

Exotic Stamp Collecting - Trip to Sarawak

The Sarawak
Specialists' Society

WELCOME TO MIRI

Sarawak



See pp 48-49

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ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

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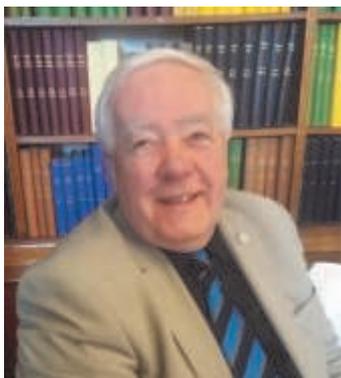
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Cover picture: *Welcome sign on our bus at Miri; There are many cat statues around the city area of Kuching, which means cat in Malay; Connie and Olivia with the welcome sign at the Philatelic Society of Kuching Sarawak stamp fair, held in a local shopping centre.*

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

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

Copy dates: please send your material as soon as ready; at present the copy deadlines are 15th January, 15th April, 15th July, 15th October. We cannot guarantee to include items in specific editions. Items may be edited for publication. Email copy is preferred (unformatted). Send copy to the editor: Keith S Burton (see p 58) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Over the past couple of months, I have attended two events which, to my mind, together encapsulate the very essence of ABPS. Stockholmia 2019, the 150th Anniversary of the Royal Philatelic Society, the greatest philatelic society in the world, was a quite magnificent event, but any philatelic gathering with Jonas Hallstrom, Jan Berg, Lars Engelbrecht and Chris King in the organising team is likely to be pretty special. The Royal is, of course, one of our ABPS affiliates, and the ABPS Congress was given two days at the show in the Auditorium. There were some very special presentations, well attended on the first day with between thirty and fifty people. Less so on the second, but equally memorable presentations of particularly Norway and Iceland concluding with our own great Scandinavian Birthe King. I would like to thank all involved in the ABPS Congress days.

In July I went to Leamington Spa for Midpex, the biennial event originally conceived as the Federation and Specialist Society show. Steve

Harrison, the ABPS Vice Chairman, Clive Jones, the Yorkshire Postal History Society President, and their committee did a great job organising the show. The Society and Federation booths were well-manned and full of information. Little sign of decline in the hobby here! ABPS as a national philatelic body is, and will always be, involved in all levels of the hobby from International to Regional to Local: Stockholm to Leamington Spa; London to Barnsley. I enjoy them all!

At our most recent General Committee meeting, it was decided to reorganise the Small Grants Committee. After several years, Yvonne and her team thought it was time for a change. The new committee will be the ABPS Treasurer; the ABPS Chairman and one other member. The personnel of the new committee therefore will be Nigel Gouch as chairman; myself, and Mike Roberts (Huddersfield). All applications for small grants should be made in the usual way but to Nigel (see page 58). I would like to take this opportunity to thank Yvonne Wheatley, Richard West, Alan Moorcroft and Christine Earl for their fine work with Small Grants over the years. Their efforts have been very much appreciated.

Finally I would like to look forward. By the time you read this, it might all have happened! Part 2 of Congress was on the Saturday of the York Stamp Fair with Alan Holyoake, Richard Stock and the ABPS AGM. Then Stampex comes in September with some new features, including PTS/ABPS tours through the exhibits led by experienced exhibitors/national judges.

I hope to see many of you at both events. *Graham Winters FRPSL*

Editorial

It was difficult to decide what to write about this time. At the time of writing we are in what is for most societies the slack season. Normally that means that the stamps and covers are put to one side as meetings end in May or June and restart in September. Certainly the number of reports and photographs received this time is well down on last issue's superb total. I am always concerned that I never hear from some societies - not surprising for specialist societies that rarely if ever meet but at the current count 65 local societies, 28 specialist societies and 4 Federations have not sent in a report or other contribution since I became editor. Yet a common positive comment is that the reports of other societies' meetings and the photographs of material or people are the things that most people enjoy reading and want to see. It would be good to hear from some of the 97 silent ones occasionally - not every time please or I would be in serious space difficulties.

I have just been to the York Stamp (and Coin) Fair and had an interesting time as usual. I found a few items to add to my growing collection of Registered Mail sent from the United Kingdom to foreign parts. As I am not concerned about the date of the mail I have the additional problem or delight of finding old and new names for countries. So far I have 34 of the 51 states (including Washington DC) in the United States, 8 states in Canada, 4 states in Australia and lots of European countries but the South American, Asian, African and Island countries have many gaps. It does make going to fairs much more interesting for me.

Perhaps soon I will have enough to add another display to my list.

Another advantage to visiting fairs is to meet other collectors -

some of whom are not members of any society. I try to persuade them of the pleasure and knowledge that can be gained by going to meetings. A common answer is that they do not have time as they are still working, but other answers are "I don't know if there is a society in my town/area", "I'm not that good a collector" or something similar and "What do you get out of it if you don't collect what they are showing". We all have a responsibility to be able to answer these questions or at least point out where one can be answered. A great pleasure at York was to see children and their parents there - and the positive reaction from dealers and us oldie collectors.

I was delighted to have a response to an article in a previous copy of the News and a volunteer to say how he started collecting. If nothing else it showed that the material was read and thought about - so thanks for that. Do you have any points to raise - either as starting points or in response to something in an issue? If all of those missing reports are sent in I might not have enough room for your response but what a wonderful problem that would be.

I hope that you come back to your societies well rested and ready to help. Take on a job, write a report but mainly enjoy yourself with your collections.

Keith Burton



Society anniversaries, 2019

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).

Bradford and District - 125 Years

The first meeting took place on 27th September 1894 when a Committee was formed. At the next meeting on 11th October the Committee was elected with Mr Oliver Firth (President) "who had an excellent collection of stamps", Mr WH Scott (Hon Secretary) "he has 8000 stamps", Mr J Sichel (Vice President) "5000 stamps" and Mr WM Gray (Hon Treasurer) "4000 stamps". On 6th November the first display was presented by Mr HW Atkinson (Hon Librarian) *Stamps of Great Britain*. Thus the society was one of the earliest to be formed.

From 1895 to 1914 the society gradually expanded. WM Gray was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London, and at the Jubilee International Exhibition held in London in 1912 he was awarded Gold and Silver Gilt medals.

With the outbreak of WWI, the activities of the society were curtailed. It was re-formed on 24th November 1936. However, in September 1940, due to another war, black-out restrictions caused the society to meet on a Saturday afternoon.

By 1964 the society had well over 100 members and in that year, Miss RN Solly became the first Lady President. Over the years the society has met at various venues. In 1955/56 it moved to the Latvian Club where it still meets.

The membership has been entertained by some of the top names in Philately. In 1938 Robson Lowe came with a lantern slide display *1661 and all that* and he returned after the war in 1949 with *The Birth of the Black and Blues*. His last appearance at Bradford was in 1967 with a talk on *Forgeries that have fooled me*. Other well-known names from the 1950s onwards include: John K Sidebottom RDP, Cyril Harmer, Alan Bosworth, Bob Emery, David Boyd, Ken Chapman and in 1966 Miroslav Anton Bojanowicz RDP who talked on *Poland*, after which he presented to the society an ashtray with a hand-painted Poland Number 1 stamp in the centre! (see photo).

At one time the society had a thriving junior section, one of whom won the Junior Competition Cup on 10th February 1970; his name: Edward Klempka, who still goes from strength to strength with his collections and writings.

In 1997 it is recorded that the membership was 15/16 and it is about the same today. We shall celebrate our 125th anniversary with a special meeting on 17th September, when the displays will be: *What could have been shown in 1894*.

Richard Wheatley FRPSL



Taunton 75 - Round 3

The finale of our 75th Anniversary celebrations (described in the Spring and Summer editions of ABPS News) was our visit to MIDPEX on 6th July. We had decided to hire and subsidise the cost of a very comfortable coach (i.e. it had an on-board toilet) to take club members and some members from other local clubs in Bridgwater, Minehead and Burnham. In total 27 people made the long journey, including a few partners who were able to spend a very pleasant afternoon in Leamington, while we collectors got on and enjoyed the show. As can be seen in the group photograph, for which unfortunately not everyone was available, the icing on this cake was 'Stamps' written large on the front and sides of the coach – not an embellishment negotiated by our secretary as many imagined but the original name of the company, now owned by K & S Crudge!



Mike Sanders

Woking & District - 70

We are gearing up to celebrate our 70th Anniversary at Christ Church Centre, Woking on 28th October 2019. The first Society meeting was held at the Corner Café Woking on 26th October 1949 and those who were at the meeting would be proud to know that we are still in business 70 years later. Over the years the society has included some very distinguished philatelists, including two past Presidents of the Royal (+RDP), three past Presidents of the Surrey Federation and the authors of a number of successful philatelic books. **Michael Lockton** presented a paper to the Congress last year on behalf of a small group (W4) which is studying the future of philately.

However, the Woking membership includes collectors at all levels, from expert to beginner. Members' evenings show how widespread these interests are and how great our enthusiasm is to display them. We meet twice a month for most months of the year. **John Lea** who has just retired as President joined Woking in 1951 and is by far the longest serving member. He also has the distinction of being a member of the Royal for longer than anyone else and has an ABPS Award of Merit (2007).

The society has played a full part in its membership of the Surrey Federation apart from providing Presidents. It has hosted the Annual Stamp Fairs on many occasions until old age took its toll. It has also successfully competed for the associated Mason Cup regularly over the years.

The Anniversary Celebration is planned as an informal evening with invitations to around 40 people including the Mayor of Woking. There will be archive displays including early Woking postcards and a selection from the Woking

Postal History Collection. The history of the town is very much based on the development of the postal system and the railways. *Ron Trevelyan*

Chichester & District – 60

We celebrated our Diamond Anniversary with a special meeting. We were honoured to welcome the Chairman of Chichester District Council **Elizabeth Hamilton** who helped **Martha Brown**, our President, in cutting our specially made anniversary cake.



While cutting it, members were making comments

such as “You’ve just created a bi-sect!”, “You’ve made that stamp imperforate now!”, or worse still when I cut through the Queen’s head. Oops! Who knew that cutting a cake with stamps all over could prove so difficult! No, seriously, the evening was enjoyed by all. We preferred to use pictures to show our celebration, which was full of cameraderie. *Martha Brown*

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

Changing times in Edinburgh Philately

Following an approach by the Scottish PS on a possible merger with Edinburgh PS it was agreed to share our meetings for this coming season 2019/20.

Members of both societies can attend all 15 meetings, with the opening meeting being shared by the two society presidents’ opening displays. The rest of the season will be shared, with each society hosting seven meetings. During the summer break the two societies will be holding meetings to discuss the forming of a new society based on the current two societies.

Meanwhile for those collectors who do not like going out in the evenings the Edinburgh Stamp Group has informal meetings, with members showing items from their own collections, on the last Friday of each month, except August and December, when there are no meetings, and July, when it is on the 3rd Friday. Meetings for the rest of 2019 are 27th September, 25th October and 29th

November. No membership fee but an attendance fee to cover cost of hall plus free tea/coffee. Meetings are held at The City of Edinburgh Methodist Church Hall in Nicolson Square between 10am and noon. *Bob Catto*

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

This is

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

by Andrew McGavin

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

About the Author Andrew found his father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He specialised in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year, he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that he enjoyed swapping/trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, exchanging 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 Dickinson. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – it is far in his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 45 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'retailer' oriented Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit priced stamps through to handling collections & Batches up to 1,000,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (UK) Ltd – the Largest Buy Buyer's Premium Reducing 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 realising that his collection 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 \$5,000, 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-healed bidders saw the potential value that day or it could have been given away... the seller

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

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

The Secret is Simple –

It's All About **THINKING**

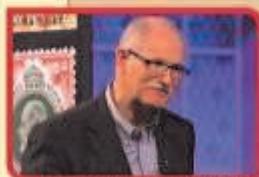
Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's –
Presentation ✓ **Place** ✓ and
Price ✓

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, (wey 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 DICKINSON SHOW ITV

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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, 96% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers - so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) - so that when you sell through them - you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% and more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc... **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it - TO DEALERS (and some collectors)**, but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive...

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

Get The Solution Stampwise Right In The End...

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

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

8 Truth is, it Has been done before... Sometimes the 'old' ways are the best ways aren't they? But in today's enthusiasm to obscure the 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 till the lot finds its price, is sold or virtually given away... ✓

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

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

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

sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman - then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stamps - 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 unit British decimal stamps best used for postage) - especially if the market is heavily compromised by stock overhang in specific areas. Some Collectors will not wish to use time and systems to leverage price, others will want to agree a specific price and know that they are paid precisely this amount. No client is treated like a 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/emails you to confirm sale receipt, 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale



Contact UPA: 01451 861 111

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

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

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

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

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

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

Yours sincerely
D.E.B. Bath, UK

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

17 How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market?

Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire, Post-Independence / Q121 material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre-1962 is regarded as the

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



18 What Should I Do Next?

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

19 Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure

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

20 My Double Cast Iron Guarantee

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

21 Act NOW: Contact Andrew

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

Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,
Author, Managing Director
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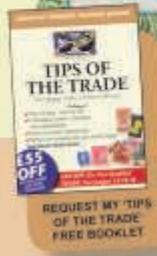
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ABPS Handbook & Directory: updates

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

Specialist Societies

British West Indies Study Circle (p 69): The new secretary: Steve Jarvis

Civil Censorship Study Group (p 70):

Secretary peterburrows116@btinternet.com

Philatelic Congress of GB Study Group (add to p 80) has joined ABPS.

Secretary: Steven Harrison sharrison500@btinternet.com

Rhodesian Study Circle (p 82): The new secretary is Brian Zlotnick.

bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk 01424 251169

Sudan Study Group (p 85): Acting Secretary is Andy Neal

andywneal@gmail.com

Wreck & Crash Mail Society (add to p 87) has joined ABPS.

The secretary is Brian Peace brpeace@ntlworld.com

Local Societies

Axe Vale Stamp Club (p 90) has resigned from ABPS

Ayrshire PS (p 90): The new secretary is John Chalmers 01292 477585

northerntourer@aol.com

Basingstoke & District PS (p 92) has closed after 84 years.

Bournemouth & Poole S & PC (p 144) have moved from the Somerset & Dorset Federation to the Hampshire Federation.

Fleet & North Hants PS (p 114) has closed after 73 years.

Huddersfield PS (p 124) will meet at the Lindley Liberal Club, 36 Occupation Road, Lindley, Huddersfield. HD3 3EQ from 5th September 2019. They meet on the first Thursday of each month at 1.30pm. Secretary Graham Simpson can be contacted on 07761 488745 or simpson_d7@sky.com

North Herts Stamp Club (p 141): Secretary's email: davidjbelton@gmail.com

Plymouth PS (p 144): The new secretary is Sally Ellam

Royal Tunbridge Wells PS (p 151) now holds meetings at: The Camden Arms Hotel, 1 High Street, **Pembury, Tunbridge Wells** TN2 4PH ; 01892 822012.

There is plenty of free parking and easy access off the A21. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings at 10.30 and the meetings are followed by an informal lunch for those wishing to stay.

Southampton & District PS (p 156): The new secretary is Eddie Mays

sec.sdps@gmail.com

Stratford-upon-Avon PS (p 158): Meeting place: The Press Room, Stratford-upon-Avon Racecourse, Luddington Road, **Stratford-upon-Avon** CV37 9SE
Swansea PS (p 160) has re-named to **Swansea Stamp & Postcard Club**

Speakers

John Crowe (p 201) has died.

Obituary

BASINGSTOKE & DISTRICT P S 1935-2019

With great regret we announce that, after 84 years, the Basingstoke and District Philatelic Society will close after its final meeting on July 15th 2019.

The society was formed in 1935 when a group of collectors met in rooms above Careys, a local hairdresser's. As it grew, the society met at various venues in Basingstoke: the Carnival Hall, Chute House, the Moose Centre, and finally the United Reformed Church.

Membership at the Society has dwindled over the years and attendances at meetings have fallen sharply. It's a far cry from the days of over 70 members, when there used to be a flourishing Junior section. In later years in spite of the efforts of both the committee and club members, it has proved virtually impossible to attract a significant number of new members to replace its aging membership. Fierce competition from other activities such as computers has played its part, especially in the recruitment of younger members.

We have had many memorable speakers visiting us over the years with special mention of **Michael Sefi** (then Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection), **Dr Jean Alexander** who enlightened us on *Supermarket Philately*, and **Hugh Jefferies** who outlined the fascinating *History of Stanley Gibbons*. It has become increasingly difficult to engage speakers especially in the winter months. This has necessitated more member evenings which in turn has led to a downturn in attendance at meetings.

We have been well represented over many years at HAMPEX and are closing on a 'high'. In 2018 we gained our first success in the Howard White Trophy. In addition, there were individual winners with the Howard White Individual Trophy (**Roddy Owen**) and the Hiscock Thematic Trophy (**Heather Lawn**). We also had success at Autumn Stampex in 2013 when **Dr John Horsey** won a Large Gold Medal for his £5 Orange exhibit and a second Large Gold for his widely acclaimed book, *The £5 Orange*.

We note that since 2015 nine societies in the Hampshire Philatelic Federation have closed. We wish the remaining HPF Societies the best of luck for the future.

The Stuart Rossiter Memorial Lecture 2019

The Stuart Rossiter Trust is pleased to announce that the 2019 Memorial Lecture will be held at 5.00pm on Friday 1st November at the new home of the Royal Philatelic Society London, 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW, when

James L. Grimwood-Taylor FRPSL

will give a talk entitled

The worldwide postal reforms of 1838–50, their origins and consequences, including the spread of other countries' first postage stamps

Thanks to the stimulus of a three-year Stuart Rossiter Trust research grant in 2017 it finally became possible (and urgent!) to tackle the total rewrite of the slim volume on this subject that was first published pre-Internet almost 30 years ago. The book is due for publication in May 2020 but the research involved has mushroomed somewhat. Major archives have been visited in Washington DC, Zurich and Sydney, as well as in London and many cities around the UK. The aim of the book is to record

- ◆ the many campaigners for postal reform who were working long before Rowland Hill wrote his pamphlets;
- ◆ how Rowland Hill's 'Post Office Reform' plan was conceived and put into practice;
- ◆ how the London merchants became involved in the 'Cheap Postage' campaign;
- ◆ why and how New South Wales, Brazil, the Swiss cantons, the USA and other countries adopted postal reforms prior to 1850.

This lecture will cover the unpredictable process of converting a lifetime's collection into a thoroughly researched historical study – which is also intended to be a detailed collector's guide to the subject – and give a glimpse of what will be in the book.

JG-T has been an avid collector of postal history for over 40 years and was lucky enough to spend the last 40 years as a professional postal historian, first as a dealer and then from 1988 to 2017 as owner of and the principal describer at Cavendish Philatelic Auctions. He now specialises in the early postal history of the world with an emphasis on the British 1839–40 postal reforms, New South Wales from 1800, and first-year usages of classic stamps to 1864. He has been a national and federation judge since 1987, having exhibited nationally and internationally since 1981, finally obtaining a Large Gold Medal for his 'Postal Reforms' at New York 2016. His series of articles on the 'Birth of the 1d Black' was issued in book form as 'The British Postal Reforms of 1839 to 1840' in 1990.

The lecture will be followed by wine and nibbles.

Free admission by non-transferable ticket on application to:

Rex Dixon FRPSL at rexdixon@btinternet.com

Early application is advised.

Congress at Stockholmia

Instead of holding the usual 4-day Philatelic Congress in England, ABPS decided to hold a shortened Philatelic Congress at **Stockholmia 2019** Exhibition at the end of May. On the first day there was a series of six excellent PowerPoint presentations beginning with *The Evolution of an Exhibit* by **Graham Winters FRPSL**, ABPS Chairman. This was the story of how Graham developed his exhibit on Golf at National and International levels. **Hany Salam**, a new RDP, then gave a fascinating presentation entitled *Egyptian Maritime Postal History 1845 – 1889*. The first Egyptian packet-boat company was formed in 1845. Only two letters from this company survive today. One, an 1848 entire from Alexandria, carried by steamer to Constantinople, was shown in Hany's presentation. **Gerald Marriner FRPSL** then presented his Congress Chairman's display entitled *The German Occupation of the Channel Islands and how Postal Communications were affected during this period*. This included a study of essays and proofs for the locally produced Jersey stamps, the highlight being the Cutland essays printed by Bigwoods. These were not approved and most were destroyed. Few examples remain in private hands. This presentation concluded with the Harris story – a couple who went on honeymoon to Guernsey just prior to the Occupation. They were unable to return home due to the German Occupation, so they had a '5 year' honeymoon on Guernsey which unfortunately saw them being sent to an internment camp in Germany. **Alan Warren FRPSL**, another new RDP, presented *The Grooming of a Philatelist*. Philatelists are made, not born! Alan explained how people had influenced his collecting. He described his mentors who have enlightened and guided him. Alan supported the importance of joining Specialist Societies to improve your knowledge. Then came *The Wreck of the S.S. Ibex* by **Jon Aitchison FRPSL**. This ship was wrecked on rocks near Guernsey. Mail addressed to Jersey received a special cachet of two different types. Jon explained the reason for the different cachets and showed scarce examples of mail recovered from the wreck. **Alan Wishart FRPSL** completed the first day's presentations with a detailed *Story of the British H.G. Wells stamps* issued in 1995 explaining in detail what could be collected for this issue.

Rare material from Scandinavian collectors was shown next day. The first was by **Kjell Nilson** who presented a study of *Swedish Postal History from 1939 until 1948*. This included postal rates in and out of Sweden, returned mail originally sent from Sweden, censorship of mail, mail taking mysterious routes and mail to and from internees and prisoners of war. **Tom Komnaes** presented *Norwegian Skilling Covers* between 1855 and 1877. Tom's presentation focussed on rates, routes and destinations. He began with domestic covers, followed by covers to a variety of destinations including some very rare examples. **Peter Wittsten** presented *Mail between Sweden and Denmark between 1658 and 1874*, which showed the development of rates for both prepaid and unpaid letters and included some very rare items. Then **Douglas Storckenfeldt** showed *Iceland to 1901*, illustrating the early stages of Icelandic Classic philately. Rare covers were illustrated from the Skilling stamps (1873 – 1876) and the original Aur

stamps (1876 – 1901). **Birthe King FRPSL** completed the presentations with her exhibit entitled *The Loss and Restoration to Denmark of North Slesvig*, which also included some very rare material.

The annual RDP Ceremony followed these presentations. This was held at the Grand Hotel in Stockholm. The ABPS Congress Medal for 2019 was presented at this ceremony to Gerald Marriner FRPSL. He was nominated by the Channel Islands Specialists' Society.

Next year the ABPS Congress will be at Market Harborough and will be separated from the RDP Ceremony which will be held at London 2020.

Gerald Marriner



Presentation of an ABPS Award of Merit to Mark Wilson



Mark Wilson was presented with his ABPS Award of Merit at a meeting of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain by **Yvonne Wheatley**, Chairman of the Awards Committee. Mark's exceptional contribution to British philately has been his dissemination of knowledge and information both in the written word and on-line. Mark is a former editor of the Society's journal, *Czechout*. During his time in office he introduced the digital format and an Interactive Index. He has produced 48 monographs and handbooks on various Czechoslovak stamp issues and he is

continuing to produce new studies on a regular basis.

Yvonne Wheatley

FIP flag passed to London

At the close of the China 2019 World Stamp Exhibition held in Wuhan, the flag of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) was officially passed to London, host for London 2020, international stamp exhibition, to be held from

Saturday, 2nd May to Saturday, 9th May next year.

The flag was received from **Bernard Jimenex** by **Frank Walton**, Chairman of London 2020. The exhibition will be held at the Business Design Centre in Islington. More details can be found at www.london2020.co



How Did It All Start? - A volunteer comes forward

I have given displays across the South-East and South-West, East Anglia and the Midlands for many years on *The British and Foreign Post Offices in China* up to 200 sheets and similarly of *British Borneo* comprising Brunei, Labuan, North Borneo and Sarawak. Also, I have more recently written up collections of my *Queen Astrid of the Belgians*, *Nurse Edith Cavell*, *Fernando Po* and *Jeremie* (Haiti) to give various combinations of these four for a whole evening's display.

Like most of us I had started as a small child, given it up until I went off to boarding school at age 13 and then started collecting more thoroughly anything that took my fancy. In the late 1960s I was a struggling clerk at Westminster Bank in Banbury. Our new Branch Accountant was having to finance another divorce, so I bought his collection of Hong Kong and British Borneo. Whilst marriage and an expensive move to London curtailed my activities, divorce gave me more time to concentrate and, joining various specialist societies (SSS, HKSC & MSG), I expanded and specialised until now.

Why Queen Astrid? Most of us had in our collections the black bordered stamps issued in mourning for her, and I read a history of Belgium since Independence in 1830 which further piqued my interest in the beautiful "Snow Queen" who died tragically so young. Around then I was offered a block of nine of these mourning stamps with the unlisted (by SG) curl on forehead error on the centre stamp, and this prompted further collecting, especially of postcards and paper ephemera.

Again, I had read a book about Nurse Edith Cavell that prompted me to start buying related postcards to such an extent that I twice went to Norwich with my collection, first for the bi-annual exhibition at her home village of Swardeston, and in 2015 for the magnificent memorial exhibitions at various venues in Norwich itself on the centenary of her execution by the Germans in Brussels. I have been lucky enough to acquire some quite rare items via eBay, etc.

I always liked the name of Fernando Po, and I found that my second wife had lived there for 7 years in the 1950s when her father worked for the British Consulate. Having found a few nice items eg a British Bank of West Africa lost draft Indemnity, I started acquiring postcards, postal history and paper ephemera from that island, a centre of the British anti-slave trade.

Finally, Jeremie - the only place in the world named after me (but spelt with an "ie" rather than a "y"). "The town of Poets" from where the father of the noted French writer Alexandre Dumas came - his grandmother was a slave and you can see the Creole blood in his photos. The town has also suffered from multiple disasters, hurricanes, earthquakes and so on, culminating in its complete destruction in 2016 just as it was rising again after the 2010 earthquake and this in one of the poorest nations on the planet and the poorest in the Americas. Again this collection comprises postal history, postcards and paper ephemera.

Oh dear, put me in front of a keyboard and I get verbal you-know-what!

Jeremy Gaskell

Some Responses to Mervyn Benford on p 52/3 of the Spring issue

Royal Mail's distribution business is heavily automated. There is no latitude for dealing with mail as the Danish PO does, although that is something that we in the trade have suggested. I have also suggested that they adopt the Mailer's Postmark Permit system that the USPS has (see www.virtualstampclub.com/lawrence1.html and pe.usps.com/archive/html/dmmarchive20030810/P023.htm)

Both my suggestion and Mervyn's would require the posted items to be handled separately (pouched) at the point of posting so that they are not entered into the mechanised mail system, much like franked mail is put into the system at a different point.

You cannot on the one hand complain that mail is not properly cancelled (para 2), and then say in para 3 "worse were ... large rectangular parcel postmarks". One, they haven't been used for years; two, they were following absolutely the correct procedure and these were applied at the post office counter.

Collectors do not "generate huge sums" - the amount that collectors contribute to the Royal Mail bottom line is very little in terms of their overall operating costs. If they were to stop producing stamps altogether there would be very little impact on the bottom line. They continue to do so because they are expected to by the public and the government.

The cover from the Magyar Society of Great Britain has a stamp which is nothing to do with that (only 20-year-old) society, nor was it posted in 1984 as the stamp was not issued until 1987 and 22p was not the 1st class rate until September 1990 - so philatelic, yes, desirable? It's not used in period so of no value as a collectable item. It's just discount postage. Green ink was used in most postmarking machines in 1992 coinciding with the issue of the Environment stamps (SG1629) so we can't even work out why the stamp was used because it is overpaying the 2nd class rate and underpaying the 1st class rate. And it is nothing to do with Meter slogans.

The last paragraph is interesting. The 2nd class large letter second step rate was £1.10 in 2013 - which is what is actually on the packet. At that time, and still today, Post Offices are required to cancel at the counter stamps on Large Letters and Parcels (but not ordinary letters*). So the fault lies not with Royal Mail but somebody at a post office counter, unless the item was just dropped in a letter box, in which case blame the sender for not going that extra mile. That said, if the Post Office did not cancel the stamps, Royal Mail have little option. Some mail centres have packet stamps which would undoubtedly not find favour; branch delivery offices do not. The (RM) people in my village delivery office have no way to cancel stamps apart from pens, and tend not to. I know of one branch in Glasgow where staff have refused to cancel special delivery mail against all logic and instructions.

Where Royal Mail can be criticised is that they have no system at mail centres for cancelling stamps on packets collected from mail boxes, nor those collected from companies, which includes the attractively stamped auction lots sent out by major auction houses. This mail doesn't go to POs, so cannot be 'cancelled at the counter', so RM should have an alternative system. But mail centres are under pressure to speed throughput and so shift the problem further down the mailchain, to delivery offices where staff are under pressure to get mail delivered or out to local DOs attached to post offices. *Ian Billings*

* I mentioned that Post Offices are not required to cancel ordinary letters; but they are not prohibited from doing so. While some will refuse a request, with a variety of foolish excuses, many will comply - all the staff at my local Crown PO happily cancel everything I send to customers. Sometimes small letters also get a machine cancel, but that is better than nothing. *Examples below*



The World of Exhibiting

Is there anything that we can do to help new exhibitors, especially something that we are not already doing? Would you like more seminars? Would a mentor be useful to you? Is the website lacking some specific information? If you have any advice or views to offer on these questions, please let us know. Exhibiting can be challenging, but also very rewarding. We want you to get the most out of your collecting - please let us know what you would really like that is not already available.

We issue regular Newsletters about what is going on in the world of exhibitions and we have now started posting these on the 'Exhibiting' page of the ABPS website. Keep an eye on that for the latest updates, as well as other news items. → Bill Hedley ewlhedley@gmail.com

Obituaries

David Armitage

As many people will now be aware, David Armitage passed away suddenly on 14th April on his way back from a Society of Postal Historians meeting at Llandrindod Wells. He had been on fine form at the meeting and his loss has come as a great shock to all his family and friends. David was a noted Canada specialist and an active supporter in philately at many levels. He was the long-serving Secretary of Bishop's Stortford & District Philatelic Society. A Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London, he was, with Alan Moorcroft, co-organiser of the annual "Royal In The East" meetings in Chelmsford. At county level, he was actively involved, with Ray How, in arranging the AEPS Spring and Autumn competitions, the AEPS Youth Officer, liaising with StampActive, the AEPS Security Officer for StampEssex events and he stored the AEPS Archives. He was also an active displayer and competition judge. Despite many personal misfortunes and health problems, he remained a warm and friendly person, with, always, a positive and constructive approach to any issue. Above all, he was a great friend and will be missed dreadfully by all who knew him.

Len Stanway

Alan M Williams 1935 - 2019

Alan joined Amersham & District PS in September 1986 and from the start advised the committee he would be happy to play an active part in running the society. During his 33 years as a stalwart member he served a total of 39 years in the following posts President (2 years), Vice President (2 years), Treasurer (12 years), Auction Secretary (7 years) as a result of which he was awarded Honorary Life Membership in 2017. He also sometime acted as Auctioneer at the meetings and did 16 years as Packet Secretary split into two periods.

Alan was a long-standing member of the British West Indies Study Circle, since his primary interest was Jamaica for which he has a comprehensive collection of stamps plus some impressive postal history covers, which he displayed on occasions.

Since 2011 he also served as a committee member of Middlesex Philatelic Federation including the past 6 years as Treasurer.

Alan passed away on 31st May after a short illness. We will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Jim Drummond

Exhibiting and Judging Seminar

The next seminar will be held from 2nd to 3rd November at the Sun Hotel, Sun Street, Hitchin SG5 1AF. It is for everyone, but mostly those who haven't been before and just want to get an idea of displaying, exhibiting or judging. The cost is £50 for the two days.

Hotel accommodation is available at £55 single, £65 double per night B&B.

For more details please contact David Alford apsinfo@ntlworld.com

On the Club circuit

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

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

Amersham & District PS

Very sadly our stalwart committee member and long-term Packet Secretary Alan Williams passed away on 31st May, after a short but very serious illness. He will be greatly missed and an obituary is included as a separate item. At the time of writing the packets are suspended while we extract and update the records from Alan's computer. During the past quarter we have enjoyed three good quality presentations from **Peter White** *Imperial Civil Censorship WWII*, **Fin O'Donoghue** *Lovely Little Liechtenstein* and **John Davies** *The 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee*. John of course is currently the PR Officer for ABPS, having previously run the Stamp Active Network. Our thanks to all three of these speakers. At our AGM on 30th May the committee was re-elected with **Keith Wright** (formerly Secretary of Hemel Hempstead PS which recently closed) as a very welcome addition. The 2018/19 season ended on 13th June with yet another successful auction, for which we must, as always, thank **Les** and **Liz Gwilliam**.

Jim Drummond

Banbury

We will host a major event for stamp collectors in the Autumn. Banbury's event will feature the Midland Philatelic Federation Autumn Convention and competitions and the Thames Valley Philatelic Federation annual competitions and a Stamp & Postcard Fair. There will be about 20 stamp dealers. Refreshments will be available all day. Ample free parking is available to visitors. Free valuations of stamps and postal history will be available from Midlands expert valuer, **Tony Lester**, for anyone thinking of selling all or part of their collection. Commenting on plans for the Festival, Chairman **Malcolm Moodie** said "It will be an event not to be missed for all new and experienced philatelists. There will be some displays by some of the leading collectors in the Midlands and Thames Valley. It will be a great opportunity to meet fellow collectors, buy some new items for your collections and learn more about the hobby." →

davies1890@btinternet.com or

01295 255831.

John Davies

Bexley

In a last-minute change of programme, outgoing BPS president **John Corderoy** stepped in to display *East Germany from 1945*. Its stamps were characterised by the lack of religious imagery, and also of New Years' celebrations. More prominent themes were the Communist party and fairy tales. For the second time, Club stalwart **Don Brookfield** was awarded the Kent Federation Lingley Shield, in April. **Grace Davies** offered a vibrant presentation about *The Nobel Peace Prize*, showing philatelic and non-philatelic historical material about the awards and awardees. The eccentric Swedish inventor of dynamite died in 1896, establishing the prizes in his will. The first prizes were awarded in 1901. Grace documented how the focus of the prize evolved from pacifism to international stability and peace promotion eg poverty eradication. In early July, former club president **Frank Parsons** showed a detailed *Pre-stamp Postal History Collection centred around Brighton and Hove*, explaining the evolution of hand cancels in the



Frank Parsons

early period. One piece from 1796 was shown to have left London at 8pm by the night coach, arriving at the coast about 6:15 the next morning, having travelled tens of miles over dark country roads. The second half went into the details of the stamp years, as well as non-stamp material such as an 1838 inspection certificate of a 'headed flyer' – a converted sedan chair with harness for horse – and cigarette tax discounts for OAPs, used up until they were withdrawn in August 1958.

→ adethebeak@yahoo.co.uk or 01322 559 210 *Will Dalrymple*

Bolton

At the April meeting **Graham Chadwick** gave a wonderful display of *WWI - The Western Front*. The May meeting was as usual the Annual General Meeting. **Roy Williamson** was invited to be the President for next year. June meeting was our second quarterly auction. Over 400 lots were offered to room and postal bidders. Any member of an ABPS Society is invited to partake in the Society Auctions.

→ 07939 056 421. *Howard Anderson*

Bookham

John Jordan gave us a great display on *Antigua* starting with a short history of the Island followed by a chronological order of the Postal History and stamps produced by Antigua from 1763-1967. Between October 1890 and July 1956 Leeward Islands stamps were used in Antigua. From 1903 to 1956 there were also Antigua stamps. Early postal history items of Antigua are hard to find compared with stamps. John showed us a rare postmark of St Stephens (only 6 are known) and the only cover known with a "Swetes" postmark, along

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with some forgeries. The first postmark was in 1890. The first air mail was in 1929 when Charles Lindbergh visited the island. The April meeting was entitled *The Chairman's Afternoon* but **John Dicker** elected to ask our Secretary **Barry Feltham**. Barry entertained everyone present with an enthralling PowerPoint presentation on the *Apollo Moon Landings*. Barry guided us through the entire Apollo programme to its ultimate culmination with the Apollo 17 mission. On the 15th June we had an enjoyable day at the annual Bookham Village Day where

next two years. A successful stamp auction followed.

→ www.bookhamstampclub.com

David Bravery

Bristol

We've endured two years of **Les Ashton-Smith's** presidency with his infectious brand of humour, welcoming greetings, smiles and acknowledgements of those around him who have done the donkey work, while he has basked in the glory. Throughout our recent President's Evening we were made to witness his unusual style of presentation. Split into four quarters (the evening, not Les) he projected first, onto a screen for all to see, a display of Leonardo da Vinci's artwork in this, his 200th anniversary. No, not Les's 200th - Leonardo's. A lovely way of viewing, commenting on and discussing the subject together.



Barry's Bookham Postcard display

Barry Feltham displayed part of his extensive collection of Bookham postcards. This attracted much attention, and enquiries about club activities and membership. The club also provided stamp packets and other gifts for the children to encourage them to take an interest in stamp collecting. At the AGM on 28th May **John Dicker** handed over to **Dr Patrick Reid** for the



Les with Leonardo who appears to be watching suspiciously

ABPS accredited judges

The current list of UK Accredited National Philatelic Jurors can be found on the ABPS web site www.abps.org.uk Click on the "Exhibiting" tab, then the "Judges" tab that is on the 2nd line of tabs.

Then he introduced his fascinating *Leonardo* collection. After the mid-evening tea-break we were faced with a second projected display, this time of *German Shepherds* (no, not that sort . . . the dogs). For the fourth quarter Les showed us his amazing personal *German Shepherd* collection.

Les, you've done brilliantly over your two-year reign. Alas, it's taken its toll. We seem to have caused you to age at least five years during that time. From all the Bristol Gang, thank you. Right **Ian Spencer**, it's your turn. Bring it on.

Ron Gillard

Bromley & Beckenham

April was a busy month with two fairs and an auction followed by our President-elect **Ron Burn** giving his display of *Tristan da Cunha*. He told us of the history and postal arrangements, and then of various cachets, linking many to particular ships. The famous "Potato" stamps were well represented including a sheet of 35 unused (only 7 sheets known). Ron continued with the overprinted St Helena stamps in 1952 after years of requesting its own stamps. The "exile" period,



Peter Newman showing General Government issues during the Occupation of Poland 1939-1944

resettlement survey and eventual return to the island in 1963 were well illustrated by numerous letters, postcards and documents. In May members were asked to bring albums of undisplayed items. The result was a very eclectic evening ranging from specialised QV St Lucia to modern Germany via run-through collection of Pakistan, Ascension (including

The Royal Move and the Expertising Committee

From 1st July 2019, The Royal Philatelic Society London and the Expert Committee of The RPSL has no longer been located at 41 Devonshire Place. Post sent to Devonshire Place will be re-directed until 30th September, but we recommend that you call or email us before sending items for expertising – courier deliveries, for example, will not be redirected. Our email (experts@rpsl.limited) and telephone (020 7935 7332) details will remain the same throughout the move.

We are in temporary offices in London before we move to our permanent location in Abchurch Lane around the end of August. During this period, the expertising process will be disrupted and there will be delays with regard to the return of some items.

Your patience will be much appreciated. *Lucy Caulfield*

varieties), Israel - all tabbed, GB Parcel QV labels with Officials, modern GB Parcel services including the Night Rider, Olympic and Paralympic Winners sheets, Martinique island mail, Music and Oil thematics and a fine pair of SG New Imperial albums with an extensive used collection of the British Empire QV-GV period. We also published Bromley & Beckenham PS History Part II. In June there was an evening of postcards and then in July **Birthe** and **Chris King** brought *Refugee Camps in Denmark 1945-1949* and *Denmark and the Napoleonic Wars*. Both were fascinating and informative slide shows and displays.

→ 02087787001 or 02084021263 or kentphilately.weebly.com/cabbps.html

David Rennie

Burnley and District

We were founded in March 1944 so we are still enjoying our 75th year. We have organised a display in Burnley Library late August on the theme "Space" to highlight the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. Being topical it should attract interest. We will also hold a 50 year celebration dinner hosted by one of our long serving members on 5th September just prior to the start of our new season. Our first meeting will be an Open Night with members showing off their latest acquisitions from the summertime forays stamping around. We have planned a full winter programme with talks on Egypt, Edinburgh Postal History, the Netherlands and two Society visits to Rochdale and Leeds. We continue to meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month

→ www.nwfedps.uk under Burnley and District PS

Barry W Evans

Cambridge

On 21st June we held our AGM. There were no changes to the main committee. Our former President, **Rufus Barnes**, outlined the plans to celebrate our centenary in October 2020. Most of these are now well advanced including a Society Dinner and also the publication of a special booklet about the society. On Wednesday 3rd July we will be visited by **John Copeland** who will cover *The Regulations regarding the Postcard*. In the annual federation inter-society competitions for which the results were available at Philanglia on 22nd June we came first in all three areas of Thematic, Traditional and Postal History. This was a great achievement and congratulations to all who entered the different competitions. →

info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk

Peter Morton

Chelmsford & District

In April we welcomed **Maggie Thompson** who showed us *The Saarland*. She covered both post-war French administrations and then the Winterberg memorial, destroyed in WWII and never restored. *Something beginning with K* produced five displays including two showing *Kelvedon Postmarks*. For our evening meeting we were delighted to welcome **Malcolm** and **Lynn Roberts** from Hullbridge. Malcolm began with a presentation on *South West Africa* starting from German colonisation and continuing to the South African administration after WWI. Examples were shown as well as materials on early flights from Europe to Cape Town. Then Lynn gave a very interesting presentation covering

Railway Hotels and Steamers. She had worked in a number of the hotels she told us about. At one time over 100 hotels were owned by the railway companies. **Giles du Boulay** visited us for the second time. His presentation formed two parts on Danzig. He started with the *Development of the Railways and Boats*, the highlight of the display being a figure-height display poster of the railways followed by eight frames on the development of the railways and the postal services they provided. The remaining frames were devoted to the shipping services. For the second part Giles concentrated on the early days of *Delivery of Post by Air*. This was a stunning display. For our final meeting **Nick Harris** brought *British Antarctic Territory and South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands*. He included a fine selection of envelopes, postcards and cachets from various expeditions.

David Everard

Croydon

Jim Etherington and **Grace Davies** visited from the Mid Sussex PS. Jim brought his wide-ranging display of *1940 – A Desperate Year* starting with the story of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF). Then Grace gave her *Peace* presentation which started with the end of the Boer War in 1902 and concluded with the 1943 League of Nations and the establishment of the United Nations on 25th April 1951. Later **Richard Berry** showed us *The 1937 Coronation*. Returning to collecting Richard found two 1937 covers with Coronation stamps amongst his childhood collection and was inspired to develop the collection. Related ephemera was displayed throughout including actual tickets for seats in Westminster Abbey on the day of the

Coronation and official letters. At the next meeting we saw *The American Civil War* by **Colin Evans**. Many patriotic covers were issued during the Civil War and covers were shown from both sides of the conflict, some of them quite rare. *Russian and Soviet Prison Mail* was the subject from **Marcus-Sherwood Jenkins**. The first item was an 1820 letter from one of the officials escorting prisoners walking to Siberia.



Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins

John Davis brought us *Tin Can Mail of Niuafo'ou*. This lasted over 100 years from 1882 to 1983. Charles Rawley made over 100 swimming deliveries to liners with mail for the USA, Australasia and Great Britain. In 1946 the volcano erupted and the island was evacuated. Tin can mail did not resume until 1962 and continued until an airfield was built in 1983. **Graham Harker**

Dawlish

At our meeting on Wednesday 8th May everyone was expecting our invited speaker **Gary Green** to talk about *Thematics*, his specialist subject. It was therefore a total surprise to all when we were given a talk on *100 years (1890-1990) of the Stamps and Postal History*

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3



4



8



7



11

12





For Collectors of Stamps and Postal History

On Saturday 26th October 2019, between 10.00am and 4.00pm, the Kingston and District Philatelic Society will be hosting a

Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies Stamp Day



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of Malta, a country we have previously not seen in such depth. In June **Brian Short** showed *The Penny Black and Other First Issues of Europe* to a very well attended meeting. This display covered the period 1840-1852 and highlighted that Europe was very much in a state of turmoil at this time, with both the Austro-Hungarian and the Ottoman Empires starting to crumble and the small states starting to form alliances prior to the formation of both Germany and Italy. The final material for the forthcoming Auction in October was gathered to enable the catalogue to be produced. ➔ 01626 864844

James Wigmore

Ferndown & West Moors

Members were asked for *There's Something in the Air*. The eleven displays floated over many topics including Airports, Airways, Airmails, Air Shows, Air Waves and Rockets. Later in April **Hugh Osborne FRPSL** took us down to *South Georgia and South Shetland Islands*. Hugh first



Postcard of Bournemouth Air Show

traced the history, economics and politics of the Southern Whaling Centre (established 1904) and personalities involved. A well organised postal service was crucial to morale. South Georgia was quickly established as an important 'launch pad' for Antarctic exploration. Hugh's extensive collection had its origins in Falkland Islands philately in the 1980s, with developments into South Georgia material emerging ten years later. The display included studies of stamp issues, printing and varieties, cancellations and censor markings, airmails, registered and insured mail.

Captions for pages 30 and 31

1. What have they in common? They all gave "A" displays to Croydon.
2. Andrew Harris showing St Lucia to Bromley & Beckenham
3. Ringpex was a great success for Ringwood PS
4. The Italians (well, Italy and Colonies Study Circle) came to Norwich.
5. Roger Niven, Kingston's Webmaster, mid-display on postal stationery.
6. Michael Medlicott FRPSL receives a tumbler from Bob Small at Ferndown & West Moors
7. David Turner from Amersham visiting West London.
8. Richard Stock FRPSL and Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL at the transfer of the Presidency of the Royal
9. John Jordan takes Bookham to warmer climes - Antigua
10. Bristol PS Competition winners - Neil Jones, Mike Breward, Ron Gillard, Mike Tanner behind David Hooper, Arlene Powell and John Edwards
11. Barry Feltham takes Bookham to the Moon
12. John Davis brought Tin Can Mail to Croydon
13. Chichester & District at their 60th Anniversary celebration

Many items were very rare, indeed unique. *Classic Postage and Revenues of the British West Indies* by **Michael Medlicott FRPSL** was an undoubted success. Michael traced his interest in stamp collecting from a young age, a particular influence being a friend from a family of sugar traders in Barbados. There was both depth and breadth in this large display, made up of mint and used stamps, blocks, overprints, essays, revenues, cancels, including specimen hand cancels, 'Too Late' and 'Fees', plate proofs, colour trials, varieties, plate flaws, perforation considerations and forgeries, superb covers and fascinating letters. Numerous items were either rare, unique or indeed both. One of the most memorable is one of beautiful revenue stamps of Tobago, issued June 1879.

Paul Barry

Grimsby & District

We are now preparing for the next of our Annual Charity Auctions on 4th December – the 18th in a row. So far we have raised over £35 000 and will aim to beat the £3800 of 2018. When we are not involved in our auction programs we also run two normal club auctions each year. We have meetings every first and third Wednesday of each month with the exception of August with a full program covering a spectrum of subjects presented by both club members and visiting speakers. Our events committee member (**Chris Dodsworth** 06549281652) would like to hear from any budding visiting speakers and could reciprocate with some of our club members. *Mike Webb*

Halifax

We look forward to the 2019-2020 season which will commence in

September with a programme currently being compiled by **Max Smith**. The retiring President **Owen Heathcote** has handed the responsibility for the new season to **Mike Roberts**. The 2018-2019 season has had a number of interesting speakers due to Max's diligence. We had some excellent nationally recognised presentations as the programme unfolded, with topics covering Egypt, Zeppelins, Austrian Empire, Maltese Crosses and British West Indies and **Graham Winters** on Stamp Day. We have had society visits from members of Wakefield PS and Harrogate PS. January 2019 brought a quiz night set by **Mike Roberts** (Huddersfield) which was well received, and later in January an evening featured *Conservation of Material* by **Mike Roberts** (Ilkley) and **Max Smith** which was of great interest to members. Refreshments being provided by volunteer members appears to have had a favourable response. Our evening meetings held in J & C Joels Mill Sowerby Bridge continue to be well attended and we are grateful for our venue to J & C Joel, one of the world's leading manufacturers of Theatrical Drapes.

Adrian Lee

Harrogate

Josh Spoor brought *Sweden Blockaded the Airmail routes from 1939 -1945* to us in April. Members of the Scandinavian Study Circle joined us. They were meeting in Harrogate over the weekend. Josh brought along a large map from 1939 printed by the Daily Sketch. He used this to help illustrate his fascinating account of the various routes the mail took to and from Sweden. A number of items had come from aircraft wreckage which was

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poignant and fascinating at the same time. For the next meeting our President **David Druett** showed a display of *Postal Stationery cards from A to Z* with some super examples. The West Indies were well represented however this was a *round the world* showing reminiscent of the *Jules Verne Trip* we took earlier in the season. He highlighted an unscrupulous group in the 19th century termed *The Boston Gang* who accepted money without sending goods as well as trying to tempt trusting Stanley Gibbons with bogus stamps. *Yugoslavia* was **Nick Coverdale's** topic in May. He included the postal history of the area before Yugoslavia was created and continued with a fascinating account of its evolution. Who would be a monarch in this area? We learned that most died deaths worthy of Ancient Rome or



Nick Coverdale in action

mediaeval times. Our respect increased for Tito who managed to hold things together until his own death. Some very rare stamps, many in multiple blocks, were displayed alongside ones we all recognised. Nick gave an excellent presentation. *Bill Tait*

Herefordshire and Mid Wales

The summer part of our programme commenced in great style in May with **Yvonne Wheatley** displaying the *History of Czechoslovakia* from its inception in 1918 to the peaceful dissolution into the Czech Republic and Slovakia in 1993. In June, it was once again the members' turn to entertain, with nine sheets of their choice, encouraged by the threat of a one pound fine for failing to display anything. Our treasurer deemed the evening disastrous as only two members had to pay up, but the rest of us enjoyed a diverse range of displays. Last year the membership voted to move the society AGM and competition evening to July so that it fell on the last meeting of the season. This year was the first with the new schedule and I am pleased to say it was not detrimental to attendance. Business was concluded in less than half an hour and there were entries in all four competitions. Of particular interest was the competition for the President's Cup, which **John Henshall's** entry of the

Hemel Hempstead PS

In the 55 years of HHPS existence we maintained an archive of special covers, programmes and press reports on the society. After discussion we agreed to try to get Hertfordshire Archives to give access to the records for people researching social history or pastimes. They have accepted the records under accession 6173. The records will not reveal any personal details or addresses as items with this information will not be released.

Perhaps other closing societies might be interested in the idea. *Keith Wright*



Incoming President, Paul Olver presenting the Founder's trophy for Postal History to John Symons

First Issues of South West Africa won by one point from **Nick Nelson's** *Pedro II of Brazil* entry. After completing the judging, members enjoyed a lively bourse along with a raffle and refreshments. The autumn season commences in September traditionally with members' displays on letters of the alphabet. *Janet Nelson*

Huntingdonshire

Peter Pugh was our guest speaker in June. His subject was *Big Business on the China Coast*, which dealt with Hong Kong and the East Coast of China Security Marks on Mail. To stop stamps being stolen or reused firms had the stamps overprinted with their name or perforated with their initial or name across it. There were many firms operating in the area so there was a lot of mail originating there. One of the biggest firms was Jardine Matheson, which was founded in Canton in 1832 by Scots William Jardine. It was one of Asia's most dynamic trading companies. Other firms included Arnhold Karberg and Company, Asiatic Petroleum Company, Banque De L'Indochine, Canadian Pacific Railway Steam ships. Mail was shown from the

Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, the Chartered Mercantile Bank, Thomas Cook and the Daily Press. Along with photographs of some of the firms' premises were pictures of some of the owners of the firms with a short history to go with them. This was an interesting display of material that many of our members had not seen before. *David Birkert*

Kingston & District

Our meetings during May and June have been members' meetings with varied attendance at each, although all meetings proved interesting. However on 17th May we were visited by Wimbledon & District PS, when **Russell Hill** gave a display on *Butlins Holiday Camp*, **Michael Round** showed us *Inflation Mail from the Democratic Republic of Congo* circa early 1970s. and **Andy Donaldson** displayed *Underprints, Overprints and*



Andy Donaldson with a - what?

Perfins. We are closed until September for our summer recess but upon our return, one of the Society's longest serving members, **Michael Pitt-Payne** will give a display entitled *Aspects of Postal History*. Members are now getting organized for the Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies Stamp Day,

on 26th October, which Kingston Society are hosting at Claygate, yet again. It is hoped that this event will be as successful as those previously hosted by us but a lot of this is up to those who attend. Please come along.

➔ brian.sole@btinternet.com,
01932 220677, or
www.kingstonphilatelicsociety.com

Chris Oliver

Launceston

Our five meetings included four speakers and one auction which raised over £440 from 122 lots. **Martin Hopkinson** entertained us with *Sarawak*. He started with an overview of the geography and history of Sarawak. He then took us in over 100 pages through the stamps from early days to the 1987 definitives. It was a wonderful display showing fine research and dedication. **John Harrison** showed his *Local Victorian Postal History*. He commented that early Victorian correspondence to and from the South West was becoming increasingly difficult to find and much of it is of local origin between solicitors and their clients, included some interesting Mulready Lettersheets. In May **Mac Walters** displayed *Cornish Postcards* using PowerPoint. Mac has a vast

collection of postcards from all over Cornwall so we travelled from Penryn to Falmouth, thence to Liskeard and Callington. At one point we veered over into Devon for a short while. Many of the cards gave a view of life and social history from many years ago although at times we became quite modern. We saw horses and carts, water wheels, street scenes, country houses, washer women and much more. This display was certainly an encouragement to include further postcard displays in our future programs. Our last display, by **Peter Chantry**, was of *The Flora and Fauna of East Africa*. Following Independence the three former

colonies produced their own stamps many of them, showing the indigent flowers and animals. It was a fascinating and informative display.



Peter Chantry

Howard Hamblin



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Leeds

Getting to the end of the society year makes for a short report. 23rd April was *Peace - Aspects including the Nobel Peace Prize* by the well-known speaker on that subject **Grace Davies** and then our penultimate meeting before our AGM, a visit from our neighbours the Barnsley Philatelic Society. This was a rattling good evening with among displays a splendid one on *Historical Aspects of Leeds PS* and another good one on *Ephemera to do with Shipping*. Even The AGM was eventful - a new young Vice President and as a finale our secretary gave us a party piece *Does Philately make you a nerd?* Not in his case but serious information given in a clear way with beautiful could-die-for examples of Victorian cancellations. The winds of philately are changing. I recently found a Presidential Leeds Christmas Card of 1901 at Morley Stamp Fair. It might be your first Xmas greetings for 2019.



Michael Waugh

Luton

We will be meeting as usual on the first Friday of the month at Bushmead School except when school holidays cause a change – January (10th) and May (8th). Visitors will be welcome of course. The meetings are fairly evenly divided between members' displays

and visiting speakers, with an auction in December and the AGM in May.
Fin O'Donoghue

Maidstone & Mid-Kent

Our season has continued with some fine displays on *WWI the Salonica Campaign* by **R. Morrell**, *German Inflation Period* by **R. Mott**, a visit by Redhill PS *The Post Office Went To War* by **Christine Earle**. In addition we have also had our Bi-Annual Auction and our Thematic/Woodruffe Cup Competitions. For our morning meetings we saw *Canada - Pre Stamped Mail* by **Hugh Johnson**, a visit by East Grinstead PS and *12 Sheets from my Collection* by society members. At the AGM our President, **Tony Bosworth**, stood down after completing five years. Our new President is **Tony Davis**, who originally held this position from 2009/14. In addition our Programme Secretary, **John Mortimore**, has decided to retire after producing our programmes for the last ten years. He is succeeded by **Margaret Emerson**, who many will know through the Civil Service PS. Margaret can be contacted on stamp.mags@btinternet.com For the remaining committee positions the same culprits are carrying on. Our 97th season kicks off on the 12th September with **Graham Booth FRPSL** displaying on the *Battle of the River Plate*, and the first morning meeting will be on the 19th September with members showing stamps on *Weather*. *Brian Stonestreet*

Mid Sussex

We completed our 2018-19 season with the AGM, where the existing officers were re-elected, followed by a display of *Chile* given by our president, **John Bushell**. Since Christmas we

have enjoyed a variety of interesting displays given by visiting speakers. In January **Hugh Bennet** described his involvement in the designing of *Gilbert & Ellis Islands stamps*, showing a range of original art work. In February **Graham Booth** displayed *Trans-Atlantic Mail*, followed in March by **Graham Little** introducing *Music on Stamps*, with musical accompaniment. In April **Christine Earle** illustrated a single structure, *Sydney Harbour Bridge*, while **Patrick Reid** continued the Antipodean theme with a display of *Aspects of Tasmania*. Our final visiting speaker, **Nigel Steer**, gave a comprehensive display of the *Early Stamps of Norway*. Intermingled with these were members' evenings including an auction, competitions & bourse and the *Letters C, D and E*. Altogether a very good season for the club with well-attended meetings throughout.

➔ jespeth@hotmail.com

Jim Etherington

Morecambe & District

In April we held our Annual Stamp Fair at The Platform, Morecambe (the former Midland Railway Station). There were 12 dealers and a steady flow of visitors. They came from as far away as Anglesey, Leeds, Bradford, Bedale and East Lancashire. We welcomed the Mayor of Lancaster to the event and hope to run another successful day next year.

Frank Colling

Oxford

In the spring, we held our popular auction, which attracted a lot of members and bidding, and made the society a handy profit to add to its coffers. Having being judged earlier, the next meeting allowed our nine-page

competition participants to display their interesting entries to the membership. Two displays formed the President's evening in May. First, **Charlie Buxton's One Hundred Years of One Pound stamps, 1878-1977** covered Victorian telegraph and Jubilee stamps, Edward VII's £1 stamp, George V Seahorses, as well as George VI's High Values and Royal Silver Wedding issues, finishing off with sheets and large blocks of QE2 stamps. Then President **Alan Cowie** gave a fascinating display on *Hungary*, a country he knew well from working there but only started collecting in recent times. A Japan-man at heart, Alan loves trying out new countries, and a lovely display of hardly ever seen early-mid period Hungarian stamps proved he can fulfil his ambitions. In mid-July two members of the Stratford upon Avon Philatelic Society came south for an evening in Oxford. A wonderful combination of **Dr John Gledhill's Overprinted British Revenues** and **Alan Godfrey's The Last Explorer – Sir Hubert Wilkins** made for an educative, entertaining and enlightening evening. *Dr Simon Heap*

Ringwood

'Pigs might fly...' well on this philatelic occasion they really did!! Ringwood Philatelic Society President and eminent Guest Speaker **Colin Mount FRPSL** presented a superb display on *postal pigs*. This revealed his long-term specialist career and very considerable knowledge in the pig industry, which was skilfully illustrated through a rich mixture of pigs depicted on stamps, covers, postcards, postmarks, advertising material and so on. Amongst the porky stories were insights into war-time propaganda,



A Cured Ham cover - bad for pigs

poems and literature (eg. 'The Little Pigs'), Christmas and Valentine cards, and the stories and facts behind the piggy bank and such well known sayings as 'pig-in-a-poke'. Wild boars in rural UK also had a mention! There were three entries for this year's One-Page Competition. The winner was **David Etchells** with *Heinrich Schliemann (1822-1890) - Polymath, banker, businessman and archaeologist*. Schliemann began working in banking in Russia in 1846, spoke 14 languages and by 36 retired with a business fortune to pursue a career in archaeology. He eventually discovered 'Priam's Treasure' at Troy and the 'Mask of Agamemnon at Mycenae'. On a glorious 1st June was Ringpex. The highlight of the day was the raffle, where the star prize was a very fine Penny Black, kindly donated by Hon Member and local GB specialist dealer, **Peter Mollett**. Our volunteer Kitchen Team were popular with their all-day refreshments, in particular the now famous RINGPEX bacon/sausage rolls. *Paul Barry*

Royal Tunbridge Wells

In March we were entertained by **Birthe** and **Chris King** with displays of *Schleswig-Holstein* and *Denmark in WWII* – two new topics for us which generated questions and answers. In

April **Michael Dobbs** from Forces Postal History was our speaker with his *Post-WWII British Military* items connected with NATO etc. Later **Andy Gould** gave us the story of *London, Brighton & South Coast Railway* – a local topic with much to interest us. National Stamp Day in May was celebrated by members showing from their collections, and for the next meeting four visitors from Maidstone and Mid-Kent brought a variety of material. Our two displays in June were from Cinque Ports (four displays of stamps and postal history) and **Philip Kaye** showing *Sussex Postal history*, followed by **Cliff Gregory** with *Air Mails to and from India*.

Peter O'Keeffe

Sevenoaks & District

In March we had an in-depth display of *Mourning Memorial Material* by **Graham Boutle**, consisting of cards, envelopes, newspaper cuttings, photos of royalty, funerals and war memorials – a large collection of such material, rarely seen in such quantity. Next **Robin Morton** showed some *Scottish Postal History*, featuring Edinburgh and its port of Leith. In May **Jeremy Gaskell** gave a well-illustrated talk on *Two Famous Women*. This was the history of Edith Cavell and Queen Astrid of the Belgians. There were many stamps, postcards and other material about both. At the AGM in June **Tony Fandino** and **Pat Newman** joined the committee. In July, **Robert Hurst** showed us *Falkland Islands Dependencies* material. Prior to 1946 they used Falkland Islands stamps so this was exclusively KGVI and QEII stamps. We were saddened by the death of **John Crowe** (aged 95) – an Honorary Life Member and former

President, Packet Secretary, Society Librarian and team member. He also competed in competitions for Kent Federation. *Peter O'Keefe*

St Albans, Harpenden & District

Peter Pugh's display *Another Bloody Railway 1903-1912* on 10th April gave us the story of the construction and development of the Trans-Siberian Railway and the passage of British mail from Hong Kong and the Treaty ports back to Europe and beyond, shown in photographs, postcards and postal history. The influence and rivalry of the powers in Manchuria was much in evidence, particularly the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05 that closed the route within 13 weeks of its opening. With the South Manchuria Railway link now under Japanese control, the carriage of mail resumed and proved competitive compared to the sea route. One particularly interesting cover made the journey through to Brazil via Moscow and Lisbon. A magnificent display that left our members keen for more. The season ended with our AGM on 9th May, after which, in a change to the published programme, those present were given a chance to enjoy the display *The Great War through the Postbox* that we gave at the Harpenden Local History Society public exhibition on 1st December 2018. Our meetings resume on Wednesday 18th September when **David Bird** is visiting us to display *Specks, Spots and Nonsense*. → 01582 762284

p.mellor@btinternet.com or
www.stalbharpstampclub.org.uk

Peter Mellor

Thatcham & District

On 1st April the subject was *Fool*. Six members showed, including foolish postcards and WWII fooling of the Japanese. Next we welcomed the Tootler, **Colin Pawson**, with *Coaches and Coach horns*. He was all dressed up in his coaching uniform and very smart indeed. He spoke about the history of coaching with the first Royal Mail coach in 1768. Part 2 was all about coach horns and in 1893 coaching tunes were published. The Tootler spoke about mail guards and



*Colin Pawson aka
The Tootler*

their duties with a posthorn (no flange). Coaching horns were longer and had a flange at the end. The Tootler then played lots of tunes on the horns he had brought with him. Tunes for getting ready to go, leaving, get

out of the way!, and passing. Amazing how different notes can be produced on a horn (lots of blow though). Finally in April we had *Around the Med*. Three people produced material including an 1841 letter from Rome, from people who had had an audience with the Pope, which came via Corsica, Coventry, Liverpool and finally Newbury! There was also material from Greece, Cyrenaica, Tripolitania and Egypt. In May we had *Philatelic Halves* with **Nathan Gregory** and **Malcolm Hoskins**. Nathan showed Franking Privilege Mail and many of its abuses.

Malcom showed advertising mail: covers, logos and designs on mail. In June the theme was *Airways*. We saw airmail labels and etiquette stickers, airships, Australian airmail covers, geese and Canadian flying boats – a great mixture.

Martin Farr

Wakefield

On 17th April we held our bi-annual public auction which was very successful. We enjoyed a social evening at our annual dinner on 15th May. Later in May was the President's Evening when **Jill Fearons** entertained members with some wonderful and colourful displays which included stamps, postcards and covers featuring *Lighthouses across the World* followed by a selection of *Maritime Allsorts*. A members' evening followed in June when participants displayed some very interesting items from their collections which included stamps, covers, postcards etc, of the D-Day Landings, the Statue of Liberty, East African Airmail, Postal Commission Stamps of Ceylon and Cinderella items.

All of the above were accompanied by very entertaining and knowledgeable presentations. Our AGM was on 19th June when the trophies were presented to winning members of the annual competition.

Julie Hitchcock

Watford & District

In April we held our annual auction. 162 lots were expertly knocked down by our resident auctioneer **Brian Thurlow**. The AGM was held in May. With the formal business swiftly concluded, members of the committee put on some mini displays, including *USA Doane postmarks* by **Graham Walker** and *L&NWR official postcards* by **Brian Coates**. Our last meeting of

the season was in June, when we held our informal cup competitions, judged by the members present. The six page competition, based loosely around the letters D, E and F, was won by **Brian Coates** with *Delightful Edwardian Fairgrounds*: a postcard exhibit about Gray's fair at Bricket Wood. **Steve Birch** won the single page contest with *Falkland Islands pictorial definitives of George VI*. → 0192343243 or watforddps@gmail.com Wayne Cox

West London

At our May meeting we welcomed two visitors from Amersham and District PS, **Tim Harrison** and **David Turner**. David displayed an exemplary "A to Z" of postal markings from accountancy marks to Zeppelin cancellations which included a 1664 Bishop mark. In the second half Tim gave us an interesting insight into the social, political and postal history, including stamps, of *Estonia*. Our officers and committee remain unchanged following our AGM



Tim Harrison from Amersham PS en route from West London to Estonia

in June which was followed by a short display of the *Republic of South Africa 2nd definitive issue* given by the

President. Some entertaining members' meetings have taken place during this season and we are now closed for our summer break. We resume our usual monthly meetings on 10th September, continuing on the second Tuesday of each month. Christopher Oliver, Hon. Secretary on → 020 8940 9833 or olivers.of_ham@virgin.net, or sites.google.com/site/westlondonphilatelicssociety

Chris Oliver

Yeovil & District

We have had a very good season starting with 2 fine displays from **Nigel Cox** showing *South Island New Zealand Postcards* and **John Knight** with *Stamps with Rhodesia Victoria Falls*. The Yeovil Stamp and Postcard Fair in Sherborne at the Digby Hall had a good number of stamp dealers from around the South West and one postcard dealer. The Federation competitions had **Jim Wigmore** as Senior Judge of the 33 entries – an increase of five on 2018. Yeovil came second in Open and Postal History and third in Thematic. Our next display was of *Serbia and The Ionian Islands in WWII* by **Richard Stroud**. This was an unfamiliar topic for many. Our annual



Heads down at Yeovil Fair for that elusive item

competitions were won by: **Roger Marsh** *Isambard Kingdom Brunel 1806 -1859* (Thematic - Cyril Swain Trophy), **Eric Rendall** *Quotations* (General - Wessex Cup) and **Roger Marsh** *Rowland Hill's Reforms* (Postal History - T K Brown Shield). Our AGM was in June followed by members' postcard displays. David Bryant

Federations

Kent

We are grateful to Bromley & Beckenham PS for hosting the Kent Federation Day and AGM at their Stamp and Postcard Fair at Langley Park Boys School, Beckenham on 11th May and for their generous donation presented by **David Rennie** to our Chairman at the AGM. At the AGM **Don Brookfield** of Bexley was awarded the Lingley Shield for his many years of service to philately. The number of entries in the competitions was very poor - overall we only had 10 entries - nevertheless the worthy winners were **Jenny Viggars** (Thematics); **Colin Tobitt FRPSL** (Postal History); and **Mike Thompson** (Traditional) - well done all of you.

From *The Kent News*

South Wales

We held our 50th Annual Convention Stamp and Postcard Fair at the Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot – our permanent home since 1993. Seventeen dealers were there and were happy with their day in South Wales. We also held our annual competitions. The winners were: **Chris Griffiths** of Bridgend (General), **Reg Lyon** of Barry (Thematic), **Neil Prior** of Port Talbot (Postal History), **Toby Middlemist** of Haverfordwest (Junior

and Junior Primary Thematic), **Filip Middlemist** of Haverfordwest (Junior Secondary Thematic). Chris Griffiths also won the Dr Mary Lennox Trophy for the best overall entry with his *Inland Revenue One Penny Postal Fiscals*.

Neil Prior

National and specialist societies

British Thematic

Over twenty members of the BTA gathered for their annual meeting at Swinpex in June. The meeting commenced with the AGM where the officers and committee were re-elected with two new committee members being appointed, **Owen Green** as Display Organiser and **Andrew Millington** as Competitions Organiser. This was followed by a display given by the winner of the 2018 Thematic Cup, **Wayne Cox** with *Victorian Letter Boxes*. Wayne traced the history of the pillar box through the period noting the first roadside pillar box being erected in St Helier in Jersey in 1852 on the

recommendation of Anthony Trollope. In 1856 an ornate pillar box designed by Richard Redgrave was introduced in London, but between 1866 and 1879 the hexagonal Penfold became the standard design for pillar boxes.

Originally painted green, pillar boxes started to be painted red in 1866, but it took some time before this was adopted across the country.

→ jespeth@hotmail.com

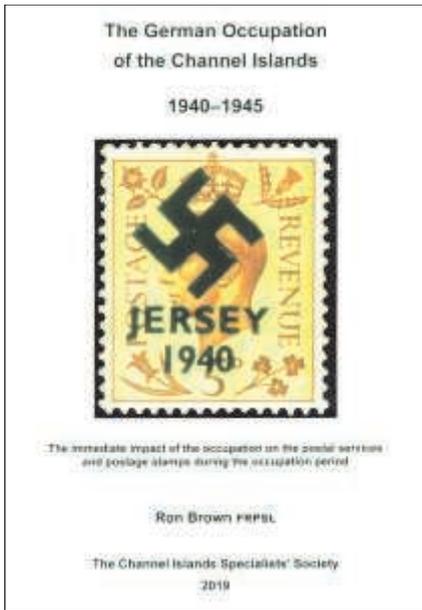
Jim Etherington

Channel Is Specialists'

43 members and guests attended our Weekend Meeting from 26th to 28th April at the Grasmere House Hotel, Salisbury. On Saturday morning there was a 600 lot room/postal auction. Displays were given in the afternoon. Chairman **David Winnie** opened with *St. Aubin Postal History 1830-2000*. **Ron Brown FRPSL** followed with a display of the material used in the production of his 114-page monograph that was launched at the weekend entitled *The German Occupation of the Channel Islands 1940 – 1945 – the immediate impact of the occupation of*



38 out of the 43 happy participants at Salisbury + the photographer presumably



Five Cards related to a Mrs Phillips who lived in Beaumont, Jersey.

Steve Wells

Italy & Colonies

21 people, including one from Chicago, came to the 4-star 800-year old Maids Head Hotel in Norwich for our annual weekend. Other members attended as day visitors on the Saturday. Over two days we were treated to a feast of displays with 11 members showing a total of 20 displays including: **Richard Harlow** *Venetian Republic and Stamps of Victor Emanuel II on Cover*, **Andy Harris** *The Mystery of the Extra Lira and Registered and Express Mail*, **Paul Woodness** *Inter War Years in the Dodecanese and A WWII Adventure*, **Bash Orhan** *Italy in WWI and Allied Foreign Forces in the WWII Italy Invasion*, **Peter Rooke** *Napoleonic Departments Conquis in Piedmont, An Italian Napoleonic Miscellany* and

the postal services and postage stamps during the occupation period. **Olaf Beecken** concluded the day with a display of rare *Radio Message Cards* and *German POW mail after Liberation*. **Leo Mayr** began the Sunday displays with *Basic Material* including machine cancels of Guernsey used during the Occupation. **David Gurney FRPSL** showed *Illustrated Advertising Covers* used in the Channel Islands between 1937 and 1948 followed by **Gerald Marriner FRPSL** with *Guernsey Postage Due Markings* and *Mail from the Channel Islands to Foreign Destinations*. **Brian Sole FRPSL** displayed *Stamps that depicted Famous People from the Channel Islands*. New members **Mike Moody** and **Alan Whittaker** brought *Liberation material* and *One Man's War* (about Denis George Liot) respectively. **Richard Flemming** also showed *Mail from the Channel Islands to Overseas Destinations*. **David Winnie's** *Study in*



Peter Rooke or is it Napoleon?

Commissario Di Guerra, **Grahame Lindsey** *Victor Emanuel from Unification*, **Denis Vandervelde** *Italian Quarantine and Disinfection Pre 1831*, **Keith Brandon** *Verona Pre Stamp Post History* and *Mail from the*

Mountains (South Tirol), **Martyn Cusworth** *Italian Post Office in Janina and Italian Post Office in La Canea and Lati Odds and Ends*, **Mike Brindle** *War Changes Mail* and **Alan Moorcroft** *Sicily*. The hotel was quirky with plenty of stairs, corridors and seating areas. We relaxed each evening with pre-dinner drinks before excellent dinners. Norwich provided numerous tourist opportunities for members and partners, and many took the opportunity to visit the Cathedral and local collector centres. **Susan Chislett** who celebrated her birthday was thanked for organising the hotel accommodation, given a small present and received the usual rendition of Happy Birthday. *Paul Woodness*

The Royal

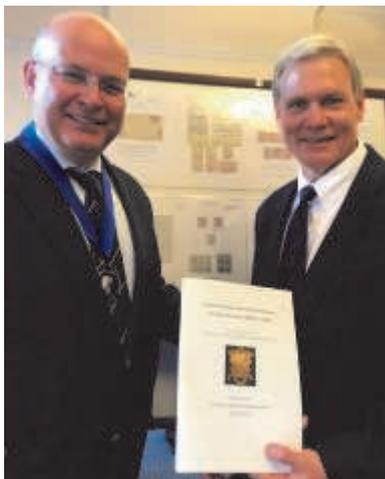
'This is not a subject many know.' is how **Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL** introduced the display of *Postal Stamps and Postal History of Liberia from 1820 to 1920* by **Bryant E Korn**. The display began with letters sent

before the introduction of stamps in 1860. The first stamp's design depicted Seated Liberty. In 1868 the Liberian Treasury was robbed, including stamps, so the use of stamps was forbidden until mid-1880, mail being sent stampless, except for three known covers, two Official and one Paquebot. The next meeting marked the end of an era: the final meeting held at 41 Devonshire Place. It provided an impressive display by **Georg Størmer FRPSL** of *The First Three issues of Norway*, from 1855 to 1868. There were superb covers demonstrating the usage of the stamps. The events



*Richard Stock with
Georg Størmer*

*Freddy
Khalastchy*



*Patrick Maselis with Bryant E
Korn*

surrounding *The Mesopotamia Campaign at the start of WWI*, and the subsequent issue of overprinted stamps, was told in May by **Freddy Khalastchy FRPSL**. The fascinating story was told by a range of material, not only of the issued stamps, much on cover, but also supplementary photographs and documentation. A quite extraordinary array of letters tracing the different *Postmarks and Rates found on Letters of the Grand Armée* were shown at a presentation by **Paolo Bianchi RDP FRPSL** in June. This provided an insight into the experiences of the soldiers who fought in Napoleon's Grande Armée during the Russian Campaign in 1812, and in the Second Grande Armée of 1812 to 1813. *Richard West*

Sarawak Specialists

As you will have seen from the front cover, the Sarawak Specialists have been on their travels. I have not received a full report but a mass of photographs with some information about what they show, so here is a new form of report. They flew into Kuching, the capital of Sarawak, to a great welcome.



Welcome: SSS South East Vice-President, Chan Kee Tex with SSS Secretary Roger Johnson ready to welcome members at Kuching airport on the first day of the tour.

In Kuching they visited the Stamp Fair in a shopping centre and went to Kuching PO.



Carol Turner with a part time dealer at the Kuching Stamp Fair



Len Stanway and Bernard Lardner at Kuching GPO looking at the stocks of current postage and revenue stamps

They visited the Rajah's palace, went on a river cruise and met some of the



Two local SSS members John Teo and Chai Foh Chin and others in the background (Malcolm Gascoyne, Len Stanway and Bernard Lardner)

native villagers and enjoyed a spot of rural life.



Malcolm Gascoyne sitting at the former Rajah of Sarawak's desk



Getting ready for a launch trip around the Brunei river village



As usual there was a formal dinner - this time at the Kuching Club.

Len and Anne Stanway



South African Collectors

Our weekend was held again at Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden. Saturday consisted of five 40-minute displays on completely different subjects. **Rob Lester** displayed *Advertising Covers*, then **Bas Payne** who has been studying *Serial Number Positions in respect of different Printings*, gave a PowerPoint presentation. Our convenor **Simon Peetoom** showed a *Postcard Correspondence from a Sgt Eddie Stuart* each bearing a nice signed "CO / Prince Alfred Guard / Port Elizabeth" cachet, and a display from a collection formed by former SACS member **Edgar Kinsey** in the 1950s and 60s. Non-member **Jamie Smith** took us through *Transportation of Transvaal gold to the USA via Canada to pay for arms*. The last show of the day was **Bob Hill's Apartheid Period** including two local revenue stamps previously not seen. Bob wasn't yet finished, however, as he was the



SSS President Malcolm Gascoyne meets the Murut warrior headman at the entrance to his village (Muruts were famed as headhunters!) in Kota Kinabalu



Mike Roberts enjoying some local fruit at a rural market stall

They also visited the memorial to British troops



killed at the Sandakan POW camp and had lunch at the former Governor's Residency.



John Shaw presenting the Abell Trophy to Bob Hill

winner from 6 entries for the Abell Trophy which followed his display. John also announced **Wilbert Davies** as the winner of the Wicks Award for *WWII Foreign SA covers* in *The Springbok* during 2018. Sunday morning was for members' shows. **Nick Arrow, Bob Hill, Chris Oliver, Rob Lester** and **Tony Howgrave-Graham** provided a great mixture including *WWII newsletters produced by the Cape Town Citizens Committee, Republican air-letters 1971-6* with the imprinted stamp showing a plane over the Tafelberg and *Maritime Mail from the 1850s* – surely one of the most interesting periods. ➔

Christopher Oliver, Hon Secretary
020 8940 9833 or
olivers.of_ham@virgin.net (or visit
www.southafricacollector.com)

Chris Oliver

WETS

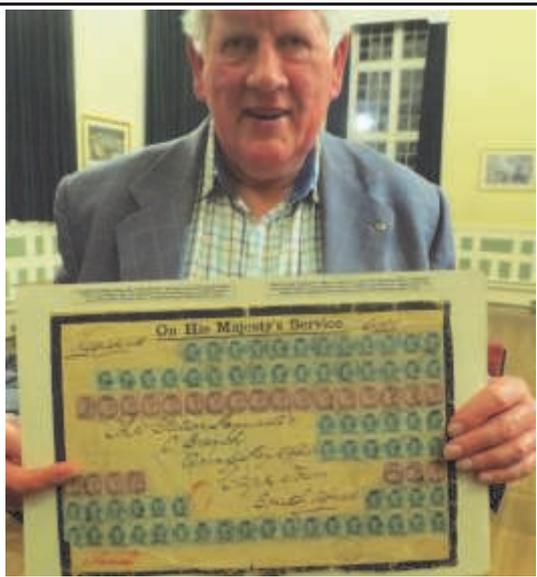
A well-attended WETS meeting of members and guests held at

Buckfastleigh Town Hall on 27th April were enthralled by a display *Smithy's Bus* given by **Sue Burn**. This fantastic display told the story of Charles Kingsford-Smith including his flight across the Tasman Sea, his many flights between Australia and England - all in attempts to gain contracts to fly mail. In the course of his daring flights he flew across the Pacific from America to Australia. He also flew across the Atlantic from east to west and then continued across America, this meant he had flown around the world. The extent of the research and acquisition of related material for this display was stunning. After a buffet lunch there were a number of displays on the subject of *Be Prepared*. WETS gained a Large Vermeil in Spring Stampex 2019 for its Memory Stick which has been further enhanced to include some of the displays by members that are included in WETS Roadshows.

James Wigmore

Difficult pieces to mount but great fun to display.

David Milsted brought a small item to show to Bromley and Beckenham. If you care to check you will find 68 Army Official ½d stamps and 24 Army Official 1d stamps to pay the registered mail rate of 4 shillings and 10 pence to South Africa. Some clerk must have had a dry tongue if they had to lick all those to fasten them on securely. What a great piece! Can anyone match or even beat it? 92 stamps on one cover is quite a target. I must look out both of my outsize pieces.



A Selection of Lots and Display Items

Some societies send photographs of items in their auction or of ones that have been part of a display. It is a shame that I cannot include them all but the shortage of reports this time gives me this opportunity. If you cannot find anyone to write the report just send me a photograph with a caption.

From CISS, Kingston and Ringwood.

1. St Aubin 1830 No. 1 Handstamp.

ST. AUBIN

With the establishment of the Penny Post in April 1830, a new hand stamp was issued to the Principal Office in St. Helier where it is believed it was used for all Penny Post letters - even the Foreign ones. The handwriting was made of wood. Had an engraved surface and was framed by a double line of black with a circular frame.



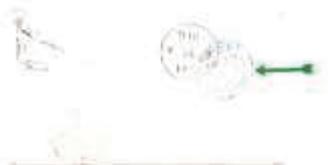
A folded No. 1 handstamp was also issued in 1830 to denote the particular Post or Receiving House at St. Aubin. This type has perforated characters and has a circle under the initials of No. 1 in order to have been used in 1830, 1831 and 1832.

3

ST. AUBIN



The envelope addressed to Jersey shows the St. Aubin circular double arc handstamp used in blue ink on the front of the cover on the 14th March 1852.



The reverse of the envelope shows a blue Jersey circular double arc handstamp for the 13th March but the post date has been incorrectly recorded and given the year as 1852.

There are also London and Edinburgh handstamps for the 20th and 21st March respectively.

2. 1911 special illustrated card for the First UK Aerial Post flight which was addressed to Jersey.



3. St. Aubin 1852 03 14 Cover.

4. The Tower of London from A Postcard Tour of London.

5. Heinz offering new Christmas stamps for old soup labels - note the values!

Editor



British Stamp news

I am not sure what has come over me. In recent months there have been the usual number of new issues with lots of sidelines to extract money from mint collectors - and I have enjoyed seeing the results! The new thing is that they are all relevant to Britain. May saw the bicentenary of the



birth of (Queen) Victoria. There are 6 stamps in the set, also as three se-tenant pairs and a minisheet with four different stamps relating to Prince Albert. Overkill maybe, but plenty of opportunity for Royal thematics, buildings and general collectors.



Also in May was the British Engineering set with Harrier Jump Jets for Aviation enthusiasts. I liked the microcomputer and the Falkirk Wheel. I hadn't heard of either and was inspired to do some investigation. The next two months produced the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings and, considerably more fun, The Curious British Customs.



Raspberry Pi microcomputer helps to teach programming



D-Day Allied soldiers and medical workers ashore

Both have a place in our history and so in my collection. Anyone for a spot of Cheese Rolling? Now all I must do is wait for nicely cancelled versions for my used collection.



The Falkirk Wheel rotating boat lift connects Scottish waterways



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



HARRIER JUMP JET
50TH ANNIVERSARY

An Annual General Meeting can be boring with nothing to note that is significantly different from what happened or was said at the last one, or argumentative with those people who are unhappy voicing their disagreements with the committee, often without offering either help or constructive criticism. The third possibility is that the AGM includes something of note. That was definitely the case at the AGM of ABPS which was held mid-July at the York Stamp Fair. There was a good number of affiliated societies represented. Criticism was constructive, but also there was much affirmation of the work being done. I am sure that officers went away feeling that they had the support of the societies - this one did anyway. The best part was the recognition of work done by certain individuals in their respective areas of philately and the country



Daphne McMillan

by the presentation of ABPS Awards of Merit Certificates to **Daphne McMillan FRPSL** and **Robert McMillan FRPSL**, both proposed by Hull & District PS, and **Dr Michael Waugh** nominated by Leeds PS and the Malaya Study Group. The ABPS Congress Medal was re-presented to **Gerald Marriner** having been awarded earlier this year during the part of Congress that was held at Stockholmia. ABPS Chairman



Robert McMillan



Michael Waugh

Graham Winters FRPSL presented all four awards at the end of the AGM as part of the second part of this year's ABPS Congress. We had previously enjoyed a first-rate presentation and display by **Alan Holyoake RDP FRPSL** of his collection of *Early Letters* - and by



Gerald Marriner

that I mean from King John's time to Charles II. The past was followed by the future as **Richard Stock FRPSL**, President of the Royal, gave the Kay Goodman Lecture on *The Future Royal* with a view of its impending move into 15 Abchurch Lane in London with greater facilities and greater opportunities. Finally there was a display by **Graham Winters** of examples of classes now available for exhibition and competition under the ABPS affiliation to the International Philatelic scene. What a great AGM!

I am grateful to Richard Wheatley for his photographs so rapidly provided after the event and showing the apparent pleasure of the recipients. Don't forget that your society has the right to nominate for the ABPS Awards of Merit. Editor

Stamp Active Network

With Spring Stampex past, we are into competition entries for Autumn Stampex. All ages are covered, starting with "My Favourite Things" - our one-page competition for all children upto the age of 13 on 1st September. Children of all ages can enter the "Stamp Active" competition with a minimum of four pages, and the more experienced competitors can have a go in the British Youth Championships. Details of all these competitions are on the Stamp Active webpage, but please take especial note of the entry dates. Whilst the closing date for entries for "My Favourite Things" is not until 1st September, for the Stamp Active and the British Youth Championship competition entry forms had to be in by Friday 12th July, with the actual entry being received by Friday 19th July. Copies of all the rules and entry forms can be downloaded from the Competition section of the web site. We look forward to seeing the results of the young competitors' efforts at Autumn Stampex on the Gallery floor. Why not come to see what happens at the Stamp Active stand?

David Rossall



Stamp Day May 2019

Andy Taylor, Editor and Treasurer of the Austrian Philatelic Society, decided that he ought to do something for Stamp Day. He arranged with his local library to do a display of photocopied stamps and some of the catalogues from the shelves. It was on display all the week covering May 6th. How many people took any notice? Well at least one as it seems from the photographs that

one of the catalogues has been "borrowed". Did anyone else do something to bring Stamp Day to people's attention? Not according to Google!



Diary

Local and regional events by ABPS members

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

September

- 7 Poole and Bournemouth Stamp & Postcard Club Annual Fair: 10 - 4, Upton Community Centre, Poole Road, **Upton** BH16 5JA
→ 01202 395484 or philatelyinbournemouth.co.uk/poole-club.html
- 21 South Wales Federation Autumn Day Stamp & Postcard Fair: Tailbach Community Centre, Duke Street, Margam, **Port Talbot** SA13 1NA
→ 01656 740520
- 22 Warminster PS Annual Fair: 10 - 4, Kingdown School, Woodcock Road, **Warminster**, Wiltshire BA12 9DR → 01225 760597 or martinmantell@hotmail.com
- 28 HAMPEX 2019 - Hampshire Federation: 10 - 4, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, **Wickham** PO17 5AL
- 28 Kent Federation Autumn Rally: 9.30 - 3.30, East Malling Village Hall, New Road, **East Malling Near Maidstone** ME19 6DD → 01474 325507 or mallingstampfairs.weebly.com
- 28 Somerset & Dorset Federation Competitions: Uploders Village Hall, **Bridport** DT6 5QS

October

- 5 Shropshire Annual Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Barnabas Church Centre, **Longden Coleham, Shrewsbury**, SY3 7DN
- 5 SW Scotland Philatelic Societies 57th Annual Stamp & Postcard Festival, hosted by Ayrshire PS: 10 - 4, Prestwick Community Centre, Caerlaverock Road, **Prestwick** KA9 1HR
- 12 ASPS South of England Stamp Fair, including BTA Competitions: South of England Centre, **Ardingly**, West Sussex RH17 6TL → sussexphilately.org.uk/South_of_England_Stamp_Fair.php
- 12 Telford Stamp, Card and Coin Fair: 10 - 3, Belmont Hall, Wellington Centre, **Telford** TF1 1HJ → Bob Pilkington 01299 211737 or sbpilkington02@outlook.com
- 26 Bolton Stamp Fair and the Northwest Federation of Philatelic Societies Annual Convention: 10 - 4, St Joseph's High School, Chorley New Road, **Horwich, Bolton** BL6 6HW → David 01942 813386
- 26 CORNEX: 10 - 4, Millennium Hall, Princess Road, **Pensilva, Liskeard** PL14 5NF → www.cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/contact-us.php or 01288 355918
- 26 Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies Stamp Day hosted by Kingston & District PS: 10 - 4, Claygate Village Hall, Church Rd, **Claygate** KT10 0JP
→ Brian Sole 01932 220677 or brian.sole@btinternet.com

November

- 9 Maidstone & Mid-Kent Stamp Fair: 10 - 3, Grove Green Community Centre (opp Tesco's), **Maidstone** Kent ME14 5BT
- 10 Banbury Festival of Stamps: 10 - 4, Joint Autumn Conventions & Competitions of the Midland Philatelic Federation and Thames Valley Philatelic Federation, Blessed George Napier School, Springfield Avenue, **Banbury**, OX16 9DQ → John Davies 01295 255831
- 12 ASPS South of England Stamp Fair, South of England Centre, **Ardingly**, West Sussex RH17 6TL
- 16 Taunton Annual Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, St James Church Hall, St James Street, **Taunton** TA1 1 JS → Peter Hardie 01823 666371
- 16 & 17 Leeds PS Annual Stamp Fair: Pudsey Civic Hall **Leeds** LS28 5TA includes the Yorkshire PA Annual Convention on the Sunday.
→ www.leedspss.org.uk
- 23 Autumn StampEssex exhibition and dealer fair, Great Baddow, **Chelmsford**

December

- 4 Grimsby PS Charity Auction: 7pm onwards, Central Hall, Duncombe Street, **Grimsby** DN32 7EG → John Mileman 01472 827396

National Exhibitions 2019 - 2020

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

- 11th -14th September 2019: AUTUMN STAMPEX 2019. The National Philatelic Society will be the lead society. Other societies and collectors will also contribute on the theme of the 'Indian Sub-Continent'. Details are on the ABPS website.
- There will be no SPRING STAMPEX 2020.
- 16th - 19th September 2020: AUTUMN STAMPEX 2020. The British Thematic Association will be the lead society. Barry Stagg is the coordinator. An Inter-Federation competition will be included.

International Exhibitions 2019-2021

- September 2019: EGYPT 2019. A FEPA exhibition with FIP recognition to mark the 90th anniversary of the Cairo Philatelic Society.
- 17th - 20th October 2019: BULGARIA 2019 Plovdiv. FEPA patronage. No other details yet available.
- 2nd - 9th May 2020 London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, **London** N1 0QH. Specialised World Stamp Championship Exhibition with FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. 2750 frames (change-over of material after 4 days). Competitive classes will be Championship, Traditional, Postal History, Aerophilately, Revenue, Postal Stationery, Thematic, Literature (including digital), Open, Modern, Picture Postcards and Youth. IREX will be published shortly → www.london2020.co
UK Commissioner: Mike JY Roberts. Assistant Commissioner: Kim Stuckey.
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.
- 6th -11th August 2020: INDONESIA 2020, Djakarta. FIP Patronage. No further details available.
 - October 2020: ANKARA 2020. FEPA patronage. No further details available.
 - November-December 2020: MALAYSIA 2020, Kuala Lumpur. FIP patronage. No further details available.
 - 17th - 20th March 2021: SOUTH AFRICA 2021, Cape Town. FIP patronage.

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

Web information

Further information can be found on the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk on the “Exhibiting” tab.

Bill Hedley,
Chairman ABPS International & Exhibitions Committee ewlhedley@gmail.com

Congratulations to:

Jeffrey Stone & (the late) Kaj Hellman - awarded a FEPA 2018 Certificate for exceptional philatelic study and research for “Agathon Fabergé - Portrait of a Philatelist”

Stanley Gibbons who enjoyed another successful international stamp show with a strong showing at Stockholmia. Their stand consisted of a wide range of material from the four departments: Commonwealth, Great Britain, auctions and publishing. There was something for all to see and experience.

In the highly contested literature class, Stanley Gibbons had a strong showing with a number of successful entries. The 13th edition GB Specialised Volume earned a Gold medal, the Commonwealth and British Empire 2019 edition and the Gibbons Stamp Monthly both won Large Vermeils. The 2018 edition of GB Concise and the 1st edition of the Denmark & Norway catalogue both achieved Vermeils.



TRUSTEE DEPARTMENT

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

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

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

ABPS General Information

Honorary Life Vice Presidents

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

Executive Committee

Chairman: **Graham Winters** j.g.winters@hotmail.co.uk
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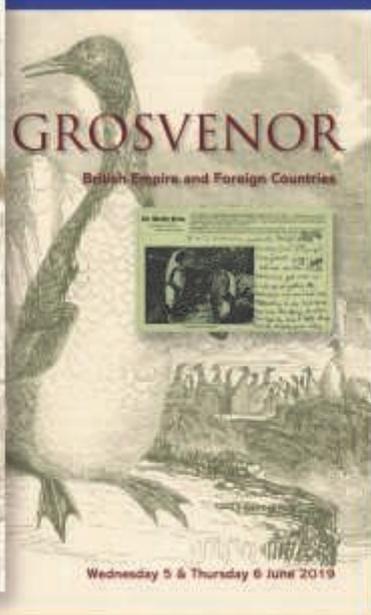
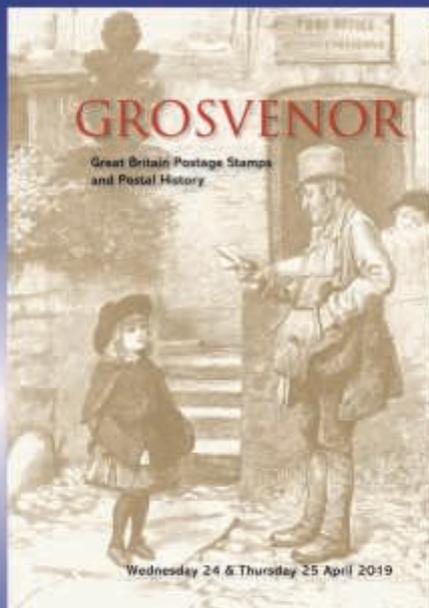
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