

Stamp Lover

The National Philatelic Society



Draws the crowds



In this issue

Regulars

Letters

Meeting Reports:

Thatcham, Isle of Man,
Churchill, President's Display

New Members

Book Reviews

New Issues

Stamp Fairs Diary

plus all the other National news

Features

More Philippines Prisoner Mail

The Archaeologist Abroad

Ocean Penny Post and the JPS

Slovakia

The Falklands

Publication Checklist



Don't Forget our AGM and Chelmsford Meeting....see page 66.

“BARBADOS”

The Collection formed by Frank Deakin at auction in May 2010



1874-75 ½d., a die proof in black on thick white card (47 x 49 mm); fine, fresh and very attractive.

• **Extremely rare**



1873 1/- black, a mint block of four, part original gum; fine. (S.G. 61)

• **Fresh and very attractive**



1873 5/- die proof in black on thick white card (42 x 47 mm.); fine.

• **Fresh and very attractive**



1861-70 1d. blue, variety imperforate, a stunning unused block of sixteen (4 x 4) from right of the sheet, large margins on the other sides, without gum; with wonderfully fresh colour. Cat. £6000++

• **Very rare multiple** • **With "Royal" certificate (1960)**



1861-70 1/- black, a fresh mint horizontal pair, variety imperforate between the stamps, part original gum; very fine and attractive with excellent fresh colour. Cat. £8000 (S.G. 35a)

• **Extremely rare**

• **With "Royal" certificate (1944)**



1873 6d. orange-vermilion, a mint horizontal pair with part original gum, centred to top; the first stamp with a few short perfs. with fresh deep colour. Rare. (S.G. 60)

• **Fine and very attractive**

Should you wish to dispose of your valued and treasured stamps, whether it be a collection or single item, please consult us. Whether you wish to sell by auction, private treaty, or would prefer an immediate outright sale we can help you.

HARMERS

ESTABLISHED 1918

Call 0044 20 8747 6100

info@harmers.com www.harmers.com

No. 11, 111 Power Road, Chiswick, London, W4 5PY



Stamp Lover

The Journal of the National Philatelic Society
© 2009 National Philatelic Society
& Individual Authors/Contributors
ISSN 0038-9277
Vol. 102 No. 3 June 2010

The National Philatelic Society

One of the largest general philatelic societies, it was founded as the Junior Philatelic Society by Fred Melville in 1899.
UK Membership £27 a year
(or £23 if living 60 miles or more from London).
Overseas Membership £19.

For further details including our £15 introductory offer and application contact the Secretary at the General address given below or visit the Society website
www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps

General, including Membership and "Shop Window"

National Philatelic Society, c/o The British Postal Museum & Archive, Freeing House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL
nps@ukphilately.org.uk Tel: 020 7239 2571

Library: National Philatelic Society Library
As above address. Email:
npslibrary@ukphilately.org.uk

Circulating Packets: NPS Unit CP, as above
Tel: 0792 514 9048 (Thursdays only 10am – 3pm)
(Callers re Packets by prior arrangement only)

Auctions and Literature Sales

Michael R. Thompson. (NPS)
77 St. Marks Avenue,
Northfleet, Gravesend, DA11 9LN
Email: npsauction@ukphilately.org.uk

Editor, Stamp Lover

Michael L. Goodman, 621, London Rd.,
Isleworth, Middx, TW7 4ER. Tel: 0208 568 2433
email: stamplover@ukphilately.org.uk

Council Members

President..... Christopher Oliver
Vice-President..... Dane Garrod
Vice-President..... Michael R Thompson
Secretary..... Peter Mellor
Treasurer..... Simon Richards
Auctioneer..... Michael R Thompson
Librarian..... Michael Bramwell
Councillors..... Stuart Henderson,
Barbara Priddy, John Baron, Jean Parkins,
Allen Wood & David Alford FRPSL
Editor..... Michael L. Goodman

Other Officers

Packet Secretary (Stamps) Tony Martin (Acting)
Packet Secretary Rod Thompson
(Postal History)
Exhibitions Officer Dane Garrod
Archivist Ted Halliday
Competition Secretary Dane Garrod
Membership Secretary Peter Mellor
Shop Window Peter Mellor
Honorary Auditor Ian Harvey FRPSL

Regular Stamp Lover Contributors

Production Samantha Kelly
National PS News Peter Mellor
Other News Reports David Sibley
Dispatch Organiser Allan Boyce
Proofreader Susan Oliver
Index & Magazine List John Hammonds FRPSL

Stamp Lover Advertising Copy Dates

August..... 1st of July
October..... 1st of September
December..... 1st of November
February 2011..... 2nd of January

*Booking deadline 2 weeks previously

STAMP LOVER ADVERTISING RATES

FULL PAGE (26cm x 18.5cm)	£130
HALF PAGE (26cm x 9.0cm or 12.5cm x 18.5cm)	£70
QUARTER PAGE (12.5cm x 8.75cm)	£45
ONE EIGHTH PAGE (6cm x 8.75cm)	£25
SERIES DISCOUNT for 6 or more insertions booked in advance: 10%	
Or more insertions paid in advance.	
SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS 15p per word (Minimum £2).	
Box numbers £1 extra.	

What's Inside

President's Message <i>Chris Oliver</i>	63
Editor's column - <i>first impressions of London 2010</i>	65
Letters	65
National PS News <i>Peter Mellor</i>	66
Meetings Report: Thatcham, Isle of Man, Churchill and the President's displays <i>by the Editor, photos by Chris Oliver</i>	68
Features War Prisoners' Mail in the Philippines - Part 2 <i>by David Tett</i>	71
The Archaeologist Abroad <i>by Davd Alford</i>	73
Ocean Penny Post and the JPS <i>by David S. Potter</i>	75
Slovakia, current definitives <i>by Peter Mellor</i>	77
The Falkland Islands <i>by John Gray and H.A. Osborne</i>	79
Book Reviews.....	81
Checklist of articles on the British Philatelic Press - July to December 2009 <i>by John Hammonds</i>	84
New Issues <i>by Peter Mellor</i>	85
Stamp Fairs Diary.....	87

Our front cover shows, views of London 2010 (*photos by Chris Oliver and Michael Pitt-Payne*), NPS helpers at Literature Exhibition Stand (*photo: Chris Oliver*), Judging the Exhibits (*Photo: Michael Pitt-Payne*), The Stanley Gibbons monster envelope (*Photo: Michael Pitt-Payne*) and a colourful Malagasy Cover from the president's display. The souvenir Smilers sheet is being issued by the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies (AEPS) to mark StampEssex, at Colchester on June 5. (details in Fairs section). Cost per sheet is £20, plus £2 per order p&p. Enquiries to AEPS, 25 Clay Hill Road, Basildon, SS16 5DD.

DO YOU COLLECT PERFINS?
THE PERFIN SOCIETY

Is the UK's club for perfin collectors, offering a regular Bulletin, Auctions, an extensive Library and a range of perfin catalogues at reduced members' rates

For Membership contact:
 The Hon. Secretary
 Stephen Steere,
 1 Nicolson Road, Orpington, Kent, BR5 4EH

Web: www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/
 Email: secretary.gbperfinsoc@ntlworld.com

Advertise here
 in the next issue
for £25
 (for an eighth page)

GORDON BASS
 I will be attending the following stamp fairs with my extensive range of

Colonial Stamps QV- KGVI
ANTIGUA ASCENSION AUSTRALIA & STATES
BAHAMAS BERMUDA BRITISH HONDURAS
BRITISH GUIANA B.E.A CANADA CAYMAN IS
CYPRUS DOMINICA FALKLAND IS GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR HONG KONG KENYA JAMAICA
MALTA MALAYA NEW ZEALAND & ISLANDS
NEW GUINEA NYASALAND RHODESIA
THE SAINTS ZANZIBAR and ZULULAND

JUNE

5 **Beckenham** Azela Hall, Croydon Road
 13 **Chelmsford** Chelmsfordians Social Club, Roxwell Road
 19 **Brighton** Good Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road
 20 **Uckfield** Ringwood Village Hall, New Road, Ringwood
 27 **Potters Bar** Mount Grace School, Church Road

JULY

3 **Beckenham** Azela Hall, Croydon Road
 4 **Chelmsford** Chelmsfordians Social Club, Roxwell Road
 17 **Brighton** Good Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road
 24 **Bexhill** St Marthas Church Hall, Cooden Sea Road, Little Common

If you wish to see any specific stock at any of the above events please ring in advance before 10 pm.
Your wants lists are invited

Postal address PO Box 481 Tonbridge TN9 9FU
 email: gbass571@btinternet.com
 Tel 01892 832897



THE ESSENTIAL UK EXHIBITION FOR ALL STAMP COLLECTORS

Stampex
The British National Stamp Exhibition

MAKE A DATE FOR 2010/2011

AUTUMN 2010
15th to 18th September

SPRING 2011 **AUTUMN 2011**
 23rd to 26th February 14th to 17th September

BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE, 52 UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON GREEN, LONDON N1 0QH

For further information visit our website:
www.philatellic-traders-society.co.uk

Organised by the Philatelic Traders' Society and supported by Royal Mail.

Stampex Limited, P.O. Box 371, Fleet, Hampshire GU52 6ZX. Tel: 01252 628006 Fax: 01252 684674



The President says....

Thank you to all those who helped at **London 2010** and in the **National P.S. Library** during that week, particularly those who were on the Literature Exhibit Stand. It was a great show with a fruitful exhibition into which a lot of effort was expended. The Festival of Stamps still goes on throughout the year so keep your enthusiasm charged up.

The **April bourse** was a success and could be repeated if required. Michael Thompson could have some time off from taking our renowned live auction occasionally, providing that it only happens once a year.

On June 12th, in the morning, we hold the **A.G.M.** of the Society. Please attend. More details are included elsewhere in the *Stamp Lover*. We would like to appoint, or co-opt, an Hon. Assistant Secretary to help Peter with some of the secretarial chores and to stand-in when he cannot be present.

Would you like to volunteer?

Michael Bramwell is looking for some help in the Library. Please have a word with him if you could help in that direction.

In the afternoon we have displays by members. You could be one of these. Please bring some material to display.

On 26th June we are holding an open meeting in Chelmsford. Please come along to support this and please let me know if you would like to display. There is a map and travel directions elsewhere in this magazine.

Chris Oliver

Latest Offers

GB - MAILBOATS 1869 A 6d plate 8, QA-QB rejoined pair, QA cancelled A8 (8?), QB cancelled B56, presumably cancelled by Mail Officers in the Med. on consecutive letters from a Naval Officer. Unusual. £150

GB - ROYALTY, 1946 An Official Paid cover with KGVI cypher to Police at Cannon Row P.S, endorsed "Per King's Bag" £65

BECHUANALAND, 1925 Prince of Wales' visit - GB 2d orange overprinted used on cover to Pretoria, cancelled by Royal Tour, datestamp 27 June £45

BOER WAR, 1900 A pink cover printed in red advertising a pink pill to cure various illnesses, franked 1d. lilac, posted from British Army P.O. to Birmingham £65

GOLD COAST - Revenues, 1899 "JUDICIAL" set to 20s, the 1s is perforated (CA)NCE(LLED)", others with fiscal handstamps; also a 1d mint. 10 stamps. £85

JAMAICA - Fiscals, 1858-1921 A group comprising mainly Judicial issues, incl. 1898 2s (7, incl. 2 pairs on piece), 5s, 1908 2s brown, 5c (2) & 1913 1s to 8/6. (30 adhesives, 23 items) £80

MAURITIUS 1887 2c on 13c date, a wing-copy surcharge inverted, very fine and lightly cancelled £110

NEW SOUTH WALES 1899 A stampless cover, addressed within Sydney with the frank stamp of the Governor of NSW. Government House red embossed seal on flap. Sydney duplex Au.7. £65

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1898 Zamboanga provisional issue with overprint "C 1898 RESSALLARDO 1899 T". 11 values (lacking 5,6,10, 20m & 1p, extra 2m, two values with Roig handstamp. Mainly with large part original gum. Seldom seen. £65

TIBET - India used in, 1902 ½ a green cancelled "Lahssa 21 SE 0 4" cds, very fine £45

ITALIAN STATES c 1859 We have added a small group of Sicily & Tuscany stamps to our stock - enquiries invited.



Argyll Etkin Limited

4th Floor, 17 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AR
(corner of Pall Mall)

Tel: 0207 930 6100 Fax: 0207 930 6109
e-mail: Philatelists@argyll-etkin.com website: www.argyll-etkin.com



WARDROP & COMPANY LIMITED

Philatelic insurance specialists

The insurance for the serious collector providing peace of mind at surprisingly low cost

What is covered - Stamps, Covers, Envelopes, Postcards, Albums, Philatelic Literature, Stamp Boxes and other articles of philatelic or postal history interest.

Insurance against - All risks of physical loss or damage excluding wear, tear, gradual deterioration, moth, vermin, and damage or deterioration of any article directly caused while being worked upon or undergoing any process.

Scope of cover - Anywhere UK (subject to prior advice of locations other than the main dwelling for sums over £15,000) including postal or accompanied sendings. Cover is readily available for overseas exhibitions including all transits and temporary housing.

For a personal quotation and prospectus write to us at the address below, telephone 01376 563764, or visit our website www.wardrop.co.uk for more information including 1000's of links and an online proposal form.

Wardrop & Co Ltd
PO Box 772, Coggeshall
Colchester CO6 1UW

Tel. 01376 563764
Email john@wardrop.co.uk

Great Britain Stamps



1840-1970



PROOFS • ESSAYS • COLOUR TRIALS • CONTROLS
VARIETIES • BOOKLETS • BOOKLET PANES
COIL LEADERS • LITERATURE • ETC.

Send for our **FREE** illustrated lists

Also available online at www.candlishmccleery.com

Write, Phone, Fax or E-mail:

CANDLISHMCCLEERY LTD

PO BOX 2, HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTER WR8 0ZF

TEL: 01684 311771 FAX: 01684 311778

E-MAIL: ross@candlishmccleery.com

INSURE Your Collection

ALL RISKS - NO EXCESS

Stamps & £6,250 cover £ 25. 00 p.a. *

Postcards £10,000 cover £ 37. 00 p.a. *

* plus Insurance Premium Tax

Ask for rates for Coins and all other collectables

DEALERS COVER ARRANGED

PUBLIC LIABILITY for ALL SOCIETIES

AUCTION, EXCHANGE PACKET, EXHIBITION COVER

STAMP INSURANCE SERVICES

[Dept 35] CGI Services Limited

29 Bowhay Lane, EXETER EX4 1PE

tel: 01392 433 949 fax: 01392 427 632

www.stampinsurance.co.uk

Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Services Authority

*"There are just so many ways to buy and sell
all the stamps, covers and other collections
you want..."*



...and then I discovered..."

John Auld
john@allianceauctions.com

Incorporating Pottergate and
Express Stamp Auctions
founded in 1966

Alliance AUCTIONS

INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE or PUBLIC AUCTIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATIONS, SALES and VALUATIONS

Meerkats by Juliet Gorman jagorman@hotmail.co.uk

So much emphasis, quite rightly, is placed on value by everyone generally these days and as recent revelations by Stanley Gibbons has proved ... right at the moment philately is very definitely one of the few areas where collectors, investors and savers can 'buck the trend'.

John Auld and Alliance Auctions has a global reach which together with a long experience and expertise means our worldwide client base knows and trusts us always to provide the very best service possible. That valuable expertise and experience is also available to you and if ever you'd like us to offer a valuation on your collection please contact us at Latchmore Bank and we'll arrange everything to suit you. There's absolutely no obligation, any assessment is free and, you may be assured ... accurate.

Our assessors are able to offer valuations on virtually anything but most especially, for both auction or private treaty, particularly decent GB & Commonwealth, covers & postcards, philatelic literature, coins, banknotes militaria and much more.

Please call 01279 758854 if you'd like to make an appointment

We have reliable all world public auctions of stamps and covers usually on the first Tuesday of every month at the Bury Lodge Hotel London Stansted Airport. Catalogues are free and are available either by Royal Mail or as a download from: www.allianceauctions.com where, if you wish you may also bid. If you prefer we welcome postal or telephone bids, just call 01279 758854 and we'll arrange everything to suit you.

Dept.SLM., Latchmore Bank Farmhouse,
Little Hallingbury,
Bishop's Stortford,
Hertfordshire CM22 7PJ
info@allianceauctions.com - 01279 758854



A message from the Editor

My first impression of London 2010 was that anyone worried that our hobby is in decline should have visited the Business Design Centre on May 8th, the opening Saturday. There was a bumper attendance, dealers from all over the world enjoying a steady trade, while the large Royal Mail stand was busily relieving collectors of their money, myself included.

The Royal Mail London 2010 issues certainly celebrated the occasion. Indeed I might suggest a little too much, with so many different combinations of designs, sheets, miniature sheets and prestige booklets. On one of the prestige booklet panes it is difficult to work out that there are two £1 stamps in addition to the two first class. The Machin pane in the booklet is a must for adding to the series, as it contains the only 50p stamp issued so far with an "MPIL" background print and other so far unique features.

There were personalised "Smilers" on sale. Dressed in a neat suit, I duly sat for some sheets, ten years after I bought my first of these issues at Stamps 2000.

I wonder how many visitors found their way to the Royal Mail's other counter, in one of the coffee rooms, where special Post and Go labels were dispensed from a machine which regularly broke down. There was also on sale a special envelope label. These could prove interesting collectibles.

It was good to hear so many foreign accents, in terms of visitors, London 2010 was truly international. The competition displays were overwhelming. If I am to make one criticism it was the poor lighting in places. I know displays require subdued light in case they fade but the lighting was too dim to see exhibits properly. Naturally I felt somewhat disheartened when comparing my own modest competition entries to those of international competitors who had the deep pockets, and the patience and skill, to produce world class exhibits.

I took careful notes on a display of US Revenues used to pay duty on photographs, as this will aid the writing up of my own modest collection. It might be "cribbing" but it shows how collectors can learn from other collectors' displays. We hope to list in our August issue the NPS members who won or participated. The final judging was too late for our press deadline.

I was struck by the enthusiasm of the volunteers who manned the information desks, helped arrange the exhibits, judge and organise. Without them there would be no event.

I want to publish your comments on London 2010 for next issue.

Finally, a Mea Culpa. Page 69, Eilann Vannin dos not mean Lord of Mann but Isle of Man.

Letters to the Editor

SG Catalogue sizes – A4 is "unwieldy"

From Philip Mountford, Orwell, Royston, Herts.

In the April issue, Michael Round asked for comments on catalogue sizes. As an 83 year old, whose fingers are not as nimble as they used to be, I find A4 sizes unwieldy, apart from occupying too much space. As I collect little, apart from GB after about 1960, I find the older, octavo page-size books much easier to use. To me, a catalogue is an historical document rather than indication of stamp values.

I have bought the new GB specialised Edward VII to George VI volume, and I make regular use of the GB Concise, but otherwise my favourites-in regular use still - are a leatherbound SG Part 2 of 1934 and a 1943 Simplified. I do possess many other catalogues, British and Foreign, but use the old ones most.

Aircraft-on-Stamps Catalogue, Stanley Gibbons

From G.M. Sinclair, St Lawrence, Jersey, C.I.

Dear Sir,

I agree with the main comments made by Barbara Priddy in her review of the latest edition of the Stanley Gibbons' Aircraft on Stamps catalogue. (*Stamp Lover*, February 2010).

However in my view it falls down badly with the amount of aircraft misidentifications - over 1,000 by my count. And that number excludes any conflicts I may have with those types that are notoriously difficult to distinguish on a stamp. (e.g. Boeing 707/720/Douglas DC-8, and some other types.)

I have worked closely with a group of aviation philatelists in Germany since the 1980's and between us we can offer expertise in various aspects of aircraft recognition, such as commercial, military, light aircraft, helicopters, etc.. (A German

aircraft catalogue was published in 1994.) We collaborated regularly with Alan Sterckx, the late editor of the 1st edition of the aircraft catalogue published in 1994. It was a productive working relationship and we were able to reach an agreed identification in most cases.

In 2008 I learnt that Gibbons was proposing a new edition of their catalogue and I immediately wrote to them - referring to the exchanges with the previous editor and offering similar cooperation with the new catalogue. I did not receive a reply.

When the catalogue was published in 2009 I took time to examine each page for correct identification - and noted the excessive number of wrong or omitted identifications, some of which were in the "howler" category. I wrote to Stanley Gibbons in November 2009 with my comments and again did not receive a reply. I then tried email in January 2010 and received a response, promising a full reply. So far I am still waiting for this.

My recommendation to aircraft on stamp collectors is - caveat emptor. The illustrations and lay-out are excellent - but do not rely on the identifications.

Thematic packet should mix stamps and other material

From Keith Downing, by e mail

Dear Michael and Barbara,

I would be interested in a thematic packet but only if the material is not entirely, or mostly, stamps. I would only be interested if it contained a significant quantity of postal stationery, metermarks and other such material. However I do not think the packet should contain postcards as these add unnecessary weight.

Editors's Note: The hon. packet secretaries put forward the idea of a separate thematic packet in the April edition, *NPS News*. They welcome further responses.

New Members

The Council is pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society since the last list was published: -

23 328 (F)	Miss Leah Demetriou	<i>Alfold</i>
23 329	Mr Alex Votias	<i>Cambridge</i>
23 330	Miss Ann Gray	<i>Daventry</i>
23 331	Mr Sebastien Delcampe	<i>Belgium</i>
23 332	Mr Mike Parker	<i>Stroud</i>
23 333	Mr Erik Van Blerk	<i>Netherlands</i>
23 334	Mr Hugo Van Tilburg	<i>Belgium</i>
23 335	Mr Frank Monaghan	<i>London</i>
23 336	Miss Pauline Leader	<i>London</i>
23 337	Mr R W T Rabbetts	<i>Sawbridgeworth</i>
23 338	Mr Thomas Bowles	<i>Rochester</i>
23 339	Mr Graham Heathcote	<i>London</i>
23 340	Mr Jonathan Hoare	<i>Barnet</i>
23 341 (F)	Mrs Rehana Rela	<i>London</i>
23 342 (F)	Mr Asad Rela	<i>London</i>
23 343 (F)	Miss Saba Rela	<i>London</i>
23 344 (F)	Miss Irum Rela	<i>London</i>

F = Family member

Annual General Meeting 12 June 2010

Members are reminded that this year the Society's **Annual General Meeting** is again being held on the second Saturday in June. The timings for the day are shown on the current Programme Card. The formal Notice announcing the AGM was published in April 2010 *Stamp Lover*.

Member's Displays – Saturday 12 June

As usual on the afternoon of the day of the AGM, the Auction will be followed by Members' Displays – so please do bring along your material – up to 2 frames (i.e. up to 32 sheets).

National PS Members who Display

- Speakers List and National PS Team Visits

As indicated in April *Stamp Lover* in order to assist readers who may be seeking speakers for local societies we are now pleased to publish the Speakers' List of members who give displays. The Society also offers **National PS Team Visits** to local societies, comprising between two and four speakers from our ranks.

If you wish to make use of this facility, please contact our Secretary, Peter Mellor, by email to nps@ukphilately.org.uk or by letter (please enclose a s.a.e) at National Philatelic Society, c/o British Postal Museum & Archive, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL, and he will be pleased to supply contact details for the Speakers and further information regarding the Team visits.

Name/ Address (miles will travel)	Display Titles
Brian Asquith <i>Carshalton, Surrey</i>	1 Faster Than a Bullet - The Concorde Story
50	2 On Dragon's Wings - Chinese Air Mails
(plus holiday talks)	3 Triest/Trieste (Postal History)
charge only	4 From Dragon's Wings to Supersonic Small (Mainly airmail)
	5 From Napoleonic to Supersonic

Forthcoming Meetings and Events of the National Philatelic Society

Phoenix Centre, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL
(unless otherwise indicated)

Saturday 12 June

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
followed by **Members' Auction**
and **MEMBERS DISPLAYS**
Library Open

Saturday 26 June

COUNTRY MEETING - CHELMSFORD
2pm at Christ Church United Reformed Church, 164 London Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0AW – see page 67 for details

Saturday 10 July

UNDERPRINTS AND OVERPRINTS
Display by Andy Donaldson
Members' Auction (at new time of 12.50 pm)

Saturday 14 August

MORE FOREIGN FORGERIES
FROM THE NPS FORGERIES COLLECTION
Library Open; Members' Auction

Name/ Address (miles will travel)	Display Titles
Allan Boyce <i>Chelmsford, Essex</i> (by arrangement)	1 Use of the Computer in philately 2 Italy & Italian States 3 Greece incl Crete and other islands 4 New Zealand
Barrie Cook <i>Brentwood, Essex</i> 150	1 The Postal History of the British P.O. in Morocco during KGVI & QEII reigns 2 The Postal History of the British P.O. in Persian Gulf during KGVI & QEII reigns
John A Davies <i>Banbury, Oxon</i> 60	1 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee 2 Stamp Active
<i>No expenses to ABPS affiliated clubs.</i> <i>Donations invited to Stamp Active Network</i>	
Bob Deakin <i>Tunbridge Wells, Kent</i> 100	1 St Helena including Boer War POWs mail on island 2 Morocco up to 1956 (including all Posts)
<i>No expenses charged (further by arrangement)</i>	
Steve Ellis <i>Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs</i> 50	1 French Maritime Mail 2 The French Red Cross
<i>No expenses charged</i>	

National Philatelic Society – Country Meeting at Chelmsford

Saturday 26th June 2010 at 2 pm

How to Get There

The Meeting venue is

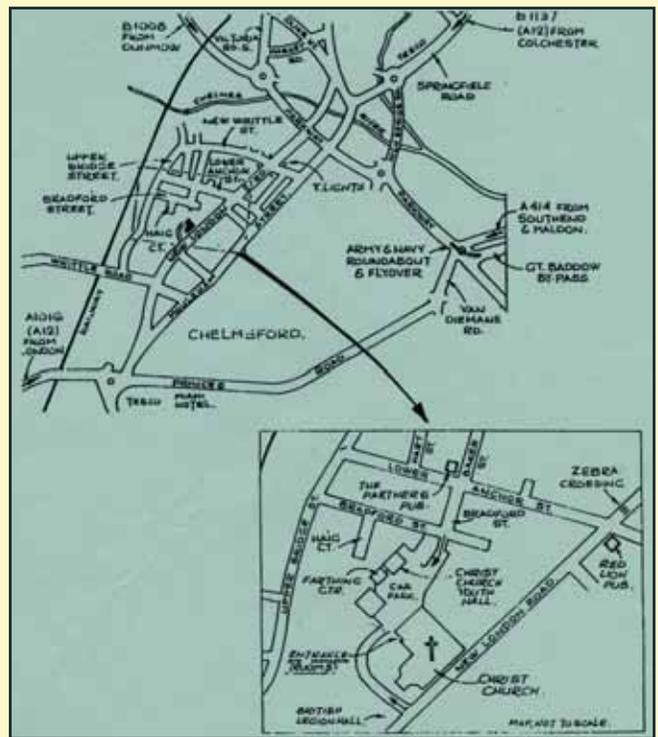
Room 5, Christ Church United Reformed Church,
New London Road, CHELMSFORD CM2 0AW

Train (Chelmsford Railway Station)

Take a number 42 bus in the direction of Galleywood from a stop immediately outside the railway station to the Red Lion which is on the junction of New London Road and Anchor Street. Carry on walking in the same direction that the bus takes for about 150 metres and the church is on your right. Between the church and the Royal British Legion hall there is a slip road which leads down to the back of the church and access to the rooms. Room 5 overlooks the car park. There is a barrier on this slip road so access by road may not be possible.

Road

From the A12 going north from London take exit 15 to Chelmsford, indicated Harlow, take the first exit at the roundabout then at the next two roundabouts take the second exits. Finally at the next roundabout take the first exit marked town centre along Moulsham Street and New London Road. After a set of traffic lights and a set of pedestrian lights the church is on the left but a barrier could be down. Take the next turning left into Lower Anchor Street (which is immediately before another set of pedestrian lights) and then first left again into Bradford Street. The car park entrance is slightly left ahead. There is ample parking space.



From the A14 turn left into Chelmsford onto the old A12 and take the second exits at the next two roundabouts and then follow the instructions starting "Finally..." above.

From the A12 going south from Colchester take exit 18 (park and ride) and follow directions to Chelmsford, over the flyover at the Army and Navy and second exit at the next roundabout and then keep in the left-hand lane and turn left at the traffic lights which is also marked Cricket Ground. Turn right after one set of traffic lights and one set of pedestrian lights into Lower Anchor Street. Then follow the instructions above.

Name/ Address (miles will travel)	Display Titles
--------------------------------------	----------------

Eric D Holmes <i>Reading, Berkshire</i> 50 <i>(excludes Inner London)</i> <i>No expenses charged</i>	1 Gibraltar Postal History 18th & 19th Century
	2 Gibraltar Adhesives - QV, KEVII & KGV
	3 Gibraltar Byways: GB Used In/Forgeries /Revenues/Postal Stationery
Keith E Johnson <i>Crewe</i> <i>(flexible)</i> <i>Part expenses</i> <i>for long distances</i>	1 Tennyson through Philately - Social Philately
	2 Aspects of G&EIC / Kiribati - Stamps and Postal History
	3 A Tour Round Lincoln - Picture Postcards & Postal History
Peter Mellor <i>Harpenden, Herts</i> 40 <i>No expenses charged</i>	1 Overseas for a Halfpenny 1879-1949
Christopher E Oliver <i>Richmond-upon-Thames</i> <i>(area - by arrangement)</i>	1 South Africa, Union and Republic
	2 U.S.A. - Its Social History through its Stamps
Alan Spencer <i>Birmingham</i> 20 <i>(further by agreement)</i> <i>No expenses charged</i>	1 Canada Through the Ages
	2 Canada - The Admiral period 1911-31
	3 Where Shall We Go Next Year? (re GB Philatelic Congress)
	4 Edinburgh pre-1840
	5 Pandora's Box (Cinderella)

Name/ Address (miles will travel)	Display Titles
--------------------------------------	----------------

Michael R Thompson <i>Gravesend, Kent</i> <i>(no restriction - all over the country)</i>	1 Lundy Island - Stamps, Postal History, Social History & Airmails etc.
	2 Bits & Pieces - including Ceylon 1st issue, Cape of Good Hope, Australia 1954 Antarctic Expedition
	3 The Great Little Trains of Wales - Railway Letter Services
	4 Reach For The Sky - The Balloon (Thematic)
	5 Herm Island and the Smaller Channel Islands

Members who would like to be included on this list are asked to contact the Secretary (as indicated above) giving the following information

- Name
- Email address/ telephone number (not to be published)
- Nearest town/city of residence
- Distance in miles willing to travel to display
- Titles of Displays to a maximum of 5
- Add "no expenses charged" if that is what you do
- Whether you give sole Displays and/or are willing to participate in an NPS Team Display.

Churchill, a prodigious afternoon

Display by Simon Moorcroft, April 10th

report by the editor, photos Chris Oliver



The writer regards Simon Moorcroft as something of a philatelic prodigy judging by his achievements to date and his display to the NPS. His Churchill displays have won awards, and were the subject of an article in the British Philatelic Bulletin in January 2009.

If anything, the first half of Simon's display was the most interesting, even though it contained fewer philatelic items. Overall, Simon showed a lucid grasp of history and an ingenious mix of material. All the more remarkable that it has been built up during the past seven years.

Simon explained, "When I began collecting in 2002 I tried the theme famous people, but soon decided I could not collect them all. So I decided to concentrate my efforts on one of them – Winston Churchill. He was the greatest figure of 20th century Britain."

"He was born on November 30 1874 at Blenheim Palace, and if you visit Blenheim, built by the Duke of Marlborough on a grand scale after his great military victories, you can understand why Churchill grew up to believe in Britain's greatness."

Simon discussed Churchill's early life, his troubled schooldays, his time at Sandhurst where even then he showed a reckless side to his character. In 1896 Churchill left for India and fought on the North West Frontier. When the Second Boer War broke out in 1899, Churchill went to South Africa as a war correspondent for the *Morning Post*, a daily newspaper which was later to merge with the *Telegraph*. He was captured by the Boers and apparently put up a fight. After being captured and sent to a camp in Pretoria he escaped, made it back to Durban amid huge publicity. "The publicity helped him launch his political career and in 1900 he was elected Conservative MP for Oldham," said Simon. Items in this first section of the display included correspondence from Blenheim Palace, newspaper cuttings and some prisoner of war mail, but not addressed to Churchill.

In 1904 Churchill crossed the floor to the Liberals and was elected for Manchester NW in the 1906 Liberal landslide. He became Colonial Secretary, then president of the Board of Trade, where he set up Labour Exchanges. He was seen as a radical

reformer but he was blamed for sending troops to a miners strike at Tonypandy in 1910. This earned him years of hostility from the Labour movement. Another sign of his daring was his part in the siege of Sidney street 1911.

In 1908 he married Clementine Hozier, and the display included a letter from her.

The display also included *Punch* cartoons from the period, some still resonant today. For example, the "Cabinet Cherubs", the young Liberal politicians perhaps echo the "Blair Babes", who are also past history, if more recent. A highly unpolitically correct cartoon "The Winston Walk in Central Africa" showed what was supposed to be the "Winston effect on the natives..(sic)".

In 1911 Churchill as Navy minister oversaw the naval build up. Churchill was blamed for the Gallipoli debacle during World War I and for a brief period went to serve in the trenches. But in 1917 he was recalled as Minister of Munitions. In 1921 he served as Colonial Secretary and had to deal with Iraq, and having rejoined the Conservatives served as Chancellor in 1924. His big decision, to rejoin the Gold Standard was widely blamed for deepening the slump, especially by John Maynard Keynes, the economist. Churchill's tough line on the 1926 General Strike resulted in Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin deliberately sidelining Churchill when dealing with trade unions. In 1929 he was out of office. The display showed memorabilia from the period including a telegram from Churchill, then in Zurich, ordering some paint.

The Second half began with Churchill's "wilderness years" when he alienated all three parties with his attitudes towards India home rule, the abdication where he backed Edward VIII and re-armament, but as time progressed, the establishment recognised the enormity of the Nazi threat.

In 1940 the navy signalled joyfully "Winston's back". The display then continued with World War 2 material including German propaganda cards, a miniature sheet which showed a famous quote which suggested Churchill believed Britain would suffer a great crisis and only he could handle situation. "Churchill galvanised the nation" said Simon. The display continued with Dunkirk evacuation, US patriotic covers and other material related to World War II, D Day, and Victory. There was also material from Churchill's "twilight years" in politics as Prime Minister from 1951-55.

Finally Simon showed the stamps issued to commemorate Churchill's passing in 1965, including essays and remarked on the influence of Anthony Wedgwood Benn, the then postmaster general who wanted to see the Queen's head dropped from commemorative stamps. The final design showed a thick white line between the Queen's head and that of Churchill, the commoner, Simon remarked. He also showed the Omnibus issues and finally some items from Chartwell, Churchill's Kent residence.

Chris Oliver gave the vote of thanks.

President shows two islands.

The president's display, Saturday May 1 2010

report by the editor

Our president Chris Oliver is best known for displaying South Africa and the USA. This time he sprang a surprise, with the postal history of the Isle of Purbeck for the first half and Madagascar, or rather the Malagasy Republic, for the second.

Purbeck is not really an island but is surrounded by sea on three sides. It's a delightful corner of Dorset but rather over-visited in the summer these days. Its attractions include Swanage, the long sandy beaches at Studland, Corfe Castle and

Tynham, the "ghost village" requisitioned by the military during the Second World War and never returned.

Chris began with some pre stamp material and also some items about Corfe Castle and the Bankes family. They held the Corfe estate during Civil War and were Royalists. Lady Bankes held out against the Roundheads but surrendered after a long siege. She was spared but Corfe Castle was dismantled, the proverbial "an old ruin Cromwell knocked about a bit". Kingston Lacey, elsewhere in Dorset became the main Bankes estate. Both are now National Trust properties. The display continued with Victorian stamped mail from Wareham, the market town on the Isle of Purbeck, which bears 843 duplex cancels and from Swanage which bears 845. The re-opening of the Swanage Railway as a tourist steam line also featured in the display.

Meeting report - March 13th

The Isle of Man

report by the editor, photos by Chris Oliver

Having been a regular visitor to the Isle of Man for the past 15 years, in the course of my work as a financial journalist, I looked forward to this display with more than the usual enthusiasm. I was not to be disappointed, indeed I was struck by the ingenious way John Sussex mixed philatelic and non philatelic material to tell the story of "Fun with tourism on the Isle of Man."

John Sussex FRPSL and RDP (Roll of Distinguished Philatelists) described his display as an "open class" one, and for those of us who feel tempted into social displays, it provided something of a template.

John began describing briefly the history of the Isle of Man, its Viking origins, how it fell into the estate of the Earl of Derby as a reward for his switching sides in the Wars of the Roses and supporting the Tudors. John mentioned the Tynwald, of course. This ancient assembly, of Viking origins, celebrated its 1000th anniversary in 1979 (SG 150 etc). It is the island's Parliament, and symbol of the island's self government. The Isle of Man is a Crown Dependency, with its own stamps, postal system, legal and taxation system, with the Queen as head of state, Lord of Mann, or "Eilann Vannin", according to the Manx inscription round the Queen's head on the island's own sterling coinage.

The island's separate taxation system has enabled its rise as an offshore finance centre during the past 30 years, as tourism declined. Many British expatriates save with Isle of Man banks and building societies and the writer of this report produces regular features about this aspect of the island's economy for The Telegraph Weekly, the Daily Telegraph's international edition circulated to British expatriates. The Isle of Man tax system is not quite separate from the UK with regard to Value Added Tax and Excise duties, but the top rate of income tax is only 20 per cent.

Enough of matters fiscal. John Sussex showed in the first frame a print of Douglas the capital before the development of tourism. He said, "The Isle of Man looked like an English county surrounded by sea. But then the Industrial Revolution and the rise of the annual week's holiday during the 1870's, led to the island being transformed into a holiday centre. Its attraction was it was reached by sea. Indeed, I have heard the island described as the Majorca of the North."

The display continued with a deluge of photos of steam packets, timetables, and steamer tickets. There were short stays, long stays and even day trips available. There were sets of poster stamps aimed at keeping children amused during the sea trips.

The 1920's ushered in air travel to island, shown with tickets, first flight covers and the like. The display also included Manx issues commemorating sea and air travel such as SG170 etc

The second half featured a colourful array of modern mail from Madagascar, an island five times the size of the UK, and known as Malagasy Republic since it became independent from France. The island lies off the African coast but the people are mainly of Indian descent and it looks East in its trading. It is also home to exotic plants and animals. As Chris explained "It's a bit of an enigma". There are over 750 post offices, some towns have two names.

Your editor gave the vote of thanks, remarking that "The Isle of Purbeck is dear to my heart, having holidayed there over the years," while it was good to see an array of modern commercial covers from an exotic territory.

which marked the 150th anniversary of the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company in 1980

The island's steam railway features on several Manx stamp issues beginning with SG 35. The Isle of Man is perhaps the only territory in the world where you can travel to and from the airport by steam train. The one surviving steam line includes a halt to serve Ronaldsway Airport.

The second half began with material on Manx trams. They feature in several Manx issues such as SG80 to 83 issued in 1976 to mark the centenary of the Douglas horse trams. The display included postcards and tram cancels including the special cachet applied to postcards posted on the Snaefell line which runs up the island's tallest mountain. The special cancel was diamond shaped when it first appeared in 1904.

The island's world famous Tourist Trophy Races generated even more material for the display, with early post cards, illustrations, and advertising material Entertainment was represented by programmes from the island's theatres, notably the Gaiety which still attracts major musicals and entertainers for the summer season.

The island pioneered holiday camps, according to John Sussex. The Cunningham Holiday Camp opened in 1908 and pre dated

Butlins. It was strictly teetotal and in World War I became one of several internment centres for German prisoners, a sort of Butlitz in the Irish Sea.

Prisoners were allowed to produce their own Christmas and other greeting cards. John Sussex said many of the original cards are scarce and have been extensively reproduced.

During the Second World War the camps were re opened, while enemy aliens were billeted in guest houses. There was also a camp for British Nazi sympathisers. All this and more was illustrated by postal history items and photographs.

Chris Oliver gave the vote of thanks. He said "I didn't know what to expect beforehand, but this display was very interesting".



Don't forget to buy through "SHOP WINDOW" Albums, Catalogues, Books, mounts, strips etc

- SG King George VI Commonwealth Catalogue
- SG Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore catalogue 2nd ed
- SG GB Specialised Catalogue - Vol 4 Pt 2 QEII decimal defs.
- SG Great Britain Concise 2010
- SG Collect British Stamps 2010
- Lindner USB digital microscope
- Lindner - Magicam (up to 108x magnification)

- . Convenience and good prices
- . Prompt delivery direct to your home
- or
- . Collect from the National*

*Please ensure we get your order 10 Days before the Meeting

- . For the quickest service members of the National PS should order by telephone (or leave a message), or Email nps@ukphilately.org.uk and use home delivery.
- . Home deliveries will be invoiced separately by the National; postage extra (2nd Class or parcel post - max £4.50 per delivery in the UK unless otherwise advised when placing the order). Please Give telephone number to assist delivery

National Philatelic Society, c/o The British Postal Museum & Archive,
Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL Telephone: 020 7239 2571

Displays galore at successful WESTBEX meeting

WESTBEX meeting March 27th

report by the editor, photos by Dane Garrod

Because of the number of NPS members, and members of the host society, Thatcham and District, who volunteered displays, the meeting had to hold three sessions to accommodate them all.

The first session began with a couple of sheets from John Baron's finance and philately collection, which he hopes to present to the NPS some time next season. Dane Garrod followed with about 20 sheets of German royalty and princedoms, a subject which explains why early Germany is so complicated. Dane's display was essentially a social one, showing portraits and letters of the rulers of these princedoms.

Mike Thompson, our hon auctioneer, showed Herm Island, one of the Channel Islands and a short excursion by ferry from Guernsey. Herm began issuing its own triangular stamps after the then GPO closed the only Post Office on the island after the second world war. The display included a First Day Cover of the first issue dated May 26 1949 and specimens of the 18 different printings of the stamps. Mike Thompson said there was a "learned tome" on the subject which was extremely complex.

Next came a postal history display by a Thatcham member, Jim Mowat, which studied Paddington instructional charge marks. It included a cover to The Green, Hatton, Middlesex dated 1889, which was marked "insufficient address". The village is now buried under one of the Heathrow airport runways, or the airport's "Cargo Village" terminal. There was a curious cover to the USA from Jury's Hotel Dublin in 1925, marked no contents. The cover could have been brought to England emptied of its contents and then posted on for some reason. There was also a letter to Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, which is now a housing estate.

Peter Mellor the NPS hon secretary showed off his "Dear Doctor" cards. Some were Herr Doktor, if they were sent to German speaking destinations. These cards were sent by pharmaceutical companies to doctors in an effort to promote their products. Peter's collection showed this was a world wide phenomenon.

Mike Thompson made a second appearance with a thematic display of "Frogs". Most of the stamps showed Frogs, but the display included a 10 cent US Mark Twain issue as this famous writer of Huckleberry Finn tales also wrote a story about a frog. Mike recalled that someone broke rule one of the NPS auction when this collection came up for sale, they bid against him.

Ian Keel, a Thatcham member began the second session with some of his huge Machin collection. This time he showed the 20p large format. Ian showed other Machins last year and

to do justice to the whole Machin series would probably require an entire exhibition hall. The Machin series is still proliferating with five new denominations issued on March 30 and two new non value indicated airmails. Perhaps NPS members could use them when forwarding exchange packets and treat the next member on the list to some used specimens.

Bob Patterson, another Thatcham member, presented a colourful and informative thematic "Look at the Stars", showing stamps and miniature sheets depicting the solar system, the Sun, Venus, and Mars, accompanied by explanatory text. Bob also collects US space material.

Jenny Balcombe, also from Thatcham, presented the little known story of Group Settlements in Australia. After the first World War, unemployed Britons, and their families, were encouraged to settle in Western Australia. The settlements centred round Bridgetown near Perth and the display highlighted the hardships and successes of these forerunners of the "Ten Pound Poms". A reminder to look carefully at postmarks on Australian stamps of the period.

Chris Oliver finished the session with 20 sheets of Nelson Mandela, "an appreciation of the life and times of the Nobel Prizewinner". The sheets included panes from a special booklet issued by South Africa in Mandela's honour.

The editor had to wait until the third session, as did Susan Oliver who showed stamps and postal history from the Faeroe Islands. Susan explained how she decided to collect the Faeroes after an enjoyable visit to these islands north of Scotland, but found they were still using Danish stamps at the time. The Faeroes began their own issues in 1975 and have been quite prolific since then.

Susan began with the 1875 Danish issues bearing the numeral cancellation 238, indicating Thorshavn, the island capital. Such cancels are worth looking out for on Danish 19th century definitives. She also showed mail to and from the islands, together with telegrams and postcards.

Finally the editor of this publication showed 20 sheets of underpaid mail into and out of the United States during the period 1875 to 1910. The display was meant to show how mail was surcharged during this period and contained examples of tax marks and postage due stamps both applied in US and overseas such as Germany and France. Unfortunately, some of the sheets were written up in biro, and not to the standard of a club display, as they were recent acquisitions.

They included a letter written from Czechoslovakia to the USA in 1910, and stars and stripes 1898 Spanish-American war patriotic cover, and postcards which contravened regulations and had to be sent at letter rate.

This was only the second time the NPS has held a meeting at WESTBEX, although the event has been going for years. Judging by the response this year, I expect WESTBEX to become a permanent fixture in the NPS calendar. The venue is easily accessible from West London and the western home counties while the various events such as the competitions and the 30 plus dealers make for an excellent philatelic day out.



Jim Mowat with his "Paddington Instructional Marks"



Mike Thompson with "Frogs"

War Prisoners' Mail in the Philippines - Part 2

by David Tett

This is part two of a multi part feature

Cards from the POWs

Part one, published in the April *Stamp Lover* dealt with the historical background, how the Japanese invaded in 1941, and also lists the POW camps which were set up. This part deals with mail from the camps.

Postcards from the POWs are almost all undated but the earliest recorded date that cards were allowed was June 1942 from Cabanatuan. This must be considered suspect as it is one of very few recorded earlier than October 1942.

Most contemporary accounts give late December 1942 or January 1943 as the first date cards were permitted. There were four different types of cards used.

Type 1 cards from the POWs

The **Type 1** card was thick brownish card. There is a preprinted Japanese box in red with a space for the censor's seal to the left. The top or left-hand three characters read Ken'etsuzumi (*Censored*) and the seven characters below read Philippines Furyo Sh y sho (*Philippines Prisoner of War Camp*). These seven characters are arranged on two rows with the second line having one character and the third line six. On the right side vertically the five characters read Y bin Hagaki (*Postcard*), with Furyo Y bin (*Prisoner of War Post*) above.

On the message side of the card there are seven spaces for the POW to complete as shown. Note that the first gives the requirement or opportunity to state the camp number in which the POW was held. Note also statement 3 reads "I am – injured; sick in hospital; under treatment; not under treatment". The appropriate statement was to be underlined by the writer. There was to be a subtle change to this line in the **Type 2** card. Statement 6 gives an opportunity for a brief message.

These cards were handed out to the prisoners who were required to underline the appropriate phrase in statements 1 to 4 and indicate on a scrap of paper the message requested in statements 5 to 7. The cards and the scraps of paper were then sent to the camp office where they were typed before being returned to the POW for signature, always above the sender's name on the address side. The card was then sent to the censor for his examination. **Type 1** cards are known from Camps 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 10C. All Camp 1 cards are censored by Iwanaka, the Cabanatuan camp commandant. Camp 2 (Davao, Mindanao) cards are all censored by Sachi or Tsubota. For Camps 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 10c the censor was Urabe. The actual location of these censors when they carried out the censoring is not known but it is known that Iwanaka was based at Cabanatuan and almost certainly Sachi and Tsubota were at Davao. The cards from all the other camps were probably censored at Philippines POW HQ at Bilibid Prison.

This undated **Type 1** card (**Fig 3**) was sent by Private First-Class George A Cecil in Cabanatuan. It has the circular orange seal of Iwanaka. Cecil hardly used the message side apart from saying "Love to all".

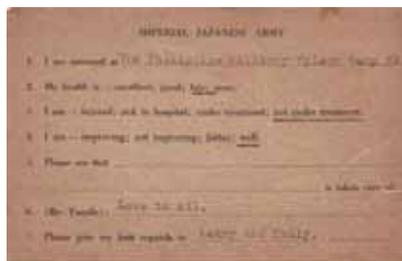


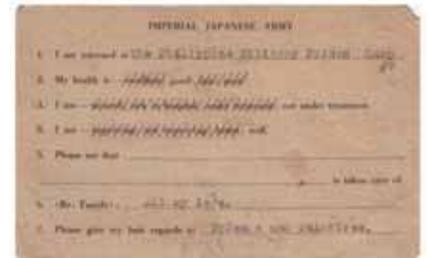
Fig 3 Undated card from George A Cecil, Philippine Military Prison Camp # 1, to New York.

Type 1 cards are also known from Camp 7.

Fig 4, a **Type 1** card, was sent by Joseph J Carbonaro from Camp 7. The location of this camp is unknown. It has an oval orange seal of Urabe indicating it was censored at Bilibid, the HQ POW camp in the Philippines.



Fig 4 Undated card from Joseph J Carbonaro, Philippines Military Prison Camp No 7, addressed to New York.



Type 2 cards from the POWs

Quite when the **Type 1** card was replaced with the second type is unclear. Several POWs were able to write two or even three **Type 1** cards. But why did the Japanese decide a reprint with modifications was required? Two changes were made to the card and these give a good indication as to why the authorities decided to reprint the card some time in 1943. The first change is in statement 3 on the message side: instead of starting "I am injured" as in **Type 1** it starts in the more positive tone of "I am uninjured" on **Type 2**. It made little difference to the messages actually sent as the author has never seen a card with "I am injured" underlined. The chances are that it would have been discarded by the censor.

The other change, relatively cosmetic, is on the address side where the seven characters in the censor box reading Philippines Furyo Sh y sho (*Philippines Prisoner of War Camp*) are now printed on one line of seven characters instead of two lines of one and six characters. The size of the censor box is still the same but the characters are somewhat more condensed. Otherwise in all other respects the card is the same as **Type 1**.

It is also clear that even after the **Type 2** card had been produced and was in use, the **Type 1** card was also still in use. Stocks would have existed, at least in some camps and these would not have been wasted. So there was an overlap in the use



Fig 5 Undated card from Captain Gordon E Maloney, Philippine Military Prison Camp # 2.

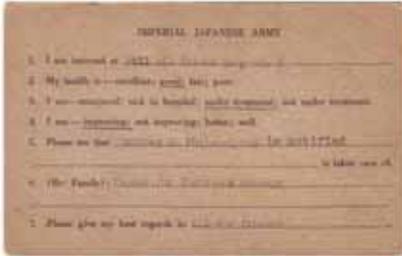


Fig 6 Undated card from V M Deck, Philippine Military Prison Camp 10-B, to Dayton, Ohio.

of the two cards. One **Type 2** card written from Lipa – Camp 10B – was received in the USA on 13th December 1943, suggesting it was one of the first batch sent. It is likely that **Type 2** cards were used from very early on contemporaneously with **Type 1** cards.

Captain Gordon E Maloney's **Type 2** card (Fig 5) was sent from Davao (Camp 2) This card was censored by Sachi. On the message side Maloney wrote "Thanks for Christmas message", suggesting the card was written at the end of 1943 or perhaps in early 1944. Very little mail was received in the camps until 1944. Maloney was in Bilibid when Manila was retaken by the Americans in February 1945.

This card was written from Lipa Camp. As with all small camps on Luzon the card was censored in Bilibid by Urabe with his oval orange seal. Deck was in the first group of POWs taken to Lipa on 1st October 1942. This card was typed on a typewriter using red ribbon. The only other cards known to have been written from this camp are also typed in red (Fig 6), suggesting this ribbon was used for all cards from this camp. One of these cards is noted as received on 13th December 1943, again suggesting **Type 1** and **Type 2** cards were in use more or less contemporaneously from at least December 1942 at Lipa. Deck was to lose his life when Arisan Maru was sunk on 24th October 1944.

Type 3 cards from the POWs

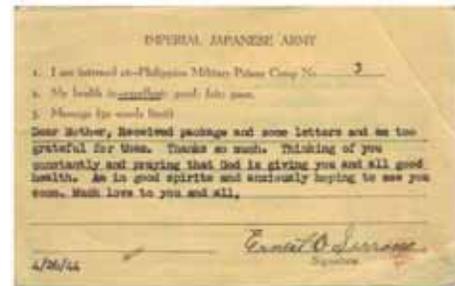
In late April 1944 some cards were dated. Before this date all cards had been undated. It was some time in early 1944 that a third type of card was printed and introduced. It is quite different to the first two types. Printed on thinner yellowish card, the address side is headed across the top with SERVICE des PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE with Furyo Y bin (*Prisoner of War Post*) both in orange-red below. The censor's box is in the bottom left also in orange-red measuring 37mm by 14mm with the left hand three characters reading Ken'etsuzumi (*Censored*) and the seven characters to the right reading Philippines Furyo Sh y sho (*Philippines Prisoner of War Camp*). On the right side

vertically the five characters read Y bin Hagaki (*Postcard*) again in orange-red. Above the censor's box on the left is the space for the sender's details, including for the first time preprinted PHILIPPINE MILITARY PRISON CAMP NO. Now it was only necessary to type in the number rather than the whole phrase each time. The message side is preprinted with space for three statements to be underlined or deleted as appropriate. The first repeated the camp number. The second is "My health is" with the choices of excellent, good, fair or poor. The suggestion of injured had been dropped. The third line was a space for a 50-word message, a welcome opportunity for the POWs to write a lengthier personal message. As noted, dating of the cards was allowed although only a minority were in fact dated.

Private First Class Ernest Serrano in Bilibid dated Fig 7, a **Type 3** card. It has an oval orange seal of Urabe. Serrano's health was shown as excellent – unlikely – and the 48-word message reports he had "Received packages and some letters". Ernest Serrano was in Cabanatuan when the camp was raided by American forces on 30th January 1945 and the POWs freed.



Fig 7 Card dated 26th April 1944 from Private First Class Ernest O Serrano, Philippine Military Prison Camp No 3, to Coyote, New Mexico.



Private Henry Ellis was in Camp 11 – Manila Port Camp – when he wrote this **Type 3** card. The card is unusual in as much as it is printed on brownish card rather more like **Types 1** and **2** than the yellow card usually used for **Type 3**. It was censored by Urabe in Bilibid with his oval orange seal.

David Tett's recently published book, "No Uncle Sam", the basis for this article, is Volume 5 of his series A POSTAL HISTORY OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES IN EAST ASIA DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR. VOLUME 5. THE PHILIPPINES AND TAIWAN 1942-1945. The book is available from the author at davidtett@aol.com or at PO Box 34 Wheathampstead Herts AL4 8LN.

The Archaeologist Abroad

Life Goes On—but War's Just Around the Corner; Unlike the Post

David Alford — with Cyprus consultant Robin Davis. *Paquebot information by Michael Lockton

Continuing the story from April 2010. A leisurely boat trip back was possible during the early “phony war” period.

Fig.1 shows an envelope posted on board a British ship at the 1½d inland letter rate, the purser of which handed the mail to the post office in Gibraltar on 28 Oct 1939. It should have received a Paquebot cancellation, but was cancelled by the usual machine postmark with an advertising slogan.*

Having stopped off in Egypt (**Fig. 2**), Peter and Elektra arrived back in Cyprus in November of 1939 and on 24 November wrote:

A short note to say we have received your letters today ... nearly a month old. It really is rather awful....

The news is rather nasty today, these mines are such a menace.

We were really lucky to get here when we did....

On 1 December 1939 Peter wrote:

Tomorrow I start an extra job... running what corresponds to the Ministry of Information... only temporary.... [but, see below]... only one letter from you since we came back ... communications except by cable and a chance air mail being still quite unspeakable.

As was normal in wartime, Cyprus introduced censorship of mail. **Figure 3** shows a type C2 censor, the numbers of which ranged from 1 to 42 (with one or two numbers still not yet recorded). The cover enclosed a Christmas card. It arrived just in time for New Year. Elektra states on 29 December that two letters from Belfast have arrived ...*last week dated 4th and 9th...* So it would appear it was taking around 10 days to get to Cyprus at this time. See **Table 1** for a list of times between Belfast and Cyprus.

At least there was some good news for Peter... *the rationing of petrol has been abolished...* but, he goes on ...*the general rise in prices is sufficient discouragement....*

The envelopes for the correspondence to Belfast in the 1940-41 period are mostly missing, [perhaps a consequence of wartime paper salvage] but the correspondence remains. Peter's letter of 2 February 1940 mentions letters sent on 20 January arriving ...*in record time, only 12 days. E had an Air-mail letter by the same mail ... posted London on the 15th!*

Elektra writes on 16 February: ... *p.s. P. has just come in to say that he is to be Public Information Officer again for the duration.*

Peter writes on the 8 March ...*The Ministry of mis-information has grown a good bit since I left in December.*

With the entry of Italy into the war on 10 June 1940, mail inevitably took longer. Elektra writes on 30 June: ... *It is four weeks since we have had mail from outside.... there is no mail out, & this is an act of faith....Air-mails are getting through...via Egypt, but it is desperately expensive. On 7 July Elektra states: No boat still, so we have had no news ... for over a month.*



Fig. 1. The GB inland letter rate used on board ship. A paquebot type should have been used



Fig. 2. Site Pass



Fig. 3. Shows the up to ½oz surface rate to the UK. Censored #10. Posted on the 15 December 1939, it arrived in Belfast on 30 December

3 March:

...as P was finishing your letter an alarm went... I dashed to the hospital [where Elektra was a volunteer] it was 3 in the afternoon & 109° in the shade, at least 120° in Reception ... false alarm. If the Italians come I hope they'll have the decency to come either in the early morning or evening....

20 September:

The missing mails are filtering in, having, we think arrived in France just at the worst possible moment & somehow got out again: the last one we had is June 6th: well over three months old but we have had yours of the end of July.... the letter continues under 27 October things seem to be hotting up considerably. We had our first real raid last Sunday.... P was so very busy... with the Press.... who really do behave like hooligans... for a story. [Sorry MLG].

30 November:

...The letters you sent via Cook, Egypt have not arrived....

17 January 1941:

.... we had a fine mail the other day about 5 weeks worth all in one.

9 February:

Our last job was drawing a post-mark for "Eat more Oranges" & and also posters of the same for the Orange campaign....

[Figure 5] This information appears to be previously unrecorded.

During this time, Elektra was increasingly concerned about the fate of her mother in Greece should the Italians invade.

The concern was appropriate. The Anglo-Greek defeat was rapid. The German invasion started on the 6th of April 1941 and by the 27th Athens was occupied and by the 11th of May the occupation of the Greek islands in the Aegean was complete. Elektra's mother was later confirmed safe.

According to the internet, [www.levantineheritage.com/testi21.htm] a Mr and Mrs de Jongh left Athens before it fell into German hands in 1941, in a convoy of three refugee ships, commandeered by the British embassy, which took three days to reach Egypt. Figure 6 appears to be a returned letter sent to Mrs de Jongh. It's endorsed *No Service* in blue manuscript on the reverse.



Fig. 5. The Eat More Oranges" was in fact a publicity handstamp



Fig. 4. Written from Episkopi on 2 Jan 1941 to Nicosia at the 1p local letter rate for a 1oz letter. Cancelled Nicosia 3 Jan 41 on arrival the next day



Fig. 6. Cover to Mrs de Jongh in Athens with Cyprus censor type C2 No.18 and on reverse Nicosia RLO together with manuscript "No Service"



Table 1. A list of approximate dates for arrival/despatch between Belfast and Cyprus and the reverse

Belfast (B) to Nicosia (N) A=airmail	Took(days)/arrived	Cyprus to Belfast	Arriv.	5 Apr 40	18 Apr 40
Arrival Nicosia (N) Mid Dec 39	around 10 days	17 Nov 39	16 Dec 39	25 Apr 40	9 May 40
Dispatch B 15 Feb 40	17 days A	24 Nov 39	15 Dec 39	3 May 40	22 May 40
Dispatch B 20 Feb 40	12 days	1 Dec 39	21 Dec 39	30 June 40	7 Oct 40
Dispatch B 17 Feb 40	18 days	9 Dec 39	21 Dec 39	7 July 40	7 Oct 40
Dispatch B 24 Feb 40	11 days	15 Dec 39	30 Dec 39	27 July 40	7 Oct 40
Arrival (N) late July 40	"7 or 8 weeks"	22 Dec 39	9 Jan 40	3 Aug 40	10 Oct 40
Arrival (N) 27 July 40	sent 18 May	29 Dec 39	9 Jan 40	16 Aug 40	8 Nov 40
Arrival (N) 27 July 40	sent 22 May	11 Jan 40	3 Feb 40	6 Sep 40	6 Nov 40
Arrival (N) 27 July 40	sent 25 May	2 Feb 40	17 Feb 40	20 Sep 40	18 Nov 40
Arrival (N) first week of July 40	sent 30 May	9 Feb 40	2 Mar 40	25 Oct 40	13 Jan 41
		16 Feb 40	4 Mar 40	15 Nov 40	7 Jan 41
		22 Feb 40	4 Mar 40	30 Nov 40	20 Jan 41
		8 Mar 40	30 Mar 40	27 Dec 40	11 Feb 41
		27 Mar 40	13 Apr 40		

Ocean Penny Post and the J.P.S.

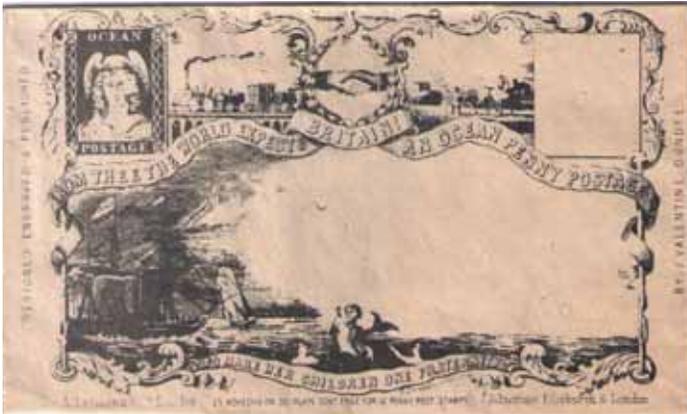
by David S.Potter

We all know that Fred J. Melville founded the Junior Philatelic Society in 1899, was a prolific philatelic author, and inaugurated *The Stamp Lover* in May 1908. He also wrote a series of articles entitled "The Penny Post" of 1680 and supported the campaign for international penny post, more than two centuries after the domestic penny post started. His work "A penny all the way" remains a philatelic classic.

The first independent 'Local London Penny Post' was run by **William Dockwra**, who resided in Lime Street in the mansion-house formerly occupied by Sir Robert Abdy (the chief office of the said Penny Post, and close to the present day Lloyds Building).

Dockwra instituted a system for indicating the time and date that the article was handed in at the receiving house, to ensure that it was not delayed. *"The Undertakers have provided the Stamps aforesaid to Mark the Hour of the Day on all Letters when sent out from their Office to be Delivered, and all Persons are to expect their Letters within one Hour....."* This Undertaking was judged by Sir George Jeffrys (the infamous Judge Jeffrys) on the 23rd November 1682 that such matters are under the Post-Master-General, established by Act of Parliament. Thus the Undertaking was taken in to the General Post Office and for a time Dockwra was employed to run his scheme which then was changed to the Twopenny Post.

The issue of Ocean Penny Postage was shown on a series of envelopes. The director of this propaganda, **Elihu Burritt**, United States Consular Agent in Birmingham, believed in cheap postage as a means to achieve peace and universal brotherhood. He believed that Penny Postage should be extended to overseas countries.



The long-sustained agitation for Imperial Penny Postage was at last brought to a definite issue at the Imperial Conference on Postal Rates in 1898. The *London Standard* of 13th July, 1898, stated :-

"We are authorised by the Postmaster-General to state that, as the result of the Imperial Conference on Postal Rates, it has been agreed, on the proposal of the Representative of the Dominion of Canada, that letter postage of one penny per half-ounce should be established between the United Kingdom, Canada, Newfoundland, the Cape Colony, Natal, and such of the Crown Colonies as may, after communication with, and approval of, Her Majesty's Government, be willing to adopt it. The date on which the reduction will come into effect will be announced later on. The question of a uniform reduced rate for the whole Empire was carefully considered; but it was not found possible to fix upon a rate acceptable to all the Governments concerned. A resolution was therefore adopted, leaving it to those parts of the Empire which were prepared for penny postage to make the necessary arrangements themselves."

The representative of Canada, their Postmaster General gave the chief credit for the reform to the British Empire League. The new rate came into force on Christmas Day, 1898, and it was not inappropriate that Canada, as prime mover in the matter, should celebrate the occasion by the issue of its famous map stamp, on which the British possessions are indicated in red.

Australia and New Zealand were still outside the Penny Postage scheme. In December, the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal were included, and New Zealand followed in January, 1901, whilst Australia, which had to avoid a number of anomalies connected with its inland rates, did not accept Imperial Penny Postage until April, 1905.

What the newspapers have styled the "Revolutionary Reform" of Penny Postage between Great Britain and the United States was introduced in a very quiet manner officially. The negotiations had been carried on without any publicity on either side of the Atlantic, and then came the announcement in the House of Commons in answer to a question which was not on the Order Paper, put by Sir William Holland, on June 3 1908:-

The question of Anglo-American Penny Postage (said Mr. Buxton) has been under the consideration of the Postmaster-General of the United States and myself. I am glad to be able to announce that I have now received a telegram from Mr. Meyer saying that he is prepared to accept the proposal I made to him for the establishment of Penny Postage between the two countries. Certain arrangements have to be made before the change comes into force, but on and after October 1st next the rate of letter postage to the United States will be the same as that to the Colonies, that is, a penny per ounce throughout the scale, instead of twopence halfpenny as at present.

Perhaps I may be allowed to express the confident belief that this reduction in the postal rates between the United Kingdom and the United States will, by greatly increasing the freedom of personal and commercial intercourse, not only further the many interests the two nations have in common, but also strengthen the mutual good feeling which happily exists between them.'

Following this announcement, Fred Melville organised the design and printing of an envelope for the members of the J.P.S. This was announced in the *Stamp Lover* Vol. 1 No. 5, October 1908.

The New Penny Postage Envelope

Adapting, in one sense, the idea of the old Ocean Penny Postage envelopes, an envelope has been designed and published by the Society to commemorate the introduction of Penny Postage between Great Britain and the United States. The design which is emblematic of various stages in the development of communication between the two countries, has been executed by **Mr. S. R. Turner**. The envelopes, which are of the large commercial size mostly used in trans-Atlantic business, are



printed from a carefully prepared copper block. Copies of the envelope will be supplied to members of the Society through the post, or under cover, for 1½d each, post free. Larger numbers, until the supply is exhausted, 7d per dozen, or 3/6 per hundred, carriage paid."

The design of the envelope in the lower section shows the names of the respective heads of state, being Edward VII and Roosevelt. Below them are Dockwra (William), known for his pioneering Penny Post in London (1680-1682), and Burritt (Elihu) who campaigned for 'Ocean Penny Post' under the banner of "League of Universal Brotherhood". Elihu Burritt

From The Post Office Circular:-

Penny Postage to and from the United States of America.

On and after the 1st of October next, the postage on letters from the United Kingdom for The United States of America will be one penny per ounce. This uniform rate of a penny an ounce will supersede the present rates of 2½d for the first ounce and 1½d for each additional ounce. On letters sent in the reverse direction the postage will be 2 cents per ounce instead of the present rates of 5 cents for the first ounce and 3 cents for each additional ounce. There will be no alteration in the rates of postage on post-cards, printed and commercial papers, and sample packets passing between the two countries. A Public Notice announcing the change is distributed with this Circular for exhibition.

Sydney R. Turner, designer of the envelope, appears to have been a most active member of the J.P.S. for he is mentioned in the first year of 'Stamp Lover' as having given three lectures/displays to meetings of the Society.

'London 16th May 1908:- Mr. S. R. Turner then showed a choice collection of line engraved English, which was much admired.'

'On Saturday, December 5th, the Society held the fifth ordinary meeting of the season at 17 Fleet Street, E.C .

Mr. Melville, in introducing Major Evans to the meeting, spoke of the deep interest he had taken in the Society from the first, and the kindly sympathy he had evinced in its early difficulties. He was going to-night to give us a display with notes, "Ocean Penny Postage Envelopes." Major Evans thanked the President for his kind words and said it gave him great pleasure to come amongst us. The envelopes he intended to show us were first designed about 60 years ago in connection with the "League of Universal Brotherhood." They were issued with the intention of stirring up public opinion to the numerous advantages that would accrue to commerce from an Ocean Penny Postage rate, and thus bringing about by popular feeling their much-desired reform. The majority of the envelopes were designed and printed by James Valentine of Dundee, and the designs are ingenious. Apparently, the "League of Universal Brotherhood" had other interests besides those of reform in postal rates

Mr. S. R. Turner then gave a display of "Old Letter Sheets prior to 1840," among which were some very nice things: the very interesting London 2d post was fully represented' and there were also a number of Colonial, Italian, and French covers."

(excerpt from *Stamp Lover* Vol. 1. Jan. 1908 p.202.)

Brighton Branch, at the Royal Hotel on March 25th 1909.

The chair was taken by Mr. W. Mead, who introduced to the meeting Mr. S. R. Turner and Mr. H. Lee, who had kindly come down from London.....Mr. Turner gave a display of a somewhat novel character, this being "The Imperforate Stamps of Europe." All the stamps were carefully written up and the display was much admired. Mr. Turner also showed some essays of a projected "Prince Imperial" issue of France prepared in 1869, which aroused much interest.'

Mr. S. R. Turner (and Mr. W. T. Turner) were elected in September 1907 to the Exhibition committee for the Imperial Stamp Exhibition held at the Caxton Hall on March 12th-14th 1908.

The Exhibition was opened by the **Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P. Postmaster General**. Friday 13th March. 'The event of the Exhibition took place on this day, when His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales (soon to be King George V), accompanied by his son, Prince Albert of Walesvisited Caxton Hall.

(from the Report of The Imperial Stamp Exhibition, 1908. S.L. Vol. I No.1 p.18)

"The Society is deeply indebted to the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, who has lately given a new proof of his interest in the Society. At the time the last issue of this journal went to press announcing the envelope we were not aware that the envelope was contrary to a regulation of the British Post Office, which prohibits the use of printing on the right hand half of the address side. A printer's proof having been submitted to Mr. Buxton, the breach of regulation was pointed out to the President of the Society, but in view of the particular circumstances of the case Mr. Buxton decided to allow the Penny Postage souvenir to be accepted for posting at any post office in the country.

Meanwhile we had, in deference to the complication which had arisen with the Post Office, decided to limit the edition of the envelopes to 6000 copies, and the newspapers made particular mention of the limitation. Originally it was only intended to use the envelope in sending greetings from the Society to American philatelists by the first U.S. penny mail to leave England. But the rush of the public, as a result of newspaper notices speedily monopolised the greater part of the edition. The envelope has been eagerly looked for in America, where the news of its issue had been cabled, and as we go to press numbers of U.S. newspapers containing reproductions of the design are being received.

On Saturday, October 17th, the copper block from which the envelopes were printed was formally defaced at a crowded meeting, the President using a graver specially procured for the occasion. As the most convincing evidence that it cannot be used again we include an impression from the defaced die in this issue. In all there have been taken the following impressions from the block in its undamaged state:

Engraver's proof	1	Proof on envelope,	12
Proofs on card*,	150	Envelopes,	6000

As our readers are aware, it was printed also in the October *Stamp Lover*. * Printed in black on Glazed card 10¼" x 8½" and about 1 mm thick.

(excerpt from *Stamp Lover* Vol. 1. Nov. pp.157-158.)

Philatelic Nothings.

The Envelope

So the J.P.S. has beaten all records by the publication of an envelope which already bids to outclass the Mulready in scarcity.

And it's even a commemorative. I was in the *Stamp Lover* - or, I should say, Mr. Johnson's office in Fleet Street - When the daily paper reading public stormed it to secure a souvenir of the Anglo-American Penny Postage. We had all sorts of visitors - of all nations. It was curious to note that nobody required the envelopes for themselves - but for their little boys - or nephews.

Its Purchasers

Most of the tales spun by the purchasers were also interesting. One old gentleman, all the way from Philadelphia, Pa., was quite affable. Both the Editor and Manager of *The Stamp Lover* were rude enough to forget to invite our American friend to take a seat. He, however, came round the counter and made himself at home, and told us how his ancestors crossed with the "Maypole." A lady told us that stamp-collecting was such a funny sort of hobby, and she could not see why people wasted their money on bits of paper. As she purchased six envelopes she was allowed to depart with same opinion."

(excerpt from *Stamp Lover* Vol. 1. Nov. p.154.)

Bibliography.

1. Melville Fred. J. 'A Penny All the Way' London 47 Strand W.C.
2. Melville Fred. J. Ed., 'The Stamp Lover' Vol. 1. June 1908 - May 1909.

To-day's Definitives and Postal Rates – Slovakia

by Peter Mellor

An occasional series looking at definitives currently in use and the postal service and rates for which they are intended.

Sixteen years after its separation from the Czech Republic and now a member of the European Union, Slovakia adopted the euro on 1 January 2009 and issued its first stamps denominated in the new currency – a €1 stamp marking the event on 1 January and a new definitive set of twelve stamps ranging from 1 cent to €2 on the following day. The definitive stamps are, in the writer's view, most attractive not least because they look as if time has been spent on their design as indeed it has. The graphic layout of the whole issue was the work of Peter Bil'ak of the Netherlands, an artist with Slovak origins, along with Peter Augustovič, a notable Slovak graphic artist, who co-ordinated the work of no less than seven graphic artists who were responsible for the individual stamps, together with four engravers. Common features of this set of definitive stamps include identical background shading, uniform layout format and the use of the Fedra font designed by Peter Bil'ak.

The main idea behind this first euro issue has been to present the Slovak cultural heritage through the emergence of Christianity in Slovakia and the stamps feature some lesser known but historically valuable churches (or features thereof) located throughout Slovakia, dating from the 9th to the 13th centuries. Including the € 1.33 value, which only appears in a miniature sheet, and a 60c value added in 2010, the set currently comprises:

28 November 2007 specifically stated that "postal stamps and stationeries (postal stationery covers, letter cards, stamps booklets, aerogrammes, pigeongrammes)" would not be subject to dual price quotation. Between 1 January and 31 December 2009 however, stamps and stationery denominated in Slovak crowns could still be used but were only on sale through the philatelic bureau; since 1 January 2010 however these are no longer valid for postage.

To allow for the changeover a "without nominal value" (NVI) definitive stamp for the 2nd class domestic rate (up to 100g) was issued on 6 March 2008 followed by a number of other



2 January 2009 Recess printed and photogravure 22 x 27mm P12		
<i>Designer</i>		
1c	<i>Chapel of St. Margaret, Kopčany. (9-10th cent)</i>	Peter Uchnár
2c	<i>Font in the Church of the Virgin Mary, Boldog</i>	Peter Augustovič
5c	<i>Rotunda of St. Margaret, Šivetice (13th cent)</i>	Igor Benca
10c	<i>St. John the Baptist, Pominovce (12th cent)</i>	Róbert Brun
20c	<i>Church in Svätušie (ca 13th cent)</i>	Arnold Feke
2 January 2009 Lithographed 27 x 34 mm P12		
33c	<i>Church of the Virgin Mary, Čierny Brod (13th cent)</i>	Peter Augustovič
66c	<i>Decorated portal, St. Egidius, Ilija (13th cent)</i>	Igor Benca
83c	<i>Wall painting, St. Stephen the King, Žilina-Závodie (13th cent)</i>	Róbert Brun
2 January 2009 Recess printed and photogravure 27 x 22mm P12		
50c	<i>Lion sculpture, St. Martin, Spišská Kapitula (ca 13th cent)</i>	Peter Uchnár
4 January 2010 Recess printed and photogravure 22 x 27mm P12		
60c	<i>14th century Cross in the church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Spišská Nová Ves</i>	Peter Augustovič
2 January 2009 Recess printed and photogravure 22 x 27mm P12		
€ 1	<i>Capital in the Church of the Virgin Mary, Bítňa (ca 13th cent)</i>	Karol Felix
€ 2	<i>St. Michael the Archangel, Dražovce (11th -13th cent)</i>	Karol Felix
2 January 2009 - Miniature Sheet – Recess-printed and litho.		
€ 1.33	<i>Church of the Holy Cross, Hamuliakovo (13th cent)</i>	Dušan Kállay

All values are printed by Poštovní tiskárna cenin a. s. Praha (Postal Printing Office, Prague), but notwithstanding the uniformity of design, there are differences in both size and the printing method used as between different the values. All the stamps have been printed in sheets of 100, except for the 33c, 66c and 83c which are in sheets of 50 and the € 1.33 which has only been issued in a miniature sheet.

Unlike many countries changing to the euro, Slovakia did not issue any dual currency stamps and a statute dated

special stamps for the main domestic rates. It was decided that the new euro definitives should comprise eight denominations corresponding to the euro coins and four "postal rate stamps" representing the most frequently used rates at that date – 33c (2nd class domestic letter up to 50g), 66c (1st class letter to Czech Republic up to 20g), 83c (2nd class domestic registered letter up to 50g) and €1.33 (1st class letter outside Europe up to 50g). Although following the same basic design it will be noted that the "coin stamps" and the €1.33 within the miniature sheet are slightly smaller than the others.

The present postal rates were introduced on 1 July 2009 and these are shown in the accompanying table. Interestingly the original values have remained on sale and only one new value has been added – a 60c stamp issued on 4 January 2010. No new stamps have been issued to replace the original "postal rate" stamps. There are therefore no longer definitive stamps for the basic 2nd class domestic rate (40c), the basic 1st class rate to the Czech Republic (now 90c for 50g), or the basic 1st class rate to Countries outside Europe (now reduced to €1.20 for 50g). Special stamps and miniature sheets have been issued in some of these rates and others not represented in the definitive set, e.g. €1.10 representing the 2nd class domestic letter up to 100g of 50c plus the 60c registration fee.



Slovakia has not had a definitive stamp for the 50g domestic 2nd class rate since this was increased to 40c on 1 July 2009 and instead uses special stamps. Since then these have comprised (left to right)
 - 2008 Children's stamp (re-printed) - Biennial Exhibition of Book Illustrations, Bratislava (14.8.09)
 - Christmas (11.11.09) - President of Slovak Republic (29.1.10)
 - Easter (26.2.10) - Personalities (Milan Hodža) (16.4.10)

The absence of a definitive stamp for the basic 2nd class domestic rate is particularly interesting. Having made enquiries it is understood that the 2nd class NVI Children's Stamp first issued in 2008 was re-printed at the time of the rate increase since when a succession of 40c or NVI special stamps have been issued. On this basis, it is understood that available stocks of the 2009 Christmas stamps will have remained on sale pending the release of the 40c stamp featuring President of Slovakia, Ivan Gasparovic on 29 January 2010; the writer wondered if this presidential stamp was regarded as a definitive but this is not the case.

As such Slovak practice makes an interesting contrast to Royal Mail policy in Britain where (apart from at Christmas) there are no 2nd class special or commemorative stamps.

Although Slovakia has issued NVI stamps and occasional booklet stamps, there are currently no definitive NVI or booklet stamps.

Present day Slovakia was settled by Slavs in the 6th century and was part of the Kingdom of Hungary from the 10th century to the 20th (1918). Following the Turkish invasions of the early 16th century, Slovakia was the only part of Hungary not under Ottoman rule and the Slovak capital Bratislava became the capital of "Royal Hungary" until 1786 when Buda was freed from Turkish control. Between 1526 and 1830, nineteen Hapsburg sovereigns were crowned Kings and Queens of Hungary in St. Martin's Cathedral in Bratislava. The end of World War I saw the formation of independent Czechoslovakia although various factors, including Slovakia's smaller population, militated against

the country being seen as an equal partnership of Czech and Slovak. This ultimately resulted in the "velvet divorce" and the amicable separation of Slovakia and the Czech Republic on 1 January 1993 and had been one factor in the formation of the Slovak puppet state (1939-45).

Postal developments reflect this history with stamps of the Austrian Empire being used from 1850, those of the Kingdom of Hungary from 1871, Czechoslovakia from 1918 and the state of Slovakia between 1939 and 1945.

Czechoslovakia joined the Universal Postal Union on 18 May 1920. Slovakia joined in its own right on 18 March 1993 and is also a member of PostEurop (Association of European Public Postal Operators) and CEPT (European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations).

The Slovak Post Office - Slovenská pošta – became a public limited company fully controlled by the State on 1 October 2004 and is financially independent of state subsidies. With its headquarters in the city of Banská Bystrica, some 215 miles from the capital, Bratislava, as at 31 December 2008 Slovenská pošta was serving the country's 5.4 million inhabitants through over 1,500 post offices, 3,375 post office counters and 6,797 post boxes! Domestic and international mail is classified and priced as first or second class but there are no separate rates for air and surface mail. Pricing in proportion does not currently apply.

During 2009 Slovakia issued a total of 30 stamps, including the definitives and miniature sheets, with a total face value of under £20.

With grateful thanks to Slovenská pošta, a. s. for assistance in the preparation of this article.

SLOVAKIA – POSTAL RATES with effect from 1 July 2009								
LETTERS	NATIONAL		CZECH REPUBLIC		EUROPE		OTHER COUNTRIES	
(including postcards and printed matter)	1st Class €	2nd Class €	1st Class €	2nd Class €	1st Class €	2nd Class €	1st Class €	2nd Class €
50g	0.60	0.40	0.90	0.80	1.00	0.90	1.20	1.00
100g	0.70	0.50	1.30	1.20	1.60	1.40	2.00	1.80
500g	0.80	0.60	3.00	2.20	4.20	2.80	6.00	5.00
1,000g	1.20	1.00	6.80	5.50	7.50	6.90	14.50	12.50
2,000g	2.20	2.00	11.50	9.00	13.00	11.00	27.00	25.00
Registration Fee	0.60	0.60	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30
Insurance up to €30		0.80	0.80					
Insurance up to €100			1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Insurance up to €250		1.10	n/a					

Battle of the Falklands *December 8th 1914*

by John Gray

The Falklands 1

When was the Battle of the Falklands? Put this question to any group of people and the answer from the majority would most likely be 1982 when Argentina invaded the islands, but in fact it was a naval battle fought off the islands on 8 December 1914. At the outbreak of WWI the German Asia squadron was based in Chinese waters under the command of Vice Admiral Graf Von Spee, whose flagship was the Battle Cruiser *Scharnhorst*, but they were forced to leave due to the British naval superiority in the Far East.

The *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* together with their supply ships sailed down the Pacific and were joined at Easter Island by the *Dresden*, which had been off the coast of Mexico, and the *Leipzig* and *Nürnberg* from Californian waters. With his squadron complete Von Spee continued sailing south and on 1 November 1914 at Coronel, off the coast of Chile, met and engaged a small British force, the obsolete cruisers *Monmouth* and *Good Hope*, which were sunk, the *Glasgow*, which although damaged escaped to the Falklands and the armed merchant cruiser *Otranto*, which also escaped. This victory provided great propaganda for the Germans who described it as "the most severe blow to British prestige for a hundred years."

After their victory the German squadron continued sailing down the west coast of South America with the intention of rounding Cape Horn and then destroying the wireless station and harbour at Port Stanley and loading on the coal stocks to enable them to reach Germany, but Graf Spee made two errors which were to prove fatal. Firstly he reduced speed to conserve coal, secondly when he encountered a British collier, the *Drumuir*, he removed the crew and spent 48 hours transferring its cargo to his ships before sinking it after which the German squadron sailed on to the Falklands arriving early morning on 8 December.

Meanwhile when news of the defeat at Coronel reached London the First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, immediately ordered a powerful naval force to the South Atlantic under the command of Vice Admiral Doveton Sturdee, who was at the time Chief of War Staff. The British force consisted of

Sturdee's flagship *Inflexible* also *Invincible*, *Carnarvon*, *Cornwall*, *Kent*, *Bristol* and the armed merchant cruiser *Macedonia*. They reached Port Stanley on 7 December where they were joined by the *Glasgow* and the old battleship *Canopus*, which was beached at the back of the harbour. On arrival the British ships immediately began coaling and by morning this was almost completed and when lookouts sighted the German ships they

were ready for action. Graf Spee was surprised to find such a large British force but it was too late to withdraw and at 9.20am *Canopus* fired the first salvo of the battle. After the battle lasting many hours all the German ships, except the *Dresden*, had been sunk and over 2000 men lost, including Graf Spee and his two sons, less than 200 were saved by the British whose casualties were 10. Although the *Dresden* escaped from the battle after a three month search she was found in the Chilean islands of Juan Fernandez and was scuttled when challenged by the *Glasgow*, *Kent* and *Orama*, the crew were interned in Chile. In the Falklands 8 December is a public holiday and celebrated as Battle Day with religious services and social events. A battle memorial subscribed for by the islanders, the Falkland Island Company and other interested parties was unveiled at Port Stanley on 26 February



1927, it has appeared on several stamps including the 2/- in the 1964 50th anniversary set, which also includes the "Glasgow" error, when a sheet was printed with the *Glasgow* from the 2½d value on the 6d instead of the *Kent*.

As will be seen in Hugh Osborne's piece later, mint copies of the error occasionally come up at auction and sell for well in excess of £10,000, no used copies have been found.

Postcards of the British warships involved are not difficult to find, Germany also issued a number of fine cards, some with patriotic verses, cards depicting artists impressions of the battle were produced in Britain, Germany and France.

I find this a most interesting "sideline" collection and my membership of the Falkland Islands Philatelic Study Group has proved invaluable and in particular I wish to acknowledge the help of Frank Mitchell and John Shaw.

The Falklands 2

The 6d HMS Glasgow Error

by HA Osborne

It must be noteworthy that no less than 5 copies of the classic rarity of QE II Falklands - 6d HMS *Glasgow* variety have been offered for sale by auction by Sotheby's, and by Spink within a month of each other. I quote from the Sotheby's catalogue prepared for the Sir Gawaine Baillie sale:

The footnote in Stanley Gibbons' catalogue confirms that this variety comes from a single sheet of 60 and that although there have been reports of 17 stamps with the error, it is believed that some of these may refer to the same stamp.

As the first reports of this variety were from sources in America, it is logical to conclude that the sheet with the variety was probably distributed through the Crown Agents office to Washington. The stark reality is that upwards of 45 copies of this great twentieth century rarity are lying, apparently undetected, in stamp collections in the United States.

For reference

Sotheby's Auction – 16-18 February 2005: Lot 1490 Est £ 15-20,000
[Position – non marginal]

Spink Auction 5023 – 9 March 2005: Lot 619 Est £10-12,000
[Position R10/3 – part imprint in bottom margin]

Lot 620 Est £8-10,000 [Position – non marginal]

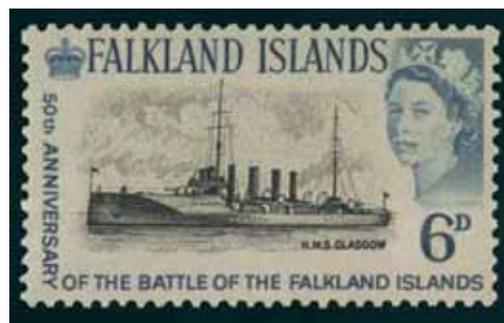
Lot 621 Est £7-9,000 [Position – non marginal]

Lot 622 Est £6-8,000 [Position – non marginal]

Examination of the various photographs would suggest that it might be possible to assign sheet positions by the variability in the vertical gap between the top of HMS Glasgow's foremast (vignette) and the bottom of D in Falkland of the frame plate and the horizontal relationship between the mast and the vertical of the 'D'. To make any serious progress another known position copy would be required – this would enable the decision that the vignette was either sloping upwards or downwards as you move across the sheet from left to right.

For example, the mast top is close to the D and to left so, Lot 620 would therefore come probably from the beginning or end of the row, depending on the tilt being down or upwards, and from the top few rows.

Footnote: Hugh Osborne is chairman of the Falkland Islands Philatelic Study Group which was founded in 1970 and now numbers 500 members worldwide. It fosters the philately of Falklands material, research, publications, brings together members, and offers auctions for members worldwide and a packet for GB members.



1490 enlarged



Lot 1490



621



622

Lot 621 and 622



619



620

Lot 619 and 620

British Empire Civil Censorship Devices in WWII

Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands
 Author: John Little. Pub. Civil Censorship Study Group
 (2008). Pp. 179. Illustrated in colour. Spiral bound.
 ISBN: 978-0-9517444-5-1. Available from John Little,
 34 Widney Lane, Solihull, B91 3LS. Price: UK: £23.50,
 Europe £26 and Beyond Europe: £28.60.

This book is the fifth part of the Civil Censorship Society's series of publications about WWII British Empire Censorship. It has taken at least 10 years to come to fruition. The first 100 pages cover Australia with other Pacific areas following.

The complexities of some areas are considerable, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands have 23 pages devoted to them. This includes details of the censors who were appointed after the Japanese had been defeated and the islands retaken with reproductions of the official notifications of their appointment. There is also detail of the handstamps used with their dates.

The New Zealand section has been contributed by Robin Startup and is, as expected, an admirable account of the subject. It includes a complete listing of the allocation of Censor Handstamps and the PC.90 labels. This is no mean feat as official records have not survived.

Although John Little is listed as author, he has undertaken a more difficult role with this book: that of co-ordinating Editor. The use that he has made of experts on particular areas to supplement his knowledge and collection has resulted in an authoritative book which accurately reflects the state of knowledge at present. One hopes that this book will stimulate collectors to look in their shoe boxes and that further discoveries will come to light.

The book is well produced: the illustrations of covers are in colour and also give an indication of their ownership. Illustrations of handstamps are in black and are clear and well presented.

Review by Andrew Dove.

Stanley Gibbons Collect British Stamps, 61st edition 2010

xlvi + 200pp, 170x240mm. ISBN-13 978-0-85259-736-1; ISBN-10 0-85259-736-6. Price £12.95.

With an eye firmly fixed on the London 2010 market, the SG editorial team have spared no effort to make this reliable best-seller (over four million copies sold since the first edition of 1967) even better value than before. Rush to check your favourite prices, of course, but don't neglect the thoughtful and extensive (48-page) introduction: it includes four helpful pages for beginners on collecting stamps, a note on stamp pricing policy (likewise aimed at beginners, but a handy reminder for many others of us, too), an excellent piece on the history of the Machin design, a glossary, and an important note on stamp numbering policy easily overlooked by those collectors never slow to complain to SG about this very feature. We are warned to expect listings of current definitives to be overhauled and renumbered every five years or so: this may be irritating but is never done for fun (editor Hugh Jefferies *et al* doubtless have a million other demands on their time), and here we can read why.

As regular users of 'CBS' will know, this catalogue lists every face-different GB stamp: this includes all QV plate-numbers shown in the design, but excludes things like Penny Black plates (only distinguishable by experts with a copy of Nissen to hand). It mentions the recent Machin iridescent ROYAL MAIL security overprint but not - as yet - its top-right-corner variants MBIL, MTIL, MSIL and MRIL (these are not valuable errors, beginners should perhaps be told). It lists

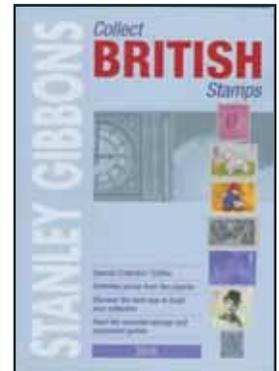
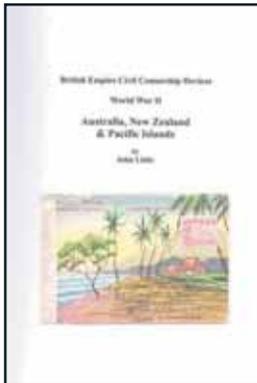
changes of watermark, perf, phosphor band and printing process (still not easy to distinguish on some Machins, I find, despite SG's helpful enlargements). It excludes shades, errors, postal stationery and booklets, but includes postage dues, officials, regionals, pre-independent Channel Islands, FDCs (all commems from 1924, and defins from 1936 excluding Regionals), presentation packs, year packs, year books, gutter pairs, PHQs, FRAMAs, - and even philatelic, numismatic and philatelic medallion covers (none of them priced at less than £20: who buys them, I wonder?). New issues are complete to Christmas 2009, and every issue is illustrated in full colour.

Two columns of check-boxes are provided for registering your holdings, mint and used - vitally helpful when seeking out your wants at stamp fairs. Post-1936 mint prices are for unmounted: amateur vendors should note SG's comment (which should perhaps be printed in bold 92-point type if not forcibly tattooed on every collector's forearm) that "modern stamps with hinge marks should be substantially discounted." Similar sternness applies to the pricing of used, which, post-1880, refer only to "clean, clear, circular datestamps" - thereby excluding not only most of the QV on the market but many of the latest QE too, disfigured as most of them are by messy inkjet cancellations plus those horrible non-removable rows of orange lines from automatic sorting. (Pale blue dots from the 1980s are similarly stubborn, but take heart: the post-blue-dot but pre-orange-line automation marks in pink sometimes wash off successfully if the stamp bearing them is totally immersed rather than just floated on water.)

Prices, as ever, should generate heated debate along the usual "too high/low" lines. Dealers will have far more informed insights than I do, but some low prices are salutary for everyone, particularly those high-flyers of the recent past: 1975 Sailing (the whole set, not just the almost unobtainable-at-time-of-issue 12p), only 50p UM; 1978 Year of the Child FDC (likewise wickedly hard to create, due to a postal strike) only £1.50; 1961 CEPT (much sought-after at the time, especially the almost-never-seen higher values, used) now just 40p UM, 60p U. 'CBS' buyers will rush to check more recent headline items for themselves: the Welsh Diana pack of 1997, the 1999 Timekeeper, Eclipse and 2000 Queen Mother MSS, the 2001 self-adhesive Submarines and Flags, the 2002 Bridges presentation pack... I won't steal SG's thunder here, just buy this book for yourselves and look them up. Prices for recent used are worth debating at much greater length than I have time for here, particularly those letter-rate Christmas commems priced higher than some near-contemporary issues that saw far less usage. The used Scotland 7[1/2]p(S25), Machin 60p (Y 1758) and Europe/Worldwide (2357a-9) seem much too low (grab these where you can), while the Machin £1 violet (Y 1725), Millennium 1st (2124/a) and, absurdly, the common-as-muck current 1st (gold) and 2nd (blue) NVIs are far too high. One could also argue that - given they fetch only about 10p each, if anything, at local auctions - many commem FDCs could be priced right down, as could most (now hugely unpopular) PHQ cards.

Finally, what I hope is a constructive suggestion for the next edition. It would be most helpful - particularly for the perhaps less experienced collector at which 'CBS' is aimed - if SG could illustrate a couple of rows of stamps showing comparative used condition, from 'sound' (or even 'unacceptable') through to 'superb', along those so-helpful lines already shown in other volumes, like Part 1. QV could range from killer-cancelled (and colour-washed!) through to light CDS - and recent QE, from ink-jetted orange-lined wrecks via parcel and wavy-line cancels through to those beaded-CDS lovelies only found on registered mail - and slotting in, wherever SG thinks they are worth on the scale (between 'rubbish' and 'marvellous'), stamps unmistakably soaked off modern FDCs. I wonder what our members usually pay for these?

Michael Round



Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, Part 8, Italy & Switzerland, 7th edition 2010

xiv+476pp, 170x240mm. ISBN-13 978-0-85259-718-7;
ISBN-10 0-85259-718-5. Price £42.50.

Six years on from the last edition, this new Part 8 will be gleefully seized on by collectors of either country. (Does anyone collect both in depth, I wonder?) The Contents page is buried on page vi rather than on the infinitely handier (and currently blank) inside front cover, but is most welcome nevertheless: you'd scarcely ever find places like Benadir, Campione or Tripolitania otherwise. It confirms the inclusion of – besides the two main countries – Italian States, plus, on the Italian side, Trentino et al, Castelrosso, Trieste, Venezia Giulia, Colonies, and Turkish PO's, San Marino (now with a design index) and Vatican – and, for the first time, Lombardy and Venetia. The Swiss component includes, of course, Liechtenstein (also blessed with a design index), the various international organisations (now including, did you know, stamps for the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Olympic Committee?) and the United Nations issues for use at Geneva HQ. Libya runs to 1941, Somalia to April 1960; for completeness, Cyrenaica could perhaps have repeated here the 1950 set listed in Part 1.

New issues are complete to May 2009 (Italy and Liechtenstein to June). Scope includes booklets, FRAMAs and the Swiss postcard stamps, but not the inverted/reversed watermarks (nor the different sizes of Coin of Syracuse watermark) in which Italy is fruitful and collectable. Most illustrations (with not always predictable exceptions) are in full colour, a boon to busy collectors handling modern issues and most easy on the eye of the browser.

Prices have been thoroughly revised, many Italian high-flyers more than doubling in price since as recently as 2008 (*Stamps of the World*) – Manzoni 5L (SG 160), up to £750/£2,750 from £350/£650; Transatlantic 7L70 (SG 303), formerly £300/£850, now £750/£1,400. Top Switzerland also rise, but less spectacularly. The best of Italy's ugly 1978-87 'Mila' definitives, the 20,000L (SG 1584) has moved from £750/£6 to £30(!)/£4.50. More surprising to me, and more relevant to mere mortals among us, are those difficult values too low for any realistic postal use and therefore practically unobtainable postmarked without connivance, like Italy's 1L and 6L Coin of Syracuse definitives (SG 887/9, 1202/4) and the similar Michelangelo 1L (SG 1034). These have actually gone down from their token used mark-ups of 2008 (20p or 30p then, 10p now). They can't possibly have got commoner: maybe no-one (except me) now wants them. Grab them whenever seen.

The evil Swiss 3c of 1949 (SG 510) which not one used collection in a thousand has, moves up M not U, surprisingly: £3.75 is cheap for this with correct postmark. Those highly elusive used definitives we (or our fathers) shed blood for in the 1960s, the Postal-History-and-Monuments 1f30, 1f70, 2f20 and 2f80 (SG 632-5), are priced very modestly these days: maybe the intervening 45 years have simply unearthed and distributed the supply. Ultra-low values from San Marino, packet material for youngsters of the 1950s-70s, are respectably marked up used, however. As I recall from a fleeting visit to the place in 1972 (most memorable for the half-hour approach bus-ride from Rimini, up a 1-in-4 gradient with hairpin bends), most supplies came from picture postcards, ready-stamped with whole ranges of them for tourists to post. (The sound of vigorous postmarking in action, issuing from the sorting office window, resounded round the square like machine-gun fire, and looked like the speeded-up film of an assembly-line.)

Comparison of Trieste (Zone A) with the unoverprinted Italian equivalents reminds me of the market for GB overprints: presumably, reduced demand often (though not invariably) pushes prices far below what their true scarcity surely deserves. Used Italian Colonies, given their real rarity compared to, say, French Colonies, strike me as underpriced: supply and demand again, I suppose. And in a facetious moment I did wonder if the Swiss 'Chocolate' stamp (SG 1478) was priced as for "unsniiffed" and "lightly nibbled". Apologies for the silliness, and don't wince at the cover price (still cheaper per page than illegal black-and-white photocopying, as if anyone would dare) – just snap up this handsome ('Concise'-format) volume while hard-copy catalogues still exist, and prepare for hours of enjoyable browsing or serious study, whatever your preference.

Michael Round

Aberdeen Philatelic Society 1910-2010

A History of Philately in Northeast Scotland

Jeffrey C. Stone

Published by the society, 165pp, ISBN 978-0-9509891-1-2
Price £12.00 (+ £1.50 P&P)

Chelmsford & District Philatelic Society, 90th Anniversary 1919-2009

Published by the society, 49pp, £2.00

Here is "compare and contrast" material recalling old schooldays: two printed histories of enviably long-established philatelic societies, Chelmsford's in a modest A4 card cover, Aberdeen's a Lottery-funded and sturdy A5 volume complete with ISBN and title on the spine. Both books are self-published by the societies, and copies may presumably be had direct, though neither book seems to offer potential buyers a contact address.

Readers fearing dull recitals of constitutions, officers, members and long-gone displays should be reassured: both histories, in their contrasted ways, have been carefully compiled to entertain us all. Chelmsford's verbatim reminiscences are cosily familiar, the list of books published by its members impressive, and archives have been carefully mined. The privations of wartime (and just after) are brought vividly to life: during the blackout, indeed, meetings were timed as closely as possible to the full moon, to give members at least some guaranteed light by which to find their way home. The absence of a flint-eyed professional editor to the assembled contributions helps maintain a comforting and homely feel, though members may wince on seeing their library described as "a major sauce [*sic*] of inspiration"! Illustrations include philatelic items (souvenir covers and so on) relevant to society affairs.

Aberdeen's history fills 19 chapters, and rings many familiar bells, like choosing a meeting-place, the best way to display items there (and where on earth to store the stands between times), the maintenance of forgery and other society-owned collections, and the running of exchange packet and auction (with the concomitant problems of finding volunteers and maintaining security) – and we will all sigh *pro rata* over the good old days of 1951, when the membership figure stood at an astonishing 310. Chelmsford's wartime travails are matched by Aberdeen's regular battles with bad weather. The range and presentation of text and illustrations are comfortably what you would expect from a volume costing six times as much as the other.

These are not just entertaining reads. None of us is getting any younger, and here are perfect templates on which any of us could base records of our own society histories, preferably without delay. The philatelic society is a valuable part of local history, and its activities should not be lost to posterity as its members' memories begin to fade.

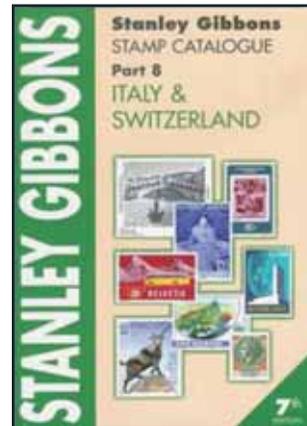
Michael Round

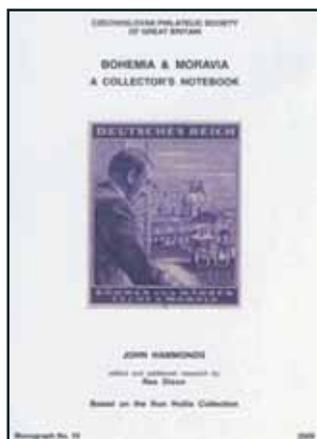
Bohemia & Moravia, A Collector's Notebook

John Hammonds

Edited and with additional research by Rex Dixon
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Monograph
No 19, 2009
ISBN 978-0-9536555-6-4, 76pp

To paraphrase Chamberlain, this is a far-off country of which many non-specialists know little. Most collectors' memories start, and end, with the cheap engraved German-inscribed pictorials found in junior collections and beginners' packets: the story behind them is one of the blackest periods in





Czech history. Its wartime postal activities, hitherto recorded piecemeal in specialist journals, are now brought together in this most readable monograph. Compliments are due to all contributors.

There is much here for anyone even remotely interested in World War II. Czechoslovakia was created in 1918 from the break-up of the Austro-Hungarian empire, its component parts (Bohemia, Austrian Silesia, Moravia, Slovakia and – a year later – Ruthenia) being jammed together regardless of the inhabitants' ethnic

origin (a circumstance also very familiar to collectors of, say, colonial Africa: think of Nigeria, Sudan, Congo, Rwanda...). German-speaking Sudetenland demanded priority within the country, prompting Hitler to exploit the area as a step towards wholesale invasion. It was duly occupied on 1 October 1938, 700,000 Czechs being displaced in the process. Czech president Benes resigned four days later, Slovakia was forced to declare independence or risk being partitioned between Germany, Hungary and Poland - and now-isolated Bohemia & Moravia became a protectorate on 16 March 1939. The occupation lasted six years.

The 19 chapters of this book cover everything from the initial picture postcards welcoming [sic] Hitler into the place, through field posts, currency control moves, Railway TPOs, children's evacuation camp cachets (sorry, Despatch to the Countryside – the word 'evacuation' was forbidden), Hitler's birthday commemorations, a surprisingly long chapter on the Penny Black Centenary celebrations of 1940, then slogan postmarks, propaganda cachets, postal rates (excluding airmail and parcels) and a colossal list of B&M post offices (plus a useful glossary) with German/Czech-spelling cross-references. Ian Nutley contributes a valuable chapter on Theresienstadt.

The German Victory [*sic*, again] campaign from 1941 recalls the 'Futsches Reich'. Ever vigilant for propaganda opportunities, the Nazis appropriated the Allied V-sign for their own use – hard to do, given that the German word for victory (Sieg) didn't even start with the right letter of the alphabet. Climbdown and lampoon followed: following defeats in North Africa the slogan 'Germany is winning (sieg) on all fronts' was rapidly changed to 'winning in Europe', and posters were soon defaced by changing 'sieg (is winning)' into 'liegt (is lying)'.

Collectors of straight stamps may feel there is little for them – but lovers of odd sheet make-up should note that the pictorial high values, possibly uniquely in philately, were of 112 units. A little-known Resistance propaganda story (not in this monograph) about the lower values parallels the secret messages famously woven into the Channel Islands wartime pictorials, and is worth repeating (see the French magazine 'Timbroloisirs', issue no. 46, Jan-Feb 1993, pp 43-5 plus the outside front cover, for a fuller account). Selected values of the innocuous-looking 1939 scenery definitives will, if tilted hither and yon and partially overlapped, reveal, amid the clouds and foreground shading, the unmistakable outline of pre-partitioned Czechoslovakia. The jigsaw looks contrived – but it's certain that any more obvious gesture of defiance would have sent designer Vonfrous and engraver Heine straight to the firing-squad. One wonders how the message was made known to patriotic Czechs but not collaborators. The face-values concerned are, from left to right, the 40h, 50h, 1k and 60h (SG 25-28). More subtly still, possibly, are the white-outline portraits of ousted presidents Masaryk and Benes (plus General Milan) discernible at lower centre of the same 50h. The letters 'D', 'r' and 'B' (for Dr Benes) are also supposed to be scattered among the designs, but to see them all requires more imagination than I have.

Purely philatelically, notice the rare Heydrich death-mask miniature sheet of 1943 (its historical background is all here, too). Each sheet was individually numbered: facsimiles exist, all bearing the same number, 448. Caveat eBayum emptor!

Michael Round

Railway Disaster Mail by Robin Gwynn^{FRPSL} and Norman Hoggarth^{FRPNZ} 322pp.

Published by The Stuart Rossiter Trust . £65 (+ post)
(special reduced price before May 31) Available from:
Richard Wheatley, 7 Manor Croft, LEEDS LS15 9BW email:
arewhyuu@talktalk.net

According to its introduction, the purpose of this publication is to "open a doorway for collectors wishing to pursue a branch of postal history to which until now there has been no printed guide". The first printed work on disaster mail appeared in 1932, but its author Gaston Tournier devoted only a few of pages to mail salvaged from train wrecks. A later work, Adrian Hopkins, *History of Wreck Covers* (1970) devoted some two dozen pages to train wrecks.

This new work is indeed comprehensive. It lists postal history from 34 different countries, and disasters between 1850 and 1995, covering 528 different events. No wonder it runs to well illustrated 322 pages,



It should enjoy far wider appeal than simply railway mail specialists. It appeals to anyone interested in postal history, thanks to the way it is organised. It is not a catalogue as such, there are no prices, but it should prove an invaluable aid to identifying postal history items with a railway disaster connection. Identification is facilitated by the listing of disasters chronologically with illustrations of specimens of wreck mail.

United States postal history is well represented, particularly in Chapter One which covers the period 1850 to 1900 and also with regard to train robbery which was not infrequent in the 19th century. The very first event listed is a reference to "a theft from a mail train" near Philadelphia on October 12 1850. No actual covers are known from the robbery but there exists "ambulance covers" provided by the post authority to enclose the damaged mail. Their cachets do not refer to a train robbery, just to the letter being "robbed at Philadelphia October 12" but contemporary newspaper cuttings make it clear the theft was a train robbery.

The 1879 Tay Bridge disaster receives extensive coverage, illustrated with covers bearing handwritten messages as to how they were recovered.

Chapter Two 1900-1909, explains that the earliest rail disaster mail encountered outside North America or Europe relates to Second Boer War 1899-1902, and explains the importance of railways during that war. Chapter 3, 1910 to 1919, begins with an account of a massive avalanche on March 1 1910 in Washington State USA.

Subsequent chapters take the story to 1995. The final chapter includes mail carried on a train from Glasgow to England on 12 Feb 1993 which suffered fire started by vandals. The Post Office sent letters of apology and explanation to customers. The very last event described was on March 18 1995 when a train near Wijne, Netherlands, suffered a fire.

The volume is a well produced, robustly bound, hardback and this is reflected in the price. It will deserve a place on the bookshelves of serious postal history collectors who cover railway related subjects. It will also provide useful reference for some auctioneers and dealers, but its main market will be philatelic libraries, where I expect it will be borrowed regularly as a work of reference. Perhaps the publishers could produce a cheaper alternative version in paperback or CD, which might broaden its appeal to personal collectors.

Michael L. Goodman

Checklist of Articles in British Philatelic Press

by John Hammonds

No. 58: Articles in Magazines dated July - December 2009

- BPB** *BRITISH PHILATELIC BULLETIN*, Royal Mail, 35-50 Rathbone Place, London W1T 1HQ, Monthly. Ed. John Holman.
- GSM** *GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY*, Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 7 Parkside, Ringwood, Hants BH24 3SH, Monthly. Ed. Hugh Jefferies.
- LP** *THE LONDON PHILATELIST*, Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY. Ten issues pa. Ed. Frank Walton
- GREAT BRITAIN**
- QV** 3d Telegraph Stamp (R Sirot) *SM Sep p69*
- KGV** De La Rue 2/6 Seahorse Shades (B Kearsley) *GSM Nov p42*
- QEII** Commemoratives 75 Most Spectacular (J Dugdale) *SM Nov p60, Dec p60*
- Colour & Perforation Shifts (R Please) *SM Sep p70*
- Classic Album Covers *BPB Nov p80*
- Eminent Britons *BPB Jul p336*
- Fire & Rescue Issue (R West) *BPB Aug p378*
- Girlguiding *BPB Dec p112*
- Investiture of Prince of Wales (R West) *BPB Jul p333*
- Olympic & Paralympic Issue *BPB Oct p48*
- 2009 Christmas Issue *BPB Aug p368*
- Review of 2009 Issues (R West) *BPB Dec p110*
- Mainly Machins (D Myall) *BPB Sep p20, Oct p57*
- Machin Watch (J.H Deering) *GSM Jul p40, Aug p29, Sep p47, Oct p45, Nov p53, Dec p43*
- Wilding Castles Printing & Plate Numbering (P Shaw) *GSM Pt1 Jul p49 Pt2 Sep p41, Pt 3 Oct p39, Pt 4 Nov p36*
- MISCELLANEOUS**
- Air Meetings 1909-1910 (N Watson) *SM Dec p48*
- Bath Postal Museum (I Holliday) *GSM Oct p112*
- British Air Letters (C Baker) *BPB Sep p16, Pt2 Oct p45, Pt 3 Nov p82, Pt4 BPB Dec p116*
- 1969 Round Britain Race (K Lewis) *SM Aug p48*
- Centenary Philatelic Congress (C Searle) *GSM Dec p96, (R West) BPB Sep p22*
- Denominations and Colour (D Wright) *SM Sep p42*
- Downstream Access Mail (D.P James) *SL Oct p117*
- Edinburgh Brunswick Star Cancellations (R Morton) *LP Oct p300, Dec p375*
- Ffestiniog Railway Letter Service (P Johnson) *BPB Jul p344*
- HM Revenue & Customs Stamp Office Archive (M Tanner) *LP Dec p402*
- Jubilee International Stamp Exhibition (M Robinson) *BPB Sep p25*
- Philatelic Congress of GB 1909-2009 (M Robinson) *BPB Jul p345*
- Post Boxes (M Robinson) *BPB Aug p370, Sep p27, Nov p78*
- Postbus Services (M Robinson) *BPB Aug p375*
- Postcodes 1959 (S May) *SM Nov p52, (R West) BPB Oct p53*
- Addition of Phosphor to Stamps (R West) *BPB Nov p89*
- Printing 1950's Castle Stamps *BPB Sep p26*
- Privately Printed Stamps (M Wallace) *SM Dec p72*
- 75 years of GB Stamps by Photogravure (G.H Morgan) *BPB Aug p364*
- Postal Stationery, Postal Labels & postmarks (J Holman) *GSM Aug p45, Nov p47*
- Telegraphs & Telegrams (C Baker) *GSM Dec p48*
- Royal Mail**
- Postcards (D Staddon) *SM Jul p48*
- Posters 1930-60 *SM Nov p66*
- Used Abroad**
- Caribbean & South America (R Richardson) *SM Jul p70*
- REST OF WORLD**
- Aden**
- First Stamps (J Winchester) *SM Sep p49*
- Auckland Island**
- Postal History (S Pendleton) *GSM Dec p72*
- Australia
- Unissued Edward VIII Stamps (Lord Vesty & J Michael) *LP July p202*
- Bermuda**
- Postmarks King George VI (D Horry) *GSM Aug p76*
- British Commonwealth**
- Edward VIII Colonial Design (R Garcia) *LP Sep p264*
- Errors (T Pierron Collection) *SM Dec p54*
- 1959 Commemoratives (P van Gelder) *GSM Jul p72*
- War Tax Overprinted Stamps (J Davis) *GSM Sep p60*
- Development of Pictorial Definitive Stamps to 1936 (N Davenhill) *GSM Dec p59*
- British Indian Ocean Territory**
- Endangered Seascape Issue (R Taylor) *GSM Nov p101*
- British Solomon Islands**
- War Canoes (J Winchester) *SM Aug p45*
- British West Indies**
- Maritime Postmarks (D Horry) *Pt1 GSM Sep p93, Pt2 Oct p63, Pt 3 Nov p93, Pt 4 Dec p77*
- Canada**
- St Lawrence Seaway (A Keppel) *SM Jul p56*
- United Empire Loyalists (P van Gelder) *SM Aug p68*
- Ceylon**
- First Issue (J Winchester) *SM Nov p121*
- Tamil Influence on Post Offices (D Horry) *GSM Jul p61*
- Channel Islands**
- Jersey & Guernsey 1969-2009 (R West) *SM Nov p44*
- China**
- Post Office in WWI (R Johnson) *LP Sep p295*
- Colombia**
- First postage Stamp (D Bortfeldt) *LP Sep p251*
- Congo**
- The Hertwig & Manduau Labels 1883-84 (P Maselis) *LP Nov p352*
- Costa Rica**
- Fantasy Overprints on Reminders (J Winchester) *SM Sep p121*
- Crete**
- Last Issues (A Keppel) *SM Sep p52*
- Cyprus**
- Postal History (D Alford) *SL Dec p150*
- Denmark**
- "Wavy Lines" Issue (A Keppel) *SM Nov p59*
- Europe**
- Telegraph Stamps (S Hiscocks) *GSM Jul p65*
- Falkland Islands**
- 1933 Centenary Issue (J Winchester) *SM Dec p47*
- 1938 Pictorial issue (T Belfield) *LP Jul p204*
- Fiji**
- Stamps & Postal History (D Alford) *SL Aug p100*
- France**
- Sarah Bernhardt Stamp Designer (J Winchester) *SM Oct p161*
- French Colonies**
- Imperial Eagles (J Winchester) *SM Aug p38*
- Gambia**
- Proposed 1959 Royal Visit Issue (J Martin) *LP Dec p374*
- German East Africa**
- Postcard to Mozambique (A Drysdall) *LP Sep p246*
- Gibraltar**
- Joint Stamp Issue with Vatican City (P Jennings) *GSM Dec p110*
- Guernsey**
- Guernsey Post's 40th Anniversary (C Morvan) *SM Oct p68*
- Guernsey Postal History (D Gurney) *GSM Oct p73*
- Guernsey External Post during German Occupation 1940-45 (D Gurney) *GSM Oct p78*
- Guernsey Stamps (D Gurney) *GSM Oct p83*
- Hungary**
- Metal Industries International Congress 1955 (J Winchester) *SM Jul p121*
- Iraq**
- Baghdad British Occupation Stamps of 1917 (F Khalastchy) *GSM Sep p67*
- "Save Palestine" Stamps (F Khalastchy) *GSM Dec p85*
- Israel**
- Visit of Pope Benedict (P Jennings) *GSM Aug p81*
- Jamaica**
- 1921 End of Slavery Stamps (R Sirot) *SM Jul p67*
- Japan**
- Steam Engines on Stamps (N Pertwee) *GSM Jul p80*
- Jersey**
- Jersey Post's 40th Anniversary (C Morvan) *GSM Nov p60*
- Postal History (D Gurney) *GSM Nov p63*
- 40 Years of Postal Independence (D Gurney) *GSM Nov p71*
- SL** *STAMP LOVER*, National Philatelic Society, c/o The British Postal Museum & Archive, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL Alternate Months. Ed. M.L Goodman
- SM** *STAMP MAGAZINE*, IPC Media, Leon House, 233 High Street, Croydon CR9 1HZ, Monthly. Ed. Guy Thomas.
- Post During German Occupation (D Gurney) *GSM Nov p75*
- Kamerun**
- French Equatorial Border Survey of 1911-1913 (J Yeomans) *SL Dec p152*
- Malaya**
- Orchid Definitive Issue (T Pierron) *GSM Dec p63*
- Marion Island**
- Postal History (S Pendleton) *GSM Sep p131*
- Netherlands**
- Burning Postmarks on Mail (J Winchester) *SM Aug p121*
- Queen Wilhelmina Definitives (A Keppel) *SM Dec p53*
- New Zealand**
- 1920 Victory Set (R Gwynn) *GSM Nov p88*
- Rail Disaster Mail (R Gwynn) *GSM Aug p68*
- Today's Definitives & Postal Rates (P Mellor) *SL Oct p130*
- Nicaragua**
- Panama Canal Stamp (J Winchester) *SM Dec p121*
- North Borneo**
- 1894 Low Values (J Winchester) *SM Nov p51*
- Northern Rhodesia**
- Dies and Plates 1925-51 (A Drysdall) *LP Dec p376*
- Oil River & Niger Coast**
- Surcharged & Bisected Stamps (J Sacher) *LP Sep p263*
- Pacific Islands**
- Display from Royal Collection (M Sefti) *LP Oct p311*
- Papua**
- Declaration of Protectorate (J Winchester) *SM Oct p111*
- Peru**
- The Peyton Collection (C.C Wooster & T.M Lera) *LP Nov p339*
- Pitcairn Island**
- Ship Wreck Cover (K Lewis) *SM Aug p66*
- Romania**
- World's Rarest Airmail Stamp (K Martin) *GSM Dec p84*
- Russia**
- Posted Revel-Jamburg in 1918 (H von Hofmann) *LP Sep p249*
- Zemstvo Local Post (R Sirot) *SM Aug p53*
- St Helena**
- Life on the Island (P Brittain) *GSM Aug p64*
- Sicily**
- Stamps & Postal History 1859-60 (G Morolli) *SM Dec p40*
- Sierra Leone**
- Encryption of Postcards 1902 (F Walton) *LP Nov p337*
- Somalia**
- Postal Service 1990-1994 (G Fryer) *LP Sep p279*
- South Africa**
- Errors on Aerograms (D Sinclair) *GSM Aug p62*
- South Australia**
- Dead Letter Office Wax Seals of 1850s (J Grimwood-Taylor) *LP Oct p330*
- Tasmania**
- Chalon Head Stamps with Ornamental Scrolls (J Shepherd) *LP Jul p227, Sep p248*
- Early Stamps (J Winchester) *SM Jul p55*
- Stamps 1901-1912 (R Breckon) *GSM Oct p95*
- Trinidad**
- Sugar Fields of Penal (D Horry) *GSM Oct p110*
- United Nations**
- Study of Stamp Issues ((R Goodey) *SL Oct p121*
- USA**
- Flag Definitives (M.L Goodman) *Pt2 SL Aug p96*
- Vatican City**
- Joint Stamp Issue with Gibraltar (P Jennings) *GSM Dec p110*
- Victoria**
- Stamps 1901-1912 (R Breckon) *GSM Aug p52*
- Virgin Islands**
- Postmarks 1937-1955 (D Horry) *GSM Jul p58*
- Yemen**
- Postal History (A Abitz) *GSM Sep p71*
- THEMATIC**
- Apollo II (J Dugdale) *SM Aug p54*
- Louis Bleriot (J Winchester) *SM Sep p58*
- City of London, East (D Connell) *GSM Dec p36*
- Cricket - The Ashes (P Jennings) *GSM Jul p94, Oct p117*
- Eminent Britons (K Foy) *BPB Nov p86*
- Energy Sources (C Coggins) *SM Aug p72*
- Galileo (J Dugdale) *SM Dec p66*
- Great North Road (A Sacks) *GSM Pt1 Aug p41, Pt 2 Sep p34, Pt3 Oct p51*
- Hockey (D Bahra) *SM Nov p72*
- Italian Churches & Cathedrals (A New) *Pt 1 GSM Oct p101, Pt 2 Nov p84*
- Men on the Moon (J Dugdale) *SM Aug p60*
- Moon Landing (J Dugdale) *GSM Aug p56*
- Mythical Creatures (J Dugdale) *SM Jul p60*
- Naval Aviation (P Jennings) *GSM Sep p134*
- St Pauls Cathedral (D Connell) *GSM Jul p36*
- Stained Glass Window (D Martin) *BPB p121*
- Sir George Summers (R Bennett) *BPB Jul p338*
- Tower of London (D Connell) *GSM Oct p34*
- MISCELLANEOUS**
- Aerophilately**
- Croydon Airport 1915-59 (J Winchester) *SM Oct p114*
- Cinderella**
- Articles by C & F Kiddle
- GB Philatelic Congress 1909 *SM Jul p76*
- Photographic Stamps *SM Aug p78*
- Queensland Revenue Stamps *SM Sep p76*
- Zeppelin Postal Stamps *SM Nov p78*
- Norway Railway & Streetcar Stamps *SM Dec p78*
- Computing**
- Online Philately by G.H Morgan**
- National Philatelic Society *BPB Aug p367*
- Birmingham Philatelic Society *BPB Sep p23*
- Guernsey & Jersey Post offices *BPB Oct p57*
- Great Britain Philatelic Society *BPB Nov p79*
- British Postal Museum & Archive *BPB Dec p120*
- Exhibitions**
- Bulgaria 2009 (D Hunter) *SL Aug p95*
- China 2009 (R West) *SM Jul p33, BPB Jul p341*
- Italia 2009 (P Jennings) *GSM Dec p92, LP Dec p320*
- Prague 2008 (R Holley) *GSM Sep p80*
- Sino British Stamp Exhibition (M Pitt-Payne) *LP Nov p338, (H Jefferies) GSM Nov p100*
- Literature**
- Checklist of Articles in British Philatelic Press (J Hammonds) *SL Dec p156*
- Travelling Post Office (P Johnson) *Review BPB Sep p24*
- Obituary**
- M English *BPB Nov p95*
- M Goaman *GSM Aug p18, BPB Jul p351*
- F Jones (R West) *SL Aug p86*
- D Webster *GSM Jul p16*
- Paper**
- Development of Decorated Writing Paper (J Scott) *GSM Aug p48*
- Philately**
- Inverted Printings (R Odenweller & ors) *SM Jul p40*
- Philatelic Aids (C Mount) *GSM Jul p78, Dec p104*
- Philatelic Pseudonyms (B.J Birch) *SL Oct p133, Dec p161*
- Watermark & perforations (P Brittain) *GSM Dec p31*
- Postal Stationery**
- Postal Stationery 2007-2008 G-Sor Reime *GSM Jul p86, Aug p84*
- Postal Stationery Matters (P van Gelder) *GSM Sep p90, Dec p99*
- Printing**
- Paper, Coating & Adhesives (P Brittain) *GSM Oct p90*
- Philagilo Printing Technique (P Jennings) *GSM Nov p58*
- Walsall Security Printers (G.H Morgan) *BPB Oct p50*
- Royal Navy**
- HMS Beryl (K Tranmer) *SL Aug p96*
- Royal Philatelic Society London**
- The RPSL Catalogue (C King & F Walton) *LP Dec p391*
- Stamp Collectors**
- Peter Mason (M Banister) *GSM Dec p102*
- Stamp Dealers**
- Oswald Marsh (M Peach) *GSM Jul p45*

Queen Margrethe II

Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of **Denmark** celebrated her 70th birthday on 16 April 2010. A special stamp has been issued by Denmark to commemorate the occasion, showing the Queen and the royal family on the balcony of Christian IX's Palace at Amalienborg. The design is based on a photograph



taken on the occasion of the Queen's birthday in 2009. The daughter of King Frederik IX (d. 1972) and Queen Ingrid, (d. 2000), the Queen was born at the Amalienborg Palace, and on 10 June 1967 she married Henri Marie Jean André, Count of Laborde de Monpezat, who became HRH Prince Henrik of

Denmark. The 1953 Act of Succession had given women the right of succession and she became Queen on the death of her father on 14 January 1972. As a constitutional Monarch, Queen Margrethe presides over the Council of State, where the acts of legislation which have been passed by the parliament are signed into law and is the supreme commander of the Danish Defence Forces.

The commemorative stamp shows the Queen and Prince Henrik and amongst the members of the Royal Family shown are their sons, HRH Crown Prince Frederik and HRH Prince Joachim. The new stamp has been produced by a combination of recess-printing and offset litho in sheets of 36 self-adhesive stamps and was placed on sale on 24 March 2010.

The Queen's Birthday has also been marked by **Greenland** with a 35k stamp based on a photograph of the Queen taken on Greenland's National Day, 21 June 2009, when Her Majesty handed over the new Act on Greenland Self-Government in the Parliament in the capital, Nuuk. The photograph used for the stamp was taken immediately after ceremony and shows the Queen dressed in her Greenland national costume. In the background is Nuuk's natural landmark, the 1210 metre high mountain Sermitsiaq, which in Danish is called "Sadlen" (The saddle). The Greenland stamp has been printed in sheets of 20 and was issued on 16 April.



Denmark – new portrait

Denmark has also marked the occasion of the Queen's birthday by introducing a new portrait for the definitive stamps. Four values in the new design appeared on 10 February 2010 representing most common postal rates:

5k50 red	Domestic standard letter - priority
6k50 blue-green	Domestic large letter - priority
8k50 yellow-green	Europe -standard letter
9k50 blue	Rest of World - standard letter

The portrait is the work of master photographer Casper Sejersens, and the stamp was designed by the e-Types agency. When commissioned to produce the new design, e-Types studied the tradition of Danish definitive stamps and having decided to create a modern stamp based on old traditions, they found inspiration in the two-tone definitive stamps of King Christian X rather than the more recent single-colour recess-printed

definitives. The new stamps replace the current portrait of the Queen used in the definitive stamp series which was issued for the monarch's 60th birthday. The portrait is the sixth to be used for definitives since 1974, when the first series of stamps featuring a portrait of the Queen was issued.



The new stamps are recess-printed in sheets of 77 and are the first Danish definitive stamps to be issued on self-adhesive paper, since when however two wavy-line stamps (300ö and 400ö) and a small coat of arms stamp (30k) have appeared in self adhesive form on 24 March, followed by further wavy line definitives on 28 April (50ö, 100ö, 200ö and 500ö).

Queen's Park, Barbados

Many readers will have experienced a long hard winter and the scenes portrayed on the set of stamps issued by Barbados on 11 January 2010 give a welcome impression of summer days. The occasion for the issue was 100th anniversary of Queen's Park which was officially opened on the 10 June 1909 by Lady Gilbert-Carter, wife of the then Governor, Sir Thomas Gilbert-Carter. At the opening ceremony Lady Carter was presented with a golden key which was also used to unlock the Park gates.

Many famous persons have visited Queen's Park over the years. These include Prince Albert (later George VI), Princess Marie Louise and Teddy Roosevelt (ex- President of the U.S.A), Queen Elizabeth and H.R.H. Prince Philip. Queen's Park is presently home to various activities including art and agricultural exhibitions, dramatic productions, cultural events, sporting activities.

The anniversary issue comprises four stamps and a souvenir sheet. Of the stamps, the 90c depicts the fountain that was designed and presented by Lady Gilbert-Parker, whilst the \$1 shows one of two magnificent baobab trees in the park, which have possibly the widest tree-trunks to be found in the Caribbean. This tree (*Adansonia digitata*) was brought to Barbados around 1738 from Guinea in West Africa. It is also known as the "Monkey-bread tree". Approximately 90 ft. tall with a girth of 81 ft. it takes 15 adults joining with outstretched arms to cover its circumference and is estimated to be over 1000 years old.

Queens Park House located in the park and shown on the \$1.40 stamp was called King's house when built in 1783, and renamed during the reign of Queen Victoria. This house is a fine example of the 'Caribbean Georgian' style, though the verandahs are Victorian additions. The mansion was once the home of the



Commander of the British armed forces in Barbados. The ground floor of Queen's Park House was used as a dance hall at one point, but it has been used as an art gallery since the establishment of the National Cultural Foundation. The building also houses a theatre.

The bandstand in Queen's Park (\$2 stamp) was erected in 1909. Manufactured by Walter Macfarlane & Co, Saracen Foundry, Glasgow; it is made of attractive cast iron railings and decorations, with a tiled roof and is mainly used by Royal Barbados Police Band whose first concert was held there on Wednesday, 28 July 1909.

The stamps have been printed by Colour Innovations in sheets of 50, perf. 13. The souvenir sheet depicts the opening of the park in 1909 and incorporates a single \$4 stamp.



Estonian Independence and Heads of State 1918 - 2018

An usual and somewhat striking stamp was issued by Estonia on 2 February 2010 to mark the **90th anniversary of Tartu Peace Treaty** which was signed on 2 February 1920 after two months of talks between delegations of the Republic of Estonia and Soviet Russia. The treaty ended the Estonian War of Independence (1918–1920) and officially confirmed the independence won on battlefields.



Ever since the thirteenth century had been variously controlled by the Danes, The Teutonic Knights, Sweden and Russia but national re-

awakening came in the 19th century and following the collapse of Tsarist Russia the Estonian National Council declared the independence of Estonia on 24 February 1918. Invasion by the Bolsheviks followed and only after two years of war did Russia voluntarily and for all time gave up "all rights of sovereignty that Russia had over the people and land of Estonia".

The commemorative stamp was designed by Vladimir Taiger and printed by AS Vaba Maaand on sheets of 20, perf 13.

Jaak Poska, head of the Estonian delegation at the peace talks clearly served his country well, but as we now know Russia's undertaking would be relatively short-lived with the USSR annexing Estonia in August 1940. German invasion followed after which the USSR re-occupied the country and not until 1991 was independence restored.

Under Stalin, thousands of Estonian civilians were killed or deported and these tragic events are reflected in the biographies of many of the **Estonian Heads of State** who are the subject of a new series of domestic letter rate stamps (currently 5k50). From 1920 to 1937 the official title of the Head of State was

State Elder (*Riigivanem* in Estonian), combining the roles of president and prime minister. The stamps are in a uniform design by Lembit Lõhmus printed in offset litho in sheets of ten, perf 13¾ x 14, and the first was issued on 9 May 2008.

Otto Strandman who appeared on the first stamp was War Minister whilst serving as Prime Minister in 1919 and became State Elder 1919-1931. He committed suicide on 5 February 1941 when the Soviet secret police NKVD came to arrest him. Sadly a similar fate befell to Ants Piip, (1884-1942), Jüri Jaakson (1870-1942) and Juhan Kukk (1885-1942) – distinguished service to independent Estonia, was followed by arrest and deportation by the NKVD leading to execution in the case of Jüri Jaakson or death in prison in the case of Ants Piip and Juhan Kukk

To date five stamps have appeared:

9 May 2008	Otto Strandman (1875-1941)
26 Feb 2009	Ants Piip (1884-1942)
26 Mar 2009	Lennart Meri (1929-2006)
15 Jan 2010	Jüri Jaakson (1870-1942)
13 Apr 2010	Juhan Kukk (1885-1942)

And so far only one Head of State from the period since Estonia re-gained its independence in 1991 has featured in the series. He is Lennart Meri who was President from 6 October 1992 until 8 October 2001 and who died in 2006 aged 79.

Further stamps are to be issued at the rate of two or three a year, with the series due to be completed in 2018, the centenary of independence.

Footnotes – Posthorns

Back in the October 2008 issue of *Stamp Lover*, New Issues described the new posthorn definitive stamps that had been issued by **Estonia** earlier that year. The four stamps have remained on sale to date but earlier this year two values have been appeared in new colours. The designs are unchanged and are still in dual currency – Estonia not having yet adopted the euro. Eesti Post advise that there are no plans to issue the existing 50s and 6k50 stamps in new colours in the near future.



		Issue date	Quantity printed
50s grey	make-up value	31 May 2008	1,000,000
5k50 orange	Inland 50g letter	10. Jan 2008	1,500,000
5k50 red	Inland 50g letter	23 Mar 2010	500,000
6k50 olive	Inland 100g letter	6 Mar 2008	200,000
9k blue	Foreign 50g priority letter	1 Apr 2008	1,000,000
9k dark blue	Foreign 50g priority letter	4 Feb 2010	700,000

Stamp Fairs

Readers are advised to check details with the organisers before travelling to Events. Whilst every care is taken in compiling this Diary, the National Philatelic Society cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.

Venue	Address	JUN 2010	JUL 2010	AUG 2010	Time	Tel No
Addlestone	Community Centre, Garfield Rd. KT15 2NJ	Sat 26		Sat 28	10-4.30	01895 637283
Altrincham	Cresta Court Hotel, Church St, Town Centre	Sun 6, 20	Sun 4, 18	Sun 1, 15	10-4	01484 866777
Altrincham	Bowdon Hotel, Langham Rd, Bowdon WA14 2HT	Sun 13	Sun 11	Sun 8	10-4	01785 259350
Amersham	Jubilee Scout Hall, Rectory Hill HP7 0BT	Sun 20		Sun 15	10-5	01895 637283
Aston Clinton	Anthony Hall, London Rd HP22 5HS	Sun 6		Sun 8	10-4	07736 527716
Aylesbury	Holiday Inn, Aston Clinton Rd HP22 5AA			Mon 30	10-4	07736 527716
Barkingside	IRSDA Hall, Craven Gardens (opp Library) IG6 2EA		Sat 31		10-4	07736 527716
Basingstoke	Costello Technology College, Crossborough Hill RG21 4AL		Sat 17		10-4	01256 415699
Beckenham	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd	Sat 5	Sat 3	Sat 7	10-4	020 8462 3753
Bedford	Park Inn, St Mary's St		Sun 11		10-4	0115 9474747
Beverley	Norwood Methodist Church Hall, Norwood HU17 9HN			Mon 30	9.30-4	01909 563394
Bexhill	St Martha's Church Hall, Cooden Sea Rd, Little Common		Sat 24		10-4	01903 244875
Bilsborrow (nr Preston)	Bilsborrow Village Hall (A6 north of Preston)		Sat 17	Sat 28	10-3.30	01226 765069
Birmingham	Digbeth Irish Centre B12 0LN	Wed 30	Wed 28	Wed 25	10-4	07966 565151
Bournemouth	Pelhams Park, Millhams Rd, Kinson		Sat 10		10-4	01202 303053
Brighton	Good Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Rd	Sat 19	Sat 17	Sat 21	10-4	01903 244875
Broadstairs	Portland Centre, St Peters CT20 2TR		Sat 17		10-4	01304 829827
Burton-in-Kendall	Burton Memorial Hall		Sun 18		10-4	01670 787442
Cambridge	Arbury Community Centre, Campkin Rd, Arbury CB4 2LD		Sat 10		10-3	01223 355004
Cambridge (East Midlands and East Anglian Philatelic Federation)	Girton College, Girton Rd, off Huntingdon Rd CB3 0LL			Sat 21	10-4.30	01223 880957
Cardiff	Methodist Church, Nottingham St, Canton	Thurs 3	Thurs 8	Thurs 5	10-3.30	01446 741026
Carlisle	Houghton Village Hall, CA3 0LL		Sun 4		10-4	01436 671429
Chelmsford	The Old Chelmsfordians Club, Roxwell Rd	Sun 13	Sun 4	Sun 8	10-4	01708 229763
Cheltenham	Regency Hotel, Gloucester Rd	Sun 6			10-4	01452 501098
Chester	Hoole United Reformed Church, Hoole Rd		Sat 10		10-3.30	01226 765069
Chesterfield	The Chesterfield Hotel, Malkin St	Sun 13	Sun 11	Sun 8	10-3	0161 766 9031
Chichester	Stockbridge Hall, Stockbridge Rd, Donnington		Sat 10		10-4	01795 478175
Colchester	Parish Hall, Old London Road, Marks Tey CO6 1EN		Sat 17		10-4	01702 478846
Colchester	Stanway Football Club, New Farm Rd CO3 0PG	Wed 9		Wed 11	10-3.30	01485 578117
Colchester (StampEssex)	Charter Hall, Colchester Leisure World, Cowdray Ave, CO1 1YH	Sat 5			10-4.30	01206 282946
Colwyn Bay	Eirias High School, Eirias Road LL29 7SP		Sat 10		9.30-3.30	01745 826434
Crawley	St Pauls Church Hall, Woodfield Rd, Northgate		Sat 13		10-4	01903 244875
Deal	The Landmark Centre, 129 High St	Sat 5	Sat 3	Sat 7	9-1	01304 829827
Derby	Nunsfield House Community Hall, 33 Boulton Road, Alvaston DE24 0FD	Sat 12	Sat 10	Sat 14	9.30-4	01909 563394
Doncaster	Park Social Club, Eden Grove Rd, Edenthorpe DN3 2LS		Sun 25		9.30-4	01909 563394
Dorchester	United Church, 49-51 Charles St DT1 1EE		Sat 17		10-4	01761 414304
Dover	Biggin Hall, Biggin St	Sat 26			10-4	01304 829827
Dronfield (Sheffield)	Coal Aston Village Hall, Coal Aston, Dronfield S18 3AY	Sun 20	Sun 18	Sun 15	9.30-4	01909 563394
East Grinstead	Parish Halls, De La Warr Rd (off College Rd)			Mon 30	10-4	01795 478175
Ely	The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely CB7 4BB		Wed 14		10-3.30	01485 578 117
Exeter (Clyst St George)	Parish Hall EX3 0NU	Fri 11			10-4	01749 813324
Exeter (Pinhoe)	The America Hall, De La Rue Way, Pinhoe EX4 8PX		Sat 24		10-4	01761 414304
Finchley	Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, Essex Park N3 1ND			Sat 14	10-4	07736 527716
Folkestone	Trinity Church Hall, Sandgate Rd	Sat 12	Sat 10	Sat 14	10-4	01304 829827
Formby	Methodist Church Hall, Elbow St (off Duke St)	Sat 19		Sat 7	10-3.30	01226 765069
Great Barr (Birmingham)	Collingwood Centre, Collingwood Drive, Pheasey, Great Barr B43 7NF	Sat 26	Sat 31		10-4	0776 5792998
Guildford	Onslow Village Hall, Wilderness Rd, Onslow Village	Sat 19		Sat 21	10-4	01795 478175
Harrogate	Masonic Hall, Station Avenue			Sun 29	9.30-4.30	01282 866562
Hastings	Christ Church, London Rd, St Leonard's-on-Sea		Sat 17		10-4	01795 478175
Hatfield	Ramada Hatfield, St Albans Road West AL10 9RH	Sun 27		Sun 29	10-4	07736 527716
Horsham	Village Hall, Broadbridge Heath		Sun 18		10-4	01795 478175
Hove	St Leonard's Church Hall, Glebe Villas, New Church Rd BN3 5SN		Sat 24		10-4	01273 514733
Huddersfield	St Thomas' Church Community Centre, Manchester Rd, HD1 3HU	Sat 5	Sat 3	Sat 7	9.30 - 4	01484 681559
Hull	St Stephen's Church Hall, Freehold St (off Spring Bank) HU3 1RB	Sat 19	Sat 17	Sat 21	9.30-4	01909 563394
Kings Lynn	Gaywood Community Centre, Gayton Rd	Sun 13		Sun 8	10-4	01733 203121
Knowle, Solihull	The Village Hall, St John's Close B93 0NH	Sun 20	Sun 18	Sun 15	9.30-3	0776 5792998
Laindon	Methodist Church Hall, High Rd, Langdon Hills SS15 6EY		Sat 24		10-3.30	01268 543371
Leamington Spa	Village Hall, Sabin Drive, Weston under Wetherley CV33 9BW		Sat 24		10-4	01785 259350
Leicester	Blackfriars Hall, Holycross Centre, Wellington St LE1 6HW	Sat 5	Sat 3	Sat 7	9.30-3.30	01522 530123
Leigh on Sea	West Leigh Junior School, Ronald Hill Grove SS9 2JB			Sun 1	10-4	01702 544632
Lichfield	Boley Park Community Hall, Ryknild St WS14 9XU	Sat 12		Sat 7	10-4	01785 259350
Lincoln	St Peter at Gowts Church Hall, Sibthorpe St, off High St		Sat 24		10-4	01469 531348
Littlehampton	United Church, 1 High St		Sat 3		10-4	01795 478175
Liverpool	St Columba Church Hall, Hillfoot Rd, Hunts Cross L25	Sat 26		Sat 14	10-3.30	01226 765069
London (Charing Cross Market)	Charing Cross Market, Northumberland Ave & Embankment Place SW1	every Sat	every Sat	every Sat	8-4	01483 281771
London (Strand Stamp Fair)	Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, Russell Sq WC1H 0DG	Wed 16	Wed 7	Wed 4	9-4	020 8946 4489
Loughborough	Charmwood Indoor Bowls Club (rear of Leisure Centre), Browns Lane LE11 3HE			Mon 30	10-4	01785 259350
Lowestoft NEW VENUE	Zest Rooms, Potters Leisure Resort, Coast Rd, Hopton-on-Sea NR31 9BX		Sun 25		10-4	01502 563759
Ludlow	St John Ambulance Centre, Lower Galdeford FY8 1RT		Sun 18		10-4	07966 565151
Maidenhead/Taplow	Taplow & Hitcham W.I. Hall, Institute Rd, Taplow SL6 0NS	Sun 6		Sun 1	10-5	01895 637283
Maidstone	Royal British Legion Hall, B.L. Village, Hall Rd, Aylesford		Sun 4		10-4	01903 244875
Marlow	Red Cross Centre, Victoria Rd SL7 1DL		Sun 4		10-1.30	01895 637283

Venue	Stamp Fairs (continued)	JUN 2010	JUL 2010	AUG 2010	Time	Tel No
Middlewich	Community Centre, Civic Way (off Leadsmithy St)	Sat 5		Sat 21	10-3.30	01226 765069
Milton Keynes	MK Irish Centre, Manor Field, Watling Street, Bletchley MK2 2HX		Sun 4		10-4	07736 527716
Morden (Sutton)	Methodist Church Hall, Green Lane, Rose Hill SM4 6SQ	Sat 12	Sat 10	Sat 14	10-5	0208 640 1404
Morley (Leeds)	St Marys Church Hall, Commercial St, Morley LS27 8HZ	Sat 26	Sat 31	Sat 28	9.30-4	01909 563394
Motherwell	St Mary's Parish Church Hall, Avon St ML1 3AA		Sat 3		10.30-4	01436 671429
Mountnessing, Essex	Village Hall	Sun 6			10-4	01702 544632
Neath	Town Hall	Wed 2	Wed 7	Wed 4	10-5	01446 741026
North Shields	King Edward's Primary School, Preston Avenue	Sun 13	Sun 11	Sun 8	9.30-1	01670 787442
Northampton	The Abbey Centre, East Hunsbery		Sat 31		10-4	01733 203121
Nottingham	Novotel Nottingham/Derby, Bostock Lane, Long Eaton	Sun 13	Sun 11	Sun 8	10-4	01484 866777
Ormskirk	Guide HQ, Moorgate		Sun 18		10-3.30	01226 765069
Oxford	Womens Institute, North Hinksey Lane (off Botley Rd)	Sun 6	Sun 4	Sun 1	10-3	07957 158299
Peterborough <i>NEW VENUE</i>	The Great Northern Hotel, Station Approach, Peterborough	Sun 27	Sun 25	Sun 29	10-4	01733 203121
Petersfield	Community Centre, off Love Lane GU31 4BW		Sat 24		10-4	01489 582673
Plymouth	Guildhall, Armada Way PL1 2ER	Thurs 10	Thurs 8		10-4	01749 813324
Plymouth (SWIPEX 2010)	Guildhall, Royal Parade PL1 2ER		Sat 3		10-4	01752 789622
Portadown (Northern Ireland Stamp Show)	Portadown Town Hall, Edward St. Portadown, Co. Armagh BT62 3LR	Sat 26			10-4	02838 334964
Portishead (Portishead 2010)	Gordano School, St Mary's Rd BS20 7QR			Sat 14 Sun 15	10-5	01275 842606
Potters Bar	Mount Grace School, Church Rd EN6 1EZ	Sun 27			10-4	01303 238807
Powick	Powick Village Hall, nr Great Malvern WR2 4RT	Sat 5	Sat 17		10-4	07966 565151
Preston	Barton Village Hall (on A6)	Sat 19		Sat 21	9.30-4.30	01282 866562
Pudsey, Leeds (Yorkshire Philatelic Assn, YPA2010)	Pudsey Civic Hall, Dawsons Corner, Pudsey LS28 5TA	Sat 12			9.30-4.30	01977 793566
Rawreth, Essex	Rawreth Parish Hall, Church Lane SS11 8SH	Sat 5	Sat 3	Sat 7	10-4	01702 323682
Reading	St Barnabas Hall, Grove Rd, Emmer Green RG4 8LN	Sat 12		Sat 14	10-5	01895 637283
Reepham (Lincoln)	Reepham Village Hall, Hawthorn Rd, Reepham			Sat 7	9-4	01522 526901
Rochester	Masonic Hall, Gundolph Square	Sun 6		Sun 22	10-4	01795 478175
Ruislip	Methodist Church Hall, Ickenham Rd HA4 7	Sat 5	Sat 3	Sat 7	10-5	01895 637283
Salisbury	United Reformed Church, Fisherton St	Sat 26			10-4	01258 880878
Scunthorpe	Ashby Community Centre	Sun 27			10-4	01469 531348
Sittingbourne	Carmel Hall, Ufton Lane (off West St)		Sat 24		10-4	01795 478175
Slip End (nr Luton)	Village Hall, Markyate Rd & Grove Rd (Jn 10, M1) LU1 4BU		Sun 18		10-4	07736 527716
Southampton	St James Rd Methodist Hall, Shirley			Sat 28	10-4	01202 303053
Southport	Royal Clifton Hotel, The Promenade	Sun 27	Sun 25	Sun 29	10-4	01484 866777
St Albans	Jubilee Centre, Catherine St AL3 5NX	Sat 26	Sat 31		10-4	07736 527716
St Albans	United Reformed Church, Homewood Rd AL1 4		Sat 24		10-4	01895 637283
Stafford (Stafford Stamp Show)	Staffordshire County Showground, Ingestre Suite, Weston Rd ST18 0BD	Fri 18 Sat 19			Fri 11-6 Sat 10-4	01785 259350
Stevenage	Novotel, Knebworth Park SG1 2AX		Sun 25		10-4	07736 527716
Stockport	Masonic Guild Hall, Wellington Rd South SK1 3XE	Tues 29	Tues 27		9.30-3.30	07966 565151
Stowmarket	Stowmarket Football Club, Bury Rd IP14 1JQ	Wed 2	Wed 7	Wed 4	10-3.30	01485 578117
Sutton Coldfield	Fellowship Hall, South Parade, Town Centre B72 1QY		Sat 3		10-4	01785 259350
Swindon	Western Community Centre, Somerset Rd		Sat 3	Sat 7	9.30-4	07960 540658
Taunton	St James Church Hall, St James St. TA1 1JS	Sat 26			10-4	01761 414304
Teesside	Norton Methodist Church Hall, Stockton on Tees	Sat 12	Sat 10	Sat 14	9.30-2.30	01670 787442
Telford	Wellington Civic & Leisure Centre, Tan Bank, Wellington TF1 1LX		Sat 10		10-4	01952 223926
Thatcham	Thatcham Memorial Hall, Bath Rd RG18 3AG	Sat 19		Sat 21	10-4	01256 415699
Tonbridge (KENTPEX 2010)	Tonbridge School, High St TN9 1JN		Sat 10		10-4	020 8778 7001
Twickenham	Methodist Church Hall, Percy Rd, Whitton	Sat 5		Sat 7	10-4	01903 244875
Uckfield	Ridgewood Village Hall, New Rd, Ridgewood	Sun 20		Sun 15	10-4	01903 244875
Upminster	St Laurence Church Hall, Corbets Tey Rd		Sat 17		10-5	01708 722255
Weston-Super-Mare	Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Rd BS23 1XU	Sat 19			10-4	01761 414304
Wigan	Pemberton Masonic Hall, Chapel St		Sun 25		10-3.30	01226 765069
Wimborne	Quarterjack Suite, Allendale Centre			Sat 7	10-4	01258 880878
Winchester	Badgers Farm Community Centre, Badgers Farm Rd		Sun 25		10-4	01795 478175
Wing	Cottesloe School, Aylesbury Rd LU7 0NY	Sun 27		Sun 29	10-5	01895 637283
Wodbridge	Community Centre (nr railway station)		Sat 31		10-4	01702 544632
Wokingham	St Cripins Leisure Centre, London Rd RG40 1SR	Sun 13	Sun 11	Sun 8	10-3	01923 674999
Wolverhampton	Bradmore Sports & Social Club, Church Rd, Bradmore WV3 7ER	Sun 6	Sun 4	Sun 1	10-4	07712 381880
Worthing	Heene Community Centre, 122 Heene Rd		Sun 11		10-4	01795 478175
Wymondham	Ketts Park Community Centre		Sun 11		10-4	01702 544632
York	The Grandstand, The Racecourse, York		Fri 16 Sat 17		Fri 11-6 Sat 10-4	020 8946 4489
York	Wiggington Village Hall		Sat 3		10-4	01670 787442

Members of the National Philatelic Society may submit a free personal classified advertisement for wants & sales, subject to space and annual renewal in August.

Small Advertisements

WANTED

A few SG Facile-fitting leaves inscribed "GHS" or "Royal Blue" albums for a second hand leather binder. ORIEL album leaves will not fit.

Philip Mountford, 42, High Street, Orwell, Royston, Herts. SG8 5QN. Tel:01223 207509.

Pre-1967 clean mint and pre-1927 clean used G B and GB o/printed for use overseas postal stationery. Send any quantity well packed for my offer. For later issues please write first. Andrew A. Whitworth, 1 Prizet House, Helsington, Kendal, Cumbria LA8 8AB.

G.B. TV Licence stamps M12, M13, M14 & M15: On Licences M6, M8, M10, M11, M13 & M15. M.R. Thompson. 77 St. Marks Avenue, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent. DA11 9LN. nps1899@aol.com

Postcards of Swiss railways (not preserved locos) brochures, maps, ephemera, mountain panorama postcards Dave Hill, Wheal Florence, Rosudgeon, Cornwall TR20 9PA.

Any Turks and Caicos War Tax material. Anything interesting and unusual, etc. etc. John Davis "Birchams", 5 Angelina Close, Highcliffe-on-Sea, Dorset. BH23 5BS. e-mail. j552davis@btinternet.com

OVERTON STAMP CLUB

British, Empire Commonwealth and Foreign circuits at reasonable postal costs. For details, contact Ronald Goodfellow at "Bogles' Wood," 6 Elm Grove Park, Monikie. By Dundee. DD5 3QW

GB 1½d, King Edward VIII definitives: Control Blocks A37, from Cylinder 12, Dot and no Dot. Contact: J. Page Tel 01895 235062.
22, Hamilton Road, Cowley, Uxbridge, Middx. UB83AJ.

FOR SALE

If you collect all world Postal History, stationery, thematics, postmarks, especially Great Britain, send details of your requirements to M. Goodman, 17 Jesmond Way, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4QR.

The Holy Land Philatelist by F.W.Pollack - The complete publication which ceased in 1961, in four hard bound volumes, with cumulative index, published in the USA in 1975. 1616 pages plus 165 page index. AS NEW. Price £50 including postage, or £40 if collected from NPS.

Also: Austrian Post Offices Abroad, part one, the Austrian Lloyd, Adriatic Lines, Mediterranean Lines, 1980 Edition, by Keith Tranmer. Price £20 post free.

Apply: Keith Tranmer, 100, Ramsgill Drive, Ilford, Essex, IG2 7TP Tel 0208 599 9390

VERATRINDER

London's Oldest Stamp Accessory Shop. Suppliers to the Trade Since 1969



NEW GREAT BRITAIN CONCISE 2010 NOW AVAILABLE

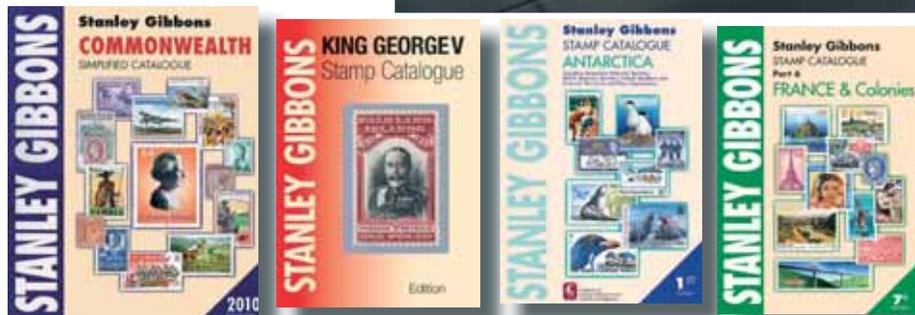


LINDNER MAGNICAM

Mobile digital magnifier with display and camera function all in one! No need for a computer!

Order ref 9115, price £205.00

Magnification, 7-108x with additional optical zoom feature 7x-27x Allows you to see large sections of the item being viewed. You can capture the image, MagniCam has a built in memory to hold up to 60 pictures, then transfer them by USB cable to your computer. MagniCam is supplied with rechargeable batteries, instructions and USB cable.



New Stanley Gibbons Catalogues:

SG Commonwealth Simplified 2010 In Colour listing Commonwealth Countries in line with SG Stamps of The World	£55.95
Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore, 2nd edition	£22.50
George VI Commonwealth Catalogue	£34.95
Benelux	£34.95
Falkland Islands	£14.95
Antarctic 1st edition	£15.95
Includes Australian and British Antarctic Territories, French Southern and Antarctic Territories and Ross Dependency	
Great Britain Concise 2010 (due April)	£29.95
Great Britain QEII Decimal Definitives Specialised catalogue (due April)	£34.95
France & Colonies 7th edition Includes French Colonies (due May)	£44.95
King George V Commonwealth catalogue	
The first SG catalogue covering GB, Commonwealth and Dependencies during King George V's reign.	£34.95

NO1 FOR ACCESSORIES

- ALBUMS
- EXHIBITION PROTECTORS
- CATALOGUES
- TEST EQUIPMENT
- MOUNTS
- CUTTERS
- STOCKBOOKS
- APPROVAL CARDS
- MAGNIFIERS
- PERFORATION GAUGES
- TWEEZERS
- DRYING BOOKS

VERATRINDER Latest Stamp Catalogue brochure **OUT NOW!**

Listing all of the Stamp Catalogues currently available from our wide stock.

Our website also lists the full range of catalogues, books and accessories.

www.veratrinder.com

NEW 2010 PRICE LIST OUT NOW!

Contact us today for your free 2010 brochure containing the latest information and prices as well as many new products from the worlds leading manufacturers.

TEL: (UK) 0207 257 9940 / FAX: (UK) 0207 836 0873

WEB: WWW.VERATRINDER.COM / EM: vrinder@aol.com

38 BEDFORD STREET STRAND LONDON WC2E 9EU UK

Bahamas

The 'Abaco' Collection



June 22, 2010 A magnificent collection ranging from pre-adhesive covers to QE II issues, including essays, proofs, "SPECIMEN" overprints, multiples and rare usages. The auction is a must for any collector of Bahamas philately.

Copies of the handbook catalogue will be available on request and may also be viewed on our website www.grosvenorauctions.com

Other sales in preparation for later in the year include a fabulous collection of **Malta**, the **John Davis** collection of **British West Indies War Tax** issues, and superb **Great Britain**.

GROSVENOR

AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS

399-401 Strand Second & Third Floors London WC2R 0LT

Please contact Tristan Brittain or Richard Watkins for further details.

T: +44 (0)20 7379 8789 F: +44 (0)20 7379 9737 E: info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk

www.grosvenorauctions.com