

In Memoriam of all whom we have lost



See page 6

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# ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

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

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**Cover picture:** *Christine Earle FRPSL* at Covent Garden

An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk) a few months 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 15<sup>th</sup> January, 15<sup>th</sup> April, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 15<sup>th</sup> 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 page 62) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.**



## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS.

APRIL 14<sup>th</sup> 2021.

As I write this in mid-April, the philatelic, and wider, community is filled with optimism. Lock-down is coming to an end. Face-to-face meetings are being planned from 21<sup>st</sup> June. The first main philatelic event in England is Midpex on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, organised by **Steve Harrison** and his committee. The first major Stamp Fair will be at York on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Undoubtedly there will be many smaller events before then.

Having been extremely careful with my movements, and followed guidelines regarding keeping distance, wearing masks and washing

hands, I am concerned that perhaps many are thinking that this health crisis is over. Relaxing compulsory measures, does not, to my mind, mean that we should simply abandon them. Keeping our distance, wearing masks at indoor meetings if there for any length of time, seems eminently sensible, and the philatelic world, especially given our age profile, despite vaccinations, would do well to remain very careful.

On a brighter note, we have just had a very successful 'virtual' Spring Stampex with the Royal Philatelic Society playing a leading role for which they deserve many congratulations. There has also been the UK's first 'virtual' multi-frame National Exhibition, the Northern National, which should have been held in Perth alongside the Scottish National event which had to be cancelled. Though small in numbers of entries, there were some fine exhibits, some of which put the jury through its paces finding the best class in which to judge them. I would like to thank: **Simon Richards** and his committee for organising the event, especially **Nick Martin** for his perseverance with the technology, **Bill Hedley** for chairing the jury, and all of the exhibitors. Special thanks must go to the indefatigable **Peter Chadwick** whose whole-hearted support for UK exhibiting is without equal...well done on another gold medal! I don't know what we would do without you. Finally regarding the exhibition, three more exhibitors deserve special mention: **Jack Zhang** for a magnificent first time effort, **Stuart Gardiner** for his quite beautiful wafer seals, which all the jury saw, and **Danny Wong** for his *Taiwan*, the best exhibit in the show. All exhibits should still be on the ABPS Website. Have a look!

Lastly, I do hope everyone has a wonderful philatelic summer. Zoom has meant that many societies are keeping going until reality strikes in September with face-to-face meetings again. Until then, keep healthy and stay safe!

Best Regards,

*Graham Winters FRPSL*

# Editorial



We have all experienced some loss during the last year. To me hearing of the loss of Christine Earle brought it to a more personal level as she was one well-known philatelist whom I had met. That made me think that we should remember all those philatelists whom we have personally lost and that this issue should be in honour and memory of them. It is not possible to have obituaries for them all so please take the ones that I have included as being in memory of them all, and if you have lost other friends or family please know that I am thinking of you and that you have my sympathy.

The Virtual Stampex was both interesting and stimulating. I was involved in a small way and enjoyed talking to people, trying to answer their questions (not usually with great confidence that I was saying the right thing but happy to try). I also enjoyed seeing the exhibits in the displays and attended a couple of lectures. Under normal circumstances I doubt that I would have spoken to as many people or learnt as much. Looking at dealers' material in the comfort of my own lounge certainly beat the standing or perching on uncomfortable stools at their stands at the Business Design Centre.

Since then I have enjoyed attending an increasing number of Zoom meetings. In fact I have seen more material than in a normal season. It has been good to see the way that displays have changed, perhaps taking note of some of the ideas that have been given in previous issues of ABPS News. Some meetings involve a good number of people talking about and showing a single item, others are a full display by one person. Whatever the situation the results have been interesting, enlightening and sometimes just good fun. Would all those people have been willing to show at a face-to-face meeting? Perhaps, but the distances involved in many cases would make it very unlikely. I think that Zoom or equivalent meetings have a place in the future of our hobby. I hope that all speakers will make their wonderful presentations available to as many societies as possible. That can be done on the ABPS website where the Speakers' List is by no means full. Also some Federations maintain speakers' lists but they need you to give them the details. I am still hoping to create a Zoom speakers' list or add it to the physical meeting list - don't be shy, let me have the details.

I am looking forward to being able to go to actual meetings as well as virtual ones soon. For folk in the Midlands, Midpex is likely to be the first opportunity, for me in the North it will be the July Fair at York. Wherever you are I hope that the chance will come for you to make new friends or meet up with old ones in the not-too-distant future. Keep up the good work of sorting, clearing, preparing and most of all enjoying our hobby. Reach out to others (but not too close yet!) and I hope to see you at Stampex or LONDON 2022.

*Keith Burton FRPSL*

## CHRISTINE ANN EARLE FRPSL



Christine Earle was well-known and much loved in the Philatelic World. She was sociable, cheerful and had a lovely smile. Her philatelic achievements were substantial: National and International Judge for Thematic, Open and Youth Philately; Multiple International Gold Medal winner; and many more; Secretary of the RPSL for 5½ years; Key organiser at both the London 2000 and London 2010 shows; winner of the first ever Rowland Hill award in 1995, philatelic columnist for Stamp Magazine (encouraging and advising on using computers for write-up) from 1995 - 2004. On top of all this, Trustee of the

British Philatelic Trust and later Chair of the Philatelic Fund, and member of the ABPS International Committee. She also found time to do displays, exhibiting and judging workshops for many societies and federations all over the country. She will be hugely missed, as witness the huge quantity of emails and cards that I have received. They include messages from the Presidents of FIP and FEPA, the Chairman of ABPS and the President of RPSL. A former RPSL President regretted the loss of "The First Lady of Philately".

I had the privilege of judging her first ever competition entry in a Camberley competition in 1990. She won the Novice class and was delighted that I promoted her to the Club competition where she came second. She had just joined the Club and rose to be Chairman in 2006/7.

She was a great servant to Surrey philately, having been a member of Walton and Weybridge and Addlestone societies and on the committee of Bookham Stamp Club, and effectively serving for two terms as chairman as well as a term as vice-chairman. She was also programme secretary, and her range of contacts enabled her to provide outstanding guest speakers. The federation of Surrey philatelic societies recognised her contribution with the Award of Merit in 2013.

In 1998 she qualified as a National Judge for Thematic Philately and in 2001 for Social Philately. These were swiftly followed by appointment as UK Delegate to the FIP International Thematic Commission in 2002 and qualification as an International judge in 2003 in Bangkok. She served on overseas juries in Washington DC in 2007 and Bucharest in 2008 and in Essen in 2015. She had been chosen for the jury for London 2020, but the show was postponed to 2022 because of the pandemic.

For Stamp Show 2000 she was on the organising committee and the jury secretariat, and later in the year she gave a seminar at Glasgow 2000 on "*How to use the Computer in Philately*". For the International London 2010 Show she gave up her jury place to organise the RPSL stand and Display. In 2016 she was invited to judge at the Australian National Competition in Mandurah, Western Australia and later in the same trip we were both volunteer judges at the Australian National one-frame competition in Hobart.

Her judging skills were not restricted to National and International competitions. She was a regular judge for the Hampshire federation, where we often judged together, and for a number of local societies including Oxford and Swindon. When she joined the British Society of Australian Philately, she regularly helped to judge the competitions at the annual convention.

As an exhibitor she achieved success very quickly. In 1994, she won the British Thematic Association Trophy at "Thematica" with *The Grey Goose Wing* (A History of Archery), followed by a National Gold Medal and the Link House Trophy in 1995 at Stampex with the same exhibit and further Gold Medals at Olymphilex 1996, Italia 98, Olymphilex 2000 and Hafnia 01. She finally moved to another topic and in 2009 gained a Gold Medal for *Extracts from a Wartime Diary* at the National Exhibition in Sweden, followed by an International Gold at London 2010. A Large Gold at the Australian National in Perth 2012 and an International Gold in Melbourne (Australia) 2013 and finally another International Gold in Brazil in 2018. She won a Gold at Stampex 2017 with *They also Served*, a study of the contribution of British women to World War II.

Her life was more than philately. She had been an Olympic standard archer and would have gone to Moscow if they had sent a team. So little surprise that her first thematic collection was *Archery*. I feel that the secret of her success was her ability to take her subject and find a coherent story that ran through it. *Extracts from a Wartime Diary* gained rave reviews because of the brilliance of the treatment of the subject, and it won a Special Prize in Melbourne.

Christine was inspired by her trips to Sydney and completing the Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb, for which she trained assiduously.

I count myself very fortunate to have spent five years with Christine as a couple. We had been "mates" in the Australian sense for a number of years, meeting at the Royal, and travelling to meetings together without any hint of romance. One evening she asked me to help her host a dinner and our relationship gradually blossomed after that. Our friends began to comment that we were both looking happier, and we found that we worked very well as a couple. We have had some wonderful adventures together, both philatelic and holiday, with a couple of River Cruises and an amazing trip to Australia in 2016. The great joy each week was Friday afternoon, when she came over for the weekend and I always looked forward to that happy smiling face coming through the door. It is unbelievable that it will never happen again, but I must get used to it. Christine was kind, happy, lovely and I loved her to bits.

PGER



## Neil M Russell FRPSL

It is with sorrow that I report the death of Neil M Russell FRPSL on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020, aged 93. Neil was the longest surviving Congress Medallist, having received the honour in 1990.

He regularly attended the annual Congress with his wife Betty. He worked tirelessly for ABPS and its predecessor the British Philatelic Federation and his service was marked with an Honorary Life Vice Presidency. As Chairman of the Awards Committee, he undertook to review the awards in 1975 and the following year he announced the inauguration of the Award of Merit for those who gave their time and effort to local, specialist and regional bodies. In 2002 he received an Award of Merit for his work for the British Society for Australian Philately.



**Richard West MBE**, who received the Congress Medal in 1995 now takes Neil's place as the longest surviving Congress Medallist.

*Yvonne Wheatley  
Chairman ABPS Awards Committee*

## Society anniversaries

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).

### **Matlock Philatelic Society: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Foundation**

Interest in forming a Philatelic Society in Matlock was first initiated in a letter to the local press by **Mr PM (Punch) Brown**. The response was very positive and the first meeting was held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1971 at The Matlock Club on Dale Road where twenty-eight prospective members attended and formed the first committee. It was decided that the meetings should take place on the fourth Wednesday of the month. This continued to be the case for a number of years until we changed to the second Wednesday of the month which we maintain to this day.

The first display was on 19<sup>th</sup> May when the subject was *Sights of London* and this was followed in June when *Stamps of Palestine* were displayed. Unfortunately, the chairman & founder member 'Punch' Brown died in November 1971 and **WE (Bill) Holt** became chairman. The society however thrived. The second year we had thirty members and as well as the regular monthly displays, the Annual Dinner became a regular and popular feature with up to sixty people attending.





The Secretary  
Matlock Philatelic Society  
Imperial Rooms  
Imperial Road  
Matlock  
DE4 3NL

### *The Matlock Philatelic Society 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cover - in preparation*

We are very fortunate to have two of the original group still associated with the society. **John Paulson** became the treasurer in 1972, a position he still holds to

this day, and **Derrick Wain**, the first secretary, was made an Honorary Life Member in 2019. Still attending from the very early years of the group is **Frank Dickens** who joined in 1972 and recently commented that over the years he has held most of the positions on the committee, but most importantly now, together with Iris (his wife), carries out the most important job of 'tea boy'.

Mention should also be made of several other long-standing members, **Gordon Hardy**, **John Parkin** and **Roger West** who was Chairman from 1996 to 2015. Our society continues to thrive, even in these very difficult times. We still hold meetings, now by 'Zoom', in our usual Wednesday evening slot. We hope to be back to our normal meeting place at The Imperial Rooms Matlock very soon.

➔ 01629 582595 or

[pearcy@btinternet.com](mailto:pearcy@btinternet.com) Les Percy  
Heartiest congratulations to all involved in these milestones. If you think we've missed you out, please let the Editor know.



## The ABPS Congress Medal

For the first time in its history, the ABPS Congress Medal has been awarded jointly to two collectors who worked as a team. **Barry Burns** and **Bernard Mabbett** visited St Helena on two occasions to preserve the philatelic records and stamps of the island.

The pair visited St Helena to do research in 1998 and 2002 without finding any new information. In the last week of their four-week stay in 2002 they were shown a cellar containing two rooms packed with boxes and folders of paperwork. The postmistress said she would like it archived but did not have the staff or budget to undertake the work. Barry and Bernard agreed they would return to do the work themselves.

The task became urgent when they heard that the St Helena Government wished to empty the cellar and dump everything. In 2013 Barry and Bernard and two fellow philatelists returned to St Helena and spent five weeks sorting the paperwork and ledgers and putting them into more than 100 archive boxes.



*Bernard Mabbett (left) and Barry Burns outside Jamestown PO cellar.*

These had to be frozen to kill the white ants which had already destroyed some of the paperwork. The size of the task and the limited time available meant that only rudimentary sorting could be accomplished so the friends intend to return to complete the work.

Before they left Barry and Bernard were asked if they were prepared to return to write up the Government stamp collection consisting of Ascension, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha stamps. The collection had been kept in very poor

conditions on old non-acid-free card. In 2019 they returned and by the end of four and a half weeks, 996 album pages had been written up and mounted. This was only achieved by working long hours seven days a week. Now there is a permanent philatelic display in the museum which is changed on a regular basis. The whole collection is being scanned and downloaded onto a CD.

Had they not undertaken the work the archives would have been destroyed and the stamps deteriorated beyond rescue. The archives and stamps are now available for study by future generations.

In addition, both Barry and Bernard have held and continue to hold office in the West African Study Circle as well as in their local societies. They were nominated by the West African Study Circle and Middlesbrough & District Philatelic Society.

Barry Burns and Bernard Mabbett are very worthy winners of the ABPS Congress Medal for 2021.

## ABPS Awards of Merit

The Awards Committee is delighted to announce that three collectors have been recognised with the Award. They have worked tirelessly for local societies, specialist societies and federations.

**Michael Dobbs** nominated by the Forces Postal History Society

**Eddie Mays** nominated by Southampton & District Philatelic Society

**Richard Smith** nominated by Leeds Philatelic Society

We offer them, and the Congress Medal Winners, our thanks and congratulations.

### Important Announcement concerning the Congress Medal 2022

As the Congress Medal is presented to the successful recipient during the RDP Ceremony it is necessary to bring forward the closing date for nominations for next year's Medal. The ceremony will take place during the International Philatelic Exhibition London 22 so the closing date will be 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

The Awards of Merit are unaffected as they are presented at the ABPS Philatelic Congress. The closing date for those nominations will be 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

*Yvonne Wheatley*

Chairman ABPS Awards Committee

### ABPS accredited judges

The current list of ABPS accredited exhibition/competition judges can be found on the ABPS web site [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk) Click on the "Exhibiting" tab, then "Judging" on the 5<sup>th</sup> line of the menu.

## Brexit and VAT

The effect of Brexit on VAT and buying material online from EU countries is now being felt. Buyers of items on eBay will have found 20% VAT being added to their bill on checkout. Here is the explanation from eBay:

Items delivered to the UK:

Value Added Tax (VAT) generally applies to purchases by UK consumers, and prices on [eBay.co.uk](https://www.ebay.co.uk) are shown inclusive of VAT. Starting 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, eBay is required to collect VAT on certain orders delivered to UK addresses:

- Orders up to £135 sent from outside the UK
- Orders where the item is located in the UK, but the seller is not a UK seller

You'll see the VAT included in your order total at checkout, and you can view and download a tax invoice from the Order details page in your Purchase history.

On orders over £135 imported to the UK, the recipient may need to pay VAT as part of clearing the parcel through customs.

Similarly Delcampe advise:

“A new European law will come into force in July 2021. This law requires marketplaces such as Delcampe to collect VAT on goods sold to private individuals by professional sellers from outside the EU, for any shipment of maximum 150 Euros. This law, which was originally intended to come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 has been postponed to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. However, the United Kingdom has adopted a similar law applying to marketplaces such as Delcampe which requires them to collect VAT for goods sold by non-British professional dealers to UK citizens, for any shipment below 150 Euros (£135). The entry into force of this law is in place on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, leading to a distortion between the two systems, when this should have been avoided. This leads to some uncertainties which unfortunately do not allow us at this stage to tell you exactly what will be the steps you will have to take and what actions Delcampe can take as an online platform. We are currently waiting for answers from the European Union and our legal advisers. We will of course not miss to inform you as soon as we have clear information to give you.”

One private dealer in France advised a Helvetia Phil Soc member that the new rules make it impossible for him to sell items less than €150 to the UK because (a) unlike eBay, Delcampe is not prepared to step in and automatically collect VAT, and (b) the alternative is to register his business EU for VAT in the UK which, understandably, is unrealistic.

For the time being this may mean that Delcampe ceases to be usable for UK collectors unless the price is > £135.

Fun, eh?

*Bob Medland*



from / respond to: **Andrew McGavin**Are You **THINKING** of **SELLING?**

# This is How The Stamp Trade Works

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

**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 it into 50 smaller units, advertised it in Stamp Magazine 'Classifieds', and waited for the orders to roll in... I'm still waiting, 51 years later!...

~~Wrong Offer X~~ ~~Wrong Price X~~ ~~Wrong Place X~~  
(naïve seller) ✓ = 🙄 me but I was only 15 at the time!



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

**About The Author** ▶ Andrew found his Father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He 'specialised' (!) in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year, he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that he enjoyed swapping / trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp 'Tips' articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 51 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'lifetime' interlinked Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Rarities up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka UPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps to 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries in his international auctions.

Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them... He loves working in stamps



**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 X~~ ~~Wrong Place X~~  
therefore ~~Wrong Price X~~

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

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

– **Along the seller that 2 well-heeled bidders saw the potential value that day or it could have been given away... the seller could easily have lost out couldn't he? or she?**

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

**The Secret is Simple – it's ALL ABOUT: TIMING**

Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's –

Presentation ✓ Place ✓ and Price ✓

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

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

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

Strange that, nobody ever asked me the same question back – because my answer would have been entirely different (and I don't treat it as a problem) – I seek to satisfy more collector clients than any other stamp auction

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).

**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 former competitor 'Apex' had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 20,000+ lot UPA 77th Auction we had 1,793 different bidders from 49 different countries, 95% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers – so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) – so that when you sell through them – you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% and more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc... **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it – TO DEALERS (and some collectors), but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive...**

**6 Now, let's examine the cost implications – Example:** Your stamp collection sells in public auction for £800. Upon a 25% buyer's premium, the dealer pays £1,000 and it could be more. He breaks it into £2,000+ selling price (much lower and he'll go out of business). The auction charges you a seller's commission of up to 18% (VAT included) upon the £800 sale price. This is 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...

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

**7 Why Pay an Auction to Sell to Dealers: Sell to Collectors instead?** In our example with buyer's premium, 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



**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

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 36% 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...

Request Your Next FREE Catalogue NOW



**UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS** ABPS


4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK


Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297






**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 20 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 more than 2,250 different regular bidders. 


In Hindsight Dealers warned me 20 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 20 years later I think I've proven that it does. (Reader: Request a complimentary UPA catalogue – using the contact details further below)


**13 OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer?** All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon

your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman – then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stock. Now is the time to let 'time' do the 'heavy-lifting' and consider making 'time' work for you, so that at UPA you can make time your friend. 

**14 AND the SMALL PRINT?** Some lots are too small in value for us to offer this system. Other lots may not be suited to selling in this manner (e.g. surplus mint British decimal stamps best used for postage) – especially if the market is heavily compromised by stock 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?**


- You contact UPA to discuss with Andrew or a highly-qualified Auction Valuer/Describer what you have to dispose of and your options bearing in mind your specific interests / requirements
- 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 pricelists or high quality selling catalogues – that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers...
- 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/e-mails you to confirm safe receipt. 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale of your collection. Provided only that you feel well-informed and comfortable do we agree strategy 


**17 How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market?**

Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire. Post-Independence / QEII material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre 1952 is regarded as the industry 'norm' and therefore desirable – but genuine never-hinged commands a premium. Europe sells but at reduced levels, Americas is good, as generally is Asia but the 'heat' has come off China which is still good – and Russia which can still be good. East Europe is weaker. Overall, Rarities throughout can command their own price levels and real Postal History has good demand.


**18 What Should I Do Next?**

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


**19 Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure So**

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

**20 My Double Cast Iron Guarantee:**

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

**21 Act NOW: Contact Andrew**

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



Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,  
Author, Managing Director  
Universal Philatelic Auctions UPA

**UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS** ABPS

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# The Collectors' Secret Weapon

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... Look for the 'US'? (Unsold lots)

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## Collectors – New to my UPA auctions?

Let me tell you an open secret ... with up to 19,000+ world-wide lots in each auction, unsurprisingly ...

### Not everything sells 1st or even 2nd time offered

This is your chance to turn this to your advantage ... in 'archaic' philately, it is high time for a refreshing change, isn't it?

If you are tired of unrealistic Dealer's selling prices, don't be any longer, because unlike the rest of the stamp trade, each time an auction lot is UNSOLD – we reduce the estimate (and reserve), and furthermore ... we inform you!

Instead of typical trade 'cover-ups' (altering descriptions, repeated same estimates and reserves) ... here is how my 20-year time-proven unique UPA reducing-estimate and reserve system works, allowing lots to find their own value, and you to find extraordinary value, even bargains:

## When you see ...

'US' after a description – 'US' indicates the number of times that a lot has been UNSOLD, and how many times the lot has been reduced in price by initially 11%(US), a further 12%(US2), a further 13%(US3) etc.

**Yes, each time a lot is unsold the reduction is 'ramped'...**

... and because reserve is always 80% of estimate ... a US4 lot will start at ... as little as 46% of 1st time estimate...

This is the reason why some collectors do not even bother to bid in our auction! ...

They simply wait to buy unsold lots at reserve !!

**So ... looking for the 'US' makes sense, doesn't it**

... and you can join them. If you would like to spend some philatelic time, looking for the 'US' (Unsold lots) ...

... and because most clients support UPA by bidding in future auctions, I'm making this easy for new clients like you to get started –

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*Andrew McGavin*  
Andrew McGavin,  
Author, Managing Director  
Universal Philatelic Auctions  
(UPA)

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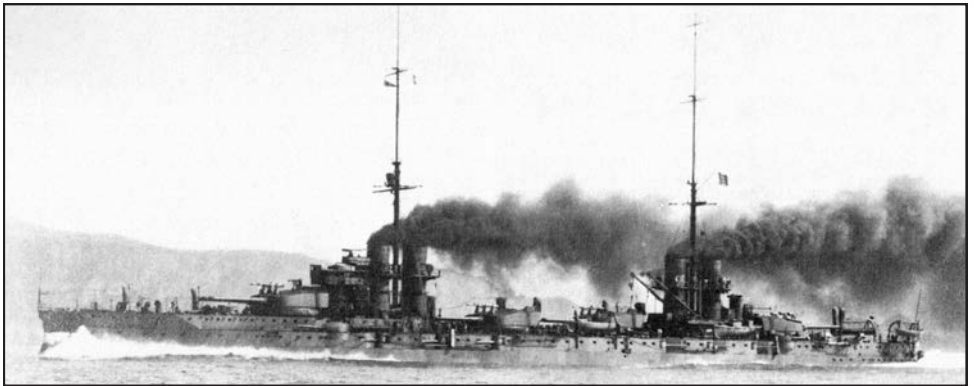
# Dante Alighieri “A Treasure of Italian Literature”

2021 marks the 700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dante's death. Dante Alighieri, probably baptised Dante di Alighiero degli Alighieri, referred to as Dante, was an Italian poet, writer and philosopher, born in Florence around 1265 and died 1321 in Ravenna in the Papal States, now part of Emilia Romagna in northeastern coastal Italy.

His Divine Comedy was originally called “Comedia” (written *Commedia* in modern Italian, later christened *Divina* by Giovanni Boccaccio). It is widely considered the most important poem of the Middle Ages, and the greatest literary work in the Italian language.

## The legacy of Dante Alighieri

Italy's first dreadnought battleship completed in 1913 was named Dante Alighieri in his honour.



*from Gardiner, Robert, ed, Conways All the World's Fighting Ships 1906-1921, Annapolis, Maryland: Naval Institute Press, 1985, ISBN 0-87021-907-3.*

On 30<sup>th</sup> April 1921, to commemorate the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dante's death Pope Benedict XV promulgated (announced) an encyclical (An open letter to the Bishops) naming Dante one of the many celebrated geniuses produced by the Catholic faith.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1921 Italy issued a set of three stamps to commemorate the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Dante. The 3 values were: 15c brownish-lilac, 25c green and 40c brown.

The 15c is also known in grey which is uncommon and in violet-grey which is rare; neither was issued postally. The set also exists imperforate.



The 3 values of the 1921 issue with the 15c grey below.



Italy Dante 1965 40L

In 1922 the set was overprinted BLP (Busta Lettere Postale) which translates as charity letter envelope and referred to War casualty charities for which special envelopes were commissioned.

A second Dante stamp set of four was issued on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 1965, commemorating Dante's 700<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. The 40 Lire stamp of four sheets of fifty has a known error with a small 2 in the 1265 date.

On 7<sup>th</sup> December 1965 Pope Paul VI set in motion a Motu Proprio - an Apostolic letter titled the "Altissimi Cantus", dedicated to Dante's poetry.

*Carlo Consolante* (Bedford Philatelic Society)

**The Postal Museum reveals 151 years of the British postcard in a new exhibition opening April 2021**

2020 marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the British Postcard. On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, The Postal Museum opened a new exhibition, *Wish You Were Here*, celebrating the iconic role the postcard has played in connecting people for more than a century and a half.

The exhibition was originally scheduled for 2020 but was delayed due to the pandemic.

The British postcard's history dates back to 1870, when it became an innovation of its time, opening new and faster correspondence for everyone in Britain. Postcards were used to send secret messages of love, to boost morale for soldiers at war and to boast from holidays near and far.

Exhibition highlights will include:

- The first British postcard from 1870; a pre-paid postcard template with a blank front which sparked the public's obsession for rapid communications.
- Early 20<sup>th</sup> century illustrated postcards from Harry to his sweetheart Olive with hidden messages in the stamps.
- Correspondence by Rifleman Harry Brown that captures the First World War through the postcards he sent home to his mother.
- On loan from Kirklees Museums and Galleries original artwork produced by Bamforth & Co Ltd featuring classic seaside postcards and those deemed inappropriate for sale.
- Contemporary art where the postcard acts as the inspiration or the medium for artists such as Francesca Colussi Cramer.

Visitors will be invited to reflect on the many guises of the postcard across themes including romance, First World War correspondence, the great British seaside, contemporary art and the postcard in a digital age. They will be asked to reflect on whether the postcard has lost its place in the modern age of even more instant communication, or if it will undergo a rebirth, as people make a move to reclaim the emotional connection a postcard can deliver.

Exhibition Curator Georgina Tomlinson said:

*"We really want our visitors to be curious about the future of the postcard. An innovation of its day, people became obsessed with sending and collecting postcards - they documented the significant and mundane of everyday life much like social media today. We hope the exhibition will both evoke a sense of nostalgia and invite our visitors to think about the different ways they connect with friends and family and how that might have been influenced by this innovation in communication from 1870."*

The exhibition will be accompanied by events throughout 2021 at The Postal Museum and online. Admission is included in the ticket price for The Postal Museum (£16 online) [www.postalmuseum.org](http://www.postalmuseum.org)

More information, and online previews of exhibitions, on [postalheritage.org.uk](http://postalheritage.org.uk)

## A Point of View

As President of Wessex Philatelic Federation, I read the letter by Dave Cleaver with a degree of interest. I consider the current period as one of opportunity. Our clubs in many cases have become moribund and have just stood still waiting for the lockdown to finish expecting to continue where they left off.

A few clubs have seen the present period as one where it is time to review how they function and look at ways in which they can still function during lockdown and at the same time try to become more appealing to the public at large in their area of operating.

We have seen an upsurge of meetings using ZOOM and some interesting displays as a result. Some of these displays have been saved complete with the dialog so they could be offered to other clubs in the future.

These ZOOM meetings have significantly altered the manner in which philatelic displays are constructed and delivered. It has been realised that displays need to be constructed in a different format, often using such tools as PowerPoint, and bring in other material as well as philatelic material to tell the story. Without realising it many are using themes and thematics to tell our story. Our stories in this format could well interest the public at large and the use of technology may well bring in some of the younger members of society.

Dawlish Stamp Club (DSC) is one of the clubs in Wessex Federation that have started down this road with a degree of success. We advertise our meetings through a helpful local press, through personal contact and our local Federation. The numbers of people logging in to our ZOOM meetings are slowly rising, with attendees from around our local federation clubs and in some cases quite long distances away.

We have guest speakers from outside the club and we restrict presentation to around 20-25 mins/presentation followed by a discussion period. It has been hard work getting some of our own members online to our ZOOM meetings, but once they have attended, they are hooked. Typical comments have been "The displays are so clear, much better than using display frames".

We have already been asked by our local Rotary Club to give one of our displays at one of their ZOOM meetings.

When we return to normality, we will not be going back to using display frames. Displays will be put together as per our ZOOM meetings on a computer and passed through a projector onto a large screen. We had started to do this prior to lockdown. We have now learnt so much we are confident we can do some really splendid displays for our membership in the future. We may even continue our ZOOM meetings once a month as well as our room meetings.

DSC through a bit of imagination and drive has transformed itself and is attracting interest locally. We have used the current period of lockdown to become technically aware and adept reaching out into our local community with some very interesting stories that are starting to gain interest.



It is equally important to write imaginative and creative reports for the local press. If you want to gain their support, keep reports to about 200 words max, they can always find space for such reports. Don't forget to send similar reports to ABPS News, other clubs may well be interested in what you achieve.

DSC also has its own website. It adds the presentations there to show what is being done and also what is coming to the next ZOOM meeting.

I would like to see other clubs in our Federation doing something similar and we wish success to the other clubs around the country who have used this period to do similar things, because this is where the future of philately lies, so grasp the future with both hands and good luck to you all.

Those in our hobby who are technically aware have a difficult task ahead in teaching some of our members who are stuck in the past the benefits of using technology and the joy this can bring. You may be pleasantly surprised how many will join in once they are shown and assisted into the use of technology to write up their collections and display what they enjoy.

*Jim Wigmore*



Some of you may have seen the above cutting in the Daily Telegraph of 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021. It brings home the fact that, in this digital age, fewer letters are being written or delivered by Royal Mail. Are stamp collectors therefore consigned to collect and research historical items which once facilitated the delivery of mail, or collect sticky labels, most of which are never seen by the general public and, if used, are only sometimes cancelled.

*Chris Oliver*  
from Kingston & District Philatelic Society Newsletter

## So what will I be doing philatelically once I'm fully jabbed up and released from lockdown?

Before March 2020 I regarded myself as a fairly gregarious collector. Whilst I was keen to buy new items for my collection on the internet and, particularly, at auction, and delighted when my research into a cover threw up some nugget of information which transformed the mundane into the special, my main pleasure derived from meeting other collectors at local, national, and specialist societies. There's nothing like giving a talk to a live audience and sharing your collection with like-minded enthusiasts. Hence I was probably giving an average of at least fifteen displays a year and travelling hundreds of miles to do so. So, am I taking bookings for the new session we all hope will begin next autumn?

Well in the short term the answer is probably, and regrettably, possibly not. Yes, I'll be enthusiastically attending my local clubs, but do I really fancy turning out on a wet winter's night to talk to a handful of collectors a couple of hours drive away, some of whom have had a phone call from the Secretary begging their attendance so as not to embarrass the speaker with an almost empty room, when I could give the same talk from my kitchen table? My attitude has changed, and that's because over the last few months I have realized that many philatelic societies have taken guest speakers for granted and that it's time for a serious examination of how we do things. And of course what has changed things is Mr Zoom.

My prediction is that quite a large number of philatelic societies will shut up shop for good. I would encourage us to look at this realistically and even optimistically. Talk frankly to neighbouring societies about merging, pooling assets, and relaunching with a positive outlook. Don't worry that you are not attracting younger collectors (anyone who has not yet qualified for the State Pension) to your meetings. If you have an up-to-date and enticing website they will find you. The younger collector is keen to learn, but unlike her grandparents is not time rich. Occasionally I have been delighted to see newcomers to the hobby at virtual events. Listen, and don't patronize their colourful pictorials and first day covers. Everyone has to start somewhere. Plan for the next couple of years and hope that by then you will still be in business and able to develop further. And, most importantly of all, decide how to use the new technology which has transformed the way a large percentage of your members see the hobby.

**Richard Smith** has some excellent ideas regarding hybrid meetings. His template will work for some clubs but not for others (it relies on a degree of IT competence which most of us probably do not possess). So let me throw out some random suggestions of my own, wearing the twin hats of local society member and guest speaker.

I came to the conclusion some time ago that ours is now an all year round hobby. I would far rather go out in the summer than the winter. Also, surely the time has come to move to daytime rather than evening meetings (I've been banging on about this for maybe 15 years and I'm not saying it has to be one to the exclusion of the other, but to my mind looking at the demographic of the

hobby, it's common sense). As a speaker I don't think it's unreasonable not to be out of pocket. It astonishes me that some clubs (not all, but a significant minority) are sitting on bank balances of hundreds or thousands of pounds but still begrudge paying speakers. The minimum should be full reimbursement of travel costs and a meal (I'm happy with a pie and a pint before the meeting, preferably with some of the members of the host society. That's what happens at Halifax and sometimes the gathering at 'Spoons beforehand is almost more enjoyable than the actual meeting). Don't invite a speaker from afar unless you offer him a bed for the night.

None of the above is rocket science and the ideas have been aired before. Now, action must be taken. I see successful clubs alternating between live and virtual meetings. Why not have live meetings in the summer and Zoom in the winter? It's essential that as many guests as possible are encouraged to attend either or both. If your club can afford it, have a subscription holiday for a couple of years. Make sure that the Zoom hosts know what they are doing. Ask the speaker if they want the audience muted or unmuted. Personally when doing a Zoom presentation I'm happy for the audience to be unmuted (but not to be watching telly or chatting on the phone) so they can ask questions and offer comments in real time. Others will differ. Have plenty of members' display meetings, so that the hesitant Zoomers can dip their toes into the water in a familiar environment. Alternate these with guest speakers. Experiment. Try something different. And remember to welcome your guests. Zoom speakers come cheap (as I've said, all I ask for is to be reimbursed my properly incurred travel and accommodation costs). An annual licence costs £120. Do the maths.

So last week I made a decision to pause writing up my collections in the normal way. I don't exhibit and have plenty to sort out to keep me going for decades, so I'm not looking to add to my collections unless it's something really special. I've always had six or seven displays I'm still happy to show to live stamp clubs, but please invite me at a time when I can use a display to your club as an excuse to leisurely enjoy your part of the world as part of a short holiday, and invite guests from neighbouring societies so that none of us will be embarrassed by a meagre turn out. By the time you are reading this I hope to have a number of virtual displays ready to launch on an unsuspecting public. The ABPS will have the details. And remember that my virtual persona comes dirt cheap. All I ask for is that someone says "Thank You" (although a packet of biscuits in the post would really make my day)

*Mike Roberts (Cockermouth)*

## Your society information?

Please let the ABPS Secretary know of any changes to the details, including the information on the ABPS website about your society. Contact details are on p 62. Please tell your Federation Secretary too.

Also if you want changes in times, venue, website or email addresses and telephone numbers of your secretary to appear in the Amendments List - send them to the Editor - details also on p 62.



*Crowne Plaza Hotel Harrogate*

# Philatelic Congress of Great Britain

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Plans are now in place for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Philatelic Congress of Great Britain which this year is being held in the picturesque town of Harrogate in North Yorkshire.

The event will be based at the Crowne Plaza Hotel - one of the leading hotels of the town. The Congress organising committee has been joined by members of local philatelic societies to help plan and run the event, and to ensure there is a true Yorkshire feel to the event!

The Congress will be a significant milestone as it sees the centenary of the signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists (RDP). Also, because the 2020 Congress had to be cancelled, there will be two groups signing the roll - the RDPs from 2020 and those elected in 2021! An invitation to sign the Roll is regarded as the world's pre-eminent philatelic honour. 365 philatelists from 40 countries have achieved this distinction. There are at present 76 living signatories from 24 countries. The RDPs attending Congress also traditionally give displays of their own philatelic material. True gems have been seen over the years and we look forward to what we will see in 2021!



*Denes Czirik of Hungary, Seija-Riitta Laakso of Finland, José Moreno of Spain, Henrik Mouritsen of Denmark and Randolph "Randy" Neil of the United States have been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 2021.*

As well as the RDP ceremony the prestigious Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) Congress medal and Awards of Merit will be presented to their recipients during the course of the Congress.



Away from awards, the event will include a wide variety of philatelic presentations with material covering a very broad spectrum of interests. The Kay Goodman lecture, to be given on the Friday morning of Congress, looks each year at a significant issue within the hobby. This year the lecture will focus on the future of the hobby in the light of the pandemic when local, national and international meetings were not possible. How will the hobby recover? In what direction will the hobby move? How will meetings be held? Is the use of Zoom something that is with us into the future? These are some of the issues that will be addressed.



On the lighter side, the programme of events will also include the traditional "Four sheets to tell a story" competition on the Thursday evening, the Harrogate Philatelic Society will entertain after dinner on the Friday evening and a dealers' bourse will take place on the Saturday afternoon!

There will also be time during the Congress to see the town of Harrogate itself. It has many interesting shops, the Valley Gardens, the Royal Hall and other



attractions including the world famous Bettys Tea Rooms!

For full details of how to book for Congress, including booking rooms at the Crowne Plaza hotel, contact **Steven Harrison**, Vice Chairman of ABPS, by emailing him at [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) calling him on 0121 313 0671 or even writing to him at 56 Woodberry Drive, Sutton Coldfield B76 2RH. The booking form will also be available on the ABPS website from May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Other hotels and accommodation are available in Harrogate to suit all pockets. Information is available from the Harrogate Tourist Information Centre - 01423 537300.

Congress was cancelled in 2020 because of the pandemic. This year we are looking forward to meeting up again with old friends - and making new friends too!

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## International Philatelic Exhibition

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The venue in Islington, London



The main exhibits hall

[www.london2022.co](http://www.london2022.co)



## The ABPS National - on show at Virtual Stampex

This was the second ABPS National exhibition to be held virtually and I am delighted to report that, although the overall number of exhibits was not large, the standard was high and the exhibits covered a wide range of topics from many different angles. My thanks go to all the exhibitors for helping us to have an interesting and varied exhibition.

Much outstanding material and research was on display and, from the point of view of the jury, it was a pleasure to be able to study the exhibits on-line and appreciate them fully. Two exhibits were moved from Open Class to Postal History Special Studies, and one from Cinderella to Aerophilately on the grounds that they fitted better in these classes. The jury included nine national jurors organised into three teams which used Zoom technology for meetings. This proved very successful and I would like to express my sincere thanks to all members of the jury and the secretariat for the hard work they have done to bring this exhibition to a successful conclusion.

*Bill Hedley*  
Jury Chairman

And the statistics and results are:

There were 19 entries in 7 classes from 12 individuals.

**Chandrajit Ghose** won 2 Bronze medals for *Modern Summer Olympics* and *FIFA World Cup* (Thematic)

**Bruno Bouveret** took Silver with *Royal Air Force (1918-2018)* (Maximaphily)

**Dr Dinar Athale** won Large Silver for *Indelible Evidence - The History of Forensic Medicine* and Vermeil for *Diabetes: The Sweet Smell of Success* - both in Thematics and Large Vermeil for *Development of the Indian Airmail Service 1911 - 1941* (Aerophilately).

**Dr Brian Dow** gained Vermeil for *Norwegian Air Mail and Priority Labels 1926-2019* (Aerophilately)

**David Ogden** won Large Vermeil for *British Empire Exhibition - Publicity and Advertising Labels* (Cinderella) and Gold for *British Empire Exhibition - Wembley Park 1924-1925* (Traditional)

**Lubor Kunc** gained 2 Large Vermeils for *WWI Influence on Austro-Hungarian Postal Operations* and *Field Post Systems on Czechoslovak Territory October 1918 – February 1919* (Postal History)

**Simon Richards** took Gold with *Grenada Postal Stationery* (Postal Stationery)

**Professor Peter Chadwick** won 3 Golds for *Handstruck unpaid chargemarks of the uniform penny post of Great Britain 1840-1853*, *Early mail routes of Scotland 1660-1750* and *Over the Sea to Ireland 1810-1840* (Postal History).

Also in Postal History, Golds were won by **Jack Zhang** with *Sir Rowland Hill's Postal Reform and his Achievements*; **Dr Stewart Gardiner** for *Sealing and Securing the Letter: The Rise and Demise of the Wafer Seal* and **Ray Harris** with *Northern Nigeria manuscript cancellations and the Lokoja oval*

**Danny Wong** won Large Gold and The Best in Show for *Taiwan Postal History*. The last three named received Felicitations for "A novel topic with lovely material", "Research" and "Material" respectively.

## Additions to the Philatelic Terms Dictionary and Phrase Book

The last year has seen many societies continue their meetings using the ZOOM platform. This has been great for keeping our activities going but the experience has introduced us to new phrases which we might consider entering in the philatelic dictionary and phrase book. Here are a few; you will have your own you could suggest. (NB - All names used here are imaginary and do not apply to any real philatelists!)

- ◇ Can you all see this?
- ◇ Can you all hear me?
- ◇ Bert - **MUTE** yourself. That rap music doesn't help us concentrate.
- ◇ Bert - we can't hear you. **UNMUTE** yourself.
- ◇ This worked perfectly yesterday. I don't understand why it isn't now.
- ◇ I h\*v'e be\*n h\*v\*\*\* trouble w\*\*\* \*\* W\*-\*| f\*\* \* f\*\* \*\*ys.
- ◇ Mary - Fix your camera; we can only see the top of your head.
- ◇ Once again Pete - If you keep talking for so long and so often then I will cut you off.
- ◇ **JOHN** --- please stop standing up ---- you haven't any trousers on.
- ◇ Excuse me for a moment, I must go and sort out the row next door.
- ◇ That's a **VERY** big glass Pete. What's in it?
- ◇ Oh, I'm glad you asked about the view behind me ----- it's a photo taken when I was living wild in the Amazon rain forest; trekking the Inca trail; camping in the Australian outback; diving off the barrier reef; bungee jumping in NZ ++++++++ (Cross out which does not apply or add others)
- ◇ I'm sorry, my cat walked across the keyboard and stopped my display.
- ◇ My, Oh My - what a wonderful collection of books; CDs; DVDs; stamp albums; pot plants; dinky toys; antiques; rare fossils +++++ you have on your bookcases. (As before - cross out which does not apply or add others)
- ◇ I do like the new paint work in your study Phil.
- ◇ I'm joining your local meeting from Japan; USA; Canada; France; Skegness ; India ++++++ (As before - cross out which does not apply or add others)
- ◇ Where on earth did you buy that jacket Peter?
- ◇ I think I'm in the wrong meeting. Is this the meeting of the local civic society?
- ◇ Sorry I'm so late - our internet went down earlier.
- ◇ To get to this meeting I have had to take the only laptop away from the more intellectual "other-half" who wants to watch an opera from the National Opera House.
- ◇ When - Oh when - will we be able to swap, buy and sell, chat, congregate and meet again down the club?

*Richard Smith*



# PHILATELIC ANAGRAMS

Each anagram has a clue as well.

The answers are countries or philatelic terms - have a pleasant break.

- |     |                  |  |
|-----|------------------|--|
| 1.  | GIANT HAS FAN    | Troubled foreign country .....         |
| 2.  | MAPLE STAGE      | Many countries have one .....          |
| 3.  | ANN WOULD FEND   | Once a Dominion .....                  |
| 4.  | AGAIN A CUR      | From the Atlantic to the Pacific ..... |
| 5.  | ROOF PAINTERS    | Not all stamps have them .....         |
| 6.  | GLIB EMU         | Think Sprouts .....                    |
| 7.  | CANONISES        | Atlantic stop off .....                |
| 8.  | CRAM SOME MOTIVE | Are there too many? .....              |
| 9.  | DEAR NAG         | Island song .....                      |
| 10. | A MUCK HEAP      | Was French .....                       |
| 11. | A WARM TREK      | Comes in all directions .....          |
| 12. | SPA REGION       | Close to the equator .....             |
| 13. | ABOUT LANDS      | Different now .....                    |
| 14. | GAS CRUSHER      | Changes of value .....                 |
| 15. | GREY NUSE        | A C.I. ....                            |
| 16. | HANDLE RENTS     | Dykes here .....                       |
| 17. | O FAT PREMIER    | Unholy .....                           |
| 18. | TRIBAL RAG       | A Rock for Apes .....                  |
| 19. | TAL GROUP        | Strong wine .....                      |
| 20. | VISIT IF NEED    | Posthorns, Machins, Marianne .....     |
| 21. | ROUND ASH        | Seebeck country .....                  |
| 22. | THIS LAST PILE   | Posh stamp collectors .....            |
| 23. | ALIAS AMY        | SEAsia .....                           |
| 24. | HANDLE A CUBAN   | Botswana was .....                     |
| 25. | MATCH SITE       | Topics to the yanks .....              |

The answers are on page 56 but you don't really need them, do you?

## J M BARRIE

Sir James Matthew Barrie (1860-1937) was born in Kirriemuir, Angus, Scotland but moved to London via Nottingham. I fear that this article may not be everybody's "cup of tea" but I am assured that there is space for your article in the next edition of *Wickets!*

**Barrie was a good writer.** He became well known as a novelist and playwright. His best known work is undoubtedly the stories of Peter Pan and his adventures with Wendy in Neverland. The majority of Barrie's work was in theatre rather than books so he is better described as a dramatist than an author.

**Barrie was a bad cricketer.** Like so many, his infinite love of our wonderful game is let down by his total inability to play it. One of his biographers said of him, "if you had met Barrie, a cricketer was about the last thing that you would have imagined him to be. He was small, frail and sensitive, rather awkward in his movements, and there was nothing athletic in his appearance." He played cricket for the love of the game, rather than the results it achieved, and Barrie was generous in his praise for his teammates and opposition alike. He congratulated one teammate on his performance by observing "you scored a good single in the first innings but were not so successful in the second".



*JM Barrie bowling left-handed at Dundee University in 1922 – note that he is wearing a suit, scarf, trilby and formal shoes. It's a no ball anyway under the laws of the day as his back foot is off the ground despite his front foot being well behind the popping crease!*

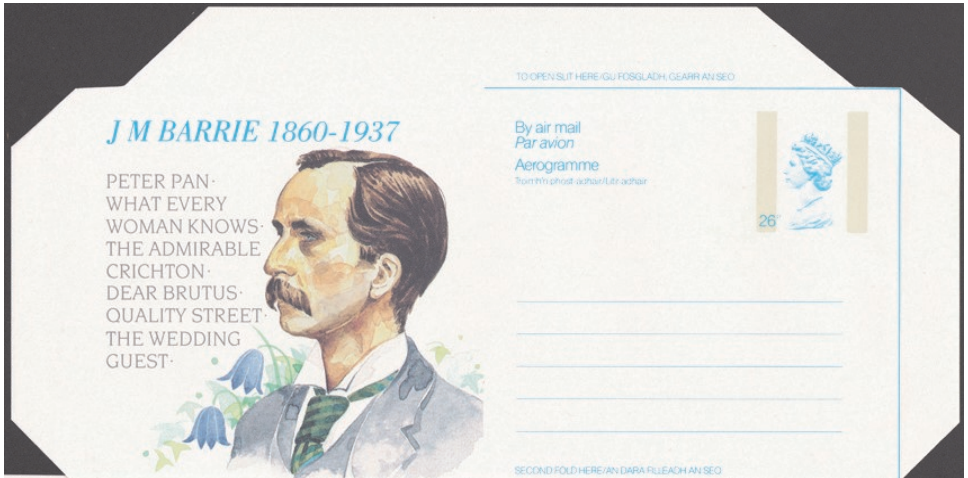
*Barrie's image appears on the FDI cancellation on Royal Mail's 2002 Peter Pan stamps.*



**Barrie was good at organising.** He had numerous contacts in the literary world and had the ability to bring them together in one of the earliest versions of a "Celebrity XI". A team including HG Wells, A Conan Doyle, Jerome K Jerome, Rudyard Kipling, GK Chesterton, AA Milne, EW Hornung and PG Wodehouse would certainly be worth watching. Barrie privately published a book about the exploits of his cricket team in 1890 – it was posthumously reprinted for a second time in 1950 and included a foreword by Sir Donald Bradman no less – thus combining arguably the best batsman in the world with the worst!

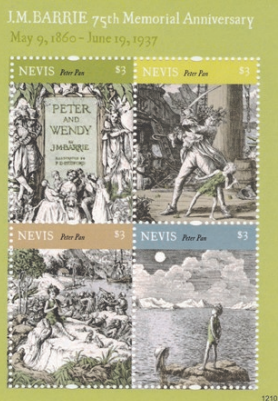
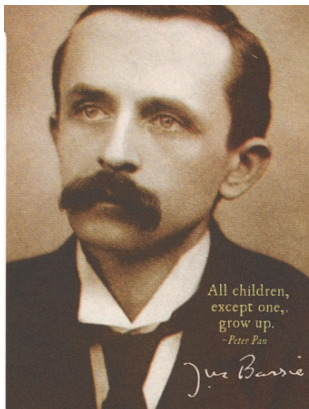
**Barrie was bad at Arabic.** As I have said, he organised his own team. This he called the Allahakbarries CC. He incorrectly believed that the Arabic expression

“Allah Akbar” meant “Heaven Help Us”, a reference to his and his friends lack of skill on the cricket field. A more accurate translation is "God is the greatest" – an expression which has been misused by some Islamists in the current era.



*Commemorative Airletter issued in Scotland in 1987 (50 years after his death) listing some of Barrie’s works.*

**Barrie was good at giving things away.** He donated the rights of his Peter Pan stories to London’s Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. They benefit to this day from royalties and other finance from this generous and philanthropic act. He also paid for the cricket pavilion in the Gloucestershire village of Stanway.



**In conclusion**, there could be a little bit of Barrie in all of us. An insatiable love of cricket, a wish for superior skills at the game and dare I suggest some would say that with our philately we could be described as “the boy\* who wouldn’t grow up”.

*\*Of course girls are welcome too but Barrie didn’t say that!*

*Bob Tebbitt*

*This miniature sheet from Nevis was issued in 2012, 75 years after Barrie’s death.*

*(First printed in the magazine of the Cricket Philatelic Society)*

## All I wanted to do was send a postcard

### Or the Problems sending a postcard during the high inflation period

On 16<sup>th</sup> October 1923 a visitor to Nennig decided to send a postcard to Brussels. No doubt he sat down at a riverside cafe and looked across the river Moselle into Luxembourg. What would he have written about? Possibly it had been a visit to see the wonderful mosaics of gladiators at Nennig's roman villa. There wasn't much else of interest in such a small village. The card he had chosen to send showed the village and in particular St Martin's church.

Once written, the card had to be sent, which entailed a visit to the post office. On asking for the cost of sending the card he would have found out that it did not qualify for the concessionary rate of 2 million marks for cross-border areas. Instead, it was foreign mail and the cost of sending a postcard was 9 million marks. By the date of posting high-value stamps had been issued. The post office should have had available 400 thousand; 800 thousand and 2 million mark values (issued according to Michel between the end of September and early October) to cope with the higher rates of postage. However, our visitor was given 36 copies of the 250 thousand mark stamp (MiNr. 295), to place on his card.

So, the stamps were pasted on the address side of the card, over the message, above the address and folded over leaving space for the sender's signature. The picture side was then similarly covered with stamps leaving a space where the church could be seen.

There still wasn't enough room so two stamps were stuck back to back on the edge of the card and folded over. All the stamps were dutifully cancelled and the card sent on its way.

*Mike Torreggiani*  
(previously published in GERMANIA)

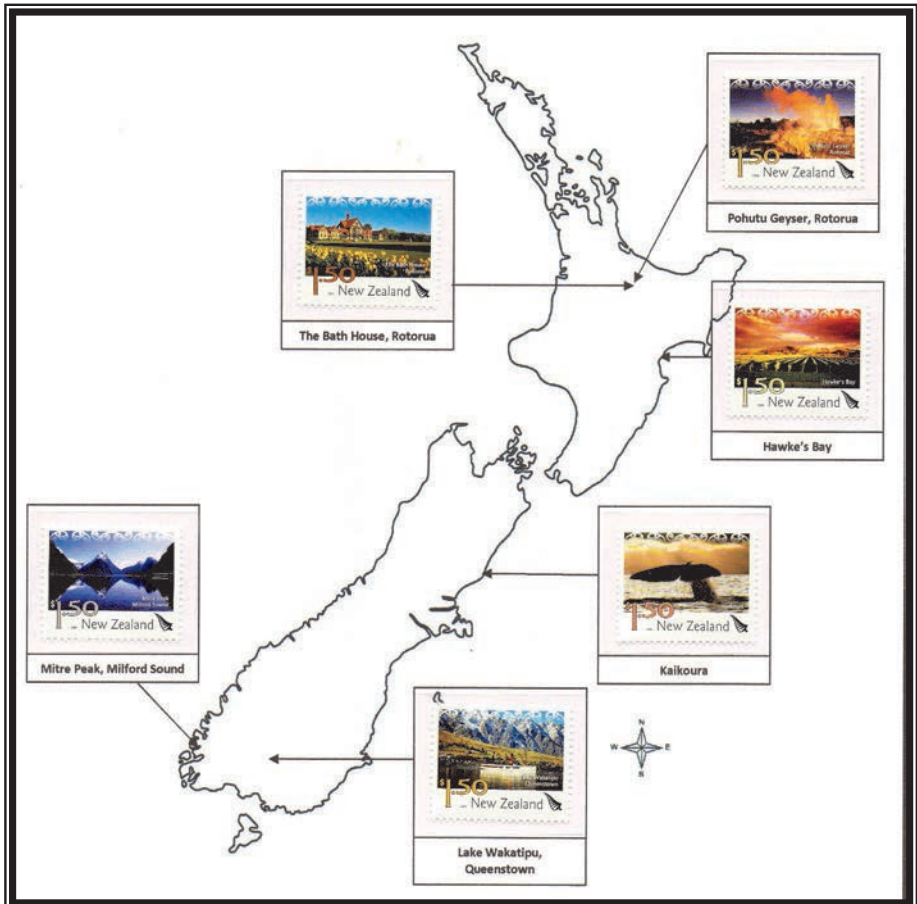




## Filling in Time

Having to forego our biennial visit to New Zealand due to the pandemic, I made a concerted attempt to get the more modern parts of my New Zealand collection in order, i.e. open those envelopes dating back some 20 years!! What a pleasant surprise, many contained the scenic definitives derived from photographs of the epic landscape for which New Zealand is famous. Interested people will be aware the first pictorials issued by New Zealand first came to the attention of collectors in 1898. I digress, I decided to find a suitable downloadable map of the three islands to illustrate where the pictures originated from and in doing so took a trip around familiar places. Not quite like being there but in these times the best my wife Wendy and I could hope for. At the very least, my efforts could be displayed at some future Lostock meeting, if the members are prepared to listen once again to the glories of New Zealand!!

*Harold Howard*



# 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. Contact details for the societies are on the ABPS 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.

### Local Societies

#### Amersham & District

During the pandemic and second lockdown we have tried to maintain some activity in the absence of regular meetings. Our circulating packets have restarted and fortunately we have not lost any members although a few have withdrawn temporarily, due to Covid. Several new vendors have been gained so the packets remain fundamentally healthy and we expect to make up some of the lost ground from good quality booklets. The packet secretary is **Dave Bird** who can be contacted at [amershamdps.pktsec@gmail.com](mailto:amershamdps.pktsec@gmail.com) **Mike Conden** organised a small postal auction the result of which is sufficiently encouraging to repeat at least once more, before our live public auctions start again. Many congratulations to our membership secretary **Tim Harrison** who has been elected a Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society London. Tim is actively involved with the Expert Committee of RPSL. Tim's elevation means Amersham & District PS now have seven members who are Fellows of the Royal. *Jim Drummond*

#### Basildon

We are pleased to report that our exchange packet resumed operation at the end of March. Packets will again normally be issued on a fortnightly basis. The subscription for associate members (exchange packet and auction vendors) remains at 50p. → [len.stanway@btinternet.com](mailto:len.stanway@btinternet.com) *Len Stanway*

#### Bookham

Our new year has been saddened by the death of Christine Earle who was a great supporter of the club, amongst others. Her friendliness and work on the committee, holding offices and working hard for the benefit of all members, will be sorely missed. We rejoiced in her successes in competitions and enjoyed seeing the result of her enthusiastic philatelic work. She was a very special person. *David Bravery*

## Bromley & Beckenham

We have enjoyed six Zoom/Powerpoint displays this year. **Michael Dobbs** showed *The International involvement in the Former Yugoslavia*. After Tito's death in 1980 Yugoslavia started falling apart. Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia and then Bosnia & Herzegovina declared independence. Michael showed material about the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and, when civil war spread to neighbouring Bosnia, the Bosnia & Herzegovina Command (BHC). **Andrew Harris** displayed *BWI Saints*, including extensive St Lucia, then St Vincent and a fine range of St Kitts Nevis from 1921 to 1923. We also saw **Grahame Boutle's** seventeen sheet display of *Queen Victoria's Funeral and In Memoriam material*. The detail and non-philatelic material was impressive including recent photos of the remaining track in Gosport, mostly overgrown, of the extension line from Gosport Station, (closed), to the Queen's station. **Graeme Ashdown** gave his display of *New Zealand Airmails, 1931 to 1935*, plus the GVI



*The Queen's Railway now*



1½d value which was used as a make-up value. He also featured pictures of the various planes involved in flights across the Tasman Sea and elsewhere. In March **Philip Smith** presented *Aspects of the Spanish Civil War 1936-39*. He began with a brief history of Spain's troubled past up to the military coup in 1936. There were photos of the Ebro "Blood Caves" and Manuel Alvarez being treated, and the Guernica stamp and painting by Picasso. Finally there was a section about Maria Ginesta, the pin-up reporter, whose iconic photo was used for publicity.

*David Rennie*



*4 items from the New Acquisitions evening at Bromley and Beckenham - St Michael on stamps and a figurine; an Egyptian "better" stamp and mail salvaged from the Delhi Comet Crash.*



## Cambridge

Our meetings, usually held at Oddfellows Hall in Cambridge on the first Wednesday and third Friday monthly, now take place via Zoom Conferencing. We have enjoyed Zoom displays by **Juan Farah**, based in Miami, Florida, on *US Special Design Issues for Cuba During Occupation by US Forces*, **Scott Kibby** showing *GB Machin Trials and Errors*, **Adrian Boggust** with *Newfoundland* and **Lillian Swift** giving us *Aspects of Railways of the Islands of Funen and Langeland, Denmark*. Recent highlights have included **Maurice Buxton** with *1971 Postal Strike*, **Richard** and **Yvonne Wheatley** showing *Egypt; The Hotel Post Office* and *Things are not what they seem* respectively, **Roger Dedham** on *Rise of the Post Office* and **Rufus Barnes** with *Pot Pourri*. We expect that Zoom evening meetings will continue until at least the end of July 2021. You may be aware that the society celebrated its centenary in October 2020. Though a number of events connected with the centenary celebrations had to be cancelled, or deferred, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we still expect to be able to publish a new book on the society in the summer of 2021.

→ [info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk)

Peter Morton

## Chichester & District

Our society is holding fast and firm. We have added two new members during lockdowns. A couple of members are participating in virtual competitions such as HAMPEX or STAMPEX. I've had the privilege of continuing in my role as President through the pandemic. Many members have rung to keep me up to date on unwell members, or their entries in virtual agendas, or just to have a jolly good chat. I, too, have done the same from time to time. It's warming to know that members care so much about each other. It only shows the friendships we hold dear even during times of trouble. For now, we all wait with bated breath on whether the government edicts will allow hall meetings to occur. Or whether the hall will allow such meetings to commence at all. We keep saying to one another - one day that day WILL come. We can't wait!

Martha Brown

## Cockermouth - How we see the future.

As members returned to their collections in the autumn of 2020 they realized that they were missing the company of their fellow philatelists and so, rather belatedly and hesitantly, we commenced meeting by Zoom. A minority of our members do not have the technology to participate. Naturally they are particularly looking forward to our live meetings starting again, hopefully with our much delayed 491 lot auction on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June. Catalogues available as below. Such has been the success of our Zoom meetings, however, that we have decided to continue these, alternating them fortnightly, throughout the year, with our regular gatherings. We hope that as many collectors as possible will join us to share what we anticipate being many first-rate presentations. Our calculation is that the best speakers enjoy a large audience, and that to attract large audiences we need the best speakers. So this is the deal. Fully paid-up membership costs a tenner (to run to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022). Full members can



attend all meetings and include lots in our auctions without paying commission. We have introduced ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP to anyone, anywhere, who simply wishes to attend our Zoom meetings and be kept informed of other events. And it's free. So what are you waiting for? Become a member of our friendly and forward-thinking club, enjoy some great displays, and feel free to call in at one of our "live" meetings should you ever be holidaying in Cumbria.

➔ [mike@mikerobe.co.uk](mailto:mike@mikerobe.co.uk) 07885839622

Mike Roberts

## Dawlish

For our January ZOOM meeting the three displays were *Early Cyprus Airmails (mid-1920s to the mid-1930s)*, *Flaws on the Early Stamps of Cyprus* including those beyond Gibbons and other catalogue references and *Early Steam Locomotives* from early experiments up to the Rainhill trials and the reason for the success of "Rocket". In February there were again three displays *Legacy of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century* - a rather cynical look at how Humanity is treating our Planet; *Early Sarawak* showing the stamps of the region from inception to the early 1900s and explaining the difficulties of maintaining stamps in the humid conditions; and *Mail & Rail* showing Mail by Stage Coach changing to Mail by Train. This meeting had the highest attendance yet with an audience that included the president, chairman and secretary of Wessex Philatelic Federation amongst many attendees from outside the club. In March the growing attendance included two Americans from Minnesota and Chicago. The guest speakers told of *Aspects of Gibraltar* - **Colin Searle** and *Viaducts* - **Keith Burton**. Both talks were much appreciated and there were many questions after each display. Latest was **Terry Cowlard** talking about *The Presidents of the USA*. We were amazed at the extent of research and the number of presidents whose term of office was shorter than the elected term of office, in one case just a few days. Then **Jim Wigmore** spoke about *The Cyprus Government Railway* which had strong links to philately. Locomotive No 1 was used to both build and help to lift the closed railway. We were told that records state that it was the only railway item still surviving on a plinth in Famagusta. This was not true as one of the coaches also survived and was used as a night club in the same city.



Locomotive 1

Jim Wigmore

## Falmouth

Having embraced modern technology, we held our third meeting of the year by Zoom. The evening's presentation was by **Sue Burn** who gave a detailed talk on *The Rise of the Flying Boat* focusing on the route from England to New Zealand

and crossing the Tasman Sea. The excellent presentation included rare flown covers supplemented by an array of original photographs, newspaper cuttings, tickets, labels and maps which assisted those viewing to understand the development of the routes by Imperial Airways and Tasman Empire Airways. Sue has great depth of knowledge of the topic and the slide presentation was supplemented by an excellent talk. Previously we had seen *The Postal Stationery of Gold Coast* from Queen Victoria through to Independence in 1957. This included many post cards, envelopes and particularly registered envelopes ending with the early air letters. *An Introduction to New Zealand Postal Stationery* followed covering mainly Queen Victoria and King Edward VII material. Our first presentation was *Early British Internal Airmail* which included Lypne Glider mail, International & Provincial Airways, Liverpool Civic Week, PS&IOW, GWR covers and finished with Atlantic Coast airmail to Lundy. These three displays were given by Falmouth club member **Neil Sargent**. We hope to meet normally from September but in the meantime will continue with Zoom meetings. Everyone is welcome to join in!

*Neil A Sargent*

## Halifax

Our online meetings continue successfully. **Mike Roberts** (Ilkley) showed *Steamers in the Scottish Highlands*. He used picture postcards to identify the routes. Next **Paul Allen** brought us *Postal History India to/through France 1/1/1857 to 30/6/1860 Postal rates*. He noted that steamships were much slower than rail so the Brindisi-Alexandria route became preferred. *Greece* was our next topic from **Alan Eastwood**. Around 1903 cards appeared to arrive abroad before they were posted – differing calendars was the reason. **Mike Roberts** (Huddersfield) presented *The Gambia 1906 halfpenny on 2/6d and one penny on 3/- overprinted stamps*, produced by a local source printer to cover a shortage of the two values in April. He related the fact that the postmaster and bank manager were involved in profiting from the sale of the overprinted stamps to collectors. We have had members' *Space* items from Mike (H), **Bill Tait** and new member **Emily Stevenson**. **Richard Smith** produced a must-be-seen display introducing us to *Martin Anderson (Cynicus) 1854-1932* who became famous for Satirical Cartoons and designer of the first humorous postcard. His two-part display covered Early Life and then his Postcards. He explained his life as "rags to riches to final obscurity". **Graham Winters** (Wakefield) showed us *Collecting postcards Part 1*. Part 2 is yet to be written but we await with interest. **Jamie Smith** gave a thought-provoking display of *How South Africa won WWII*. He showed a combination of Stamps, Postal History, Cigarette cards and Postcards of the period to illustrate his talk. Meetings appear to be thriving.

*Adrian Lee*

## Harrogate

Our fortnightly Zoom meetings have a growing and welcome audience. We have seen visitors from Leeds, York, Wakefield, Barnsley, Hull and Sheffield – not surprisingly, but also Devon, Nürnberg, USA, and India. We look forward to actual meeting but hope to continue with virtual ones on a regular basis. Mini

displays from those attending have involved the continuing series of decades: 40s, 50s, 60s and 70s. The range of dates and material has been outstanding and the standard of presentation has developed. It seems that Zooming and PowerPoint have made it in Harrogate. Individual displays included **Frank Walton** showing us *QEII Postal Stationery*. We have all seen lots of it but not in the detail that Frank showed. **James Podger** has visited us before and so brought *Something Completely Different*. Then came **David Druett's** *Caribbean Railways* – it was news to most of us that they existed – and a marvellous presentation from Mumbai by **Abhishek Bhuwarka** on *An East Indian Shipwreck*. This was the story of the 1858 wreck of the P & O steamship *Ava* near Trincomalee and mail salvaged from it. It was fascinating and outstanding and our first ever afternoon meeting – what a combination. We look forward to the future.

Keith Burton

## Hereford & Mid Wales

The philatelists of the Marches are a resilient band! After an uncertain start in the Autumn, approximately half our regular members have persevered with Zoom technology. Also, following my invitation in the Winter ABPS News, we have been joined by a dozen or so members of other societies, including several from Haverfordwest, leading to the comment that maybe we should now be "Hereford and Quite-a-lot-of Wales PS!" We have enjoyed a winter season comprising three in-house displays and two outside presenters. **Nick Nelson** made a real time presentation of the *Various tools that can be used to assist identification of philatelic material*, including use of a digital microscope to illustrate the difference between photogravure and typographic printing, something that was particularly effective online. For our President's evening **Paul Oliver** displayed *Atlantic Islands* followed by a virtual Christmas Social. January had members *In the Tropics*, a highlight of which was **Peter Hellberg's** presentation on *Nigeria*. He impressed the meeting by being able to show stamps illustrating the construction of the Kainji Dam - with which he had been personally involved. We then enjoyed the benefit of virtual speakers from other parts of the country. In February **Gerald Marriner FRPSL** reprised his *Wartime Channel Islands Mail* as shown to the Royal in the autumn, and in March, **Richard Wheatley FRPSL** took us to the *Netherlands East Indies during the First World War*, a part of his collection uploaded specially for our meeting!

Janet Nelson

### 'Together against Corona'

This slogan postmark came on a letter from Berlin: *Gemeinsam gegen Corona – sich selbst und andere schützen*: Together against Corona – protect yourself and others. There are bound to be many other examples of slogan postmarks dealing with the virus which might make for a new collecting area... or one-frame exhibit even.



Giles du Boulay



## King's Lynn

In this day and age, there are still people willing to go that extra mile as a kindness to others. I was contacted recently by **Stephen Austin** from Aylesbury who had found a small piece of our society history in an auction lot. He asked if it would be of interest to our members. I emailed back and he sent the items by post. It was a fine gesture on his behalf. Members of KLPS would like to thank Stephen for his kindness. During this period of uncertainty we are keeping in touch by holding twice monthly Zoom meetings organised by our chairman **Winston Williams**. **Dr John Higgins** our programme secretary has organised a good and varied mix of topics for these meetings. **Mike Kentzer FRPSL** organised this year's competitions for Traditional, Postal History and Open Class. The entries were posted to **Graham Winters**, ABPS chairman, who judged the competitions. The critique of the competitions was done by Graham via Zoom. He said the entries were of a high standard and congratulated the winners. Graham then made general comments and suggestions to the winners: he advised on the necessity for an introductory page, a coherent story, the layout of the entry and an ending. The winner of both Traditional and Postal History classes was **Jon Higgins** – gaining Gold each time. **Dahlia Harrison** won the Open Class. The other entries were by **Stuart Ross** and **David Leathart** (Traditional), and **Mike Kentzer** and **Terry Harrison** (Postal History).

*Terry Wragg FRPSL*

## Kingston & District

After the initiative of **Roger Niven**, our webmaster, we have joined the Zoom meeting world. These have proved popular and may be continued in tandem with our physical meetings in September 2021. Our Zoom meetings are open to all, upon request, and not just for our members. In February, we started with *Edward VIII, Straits Settlements, from the Bradbury Wilkinson Essays* by **Brian Livingstone FRPSL**. Brian displayed material from the printers' archives and explained that Edward VIII wanted to have uniform stamp issues for the British



Warwick & Warwick

### TRUSTEE DEPARTMENT

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

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

Warwick & Warwick Ltd., Chalou House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick, CV34 5DB, England.  
Tel: (01926) 499031 Fax: (01926) 491906 Email: [info@warwickandwarwick.com](mailto:info@warwickandwarwick.com)

Colonies but some colonial administrations disagreed. The term Straits Settlements, used in the title, referred to the preference of the printers in using the longest colonial name which they were likely to encounter. At our next meeting in March. **Stan Challis** gave a display on *The Postal History of County Down 1714–1999*. This was very full and included a so-called “signet ring” cancellation which was discontinued after eight months. Next was **Graeme Ashdown**’s display on *The origins and development of air mail to and from New Zealand and the stamps*. Firstly, labels were used in 1899 before regular stamps were overprinted with an aircraft. The only other set issued was in 1935 when three values were included. Our host, Roger, then discussed methods of displaying on zoom and asked for suggestions on the themes which could be included. → Brian Sole FRPSL [brian.sole@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.sole@btinternet.com) or 01932 220677 or [www.kingstonphilatelicsociety.com](http://www.kingstonphilatelicsociety.com) Chris Oliver

## Leeds

Most of our members have received their first jab, whilst one or two have had both. ZOOM remained the format for all our meetings, providing wonderfully varied and informative evenings. In January **Graham Winters** gave a fascinating and diverse *Part 1 of his double Postcard Bill* and later that month we went ahead with our auction of over 100 lots. In February four “visitors” from Cambridge displayed *Their Society’s collection, The Additional ½d Scottish tax, Austrian parcel stamps and GB errors. 5 slides and speaking for 5 minutes* were the rules for the eight entries in our competition which attracted a large audience from many societies. In March **Frank Walton** gave a detailed look at the *GB Wildings* plus some revenue stamps and three visitors from Trafford society displayed *University mail, German feldpost and Indian National Airways*. Regrettably there was no annual dinner in March --- maybe next year? Teams of presenters and individual members travelled the country to give displays - all via ZOOM of course. We have four further meetings planned before we take a break. Already plans are in hand for our opening “venue meeting” in September, retaining digital displays and ZOOM displays from “long distance” visitors. We are also planning some informal meetings outdoors over the summer - socially distanced - in the hope that we can re-connect with our friends and fellow collectors. Richard Smith

## Lostock

During the past thirteen months of government restrictions members have used their time buying stamps by post, sorting and editing collections. **Adrian Jones** has had a major sort out. 132 stock books yet to go through, checking perfs at present and keeping warm. **Robin Heap** prepared a 9-sheet competition for Jaarbeurs Der Vland-Flanders Trade Fair, held in Ghent annually, except 2020 since 1945. He has started to accumulate and catalogue Belgian railway stamps with Ghent cancellations and sorted catalogued and arranged stamps chronologically in stock books. **Bernard Hooley** started cataloguing his collection just after the first lockdown, noting the catalogue number, shade and current value of each stamp. He has also been trying to buy railway stamps to

enhance his railway collection, but it has been hard going. In the last year he won 8 items but recently got more from the Railway Philatelic Group. Our only limitation has been the suspension of meetings. We now know that the earliest date to look at meetings will be June or July 2021. Our members have agreed to change from monthly first Thursday evenings to monthly first Friday afternoons from 1.00pm until 3.00pm. At the moment we are trying two Zoom meetings weekly every Friday afternoon from 2.00 to 2.30 and 2.45 to 3.15. As restrictions are eased my wife Elaine has agreed to allow up to six members to meet at our home during the above Zoom times to keep up with the other members. We aim to help people with limited or no access to Zoom.

David Morley

## Maidstone & District

We finally took the plunge into zoom presentation and have had the following displays. In February, **Nigel Gooch** and **Tony Davis** brought us *Life and Times of Ahmad, Shah of Persia, 1909-1925* and *of Nelson* respectively. **Stewart Gardiner** showed us *A Philatelic Dabbler's Favourite Pages* which included British Guiana, Cavallini items, Tagli letter sheets, Greece, postal history related to Venice, high value GB multiples on cover, Cape of Good Hope and £100 British South Africa Company stamp. In late March we were visited by Bromley & Beckenham: **Adrian Thomas** showed *Stamps with Pietism Themes* and **David Rennie** had *GVI Covers*. **Jon Higgins** brought us *Pictorial Stamps of Labuan 1894-1906* in early April. We also had two morning meetings when **Margaret Emerson** showed *Early posts 1660 to 1839 (Bishop marks, Dockwra and then Kent items)*, plus postal and social history from Strood and Rochester related to her family, and **Tony Davis** showed *Naval Mail*. We have more meetings planned – no stopping us now.

Brian Stonestreet

## Matlock

February's presentation was given by four members of Stockport PS. **Geoff Shaw**, President of Stockport, displayed *Lufthansa 1955 – 1970*. The East German airline (Deutsche Lufthansa) was set up but became 'Interflug' as the West German airline owned the trademark. Lufthansa started up again in 1955 with the Munich to Hamburg route. This expanded to European and Intercontinental destinations. Various cards illustrating the aircraft together with first flight covers to various destinations were shown. **David Colman** followed with *Newly Acquired 'Standing Helvetia Varieties'*. He showed a wide variety of errors, retouches & varieties with many small details becoming apparent from Zoom scans. *Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika Queen Elizabeth II First Issues* was **Jamie Smith's** display. Individual country stamps were issued until 1953 when the Coronation set was issued followed by the 1954 Royal Visit set. **Stephen Parkin** had *Edinburgh Registered Mail*. Covers containing cash (money letters) were liable for a double rate in 1792. The Registration System was introduced on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1841 with the fee paid in cash. Some covers had green tape (pre-dating blue crayon). In March **Brian Atkins** (Shropshire) showed *A Lady's Tour of Europe*. This was a series of covers sent to Eliza Margaret Orde, a daughter of Sir John Powlett Orde, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baronet, whilst she was on a grand tour of Europe



between 1863 and 1865. All were from her older sister Jean (Jane) Ellen Paget-Wilkinson from Shrewsbury. Destinations included Valencia, Geneva, Chamonix, Rome and finally home at Kilmory Castle in Scotland. *Les Percy*

## Morecambe & District

Our season, like many, came to an abrupt halt on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020, and we only managed one meeting in September 2020 before Tier 4 restrictions put paid to starting the new season. I've been very impressed reading of various clubs moving their activities online with Zoom meetings etc. We weren't able to do this but our secretary and president have kept in contact with members, keeping them up-to-date with a rolling cancellation of meetings. We have been lucky though and all scheduled speakers for the missed season agreed to roll over to next season so we look forward to that. We run an annual auction every October and despite the pandemic managed to run this for the 38<sup>th</sup> time, albeit in a very different way from normal, going mainly postal. Our other main event is hosting an Annual Stamp Fair at the Platform in Morecambe in April each year. This was obviously a casualty of COVID in April 2020 but all the dealers' booking were deferred to April 2021. We all thought COVID would be long gone by then but we have just had to cancel the April 2021 event. Third time lucky, we are now holding the Fair on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 which we very much hope will be a precursor to starting our regular season in September. As president I am looking forward to welcoming everyone back and of course new members are always welcome too. *Lesley Vincent*

## Oxford

29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and, with the lifting of travel restrictions, we have once again restarted our stamp packet circulation! That is one of the mainstays of our society, connecting 38 of our 44 Members. We learned how to Zoom in May 2020 to keep the Committee in communication, but soon realised the possibilities of using "shared screen" to show what we have been doing with our collections. From June, up to thirteen members have been attending regular Zoom meetings, hearing about the amazing (almost embarrassing) prices being obtained for sales in online auctions or on Ebay and viewing new purchases (always bargains!). We have been treated to several beautifully written-up PowerPoint displays and other scanned material from **Julian Bagwell, David Potts, Alan Cowie, Mike Kitson** et al. In December we had Mike's annual Christmas Quiz and Julian gave us a display of Christmas material, raising again the question of which country did it first? By March 2021, we had become bold enough to accept an invitation from **Tony Stanford** to give us his brilliant display on *The Morocco Agencies overprints of GB stamps*. Most recently, Julian gave us his *George V Seahorses*...so much going on behind a single design stamp! We cannot list all the topics, but you can see it all on the "Recent Acquisitions" and "Slideshows" pages of [oxfordphilatelicssociety.wordpress.com/](http://oxfordphilatelicssociety.wordpress.com/), created for our non-Zoomers...not quite so good as being able to ask questions or add extra information, or just to see and hear other people! Incidentally, our website brought us three new members during the year. *Priscilla Morris*

## Southampton & District

The Winter/Spring season of fortnightly presentations has seen a range of speakers, both from within the society and 'Guests'. In late January **Peter**

**Cockburn** (Malaysian Study Group) charted the history of the *Malaysian Perfins* from their origins in 1869 until their final demise in the mid-1970s.

The example shown is a very rare block of nine 8c stamps with the Boustead & Co perfin, which is printed vertically across each stamp. In a two-part presentation in early February, **Julian Jones** returned to show a selection of *Ocean Letters*.

This was followed by **Malcolm Gascoyne's** *12 Letters into London during the reign of QE1*. The second evening in February saw **Dr John**

**Higgins** talk about the *Pictorial Stamps of the very small and failing Crown Colony of Labuan between (1894–1906)*. Club member (and our first lady speaker) **Sue Lambert** talked to us about *Women on US Stamps* in early March.

There were very few early instances of women on US stamps; the first was Martha Washington in 1902 and she was used in later issues in 1923 & 1938.

We travelled up the Nile to the Aswan High Dam next when **Richard Wheatley** reprised his *Egyptian Hotel Post Offices* talk that he had given to the Royal Philatelic Society London. En route we visited

all the Hotel Post Offices, and amongst the material shown was a unique photograph of the Crown Prince Wilhelm and Princess Cecilie.

Currently we have planned presentations up to the end of June and the details of the speakers can be found on our website,

[www.southamprondps.org.uk](http://www.southamprondps.org.uk) We have an open house policy and at this time there are spare 'seats' available. The audience now has visitors from across the UK, Malta, USA and Germany. Hopefully in the next few evenings we will exceed the magic 40. *Eddie Mays*



## Specialist Societies

As most specialist societies do not have regular monthly meetings, ABPS welcomes an annual report of any major meeting of the society (eg the AGM), or an "article of the year" from their newsletter or journal. Obviously the ABPS newsletter does not have room for articles much over 1 side of A4 and cannot guarantee inclusion. Pictures always look attractive too and may well elicit enquiries from potential new members.

## Southampton Postcard Club

The Southampton Postcard Club is still in hibernation like everyone. Hopefully we will be able to meet by September so fingers crossed. In the meantime issue 3 of our new magazine is out and we have used this to keep in touch with our members and give them something else to think about regarding articles. One thing COVID-19 has taught me is that we have to think outside the box and keep our members informed by the use of other means at hand. Steve Gerrard

## St Albans, Harpenden & District

During the winter months we have continued to keep in touch with our members and others through further online meetings. On 17<sup>th</sup> February we had our first online visiting speaker, when **David Wilson** gave us *The Many uses of the GB Postage Due*, beginning by explaining Britain's late entry into this field and the reasons for the halfpenny value. We were then given examples of the different denominations used singly on cover including the two short-lived photogravure stamps of 1968-69, before going on to examples of the labels used in multiples. Particularly fascinating were covers with over £100 in labels for Datapost. In March, **Robert Mott** gave us *How the German Post Office dealt with Hyperinflation*, setting the scene with covers to or from the three key individuals involved – President Ebert, the German Chancellor and the Post Minister. Using a wealth of material, Robert then showed how in 1922-23 postage rates spiralled out of control and the drastic measures taken by postal officials and public to try and keep pace with events, including the methods adopted to print stamps of ever higher denominations. Some covers had whole sheets folded and attached, others were paid using combinations of stamps and cash, whilst in one case the postmaster certified the cover to say that he had burnt the requisite number of stamps (rather than affix/cancel them all). It was hard to imagine ourselves in such a situation. → 01582 762284 or [p.mellor@btinternet.com](mailto:p.mellor@btinternet.com) Peter Mellor

## Swindon

We have most regrettably had to cancel Swinpex 2021. Understandably we have been denied the use of our lovely venue, St Joseph's Academy. Without that plus a number of other restrictions, we are simply unable to go ahead this year. BUT we are undaunted in that we are already planning for Swinpex 2022 on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022, to be held at the same venue as usual.

David Gibbons

## Torquay and Teignbridge

Last season's programme was, of course, suspended in March 2020, and at the time of writing, we are eagerly looking forward to being able to have face-to-face meetings once again, starting in September. Since lockdown started we now have a website [www.torquayandteignbridgestampclub.org](http://www.torquayandteignbridgestampclub.org) where we will publish next year's programme as soon as our Committee can get together to organise it. For the moment, our website is showing our programme of Zoom meetings, which will take us to the end of May. If there is sufficient demand, we may continue to hold Zoom meetings throughout the summer. However, we



have a limited number of members who can put together PowerPoint presentations, and we run the risk of too much repetition of the same voices and subject matter, but I imagine this is true for most clubs. 2021 is our Centenary year, but the pandemic put a rather abrupt end to our planning for that. Currently, nothing definite is in place, and whatever effort we are able to expend is being concentrated on keeping the club going through the pandemic. We still have a big chunk of 2021 left to work out something - we just don't know what form it will take yet!

Dave Cleaver

## Wakefield

Continuing with our Zoom meetings, on 6<sup>th</sup> January **Dinar Athale** gave a display entitled *Forensic Medicine* with some interesting philatelic items illustrating how Law and Medicine work together. This was followed by **Richard Wheatley** who took us on a trip up the River Nile, calling in at a number of *Hotels containing Post Offices*, and showed us many interesting postal history items originating from them. On 20<sup>th</sup> January **Mike Roberts** joined our meeting and gave a display relating to the history of the *Pacific Steam Navigation Company* founded by William Wainwright in 1840. Included were some interesting ship mail covers, early shipping marks and postcards. In early February **Nigel Gooch** produced a postal history display entitled *The Life and Times of Ahmed Shah of Persia, 1909 – 1925* which was very new to us all. On 17<sup>th</sup> February **Yvonne Wheatley** gave a display entitled *First Anniversary of Independence of Czechoslovakia* showing the stamps and their designs. This was followed by a display by **Richard Smith** entitled *Cynicus, Comic Post Cards for All Time* which included some lovely postcards of watercolours. Early in March **Colin Hoffman** joined us and gave a display entitled *Rhodesia 1890–1924 The Postal History and Stamps of the British South Africa Company*. Again much of this was new to us. All of the displays were accompanied by very interesting and knowledgeable explanations and were greatly enjoyed.

Julie Hitchcock

## Woking and District

Following our successful introduction to Zoom in 2020 we have continued with twice monthly virtual meetings through first quarter 2021, including our annual



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society lunch which featured a menu of *Food on Stamps*, The hors d'oeuvres consisted of 1989 GB food and farming on stamps, followed by a main course provided by **Paul Wheeler** of Australian 'Produce Food' and Hereford Cows, New Zealand sheep exports 1882 to 1957, Mali goats, Newfoundland Grouse, Cod and Salmon, and Malayan Breadfruit, followed by a pudding of USA self-adhesive fruit from 1995, Canadian berries, Tonga banana-shaped stamps and Swiss chocolate-shaped stamps which smelled of chocolate, although this was a bit difficult to verify over Zoom. Earlier meetings had been based on: *The Colour Black or Purple*, with displays featuring the *US Purple Heart* and *GB KG V 9d black* stamps, which proved to be difficult to cancel in black; *The Colour Yellow* which we learned was favoured by collectors of overprints and postmarks, as they showed up well against the colour, **Mick Coad** showed the *10½ p Machin* explaining that it was discontinued because the public could not see the value; *The letter E*, for which **David Springett** gave a display of the *Eagle on US stamps*, followed by displays of *GB stamps for Europe*, stamps by the *Dutch printers Enschede*, *Edinburgh Castle* and *Elephants* from Laos and Gambia. We anticipate remaining on Zoom until the autumn but remain hopeful of commencing our 2021/22 programme in September in person. *Brian Sheriff*

## Yeovil and District

We are looking forward with hope, and intending to hold our Stamp and Postcard Fair on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September at Digby. Further details are in the Diary on page 59. *David Bryant*

## Federations

### Hampshire

As for all clubs and societies, life is still on hold in March but by the time you read this we may see a bit more light at the end of the tunnel. Our committee is working on the plans for HAMPEX 2021 at The Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham, nr. Fareham, PO17 5AL with 20+ Dealers in Stamps, Cinderellas, Thematics and Postal History on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021 from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. This will be subject to COVID-19 restrictions not being in place but hopefully we will be able to go ahead, and look forward to getting back to some kind of normality. We have been using ZOOM to hold our committee meetings which has been a lifeline and something that will be just part of normal life and clubs' and societies' makeup. *Steve Gerrard*

### Kent

Due to the continuing lockdown there has been no activity by the Kent Federation. However, from time to time I have kept Kent clubs informed of any philatelic developments as and when I receive them. Recently we have heard that the East Malling Grand Stamp Fair on 22<sup>nd</sup> May has had to be cancelled, but organisers are hopeful Bexley Stamp Fair will restart on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May and Beckenham Stamp Fair on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. We hope that clubs may be able to re-start meetings again later this year but a great deal depends upon

Government regulations in place at the time and also venue owners. I am aware of one or two clubs holding meetings via Zoom and there are also displays of one or two pages which are being circulated by email to keep collectors occupied and interested. In my last report I mentioned the sad loss of **Colin Tobitt FRPSL**, known as Toby to his family. His funeral took place on 21<sup>st</sup> January. On **Michael R Thompson's** "Kent Philately" website ([kentphilately.weebly.com](http://kentphilately.weebly.com)) under "Dear Departed Members" there is a photo of Colin on the front page of the Order of Service and also a tribute to him by **John Shaw FRPSL** who unfortunately could not attend the funeral. It was delivered on his behalf by **Tony Hickey** who also delivered a message on behalf of Lewisham PS. Also in attendance was **John Smith** who represented Eltham & Woolwich PS and, as Chair of the Federation, the Kent Federation.

*Michael Dobbs*

## Specialist Societies

### Burma (Myanmar) Study Circle

Our first AGM by Zoom was in February. It was voted a resounding success: we had members from Hong Kong, Singapore, the Netherlands, Scotland and the United States participating. From the usual reports from the officers we learnt that we are in a healthy financial position and that we have regularly recruited new members. Including those in Myanmar itself we now have a total of around 80. The meeting continued with three members' displays. **Rufus Barnes** showed items from his growing collection of *TPO material*, including both rail- and river-borne with many items of mail that were believed to represent the only surviving example of the marking concerned. **Mike Ley** (USA) followed with the 1964-1966 *Official overprints* with many examples of varieties and misplaced overprints. **Richard Warren** showed the 1943 *Independence Day issue* including varieties of perforations and postmarks on the issued illustrated cards issued. All three displays will be available to members for study by file transfer - another useful feature of Zoom meetings and one which represents a real advantage over traditional methods of displaying. Our next meeting is on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 at London 2022. We look forward to seeing members there: Burma has a fascinating philatelic and postal history. A year's subscription to the B(M)PSC costs as little as £7 if our quarterly journal *The Burma Fantail* is sent by email. We look forward to hearing from collectors who would like to join us. → [manningham8@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:manningham8@mypostoffice.co.uk)

*Mike Whittaker*

## Autumn Stampex 2021

**José Ramón Moreno (Honorary President of FEPA)**

will give a talk at Autumn Stampex entitled

*'How could I improve the evaluation of my thematic exhibit?'*



## Channel Islands Specialists

Author **Roger Harris** has won the 2020 American Air Mail Society's George Kingdom Award for his two-volume publication, *Pioneer Aviation in the Channel Islands*, which was published by the Channel Islands Specialists' Society in October. He was notified by **Ken Sanford**, the Literature Awards Chairman.

**David S Ball**, AAMS President, commented: "Every year a number of excellent aerophilatelic catalogues, books, monographs, and pamphlets are published. They inform collectors, exhibitors and dealers throughout the world as we enjoy the intersection of mail and flight. There was widespread agreement that *Pioneer Aviation in the Channel Islands* was certainly the best of the crop. We enjoyed it thoroughly and trust the aerophilatelic community at large has as well."

Steve Wells

## Czechoslovak

Our first open Zoom meeting was hosted in the USA and chaired from the Netherlands. Thirty-six people attended. **Yvonne Wheatley** opened with an examination of the *Postmarks of the Carpatho-Ukraine Region*. The display included the Austrian and Hungarian postal authorities, the Czech period from 8<sup>th</sup> May 1919 to 1938, the three Hungarian zones of the 1938/39 occupations and the short-lived 1939 independence issue, some Czech 1944 overprints, and ended with a cover from when the region was incorporated into the USSR. **Mark Wilson** examined the development of *An Evolving Persistent flaw in Position 39 of the 10 haler olive Dove stamp*. He has clearly identified six variants. Then **Roger Morrell** showed a number of the popular *Gruss aus or Pozdrav z: postcards*. Most were drawings of scenic towns and tourist scenes, but he also had some which were photographic. After a break and chat **Keith Brandon** showed *Postmarks from Prostějov*, or rather Prossnitz as it was before the Czech nation was formed. For a small town with only a small number of postmarks, this was a remarkable display. **Hartmut Liebermann** had a copy of an extract from the Czech Postal Archive for the cancels issued to the small town of Neratovice between 1939 and 1945. All had been returned except the railway station's bilingual rectangular one. Hartmut showed examples of its use after the war when the German name was initially kept, then obscured, and finally removed (some time after August 1945). Hartmut then showed a cover dated 4.XII.39 with only the Czech name on the cancel. An obvious forgery, but only producing a cover of little value. We then had *Show and Tell* from **Graham Bell**, **Rex Dixon** and **Roger Morrell**. There was lots of response – an advantage of Zoom.

Peter Williams

## Forces Postal History

We held our AGM via Zoom in April and it was a double AGM as we could not hold one last year due to lockdown. It was a great success in that it attracted some of our overseas members. This year saw our President, **Richard Berry FRPSL**, stand down after completing four years in post - he did an extra year due to no AGM being held last year. He is succeeded by **Robin Davis FRPSL**.



*2020 President Richard Berry (left) congratulating the winner Julian Bagwell and handing him the John Daynes' Plate.*

We have continued with our monthly Zoom meetings and these will now become a feature in our programme even once we return to physical meetings to ensure as much inclusiveness as we can for our overseas and long-distance UK members. We continue to upload our displays on our website for all to see. We hope to attend MIDPEX on 3<sup>rd</sup> July to hold a meeting for anyone to come along and meet us. Last year we placed one of our Journals online as a free to view or download for everyone to enjoy. We have recently changed that and have now uploaded our Winter 2020 Journal as free-to-view or download. To access the Journal go to our Home page and scroll down to

“Free Resources” and under that heading another “Free Resources” heading; simply open that up to see the pdf link to the Winter 2020 Journal.

➔ [www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk)

*Michael Dobbs*

## **Gibraltar Study Circle**

For the second year running our spring AGM weekend has had to be cancelled. In a repeat of last year we will be holding the AGM in conjunction with the competition weekend at the Golden Lion Hotel, Northallerton DL7 8PP 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This will be subject to any government restrictions that may curtail the weekend. The judge for the competition will be **Bill Gibb** and the Saturday afternoon displays will be given by **Susan Dare** and **Stan Lawrence**. It is hoped to be able to return to the Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke for the spring weekend in 2022. We have launched the new "Members Only" section on our new website, allowing our members to share images and write-ups of their



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collections as well as other resources including the twice-yearly auction lists and scans of some of the lots. Still in its early stages, this is intended to become a valuable resource for collectors of Gibraltar and related philately.

→ [www.GibraltarStudyCircle.com](http://www.GibraltarStudyCircle.com)

Bert Burton

## Great Britain

Our annual competitions had to be moved online due to the current pandemic. **Graham Winters FRPSL** judged scanned entries remotely and subsequently gave feedback by Zoom, announcing the awards with 84 people joining the meeting. The awards were: (Best General Philately exhibit) - **Maurice Buxton** for *QV ½d Pink Stamped to Order Postcards*; (Entry not previously gained an award in any competition or national medal) - **Chris Hibbert** for *Multiple Strikes of the Maltese Cross*; (Postal History) - **Nick Amor** for *Genesis, the major developments in postal history from December 1839 to May 1840*; GBPS Medals for Best Entries from foreign members - (General Philately) to **Malcolm Suttill** from South Africa showing *From Line Engraved to Surface Printed – the 1879 and 1880 Tenders* and (Postal History) to **Tim Schofield** from Australia for *Machine Cancellations and Postmarks produced in GB during the Trial Period 1857–1859*; (Open Philately) - **Mike Mood** for *The Basic Letter Rate to Europe, 1986–2010*. Graham noted that a number of entries in this category did not meet the criteria for Open Philately in that the non-philatelic material was sadly lacking, which should be up to 50% and certainly be a significant part of the content. The Secretaries Cup, (Most promising entry) went to **John Roe** for *1883-1884 Issue, Lilacs and Greens*. One general criticism, in most cases, related to the absence of a good Introductory page, containing details of the scope and purpose of the exhibit and a plan and references. It was also highlighted that write-ups should be briefer and “tell them what you want them to know as quickly and easily as possible”. Special thanks go to **Robin Cassell** (Competition Secretary), **Graham Winters** as Head Judge and **Maurice Buxton** (Webmaster) for creating the online Exhibition. All of the exhibits are available for viewing by members on the GBPS website.

John Davies FRPSL

## Malaya Study Group.

Thanks must be given to our chairman **Dominic Morris CBE** and our secretary **Mike Padmore** for organising our two Zoom meetings, which have been attended by members from around the world. In January, there were five short presentations: *The Japanese Occupation of Singapore* by **Susan McEwen**, *Hand-coloured Postcards* (mostly of Singapore) by **Professor Tom Anderson**, *Inks* (analysis using latest technology mostly on the latter period of King George VI) by **Lin Yang Chen** (Singapore), *Federated Malaya States, FMS* (from the usage of stamps of Straits Settlements, Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang after creation of FMS) through the famous leaping tiger and elephant stamps to stationery and airmail usage by **Michael Waugh** and a delightful review of *FMS Locomotives* from boyhood reminiscences to some tales of modern Malaysia and locomotive themes in stamps and recent railway memorabilia by **Michael Ellison**. In March there was a longer presentation and

display on *The Introduction of the De La Rue Colour Embossing (Cameo) Press* by **Francis Podger**. He gave an impressive history of progress after the Stamp Tax of 1851 and succeeding acts and ordinances following Straits Settlements becoming a Crown Colony in 1867. Methods to prevent evasion of revenue were continually sought by the Authorities. There were many denominations between 3c and \$500. The success by 1889 meant that colour embossing of stamps on legal documents mainly large loans and indentures was in use in Singapore and Malaysia until recent times. Francis showed some beautiful examples of impressed, adhesive and then embossed revenue stamps and their usage.

*Michael Waugh FRPSL*

## The Manchukuo Philately Group

Two main societies for Japanese Philately are the British Society for Japanese Philately (BSJP) and the USA-based International Society for Japanese Philately both of which have worldwide members. But there is also the much smaller Manchukuo Philately Group, which is a specialist society of the ABPS; and has a Yorkshire section affiliated to the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. We are open to anyone interested in the philately (and thus perhaps the history, culture and geography) of the Manchukou Empire, and Manchuria more generally.

Manchukuo ("Manchu State" in Japanese) was a constitutional monarchy in Manchuria and eastern Inner Mongolia, Manchuria being the historical homeland of the Manchus who founded the Qing (Ch'ing) Dynasty, which ruled China from 1644 to 1912. In 1932 a puppet government of the Manchukuo Republic was created with Pu Yi (1905-1967) as Chief Executive. In 1934 he was enthroned as the constitutional Emperor of Manchukuo. The state existed until abolished in 1945 after the defeat of Imperial Japan at the end of WWII, when Manchuria came under Chinese control.

*Philip Reynolds*

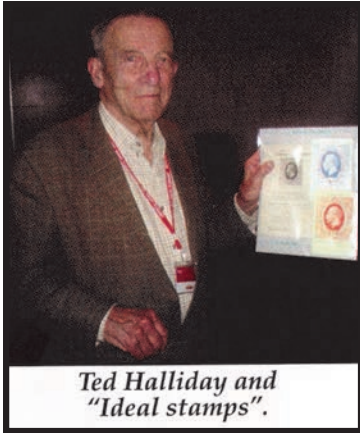
## The National Philatelic Society

We regret the passing of two of our notable members, **Christine Earle FRPSL** and **Col Edward Xavier (Ted) Halliday MBE**. The April issue of *Stamp Lover* carried extensive obituaries and tributes. **Ted Halliday** (96) served us for nearly 40 years after a distinguished military career. He was secretary during the 1980s and 1990s, then became a pillar of the NPS Library for a further 20 years, finally retiring as librarian in 2019. He still worked at our Library at Bill Hill Park Wokingham until well into his nineties. Ted also kept charge of our archives and occasionally displayed a selection at meetings. Ted's organizational skills were put to the test several times as the NPS moved premises. The April *Stamp Lover*

## Your article?

We are always pleased to consider articles by our readers. Please send your item to the Editor who will let you know if it can be used. 750 words maximum please, and a picture relating to the subject matter is always a help (300dpi jpg or photograph). We do not pay for publication, and any items may be edited for length or content.





*Ted Halliday and  
"Ideal stamps".*

*"Ted " Halliday, showing the  
society's archives*

also carried an array of features on diverse subjects ranging from forgeries to wafer seals, butter sculptures and one page entries into a national competition submitted by our president **Michael R Thompson** and **Nicholas Stuart**. Our website is to be revamped and made more user-friendly now that a professional webmaster **John Blackwell**, an NPS member from Birmingham, has volunteered for the role. The bi-monthly auctions continue on a postal basis with over 700 lots per sale. The January auction was perhaps one of the best ever grossing over £4000, while March was also successful. The society's popular packet circuits continue.

→ [www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps](http://www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps)

*Michael L Goodman*

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## The Pacific Islands Study Circle

We have recently held two meetings via Zoom, each of which attracted around 40 members from the UK and overseas. In each meeting, one of which was timed to suit North American members and the other to suit Australasian members, short PowerPoint displays were provided by members, with time for questions and answers and an opportunity just to chat. The first meeting, on 6<sup>th</sup> March, was attended by members from the USA, Canada, Germany and the UK and, surprisingly, Australia and New Zealand, given that it was in the early hours of the morning for them. The second meeting, on 10<sup>th</sup> April, attracted members from Australia, New Zealand, Germany and Eire in addition to the UK. The attendance figures exceeded expectations and it is clear that they were popular; as such, they will be continued for the foreseeable future.

*John Ray*

## The Postal Stationery Society

With the impact of Covid and the closure of the Royal Philatelic Society premises in London, we held our March meeting by Zoom. There was good attendance, including members of the West Africa Study Circle who had been invited to join us to view the presentation on the *Postal Stationery of Gold Coast*. This included a display of all Gold Coast stationery, both used and unused. The colony was different from many other countries in that it did not issue any wrappers at all, had only one reply paid card and in the reigns of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II, only registered envelopes and air letters were issued. Particular items of interest included a range of KGV used envelopes and the types of QV registered envelopes overprinted on GB items. This was then followed by a presentation on the *Early Stationery of New Zealand* covering the reigns of QV and KEVII, commencing with the early postcards, an explanation of the large variety of Victorian lettercards, early envelopes etc. Both these

presentations were given by **Neil Sargent**, our secretary. The Postal Stationery Society covers the stationery of the world and holds three meetings and two members' auctions each year. Please visit the members' stand at Midpex on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July this year. → [www.postalstationery.org.uk](http://www.postalstationery.org.uk) N A Sargent FRPSL

## South African Collectors

Another well-attended zoom meeting was in February under the sure guidance of **Tony Johnson**. Our chairman is in hospital, so Tony also introduced the speakers. The first display was on the *Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition (Jipex) philately* and was given by **Erroll van Greunen** who had done research on this subject when he lived near Johannesburg. This exhibition formed part of the 1936 Golden Jubilee Celebrations in Johannesburg. The stamps were from ½d and 1d booklet panes overprinted with JIPEX / 1936, all had advertising tabs on the selvedge and there are many varieties. Special commemorative covers and handstamps also exist. Next was an extremely interesting study of the *Stamps of Basutoland (Lesotho)* given by **David MacDonald**. He explained the geographical constraints of the colony which was possibly why it was never incorporated into South Africa, which surrounds it. **Keith Klugman FRPSL** is one of the foremost collectors of Natal and his display of *The 1869 overprinted postage stamps* was exemplary and succinctly described. Many of us were disappointed that Professor Klugman's display to the Royal was postponed due to the virus. → Chris Oliver 020 8940 9833, [olivers.of\\_ham@virgin.net](mailto:olivers.of_ham@virgin.net) or [www.southafricancollector.com](http://www.southafricancollector.com)

Chris Oliver

## Sudan Study Group

Like so many stamp societies, we have turned to Zoom to keep our society alive in the absence of real meetings. Several have occurred in the last year, each attracting a good audience, especially including many members from overseas (USA, Egypt etc) who wouldn't normally be able to attend meetings in the UK. Each zoom session typically lasts 2 hours with a variety of speakers presenting



their current projects – many of them works in progress. Altogether a much more relaxed and vibrant session than a physical meeting with formal presentations. There is considerable interest in maintaining this component of our activities in the future. The increasing internationalisation of our society is reflected in our partner Facebook group that has nearly 400 members worldwide. It hosts many daily discussions on all things related to Sudan stamps and represents yet another forum for us to reach out worldwide. This year we plan to sponsor a new publication on the stamps of South Sudan authored by **Bill Barclay & Leo Van Der Velden** – both are overseas members. This book will be issued to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the state. Sponsoring such publications has been a long-standing activity of the society, with many past issues available to members.

*Malcolm Coe*

## West Africa SC

Our Zoom meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March was attended by some 35 members (from three continents) and two feline guests! The online format allowed overseas-based members to participate fully and was greatly appreciated by those present. Featured presentations were by **Marc Parren** - *Liberian Civil War Mails* and **Gary Loew** - *Evolution of The Gambia Postal System*, followed by shorter contributions from six other members. The success of this event makes us very keen to continue with this type of programme, even when face-to-face meetings become possible again.

*Philip Quirk*

## ABPS 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](http://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](mailto:editor@abps.org.uk) I will pass them on and/or use them as necessary. Please note the changes below.*

## Specialist Societies

**Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain** has a new secretary:  
**Peter Williams** [secretary@cpsgb.org](mailto:secretary@cpsgb.org)

## Local Societies

**Cardiff PS** has a new acting secretary **Roger Gilbert**  
[roger.gilbert@ntlworld.com](mailto:roger.gilbert@ntlworld.com) 07740355282

**Epping Forest & District Stamp Club** has rejoined ABPS. We look forward to receiving reports of their activities.

**Salisbury & District PS** has a new secretary:  
**Craig Patterson** [pattersoncraig260@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pattersoncraig260@hotmail.co.uk)

We regret to report that the following societies are no longer affiliated to ABPS:  
**Burnley & District PS, Isle of Ely PS**

## NEW STAMP ACTIVE SECRETARY

In addition to his current role as Donations and Auction Manager **Peter Barham** has now also taken over as Secretary of the Stamp Active Network. All enquiries and donations should be addressed to him at

Stamp Active Network, 2E Broomwood Road,  
**Orpington**, Kent, BR5 2JH.

Please note that enquiries by email should be addressed to [stampactive@btinternet.com](mailto:stampactive@btinternet.com)



Results have been announced for the "My Favourite Things" Competition, sponsored by Isle of Man Stamps & Coins. The winners are:

Up to 7:1 **Benjamin Campbell** *Lizards*

2 **Niamh Cameron** *Hedgehog goes for a Walk*

3 **Abeni Johnstone Louis** *The Tree of Life*

8 – 10: 1 **Peter Talks** *I Love Running*

2 **Michael Clough** *My Favourite Place is My Garden*

3 **Rahael Talks** *My Favourite Things – Dogs, Plants & Christmas*

11 – 14:1 **Seren Abbott** *Golf*

2 **Ed Potter** *Bicycle, Cricket & Planes*

3 **Tanish Timma Tamish** *Favourite Things – Dinosaurs & Space*

15 – 18:1 **Christopher Stuttard** *The Pianoforte*

**Best Overall Entry** **Peter Talks: I Love Running**

Peter's winning entry can be seen on the next page.

Congratulations to him, of course, but also to all the other young people who took part.

*You put me to shame as I haven't done an entry for a competition for a long time. Editor*

Anagram Answers - from page :29:

1 AFGHANISTAN 2 EAGLE STAMP 3 NEWFOUNDLAND 4 NICARAGUA  
5 PERFORATIONS 6 BELGIUM 7 ASCENSION 8 COMMEMORATIVES  
9 GRENADA 10 KAMPUCHEA 11 WATERMARK 12 SINGAPORE  
13 BASUTOLAND 14 SURCHARGES 15 GUERNSEY 16 NETHERLANDS  
17 IMPERFORATE 18 GIBRALTAR 19 PORTUGAL 20 DEFINITIVES  
21 HONDURAS 22 PHILATELISTS 23 MALAYSIA  
24 BECHUANALAND 25 THEMATICS



My favourite things...

## I love running



I love running and I like encouraging my dad to go faster, so he can run next to me.

My running really progressed when I started running the parkrun. When Covid-19 wasn't happening, my fastest time was 24 mins and 56 seconds for the 5 kilometre run.

When I was younger I would slow my dad down, but now I am faster than him!

**Trinidad and Tobago 1968 Mexico Olympic Games.** 19 competitors represented Trinidad and Tobago in the 1968 games. Ronald S. Monsegue ran 10.5 seconds in the 100m.



**Paraguay 1972 Munich Olympic Games** were held in Germany 3 men took part in 2 events.



**DPR Korea Montreal Olympic Games 1976** Boxing, Men's Bantamweight one gold and one silver in Boxing, Men's Light Flyweight.



**Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania U.K: Commonwealth Games Edinburgh 1970**

Kenyan Track Star Kipchoge Keino Sets New Commonwealth Games Record For 1,500 Metres.



**Republique of Rwanda 1968 Mexico Olympics**



**Belize Lake Placid Olympics 1980**



By Peter Talks Age 9

## **Airmails of New Zealand - The Inland Flights - An Aerophilatelic History, reviewed by Jeff Long**

One of the main objectives of the Airmail Society of NZ is to record the airmail history of New Zealand as a handy reference for collectors and for future generations. The initial publication was in 1931 of the handbook *The Air Mails and Pigeon Posts of New Zealand*, compiled and edited by **Ray Collins**. In 1955 the *Airmails of New Zealand Volume One: The Internal Flights* was published, largely through the efforts of **Douglas Walker**. Then, in 1986 the Society's third publication appeared, the *Airmails of New Zealand, Volume Two: Overseas Flights 1928-1940* by **Douglas Walker**. This was supplemented in 1997 with **Robin Startup's** *Airmails of New Zealand, Volume Three: International Airmails 1940-1970*.

In 2000 the society reviewed Volume One, *The Internal Flights*, which described the airmails in chronological order, from the 1897 pigeongram mails through to the latest domestic airline services at the time. The handbook needed to be brought up to date, the older text revised, and illustrations, not possible all those years ago, to be included. Appreciating that a revised handbook required a large amount of work, the go-ahead for research was given.

**Jim Stapleton** produced the typescript of a fascinating story of New Zealand's inland airmails in 1994, an extensive look at the flights and services behind flown covers, arranged by airlines. From this typescript came the manuscript entitled *The Inland Flights - An Aerophilatelic History*, covering the background to the development of aviation for the carriage of mails in New Zealand.

The book has been jointly published by the Airmail Society and Mowbray Collectables. It includes 18 chapters on airlines ranging from the Walsh Brothers 1919-1922 through Cook Strait Airways and Mount Cook Airlines in the 1930s to 1970s, to NAC and Air New Zealand to 1994. Each chapter focuses on the services provided, and much effort has gone into obtaining colour scans of the original illustrations which were all monocolour. There are also substantial chapters on special event airmails to 1994, and a checklist of events and flights, as well as an index and bibliography. The monograph is 150 pages, perfect bound, with many excellent illustrations, most in full colour, and is very readable.

As the foreword notes, major contributors to the publication of this monograph other than **Jim Stapleton**, include **Robin Startup RDP FR SPL FR PSNZ** who spent many hours on detailed editing work, **Mike Shand**, **Keith Griffiths**, **Alan Tunnicliffe**, **Bill Mitchell** and many other collectors, plus **David Smitham** who brought the manuscript to publication stage. Mowbray Collectables agreed to arrange for the printing and publishing of the new book, and it should grace the shelves of those interested in aerophilately for many years to come.

The book is available from Mowbray Collectables, Private Bag 63000, Wellington, NZ 6140 or [auctions@mowbrays.co.nz](mailto:auctions@mowbrays.co.nz) for NZ\$60 post-paid within NZ. Please enquire from Mowbrays for postage cost to countries outside New Zealand.

# Diary for the next few months

**Don't forget to check before making a journey.**

## Local and regional events by ABPS members

**2021**

**May**

- 22 Redruth Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Jubilee Hall, Wesley Building, Wesley Street, **Redruth** TR15 2EG → 01209 213422

**June**

- 5 RINGPEX: 10 - 4, Greyfriars Community Centre, Christchurch Road, **Ringwood** → 01425 470710

**July**

- 3 MIDPEX: 10 - 5, Warwickshire Event Centre, **Leamington Spa**, CV31 1XN → [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or [sites.google.com/site/midpex](https://sites.google.com/site/midpex)

**August**

- 7 Newquex Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, Trevisker St Eval Community Centre, Orion Drive, **St. Eval**, Near **Wadebridge** PL27 7TU (follow brown signs to Chocolate Factory) → 01288 355918
- 7 War & Philately Stamp and Postal History Fair: 10 - 4, Banstead Community Hall, Park Road, **Banstead**, Surrey SM7 2AJ
- 22 Morecambe Stamp Fair: 10 - 3, The Platform, Old Station Buildings, Marine Rd West, **Morecambe** LA4 4DB → Frank Colling 01524 733589 or [lesleyvincent1@sky.com](mailto:lesleyvincent1@sky.com)

**September**

- 11 Yeovil Stamp & Postcard Fair, Digby Memorial Church Hall, Digby Road, **Sherborne**, Dorset, DT93NL
- 23 to 26 GB Philatelic Congress, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kings Road, **Harrogate** HG1 1XX
- 25 HAMPEX: 10 - 4, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, **Wickham**, PO17 5AL → [www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfpeople.htm#hampex](http://www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfpeople.htm#hampex)

**October**

- 15 to 17 Gibraltar Study Circle Competition Weekend: Golden Lion Hotel, 114 High Street, **Northallerton** DL7 8PP

**November**

- 6 Taunton Stamp Club Annual Stamp Fair, 10 - 4, St James Church Hall, St James Street, **Taunton** TA1 1JS → Peter Hardie 01823 666371

**2022**

**June**

- 11 Swinpex 2022, St. Joseph's Academy, Ocotal Way, **Swindon** SN3 3LR

# For the next few years

## National Exhibitions 2021

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

- 29<sup>th</sup> September - 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 AUTUMN STAMPEX 2021 Competitive exhibition. The British Thematic Association will lead. (Coordinator: Barry Stagg)

## International Exhibitions 2021-2023

### **PHILANIPPON 2021. Japan World Stamp Championship Exhibition 2021.**

Held at Pacifico Yokohama Hall B/C, Yokohama, Japan from 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021. A full international exhibition under FIP patronage and FIAP auspices. Website [www.japan2021.jp](http://www.japan2021.jp) Entries are now closed - 16 entries from the UK. UK Commissioner **Simon Richards** at [simon@sidebell.co.uk](mailto:simon@sidebell.co.uk)

### • **IPEX 2021 International Philatelic Exhibition, Cape Town, South Africa.**

This has now been postponed for the second time. For further details contact the UK commissioner, **Jon Aitchison** at [britishlocals@aol.com](mailto:britishlocals@aol.com) 01279 870488

### • **NOTOS 2021 European Philatelic Exhibition, Athens, Greece.**

Held at Zappeion (venue change) from 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021. Website [hps.gr/notos2021](http://hps.gr/notos2021) A full European international with FEPA patronage and FIP recognition. Two and three frame exhibits will be accepted as well as the usual one, five or eight. All FEPA and FIP classes are accepted at 30€ per frame and 30€ per literature entry plus a UK handling and transport charge of £25 per frame. UK deadline for entries is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021. For entries contact the UK commissioner, **Jon Aitchison** at [britishlocals@aol.com](mailto:britishlocals@aol.com) 01279 980488

### • **HUNFILEX 2022 Specialised World Stamp Championship Exhibition.**

**Budapest, Hungary.** Held at Bálna (The Whale), Budapest, Hungary from 31<sup>st</sup> March to 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022. The exhibition has FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. Website [www.hunfilex2022.com](http://www.hunfilex2022.com) Available classes are World Championship Class, Traditional Philately, Postal History, Revenues, Thematic, Open Class, One Frame and Literature. Frame fees 70€ or 75€ for literature and 100€ for one frame exhibits. UK handling and transport charge is £25 per frame. The entry deadline is 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. For entries contact the UK commissioner **Bill Hedley** at [ewlhedley@gmail.com](mailto:ewlhedley@gmail.com) 01892 531516.

### • **HELVETICA 2022 Specialised World Exhibition, Lugano, Switzerland.**

Held at the Padiglione Conza Convention Centre, Lugano, Switzerland from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022. The exhibition has FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. Website <https://www.helvetica2022.ch> Available classes are World Stamp Championship Class, Traditional Philately, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic, One Frame and Literature. Entries open soon. Frame fees are CHF80 per frame or CHF100 for one frame entries and Literature Class. UK handling and transport charge is £25 per frame. UK deadline for



entries is 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021. For entries please contact the UK commissioner **Chris King** at [chris.king@postalhistory.net](mailto:chris.king@postalhistory.net) 0208 346 1366.

• **CAPEX 2022 Toronto, Canada:** Held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Hosted by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada under the Patronage of FIAP with FIP recognition. Website

[www.capex2022.org](http://www.capex2022.org) All One-Frame sub-classes plus literature. The frame fee for One-Frame exhibits is US\$125 and literature is US\$80, plus the UK handling charge of £30. Youth entries are free. Deadline for entries is 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Contact the UK commissioner **Frank Walton** at [frank@frankwalton.com](mailto:frank@frankwalton.com)

• **LIBEREC 2022:** European Stamp Exhibition and Polar Salon, Czech Republic. To be held at the Wellness Hotel Babylon, Liberec, Czech Republic from 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022, with FEPA patronage and FIP recognition. Website [liberec2022.eu](http://liberec2022.eu) Available classes are Grand Prix, Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, Open Philately, Picture Postcards, Youth, Literature and One-Frame. Two and three frame exhibits are accepted as well as the usual one, five and eight. Frame fees are 40 euros per frame for 5 or 8 frame exhibits, 45 euros for 3 frame, 50 euros for 2 frame and 55 euros for one frame and literature, with Youth exhibits being free. The UK handling charge of £25 per frame also applies. The deadline for entries is 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. Please contact the UK commissioner **Steve Harrison** at [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or phone him on 0121 313 0671.

• **IBRA2023 World Stamp Exhibition, Essen, Germany.**

Held at the Messe Essen from 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (Date change). Website [www.ibra2023.de](http://www.ibra2023.de) A full international exhibition under FIP patronage with FEPA recognition. All FIP classes are accepted at 80€ per frame, 110€ for single frame exhibits and 50€ for literature, plus a UK handling and transport charge of £25 per frame. UK deadline for entries is September 2022. For entries please contact the UK commissioner **Frank Walton** at [frank@frankWalton.com](mailto:frank@frankWalton.com)

**UK handling charges** have now been standardised on all international exhibitions at £25 per frame for shows in Europe or £30 for events anywhere else in the world, whether single or multiple frame exhibits, and £25 per literature entry. This is to cover the cost of getting exhibits to and from exhibitions, FIP capitation fees and other costs relating to processing the exhibits. Overall this runs at a loss. Exhibits that are carried to and returned from an exhibition by the exhibitor are charged at half price. There is no UK handling charge for Youth exhibits. If you are interested in becoming a United Kingdom international exhibition commissioner please contact **Jon Aitchison** [britishlocals@aol.com](mailto:britishlocals@aol.com)

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](http://www.abps.org.uk) on the "Exhibiting" tab.

*Simon Richards, Chairman ABPS International & Exhibitions Committee*  
[Simon@sidebell.co.uk](mailto:Simon@sidebell.co.uk)

# ABPS General Information

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Please use this RPSL address for all correspondence apart from the following:

**Membership** (if not emailed):

**ABPS Membership, 1 Naunton Way, Cheltenham GL53 7BQ**

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

**Editor**

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

**Stamp Active Network:** please write to:

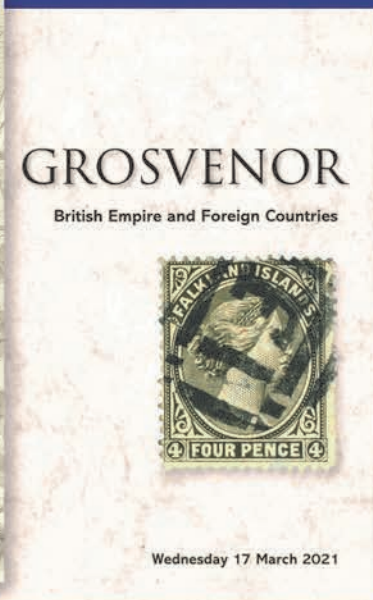
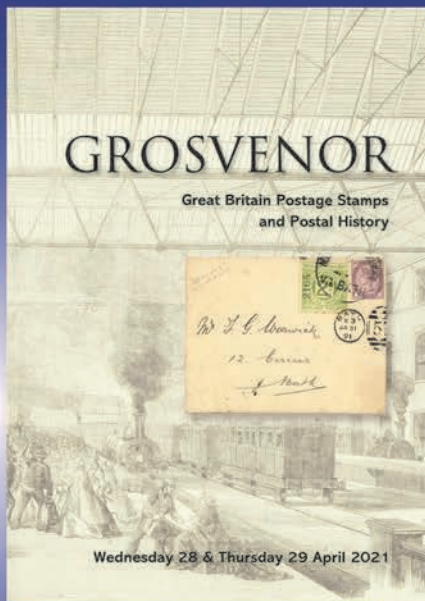
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**c/o 21 The Bridle, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4TH**

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

Website [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk) This also holds further information on Committees.

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