display ended with his London 1990 Gold Medal-winning collection of Victoria. In March we were entertained by **Geoff Mallett** (*Aspects of Railway Mail*), **Keith Rowland** (*Tangier & Ireland overprints of GB*) and **Roy Simmonds** (*Aspects of Germany especially Colonies*) of Goodmayes and then **Dave Armitage FRPSL** brought us *Aspects of Canada Part 2*. This ran from Edward VII to the Coronations of George VI. We look forward to Part 3. From *The Basildon Philatelist*



Dave Armitage

Bexley

Geoff Birch and **Adrian Smith** offered a joint display on *Official Paid Mail* to open our 2017 season. Marked 'OHMS', items shown included an 1807 Christmas Day card marked 'OHMS', from Dover to Marylebone Park. Geoff showed over 100 Swiss 'pro patria' postcards, a series started in the 1930s. In October, **Don Davies** displayed *Early GB Postal History*, pointing out that despite the issuing of Penny Blacks in 1840, users of the post need not actually buy one to send correspondence until the 1850s. They could either prepay the letter without a stamp, signified by a red mark, or ask the recipient to pay on delivery. He went on to show examples of the general public confusion of the purpose of the postage stamp, misunderstood to be some kind of seal for placing on the back. He also pointed out the 'NB' (North Britain) designation on letters, finally discontinued in the 1890s because of confusion with New Brunswick, Canada. It dates back to 1603. He also showed a much rarer 'SB', (South Britain). **John Shaw** offered examples and insights from his role on the expert committee of the Royal's expertising operation, which uses forensic equipment, research and knowledge to judge whether stamps are genuine or forgeries. Since established in 1894, the group now processes some 350-400 every six weeks. He showed examples – sadly not all



John Shaw on forgeries

originals – from the biggest names in forgery, including Spiro, de Sperati, Madame Joseph and Fournier.

→ 01322 559210 or

adethebeak@yahoo.co.uk

Will Dalrymple

Bolton

At our January meeting the subject was *Do your Own Thing*. Members were asked to display nine sheets from their own collections. Twelve took up the challenge. In February the visiting speaker was **Graham Chadwick** with *Local Stamps from Lundy Island* in the Bristol Channel. In March was the usual First Quarterly Auction of the year. A little over 400 lots were offered to the room and postal bidders; the highlight of the auction was a GB Queen Victoria £1 from 1888, SG 186 fine used, which sold for £430. Any member of an ABPS Society is invited to partake in any of our postal auctions.

Howard Anderson

Bookham

January opened with our annual in-house auction with just under 250 lots, a mixture of club and members' lots. There was some lively bidding which resulted in most lots being sold which therefore made it a successful auction for club and members alike. February's meeting on a very cold snowy afternoon was a Members' Day (attended by 45 members and one guest). We had a different twist on things this time as members had to display material that began with *The Letter S*. We were not disappointed. In the first half, we had errors/varieties of the KGVI Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika 1c stamp from **David Carr**. **Steve Paice** brought along some *Sods and Odds* from Australia. **Malcolm**

Cole gave us a lively display of *German Submarines in WWI*. **Denis Littlewort** who specialises in Large Key Plates of KG, showed us *A Variety of Errors and Specimens*. And bringing the first half to a close was our Secretary with a PowerPoint display, which took us on a *Vacation Guide to the Sun*, part of his bigger display on the *Solar System*. In the second half, **Michael Lockton** displayed some wonderful *Postal History material from Stratton in Cornwall*. **Christine Earle** gave us *State Emblems of Australia*. **Patrick Reid** presented a *Short Paid Mail of Queensland*, and bringing the day to a grand finale was the inimitable **Graham Mytton** with a PowerPoint



Graham Mytton, Michael Lockton, Christine Earle and Pat Reid

presentation on *Sierra Leone*. We had a marvellous and entertaining afternoon as usual. →

www.bookhamstampclub.com

David Bravery

Bromley & Beckenham

Our first 2018 meeting was a display of *United Nations Issues* by **Chris Sands**. The winner of this year's Nugent Cup for *The Letter T* was **Jenny Viggars** with *Turquoise Mounted Displays featuring Taps, Tongues, Talking, Tomatoes, Tobacco, Teeth, Teaspoons, Transport, Trees* against



Adrian Thomas presents to Jenny Viggars for Turquoise & other Ts

entries by **Grahame Boutle** - *Trials and Tribulations of a Tour of Duty with BP in Turkey, including Travel, Transport, Tremors and Tiny children*, **Adrian Thomas** - *Council of Trent issue from Vatican City in 1946*, **Ron Burn** - *The tragic disaster on the Tanker "Oliva" at Tristan in 2011*, **Mike Dobbs** - *To Pay covers and Telegraphs* and **Richard Solly** - *Tasmania Money Orders pre & post Commonwealth including Specimens*. Our only February meeting was a Members' Evening on *Love*. Seven members responded with topics ranging from *WWI messages to Love of Elephants, Wagner* to a recently purchased *Mourning item*. On 10th February we held our Stamp & Postcards Fair with KFPS AGM & Council Meeting. On behalf of the Society our President **Adrian Thomas** presented The Mayor of Bromley, **Councillor Kathy Bance MBE**, with a cheque for £100 for her Charities. In late March **Stuart Henderson** entertained with a wide-ranging *Cinderella* display including Revenues, Poster, Propaganda and Charity labels, Licences and "back of the book" items. He also showed a small social history display of the German warship *Emden*

and her captain during WWI, and her exploits in the Indian Ocean. →
020 87787001 or 020 84021263

David Rennie

Burnley and District

Next season, starting September 6th, we will be 75 years old. Stamp exhibitions are being planned in local libraries to encompass from World War to Star Wars and events in the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Watch this space!

Barry W Evans

Cambridge

On Friday 16th March **Tony Puckridge** presented around 180 sheets covering *Gibraltar*, in particular postal stationery used in Gibraltar. Many covers with either G or A26 cancellations were displayed. The second half included stamps of Gibraltar which were used in the Morocco Agencies. There were various cancellations from Casablanca, Tangiers, Rabat, Mogador, Mazagan, Larache, Saffi and others. Wednesday 4th April was a members' evening entitled *Show What You Like*. A wide variety of topics was displayed which included many of the Indian States revenues, Edinburgh postal history with varieties of the ½d wheel tax hand stamp, pictorial life of Henry Fawcett the blind Postmaster General, perfin postal stationery of GB, Burmese military mail, GB smart stamps, postal cancellations of Namibia railways and photographs of different coloured ink bottles with several actual glass-made examples seen. →

info@cambridgephilatelicssociety.co.uk

Peter Morton

Chelmsford & District

2018 began with **Stuart Henderson** showing *Stuart Entertains with Odds and Ends*. These ranged from Belgium to Burma, from National Savings Stamps to dog licences and various fakes and forgeries. February's first meeting was on *Postage Due* with several members presenting from Hong Kong, Switzerland, Southern Rhodesia, Norway, Italy and GB examples of ½d charges. Later **Ray How** travelled from snowy Rochford to show us *The Flights of Ireland*. The earliest shown were of early material from 1831 showing balloon flight from Marseille to Belfast. Ray gave details of numerous flights in the 1920s and 1930s as the range of aircraft flight distances increased including those undertaken by Imperial Airways, a forerunner of BA. He also gave details of a Graf Zeppelin flight to South America from mainland Europe via Ireland. Eight members responded to our *J Night* with Jamaica, Jugoslavia, Jubilee and Joke postcards amongst others. **Tony Hickey** was our next guest speaker showing *Munich - the Road to War*. This related to the history of Czechoslovakia, its assimilation by Germany and then the post-war developments. **Len Stanway** visited in April with *Malayan Airmails*. We saw examples of mail first shipped and then flown until the direct and linking flights developed in the 1930s. There were a number of accidents resulting in 'Crash Mail' salvaged from the wreckage. The second part of Len's display covered post war first flights to many destinations by many different air lines.

David Everard

Bill Quirk, former Secretary and motivator of Fenland Stamp Club, died in February. He played a crucial part in philatelic matters in East Anglia. RIP

Croydon

9th January was *Letter T Night*. Eleven members responded with a wide-ranging series of displays.

Tony Bosworth brought his display on *The 1936 Olympic Games* a fortnight later. This started with a background history of the modern Olympics and how Germany was eventually awarded the Summer and Winter Olympics in 1936. A special Winter Olympics Telegram was one of the highlights of this section. Zeppelin LZ129 flew over the Olympic Stadium on the opening day of the Summer Games carrying mail. February's first display was by **Don Davies** with *Great Britain Postal History with a Difference*. Postal rates were covered comprehensively and



Don Davies makes a postal history point

there were examples of curiously shaped letters. Triangular ones were often apologies. The last two frames were devoted to Machin forgeries – a problem with which the Post Office is still dealing. Our next speaker was **Simon Goldblatt** with *The British Virgin Islands* and *Back of the Book*.

From 1866-1878 there are 23 items from BVI plus 12 varieties with different colour shades and 2 different perforations. The second half included Tristan da Cunha “potato currency” stamps. **Dr Brian Austin** brought us *India*. He ranged from Scinde Dawks to the Edward VII Durbar and included interesting WWI material. In April four members from Royal Tunbridge Wells visited with *The American Civil War*, *Hitler's History of Art*, *Hungary* and *GB Covers with a variety of “stamps”* used to send the mail through the post, including foreign stamps, bisects, National Savings Stamps, Postage Dues and Christmas Cracker Labels.

Graham Harker

Dundee & District

December and January involved competitions. The One-Page went to **Norrie Kelso** with *The unusual use of two Saskatchewan revenue stamps on a Bill of Completion*. The winners in the Annual Competition were **Charles Lloyd** with *African PanAm Clipper Mail*, **Norrie Kelso** with *Bermuda Shipwrecks*, and **Harry Jackson** with *Kingdom of Hanover 1850-66*. At the second January meeting **Sandy Forbes** displayed *South Australia*. He



Sandy Forbes explains

focussed on the production of stamps and what can go wrong. In February we had a visit from Perth PS. **Norman Watson** showed *Mail before and during the time of the Penny Black* and gave an informative talk on its printing. **Paul Stevens** displayed material related to *Former Italian Colonies* with overprints of British stamps being used. In March **Sheila Den** from Aberdeen PS gave a fascinating talk and display of her collection on *Fernando Po* (or Poo) and **Bill Shand**, a member of the Scottish Postal History Society, gave an informative talk to accompany his display of *Strait Settlements*. *The Learning Zone* enabled members to learn from others. President, **David Millar**, explained the intricacies involved in 'plating' 1d Blacks and 1d Reds and showing how computers can facilitate this. Secretary, **Charles Lloyd**, showed how he uses PowerPoint to enhance his album pages with maps, photographs and cancellations etc to give more information. He also showed the value of a digital microscope to see fine details. The many questions from members gave an indication of their interest in these presentations.

Colin Campbell

Edinburgh

In February Falkirk Stamp and Postcard Club visited. **Jean Osborne** showed *Early Stamp Exhibitions*, starting with London 1890 through to London 1990. **Frank Soutar's** display was *Modern Liechtenstein*. He finished his display with "Drake's Island" with a postcard showing an aerial view. This bore local stamps which were produced by (and in) Liechtenstein. **Mike Turnbull** displayed *Aviation* with a selection of early aviators, Spitfires



Edinburgh visit Glasgow Stamp Shop

with stamps from many smaller Commonwealth countries, and covers showing the 1943 attack on the German Dams. Ten members visited the Glasgow Stamp Shop. We were all made very welcome with many items found to fill those spaces in our albums. Unfortunately, two of the more specialist collectors did go away empty handed but enjoyed the company and the day out. Later **Sandy Forbes** came from the Caledonian Society with his superb collection of *South Australia*. We were told South Australia was the "bit in the middle that nobody wanted". We saw Die proofs, rouletted sets, "Long Stamps" of 1886 – 1902 and a full set of 14 stamps (2/6 – £20) with "specimen" overprints. In April **Ronnie MacMillan** came from Dunfermline, who recently changed to daytime meetings. He presented *Methodist Church Covers and stamps of Founders*. The display started with a section entitled "Cuttings". Each piece was accompanied by a modern philatelic item, for example a report of John Wesley being rescued from fire shared a page with two postcards of the event.

Bob Catto

Grimsby & District

For the twelfth year in succession we held a Christmas Charity Stamp Auction in aid of St Andrews Hospice.



John Mileman presents the cheque to Blaise Harding

This year we raised £3800. It represents a team effort led by **Dave McMann** and **John Mileman**, who have already started the planning of next year's auction (Wednesday 3rd December 2018) aiming if possible to top the £4000 barrier. The history of the Charity Auction goes back to 2002 when a small club auction for the members of the society raised a total of £310. Since then it has expanded annually, increasing the potential bidders so that 600 catalogues go out on a mailing list each year, covering much of the British Isles with even the odd copy going overseas. As a result the twelve auctions have raised a grand total of £23 170 and another £5000 from supplemental activities such as club raffles, refreshments and miscellaneous lots being placed in other auctions. Over the years it has even attracted sponsors in the form of the Royal Mail, Stanley Gibbons, Apex Stamp Auctions and the De Montford Stamp Company. We also run two normal club auctions each year. Our events committee member Chris Dodsworth 06549 281652 would like to hear from any budding visiting speakers.

Mike Webb

Harrogate

We have enjoyed excellent displays in the early part of 2018. **Tony Plumb** brought a display of two very different natures. He began with early *Lagos*. The early history involved slavery, trade and the extension of Empire. We saw the first known inward mail and outward mail to Genoa via France. There were many commercial covers. The first Lagos stamps were in 1874 and have led to many forgeries. There were a number of rebellions necessitating correspondence by land instead of water. Lagos became part of Southern Nigeria in 1906. The second part was a very colourful and fascinating display of some of the *Artwork of post-independence Nigeria*. This included work by Simon Goaman who encouraged local artists and developed their skills. Common features were education, food and justice. **Michael Rego** came at short notice with *British Guiana and Trinidad*. There was a wealth of interesting material from two countries of which most members knew very little. **Tony Walker** from Newcastle came to show *Battle of the Falklands 1914-18* and *Censored British Naval Mail*. This was



Tony with a Scapa Flow photograph

a fascinating display with many photographs and covers. **Val Beeken** came from County Durham bringing *Law and Order* to the town. In this thematic display everyone found something of interest including reports of murders, a Special Constable's service medal as well as stamps, covers and cancellations.

Keith Burton

Haverfordwest S&PC

Since changing our name we have seen some new members and a renewed interest in members putting on displays. The letter Q showed the diversity of members' collecting interests. Displays included *Queen Elizabeth II Coronation stamp issues* - **Martin Lewis**, *Queens from the Netherlands and Sri Lanka on stamps* - **Annette Bradley**, *Quays of Pembrokeshire on postcards* - **Roger Antell**, *Quirky Animal stamps* - **Pat Lewis**, *Postcards of Breton costumes from Quimper* - **David Rye**, *The Queen Mary on First Day Cover and Postcard* and *Queen Victoria Postal Stationery on advertising envelopes and postcards* - **Erene Grieve**. Our *Ten Minute Thematic Talks* gave us another fascinating evening. There were impressive displays of *Early French Colonial stamps* - **Martin Lewis** and *Pembroke Dock Ships on Stamps and Postcards* - **Roy Ayres**. In addition members saw an interesting collection of *Postcards featuring Morris Dancers* - **David Rye** and a selection of stamps about the postal service *The Mail Gets Through* - **Annette Bradley**. **Erene Grieve's** unusual display of *Braille on Stamps* included a demonstration of how to write Braille. Erene Grieve

Huntingdonshire

In January **Bill Gibb** showed *Queen Victoria stamps of West Africa*. This included stamps of The Gambia, Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast. We also learnt that the Oil Rivers Protectorate was extended inland and became the Niger Coast Protectorate in 1893. In February we were visited by Cambridge members **Peter Hannath** with *Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope* and **Adrian Bogghurst** showing *Caving*. These were two excellent and varied displays. Our first guest speakers in March were **John** and **Judith Bradshaw**. John showed *Mail from West Northampton* concentrating on Daventry. The earliest recorded mail was from 1732 and then we saw Printed Bill from 1814, registered letter from 1842 and other early material. Judith followed with *Mail from Southwold*. Being a port there were Ship Letters and Receiving Marks, and also examples of mail carried on the Southwold Railway. We also saw humorous postcards by Reg Carter depicting the railway – interesting viewing for steam enthusiasts. Later in March, **Simon Kelly** brought *Newspapers*. We saw early tax stamps for newspapers, Times postal stationery, Daily Mail Teddy Tail league birthday cards for young readers and early material from WH Smith.

David Birkert

Kendal & District

Our January meeting comprised a session in which those members who were still active buyers displayed materials which they had bought during the latter part of 2017. In February, we welcomed **Andrew Brooks** of the Bolton le Sands Society. His display

showed a diverse range of materials which related to *WWI*, the majority of which were associated with various East European countries. Most of our March meeting was devoted to taking a close look at exhibits which members had submitted to the various NWFED's competitions during 2017. Members also brought along copies of the respective assessment sheets and, in brief presentations, they made reference to the positives that had been identified in the judging process and where improvements could be made. In the remainder of the evening, one member showed a work-in-progress Machin exhibit. The member described what he considered still needed to be done before the exhibit would be of a competitive standard.

Phil Gerrard

Kingston upon Thames & District

Last November we were entertained by an excellent PowerPoint presentation from **Barry Feltham** on *The Apollo Story*. This was a mix of philatelic material with film of contemporary news reports and simulated highlights of flights. We finished 2017 with our usual Christmas Social, augmented by a partial display from **Paul Leonard** on *Alice in Wonderland & Beyond. The World of Gerald King*. This was a humorous and informative display showing how illustrator, Gerald King, had gently manipulated the postal system and philately for his own amusement – and now ours. In February our President, **Peter Wood**, showed us *Ireland*. This was a true Irish Stew – something for everyone – with postcards, balloon mail, airmails, exhibition material and special cachets of the Museum of Ireland. The second



Peter Wood in action

half was more conventional philatelically but equally interesting and included Official Mail and charity lapel badges. Peter gave an enthusiastic explanation throughout. **Michael Miller's** display was also in two parts: *Crossing the North Atlantic* and a PowerPoint presentation of *Stamps in Detail*. The former related to maritime and airmail contacts, particularly with Canada and Newfoundland. The second half showed flaws and varieties of many GB and Commonwealth stamps to a very high resolution allowing them to be seen clearly by all.

Chris Oliver

Largs & District

We started the New Year with a meeting organised by our Vice President, **Adrian Keppel**. For the first round he had invited **Duncan Turner** to show a fascinating display of *Modern Gibraltar* which included a wide range of subjects with links to the past and present and especially the forces involvement. Adrian himself provided the second round of displays with a further selection from his collection of *The Works of Stamp Engravers*. This time we had some lesser known, but

I Spy...

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



1



5



6



11



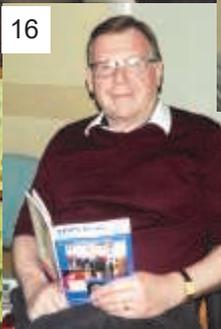
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20



still very talented engravers from many countries. Adrian showed not only their stamps but also other engraving that some of them had done. **Gordon Shepherd** brought *A Miscellany*. This included postcards, railway material,



Gordon Shepherd with his display

old bill heads, Chinese stamps and four comic postcards from Zimbabwe purporting to show the local animals' view of tourists. Our Competition Night was a great success with a total of 16 entries in three competitions. As is our custom the entries are judged by the members present on the night. The trophy for traditional stamp collecting, the Alex Hopkins Trophy, was won this year by **Ricky Boyd** with *100 years of the RAF*. The Thematic Shield went to

David Rossall for eight sheets on *The Palace of Versailles*, and **Ricky Bond** added in the Three Sheet competition with a display on *The Vulcan Bomber*. The trophies will be presented at our AGM. → davidrossall@sky.com

David Rossall

Launceston

Our January meeting was for members' displays. **Des Kent** introduced his *Birthday Display* which consists of items of postal interest bearing his birthdate of 22nd October. **Viv Sandercock** showed an interesting collection of the *1898 Honduras "Trains"* set. Viv has managed to find four copies of this set, each with distinct colour variations and one (at least) nice set of forgeries. **Dave Richards** had another interesting collection of *WWII period censored air mail covers and postal items* from the United States to US servicemen stationed on USAAF and US Navy bases on Trinidad & Tobago and other Caribbean islands. **John Harrison** produced a remarkable collection of *Morocco Agencies issues* including six full sheets of Edward VIII issues, one 12x20 sheet of which contained 49 shade variations. John completed his presentation with eight sheets of *Lundy*

Cheltenham Philatelic Society

You will be very welcome to join an enthusiastic and friendly group of over 60 men and women with a shared passion for the great hobby of stamp collecting in its various forms.

- We meet twice a month from September to May, with excellent speakers.
- We run an active exchange packet to help find those wanted extras.
- A perfect formula for collectors - new, old or returning
- For details of our society and its programme → www.cheltenhamphilatelicssociety.co.uk
- Or call Secretary Simon Griffin on 07790 727918

issues including the much sought-after 1969 Lundy "Appeal" cover. Finally **John Henderson** presented a themed collection of *Cricketing Postal Items*. In February **Terry Mounce** entertained us with another *Mounce's Miscellany*. This time he included an A4 wooden postcard from an Hungarian gold mining company; newspaper articles reporting the sinking of the RMS Lusitania in 1915; photos, postcards and local newspaper reports relating to the operation of Royal Mail Buses in the West Country including those based at Honiton and Wadebridge; and finally an RN document detailing regulations for the issue of tobacco to new ratings involving the issue of smoker chits and RN stamps.

Howard Hamblin

Leeds

Early in the year Yorkshire weather may preclude speakers from afar so we choose local members and themes. In January and February members' evenings were held on *East of Suez* and *The Americas*, the latter having amongst others good displays on *Canada, St. Vincent, USA* and *airmail from South America until WWII*. In March our meeting was *The Changing World of Stamps* given by **Roger Oakley**. This was a wonderful display of 2600 stamps on 174 pages being developed from an idea at USA National Postal Museum William H Gross Gallery. The annual dinner on March 21st at Thomas Danby Catering College, Printworks Campus as usual

Captions for pages 30 and 31

1. Simon Goldblatt took Croydon to the British Virgin Islands
2. Bill Shand at Dundee
3. Tony Bosworth showing the 1936 Olympics at Croydon
4. John Rawlins on Inflation at Basildon
5. Brian Austin speaks on India to Croydon
6. John Edwards and Rick Rickwood at Leeds
7. Frank Soutar, Jean Osborne, Mike Turnbull with Bill Torrance, Edinburgh President
8. Michael Miller at Kingston
9. Harrogate members view whilst Bill Tait and Michael Rego discuss a finer point.
10. Chris Sands of Bromley & Beckenham
11. Vitorio Moran at the Royal
12. Dundee Prizewinners: Harry Jackson, Norrie Kelso and Charles Lloyd
13. Bryan Kearsley FRPSL with Royal President Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL
14. Terry Mounce at Launceston
15. David Glassbrook on George V at Lostock
16. Bruce Walker of Aberdeen
17. Sheila Den from Aberdeen showing at Dundee
18. A Salisbury Day Meeting
19. David Millar, President of Dundee
20. The 11 Croydon T folk - John Schofield, John Ray, Chris Hitchen, David Taylor, David Milsted, Pauline MacBroom, Frank Simpson, Chris Board, David Rennie, Brian Asquith and Paul Percival.
21. Steve Paice, Barry Feltham, Dave Carr and Dennis Littlewort at Bookham's Members' Display
22. Colin Evans, Peter O'Keefe, Croydon President Richard West, Bill Hedley and Steve Clark

had a 4 page competition from any member wishing to get £5 off the price. The displays were brilliant this time and the winner was chosen by non-philatelists who appreciated the displays. Having judged our competitions earlier **Graham Winters** returned to give his own inimitable display. We were instructed how to



Graham Winters on writing up.

write up a display in the way judges appreciate. It was amazing to learn of philatelic discipline and his love of the hobby from his boyhood. The last meeting of this series was that of *Airship Mail* from **Dr. Peter Clemenson**. It was based of course on *German Developments principally Zeppelin* with good sections on early research, inter European, Polar flights, Round the World Flight and the series across the Atlantic to both south and north America until the disaster at Lakehurst and the politicisation of Hitler.

Michael Waugh

Lostock

For us January was Competition Night. Our judges **D Hargreaves** and **C Davie** worked hard and awarded five trophies. **Robin Heap** and **Bernard Hooley** won 9-sheet Postal History and Thematic

respectively. **Alan Rigby** took the 9-sheet Philatelic trophy and the 16-sheet Hargreaves, which can go forward to Federation or National competitions if he wishes. The lighter 1-sheet Jimmy Page competition was won by **David Brigden**. We also had a 20 question quiz, where David Brigden was again successful winning a Garden Gnome. Our March meeting was a secretary's nightmare. After reminder emails and arrangements made in the morning, the weather worsened and suddenly there was an email from the caretaker at Lostock church hall to say he was closing early and going home.



David Brigden receives the Jimmy Page trophy from Adrian Jones

That left under two hours to telephone 21 members and our visiting speaker before he left home. If the meeting had not been cancelled we had 75% of the membership willing to attend and adding a special thank you to our visiting speaker who was willing to make the effort. Our spirit remains strong. We were lucky – just a meeting

cancelled, others had much worse experiences.

David Morley

Maidstone & Mid-Kent

We started 2018 with one of our members, **Godfrey Prior**, displaying *The Royal British Legion*. It was very interesting and covered all the different aspects where the Legion is involved, which was an education in itself. This was followed by **R Ogilvie**'s display on *India and Indian States* which included another history lesson with some good material. February saw our annual competitions with the Grant Cup (traditional) and Revell Cup (Postal History). Another of our members, **Brian Richardson**, gave a superb display on *Malaya - War and Insurrection* covering the period from when Britain ruled that part of the world to independence. Brian never served out there with the Forces, but you would have never known it with the wealth of information he provided, without notes, for his presentation. March has included our bi-annual auction, a club visit to Hastings with Hastings returning the honour the following week. As with all society visits you get a wonderful variety of material to enjoy. Our morning meetings have had the usual variety with our own members supplying the presentations. These started with *The Letter F* in January and *Czechoslovakia* in February.

Brian Stonestreet

Newport & Gwent

Since our Autumn Stamp Fair held in September 2017, it has been pleasing to see that we have gained five members. At recent meetings members were asked to give a small display with *The Letter G* as the topic of the

evening. Sixteen members stepped up to the challenge. This was followed by Chairman's evening when **Roy Bentley** gave a display of *Stamps and Postal History of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands*. The club auction also proved successful with auctioneer **John Perry** selling off 140 lots. With last year's Autumn Stamp Fair so successful we have decided to hold another one again this year. ➔

roybentley@mylundy.co.uk

Roy Bentley

Oxford

2018 started with a morning meeting on *Monarchy*, which covered Queen Victoria, the Queen Mother, the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, King Farouk of Egypt and the kings of Spain, Sweden, Nepal, Thailand, as well as the rulers of Bahrain and Jordan. The engaging **Dave Armit** then gave a splendid evening on *A Miscellany of Philatelic Matters*, not least being his role as auctioneer at some of the country's major stamp auctions. This was followed by a beautiful and comprehensive display by **Vic Thorpe** on *GB Prestige Booklets, presentation packs and smiler sheets*. Vic deliberately engaged the audience with plenty of interesting observations and comments bringing forth lots of questions, comment and discussion. The ever-popular quiz night brought out the competitive spirit and deep/shaky philatelic knowledge amongst the eight teams of members, selected in a new way which allowed for a far better level playing field – the order members signed the attendance register. A good morning meeting on *The Caribbean* was followed by the Club Auction which attracted a large percentage of the membership and many welcome clear

outs of philatelic material to grateful new owners. *Dr Simon Heap*

Petersfield

In 1966 there were 12 attendees at the first meeting of the society. Fifty-two years later just three are still active members. **Shirley Harrop**, (former committee member), **David Allen** (President) and **John Gammon** (former chairman) are pictured enjoying



a celebratory drink for Founders Parade. *David Allen*

Poole and Bournemouth

For our Members' Displays on Postcards **Mike Houchen** opened the evening with a frame of postcards of *Local Scenes of a Century Ago*, with matching photographs taken in 2011 for comparison. He followed with *New Zealand*, sent back to England by his mother whilst overseas. Matching stamps were on each exhibit. **Rob Wilmott** followed with an array of postcards showing *Local Scenes*, and an unusual midget postcard of Miss Mabel Love in her younger days! He closed with a Ham Radio card. *Malta* was **Ken Parrott's** theme, starting with some British and Irish cards that were valid for use in Malta until the 1950s. A Field Post Office card was displayed, and some postcards posted from Malta with French and Greek stamps. A set

of 24 postcards featuring preserved single decker buses concluded his presentation, which was followed by a collection of postcards sent to **Michael Mawdsley** by friends and family *From Various Parts of France*. **Tony Arnold** produced a three-frame collection on various themes, including *Penguin Book covers, Valentine, Films, Advertising, Saucy Seaside, Railway Stamp Reproductions* on postcards and finally a collection of *British Butterflies*. After the break, **Nicole Chattlain** displayed a frame of excellently preserved *Postcards from Europe*, sent to her great uncle by various friends, which like Michael Mawdsley's display had a special personal touch. Finally, **Chris Wheeler** put up a frame of modern *Love Heart cards* and a frame of *Art Nouveau postcards* from the 1890s.

Chris Wheeler

Ringwood

In February we were delighted to welcome **Albert Jackson** with *Poland During WWII*. This was a haunting history of one of Europe's darkest episodes. Given the pre-war enmity of Nazi Germany towards the Polish nation and her territory, it was clear that the war would have its origins in that sphere. The build-up of invasion forces, the speed of the campaign, the destruction of vast areas and major loss of life were clearly depicted. Of particular note were fine coloured postcards having such captions as 'The Great March into Poland', 'On the Road to Victory', 'Heinkel He 111 Warplanes over Warsaw' and 'Workers' Regiment defending Warsaw'. Forced labour, re-settlement programmes and internment camps added to the mix. Yet out of this carnage and unspeakable misery a

range of postal services emerged - German, Polish and Jewish, rising phoenix-like from the ashes. Albert's fabulous material included absolute gems in three hugely rare postcards from Russian camps associated with the Katyn massacre. These were among the very few items posted out before the inmates were executed and the camps closed down. The account of Poland in wartime was not limited here to the early occupation. There was also a fascinating consideration of the turning tide. Russia's eventual massive and sustained assault on Hitler's Eastern front had huge implications on Poland and her marshalled Polish military forces. Albert provided very considerable insights also into the Polish worldwide diaspora and resettlement programmes.

Paul Barry

Salisbury & District

We have had another very good year to date with regular high attendances at all meetings. We welcomed two new members, **Duncan Pierce** and **Craig Patterson** and wish them both a long and happy membership. Of course with Salisbury being the centre of international intrigue we are obliged to ensure that the Scout Hut where we meet is regularly decontaminated as we wouldn't want any foreign body turning UMM into heavily Used! So far it has had no effect on members attending and we hope this continues to be the case. For us who live here life has very much continued as normal and with the increased number of police in the area the incidence of crime has almost been wiped out! Back to philately - Guest speakers have included **John Scott** - *The Evolution of Post Cards*, **Colin Tabear**



Although injured, possibly our best player (Claire Scott, Programme Secretary) still attends for training!

- *20th Century Submarines*, **Jeremy Martin** - *GB Old and New* and **Alan Wood** - *Countries I Don't Collect*. **Brian Standley** again provided an outstanding Christmas social evening and has volunteered to run the show again next Christmas. We have just had an excellent Day Meeting with all credit to the Convenor, **Tony Howgrave-Graham**. → colinkrfrench@gmail.com

Colin French

Scarborough

Any society which has not had **Keith Burton** as a speaker is missing a treat. He came to us to show *West Germany* and *Australia*. Keith started collecting West Germany after visiting there on

holiday when aged 12. He bought all the current stamps available and so began with a few stamps. Over time many stamps were issued with surcharges for charity or sport such as the Olympic Games. In the second half we saw a very different collection. This arose because Keith had told a friend that he collected Germany and Austria. The friend misheard and gave him his Australian collection. Keith told us of the delay in producing Commonwealth of Australia stamps until 1913 - long after the separate states came together. There was dispute about what should appear on the stamps - something typically Australian or the King's head - so they ended up with two sets: The Map & Kangaroo and the George V heads. It was Keith's delivery with humour that made the talk so special.

Adapted from Scarborough Newsletter by Chris Phillips

Sheffield

In December, **Keith Brannigan** presented *Royal Events*. This was defined as being specific events, such as coronations, deaths of monarchs, etc. Keith gave two rounds of wonderful material including one from George IV giving instructions as to how mail to his mistress, Mrs. Fitzherbert, should be handled and another from the Duchess of Windsor on her honeymoon. Our February meeting was the Annual 8 Sheets No Rules Competition. Entries included *Iconic British Stamps*, *Malaysia*, *Numbered Maltese Cross*, *Iceland Fire & Ice* and *Critical Political Events*. After the presentations members voted. **Richard Hindle** won with *Polynesia Settlements*. The March meeting was thrown into turmoil when the speakers for the evening didn't appear. Secretary **Richard Hindle**

saved the evening showing *Polar Explorers* including Shackleton, Hubert Wilkins, Richard Bird and Donald Macmillan.

Richard Hindle & Steve Cook

Solihull

In March we were privileged to have two remarkable displays of GB Postal History: *GB Late Fees* by **Julian Tweed** and *GB Early Postal History* by **Ben Palmer**. Julian explained that in the early days the fee went to the postmaster for the extra work entailed in handling mail after the post office had closed. Eventually it was decided that the fee should go to the Post Office and should therefore be shown to have been paid by adding the appropriate additional stamps. Different rates were applied with the late fee increasing as the time for the mail bags to be sealed moved closer. Many businesses were prepared to pay high fees to ensure that their mail got to their destinations without delay, particularly for mail going abroad which had to arrive at the ports on time to catch the appropriate boat. Ben's display likewise contained an amazing array of covers with multiple and mixed frankings, in some cases consisting of four or more different values to make up particular rates. He concentrated on the foreign rates prior to joining the UPU. Amongst the 'prized' items were registered items, both single (UK only) and double (i.e. registration in this country and in the foreign country also) and multiple frankings for heavy items (one was 24 x franked!). Ben showed covers to every country/state in Europe and a range of covers going to destinations across the world.

John Barker

Southampton & District

John Davies brought his display of *The 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee*. This included ephemera and philatelic items connected to the celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the penny post. These included essays for an unissued commemorative stamp, and the Guildhall Proofs of the ½d and 1d commissioned by the Inland Revenue. We also enjoyed items from the Post Office celebration held at the South Kensington Museum on 2nd July 1890, including souvenir cancellations and envelopes and the Elliot envelope imitation copy of the Post Office version – on sale just 3 days after the original issue. The Thursday meetings at Chandlers Ford have included **John Cruttenden** on *The Curse of the Stockbook* – they take up too much room and hide the stamps – so he has emptied some of his and produced a great display of early Machins in serried ranks. *From Postmark*

St Albans, Harpenden & District

We were delighted to welcome back **Andy Harris** with *Italy* in January. After describing how the unification of Italy came about under King Victor Emmanuel II of Sardinia, Andy showed how the new country coped with the differing currencies, weights and measures and postal arrangements inherited from the old states, including the introduction of the District Rate. Fine examples of District Rate mail were shown, as were newspapers, registered mail, mail for the blind and Postal Identity Cards, both the complex Italian versions and later UPU type cards. In February the annual Members' Showing evening with *K or L*

as the topic produced plenty of variety as usual. Pinner PS visited us in March. **Richard Akers** displayed *Switzerland*. The closing of air space round Switzerland by World War II devastated the finances of Swissair, and the precarious recovery of one aircraft stranded in Amsterdam by the outbreak of the war particularly caught the imagination. Then we saw Bundesfeier cards from 1910-1937. These were the precursors of the annual pro-patria charity stamps, being sold on the Swiss National Day in support of a particular charity and including an impressed postage stamp. They featured beautiful artwork that was much admired. As an encore, Richard gave us a comprehensive study of the "Boy Tell" low value definitives first issued in 1907. Re-drawn twice, the stamps remained in use for over 25 years and they rounded off a very good evening. ➔ 01582 762284 or p.mellor@btinternet.com

Peter Mellor

Stirling & District

The move last September to our new home at the Allan Centre, 25 Fountains Road, Bridge of Allan FK9 4AT, has proved a great success with members. Late autumn meetings included well received visits from **Bob Barclay** showing *New Zealand*, **Iain Dyce** with *Straits Settlements* and an enjoyable evening provided by members of Perth PS. On 13 March we were entertained to a display of *Music* by Falkirk Society member **Mike Turnbull**. Mike stated that he would show a mixture of all forms of music. We had composers, conductors, concert halls and opera houses on stamps and a wide range of souvenir covers. Popular music was not ignored. Mike, like the writer, was a



Mike Turnbull with his Certificate of Appreciation from President Bill Troup

former member of the late lamented Philatelic Music Circle; his knowledge of music is comprehensive. Of particular note was a publicity postcard of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra from their first UK-wide concert tour in 1937, when they were lightly disguised as the Prague Philharmonic. Although not postally used, the message side of the card was printed with full details of their proposed concert in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh. →

www.nzstamps.org.uk/sdps

Richard Beith

Swindon

We began 2018 with a very successful Auction. Again plenty of lots sold all raising good money for the society. Our very popular Members' 9-page Competition was again well supported. This time it was a choice of the letters *H & T*. From the 9 excellent entries, the

winner was **Barbara Borlase-Hendry** with *Tales of History & Terror on Dartmoor*. Next was **Frank Bennett** with his *Postal and Social History of Hay-on-Wye*, an intriguing display of old solicitor's letters rescued from a skip! Postcards seem to be quite popular at Swindon; we had 12 displays of many interesting and varying subjects, an excellent evening. Another Day Meeting started with an excellent Buffet Lunch followed by displays of an interesting subject title *Mellow Yellow*; we had 5 excellent very interesting entries. **Mike Breward** then came over from Bristol and thoroughly entertained us with his *Eritrea 1865 to date*. The Society 9 Page Competition was then held, with 8 very good entries. **David Gibbon** was the winner by only one point with *Mauritius Picture Postcards*. Many thanks to our two excellent judges, Patrick Reid and Christine Earle. We are all looking forward to December when the Society marks its 75th Anniversary. The first meeting was held during a German bombing raid on the local Spitfire works; the meeting still went on, under a table, and Swindon PS is still prospering!

David Gibbon

Thatcham

Our first January meeting was on *The 1940s*. **Malcolm Hoskins** began, with a collection of *Wartime Ephemera* that included Government "Safety First" leaflets, clothing and petrol coupons, ration books and a 1940s copy of the Highway Code. **Bob Paterson**'s display was of *Commercially used covers from the "French State"* – the rump of unoccupied France. **Andrew Gore** followed with stamps of *The State of Bahawalpur*, which subsequently became part of Pakistan

in 1947. Finally **Graeme Stewart** showed us *Material relating to the local area*. The second meeting was *The Chairman Entertains*. **Barney Bardsley** explained how he started the hobby and then began to describe his exhibits to us. They ranged from the 1839 Treasury competition for the best plan for postal stationery covers to lovely franked covers from 1862-1872. We were shown lots of varieties and the developments to the portrait styles

of the late 1860s. What a tremendous evening of both material and overall knowledge about all the early GB issues! February was for *Black and Blue*. **Ian Keel**, **Martin Farr**, **Graeme Stewart** and **Dave Tanner** showed a fine variety of interpretations of the theme. **Richard Stupples** was our guest to show *Barbados*. His material ranged from 1783 hand-franked letters to specimens of 1938-47. In March **Neil** and **Graeme** entertained us with

The Exhibition Study Group

Devoted to the conservation and study of all matters relating to Exhibitions

We owe our beginning to a small group of collectors who met at the Bipex Postcard Fair in 1978, and decided to form an Exhibition Study Group.

Our purposes are:

- to encourage and assist those who are interested in or doing research on subjects related to exhibitions.
- to publish details of their work either via our Journal or in book form, so that it can be seen by other members and the general public. Eleven books have been published (to January 2018).

We have members in Great Britain and abroad. Interests range from the 1851 Crystal Palace Exhibition through Congress and philatelic exhibitions. The material of interest includes: stamps, postcards, special postmarks used throughout the period, advertising labels, china, medals, printed ephemera and a whole range of commemorative souvenirs, both British and foreign.

We publish a Journal four times a year and hold an annual weekend convention. This starts with our AGM on Saturday morning and is followed by displays and talks given by attending members. There are more displays and talks on the Sunday.

The conventions have been held at different locations in the UK but recently have been at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre. This year it will be held on 13th and 14th October.

Annual UK membership is £10 (single), £15 (couple or overseas).

Further information can be found on our website: www.exhibitionstudygroup.org or by contacting our Honorary Secretary Don Knight - donaldrk@btinternet.com

Propaganda of WWI and Antarctica and Ross Island Dependency respectively. The following meeting was for *New Acquisitions*. As was to be expected this was diverse and stimulating – stamps, postcards, covers and postal history.

From Thatcham Postmark.

Wakefield

At our meeting in January **Max Smith** visited and gave a display entitled *To and from India by Air* which consisted of airmail covers dating from 1920. This display illustrated the strong influence which both World Wars made on the airmail services. Of particular note were some items which received both British and German censorship marks. When the war spread to the Pacific, other arrangements for the service had to be made. **Mike Inger** visited us with an extremely interesting display of stamps, covers, postcards and postal history items covering *The Development, Use and History of the German Zeppelins*. Some of the covers had been carried by the Zeppelins. In February we held a members' thematic evening featuring *Sport and Transport*. Displays included stamps, covers and postcards on *American Baseball, Ice skating, Golf, First Flight covers, London buses, Maps on stamps and covers* etc., plus a cover which was carried in the last Fiesta off the line at Halewood. The National Stamp Day on 2 May 2018 was an evening event from 7.00 at Standbridge Lane Community Centre. The displays covered a wide range of subjects, including *Wakefield Postal History* dating from the early 18th Century, *Mail associated with some of the large houses in Wakefield*, including Nostell Priory, Walton Hall and other notable

houses, some of which are no longer in existence, and a display of *Penny Blacks on cover featuring Wakefield addresses*.
Julie Hitchcock

Watford & District

In September, our first meeting of the new season was an informal bourse, and the chance for members to catch up on acquisitions during the summer. Through our website, we also welcomed a member of the public to the meeting who was looking for some advice regarding the possible value of his late father's collection. In October we welcomed back **Tony Hickey**, who showed us more of his excellent collection, this time looking at the German occupation of the Sudetenland, entitled *Munich: the Road to War*. It included a wide variety of material, from philatelic items to propaganda postcards. Two members of Barnet PS visited us in November (we returned the favour in December). **David Cox** led, showing us his collection of *Seychelles*. Then **Alan Harris**, whose display was *Ancient and Modern*, covered everything from early Bishop Marks to contemporary Gibraltar stamps. December was our President's evening. This year our president invited **Andy Middleton**, who entertained us with *Zululand*, a country you do not see very often. Andy's excellent material included both stamps and postal history, and we were all given an information sheet and map, which was very helpful. → 01923 243243 or watforddps@gmail.com
Wayne Cox

West London

In March we were treated to a display of *Expo '58 Brussels World Fair* given by **Mark Bailey FRPSL**. Mark began

with the items that were produced from



Mark Bailey on Expo '58

1955 to publicise the Fair. There were slogan postmarks from various parts of Belgium, meter marks from participating organisations, and Belgian Publicity (Publibel) postal stationery cards. The earliest stamp issue for the Expo was from Belgium, later reissued when the postal tariff was increased. Mark's display also embraced stamps issued by all the other participating countries (and the United Nations), plus Bulgaria which was not at the World's Fair but issued a commemorative stamp anyway. The material included publicity labels from a number of countries (in particular Czechoslovakia) and examples of some of the sets of matchbox labels that were sold to some of the 41 million people who visited. Unusual items included invitations to fashion shows held in the Italian Pavilion in September 1958, parcel labels with special Customs Exemption from the Expo '58 organising society, and a large Postal Souvenir containing a silk handkerchief that could be mailed. The

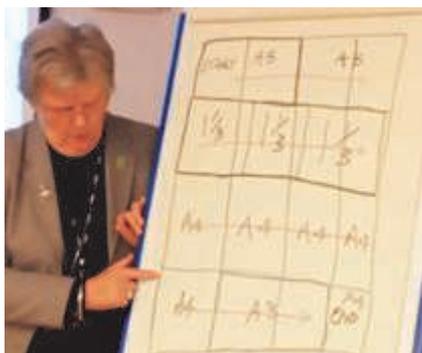
first half of the display covered the period leading up to the opening of the World's Fair on 17 April 1958, and the second half dealt with all the stamps issued whilst the Expo was being held, and afterwards. Mark completed his display with items relating to the celebration in 2008 of the 50th Anniversary of Expo 58.

→ olivers.of_ham@virgin.net or
0208940 9833 Chris Oliver

Federations/County

Hampshire PF Workshop

"How to Tell a Story" – At Ringwood in March **Dr Patrick Reid FRPSL** and **Christine Earle FRPSL** led an exceptional full day workshop with the objective of explaining the most important aspects of improving a display or competitive exhibit. The workshop was organised by **Colin Mount** on behalf of the Hampshire PF. With **Julian Jones** directing, it concentrated on the Thematic, Open, Postal History and Traditional classes, with the afternoon spent critiquing in great detail the title pages brought along by the attendees. Everything



Christine Earle shows a possible frame format

must be relevant and treated in a logical, well explained sequence. Every entry must "tell a story", having a start, middle and succinct end. Because competition entries vary in length, match the scope to the number of pages. The three key elements that the speakers constantly emphasised were "Tell a Story", "Constrain the Title" and "Comply with the Rules of the Class". This was demonstrated very well in the analyses of the attendees' first page submissions, where many times the title was either too broad, or the content did not reflect the title and plan. A beneficial motto to close on was "Do not forget, personal study and research will distinguish you from the crowd".

Chris Wheeler

Kent FPS

As readers will be aware from the obituary which appeared in the Spring 2018 issue, philately has lost a great personality - **Maurice Flack FRPSL**. He was a member of a number of local societies and also on the Kent Federation Executive Committee. He undertook the role of Competitions Secretary, but there was much more behind that role than the title suggests.

He immersed himself in the hobby and his loss has left a gaping hole for us. We held our AGM in February but no-one stepped forward to undertake any of Maurice's roles. The "Bill Lingley Memorial Shield" was awarded posthumously to Maurice Flack for his outstanding contribution to philately in Kent. We had hoped to hold competitions on that day as a tribute to him but, lacking his list of contacts, we had to abandon them. Bromley & Beckenham PS who hosted the Federation Rally came to our rescue and laid on displays from their members. Unfortunately we also need a President Elect and a Chairman. We are hoping to hold competitions at our September Rally to be held at the East Malling Stamp Fair on 22nd September - and our Bulletin Editor (**Jenny Viggars**) has agreed to organise this and "encourage" collectors to enter as a "one off". Without more support for the Federation we could see its demise.

Michael Dobbs

Annual Gloucestershire Tri-Club Meeting

In January Cheltenham PS hosted the third meeting of the three

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Gloucestershire Tri-Club Meeting in January - Philately is alive and well.

Gloucestershire Philatelic Societies: Cheltenham, Gloucestershire and Stroud. A brain child of the Stroud Philatelic Society, this annual midwinter daytime meeting has proved to be extremely popular, particularly with those collectors unhappy about venturing out on dark, cold and miserable winter evenings. It is hosted by rotation. There were five excellent displays from Cheltenham President **Ken Hamilton** on *US Post Bus Mail*, **Mike Jelbert**'s superb *Rhodesian Double-Heads*, **Dr Roaul Feld**'s display *Austrian Naval History*, **Peter Adams**' *Much Redirected Mail* and **Barry Stagg**'s fascinating display about *John Williams*, not the composer or guitarist, but the nineteenth century missionary whose life came to an untimely end at the hands of Polynesian cannibals! These meetings bring together members of different societies in a way which provides excellent interaction between a wider group of collectors than an average society meeting. *Simon Griffin*

Mid Anglia

The annual meeting was held at Arbury on 11th November. **Bill Gibb** took the chair for his last meeting as President after an excellent two years in which time he was invited to visit most of our

societies including those at the extremities of our region. The treasurer, **Richard Husband**, presented his 'inspected' accounts which showed a loss for the year of £427; £241 of which was due to societies having a 9/12 discount in subscriptions with our financial year being changed. He predicted a loss of between £150 and £200 for 2017/8. The main item of discussion focussed on competitions and particularly, the proposed changes for 2019 onwards. These were passed unanimously. We also revised our mark schemes for the 2018 Thematic and Open classes in order to reflect the nature and material in such competition entries.

From Federation Newsletter

National and specialist societies

Channel Islands SS

We have changed our venue for London meetings from the Royal Philatelic Society London's premises in Devonshire Place to the Union Jack Club in Waterloo. The last meeting at the Royal was in December 2017. The theme was *Letters K and L*. **Roger Harris, Robert Shaw, David Winnie, Christine Earle, Alan Norman, John**

Triggs, Brian Sole, Gerald Marriner and **Richard Flemming** showed a fascinating and varied set of displays. The first meeting at the Union Jack Club was held in February. Whilst the competition entries were being judged a room auction took place along with a variety of displays. **Jon Aitchison** provided an interesting, if non-Channel Islands, display of Valentine cards, letter sheets and telegrams starting around the 1840s through to the mid-20th century. He continued with Jersey revenue stamps which had “turned up in 2017”. **Gerald Marriner** showed the ½d and 1d Jersey Arms stamps including a marginal block of the plate proof in black. **Robert Shaw** showed an eclectic collection including a 1953 postcard of the Martha Gunn, the

Jethou/Herm ferry and an Emergency Rationing card. Finally, **Richard Flemming** showed some of his Sark collecting, including the rare undated SARK double ring, QV 1d black on entire addressed to Sark. There was also a letter addressed to Sark written four days after the Battle of Waterloo that described some of the scenes from the battle. The competition winners were **Ron Brown** (three), **Brian Sole**, **Jon Aitchison** and **Robert Porter**.

Steve Wells

Czechoslovak PS of GB

The History of Czechoslovakia from 1919 to 1939 was the subject of member **Ron Hollis'** display at the Czech and Slovak Nationals Club. In spite of being over 90 years old, Ron

Concorde SC



This picture was taken at Stampex at our 40th Anniversary meeting. Four of our 1978 founder members were present including **Henk Heiden** from the Netherlands who brought the background banner he had made for the occasion. In the group photo are: **Bill Baillie**, **Peter Cooper** (Founder Member), **Brian Service**, **Mark Routh**, **Henk Heiden** (Founder Member, Netherlands), **Fritz Scheinert** (Germany), **Brian Asquith** (Founder Member), **Keith Palmer** (Founder Member) and **Mark Wright**. **Stewart Carter** took the picture making ten members in all being present. Three of us are wearing Concorde ties - 80 Concorde ties are still available.

Brian Asquith

gave two displays of postcards illustrating how Czechoslovakia evolved between the two world wars.



Ron Hollis in fine form

This year is the centenary of the formation of Czechoslovakia after WWI, and we will be giving a display at the Czech Embassy in London to celebrate this. We also expect a good turnout in August at Praga 2018, an International stamp exhibition in Prague. Members look forward to a dinner and meeting old friends from the various Czechoslovak philatelic societies from many parts of the world.

Bob McLeod

Exhibition SG

At Stampex, **Ray Goody** showed *British Empire Exhibition Meter Marks of the Tattoo*. Research showed that there are 6 discernible types. **Don Knight** brought *Special Handstamps from the 1970s and 1980s*, which included the London 1980 International Stamp Exhibition with all its varieties. **Derek Connell** finished with his collection of *Billy Butlin Items* – covers and postcards from the holiday camps, badges etc. Butlin showed interest in

the 1951 Festival of Britain with a special program in the Albert Hall.

Don R Knight

Forces Postal History

We started 2018 with an all-day display and talk by our President, **Richard Berry FRPSL**, which was the very first showing of his *Rhodesian Military Collection*, which focussed on 1978 to 1982 but included other periods, such as WWII. The basis of the collection and display came from the estate of the late Brigadier Keith Radford who had served in the Rhodesian Army. What was unusual was the range of special guests Richard had invited - the daughter-in-law of the Brigadier and her sister, through whom he acquired the material, friends from the Council of the "Royal", a guest from the Rhodesia SC and what must be a first, Richard's wife, daughter and mother (who kept him in line by barracking him to talk louder!). Our annual 16 sheet competition in February was won by Treasurer **Alan Baker**. His entry told the *Story of the Portuguese Army on the Western Front*. For March we had guest speaker **Michael Elliott FRPSL** who gave a fantastic display on *Military Mails of Finland* and the three wars which that country became embroiled in between 1939 and 1944. →

forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk

Michael Dobbs

Gibraltar SC

We held our AGM weekend in Northallerton in March - another very successful one, though numbers were down on last year. As usual the Friday evening consisted of the mini auction followed by members' individual displays featuring *The Letter O*. The primary display of the weekend held on

the Saturday afternoon was by **Tony Puckridge** and devoted to *Morocco Agencies* which told the history of the formation of the British Post Office in Tangiers, Morocco in 1857. Examples were also shown prior to that date, the earliest being 1775. **Eric Holmes** showed some of the late Les Goodens' *Morocco Collection* followed by more from both **Tom Moore** and **Susan Dare**. Later in the afternoon the Calpe Trophy was awarded to **Eric Holmes** and **Bob Neville** for their *Study Papers No's 24 and 26 on GB Used in*



Tony Puckridge presenting the Calpe Trophy to Eric Homes

Gibraltar. The bi-annual auction was held on the Sunday morning, after which it was farewells until the next meeting to be held at the Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon, Somerset 5th – 6th October 2018. *Bert Burton*

The Great Britain PS

During Stampex this year members filled the meeting room to hear **Paul Ramsay** present his display *Hand-painted Covers*. Paul flew in from California, and several more overseas members joined us to see this colourful display. Pointing out that there was no stamp or postmark interest, Paul explained his display was divided into

two sections, with much of the content being generally sent between friends and family. First we saw covers beautifully painted in watercolours by unknown artists, including the earliest known cover showing a hunting scene, dated 10th July 1842. Then work by the known artists – Henry Culshaw, George Henry Edwards, other members of the Edwards family and Henry Rose – was on show, much of it painted in very fine detail. The following month we had a double treat. **Alan Huggins'** display, *Before and After the 1840 Embossed Wyon-Whiting Essays*, included examples of the existing use of embossing, the development from the technical capability of printers such as Charles Whiting to the Victorian Post Office stamped to order postal stationery. *English Postal History prior to the Bishop Mark* shown by **Alan Holyoake** was described by him as "something outside the traditional or usual". Typically little exists to cover English letters prior to The Restoration of 1660 and resultant introduction of the world's first handstamp, the Bishop Mark, in April 1661. Alan then carried on to show a remarkable range of pre-1661 mail. ➔

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

Helvetia PS of GB

The Southern Group met on 10th March with a good attendance. The day started on a sad note as we remembered the Society's late President, **Claude Mistely**, who passed away recently. There were four rounds of members' displays covering almost all subjects of Swiss stamps and postal history. 13 members provided displays, almost jostling for position on the eight frames - it's great

to have such enthusiasm. Subjects included *TPO mail on the eastern Swiss railways, customs 'dumb' cancellations on stamps, Swiss postal agencies in Italy and France, The Commercialisation of soldier stamps, C19 stamp forgeries and The former printing firm Courvoisier of La Chaux de Fonds*, renowned for their high-



Don Symonds explains the mysteries of Swiss customs office 'dumb' cancels

quality photogravure but alas unable to compete with the demands of C21 commerce. A thoroughly enjoyable day with excellent food in the cosy environs (complete with woodburning stove) of the Three Crowns Inn at Whaddon, near Salisbury. Our next meeting there is on 2nd June. →

librarian@swiss-philately.co.uk

Bob Medland

The Royal PSL

Over this quarter we have seen some outstanding displays. **Maurice Hadida FRPSL** showed *Morocco Postal History (1852-1925)* which included the foreign post offices, the Chérifiens postal service and the local posts. The quality and range was mind-blowing. This was followed by outstanding displays by the **Russian National Academy of Philately** at our second January meeting. It covered all aspects of Russian philately, from *A Study of*

the first postage stamp of the Russian Empire through to *Space Mail*.

Professor Igor Panfilov presented to President **Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL** personal Membership of the Order for Peace and Friendship of the Russian Peace Foundation, and on behalf of the Royal the award of the Fabergé Medal by the Russian Academy of Philately. **The East Africa Study Circle** celebrated the 40th anniversary of its foundation by showing a great breadth of material, from the missionary stamps of Uganda from 1895 to 1899 to the post-Independence issues of Kenya. Chairman of the EASC, **John Wilks**, commented that the area is fertile ground for research. *The Austro-Hungarian issue of 1867* was shown by **Dr Harald Lang**. These new stamps were valid for use in both Austria and



Dr Harald Lang and his wife, Professor Renata Lang

Hungary and so kept neutral in order to be acceptable in both halves of the empire. **Vittorio Moran** displayed the 11 years of *The Postal History of Tuscany* and **Bryan Kearsley FRPSL** showed an outstanding display *Discovering Seahorses – The GV high*

values - unravelling a very complicated issue. To visit → Administrative Office 020 74861044. *Richard West*

Scandinavia

We held our annual weekend meeting in Redditch with members and guests travelling from as far afield as Swansea, Chelmsford, Warrington, Hassocks and Oslo. It was delightful to have one of our Norwegian members, **Per-Eric Knudsen**, spend the weekend with us. A Council meeting was held on the Friday afternoon followed by dinner, and on Saturday we held the AGM, followed by a series of displays. **Josh Spoor** gave the invited display which was *Sweden Blockaded 1939-45 – The Airmail Routes* - very unusual and interesting subject. Other themes shown were *Finland, wartime mail and humorous postcards, Greenland post offices, Swedish Lloyd Ferries* and some *Danish Charity labels issued to aid Belgium 1914-19*. Next came a display of *Mail sent to and from the Pelagic Whaling Fleet from 1920's up to the end of WWII*, then a *General Selection of Færoe Islands postal history*, followed by *Polar Exploration – a Norwegian overview*, and *10 ore postal stationery cards 1880-1896*. The new President, **Pat Adams**, from Chelmsford, showed *Norwegian postage dues and a group of ship marks*, next came a *Philatelic and Social History collection of the store Magasin du Nord*, then *Early Danish Airmails, Danish Correspondence cards, Cinderellas and Denmark – Postal stationery with additional frankings*. A special dinner was held on the Saturday night. The Editor, **Gwynne Harries**, presented **Peter Hellberg** with the Norden Award for his article on a Swedish subject, written in



John Perry handing over the Presidency to Pat Adams

“Contact” the Society’s quarterly magazine. →

susan.m.oliver@virgin.net

Susan Oliver

South African CS

London and Northern Groups both met in February. In London the theme was *Pictorials* - The definitive issue that spanned the years 1927 to 1952. **David Page**, **Tony Howgrave-Graham** and **John Shaw** displayed mint and used stamps, covers and proofs between them. In Carlisle it was an



David Page displays in London

interesting open meeting. The 7th Letchworth meeting of SACS was held in March. **Simon Peetoom** opened, displaying *Publicity Photographs of the 1954 3rd Definitive Issue (Animals)*. This was aptly followed by **Ian Smart** giving a fine display of the same issue. He explained why the high values were difficult to find on cover. **Steve Hannath** showed *Cape of Good Hope*, particularly Griqualand West with examples of their cancellations both on and off cover. He showed a fourth example of the Grahamstown roller canceller. This previously unrecorded one has a rounded edge and was in very good condition. **Bob Hill** showed recent acquisitions which include *Shipping Postmaster cancellations* from both Cape Town and Durban. Bob also showed a "Cork " registration cachet on cover from Upper Kloof Street. The last display was an absolute stunner of the "*Street Labels*" of South Africa given by **Rob Lester**.

These street labels were sold in the streets of South Africa to raise money for goods and comforts for the military in both the World Wars. Rob displayed a huge range of organizations that sold these labels (all in perfect condition).

→ 020 8940 9833,
olivers.of_ham@virgin.net or
www.southafricacollector.com

Chris Oliver

West African SC

At our recent meeting at RPSL the main displays were given by **Rob May** - *Cameroun WW2 Postal Control*, **Ray Harris** - *Nigerian WWII Censorship*, **Philip Quirk** - *Topics in Sierra Leone Philately*, **Barbara Priddy** - *West African Meter Marks* and **Peter Richards** - *Sierra Leone Airmails 1925 -1945*. Eight other members contributed a wide range of West African items in the Members' Displays session.

Philip Quirk

Spring Stampex

Congratulations to the winners of 8 Large Gold awards:

David Ian Cordon (2), Dr Timothy Dexter, Patrick Flanagan, Alan Holyoake, Daphne McMillan, Graham Winters, Paul Wreglesworth.

Special congratulations go to **David Ian Cordon**

De La Rue, Bermuda 1865-1901

was judged best in show, winning the Silver Stagecoach Award.

Congratulations also to the winners of 17 Gold,

25 Large Vermeil and 12 Vermeil

9 Large Silver, 3 Silver and 1 Silver-Bronze awards.

We who saw the displays and competition entries are grateful for all of the effort that was put into your presentations.

We also thank the judges and other officials for their important contributions.

Stamp Active Network

Spring Competition 2018

Once again the judges in the Stamp Active Competition for Spring 2018 were impressed by the ingenuity and diversity shown through the exhibits. However, it would be good to see more entries particularly from areas of the UK that were once so active in promoting collecting among the young.

The entries in the Stamp Active Competition, sponsored by the Great Britain Philatelic Society, were judged by Dave Armitage, Brian Asquith and Richard West, at the premises of The Royal Philatelic Society London. Thanks to The Philatelic Traders' Society, they were exhibited at Spring Stampex International.

The results are:

The overall best entry and the best entry in Class D is:

Animals in Books and Films by **Jessica Corbett**.

The best entry in Class C is: *Wales* by **Max Fenn**.

The Schools Trophy is won by Prendergast Junior School in Haverfordwest.

Class C (aged 10 and 11)

Sam Evans: *All Creatures Great and Small* – Silver-gilt

Alex Faversham: *All About Stamps* – Silver

Max Fenn: *Wales* – Silver-gilt

Iwan Morgan: *Transport* – Silver-bronze

Toby Roberts: *Famous Britons* – Silver

Class D (aged under 10)

Seren Abbott: *My Favourite Sports* – Silver

Jessica Corbett: *Animals in Books and Films* – Silver-gilt

Connie Gardner: *Butterflies and Insects* – Silver-bronze

Emmie Louise George: *Horses* – Silver-bronze

Teagen Germishiozen: *Eras in British History* – Silver

Darcey Phillips: *Cats of All Sizes* – Silver

Ellie-May Read: *I Like Dancing* – Silver-gilt

Caitlyn Turley: *Dogs are Man's Best Friends* – Silver-bronze

Group entry: **Bishop Carpenter School:** *Let's Collect Stamps* – Silver-gilt

Spring Stampex

The Kids Zone was busier this time on each of the days, benefitting from the event being held in half term. Free goody bags were on offer as well as the Lucky Dip, Guess the Number of Stamps in the Jar and other prizes. Attendance at the Autumn show had been disappointing but had clearly been affected by the terrorism in London on the Friday. The numbers at the popular free points auction, which has become a regular feature of Stampex Saturday, was the



highest for some time. As usual, the kids gained points by completing activities, this time on the theme of “Transport” and they could use these points to bid in the auction. All the children taking part in the auction were entered into a free draw for a Penny Black, sponsored by Mulready Philatelics.

We were well supported by a range of volunteers and sincere appreciation to all, including **Peter Barham**, **Alan Bretherton** and **Ralph Stuttard** who were on the stand every day. There was also a daily Stamp Art Workshop, organised by **Suzanne Rae** of Artstamped. This again proved popular with children making cards and pictures from stamps.



There was also very encouraging feedback from visitors and stamp club organisers on the level of support from Stamp Active. **Steve Pye** from Runnymede School Stamp Club in Liverpool told us “I could not have done what I have without the support of Stamp Active. I have 35 children coming to the Club. They love it and I love it. The children get very excited when they get their packs from Kidstamps. Thank you for all that you do.”

Cartor Security Printing provided a “Post & Go” machine that could print on Stamp Active “poster stamps” with various standardised messages or personalised messages with or without emojis. **John Davies**, Chairman of the Stamp Active Network, said “This is a tremendous initiative by Cartor to support us. Children could select their own free of charge.”

NEW FACES JOIN STAMP ACTIVE



Peter Barham has kindly agreed to lead the activities, particularly the auction, next time. He already has a large stock of auction lots to prepare the listing.

Vivienne Kemp will be undertaking a role as Schools Liaison Officer, aiming to attract some school groups during Autumn Stampex, which will be in school time. The theme in the Kids Zone will be “Britain at War”. This is a key stage 2 curriculum subject. There will be a special stamp



issue for World War I in that week. We will liaise with the PR manager for the Philatelic Traders’ Society (PTS) to try to get some military personnel or veterans along to meet any school groups, as well as having other attractions on this theme.

PENNY BLACK DRAW



At each Stampex, there is a free points auction on the Saturday afternoon in the Kids Zone for all the youngsters who have completed the Stamp Active activities. After the auction, there is a free prize draw for a Penny Black, sponsored by **Robin Cassell** of Mulready Philatelics. The winner at Spring Stampex 2018 was **Zac Hayhurst** (9), from Reading.

David Rossall

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

Specialist Societies

Channel Islands Specialists Society (p 70): London meetings are now at The Union Jack Club in Waterloo

Iran Philatelic Study Circle (p 77): Secretary's new telephone number is 01424 251169

Kiribati & Tuvalu Philatelic Society (p 78) has merged with the **Pacific Islands Study Circle** (p 80)

Local Societies

Adur Stamp Club has affiliated to APBS.

Secretary: 01273 592518 jenniferknight109@gmail.com

Bedford PS (p 93): New Secretary: **Richard Hart** fiveofharts@hotmail.com

Bromley & Beckenham PS (p 100):

Ian Reed's telephone number is 01689 872 750

Packet Secretary: **Carole McCarthy** 0208 127 6104

cmccarthy@talktalk.net

In Auctions replace all details for **Paul Elliott** with **Jenny Viggars** 01689 872 839 / 07429 254 427 jcats@btinternet.com and Open bids with *Bids welcome from members of other clubs*

Dawlish SC (p 109): After many years **Jim Wigmore** has resigned as Secretary to be replaced by **Dr William Lusty** wlusty@hotmail.com

Fleet & North Hants PS (p 114): Secretary's email is john.holmes01@btinternet.com

Hullbridge PS (p 125) closed on 12th April 2018 through lack of officers

Winchester & District SC (p 111) will close on 31st May.

Coventry Stamp & Postcard Club (p 107) and **Horsham & District Philatelic Society** (p 123) have resigned from ABPS.

Your society information?

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

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

Diary

Local and regional events by ABPS members

2018

May

- 11-13 40th North-East Philatelic Weekend: Britannia Hotel, Newcastle Airport NE13 8DJ → 0191 3861931
- 26 Redex Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Jubilee Hall, Wesley Building, Wesley Street, **Redruth** TR15 2EG → 01288 355918

June

- 9 SWINPEX 2018: Annual Stamp & Postcard Fair: 10.30 - 4: St. Joseph's Catholic College, Ocotal Way, **Swindon** SN3 3LR → 01793 813484
- 16 YPA Convention hosted by Scarborough PS: 10 - 5, Westborough Methodist Church Hall, opposite the railway station, **Scarborough**

July

- 14 Telford Stamp, Card and Coin Fair: 10 - 3, Belmont Hall, Wellington Centre, **Telford** TF1 1LU → Bob Pilkington, 01299 211737 sbpilkington02@outlook.com

August

- 4 Newquex Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Trevisker St. Eval Community Centre, Orion Drive, **St Eval**, Nr. Wadebridge PL27 7TU → 01288 355918

September

- 8 Poole and Bournemouth Stamp & Postcard Club Annual Fair: 10 - 4, Upton Community Centre, Poole Road, **Upton** BH16 5JA. → 01202 395484 philatelyinbournemouth.co.uk/poole-club.html
- 22 Newport & Gwent Autumn Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Graig Community Centre, Basseleg, **Newport** NP10 8HZ → roybentley@mylundy.co.uk
- 29 HAMPEX 2018 - Hampshire Federation: 10 - 4, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, **Wickham** PO17 5AL → www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfpfx.htm or 01794 514902

October

- 6 Yeovil & District Stamp & Postcard Fair: Digby Memorial Hall, Digby Road, **Sherborne**, Dorset DT9 3NL
- 13 ASPS South of England Stamp Fair, South of England Centre, **Ardingly**, West Sussex RH17 6TL
- 13 Telford Stamp, Card and Coin Fair: 10 - 3, Belmont Hall, Wellington Centre, **Telford** TF1 1LU → Bob Pilkington, 01299 211737 sbpilkington02@outlook.com
- 25 CPF AGM at Truro → cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/whats-on.php
- 27 ADDPEX 2018: Surrey Federation Stamp Fair & Exhibition (hosted by Addlestone Community Association - Philatelic Section): 10 - 4 Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, **Addlestone**, KT15 2NJ → Shirley Kemp albertedward.kemp@ntlworld.com

- 27 Cornex Liskeard: 10 - 4, **NEW VENUE** Millennium Hall, Princess Road, Pensilva, **Liskeard** PL14 5NF → 01288 355918
- 27 Bolton PS Stamp Fair & The North West Federation Annual Convention: 10 - 4, St Josephs High School, Chorley New Road **Horwich, Bolton** BL6 6HW → 01942 813386.

November

- 10 Maidstone & Mid Kent PS Stamp Fair: 10 - 3, Grove Green Community Centre (opp Tesco's), **Maidstone**, Kent ME14 5BT → Brian Stonestreet 01622 675784
- 17 Taunton Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, St James Church Hall, St James Street, **Taunton** TA1 2AS → www.tauntonstampclub.co.uk Peter Hardie 01823 666371
- 17 Leeds 28th Annual Stamp Fair: 10.30 - 5, Pudsey Civic Hall, **Leeds** LS28 5TA → www.leedsps.org.uk 01943 465236
- 18 Leeds 28th Annual Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Pudsey Civic Hall, **Leeds** LS28 5TA → www.leedsps.org.uk 01943 465236

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 £25.00 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.

- 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 on ABPS Website
- 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. 15th September : Free Seminar from **Yamil Kouri** 'An American Perspective'
- 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 - oline through the ABPS Website
- 11th -14th September 2019: Autumn Stampex 2019. Plans are being made for a special display on Indian philately. Further details will follow.

International Exhibitions 2018-2020

- 27th - 31st May ISRAEL 2018 World Stamp Championship: Specialised exhibition under FIP patronage covering Traditional, Postal History, Modern

- Philately and Literature. 1000 frames. → wscisrael2018.blogspot.co.uk UK
 Commissioner: Simon Richards Simon@sidebell.co.uk
- 8th - 10th June NORDIA 2018: Gardabaer, Iceland : Multinational, Nordic countries. United Kingdom exhibits have been invited. → www.nordia2018.is/
 UK Commissioner: Mike Smith mikesmith.philatelists@gmail.com
 - 15th - 18th August PRAGA 2018: Clarion Congress Hotel, 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. Literature Class. For Regulations and electronic application forms for each section → www.italia2018.eu
 No UK Commissioner
 - 28th November - 3rd December THAILAND 2018: Royal Paragon Hall, Bangkok. Details at www.thailand2018.org Commissioner: Peter Cockburn pcockburn@aol.com
 - The FIP Congress meeting will take place in Bangkok. Chris King is the UK candidate for President and has the support of ABPS
 - 29th May - 2nd June 2019 STOCKHOLMIA: Waterfront Congress Centre, Stockholm, Sweden, RPSL exhibition with ABPS recognition. → www.stockholmia2019.se/ ABPS Congress. Closing date for applications has passed.
 - 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. **Volunteers Sought**
 The Organising Committee are keen to recruit volunteers to help run LONDON 2020. If you would like to help, please go to www.london2020.co and click the “**Sign up here to Volunteer**” link.
- No details available yet for : BULGARIA 2019 in Plovdiv May 2019. FEPA patronage; CHINA 2019 in Beijing June 2019. FIP patronage. ANKARA 2020 7th-10th October 2020. FEPA patronage. MALAYSIA 2020 Kuala Lumpur in November-December 2020. FIP patronage.

All forthcoming 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

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

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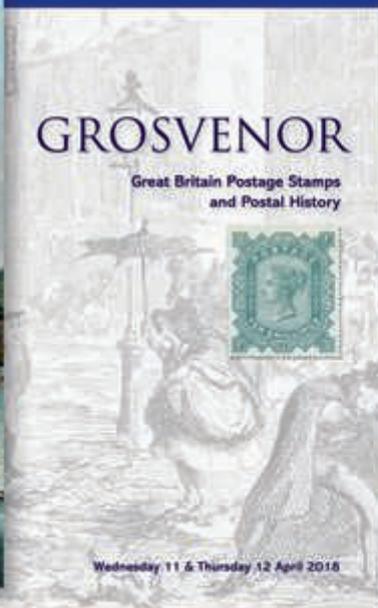
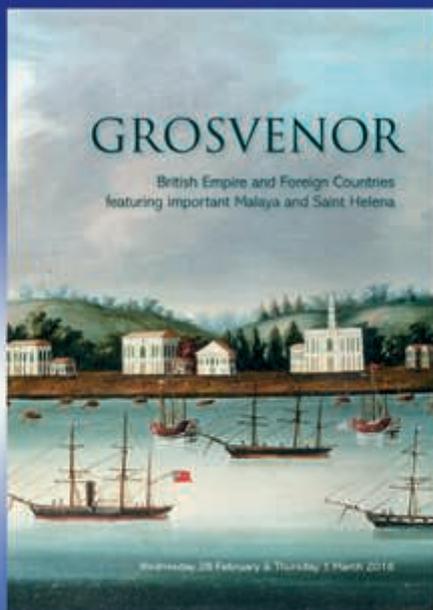
Stamp Active Network: please write to:
SAN, c/o John Davies, 3 Longfellow Road, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9LB

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

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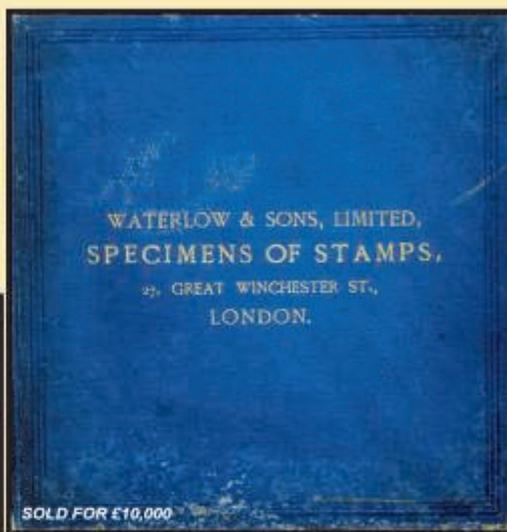
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