



KENT FEDERATION of PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



NEW G.B. POST & GO SET

**Set of six new 1st class values commemorating
Methods of transporting mail over the years.
(See details on page 8)**

No.200

FEBRUARY 2016

BULLETIN

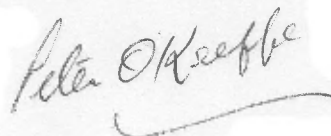
PLEASE VIEW THE KENT PHILATELY WEBSITE

<http://kentphilately.weebly.com>

It supports the K.F.P.S.

Well this is it ! My FINAL issue of The Kent Federation Bulletin. I have enjoyed the last 25 years since taking over from the late Alec Page as your Editor back in 1991. A total of 76 issues, containing some 1,746 sheets of A4 size paper, (but 3 of these were blank pages,) Back in 1991, the Bulletin usually contained 10 to 14 pages, with no advertising. I carried on Alec Page tradition of showing a prominent building in or near the vicinity of the next Federation Rally, but as time has passed, the scenes began repeating themselves so I switched to using the latest G.B. New Issues, or photographs of special events connected with the Federation. Bulletin number 173 being the largest issue to the end of 2015, with 32 pages, and seven others being of 30 pages. But this one is 34 pages – the biggest ever. Adverts were accepted from around 1993, but with almost no volunteers to seek advertisers, this has meant fewer, and consequently less income to offset our production costs. I send my thanks to our advertisers over the years and hope that they have found new clients, I also thank the regular correspondents who have submitted news items, the few societies which have their own 'Newsletters', and our loyal body of subscribers. Over the years I have received Journals from the Essex, Middlesex and Sussex Federations, sending copies of our Bulletin in exchange I have found them a useful source of dates, and other items of interest and thank their Editors for their efforts. I appreciate the support given by the Officers of Federation over the years, and more recently three of our subscribers who have renewed their subscriptions for the Bulletin - in the hope that it will continue, provided of course a new Editor steps forward. The quality of printing has improved over the years, with various different printers being involved, but our thanks to Michael Thompson, for his talents in printing recent issues, he has done a fine job. There have been disappointments - some societies do not seem to publicise their existence, do not send in reports of their meetings, they fail to support Federation, do not send a representative to Council Meetings, do not seem to encourage, or coerce their members to even attend rallies. It is not the job of Federation to tell clubs what they should be doing, but the Officers of clubs should have got the message that they ought to set the example. Unfortunately, on two occasions I mislaid reports, (they must have got mixed up with the loads of other bits of paper I tend to be bogged down with) and on two other occasions I had to stop publishing what might have lead to bad feelings between members. One thing stands out, it is the easiest thing in the world to criticise, but if you do, can or will YOU put it right ? Finally, if a new Editor is not forthcoming, hopefully the Federation news will appear 'On - line' and/or our Communications Officer, Michael Dobbs, will continue with his brief 'New' reports. Well that's it - This is my FINAL ISSUE of the Kent Federation Bulletin, Good Luck to the next Editor, whoever that might be. Perhaps club Secretaries will now TELL their members why there are no further Bulletins after this one and maybe someone will give it a try !

Best Wishes to all readers,



FUTURE COMPETITIONS - 2016/2017

16th APRIL 2016 at Federation Day at Mascalls School, Paddock Wood
GRANT CUP Traditional, 8 pages, Club competition
DES KILL TROPHY Cinderella, 16 pages, Individuals “

Additionally, we host the DAWES CUP again this year, and the entries will be on display, having been judged previously.

23rd JULY at the Norton Knatchbull School, Ashford
W. A. PAGE TROPHY Postal History 8 pages, Club “
THE GLASS TROPHY Cinderella, 8 pages, “ “
OPEN PHILATELY Philately, 16 pages Individuals.

24th SEPTEMBER at The Mick Jagger Centre, Dartford.
FRANCIS FIELD TROPHY Aerophilately 8 pages Club “
PARNALL CUP Thematics 8 pages, “ “
ARTHUR JACKSON CUP Postal History 16 pages Individuals

Then in 2017, the schedules are:-

11th FEBRUARY Federation Day at Langley Park School, Beckenham.
GRANT CUP Traditional, 8 pages Clubs
PAUL MOUNT CUP Thematic, 16 pages Individuals

15th JULY Aylesford Community Centre, Aylesford.
W. A. PAGE TROPHY Postal History, 8 pages, Clubs
THE GLASS TROPHY Cinderella, 8 pages “
THE LOTTIE GRAY CUP Aerophilately 16 pages Individuals

Autumn Rally Date and venue still to be confirmed.

FRANCIS FIELD TROPHY Aerophilately, 8 pages, Clubs.
PARNALL CUP Thematics, 8 pages, “
ROY GARLAND CUP Traditional 16 pages Individuals.

Please remember notification of intention to submit entries MUST be given to our Competition Secretary, Maurice Flack at least two weeks prior to the competitions. Phone 01634 – 714584 or E-mail mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk

Do please try to support Federation and “Have a Go” E&O.E

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The 2016 ‘DAWES CUP’ competition. Kent are again hosting this competition which is to be judged at ‘The Royal P.S.’ on Tuesday, the 5th April, and they will be ‘on display’ at the Kent ‘Federation Day’ at Mascalls School on Saturday, 16th April. Judging will be overseen by Christine Earle and Patrick Reid, but will be voted on by trainee judges (from other Federations) following their seminar. The KENT team has already been selected, and we wish them well. Enquiries to Maurice Flack

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G. B. NEW ISSUES. On February 17th there are to be TWO sets of new stamps issued, the cost just for the basic stamps will be £10.23 ! It seems that the days of one set costing less than 2/-, followed by another set about three months later for a similar price could be one reason why school children no longer collect stamps. Nine of the 12 stamps are at the first class rate and three are £1.52 each. I wonder how many of the General Public will even see or ever get to know of the £1.52 values ! The 'ordinary' set are to mark the 500 years that the 'Royal Mail' has operated a mail service. The 3 first class stamps feature Brian Tuke, the first 'Master of the Posts', next is a painting of a Packet Ship (off Eastbourne), and lastly there is the upper part of a 'Penfold' Pillar Box superimposed on part of a letter proposing the introduction of pillar boxes. The three at £1.52, picture 'River Post' (first time I have heard of this service), with a female postal worker carrying packages by rowing boat, next a Mail Coach, c 1784, and lastly an inside view of the MEDWAY MAIL CENTRE. All the stamps have the title 'Royal Mail 500'. (I wonder if the rowing boat service has any connection with the recent flooding in various parts of the country ?)



Associated with the above will be a Miniature sheet (issued 18 February) featuring classic advertising posters for the Postal Service – cost £3.92, plus a 'Prestige' booklet with the Queen Victoria 1st class 'Black' and 1st class 'blue' stamps (issued in Summer 2015) and a new 1st class QV, 'Penny Red'. These also come as a 'Generic' sheet and as a smaller booklet of six of the 1st class penny reds - marking the 175th anniversary of the first penny reds. If you collect penny reds, surely this is a must for you ! If your money box still has a few coins left, these could finally empty it !

POST & GO SERIES

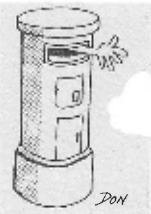
(see illustration on the front cover)

Also being issued on February 17th are a set of six 1st class values featuring methods of transport used in conveying the mail both locally and around the world. They depict, a horse rider, a mail coach, sailing ship (Paqueboat), steam engine (Travelling Post Office), early mail plane and a Morris Minor mail delivery van.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (1)

Anerly, London SE20
7th November 2015



Dear Peter,

This is my October report to members, I am sending you a copy to use as you see fit in the 200th Bulletin.

May I also congratulate and thank you for all your efforts in publishing the Bulletin for so many years, and your other contributions to KFPS. It's over thirty years since you were a regular at Thames Stamp Auctions. Can you believe that ?

Best Wishes for a long and deadline - free retirement.

David Rennie
Hon. Secretary, Bromley & Beckenham Philatelic Society.

Editors Note: Thank you David for your kind remarks - let us hope that someone is willing and able to take over - if not I feel sure that without a Bulletin, the Federation will be weaker. PJOK

Additional note - David's letter included his report between "Can you believe that" and "Best Wishes" however, I have updated it (correctly I hope) with some later info. PJOK

Maidstone,
December 2015.

Dear Peter,

Please find attached the news from Maidstone for what may well be your last Bulletin - the end of an ERA - you will be missed ! If this does turn out to be your last issue, then on behalf of all members of Maidstone and Mid-Kent P.S. I would like to thank you for all your hard work and dedication you have shown to publishing the Bulletin, and we hope you will enjoy your well earned retirement.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Stonestreet,
Publicity Officer Maidstone & Mid Kent P.S.

France,
January 2016

Dear Peter,

Your greetings card and letter arrived two days back - the stamps unfranked and the envelope marked with a GPO scrawl "France" (note letter was posted before Christmas, by Airmail clearly marked France - Ed).

When you edit your last Bulletin, could you send me a copy thereof marked " This is the LAST ONE " - My congratulations on the number of editions and for the increased number of pages.

Best Wishes for a Happy and restful New Year,
Richard Thompson

Editors Note: The above are extracts from their letters - thanks for your good wishes Brian & Richard. PJOK

SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (1)



SEVENOAKS

Sevenoaks & District P.S. The current season opened on September 2nd with our competitions night. In the 8 page category, based on the letters B, C, and or D, Michael Thompson won the 'Cordery Cup' for postal history, with his display of "The Study of Early Bermuda issues". and in the Thematic competition, also 8 pages, for 'Theo Jones Cup', Michael was also judged the winner with his display of "Frogs". On October 7th former member Colin Clarkson gave an interesting display of World War One French Flag postcards used by their Military, and for the second half Past President of our Society, John Crowe completed the evening with more of his Airmails between England and Australia, including items connected with the Air races and the start of commercial flights and their routes. Brian Stalker was our guest on November 4th, with a fine display entitled "Carlisle - A Railway Town". This is a fascinating story of the various railway companies that operated through Carlisle in the early days of steam. The display had details of Mail Train routes, sorting carriages etc and as his Grandfather and his father were both engine drivers, both of whom drove the Royal Train from London, it was accompanied with several items of ephemera, such as a drivers (his fathers) 'overnight tin box' and even a letter and 10/- note given to his father by Royalty as a reward! A most enjoyable evening. In December, we held another Auction - but we still need more good lots to attract more bidders. We started 2016 with our "Cheese & Wine Social" on January 6th, with a marvellous buffet arranged by Gordon & Mrs Darby and well supported by members. Several quizzes and an excellent raffle kept everyone alert, another enjoyable affair. Coming up we have displays of Jamaica, (February), a Members Evening of 'All Sorts' (in March) and Falkland Islands (April), May is the President's Evening with the AGM in June and 'Post WWII Forces Mail' in July.

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Kent Postal History Group The meeting at Sevenoaks on October 3rd when we looked at 'Parcel Post' labels and Kent 'Skeleton' postmarks had a reasonable turnout with some very interesting and varied items. The Auction at the Hollingbourne Village Hall on 28th November did produce some interesting bidding from the dozen or so

members who attended. This time there were several lots on offer which were not 'Kent' connected, more lots would be welcome for the next Auction. Our first meeting of the new year is planned for 16th January at Hurst Green Village Hall, (Don't forget Lunch beforehand) when the topic will be the Duplex postmarks of Kent and Sussex, plus of course our usual standby of your new acquisitions. Then on March 5th we meet at Sandling Village Hall for our AGM plus items of mail of the West Malling area. On June 25th, at the East Malling Village Hall, we have 'Registered Mail' with Kent connections. Our usual plea for more articles for the 'Kent Post' do please try and produce something for our Editor to fill the Journal. Other meetings planned for 2016 are on October 1st and November 12th. Your attendance would be welcomed.

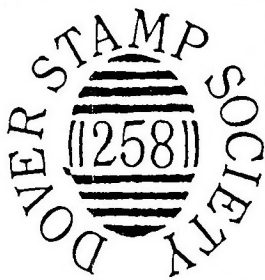
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SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (3)

BEXLEY P.S. The 2015 season began with an unusual display on a thematic topic: Malcolm Roberts presented a wide ranging collection of 'Lighthouse on Stamps'. Starting with the oldest known example in the world (Alexandria, Egypt, which toppled over in 1300 AD after an earthquake) to the oldest in Britain, in St Margaret's, believed to be Roman, opposite Calais. Among many other interesting items, the second session featured a set of German local post labels published by a local paper, 'Kieler Nachrichten' in 2007, called 'NordBrief'. Two weeks later, in a change of programme, John Sinfield stepped in for Brian Day to display items from Gibraltar. In early November, Ray Downing gave us a display charting the evolution of postal mechanisation. In Britain, this had started in 1857 with the first automatic cancelling machines, although postcodes had been introduced much earlier in France and one item on show was dated 1797. The first offices in the UK to employ Post Codes were at Luton and Norwich. Mike Thompson won both the Thematic and Traditional (from 1937) eight page competitions on November 20th. The Judging was by Mr Johnson and Bob Higgins. - our thanks to them. Our next meeting was a visit by three members of the Malling Stamp Club - (photo, see elsewhere in this issue) Lindy Bosworth (Czech Airmails), Margaret Emerson (G.B Post & Go stamps), and Tony Bosworth, (Falkland Islands), including three 'Madame Joseph' forgeries. Just before Christmas, our President, Judith French, lead the traditional festive celebrations with samples from her own collection. We look forward to forthcoming displays which include 'Hospital Ships' by Peter High (February 5th), an auction (February 19th), and on March 4th, Jon Lea presents 'Disaster Mail'.



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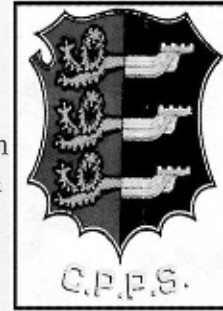
Dover Stamp Society Our first visiting speaker of the new season on September 28th was Derek Murphy from Deal. More a military historian than a stamp collector he nevertheless offered a good range of material with the emphasis on 'Poppies and Remembrance'. In October, we had a display by the Hastings & East Sussex P.S.- their very first visit to Dover. Kevin Dilliston showed sheets of the 'Post & Go' series, a recent feature of G.B issues, and Chris Dodswell had postcards of Scottish and Irish Lighthouses, an unusual theme. We had another club visit on November 9th, when our friends from Romney Marsh came to see us bringing a wide range of interesting material. We were treated to a study of University Missions to Central Africa, Space, Submarines, and Audobon bird paintings. A very varied and absorbing evening. The old year finished with a successful auction in November and the usual well supported Christmas Party in December. In January we are looking forward to a visit by Paul Cahill, the Kent Federation President showing 'French Colonies', followed by a members evening with 'Europe' as the topic.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO the Sidcup and Tunbridge Wells societies which both celebrated their 70th Anniversaries in November 2015. We wish them many more years, and lets hope they make their centuries !

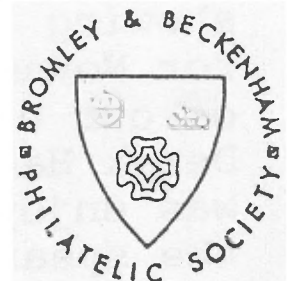
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SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (5)



Cinque Ports Philatelic Society The new season started on the 7th September when our visiting speaker, Ernie Warden gave a comprehensive display of Australia, which included everything from the early states to modern material. A very entertaining evening. On September 21st our invited guest was unable to join us, however members managed to bring enough items to talk about and display to fill the evening. Members of the since defunct Isle of Thanet P.S. visited us on October 5th with some superb material on show. Their visit was much appreciated. Another visit by a Kent Society was on October 19th when the Maidstone & Mid-Kent members were our guests, with a varied selection of items on display. November 2nd was letter 'U' and 'V' with members bringing some ingenious Philatelic items to show. On the 16th November the Ashford P. S. came to show a selection of displays covering a wide choice of subjects. Then on December 7th we asked members to show their "Recent Acquisitions", but this time non-philatelic! Among the items seen were some different size golf tee pegs, coloured golf balls, a helicopter control panel. All of which caused some amusement. The Christmas auction and party was held on December 21st - most of the auction lots sold, and the refreshments, organised by Christine and Myrtle were much enjoyed. We have a break in January, and resume on February 1st when it is 'Chairman's Evening'. Best wishes to everyone for 2016.

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Bromley & Beckenham P.S. Last October the Society had an Exhibition from 15th/27th at the Bromley Central Library visited by approximately 180 people. 30 members had helped to man the show over the two weeks. There were only 4 correct answers in the 'Penny Black' competition, but only one who identified the two personalities on the Samoa stamp. The prize was to be presented to the winner at the club meeting on the 11th

of November, by Mr Jeffrey Matthews, MBE, a well known designer of British stamps. The October auction was very successful raising more funds for the Society than in 2014. The Stamp Fair incorporating the Federation Rally on October 24th attracted about 120 visitors, 50% of whom were our own members. Financially it generated donations to the Mayor's Charity, the School, and to the Federation, and a healthy surplus for the Society. On October 28th Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins was our guest speaker with a fine display of Russia from 1698 through to the early 1900's. The display was delivered enthusiastically, with a good sense of humour, a certain amount of irony and tongue in cheek, and with a good knowledge derived from many years business contact with Russian officialdom. Former member Michael Blackman being our guest on November 11th with a display entitled "Umbrellas & Parasols", plus a bourse. Then on the 25th, Len Barnes is to show "French Colonial Aviation". On December 2nd we host the Inter Society Competition Evening, ending the year on 16th December with the President's Evening, plus the Christmas Social. The New Year kicks off on January 13th with member Chris Sands showing Commonwealth Collections. and our Annual Dinner is planned for Wednesday, 20th January.