

Birmingham 2022 - Going Forward



ABPS

- ABPS supports the growth of stamp collecting among the young by sponsoring and encouraging youth philately
- ABPS has a Small Grants Scheme that assists Federations, Clubs, Societies or individuals
- ABPS links UK philately with the wider philatelic world through the FIP and FEPA



See pp 9 & 10



The ABPS News is also available online at www.abps.org.uk



Selling your stamp collection?

Warwick and Warwick have an expanding requirement for world collections, single country collections, single items, covers, proof material and specialised collections. Our customer base is increasing dramatically and we need an ever-larger supply of quality material to keep pace with demand. The market is currently very strong for G.B. and British Commonwealth and the Far East. If you are considering the sale of your collection, now is the time to act.

FREE VALUATIONS

We will provide a free, professional valuation of your collection, without obligation on your part to proceed. Either we will make you a fair, binding private treaty offer, or we will recommend inclusion of your property in our next public auction.

FREE TRANSPORTATION

We can arrange insured transportation of your collection to our Warwick offices completely free of charge. If you decline our offer, we ask you to cover the return carriage costs only.

FREE VISITS

Visits by our valuers are possible anywhere in the country or abroad, in order to assess more valuable collections. Please phone for details.

ADVISORY DAYS

We have an ongoing programme of advisory days, in all regions of the United Kingdom, where you can meet us and discuss the sale of your collection. Visit our website for further details.

EXCELLENT PRICES

Because of the strength of our customer base we are in a position to offer prices that we feel sure will exceed your expectations.

ACT NOW

Telephone or email Warwick & Warwick today with details of your property.



Warwick & Warwick

Auctioneers and Valuers
www.warwickandwarwick.com



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

Get the experts on your side!

 /warwickauctions

 @warwickauctions

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.

ABPS is a company limited by guarantee (3326534), founded 1st January 1994. Material from *ABPS News* may be freely reproduced, but acknowledgement of the source would be appreciated. Copyright of images may belong to parties other than ABPS, who must also be consulted.

Volume 29, Number 4, Winter 2022 (whole number 116)

Editor: Keith S Burton

(ISSN 1353 6869)

CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4 Chair's Message: <i>Steve Harrison</i>
One Thing Leads to Another | 19 SS Gerusalemme: <i>Keith Lillywhite,</i>
<i>Phil Kaye, Mike Saunders</i> |
| 5 Editorial: <i>Keith Burton</i> | 21 Down Memory Lane: <i>Keith Lillywhite</i> |
| 6 Grimsby Centenary Sheets: <i>Chris</i>
<i>Dodworth</i> | 22 On The Club Circuit |
| 7 Anniversaries: Forces Postal History
Society (70) <i>Michael Dobbs</i> | 51 Book Reviews: Australasian Crash
Mail and Mail from Other Incidents,
Volume Four, 1940 - 1949 by Brian
R. Peace <i>Ken Stanford</i> |
| 8 Obituary: David Page <i>Jim</i>
<i>Drummond</i> | 52 Stuart Rossiter Trust: New Book:
Irish Diamonds - The Numeral
Postmarks of Ireland from 1844
by Stan Challis |
| 9 Obituary: Brian Thurlow <i>Brian</i>
<i>Coates</i> | 53 Stamp Active |
| 10 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain
Birmingham 2022: <i>Daphne</i>
<i>McMillan FRPSL</i> | 55 Congratulations - Stampex Results |
| 12 Knowledge Needed (Please): <i>Eddie</i>
<i>Mays</i> | 56 Diary of local events, national
and international exhibitions |
| 17 Hungary & Philatelic Borders:
<i>Mervyn Benford</i> | 57 ABPS Updates |
| | 58 ABPS Executive & other officers |

Cover picture: *The Congress Roundel; Viewing the 4-sheet entries; Some of the things that ABPS does. Congress pictures © Lucy Ferrier, Dane Garrod*

An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage 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 15th January, 15th April, 15th July, 15th October. We cannot guarantee to include items in specific editions. Items may be edited for publication. Email copy is preferred (unformatted). Send copy to the editor: Keith S Burton (editor@abps.org.uk) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:



Not so long ago we were looking forward to Stampex – and now we are looking back at the event! With a slightly different format from past events, it would seem that people enjoyed their visits, and were able to find a few philatelic items that fitted in to their collections well!

Having just returned from an international event in Liberec in the Czech Republic I really do feel that philately is thriving at the moment. From meetings of local societies all around this country to international events such as at Liberec, enthusiastic philatelists are really enjoying their work!

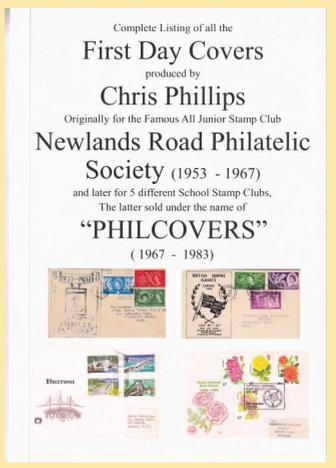
With the idea of philatelic events still in mind, we have some excellent news that in 2025, EuroPhilEx, a European stamp exhibition, will be taking place in this country from 8th to 11th May. The venue will be in Birmingham at the National Exhibition Centre. Most competitive classes will be available to enter. There will be a large number of dealers' booths and an auction will also be one of the events. Do make a note of the dates – more information will be published by the organising committee soon.

I always like to stress the importance of communication. Without good communication who knows what's going on or what the current issues are in philately that need addressing? This is why I really want to hear from you; from federations, societies, clubs or individuals. What are your thoughts about where the hobby is and its future? What should we be doing? Please do let me know what you think. My email address is chair@abps.org.uk and my postal address is Steven Harrison, ABPS, c/o RPSL, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW. I really want to hear from you!

Steve Harrison FRPSL

One thing leads to another.

From 1953 to 1967 Newlands Road Philatelic Society in Tunbridge Wells produced First Day Covers. Later further were introduced for different school stamp clubs, being sold under the name Philcovers 1967 - 1983. Chris Phillips was the main instigator of all of this - often cycling long distances to obtain different postmarks. Now these covers appear on auction sites so Chris has produced a complete listing. Often there were only between 100 and 200 produced, and two have gone as high as £500 each on Ebay. The book is available on Amazon, or Chris can be contacted via the Scarborough PC website - via Yorkshire Philatelic Association or ABPS website (abps.org.uk)



Editorial



The new season for many societies has started and the various fairs and meetings are now underway. After a very hot summer we are back into what many consider to be the main philately weather - however things have changed somewhat and for many their philately goes on throughout the whole year. Zoom meetings take no notice of the dark nights and bad weather. If you are not able to get to your own society meeting or they have closed down for the winter months don't forget that you will be welcome at other societies' Zoom meetings eg Southampton, Torquay or Harrogate. I am sure that there are many others - just contact them and ask if they will send you the link.

After so many months when meetings were impossible, fairs difficult and chat was by email, telephone or Zoom it was good to be able to meet up at Congress and then Stampex. Both were enjoyable and fulfilled some of the social delights of our hobby. If you missed either I hope that you will make efforts to join in during 2023. It isn't all about small bits of paper or covers from or to strange places. I learn a lot from talking to other people and trying to make them jealous (usually unsuccessfully) of what I have managed to find. If you want any of the photographs officially taken at Congress, please let me know. I will need to know who you want to see and I might have fun sorting out who is who, as there are no captions - a bit like going through a dealer's box at a fair. No - I can't send them all - there are about 200 of them - taking up 706MB of my computer's storage.

It was wonderful to see children, including three school groups, at the Stamp Active stand at Stampex. Their enthusiasm was electrifying and made the hard work of the volunteers well worthwhile. Some of the children from the schools didn't want to leave when their time was up - what a delight, but exhausting. Some of the families came because of seeing Stampex and Stamp Active on social media, then returned with family and friends on the Saturday - it pays to reach out.

There are changes afoot in the arrangements for displays and exhibitions. Stampex 2023 in September next year is not expected to include a national exhibition. It is hoped that instead there will be a Royal Challenge competition. Teams of four would show two five-frame and two eight-frame exhibits from different classes. The winner is the team who gets the most aggregate points. RPSL are the current holders and it is hoped that Canada, South Africa, Victoria, New South Wales and New Zealand will join in, thus giving 168 high quality frames. What a display that would bring - well worth a visit to London. But what of the national scene? The likelihood is of a National in conjunction with the ASPS Exhibition and Competition in Perth in April 2023, and another in York in July at the two-day York Fair. All of these will need helpers, volunteers, doers - whatever you want to call them. Step forward, please. *Keith Burton FRPSL*

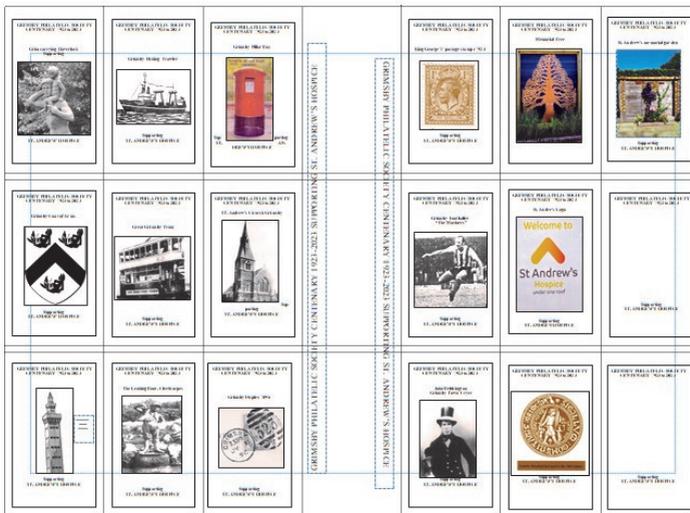
Grimsby and District Philatelic Society established in 1923 will have its centenary next year 2023.

During the last decades we have been helping St Andrew's Hospice raise funds, approximately £50 000, through stamp auctions at the club. Members of stamp clubs throughout the UK have been very supportive with items for sale and donations as well as bids.

As it will be our Centenary year, stamp club members and the Hospice staff and patients have been working on a project that will help both societies. We have been working closely to create souvenir sheets and illustrated envelopes.

The two Souvenir sheets (3x3) incorporate a total of 18 different images relating to the History of Grimsby/Cleethorpes and images of the Hospice; a couple painted by the patients themselves.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Motifs are (i) Grimsby Coat of Arms | (ii) Statue of Grim & Haverlock |
| (iii) The Dock Tower | (iv) A Grimsby fishing trawler |
| (v) Great Grimsby Tram | (vi) Statue of the Leaking Boot (Cleethorpes) |
| (vii) A Grimsby Pillar Box | (viii) St. Andrew's Church |
| (ix) A 1923 GV stamp | (x) A Grimsby Duplex postmark |
| (xi) A Grimsby Footballer (Mariners) | |
| (xii) Grimsby Town Crier (John Bebbington) | |
| (xiii) 14 th Century Haverlock Seal | (xiv) The Hospice Logo |
| (xv) The Hospice Memorial Tree at St Andrews | |
| (xvi) Painting by a hospice patient | (xvii) Memorial garden at St Andrews |
| (xviii) Painting by a hospice patient | |



Each label is titled *Grimsby & District Philatelic Society Centenary 1923 to 2023* and subtitled *Supporting St Andrew's Hospice*.

Each picture is titled.

Each label measures 3.8 cm wide by 6.3 cm high, is ready gummed & peelable.

The envelope will have the image of Grimsby Coat of Arms, the title of the club and 100 years Centenary and St Andrew's Logo.

We hope members throughout the UK will buy these items as a souvenir or use them on envelopes to promote this venture and in so doing will raise money for the Hospice. → home@cdodsworth.plus.com

Chris Dodsworth

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).

Heartiest congratulations to all involved in these milestones:

Forces Postal History Society - 70th Anniversary

October 2022 marks the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Forces Postal History Society - our inaugural meeting took place on 18th October 1952 at The Lawns Hotel, South Kensington, London SW7. **Colonel Guy R Crouch** was appointed as President with **John A Smith** as Chairman - both names were well known to the philatelic community at the time. However, our third meeting held on 18th April 1953, and subsequent meetings took place in the Imperial War Museum, which was used for about 14 years and was an ideal location for a society such as ours! We then held monthly meetings in various other locations but since April 1995 right up to the present day we have been meeting at the Union Jack Club (UJC) in Waterloo.

By March 1953 the society's membership was already 32. As a society we have thrived, albeit membership like many other societies, has had its ups and downs and we currently have around 250 members which is down on a few years ago when it reached well over 300 members.

The first of our regional meetings was held in November 1954 when we were guests of the Birmingham Philatelic Society. We have subsequently held meetings (be they day meetings or weekend events) in such places as Birmingham, Bournemouth, Lancaster, Leeds, Manchester, Oxford, Perth, Peterborough, Worcester and Worthing. Some were 'one-offs' and others were on an annual basis for a number of years. On our 21st Anniversary in 1973 a convention was held on HMS Belfast; souvenir covers were produced with special postmarks to mark this occasion. In 2002 we celebrated our 50th Anniversary with a weekend away in Gillingham, Kent next door to the Royal Engineers Museum as the Royal Engineers were at that time responsible for the

operation of the Forces Postal Service. Our latest journey was to Hinckley in June this year, organised by our editor, **Chris Grimshaw**. This was a welcome return to regional meetings after an absence of a few years.

→ www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk

Michael Dobbs

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



David Page – Obituary

David spent his early years in Northamptonshire before settling in Buckinghamshire where he joined Amersham and District Philatelic Society (ADPS) in 1969. By 1982 he had progressed from “tea boy” to a committee member, after which he served as auction secretary, packet secretary for a short period, publicity officer and competitions secretary. In 1995 he was elected secretary (whose duties include

arranging speakers) - a position he held for eight years, despite having a young family and a busy job as an industrial chemist. In 1998 he played a leading role in organising a stamp fair for the ADPS 40th anniversary which was awarded runner-up in the Roland Hill Awards. Between 2005 and 2008 David served three years as president which included the ADPS 50th anniversary stamp fair, when HM The Queen graciously authorised **Michael Sefi** as Keeper to exhibit several frames from The Royal Philatelic Collection.

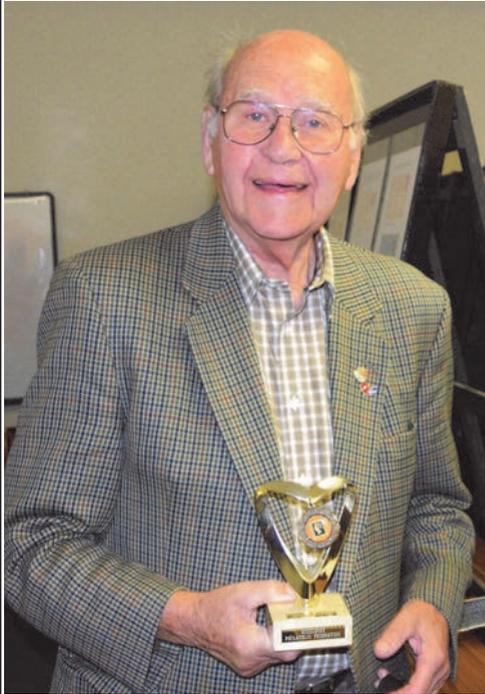
After retiring from his day job David acquired printing equipment which enabled him to produce the ADPS stationery to the same standard but at much lower cost than a professional printer. David was quick to recognise the advantages of computer technology and he used his skills to establish a membership database, an impressive club auction catalogue template and with help from his son-in-law the initial website for ADPS.

- In May 2011 the Chairman of the Executive Committee of ABPS John Baron made a special trip to Amersham from his home in Didcot to present David with an Award of Merit.
- In 2012 he was elected an Honorary Life Member of ADPS.
- From 1997 until 2018 David was very active in running the Middlesex Philatelic Federation including being the editor of its magazine.
- He was also a committed member of the South African Collectors' Society where his duties included the printing and distribution of its magazine *The Springbok*.

David died on 8th July aged 80 after a long illness which he bore with great fortitude. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, especially his wife Maggie, son Andrew, daughter Alex and son-in-law Steve and their two young sons Jamie and Jude.

Jim Drummond

Brian Thurlow – Obituary



Our friend and fellow philatelist Brian Thurlow was our longest-serving member - 58 years.

He joined Watford & District Philatelic Society in 1964 and quickly became a popular and active member, elected to the committee and then secretary in 1970. After a short break in the mid-1980s, he returned to the position, which he held until his death.

Brian was also our auctioneer. Each year he had the thankless task of receiving the items, lotting them and producing the catalogue, as well as knocking them down on the actual night.

Brian often entered Watford's annual nine-page competitions, winning a total of 20 trophies across the three disciplines - his first was in 1976, his last in 2020. Knowledgeable in many aspects of stamp collecting, Brian's main interests were Switzerland, Scandinavia and Lebanon. He gave

many excellent displays and talks to other societies, and was a key member of Watford's team on Middlesex Philatelic Federation (MPF) quiz nights. He was also a leading member of the team when Watford visited Nanterre (Watford's twin town in France) in 1998 and 2003.

Outside Watford, Brian was a longstanding member of the Helvetia Society, Scandinavia PS and the Icelandic Study Group - specialist societies in which he was active. Brian and his wife Barbara visited Iceland on holidays and both enjoyed the many weekends these societies held annually. He was also a member of the National PS for a number of years, working on the archive material with his great friend Frank Jones. As an accredited judge and committee member of the MPF, Brian judged at other MPF societies on their competition evenings; he also judged at other Federations' stamp days.

Brian will be sadly missed and forever fondly remembered by everyone that knew him.

Brian Coates

It pays to advertise - why are there so few entries in the Diary or in the Events Page on the ABPS website? It's a small job to send details.

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain – Birmingham September 2022

Everyone who attended Congress 2022 will remember the opening Thursday not firstly for philatelic reasons but as the day on which Queen Elizabeth II, England's longest reigning monarch, died and was succeeded by King Charles III. Upon hearing the news at the evening reception, delegates toasted Her Majesty's memory before drinking the health of King Charles.



++++
2022 was a Congress with a difference. This year the usual diet of learned talks on stamps and postal history was replaced by a series of presentations from organisations ranging from local societies to international and specialist groups and trade representatives. The philatelic content was there but often felt subordinate to a succession of people explaining their groups' function and ethos. Each of these talks was quite interesting, but this being Congress, were the presenters not actually preaching to the converted? Could not most of the information have been presented as a second Congress booklet – a review and forward planning document – possibly distributed in advance to stimulate discussion giving people some 'thinking time'? The only really enthusiastic discussion came in the Q&A session after the ABPS presentation. This would have left more time to enjoy actual displays.

The presentations had three significant recurring themes:

“Philately needs re-branding”

Philately suffers from the public perception that it is a narrow and boring activity for older people, mainly men. This must change. Even the name can be an unintelligible barrier to newcomers. Developing links to other organisations and relating philately to the arts, sciences, and social and local history could improve its image. This would involve effort...

“We need more doers!”

It was observed that whilst the volume of available material and the rapid growth of internet trading indicate a healthy collector base, local and regional societies are shrinking or closing, often because of members' reluctance to take on essential jobs. Collectors at all levels need to be more pro-active in their societies and in engaging with local communities.

“Philately is good for you”

Ours is a worldwide social network, encouraging sharing of knowledge, social interaction and international friendship. Technology enables participation by even the most remote collector. During the pandemic, some local societies' meetings became international. We should all try to spread the word that...

“Philately is fun”

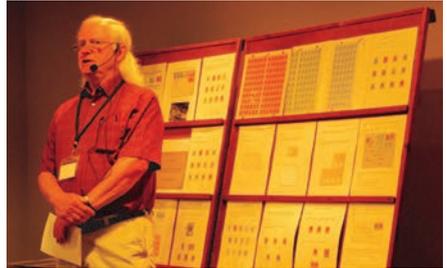
What does one remember after Congress?

We remember things that entertained and/or amused us, even if we profess to be ‘serious’ collectors. The ‘four sheets to tell a story’ session was a fine mix of scholarship and humour (enjoyable even though my chosen candidate didn’t win!).

Mike Roberts, Congress Medal recipient, regaled us in inimitable style with fascinating material interspersed with his philatelic history.

I also recall Millie the macaw, banished from Canada’s Expo 67 for repeating obscenities gleaned from the build team. Oh, yes, what’s this about revenue stamps for buying ice-creams? Let’s hope it doesn’t catch on in Torquay.

Thinking ahead to 2023, I’m hoping that the programme will be exciting enough to induce me to travel so far for only three days. *Daphne McMillan FRPSL*



1 The Ladies who welcome - Linda & Brenda. 2 The socialisers

3 The local societies who displayed on Sunday



Knowledge Needed (Please)

At a recent local stamp auction I bought one lot of GB commemorative covers from the late **Brian Lutman's** collection. They are interesting but I have been unable to find anything out about them and I am hoping that someone (or a few) might be able to shed light into my darkness.

The covers are all home-made and virtually identical, being 167 mm x 100 mm. They are wrapped round a piece of stiff card and sealed on the back with a red, round sticker. One difference is that there are a variety of pen and ink drawings on the front. There are five or six designs but they bear no relevance to the commemorative issue (or rarely). Each envelope carries a neatly pencil-written delivery address and has two definitive stamps with the cancellation across both. In the top left hand corner is a four or five digit serial number. I do not have all the issues, which is a hindrance in trying to work out what is what. As you will see from the two examples shown the value of the postage on each envelope varies and seems to have no relevance to the postal rates in force at the time.

I have chosen these two examples because they are close together both chronologically and in series order. It is a coincidence that they both have British Forces PO cancellations and naval connotations. The other covers in the series cover a wide range of events.

Any information which can be passed to me would be gratefully received.

➔ esmays.1942@gmail.com

Eddie Mays



Your article?

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

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~~
(naive 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 'socialised' 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 his collecting / 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 LUPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps 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~~

– **Lucky for the seller that 2 well-heeled bidders saw the potential value that day** or it could have been given away... the seller could easily have lost out couldn't 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). **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: Please Request a complimentary UPA catalogue – using the contact details further below)

13 OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer?

All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon

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

14 AND the SMALL PRINT!

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

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

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297

www.upastampauctions.co.uk • info@upastampauctions.co.uk



The Collectors' Secret Weapon

Discover the UPA reducing-estimate system ...
... Look for the 'US'? (Unsold lots)

Join 2,000+ regular bidders, 95% Collectors from 54 different countries who have discovered the Collectors' Secret Weapon – No Buyer's Premium, ALL Lots Guaranteed, Loyalty insured Airmail Post-Free delivery Auctions, **PLUS ... your 1st £55 value lots are on me ...**

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! ...

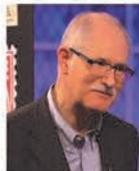
They simply wait to buy unsold lots at reserve !!

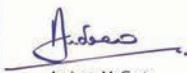
So ... looking for the 'US' makes sense, doesn't it

... 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 –

Dedicated to De-mystifying Philately

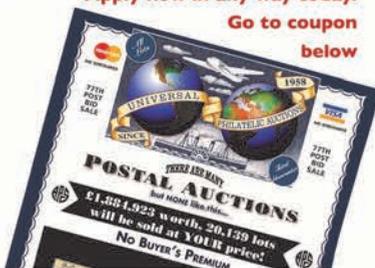



Andrew McGavin,
Author, Managing Director
Universal Philatelic Auctions
(UPA)

Collect Your Next Complimentary UPA Auction Catalogue:

www.upastampauctions.co.uk

Apply now in any way today.
Go to coupon below



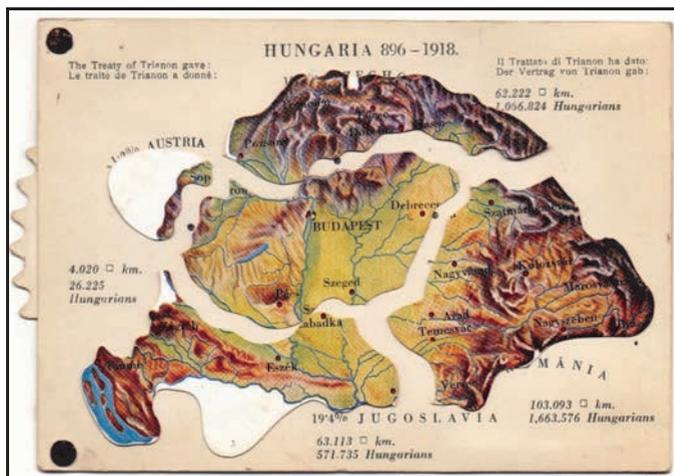
Request Catalogue Now:

www.upastampauctions.co.uk

We're OPEN: ☎ 01451 861111

Hungary and Philatelic Borders

In 1920 70% of Hungary was given to neighbours. Even Austria gained some despite starting the war and involving Hungary under Hapsburg constitutional



Commercial mechanical postcard designed to show the whole and the dismembered country.

power. Collecting Hungarian involves Austria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Romania, Ukraine and Poland. Some lost territory returned in 1938/39 and 1941. The “Justice for Hungary” argument had become international, much supported by Daily Mail owner, Lord Rothermere, but finally done by Hitler, expecting wartime favours, though Hungary only reluctantly entered the war in 1941! At

HUNFILEX in March the Hungarian PS of GB showed 16 frames - classical and revenues to Railway Posts - typical of the rich postal history Hungary offers.

The end of the war brought occupation by countries anticipating territorial gains - but also the French. Romanian forces reached Budapest before the Allies finally demanded withdrawal. Even Austria, that started the war, gained part of western Hungary, bringing local military resistance. Stamps and issues were hugely affected across the boundaries. Following Trianon in 1920 Hungary's border crossings multiplied. Losing an area brought loss of everything in it - railways, factories, mines, water, churches and people - and six years' economic inflation. Under Trianon Hungary was forbidden aviation, civil and military, but defied it at the civil level. Airmail issues and special flights and regular services came. Hungary was early with commemoratives. Even in 1896 it had issued a unique set of pre-franked illustrated postcards for the Budapest Millennium. In 1869 there was a joint Austro-Hungarian issue of the world's first stationery postcard. A short issue featuring for the first time not State leaders but Communist heroes of the 1917 Soviet revolution was produced in 1920, and the world's first sports issue in 1925. Scouts and Girls Guides reflected general international developments in the 1930s.

Hungary had long had good relations with Poland across high Carpathian borders. Invaded in WWII by both Hitler and Stalin, Polish officers escaped to



'Official' Axis internment in Hungary but found little difficulty escaping through central Europe to join forces opposing Hitler. The picture is from after the return of the border in

1939 - soldiers surrounded by snow and ice celebrate with Hungarian representatives with glasses of wine - and on bicycles!



After WWI six years of economic inflation ensued, affecting postal history. WWII would beat that. Hungary, told in 1940 it owed Hitler, so again on the wrong side, was sent back to its 1920 borders to live life with Moscow totally in charge but the economy in a gruesome mess The inflation saw a letter costing 1 pengó in 1939 costing billions in 1946.

All exciting stuff for collectors finding out that rural vegetables were the new gold of the towns and cities, and the fare home could change while one was working. One of our members remembered his father taking a suitcase to work for his pay and it being empty when back at home but full with vegetables and kindred essentials at inordinate costs unless one had something to barter.

Hungarian stamps very much tell the country's history and make several intriguing kinds of material to interest us as collectors. After the second war Hungary was an enforced member of the multi-nation Soviet Union and a very different set of post-war experiences is further reflected. Issues speak far more of life and living in Hungary, not just political influences and events but how life is in the glories of the Hungarian countryside and past history.

The very same scope for specialist collecting interest developed - perfins, postage dues, revenues, airmail flights, trains and borders and travelling post, print errors, perforation conundrums - just as in the 19th and early 20th century but also very ready for the emergence of thematic collecting. Hungary has long had a deep and profound interest in making the relevant philatelic and postal information available through national sources - not least a specialist scientific level research organisation, MAFITT. Sadly many records were lost to the fighting in Budapest in 1944/45.

Again political stress came with the 1956 revolution against Soviet control. Some very scarce overprinted issues help tell that story. Teenagers had gone into the streets waving sticks at Russian tanks! At the end of the war hundreds of captured soldiers were sent to gulags in the distant Soviet lands but some survived and their stories maintained the deep hatred of things Soviet until 1988/89 and the end of the USSR. Now their borders entertain Ukrainians fleeing Soviet influence once again.

Mervyn Benford

Gerusalemme

Last issue's article by Keith Lillywhite started something which I have not seen before but was most welcome – a correspondence flurry.

Phil Kaye objected to the last sentence which related to the Indian Navy taking over the ship and then ultimately scrapping it. Phil sent a Somalia cover showing that by 1949 the ship had been handed back to Italy and was in the vicinity of

Mogadishu. The cover, franked with the 1/- BMA Somalia definitive is postmarked "POSTE ITALIANE/ GERUSALEMME" dated 12 MAR 49, on which date the vessel must have been in the vicinity of Mogadishu as there is a Mogadishu postmark on the reverse dated 13 MR 49. The appearance of the Gerusalemme postmark suggests it is the same one used previous to the 1943 seizure by the British.



shows that the ship was back with Italy then but still wondered about the Indian Navy connection and that his information suggested an overlong time for the Navy to have a liner before scrapping it in 1952. Perhaps, after the Union Castle Crew left on 25th December 1946 in Madras, the ship was crewed by the Indian Navy before she was handed back to Lloyd Triestino.

As he said "I never thought a 5p cover could have generated such interest and revelation of historical and philatelic interest".

Mike Saunders then sent the following information

She was actually returned to Italy in 1946 and used extensively by the Lloyd Triestino shipping line on their East Africa and Asia routes prior to being scrapped in 1952. Illustrated are two picture postcards with the address also given as being SS Gerusalemme and both also posted in Massaua. The first is addressed to Sweden and dated by the writer on 23.11.48 and posted on 30.11.48. The Swedish language message includes 'On my way home.....I have spent some wonderful months in Kenya and even taken some steps in Uganda and Tanganyika,' thus the writer was heading north up the Red Sea. The second card is addressed to Switzerland and dated by the writer on 2.3.49 and posted on 7.3.49. The German language message includes 'Yesterday we passed through the Suez Canal and reached Suez at 3 am....' Thus the writer was



heading south down the Red Sea. It is probable that this was the same voyage as the writer of Philip Kaye's cover, also addressed to Switzerland, was on. Also illustrated is one of the company's Air Mail envelopes addressed to Vienna and posted in the Red Sea port of Massaua, Eritrea, then under British administration, on 16.7.1951. The B.A. ERITREA stamps make up the basic 85c air rate. On the reverse the sender's details are given as L. Esch, S. S. Gerusalemme, Massaua - unfortunately there is no ship's cachet.



So now we know where the ship was at certain times, but not what happened in Madras in 1946, when she was handed back to Lloyd Triestino or when she was scrapped and by whom. Any Italian Maritime experts reading this? We need you.

The Northern National Stamp Competition 2023
 An opportunity to compete and qualify will be available
 at the York Stamp and Coin Fair
 at York Racecourse 21st - 22nd July 2023.
 Please enter using the form on
exhibitions.abps.org.uk/users/sign-in
 For more information or queries
 → Nick Martin on exhibiting@abps.org.uk

Down Memory Lane - The Genesis of a Collection.

Have you ever asked yourself what started someone's interest in collecting a philatelic theme or country?

My interest in collecting WWII American Forces APOs started after a visit to Thorpe Abbots Airfield in Norfolk. The airfield was home for the USAAF 100th Bomber Group known as the 'Bloody Hundredth' due to the large number of losses on operations over Europe. The control tower housed a collection of Bomber Group memorabilia and ephemera which included letters and covers sent by airman at the airfield during the war. This started an interest in wartime mail sent from the many USAAF bases in East Anglia. On another occasion a visit was made again to the same airfield at the time of the 50th Anniversary Reunion when a large number of 100th Bomber Group Veterans (Fig 2) returned to their old wartime base. A wonderful English hot summer's day was rounded off when the B.17. "Sally B" did a flypast of the Control Tower and then at low altitude did a banked 360 degree turn around the Control Tower. An awesome sight never to be forgotten or repeated.



Fig 1

A cover (Fig 1) sent by Lt Roy Kuyrkendall, a Navigator with the 349th Squadron 100th Bomber Group, to London bearing a US APO 559 postmark dated 13th August 1945. This airman joined the 100th Bomber Group on the 6th April 1945 as part of the Lt John Archer Crew (Fig 3) flying a number of missions at the tail end of the war. On returning to the United States

Roy studied law and engineering and started his own company in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Fig 3

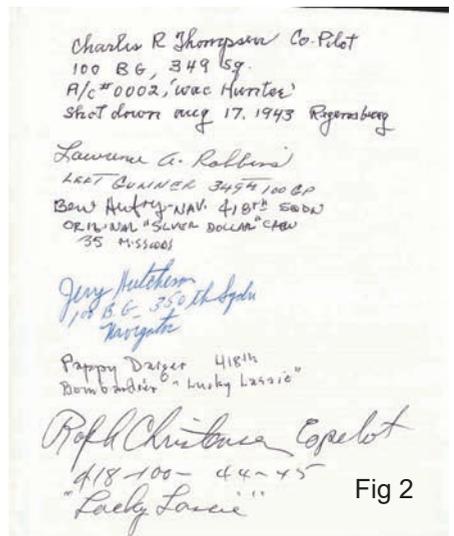


Fig 2

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.

Specialist Societies

British Thematic Association

Having run a virtual competition during the Covid lockdown, we repeated the competition last winter to encourage new and experienced Thematic, Topical, Picture Postcard, and Open Philately classes collectors in the interesting and exciting one-page competition format. Seventy-six entrants from eleven countries mustered 108 exhibits! Entries were divided into Open; Thematic – Nature, Technology and Culture; Topical and two Youth classes. The best exhibit by a BTA Member was on *Anthony Trollope: Pillar Box Pioneer!* by **Wayne Cox**, and **Yme Woensdrecht** from British Columbia won the best non-BTA member exhibit for *Down the Rabbit Hole with Lady Liberty*. Building on last year's success, we are launching a third one-page thematic competition with a closing date of 31st January 2023. To make the judge's burden manageable we are limiting this year's competition to 100 entries or thereabouts. Entries will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis, and we cannot guarantee accepting multiple entries from one person. Full details can be found at www.britishthematic.org.uk/bta-one-page-virtual-competition-2022.htm We would like to see more entries from the UK, and you do not have to be a BTA member to enter – so as there is no entry fee why not have a go?

Andrew Millington

British West Indies Study Circle

We were delighted to be invited to present at the 103rd Philatelic Congress recently. **Steve Jarvis** (chair and webmaster) opened the session by introducing the club which has the objective of promoting interest in and the study of stamps/postal history of the English-speaking Caribbean countries. We were founded in 1954, and have about 300 members from across the globe. Four BWISC members then introduced an interesting and varied range of topics, demonstrating a wide span of interest and knowledge in 10-minute bites.



Peter Fernbank, Simon Richards, Steve Jarvis, Susan Taylor and Richard Capon

Simon Richards (president) '*Dominica: King George VI*'

Peter Fernbank '*Bahamas Key and Duty Plate Issues*'

Susan Taylor (secretary) '*Birds of the Caribbean*' and '*Trinidad Slogan Cancels*'

Richard Capon '*The Farthing – Single Frank*'

We are currently moving towards a proposed merger with the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) as there are advantages in combining, particularly in producing a single journal. The joint society would be renamed and there would be one combined membership list. Members of both societies will be voting on this change in the coming months. Our home page is bwisc.org and paperless membership costs only £8 per annum. *Steve Jarvis*

Channel Islands Specialists

23 members attended the 72nd AGM on 9th July in London (including four via Zoom). During the AGM the president **Gerald Marriner** stood down and was replaced by **David Laurillard**, who joined the society in 1964 whilst serving in Germany with the RAF as an armourer. He had read a short piece written by **Bill Newport** (a co-founder of the CISS) about the Anti-Malaria overprints on Herm stamps. David started collecting Herm, then the Islands' Regionals, the independent stamps followed by the WWII period. He sold the latter collection and bought his first WWI item – a French seaplane base card. He now concentrates on the smaller islands' posts, focussing on transport and wildlife. Chairman **David Winnie** also stood down before being re-elected. The remainder of the committee were re-elected *en bloc*. Membership secretary, **Mark Bailey**, reported that the society had 235 members as of June 2022. An 83-lot room auction was held. Just over 50% were sold.



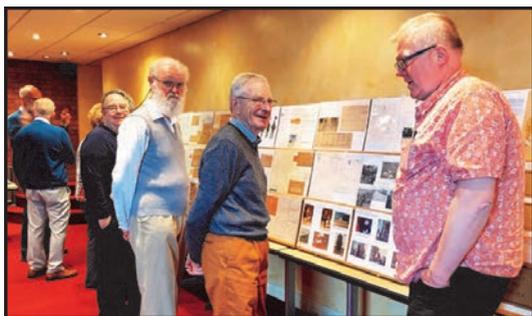
David Laurillard and Gerald Marriner

Gerald Marriner gave a presentation on *The 1943 Jersey Views stamps*, including essays, proofs and corner blocks of stamps. The displays that followed were by **Jon Aitchison** showing *Siege of Paris Mail to the Channel Islands* - it was thought there were no more than six covers to or from the Channel Islands but over the last 20 years Jon has managed to find some 30 examples, **David Winnie** with *Modern Channel Islands Sub-Offices*, and **Steve Wells** produced a recent *Guernsey hexagonal tax mark discovery*. → www.ciss.uk/

Steve Wells

Forces Postal History

We have had a very successful summer. This year marks our 70th Anniversary. Also we held our first regional meeting for a number of years - this time successfully organised by our journal editor **Chris Grimshaw** at Hinckley in June. As well as society members we had members from the local Hinckley PS and other societies and even managed to enrol a new member! Our June, July and September London meetings were members' displays on *China (including Hong Kong)*, *Ephemera* and *Africa at War*. We saw an amazing variety of material. We held our annual War & Philately stamp fair at Banstead in August (our 10th year) and whilst the footfall was poor everyone put that down to a



Richard Berry discussing his display with Graham Mark and Richard Wheatley

combination of the rail strike and the very hot weather. However, several dealers thought it went very well and, suffice to say, said they would come again next year. Sadly we had to cancel our anniversary meeting planned for 8th October due to another rail strike but made the decision to convert our November get-together into our anniversary meeting. We held Zoom meetings in August, September and October and as well as material shown by members we

had **Adrian Pearson** giving a presentation spread over two meetings on the *Postal History of the Crimean War*. Our meeting reports are placed on our website with some illustrations and most of our zoom displays are also available there as well as at: www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk

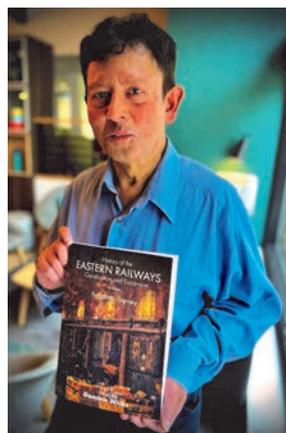
→ secretary@forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk

Michael Dobbs

Germany and Colonies

We held another successful AGM at the Holiday Inn at Newport. It was a delight to socialise with old friends and welcome new members. This was the first 'post-Covid' AGM and it was fantastic to see so many members attending. Saturday morning was taken over by the bourse (always a welcome feature) with many unusual and lesser seen items being offered for sale. We are pleased to have

also raised money that benefitted the families of members who have sadly passed away. Those not wishing to attend the bourse were treated to a trip to Tredegar House, only a short distance from the hotel. In the afternoon members displayed from their collections including *Slovenia during the Germany occupation of WWII*, *Railway Mail in Sachsen*, *Parcel Cards to Foreign Countries 1923*, *The Hultschin Area in the 19th Century*, and *The Liberation of Czechoslovakia in 1945*. During the weekend **Dominic Wicks** was proud to discuss his *History of Eastern Railways* which contains information about the little-known railway mail postmarks from the period 1848 to 1945. After a convivial dinner the weekend concluded on the Sunday morning with an auction. Our social media platforms Tweeter (Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society) and Instagram



(Germany_and_Colonies_Philately) remain popular with more followers than ever before. These platforms have proved useful in attracting members from beyond British shores, who in turn have spread the word in their own countries. For G&CPS regional events, study groups and member benefits →

www.germanphilately.org

Carl Buck

Gibraltar Study Circle

We held our September competition at the Red Lion Hotel Basingstoke over the last weekend in September. Although numbers were down it was still a very enjoyable social occasion. As usual, Friday evening after dinner was for members to display their various examples of *Unusual Destinations or Addresses*. Saturday morning was dedicated to the competitions which this time were judged by **Tony Stanford FRPSL**. The Competition winners were **E D Holmes** (Advanced Class 32 sheets; Postal History 16 sheets and GB Used in



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., Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick, CV34 5DB, England.
Tel: (01926) 499031 Fax: (01926) 491906 Email: info@warwickandwarwick.com



Bob Neville wins time from Paul Mercer

Gibraltar 16 sheets), **R H Neville** (QE2 Class 16 sheets) and **Brian Hyner** (Novice Class 16 sheets). After lunch it was time for a viewing of the entries and to hear the critique from Tony. The main displays of the afternoon were given by **Bob Neville** on *Queen Victoria Used in Gibraltar* followed by his Large Gold winning display of *Gibraltar Revenues*. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and absorbing afternoon.

Bert Burton

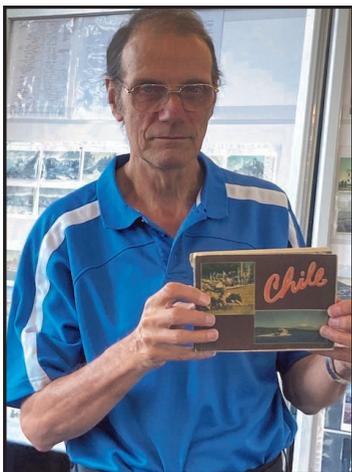
Malaya Study Group

An important meeting previously unreported was the display of *The Centenary of Postage Meter Franking 1922-2022* held at the RPSL on 9th February. This coincided with the publication of *Malayan Meter Marks 1927-1945* by **Henry Ong FRPSL**, a distinguished member from Singapore also showing a magnificent display. The monograph is obtainable from **Peter Cockburn**, pfcockburn@aol.com (£28+p&p). On 23rd April we had a Zoom meeting given by **Michael Waugh**, on *Penang - Postal History from 1809 to the end of The East India Company and onto modern times*. We had a large worldwide audience, a good reason for Zoom Meetings in a syllabus. At our May meeting at Leicester our host was **Mike Ludlow**. He gave an important display on *The History of the Straits Steamship Company* from its start in 1890 when T C Bogaardt of Mansfield & Co entered into partnership with some Chinese shipping interests in Malacca. Mike also gave a number of subsidiary displays. Later members gave displays of *POW material*, *Cocos Islands* and *The Tiger Theme*. In July **Francis Podger FRPSL** gave an encyclopaedic talk and display on *Straits Settlements and later Malayan Revenue stamps*, recounting the laws and history which allowed for Receipt Stamps of 1867 and then all the subsequent myriad of such stamps required later and into Independence displayed on original documents.

Michael Waugh FRPSL

National Philatelic Society “double” on same day

The National Philatelic Society used the premises of the Royal Philatelic Society for the first time on 10th September, and also made a presentation to the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in Birmingham the same day. Both events were overshadowed by the momentous event of two days earlier. Accordingly as members assembled at the London meeting before the auction started, there was one minute's silence in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. A 350-lot auction began the London meeting led by our new auctioneer **John Casanova**, with **Rod Thompson** recording the bids. Afterwards, **Hugh Johnson** presented



Hugh Johnson

Chile Overall for this year's Peter Brack memorial lecture. Peter Brack, a former NPS member, left the society a legacy on condition that there was one speaker meeting per year on Latin America. The display was wide ranging, beginning with a tour of the country through its postcards including some showing the damage caused by an earthquake in Valparaiso in September 1906. We will alternate virtual and London meetings through to autumn next year. Meanwhile, the president, **Peter Mellor**, gave a presentation to Congress delegates in Birmingham about the history and workings of the NPS, which included four displays by members to show the diversity of philatelic interests of the membership. In addition to bi-monthly auctions and London meetings, the society offers an extensive exchange packet, and a lively bi-monthly journal *The Stamp Lover*. ➔

npsmemsec@ukphilately.org.uk 01582 762284

Michael Goodman

The Royal

Members stood in silence at the start of the meeting on 29th September in memory of our Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. In view of the mourning for The Queen, the traditional first meeting of the new season, a display from The Royal Philatelic Collection, had been postponed until a later date. So at this, the first meeting of the season, 28 members of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain, marking its 70th anniversary, presented the displays. On show was a magnificent array of displays covering a diverse variety of aspects of New Zealand philately. These included *Postal History from 1824 to 1843*, *The Chalon Issues of 1855 to 1873*, *The First and Second Sideface Issues*, *The Health Stamps*, plus studies of *Definitive Issues of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth II*. Also shown was material relating to the *Maori Wars*, *Trans-Pacific Airmails*, *Express Delivery*, *Duty and Revenue Stamps*, and *Railway Letter, Parcel and Freight stamps*.



John Stimson (president of NZS of GB) receives thanks and a plaque.

Sudan Study Group

We have maintained our quarterly Zoom meetings in which members from all over the world participate. The last session on 7th August had over 30 participants from UK, USA, Canada, Israel and Sudan – a truly international gathering of enthusiasts. Our third auction of the year is coming up at the end of

October. Perhaps one of the most iconic items for sale is a die proof of the vignette of the Military Telegraph 'camel train' design on card. Though only in use for a couple of years the design reinforced the "camel theme" of almost all of Sudan's stamps for over half a century. In parallel with the SSG our partner



Facebook page (Sudan Stamp Collecting) has recently passed a total of over 400 members. Over half of the SSG members are also members of this non-public Facebook group. This site has frequent lively contributions, with almost daily posts

sometimes engaging over 50 people. The strong link between the two organisations keeps Sudan philately alive and well all over the globe.

➔ www.sudanstamps.uk

Malcolm Coe

Thailand Philatelic Society



Chantaburi cover of 1904

Our AGM was held using Zoom for the third year on Monday 3rd October, 2022. We welcomed ten members from various countries. The usual business of the AGM was fairly brisk except for a lengthy discussion about amending our membership rates. It was decided that in order to cover our costs, we would need to increase the annual subscription by three pounds.

Michael Waugh showed us a selection of *Slogan Cancels from the 1920s to the 1960s*, including an example that no-one had seen before concerning the fight against tuberculosis. **Rory Morrissey** produced some *Covers from the French Garrison that occupied part of Chantaburi from 1893 to 1904*. Next our chair, **Jonathan Manning**, showed an interesting and varied selection of covers. Lastly, **Dr Prakob Chirakiti** showed us a *Postcard of the first (1883) Issue* that was sent by the Director of the Post and Telegraph

Department, Prince Bhanurangsi, as a New Year greeting. New members are welcome.

→ www.ThailandPhilSoc.org.uk

Rory Morrissey

Federations

Hampshire

We see the world in turmoil. Expect prices will go up for hiring venues. Will everyone be able to afford them? At the moment some Federation members report higher memberships with others losing members for various reasons. On the brighter side the Southampton & District Philatelic Society were awarded the Certificate of Appreciation by FEPA (Federation of European Philatelic Associations).

Shortly after the publication of last quarter's Postmark, we heard that FEPA had awarded the society a 'Certificate of Appreciation'. In the July issue of FEPA News the following entry confirms the award:

'The society is currently the largest affiliated society in Great Britain and has actively promoted philately throughout the past two years during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was founded in 1934 and reinstated in 1946 after closure during hostilities. The society was one of the first in the UK to introduce Video Presentations in place of face-to-face meetings and it has continued to augment its calendar of events with this type of technology. It has strong ties, both locally and within the general philatelic world in Great Britain'. (Dr. Mel Bradshaw vice president S&DPS).

HAMPEX is just around the corner and arrangements are nearly complete with a few tick boxes to complete. We hope that this event will be well-attended and we



STAMP INSURANCE SERVICES
C G I Services Limited
INSURING COLLECTABLES SINCE 1973

Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority No.300573

LET US INSURE YOUR COLLECTION
REPLACEMENT VALUE, ALL RISKS, NO EXCESS
Includes whilst on display or on exhibition anywhere in Europe,
worldwide cover can be arranged

Stamps and Postcards	Premiums from £30.00 p.a. plus IPT for £6,250 cover-
ALL other Collectables	Premiums from £35.00 p.a. plus IPT for £5,000 cover

CIRCULATING PACKETS, CUPS & TROPHIES, AUCTIONS, EXHIBITIONS,
PUBLIC LIABILITY for COLLECTOR SOCIETIES
SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR OTHER SOCIETIES AND DEALERS

Please write, email or telephone for a quotation
C G I Services Limited, 29 Bowhay Lane, EXETER EX4 1PE
mail@stampinsurance.co.uk tel: **01392 433 949**



get back nearer to normality (Whatever that is) on the day with 100+ attendance. I wonder what 2023 holds for our Federation Clubs & Societies? Only time will tell.
Steve Gerrard

Wessex

At the beginning of October we held our biennial Fair and Exhibition at Barnstaple. We had more attendees than expected, and the Taw & Torridge club has signed two new members, showing the importance of well-organised events to the promotion of philately. A big thank you to all those who contributed. The competitions attracted 20 entries across six different categories. Unfortunately, though, those 20 entries came from only five individuals, and three of those individual submitted 17 entries between them. It was disappointing that more Wessex club members could not be persuaded to submit entries, and our gratitude therefore goes to competition secretary, **Gary Green**, for mustering so many entries. The entries were judged externally, and certificates and trophies were awarded, on the day, by the Lady Mayoress of Barnstaple, **Councillor Louisa York**, to whom we are grateful for her time. Photographs of some of the winners are shown. Six dealers also attended the Fair. The lack of competitors has prompted the committee to re-think holding



competitions. We are considering whether to discontinue them, and invite the submission of simple one-frame "Exhibits" instead. There seem to be more and more collectors saying that competition rules are arcane, elitist, and contrary to the way that most collectors collect and display their stamps. It would be interesting to hear the views of others on this. Why are competitions becoming so unpopular? Or is it just us?
Dave Cleaver



competitions. We are considering whether to discontinue them, and invite the submission of simple one-frame "Exhibits" instead. There seem to be more and more collectors saying that competition rules are arcane, elitist, and contrary to the way that most collectors collect and display their stamps. It would be interesting to hear the views of others on this. Why are competitions becoming so unpopular? Or is it just us?
Dave Cleaver

Local Societies

Amersham & District

The programme for 2022/2023 got off to a lively and busy start, opening with an ice-breaking members' evening – *Fill a Frame or Two: using letters T, U, V & W*. This was followed by an exceptionally interesting display and talk by **Ray Barton** of the Maidstone & Mid Kent PS on *Mexico*, a first for us. Of particular interest perhaps was the use of not just bisects but quadrisects to obtain lower

denomination stamps from higher values when stocks ran out. We now look forward to a wide variety of evening meetings to include expert displays, competitions, visits to other Philatelic Societies, advice on writing up competition entries, Autumn and Spring Auctions and a talk by Cavendish Auctions. The regular fortnightly meetings will continue to be held in the Amersham Community Centre, Barn Hall. → <https://stampersham.org.uk> David Lee

Ayrshire

We resumed our meetings after the summer break with the traditional President's Night. Our new president, **Alan White**, has been collecting since he was a nipper. He just collected what he was given. He now specialises in GB, Ireland and British islands. However he ignored that and in the first round showed selected covers from a collection of Royal Engineers material that he had inherited from his brother. One of the highlights was a 1975 cover (celebrating the centenary of the RE team winning the FA Cup and signed by Joe Mercer who had served as a physical training instructor). His second round



Alan White & David Connolly

was also from an acquired collection of worldwide covers from the Postal Commemorative Society with each cover accompanied by an interesting write-up on the country and reason for the issue. Alan was warmly thanked by the outgoing president, **David Connolly**, and given a framed certificate to mark his start in office. The new programme continued with **Sandy Kerr**, showing the *Biodiversity of Scottish Wildlife*. Sandy had studied Forestry at university, but

ended up with a job in nature conservation. His first round explained the range of biodiversity and then explored mammals in different formats, extinctions and reintroductions of species in Scotland, marine mammals and birds, using stamps, covers and miniature sheets. The second round included numerous maxi-cards and ranged through birds, fish, butterflies, post-and-go label sets, trees, mosses and ferns, and ended with meter marks and covers for special occasions. → davidrossall@sky.com David Rossall

Basildon

Our website, developed by **Charlie Mead**, has won a Bronze Award in the Philatelic Webmasters Organisation PWO-EXPO22 Level 1 Open Exhibition (the first Open Virtual Philatelic Websites and Social Media Exhibition) in the class "Websites and Social Media (Competitive) (Institutional)". Well done, Charlie!

Also our Facebook group provides an online forum for club members and others. This is where members are kept up to date with what's going on and where members can participate in discussions about the club. It does not replace our website which contains our online resources including downloads. To participate, please apply on the Facebook page or contact Charlie for assistance. I thought that someone must have swatted the Fly On The Wall, as I had received no reports of meetings in this quarter, but I did get one for 20th September when four of the six members present showed *Twelve Pages from My Collection*. **Maggie Thompson** started with *Saar Olympic Games 1952 and 1956*. **Harry Flatman** followed with *GB Inland Letter Rate Stamps of QE2 Period*. **Alf Potter** brought a Cinderella touch with *TV Licence Stamps*, then **Charlie Mead** completed the evening with *French Polynesia Stamps* and *Fiji Revenue Stamps*. A prospective member visited for part of the evening.

From *Basildon Bulletin*

Bath

Our season started on 14th September with a display of *QE2 stamps and memorabilia* from our members as a mark of respect to Her Majesty. The second part was the awarding of trophies won for the Wiltshire & District Federation nine-sheet competition. We had five members showing eight entries. **Malcolm Barton** won a 1st (gold) in Postal History with *The Argentine Invasion of the Falkland Islands Friday April 2nd 1982*. **Mike Peddar** took first in the Thematic (also a novice) for his display of **Artic Explorers 1772-1937**. Later that month was a talk given by our president **Derek Barker** on *The Stamps of Belgium* - a very interesting display from the formation of Belgium to present day. In October members were invited to show any items involving *Transport*. We had a good response with many members showing items of transport from Foot and Animals to Planes. One of the strangest was a pair of bank notes signed by Ronnie Biggs who the member met when he was in Brazil, the link being trains! We have our website now up and running thanks to our member **Clive Edwards** → www.bath-philatelic-society.co.uk Nic Hillier

Bromley & Beckenham

We are now well ensconced in our new venue at Melvin Halls, Melvin Road, Penge, SE20 8EU. The new season began with members standing in silence as a mark of respect to the late Queen Elizabeth who died just a few days before. As on previous occasions, both happy and sad, the society has sent a personalised card to Buckingham Palace. Our first meeting in September was **Peter Pugh** with his fine collection concerning *The Trans-Siberian Railway* - its construction, extension gradually linking both east and west of Russia and beyond. Peter showed many postcards, cuttings and reports as well as covers highlighting the improvement of transit times, the difficulty in determining rates, especially for places such as Hong Kong and China, and the effects of the expansion of airmail routes. At the next meeting, **Tony Hickey** returned with the second part of his *Anschluss* presentation covering especially the events in 1937 and 1938 when the union of Germany and Austria was achieved almost

overnight and with no casualties. Tony showed numerous postcards and cuttings about the personalities involved and the parts they played, as well as relevant stamps and covers etc. Our future programme includes the *History of Submarines and Submarine Warfare*, *GB Postal History*, *Saint Lucia*, *New Zealand*, the *Boer War*, and a members' evening for *Worldwide Registered Mail*, as well as four visiting clubs giving displays. → David Milstead 07831 501566

David Rennie

Burnley and District

This summer we arranged a library display in Burnley on *Stamp events in the reign of QE2* for the Platinum Jubilee to generate more local stamp collecting interest. This has proved to be extremely poignant in the light of the recent death of HM Queen Elizabeth, and the display is now being shown in other local libraries. Our new season started on 1st September with members' displays and we have a programme organised through until Christmas, fortnightly with speakers on topics of *Egypt*, *Hitler and Mussolini*, *French and German Camerouns*, the *Maltese Cross* and a *Cinderella evening*.

We have also visited Morecambe PS and Rochdale PS during October. This year we have elected a new president **John Jones** (on right) shown receiving the chain of office from **Mark Everiss** a past president pre-Covid. John will host his president's night on 19th January 2023.



Barry W Evans

Chelmsford and District

Following our summer break we commenced with a minute's silence in memory of the Queen. Then **Tony Edwards** provided a fascinating display on *Southern Africa*. Tony showed a number of stamps from where he had lived from childhood, visited or spent holidays – his basis for collecting. Stamps on display included those from Namibia, Malawi, Basutoland, Nyasaland, Mozambique and South Africa. For the second part of the evening he showed stamps from the Independent Homelands finishing with a selection of stamps from Swaziland, Rhodesia, Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. At our next meeting **Rufus Barnes** presented sheets from his collection including Abu Dhabi stamps overprinted for the British Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia from 1963 until 1973. He displayed stamps and covers of all issues and included a detailed study of the final issue overprinted UAE. One particularly interesting item was a "secret" memo arranging for stamps to be put on mail from the long range penetration forces (the Chindits) as capacity for stamps in air drops to remote jungle areas was limited. We were pleased to welcome members of Basildon PS to our next meeting. **Ian McElwain** chose *Malta* and presented material from the earliest stamps up to the 1940s. **Charlie Mead** showed *Fiji* covering the reigns

of Edward VII and George V used in this remote island group. His display included a forgery of a £1 stamp, postage due stamps, stationery, newspaper wrappers, postcards and letter cards.
Dave Everard

Cheltenham

A delayed report from us. Our meetings resumed after a winter break in February, when we were entertained by **Wendy Buckle's** *The Write Stuff*, **Jean Alexander's** *Supermarket Philately*, **John Allison's** *Classic France*, and **Carlton Jones' GB Queen Victoria**. **Chris Miller** won The Eager Memorial Trophy for his *Hand-illustrated Boer War Envelopes*, and **Martin Hardy** won the Rose Bowl for his *Olympic Games* display. The society re-instated its auction, with bidders from neighbouring societies attending. **David Williams** displayed *Hungarian Stamps and Postal History* on his final chairman's evening. As usual it was intriguing and included rarely-seen items. Despite trying to improve our language skills we still haven't come to grips with postal terms in Hungarian! At the end-of-season AGM, **Andrew Millington** assumed the role of chairman for 2022-2024. The 2021-22 season was our 75th and having navigated those years successfully we will be holding a 75th Anniversary event in November. The new season kicked off in September with members' recent acquisitions: an eclectic mix comprising, amongst other things, *Duck Stamps*, *Missent Falklands Mail*,



Chris Proctor gives the vote of thanks and bottle of red, to Steve Harrison

Mardon Printers in Rhodesia, a Chile shipping document, Parachuting Postcards and a poetry reading! Our first visiting speaker of the year was ABPS chair **Steve Harrison** who displayed *GB Registered Mail Items* - familiar and unfamiliar - to members.

Andrew Millington

Chichester & District

In May, **John Armstone** gave a fascinating display of *American Miscellany* that included a wide range of Cinderella and stamp-related material. This included state capital and wildflower stamps which were often bought by children from the 'five & dime' and collected in albums. We also saw fishing licences, bank cheques with associated duty paid and of course duck-hunting stamps. In June, **Alan Bush** and **Martha Brown** stepped in due to our visiting speaker being unable to attend. Two hastily convened displays were given of *GB Horizon Labels* and *German States to Third Reich* respectively. Alan showed the various incarnations of this Post Office workhorse from its beginnings as a white label to what it is today complete with Machin head and 2D barcode. We also saw a



number used on cover and a variety of errors and fakes. Martha's display highlighted many early German states with their many anomalies as well as colour variations. The Hyperinflation Period of 1923 was



also strongly represented, mostly of covers that told the story of that troubled time. July's (well attended) meeting was Members' Night with the theme *Europe and Colonies*. Displays included *Occupied Poland*, *Cyprus Revenues*, *German Africa pre-1914*, *Greek Islands*, *Express Mail from 1891*, *Edmund Dewlap* and *Redirected Covers*. We have also recently started a Stamp Club Coffee Group which meets informally twice a month - an opportunity for members to chat, swap, identify mystery items, and we have seen collections during the writing-up process.

Alan Bush

Croydon

The 13th September began with a minute's silence to honour Queen Elizabeth II followed by an acclamation God Save the King for Charles III. Then we enjoyed a visit by two members from Epsom and Ewell PS. **Simon McArthur** began by telling the history of Munich in the Nazi period under the heading *Munich – Capital of the Movement*. Using stamps, postcards, miniature sheets, hand stamps and covers Simon told the story of the rise of Hitler and the way the Nazi Party had influenced Munich including the construction of many of the buildings which still exist in the city centre. **Henry Coward** followed with *Birth of the Machin*. The first Machin stamps were issued in 1967 and he continued to the new definitive stamps just recently issued. At our second meeting **John Schofield** showed *70 Years of Stamp Collecting*. John chose some sheets from each of his collecting interests to make up his presentation. He started with Australia, then went via Algeria, The Kingdom of Laos, The Council of Europe and UNESCO, The Channel Tunnel to The Gilbert and Ellis Islands. He resumed in Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland before crossing to Tristan da Cunha, Greenland, Great Britain, Monaco, Norway before visiting France – his main collection. The material included letters such as those



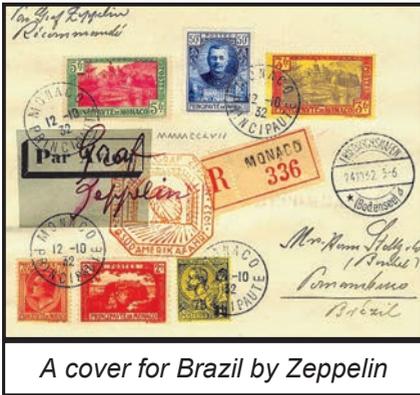
John Schofield with president Pauline MacBroom

produced by the Royal Household, the earliest in 1571 in the reign of Henry III. There were also examples of stamps, photographs and postcards to finish.

Graham Harker

Dawlish

Robin Buchanan on 14th September gave a talk about his *Family in South America and the relationships to the earliest stamps produced for Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru*, examples of which were shown. The importance of mail services to support industry that was growing in these countries mostly run by skilled Europeans was stressed. Communication was speeded up very significantly by the Germans who introduced a faster mail and passenger service to South America using Zeppelins. Our next face-to-face meeting will be an Auction to be held in The Manor House Dawlish starting at 7.00pm. This meeting is open to all, everyone will be free to submit



lots and bid on lots submitted. For further information about the Auction or any other matters relating to the club → 01626 864844 Jim Wigmore

Dundee and District

The final display of the 2021-22 session was **Ron Goodfellow's** fourth display on the theme *Commerce in the Post* with Retail & Wholesale covers, printed matter and commercial envelopes. These came from a variety of countries throughout the world. At the AGM, we elected **Harry Jackson** (president), **Norman Kelso** (vice-president), **Charles Lloyd** (secretary), **David Millar** (treasurer), **David Easson** (exchange packet secretary), **Colin Campbell** (publicity officer), **Stephen Kennedy** (webmaster), **Francis Podger** (ASPS representative), **Marjorie Kennedy** and **Brian McQueen** (committee members). Members enjoyed a Society Dinner to round off the session.



Philip J Milton
& Company Plc
Established 1985

North Devon's Leading Independent Wealth Managers

Contact us today to begin your free consultation to see if we can help you with...

Wealth & Portfolio Management*

Personal Accountancy & Taxation

Retirement & Financial*

Attorneyships, Wills, Trusts &
Probate Administration

Tax Planning*

*Authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Find us on...



Chowree House, 21 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, EX31 1RP
www.miltonpj.net 01271 344300 info@miltonpj.net



Viewing the president's display

The 2022-23 session opened with the president, **Harry Jackson**, displaying *Germany from Third Reich to Federal Republic*. This gave an interesting insight to the rise of the Third Reich, WWII, Post- War Occupation Zones, Division into Federal Republic of Germany and German Democratic Republic, plus from Unification to the present day. An interesting feature was stamps half gummed to save money! In October, **Tom Erskine** (Scottish, Paisley and Glasgow PSs) displayed *USA Stamps pre-1940*. A collector from a young age, Tom's display covered the first stamp of 1847 and early pictorial envelopes – advertising guns! He gave

detailed explanation of the initials on stamp plates and the various perforations. There were examples where the cancellation with the town name could not be used to cancel the stamp and the postmaster had to supply one that did. We also saw examples of airmails, crash mail, ship letters and Lindbergh issues.

Colin Campbell

Enfield

Following lockdown we resumed our meetings in July 2021 with subjects covered by members' own displays as we decided it might be problematic for visiting speakers. In addition to members' displays we had our competitions, a quiz, our 'Bring, Buy & Natter' meeting as well as our annual (free) Christmas lunch - so much to interest us. In 2022 we continued in a similar vein, but now welcomed visiting speakers, notably **Barrie Hill** *Morocco Agencies*, **Ian Marshall** *Coffee Houses*, **Peter Pugh** *Hong Kong to 1941* and **Peter Wood** *An Irish World*, who all provided highly interesting and informative displays, supplementing an imaginative members' programme organised by **Peter Lister**, with a full programme for 2023 already completed. The range and quality of items our members bring along which we hadn't known they collected is always surprising. We are a welcoming and friendly society, meeting 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 2-4pm, throughout the year, although we only hold one meeting in December (the annual Christmas lunch). Visitors, and prospective new members, are always welcome to our meetings.

➔ wiechula09@btinternet.com or on 07849 377766

Luigi Wiechula

Ferndown & West Moors

In April **Hugh Bennet FRPSL**, Chairman of *The Pacific Islands Study Circle*, provided a fascinating 2-part display with a mixture of mint stamps, covers including airmails and excellent photographs. Of particular note were numerous

artwork designs with some originals. Art work held by the Gilbert & Ellice Islands PO in the period 1976–2000 was eventually sold off and Hugh was able to acquire some. In June an interesting contribution came from **Spence Coaker** who presented antique philatelic items from *Hong Kong* revealing a little of the colony's Victorian history in general, with Naval documentation in particular. Wonderful vessel names such as the *SS Hinostan*, *The Queen of Heaven (Poirot)*, the much heralded *RMS Carpathia (miracle Titanic rescue ship)*, and the beautiful paddle steamer *SS Lady Mary Wood* carrying an entire letter addressed to the Rev Arthur Tidman from a missionary house in Hong Kong to Finsbury. Leaving on 24th June, she reached Ceylon on 16th July. Then *The Hinostan* reached Suez on 7th August. After overland to Alexandria the letter sailed in the P & O paddle steamer, *The Ariel*, arriving Southampton 25th August!! In August four members contributed to a brief historical travel holiday! Philatelic journeys through Jaipur and Shanghai Province to Sarawak were engaging. **Hugh Jefferies** brought his *Sarawak – Part of the Sultanate of Brunei* study. The over-riding feel of his presentation was indeed the beautiful designs and colours of these early stamps....take a leaf from Hugh's album!! *Paul Barry*

Halifax

The start of the 2022-2023 season has meant a move to a new venue at Heath URC Church Halifax, 11 Free School Lane, Halifax HX3 0DW. We continue with evening meetings to hold face-to-face meetings on the second Monday of the month. Doors open 19.00 for a 19.30 start. The venue has facilities to provide refreshments and easier access. We look forward to our first display at our November meeting.

Adrian Lee

Harrogate

After the end of the face-to-face meetings our monthly Zoom meetings (all welcome) have continued. In July we had ten short displays from our major collections including *Poland*, *Spanish Guinea*, *The Spanish Rio Tinto Mines*, *Pilot Charles Ulm*, *Malayan Airmails*, *Maps and Maths*, *Princess Christian* and *Glasgow mail*. Then in August we chose from our minor collecting interests. These included: *Wireless Telegraph*, *Valencia Separatists Stamps*, *Latvia*, *Sun Yat Sen*, *Two connected items from Sudan*, *The History of the Ukrainian Army* and *BFPOs*. We Zoomed into the new season with *Africa*. We expected great diversity and got it - another ten very varied presentations. Our first face-to-face was an informal members' meeting - greatly enjoyed as some showed the latest additions to collections or displays. The AGM for last season went ahead and was followed by the auction of the less valuable of the late **Paul Tennyson's** material which raised over £400 for the society. Thanks to the members who attended. A huge amount of material was shifted and the evening was great fun.

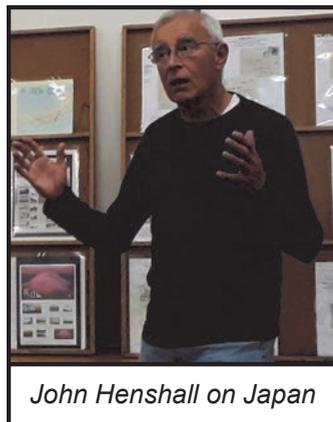
**No report of your society? Why not send one to the editor?
It could get you new members, and also gives hints on good
speakers to other societies.**

Almost everyone went home with something and there was considerable debate over the authenticity of a Mulready complete with Penny Black.

Keith Burton & Bill Tait

Hereford and Mid-Wales

We started the season enthusiastically at the beginning of September with a good turnout for our traditional alphabet evening. This year the letters were *H, I and J*. Members made imaginative use of items from their collections, particularly **Peter Hellberg** who showed Swedish Travelling Post offices by using their name in Swedish, *Järnvägsposterna!* Other topics included mail sent from *Hereford Hotels and Inns, Joint Issues*, items from *Hungary, Ireland, Iphi and Japan*, and **Anthony Mills** produced a multitude of British stamp subjects, including, of course, *Jubilees* and inadvertently topically, the *Investiture of King Charles as Prince of Wales*. In October **Frank Bennett** presented *Herefordshire Villages*. He displayed a wide range of postcards showing old village post offices some even with their postmasters, together with items of mail posted at each of them. From November we shall be returning to our usual venue at St Martin's Hall, Hereford, with a full programme of monthly meetings and visiting speakers. Visitors are always welcome.



John Henshall on Japan

Janet Nelson FRPSL

Huddersfield

The 2022-2023 season continues at Lindley Liberal Club Lindley, Huddersfield HD3 3EQ. Meetings are held during the afternoon commencing at 13.30. The new season began with a display by **Peter Clemenson** continuing his German theme talk from last season which introduced us to Zeppelins mail. He introduced us to *Modern German Private Posts*. Peter opened his display noting that his interest in these came about from his general interest in German post which encouraged him to specialise in Zeppelins and then German Private Posts 1860-1900. He explained that the private posts were ceased until being re-introduced after the Reunification of Germany. Peter explained that most German cities have private post systems in operation. They generate a large quantity of new issue stamps, including miniature sheets etc. and are of interest to thematic collectors. The various companies identify their brands by colourful post boxes and logos. Issues can relate to prominent people in the various regions. Round two of the display produced examples of national football players, railway locomotives, vehicles, flowers etc. Peter explained that the variety of different postage stamps does have a great following of collectors in Germany. The quantity and quality of the subjects shown was impressive.

Adrian Lee

Hull Stamp and Postcard Club

We started our new season with a brief AGM, after which there were four short presentations. **Barry Clark**'s colourful and detailed display introduced us to a large variety of *Fungi*, including some which are so poisonous that the Romans used them to assassinate their unwanted leaders. He also identified some which are hallucinogenic - magic mushrooms – apparently often to be found on golf courses; however we were not treated to any samples. This meeting took place only two days after the Queen's funeral, and the change of monarch was reflected in the display given by **Dr Paul Jones**. He showed *Post Office advertising material, stamps and presentation packs*, including the first bi-lingual (English/Welsh) pack, issued for the investiture of Charles as Prince of Wales in 1969. We were also encouraged to search for a possible image of Prince Charles on the 1982 Information Technology set. We were surprised at what we found! Do have a look. **Bill Thorpe** gave us a curtain-raiser for his forthcoming display on *St Helena and Ascension*, promising more rarities and discoveries to come. **Robert McMillan** completed the afternoon by showing stamps with a royal theme from the *British Antarctic Territory and Falkland Islands Dependencies*. → Robert McMillan, robertfcmillan@gmail.com or www.hullphilatelicociety.com
Daphne McMillan FRPSL

Huntingdonshire

At the first meeting of our new season our guest speaker was **Lillian Smith** displaying *Danish Railway stamps*. She began by explaining that in the early days there were 55 independent railway lines and each one issued their own stamps. It was in 1865 that the first stamps came into use and some of them were used for advertising as well. We were shown examples of the North West Funen railway stamps. This railway opened in 1911 and closed on the 31st March 1966. Later stamps from the 40s, 50s and 60s were very colourful. Postcards were displayed showing stations and trains that ran on the line. An interesting item was a share certificate of 1874 for the South Funen railway. The Bikini Girl type 5 design stamps from the 60s were shown; 82 different surcharges exist prior to the Yellow printings of 1975-79. The Danish State



TRIMSTONE MANOR
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL & COTTAGES

The perfect place for a peaceful country break, celebration, wedding or business conference.

trimstone.co.uk ~ 01271 862841 ~ info@trimstone.co.uk
Trimstone, Nr Woolacombe, Nr Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 8NR

railway opened in 1875 and we saw one of the first stamps. The first locomotive was built in Britain. In the 1930s when buses were taking over, they produced Bus Parcel labels which were in use until 1973. In 1947 they held an exhibition to celebrate the inauguration of the first locomotive, and a special cover was issued which was on show. We saw station overprints on the parcel stamps of Funen and Langeland along with postcards showing the stations. **David Birkert**

Keswick

At our first meeting of the new season and incidentally, our first afternoon meeting, we asked members to show up to six sheets of their choice. **Mike Roberts** (Huddersfield) offered reminiscences of the 103rd Congress and others displayed *Ukraine, Ireland, Cumbrian Postal History and Siam* but the highlight was the above item in a miscellany. How often do we receive items by post festooned with arrays of stamps but disfigured by biro or felt tip pen. This, perhaps, demonstrates that the Post Office is not entirely staffed by philistines. There is hope!



Mike Mapleton

King's Lynn

Monthly Zoom meetings were enjoyed by members during the summer recess. Presentations were on *The Dismemberment of Czechoslovakia 1938-39* by **Rex Dixon**, *The Uses of GB Postage Due Labels* by **David Wilson**, *The Scarborough to Whitby Railway* by **Mike Kentzer**, *Pacific Island Mail* by **Richard Moss** and *Guernsey between the Wars and King Edward VIII* by **Julian Bagwell**. The season commenced on 9th September with a visit by **Sue Burn**



Presentation to Phil Waud

and her display *Smithy (Kingsford Smith) and his Bus* – an illustrated talk on the life of Sir Charles Kingsford Smith. This was followed on 23rd September by a display with a study of *The 1977 overprints of New Hebrides* covering the period 1890 to independence in 1980 by **Richard Moss**. On 7th October **Julian Bagwell's** Zoom entertained members with a varied selection of illustrated items on the *Development of Railway Steam Locomotives, Mail, Rail and Railway People*. This proved to be a very interesting trip down memory lane for many of the participants. **Phil Waud** visited on 14th October with his excellent

PowerPoint presentation and display of material on the *Queen Victoria Jubilee issues 1887-1900*. It was fascinating to see all fourteen of the values and listen to Phil explain the different stages of their development. Phil informed members that artist essays of these stamps are available to view on the Postal Museum website. Dahlia Harrison

Lanarkshire

The new session has started with four very varied displays: *Nifty Needles* by our newly installed president, **Maureen Mathieson**, *Aviation* by the first of our visitors, **Mike Turnbull** of Falkirk PS, our own **Alex Magowan** on the topic of *Hamilton* and four displays in one night from our friends visiting from Stirling & District PS. Thanks to all for the breadth of material that's been on show thus far. If that wasn't enough we had the organisation of SW Congress to conclude. It was on 1st October. Those involved in its organisation can now rest a lot easier! Going forward, between now and Christmas, we have displays from our own members as well as *The River that launched a Thousand Ships* (The Clyde) by **Elizabeth Nairn** and *Lanark & District Postal History* by **Terry Woods**.

Congratulations go to our secretary, **Andy Napier**, who (for the second time in a year) has assisted Post Fiji with material for a forthcoming new issue. Our press officer, **Elsie Miller**, has, at long last, had her operation and is now well on the road to recovery. She has promised she'll see us all, again, very soon. Last, but by no means least, we wish honorary president (and founder member), **Ken Norris FRPSL** a speedy recovery and safe return home from his current spell in hospital. We look forward to seeing him again soon at our meetings.

➔ www.lanarkshireps.co.uk has all the society's details. Andy Napier

Largs

Our programme continued on 5th October with a visit by **Lyn Robinson** of the SPHS with her *Early Mail*. She started with two letters to Venice with impressed courier marks from 1459.

Most surviving letters from these times were between royalty, the church or merchants. The majority of the latter related to banking or wine. Many shown were from the Corsini correspondence which were acquired by Lyn's husband, David. The Corsinis had representatives throughout Europe. An interesting letter from 1590 was from a lady in Plymouth asking her husband, the Corsini representative in London, to get her a new frying pan or face the consequences. In 1635 Charles I opened up the system of royal mails to a wider public, post roads were established. In 1695 a similar arrangement covered Scotland. Forwarding agents became common but a letter from Ayr to Belfast dated 1714 and endorsed "by a friend" showed that private



Lyn receiving her certificate from Ian Baker

ways of sending letters still existed. In the second round we saw the effects of the introduction of mail coaches and their strict time schedules and also how mail rates were gradually raised to help fund the Napoleonic Wars. Lyn closed with two sets of correspondence from these wars, the first relating to a sea captain and his wife who were stuck on the opposite sides of the hostilities, and the second detailing the initially relaxed treatment of officer prisoners of war by the French which deteriorated as the tide of battle turned against Napoleon.

David Rossall

Launceston



Here are members of the Launceston Stamp Club eagerly waiting for the start of our Autumn auction with proceeds of the raffle, commission on lots sold and lots sold for club funds raising over £90. There were 264 lots of which 105 sold realising £340.

Des Kent

Lewisham

At our first meeting of the new season **Tony Bosworth** showed *The Falklands Wars*, a new and developing collection for him. He started with WWI and the Battle of Coronel (a British disaster) followed by the Battle of the Falklands (a German disaster) which resulted in the virtual destruction of the whole German fleet. The 1982 conflict followed. Tony illustrated both with postcards, stamps and other material. He confessed to being short of philatelic material from the latter period and any offers would be welcome. **Margaret Emmerson** showed *Royalty*, well-illustrated by stamps, postcards and miniature sheets pertaining to our Royalty since Queen Victoria. *Year 1919* was **Roger Morrell's** display topic. 1918 marked the end of WWI, overthrow of the German, Austro-Hungarian and Russian rulers. However conflict continued with some vying for territory, and new countries emerging, notably Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and the Baltic states. Banditry and looting abounded and I had not previously seen the "Swiss Guard Train" label used on trains guarded to protect Swiss humanitarian relief

to Poland and Romania. Oil and coal were key, accounting for British interest in Batum oil and Czech/Polish interests in Silesia for its coal. Germany, smarting from defeat produced "Lost Territories" labels, the victors holding "Triumphal Marches", London producing a fine programme and commemorative serviette!

John Shaw

Lostock

Membership continues to improve since we changed to meeting the first Friday of each month in the afternoon 1.00 until 3.00 especially as soon the nights will draw in and travelling after dark will be reduced. In July our visiting speaker was **Bernard Walmsley** who entertained the members with his talk entitled *World of Birds*. He spoke about birds from North America including Canada, adding St Pierre and Miquelon and parts of Newfoundland. Later he showed covers issued in 1938 carrying bird stamps. The towns of posting had large cachets applied by the post office. Finally, some "Duck" stamps, sold by the government, used on a certificate and signed so that the person could then hunt migratory birds. The certificate lasted for one year. Money raised helped the maintenance of waterfowl life in the United States. At our August meeting we enjoyed a visit from **Mark W Everiss** with *Russian Civil War*. Mark's collection of early Russian stamps had ranges of values and unique postal documents, a circular postmark dated 28th August 1919 from Port Novakowski with an arrival handstamp from Hoboken dated 11 October 1919, a detailed parcel card from Petrovski, South Russia and postmarks from Petrovski Dagest 2nd October 1919 and an arrival hand stamp dated 5th October 1919.

David Morley

Maidstone and Mid-Kent

Our centenary season restarted in September with a well-attended gathering to see **Philip Clarke's** display of the *Universal Postal Union* which covered the period from the start in 1874 to 1969. The display was fascinating, informative and entertaining. It was a good start to the new season. The following meeting was a members' meeting relating to *Anniversaries and Commemorations* and as usual there was a good variety of displays. Our first morning meeting of the season, which was also well-attended, was also a members' display featuring the *Back of the Book*. This subject had caused a bit of head scratching but it was amazing what people came up with and was very enjoyable. Some of the meetings coming up feature *South Africa - Pre War Aviation, Italy and Colonies, My Favourite Things (part 2), Sudan, South Eastern Railway* amongst others. We are now focusing on our Centenary Stamp Fair to be held on the 19th November 2022 at The Aylesford Community Centre, Forstal Road, Aylesford Kent. ME20 7AU from 09.30 to 3pm.

Brian Stonestreet

Matlock - ABPS Award of Merit

Two longstanding members of the society have been presented with this prestigious award at a recent meeting of the society. **John Paulson** is a founding member and has held the position of treasurer for over fifty years. **Frank Dickens** has been a member for a similar time and has held all positions



Steve Harrison and John Paulson



Frank Dickens and Tim Essex-Lopresti

on the committee during this time. **Steve Harrison**, Chair of the ABPS, made the presentations to John, and as Frank was not well enough to attend, another of our longstanding members, **Tim Essex-Lopresti**, accepted the award on his behalf, then presented it to Frank at his home. Congratulations to both members for their incredible dedication to local philately.

Les Pearcey

Morecambe and District

We welcomed everyone back after the summer break with an informal preparation meeting for our 40th Grand Auction on 8th October, an annual fundraiser for the club.



Members viewing some of the Burnley material

Meetings this season so far have included a members' night on *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly* - some members come at these themed evenings sideways - and a very interesting visit from two members from Burnley Society. Unfortunately, we have also had some sad news with the death of long-term member **Trevor Blaylock** who has served as club secretary, done a stint or two as president, and was integral in forging links with a stamp club in Rendsburg, Germany, which is twinned with Lancaster.

Lesley Vincent

Oxford

The new season started in September with an evening meeting after due respect to the funeral of the late Queen earlier that day. Having come together on an historic day, members showed some of their QE2 stamps, from *Coronation stamps in 1953* to the myriad *GB Machins*. Subscriptions were paid and a silent auction held. In early October, an experimental meeting on the programme, entitled *Practical Philately*, allowed **Dave Armit** to show his technique for getting stamps off paper, involving hot water, blotting paper and a

hot iron. His use of *Signascopes* looked into a variety of watermarks, while **Colin Davies's** electronic *Perfotronic2* machine was also admired for its precise perforation counting. Other tools to measure perforations were passed around. Lots and lots of questions and points of view were generated by a very animated audience! We will be having more such fun sessions in the future!

Dr Simon Heap

Ringwood

This meeting was small in attendance following the summer break, but nevertheless proved to be most enjoyable, being a members' evening - always diverse in content. **Gordon Masson** shared his newly compiled study entitled *Overprint Odyssey*. His ten sheets provided a fascinating insight into a new subject for RPS. He identified nine sorts of overprints including historical, covering such events as 'Bahamas 350th Anniversary of Landing of Columbus' and 1976 Tokyo 'Olympic Rings', official government overprints, country overprints, eg '*Zululand*' and general upgrades whose function was to avoid new printings, taking into account, for example, currency changes. **David Etchells** continues his study of early Victorian stamps and postal history and shared his *Recent Acquisitions*. Of particular note was a perforated penny red envelope addressed to his namesake at Moorfields Hospital, the first eye establishment. *Herefordshire* was the third presentation. In this **Paul Barry** produced a newly created stockbook of county-related items, explaining his *Lockdown Acquisitions*, which encompassed superb early cancellations and covers (one hand-painted), postcards, official receipts, maps, Dinky and Corgi models and publicity items, with well known brands included, such as Bulmers, Schweppes, Herefordshire Cattle and Hop Picking. Besides extolling the rich agricultural diversity, he made mention of cultural aspects...The Three Counties Show, The Three Choirs Festival, The Poetry Festival and the world renowned Hay Book Festival. The historical context, including numerous beautiful ecclesiastical buildings, Tudor structures and railways past, were a further major study.

Paul Barry

Rochdale & District

In August our members' presentations began with *W/X/Y/Z*. These included *Maltese villages with names beginning with Z*, *Netherlands stamps depicting Queen Wilhelmina*, *The immediate post-WWII period stamps from Germany (letter W)* and uncommon covers from *UK QE2 Wildings stamps*. Our visiting speaker **Max Smith** discussed his specialist collection of stamps, covers, letters and supporting material concerning *The Indian Mutiny* in the late 1850s. In 1857 the British recaptured Delhi which preceded the outbreak from Cawnpore when treachery resulted in the British being massacred. Retribution followed, when rebel forces were defeated at Lakhnao. The last stand was at the battle of Gwalior with final surrender in April 1859. **Mark Everiss** presented *The Siberian Far Eastern Republic of Russia (1917 to 1922)*. One story concerned the execution of a postmaster for selling stamps with errors. **Barry Evans** followed with *The History of the Universal Postal Union*. Periodic UPU conferences

provided delegates with commemorative postcards depicting venue scenes. These postcards have been collected by Barry from around the world.

Peter Grimshaw

Rugby and District

Our season opened with a members' evening of recent acquisitions. These included unique *Swiss official covers*, a new display of *Houses on Stamps and Postcards*, *Indian First Day Covers*, a *George VI album*, *Hong Kong Postal History*, a letter from a specialist society regarding the *Use of Forgeries on a recent mailing* and a postcard that explained *What General De Gaulle did in the War*. Our meeting on 19th September was cancelled because of the Queen's funeral. On 3rd October we welcomed **David Hutchins** with his display on *China's History Depicted on Stamps* and on 10th October we managed to hold our end-of-season dinner from last year. This had been scheduled to take place in May, but we were let down by the venue at the very last minute. A new date in a new restaurant was a great success although unfortunately several members were unable to attend due to health issues.

Steve Williams

Sheffield

The season ended with some interesting displays including members' displays of *Not sure what it is or maybe I'm not sure many people know this*. This included a cover from a *Dismounted Cavalry Division*, the story of *Helene Bertha Amalie "Leni" Riefenstahl* a German film director, photographer and actress known for her seminal role in producing Nazi propaganda, and *Croatian Storm Trooper Stamps*. These were produced to raise funds for Croatia to leave Yugoslavia and become an independent country. The idea was that they would be sold for a premium by a dealer sympathetic to their cause. The Russians found out about it, shot the stamp dealer and told the agent that if he tried to sell any more, he would be shot. The Russians recovered the printing plates, made minor alterations to the design and printed an excessive quantity of stamps which completely devalued the issue. Our final meeting of the season was changed at the last minute as there was a strike on the railways, so **Richard Hindle** gave a display of *Captain Cook's War and Peace in Canada 1758-1768* and *Captain Cook's First Voyage of Exploration 1768-71*. ABPS Chair **Steve Harrison** started the new season in September with a most interesting display of *The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain* on Zoom. This was followed by **John Cranmer** with his *Canada in WWII*. Interestingly Canada didn't enter the war until their Parliament met a week later to ratify their participation in the war.

Richard Hindle

Taw & Torridge

Stamp Fair is a Great Success

2nd October heralded a new experience for our stamp club as it hosted its first stamp fair for many years and certainly the first staged in North Devon in a very long time. We were encouraged and supported by the Wessex Federation who used the opportunity to exhibit the twenty winning entries in the Wessex



Philatelic Federation Competition. The event's sponsor **Philip J Milton & Co. Wealth Management & Financial Planning** kindly ensured that the event was well-advertised in the local media whilst members put up posters wherever they could. As a result, there was a steady stream of visitors throughout the day. We had our own stand where, with permission from the dealers, members were able to sell small, low value lots of their own. Having recently celebrated the club's 50th Anniversary we also sold branded mugs, pens and key-rings to raise funds. More importantly, however, members were on hand to talk with visitors, providing information about the club, which has over 50 members. In so doing several new members were recruited. Subsequently more than thirty people attended the next club evening meeting. Chairman **David Butler** commented: *"The fair has been a tremendous success. Feedback from dealers and visitors alike has been extremely positive such that the club hopes to make this a regular event. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dealers for attending, Wessex Federation for its support and our sponsor."* Helen Soby

Telford

We began our post-season on 12th September when we were entertained by members with displays from the Shropshire PS. We started with a display of the stamps and related items produced for the *1924/1925 British Empire Exhibition*. Familiar to all, but many good items were displayed. The same speaker also displayed coils and coil ends and related items – not seen by many collectors. We were then treated to a display from the *2nd Boer War* period with censored and other mail posted from the war zone as well as material posted into the war zone. Interesting stories were told of names we have all heard of such as the siege of Ladysmith. Finally, we saw *World War censored mail*. People on active service and civilians posting letters to people on active service had their mail opened and read by government censors to ensure that war secrets were not included, in case the mail fell into enemy hands. Of course, labels to reseal the envelopes were used and handstamps applied. It is a fascinating story from a time just within living memory. The SPS speakers in order were: **David Poynton, Alan Harley and Tony Tudor** – all excellent displays by

knowledgeable speakers with excellent material to show, and well received by the Telford club members.

Richard Camp

Torquay & Teignbridge

Our season started on 1st September, following the AGM in July. Subscriptions were increased to £25 for the year, but it's a bit too early to see if this has had any effect on numbers. Members recognise that the costs of hiring our venue have recently increased, and are likely to do so again, before long. One of our recent meetings was entitled *The Letter L*. These alphabet meetings always attract a wealth of great material. This year we saw eleven members bringing a few sheets, covering such subjects as *Lahore circle postmarks*, *Lundy*, *Landfall* (places on Columbus' voyages), *Things I Like*, *Lesotho*, *Lifeboats*, *Lighthouses*, *Lubeck*, *Licences*, and *Levant*. This simple list goes nowhere near explaining the great imagination and interpretation involved, nor the incredible variety, quality and rarity of items displayed. → [Torquay & Teignbridge Stamp Club Home Page \(torquayandteignbridgestampclub.org\)](http://torquayandteignbridgestampclub.org)



Peter Gay who was awarded the "Ron Ashmore Salver" for an outstanding contribution to the club

Dave Cleaver

Truro

We opened our new season on the 22nd September with a respectable attendance. The theme of this members' evening was *ABC* attempting to shorten the 26 years it would otherwise take us to reach the letter Z! **David Adams** started things off with a display of his renowned *Australian 1d Kangaroos, 1911-13*, this time, *Tasmanian postmarks ABC*, together with a number of photos of post offices. **Trevor Dyer** showed us some, often very scarce, *Cornish postmarks* together with some *Swiss Canton items*. Then **Colin Benford** produced *Armenia* and **Neil Sargent** had some highly pictorial *Wartime Christmas Telegrams*. **Andrew Telfer Davis** presented a selection of *French pictorial sheets depicting Cities* (no London!), **Paul White** brought early postal history of the Indian State of *Bahawalpur* and finally **Martin Hopkinson** showed a selection of *Bank Letters and cheques including examples of Bank of England cheques*, explaining that his father was an employee with the privilege of personal use. → ctbenford@btinternet.com *Colin Benford*

Wakefield

On 9th July we hosted the YPA Convention. It was opened by the **Mayor of Wakefield** and was enjoyed by members and visitors alike. July was rounded off with a members' evening where various interesting displays were presented. August commenced with a further members' evening entitled *My Favourite*

Postcard(s) when a selection of very attractive cards was produced. The season concluded at the end of August when **Graham** and **Eve Winters** welcomed members into their garden for the Annual Barbeque. The weather was kind and everyone enjoyed this event. We welcomed the new season in at the beginning of September with a members' evening with *My Most Recent Acquisitions*. Later in September **Graham Winters** exhibited a superb philatelic display entitled *Yorkshire My Adopted County*. The month concluded with a very enjoyable Zoom display by **Ed Grabowski** in America entitled *More Frauds*. October opened with **William Smith** giving an entertaining display and presentation entitled *A First Time For Everything* and **Brian Hitchcock** exhibited items from his collection which he calls *Brian's Hotch Potch*. Julie Hitchcock

Watford & District

Our last meeting of the season was in June, when we held our six-page and one-page competitions. The winner of the Vic Punter Memorial Trophy (one-page) was **Wayne Cox** with *Latvia - Unusual Stamp Paper*. **Brian Coates** won the S A Jones Cup (six-page) with *GB Halfpenny Overprints*. The new season began in September with our usual informal bourse. The latest edition of the Newsletter was also distributed. It was with great sadness later in the month that we heard of the passing of **Brian Thurlow**, our secretary and the longest serving member of the club at 58 years. Our thoughts are with his family.

→ 01923222813 or watforddps@gmail.com

Wayne Cox

West Riding Stamp Club

Our season of informal meetings has continued through the summer with the highlight being a 600-Lot auction in August with **Mike Roberts** as auctioneer. In addition to the varied Postal History and stamp lots there were a significant number of books covering naval, local history and the philatelic libraries of two deceased members. Other interesting lots included coins, medals and bank notes. There was much interest in many of the lots, reflected in the keen bidding particularly for the available philatelic literature. Refreshments including pie and peas were provided to those attending with some bidders managing second helpings. An interesting afternoon was enjoyed by those who attended, and damage to the auctioneer's voice was averted by provision of liquid lubrication; thanks extended to the volunteer helpers who assisted with the smooth running of the auction. Meetings normally commence around 13.30 on the fourth Monday of the month at Lindley Liberal Club Huddersfield HD3 3EQ, refreshments being available from about 12.20 pm. Adrian Lee

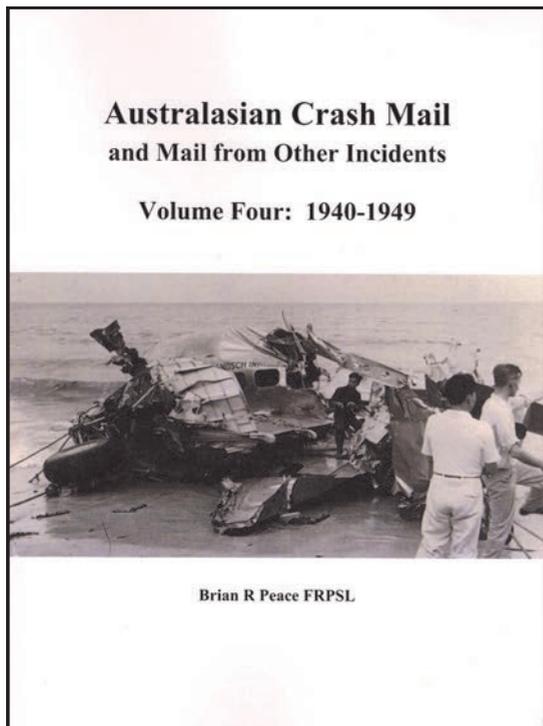
A Gentle Reminder to all Affiliated Societies and their treasurers.

The new affiliation fees are due from 1st January 2023

At the AGM held in Birmingham in September the new annual fee was set at £2 per full UK member. Please remember that if this creates short-term difficulties with your finances it could be possible to get a grant to help whilst you make arrangements for gaining new members, fixing an EGM to raise extra finance or any other advertising to raise your profile.

Australasian Crash Mail and Mail from Other Incidents, Volume Four, 1940 - 1949

by Brian R. Peace



This is the 4th book in the series on Australasian crash mail. It covers all crashes and incidents where mail was involved, but it is much more than that. The author has been thorough in setting a context, not simply explaining the distinction between an accident and an incident.

The book is effectively a comprehensive demonstration of the challenges and hazards facing air forces, pilots and the growing airline industry from social, historical and philatelic perspectives. The tables at the end of each of the first four chapters are useful in making it a relatively simple task to check air mail covers to establish if they could have been involved in an accident or incident.

The inclusion in tables of the amount of mail carried, and the recorded or estimated numbers of surviving covers, will be

invaluable for auction houses and dealers as well as collectors. Whilst some would prefer to see values, auction realisations or scarcity ratings included, the author has deliberately avoided their inclusion. A detailed census has been prepared for all accidents where more than five examples are recorded. It must be stressed that each of these is a preliminary census and must be treated as a work in progress. Where five or fewer examples are recorded, they are described and illustrated in the text.

The author estimates that at least 20% more covers have survived than are listed in censuses. For example, in the case of 400122, over 50 covers are recorded in the census, yet it is likely that more than 60 probably exist. One of the main reasons for this disparity is that, until fairly recently, images of covers from crashes were not always included in auction catalogues.

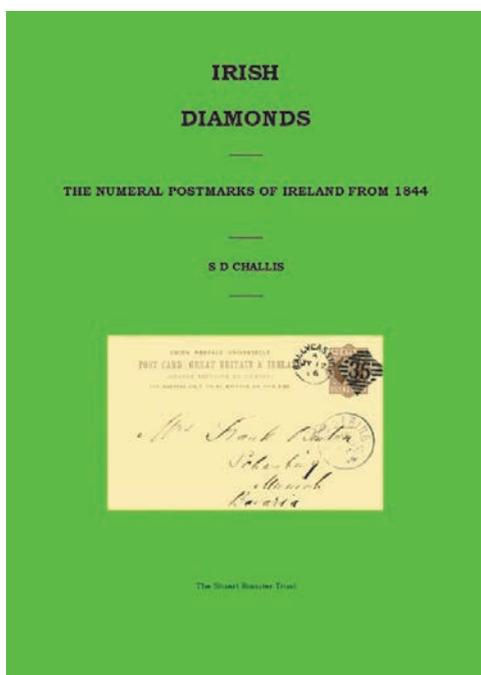
Chapter two on New Zealand internal airmails is larger than in previous volumes. Chapter three includes much of the Pacific theatre during WWII.

Research into wartime incidents has been challenging and the attribution of damaged covers to incidents, and the allocation of specific aircraft to incidents where mail was lost or damaged has not always been possible.

The extensive list of references points to this study being not only thorough, but wide-ranging. There are several serious incidents involving mail-carrying aircraft in Australia and the Pacific which have remained unrecorded in philatelic literature. The possibility of new crash covers emerging is an incentive for aerophilatelists and dealers to re-examine their air mail covers from this period. At 200+ pages the book is the culmination of decades of research and writings. All of the cover images are in colour. The author first wrote on the subject 50 years ago, and is the acknowledged authority on the subject. It may be that the readership will turn out to be wider than auctioneers, aerophilatelists and dealers.

Postpaid price is £35 in the UK, €45 to Europe, US\$70 to the USA and AU\$100 to Australia. Payment online in GBP to B R Peace Sort Code 05-00-40 Account 10082204, or in AUD to BSB 063000 Account 12391146 or by Paypal to brpeace@ntlworld.com adding 4 per cent. Reviewed by Ken Sanford

New Book - Rossiter Trust



Irish Diamonds - The Numeral Postmarks of Ireland from 1844

by Stan Challis £30 + p+p

A4 Hardbound, 450 pages
In use from 1844 to approximately 1894, the numeral postmarks of Ireland are a rich area of study for postal historians. This long-awaited handbook is the result of 30 years of research by the author and brings together all that is currently known on the subject of 'Irish Diamonds'

"Any collector with even a passing interest in Victorian-era Irish cancellations will find this book a delight to use." David MacDonnell

Order from www.rossitertrust.com
or from John Jackson
john.w.jackson@care4free.net

Stamp Active at Stampex 2022

Let's get
**STAMP
ACTIVE**

The Kids Zone at Stampex International welcomed more visitors than for some years. After many years of trying to attract groups, Stamp Active were pleased to welcome three school classes from **St John's Primary School, Highbury Vale** and **L'Ecole des Petits School, Battersea** and **Copenhagen Primary School, Islington**. The level of interest and enthusiasm for the activities was brilliant. The team put on a short presentation about the introduction of stamps in dedicated areas in two gallery bays at the Business Deign Centre, followed by an activity session which included choosing their favourite stamps and mounting them on a page, a quiz and designing their own stamp. One group also created Stamp Art, a session that was introduced by Suzanne Rae of Art Stamped. There was a prize to one of the children in each school group who guessed the quantity of stamps in a sack and all the kids were given a goodie bag to take home with a guide to stamp collecting, activity book and other philatelic items. **Sophie Moyon**, the Librarian of L'Ecole des Petits, wrote "All the children enjoyed it a lot and many came to register for the school philatelic society".

The Youth Zone at the back of the mezzanine had a display of Animal stamps with related activities. These allowed children to gain points to exchange for philatelic items or use in the popular children's auction on Saturday afternoon.

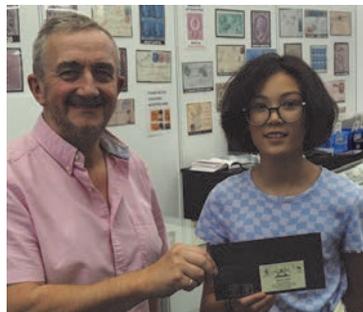


Notwithstanding the impact of the train strike on Saturday, the auction was well attended with an enthusiastic and noisy crowd that must have resonated around the Hall. Auctioneer **Keith Burton** showed his usual enthusiasm and there was spirited bidding in the auditorium as youngsters targeted their favourite items. There was lively bidding for all the lots on offer, with

youngsters using the points they had achieved completing the activities in the Kids Zone.

At the end of the auction, there was a draw for a Penny Black and Twopenny Blue, sponsored by Mulready Philatelics. This was won by **Anastasis Henningham** of Hackney, aged 8, who was delighted with her prize.

There was also an opportunity to "Spin a Prize" and a "Lucky Dip". The introduction of a padding



pool full of stamps created another fun element for the young visitors with a chance to choose their favourite twenty stamps.

At the start of the auction, the Young Collector of the Year, **Abdullah Usman**, aged 15, from London, was presented with his trophies, certificate and a framed set of James Bond stamps as his prize by **Susan Henderson**, Chair of Stamp Active. Abdullah has created his own Facebook account and featured Stamp Active and Kidstamps after a visit to the London 2022 International Stamp Exhibition.

One group of children who are home-tutored were particularly excited by their first experience of stamp collecting and their leaders have already promoted the event on the community Facebook group. We are expecting to see numbers grow from their recommendations.

Suzanne Rae of the PTS wrote on Facebook “Did you get a chance to visit the Youth Zone at Stampex? Let us know what activities you most enjoyed! Thank you so much to the Stamp Active team for everything they do to support Youth Philately at Stampex and beyond!” and later... “What better way to attract kids and school groups to Stampex than a paddling pool full of stamps?!? Thank you to the team at Stamp Active for inviting me to get involved in the stamp art activity at the show. My favourite Stamp Art piece was a unicorn holding a tennis racket. There really is no limit to the hobby of stamp collecting and stamp crafting.”

Many junior stamp clubs have yet to fully resume after the problems caused by the Covid pandemic but, despite this, there was an encouraging level of entries to the three youth stamp competitions. All were displayed, either in the Youth Zone or a special booth on the mezzanine. The best overall entry in the British Youth Stamp Championships was from **Magnus Cameron** on *19th Century Postmarks of Leeds* who was awarded a Large Silver Gilt Medal and special prize. **Hayden Moorcoft** was Best in Class in the 14 to 16 age group with an exhibit of *Guernsey Regionals*. **Maria McLoughlin** was the best overall entry in the Stamp Active Competition, sponsored by The Great Britain Philatelic Society, awarded a Gold Medal and a special prize of a Stampex medal. The one page competition for beginners on the theme of *Our Natural World* also had a large number of entries. The **1st and 3rd Alloway Brownies** from Alloway in Scotland rather swept the board picking up most of the prizes in this competition.

Susan Henderson, Chair of Stamp Active, commented “Anyone who thinks that children have no interest in stamps should have come to see the school groups at Stampex. The level of excitement in finding their favourite stamps and completing the various activities with real enthusiasm was a delight. Most of the children would have been happy to spend a lot more time at the show. We are hoping that the schools will share their experiences and we can welcome them back in the future. Our thanks to the PTS for supporting youth philately.”



The Chairman of the Judges, **Richard West**, commented "We were pleased with the level of entries, and high standards were achieved, particularly in the Championships (national level) Class. Given that many school stamp clubs have still not resumed after Covid, it was encouraging to see that individual entries were still being received."

Congratulations

to All who took part in Stampex 2022

53 medals were awarded in 15 classes:

8 Large Gold 12 Gold 14 Large Vermeil
10 Vermeil 8 Large Silver 1 Silver

Particular congratulations to Graham Winters who won medals in all 15 classes.

He won every level of medal awarded too – what an achievement.

The Gold winners were: Philip Cheetham (85), Robert May (85), Brian Callan (86 and 88), Graham Winters (86, 87 and 88), Anne Stammers (87), Joseph Hackmey (87), Kevin Maunder (87), Jon Aitchison (88), Peter Chadwick (88).

The Large Gold winners were: Graham Winters (90), Peter Cockburn (90), Paul Wreglesworth (91 and 93), Markand Dave (91), Stewart Gardiner (93), Robert Galland (94) and Michael Smith (95), who was declared best in show with his *Postal Stationery of the Orange Free State*

Diary for the next few months

Local and regional events by ABPS members

2022

November

- 12 American Stamp Club of GB's Annual Convention: 10 - 4, Stafford Stamp Fair, Staffordshire County Showground, Weston Road, **Stafford** ST18 0BD
- 19 Maidstone & Mid Kent PS - 100th Anniversary Stamp Fair: 10 - 3, Aylesford Community Centre, **Aylesford**, Kent ME20 7AU
→ Brian Stonestreet 01622 675784

December

- 7 Grimsby Charity Auction: → Dave McMann 01472 887523

2023

January

- 14 Telford Stamp, Postcard & Coin Fair: 10 - 2, Belmont Community Hall, Wellington Centre, **Telford**, TF1 1HU → 01952 405458

April

- 8 Ferndown & West Moors P&PC Annual Fair
- 8 Telford Stamp, Postcard & Coin Fair: 10 - 2, Belmont Community Hall, Wellington Centre, **Telford**, TF1 1HU → 01952 405458

National Exhibitions 2022-23

- Perth, Dewars Centre 14th - 15th April. National and Scottish Competitions. Entry deadline: tba
- York Stamp Fair, York Racecourse 14th - 15th July 2023 Competitive Exhibition - Norwegian Federation have been invited. Entry deadline: tba
- Stampex, BDC 52 Upper Street, Islington, **London** N1 0QH 27th - 30th September 2023. Royal Challenge. Team Competition. Entry deadline: 30th June 2023

International Exhibitions 2022-2024

- **IBRA2023**: Essen, Germany 25th - 28th May 2023 FIP specialised international exhibition with FEPA recognition UK Commissioner: Graham Winters (j.g.winters@hotmail.co.uk) Classes invited include Traditional, Postal History, Thematic and Picture Postcard. Further information at www.ibra2021.de Entry deadline: passed
- **PhilaKorea 2024**: Seoul 15th - 19th August 2024: FIP Patronage. No UK invitation yet received

UK handling charges are now standardised for all international exhibitions at £30 per frame for shows in Europe or £35 for events anywhere else in the world whether single or multiple frame exhibits or per literary 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 UK international exhibition commissioner please contact **Jon Aitchison** at 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 on the "Exhibiting" tab.

Simon Richards, Chairman ABPS International & Exhibitions Committee

Simon@sidebell.co.uk

ABPS accredited judges

The current list of ABPS accredited exhibition/competition judges can be found on the ABPS web site www.abps.org.uk Click on the "Exhibiting" tab, then the "Judges" tab that is on the 2nd line of tabs.

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://www.abps.org.uk) I will be grateful if you will send any more amendments or error notifications as soon as possible to me at editor@abps.org.uk I will pass them on and/or use them as necessary. Please note the changes below.

Local Societies

Croydon Philatelic Society now meets once each month (except August) on the second Tuesday of the month at 14.30 hours at Shirley Methodist Church, 2 Eldon Road, Croydon, CR0 8SD

Halifax Philatelic Society: New meeting place - Heath URC Church Halifax, 11 Free School Lane, Halifax HX3 0DW. Meetings on the second Monday of the month. Doors open 19.00 for 19.30 start.

Lanarkshire Philatelic Society: secretary has a new email address ipssecretary@outlook.com

York Philatelic Society: New secretary is **Tony Ward** tony.ward@york.ac.uk

We are delighted to welcome **Guildford & District Philatelic Society** as new affiliates. Full details can be found on our website (www.abps.org.uk/society)

ABPS General Information

Honorary Vice-Presidents

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

Executive Committee

Chair: **Steven Harrison ***

chair@abps.org.uk

Vice Chairman and Communications Director: **John A Davies ***

vicechair@abps.org.uk

Secretary: **George L Henshilwood ***

secretary@abps.org.uk

Company Secretary, Treasurer and Small Grants Coordinator:

Nigel RN Gooch *

treasurer@abps.org.uk

Membership: **Barry Stagg***

membership@abps.org.uk

International & Exhibitions Chairman: **Simon Richards ***

simon@sidebell.co.uk

Public Relations Director: **John A Davies ***

pr@abps.org.uk

Awards Committee Chair: **Yvonne Wheatley**

awards@abps.org.uk

Youth: **Susan Henderson**

suziemy1960@gmail.com

Other Officers

Congress Committee Chair: **Steven Harrison ***

congress@abps.org.uk

Dealers Representative: **Bill Barrell**

bill@barrell.co.uk

Editor (ABPS News) and Minutes Secretary: **Keith S Burton**

editor@abps.org.uk

Distribution (ABPS News): **John Woodson**

jrwinrmh@gmail.com

Advertising Manager: **Vacant**

Representative for Specialist Societies Liaison: **Dane Garrod**

dane.garrod5@btinternet.com

Representative for Federations: **Graham Winters ***

j.g.winters@hotmail.co.uk

Philatelic Fund Representative: **Nigel RN Gooch ***

treasurer@abps.org.uk

Webmaster: **Maurice Buxton**

webmaster@abps.org.uk

* Denotes also a Director of ABPS Ltd

Postal addresses: ABPS, c/o RPSL, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW

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:

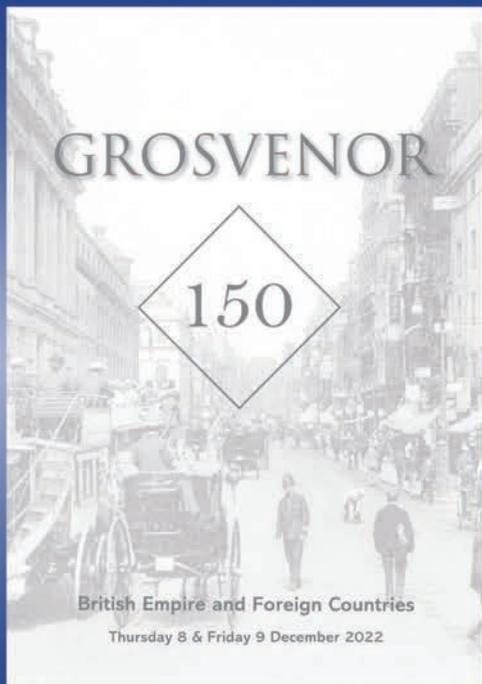
Editor ABPS, 6 Old Trough Way, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 3DE

Stamp Active Network: please write to: **SAN, 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 This also holds further information on Committees.

GROSVENOR



150 Not Out

In December Grosvenor celebrates the 25th anniversary of its popular independent public auctions, offering specialised material from around the world, expertly presented and achieving exceptional results.

Our commission rates are generous and fully inclusive with no add-on fees or charges for unsold lots. Our service to clients is flexible and friendly. Contact **Constanze Dennis** or **Tom Margalski** at the address below for further information on future auctions.

399–401 Strand Third Floor London WC2R 0LT
T: +44 (0)20 7379 8789 E: info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk

www.grosvenorauctions.com

DERBY OFFICE

Cavendish House
153-157 London Road
Derby
DE1 2SY

**LONDON OFFICE**

Suite G06
Dowgate Hill House
14-16 Dowgate Hill
London, EC4R 2SU

Over 70 years' Service to Philately

13 & 14 December 2022

Great Britain & Worldwide Stamps & Postal History Auction

Featuring the **David Parsons FRPSL** collection of Worldwide & Great Britain philatelic exhibitions;
the **John Sussex RDP FRPSL** collection of Scottish postal history (part 1);
the **Michael Deery** collection of WWII postal violations & service suspended postal history;
the **Stephen Dowd** postal history collection of Japan in the first half of the 20th century;
plus our usual offerings of superb Great Britain, Commonwealth & Worldwide
stamps & postal history from the 19th & 20th century.

**LIVE ONLINE BIDDING**

In association with
easyLiveAuction.com

Search our catalogues on PhilaSearch.com and StampAuctionNetwork.com

Consignments welcome for our future sales. Please contact us for more information.

www.cavendish-auctions.com

stamps@cavendish-auctions.com

Derby - (44) 01332 250970

Fax. (44) 01332 294440

London - (44) 020 8785 7750