



**KENT FEDERATION  
of  
PHILATELIC SOCIETIES**



No.197

FEBRUARY 2015

**BULLETIN**

**PLEASE VIEW THE KENT PHILATELY WEBSITE**

**<http://kentphilately.weebly.com>**

**It supports the K.F.P.S.**

Sadly just before Christmas, Nigella Kent, a stalwart of Philately generally in Kent has passed away. She was a strong supporter of the Federation, regularly attending the Rallies and a former member and President of Maidstone & Mid-Kent P.S.

\*\*\*\*\*

Some months ago I asked one of our subscribers, a long standing friend who now lives in the South of France if he would care to let me have a report on Philately in France. Richard Thompson has come up trumps, sending me five A4 size pages. Its like waiting for a London bus, nothing for quite a while and then lots come all together - I will endeavour to include his tale in two parts, one now and part 2 in our May issue - I hope you find it interesting. Richard is also a benefactor of the Federation - more on that later. Thank you Richard !

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks to all who have sent in material for this issue, it is looking like this may be our largest ever issue, but I may have to omit some this time, otherwise it may take the Bulletin into a new weight category - my apologies if I have to leave your article out.

\*\*\*\*\*

A reminder to club secretary's - if your club is mentioned on the Kent Philately Website (please check) unless you send in up to date information to Mike Thompson the details may be out of date, and therefore might give the impression that your club is somewhat lethargic and not thriving. Prospective new members may be put off if you give duff information. There appear to be some club secretaries who are not on-line, if so may I suggest that you contact some one who can check if what is shown is appropriate ! Mike can not keep track of every club.

\*\*\*\*\*

As we have entered another calendar year, may I wish you all a successful 2015, and hope that it goes well for you and your club. We are all getting a little older and on reaching a certain age, might be considered 'past it', therefore if you are not yet 'past it', maybe you would care to do your bit to help the Federation or your club in some way, other than being 'just a member' !

Incidentally, you might find a number of appropriate 'older generation' references in this issue - I was given an 'old folks joke book' as a present ! Bah humbug !

\*\*\*\*\*

I am still awaiting a volunteer to take over as your Hon. Editor - if YOU are willing and able, please get in touch soon. It is my intention to step down after publishing issue number 200, after some 24½ years as Editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

I hope to see more of you at the Spring Rally at East Malling, come along for the day, bring a colleague or two and help create a good atmosphere, make a few new friends, and renew old acquaintances.

\*\*\*\*\*

Due to advances in technology people are living to a much greater age than ever before. Now the stages of growing old are termed Middle Age, Old Age, and the Synthetic Age. Is it true that 80 is the new 70, or have I got it back to front ?

\*\*\*\*\*

If your club needs more copies of the Bulletin, place your orders for our next issue soon, and please remember to place one copy in your packet, so that it reaches your members who do not attend meetings.

\*\*\*\*\*

In old age, happiness is a state of mind best created by causing misery to someone else ! If you think life at eighty is really miserable just wait till you are ninety !

## DIARY DATES FOR 2015

Remember, if you are planning to visit any of the events listed here, you are advised to check that neither the date, nor the venue have changed, BEFORE you travel.

NEXT CUT-OFF DATE for the MAY 2015 issue of the BULLETIN needs to be the 1st APRIL 2015. Do PLEASE let me have YOUR CLUBS NEWS, or any other items for inclusion in good time. I sometimes try to assemble some pages before the cut-off date, so any early contributions are welcome. This is the week before Easter! Your co-operation is appreciated please.

Check these dates BEFORE booking your holidays, so that you don't miss the events.

JAN 3	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham.
JAN 16/17	York Coin & Stamp Fair	The Grandstand, York Race Course.
JAN 25	LW Stamps Stamp Fair at Bexley	Freemantle Hall, High St, DA5 1AA
FEB 7	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham
FEB 18/21	"Spring Stampex"	The Design Centre, Islington, London
MAR 1	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair (NEW VENUE)	Stag Plaza, Sevenoaks TN13 1ZZ
MAR 7	Beckenham Stamp Fair,	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham.
MAR 22	LW Stamps Stamp Fair at Bexley	Freemantle Hall, High St, DA5 1AA
MAR 28	KENT FEDERATION SPRING RALLY	East Malling Village Hall,
MAR 28	Beckenham Stamp Fair,	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham
APR 11	Maidstone Stamp Fair	Grove Green Comm.Centre, ME14 5BT
APR 25	Beckenham Stamp Fair,	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham.
MAY 4	Tunbridge Wells PS host a Fair at	Crowborough on Bank Holiday Monday
MAY 13/16	"London 2015" "Europhilex"	The Design Centre, Islington, London
MAY 17	LW Stamp Fair	Freemantle Hall, Bexley DA5 1AA
JUN 6	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham.
JUN 7	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Stag Plaza, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ZZ
JUL 4	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham
JUL 4	Surrey Federation.	Addlestone Comm. Assocn, Garfield Rd.
JUL 12 (Sunday)	KENT FEDERATION DAY	Gt Danes Hotel, Hollingbourne. ME17 1RE
JUL 12	L.W. Stamp Fair	Freemantle Hall, Bexley, DA5 1AA
SEP 5	Beckenham Stamp Fair,	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham
SEP 6	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair,	Stag Plaza, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ZZ
SEP 16/19	"Autumn Stampex".	again at the Design Centre, London.
OCT 3	Beckenham Stamp Fair,	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham
OCT 10	S/England & Sussex Fed	Ardingly Show Ground, Sussex.
OCT 24	KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	Langley Park Schl, Beckenham.
NOV 7	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham.
NOV 15	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Stag Plaza, Sevenoaks. TN13 1AA
DEC 5	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd, Beckenham.

For more information, try [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk) on the "Exhibiting" tab. E & O.E.

\*\*\*\*\*

MORE DIARY DATES - FOR 2016! (seems along way off)

"Spring Stampex" 17/20 February, and "Autumn Stampex" 14/17<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

\*\*\*\*\*  
If you know of any more 'dates', please let me know, and I can include them in our next issue. It is helpful to have details, so that Federation events, such as Rallies, Seminars etc. when possible, do not clash with other events!



COMPETITION RESULTS - Held at DARTFORD on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2014

The FRANCIS FIELD AEROPHILATELY TROPHY for Society, 8 pages.

1 <sup>st</sup>	CINQUE PORTS	USA Contract Mail - Interrupted Flights	77	points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bromley & Beckenham	Commercial Aviation Service		
		Adelaide - Cowell 23-12-1934	76	“
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cinque Ports	Air France - Interrupted Flights	73	“

The PARNALL THEMATIC CUP for Society - 8 page competition.

1 <sup>st</sup>	BROMLEY & BECKENHAM	Blood - The Tissue of Life	84	“
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bromley & Beckenham	From Me to You - Aspects of the Post	80	“
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cinque Ports	Helicopters & Rotorcraft	76	“

The ARTHUR JACKSON POSTAL HISTORY TROPHY for Individuals, 16 pages

1 <sup>st</sup>	RON BURN (Bromley & Beckenham)	Tristan da Cunha - WWII	86	“
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chrissie Baker (Cinque Ports)	Official Mail in the French Republic and the First French Empire 1792-1815	85	“
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins (Maidstone & Mid-Kent)	Russian Prisoner Correspondence	84	“

Our thanks to the two experienced Judges, Ray How and Bill Trower, from the Essex Federation, both of whom joined us on the day at Dartford. Thanks also to all the competitors for their entries at Dartford, and the other competitions during the year. A high standard, with some high marking this time, let us hope it bodes well for the next Dawes Cup competition. Maurice Flack.

XX

OUR NEXT COMPETITIONS will be held at East Malling on 28<sup>th</sup> March, There will be an 8 pages Traditional. and a 16 pages Thematic competition. Please advise Maurice at least two weeks BEFORE the 28<sup>th</sup> March of your intention to submit an entry, it's title and bring or send it to reach him by 10am on the day. Phone: 01634 - 714584 OR E-mail at [mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk)

XX

**THE 'DAWES CUP' 2015** The selection of the Kent team to compete for this cup is to be made about the 10<sup>th</sup> April, the entries will need to be made available by mid June, and will be judged in London at 'The Royal' on or about the 23<sup>rd</sup> June. They will be put on show on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> July at "Magnapex", the Surrey Federation meeting at the Community Centre, Garfield Rd, Addlestone, Surrey. KT15 2AJ. We require four entries, one each from four different individuals of Kent affiliated clubs, each of 16 pages in one of the four categories - Traditional, Aerophilately, Postal History or Thematic (preferably not the latter, as the marking of this class are usually lower than in the other classes). If YOU wish to be considered for the team, please let Maurice Flack know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so that invitations can be sorted out in good time ! (01634 - 714584) or [mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk)

**Interested in military / wartime / censored mails ?**

**Join the:**

**Forces Postal History Society**

*[Affiliated to The Association of British Philatelic Societies]*

10 Meetings per year in London, 1 in Surrey, and a 2 day meeting 'On Tour'. - Quarterly Journal - Extensive Library - Postal & Room Auctions.

**View our website:** [www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk)

**Further details contact:** Martin Hopkinson  
Trewinney Barton, Mevagissey, ST AUSTELL,  
Cornwall PL26 6TD

XX

A little over 50 years ago we lived in Wiltshire and, representing the Salisbury PS, I was one of the founders of the Wiltshire Philatelic Federation. We were married in Strood, in the Medway Towns and I would frequently stay with mother-in-law in Strood if I had meetings in London. On one such occasion we were in the Strood Library and on the notice board was the Dartford PS programme with that evenings display being "W.A. Page - South Africa". I had recently joined the South African Collectors Society and knew that "Alec" Page was secretary, so I telephoned, asking if I could attend, and bring mother-in-law! That evening proved to be the start of a very dear and enduring friendship with Alec, which lasted until his death in 1998 - one moral of this story, then - is to give publicity to your society activities. So it was with great pride that in November I myself displayed at Dartford, this time as President of the Kent Federation and also of the South African Collectors Society - (I was "kicked upstairs" in the latter society from the chairmanship a couple of years ago).

As many of you will know, there has been a measure of discontent within the Federation of late with questions being asked, such as - "What does the Executive Committee do?" "Should we be affiliated to the A.B.P.S.?" "Do we have too many Federation Rally's?" "Do we have too many competitions?" "Should we have a Federation at all?" "Should we sack the whole Executive Committee?"

Now we do take all these matters seriously and we are, for instance, considering reducing the annual number of Federation events in 2016 to two; naturally, this will be put to the 2015 AGM. Also, as we would like to bring in some new blood, so we have been approaching a small number of collectors, inviting them to serve on the exec. as "officers without portfolio", initially to let them see how things work and then possibly to take office later. Some have accepted, such as Graham Brown of Bexley, and Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins of Maidstone. In addition Ron Burn, a former Chairman has returned as Chairman again. We also have at least two more prospective members in the pipeline; Alas some of those approached have declined, usually for good reasons that they are still working and cannot commit the time. obviously they are entitled to anonymity and I will not name them.

We take criticisms of the Executive Committee as part of the job description, and sometimes these are valid and we must put hands on hearts and say, occasionally, that we may have got it wrong; but moaning without coming up with constructive suggestions as to how to improve things, and to offer no help, are destructive and corrosive, and a blight on our hobby, so please, have your say, but do try and be constructive with it.

In the last few months I have given displays to Dover, Bromley & Beckenham, Dartford, Orpington and Royal Tunbridge Wells, and all of these have been most agreeable visits, showing my own meagre treasures and meeting friends old and new. As I mentioned at the beginning, Dartford was where I first met Alec Page over 50 years ago, and when in Strood, I would visit him "just for an hour" - some may remember there was the ritual of tea in china cups, cucumber sandwiches and fruit cake, then upstairs to the 'stamp room', and my "hour" would stretch to about eight hours of 'stamping' and I would find myself on the way home to Lincolnshire, Yorkshire or Hampshire (wherever we happened to be living at the time) by car in darkness, even in mid-summer. I know that Ron Burn and Ted Needham also remember Alec with much affection and I hope others in the Federation also have fond memories of him.

Continued overleaf)



**NOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR**      Recently, browsing through a small pre-WWII philatelic magazine, the "World Stamp Digest", published in the U.K. for 4d and dated June 1938, I found a reprint of a letter sent by a collector to his local Society in the U.S.A. following his road accident.

This was originally published in the "American Philatelist" probably in late 1937 or early 1938.

I thought that it might amuse and interest some of our readers. PJOK

"Dear Fellow Philatelists:      Please accept my most sincere thanks for the lovely flowers sent me during my recent semi-cancellation. They were as beautiful as a sheet of Zepps and as welcome as a trunk of Civil War correspondence. While I am not as yet O.G. or up to full catalogue value and am still some-what off center and with a few thin spots and nicked corners, and though my arm is still se-tenant and for some time will be carried en pochette, the repair work was fairly well done and I will soon be able to have myself expertised without fear of being classified as a counterfeit, a reprint or a Seebeck. I still have an undue amount of adhesives on me, quite a few bi-color cachets and roulettings and am decorated with merthiolate surcharges. I am still not sure whether my arm is cut square or cut to shape as the last radiograph looked some-what like a flat bed impression of a double grid perforation. I had as many major varieties of fractures as Scott has issues and as many minor varieties of bruises as there are cracked plate varieties of early American stamps. I am beginning to believe, in spite of the above, that I will not be definitely retired from circulation and that no new issue will be required in the near future.

Very sincerely",      A.J. Hiern

XX

Editors note: The underlined words relate to American Philatelic terms (some of which I have not heard of) and 'Scott' is their equivalent of 'S.G.' over here.

XX

G. B. "NEW ISSUES" By now you will probably have seen the latest new Issue by Royal Mail - the "Alice in Wonderland" set of ten stamps - 2 x 1<sup>st</sup> class, 2 x 2<sup>nd</sup> class, 2 x 81p, 2 x £1.28 and 2 x £1.47, all a square format, costing £9.42 ! The stamps are 'multi-coloured', se-tenant, printed by Lithography, have PVA gum, and are to be issued on 6<sup>th</sup> January. There will be a presentation pack, booklets of 6 x 1<sup>st</sup> class which have 2 of the new set, even a 'medal' cover, and of course 10 cards each illustrating one of the new stamps. Personally, I am not impressed. Why do we need two of each value? Not many children will want to spend their pocket money on a full set ! Do overseas collectors know the fairy tale ? Will they be seeking them ? Of you can use the stamps for postage !







## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (1)



Bexley Philatelic Society At the start of the 2014/15 season, we celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of our hon. packet secretary and auctioneer, Don Brookfield, with a cake, a card and a round of applause. Don has also served as our club President, and during 2004/5 was also the Kent Federation President. A photograph appears elsewhere. Len Barnes gave a display of French Aviation to 1870 which included the year of the Prussian siege of Paris. Balloons were used during the siege to carry mail out of the city, and Len showed some of these 'postal' items. He also showed some Cinderella items, and the development of mail services to Latin America and Asia. Our popular auction on October 3<sup>rd</sup> raised £77. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, we were entertained by two members of the Cinque Ports P.S., with displays by Barry Knight, Roger Dickinson of classic railway scenes, painted by Terence Cuneo, and federated Canadian (post 1867) items, respectively. In early November, members displayed parts of their collections related to the letters R, S and T - we saw lots of railway items, French Red Cross, Royal Mail postcards, R.A. F covers, the Italian Republic, Royalty postmarks, Rochester, Saar, Southampton, Ships and shipwrecks, slogans, Stampex, Cinderella material from Len Deighton's SSGB novel, Silver Wedding, British Solomom Islands and a post-war packet marked 'stockings'. November 21<sup>st</sup> was our 'Competitions Night' which was the largest for some time with 15 entries for two competitions - Traditional stamps, (8 pages,) and Postal History (16 pages). Congratulations to Michael Thompson, (President of the National P.S.) who won both competitions, with the second places going to John Corderoy, (Traditional) and Colin Tobitt (P/H). Our thanks to Mr & Mrs Johnson from Gravesend for the judging. Dr B.Austen was our guest on December 5<sup>th</sup>, with a display of the Sudan, giving its history from 1899, including 2 items of correspondence from the British General Gordon who was killed in Khartoum. We learnt the story about how the 'Camel' stamps were chosen, details of mail concessions for British military mails, colour trials and some early aerophilatelic flights to South Africa. Our first meeting in 2015 is on January 16<sup>th</sup>, followed by another auction on February 6<sup>th</sup> and a display of British Post Offices in Morocco on February 20<sup>th</sup>

XX



Edenbridge Stamp & Postcard Club Our new season started on September 18<sup>th</sup> with the predicted 'Open Meeting' with 7 members in attendance. The PENNY BOX netting £48.20, this was boosted as 2 members had taken home some boxes during the summer recess This being a terrific boost to our funds. In October

We had a Postcard Evening, but only 4 members attended, but the material on Show was very good. The November meeting was billed as "An Evening with Bob Larg" - we were honoured to have him come all the way from Worthing by train to our small club. Bob showed Nepal to 1972 Everest Exhibition for the first half and New Zealand Queen Victoria followed by German Exhibition postcards which were so colourful - a wonderful display! He also informed us that it was 25 years, almost to the day, when he displayed to us before as the then Kent President. Derek was then going to drive him back to Worthing. On January 15<sup>th</sup> we have an 'Open' meeting when we are invited to show anything related to WWI and in February, our Hon. Sec, Derek shows some of his postal history, and in March members show 1 - 10 sheets. Then in April we have a display of Brighton Postal History by Frank Parsons.

XX

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (2)

The Romney Marsh Philatelic & P/c Society Three weeks after our A.G.M. in early May, we had a visit by Rosemary Dellar, with a display of "IFNI", a small enclave on Morocco's Atlantic coast which first issued stamps in 1941, being those of Spain, duly overprinted, and later ceded to Morocco. We found a lot to interest us, as she had a surprising variety of material. This was followed in June by Theresa Cloake with a display of her underwater photography and her equipment. Bob Carr, our chairman, gave us the history of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland in September, which only covered a period of 10 years. Also in September, our President, Barbara Caryl, displayed 'Napoleon', from his birth and early life, in Corsica, through to his death on St.Helena. This was in Place of a planned visit by the Isle of Thanet P.S., who unfortunately, through illness and transport problems, could not travel on the night, hopefully we will be able to re-arrange their visit. Ray Barton, from Ashford was a visitor in October, with a display of Mexico, our first display of South America, an area we seem to have ignored. He had a surprising amount of material going back nearly 200 years, all in excellent condition. After a members evening at the end of November, we start out winter break, resuming at the end of February, when we look forward to seeing some more of Richard Mittells 'Red Cross' collection on the 25<sup>th</sup>. In March we have visits by Paul Cahill, with French Colonies, and Tony Davis showing Iceland.



XX



Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society We have had some very interesting displays over the last months of 2014, including a visit from Ron Burn showing 'Tristan da Cunha'. Our meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> was divided into two halves, firstly, with 'Men on Stamps' and for the second half, we saw 'Women on Stamps' - this was very successful and interesting evening. Later on we had an evening of 'Christmas Stamps' which was

well supported by members. We send sincere Best Wishes to all for the rest of the season.

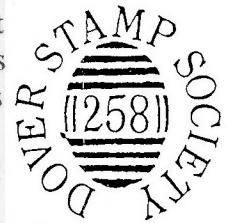
XX

Cinque Ports Philatelic Society Our first meeting of the new season, on September 1<sup>st</sup>, was 'New Acquisitions' when members show what they have recently acquired. On September 6<sup>th</sup> our speaker was Jeremy Gaskell with a fine display of 'British and Foreign Treaty Ports. Then on October 6<sup>th</sup>, Ron Burn entertained us with 'Tristan da Cunha, the Volcano Period' relating to the time when the volcano erupted and most of the islanders were transferred to the U.K. This was both an interesting History and Geography lesson. The club team visited the Bexley Society on October 17<sup>th</sup> receiving a warm welcome for their various displays. Then on October 20<sup>th</sup> we were visited by the Dover club for the now annual quiz with questions set by Barry Knight. Dover emerged as winners regaining the trophy we won last season. On November 3<sup>rd</sup> Bob Higgins entertained us with an interesting display of stamps, with 'Dinosaurs On Stamps'. His display was augmented with some Fossil specimens found on Folkestone beach. The letter 'T' was the topic of our meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> with a variety of items shown. On December 1<sup>st</sup> Alan Febery shows the RAF Escaping Society and we have an auction and Christmas Party on the 15<sup>th</sup>.



## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (3)

Dover Stamp Society have held 2 'Members Evenings' since the start of the current season, starting with the traditional postcards display, this produced, as usual, plenty of contributors, but the choice of a Thematics evening proved less successful. It seems that this type of collecting is not so popular with our members. We have also had two excellent displays by individual speakers; John Shaw, the Federation President, came all the way from the North West of Kent for a very professional and detailed show of South Africa, and our member Bob Palmer was in action on another night, to entertain us with his fine and well written up collection of France, plus some Austrian material. In October, we made the journey westwards to another quiz battle with our friends the Cinque Ports Society: this was a real test of memory, with Barry Knight, the home quizmaster, showing some of his colourful collection of the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, covering it up and then asking us the questions about the content. We narrowly defeated our hosts, to whom we extend our thanks for a very enjoyable evening. We attended another quiz recently, at the Baptist Church Hall, where we hold our meetings. This was a 'general quiz, for charity, to which we were invited as hall users. We were again successful, and it was good news that well over £200 was raised for the local food bank. As we left the hall, however, some bad news! In the course of conversation, the hall secretary told us apologetically, that our rental charge would have to increase by £1 an hour from April. As all readers will know this is a continuing problem for all stamp societies especially as membership numbers tend to fall.



The annual October auction was again a success with takings of over £300 mainly as a result of the sale of a Penny Black! Our Auctioneer, John Thorpe who last season took over from sadly missed regular man with his gavel, Peter Read, once again did the job efficiently and personably. At the time of writing, we look forward to a visit from our friends in Deal, and the ever popular Christmas party. Then the New Year meetings start on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January, with members asked to show something connected with the letters Q, R, and/or S. xxxxx

xx

Malling Stamp Club In August, Mr J. Shaw, the KFPS President gave us a display of Iraq - a most interesting and informative show of a country which is not often seen. Our annual dinner was held at the 'The George in Trottscliffe, again it was both very enjoyable, and well supported as usual. In September, our scheduled speaker was unable to attend so two of our members stepped in - Colin Smith's display included 'The Preserved Railways of Great Britain and South Africa' and Michael Thompson showed his new 'Aden' collection. Our October meeting was the AGM followed by members displays. The existing Officers and Committee were all re-elected. It was decided that rather than increase the membership subscription, a fee of £1. would be payable by those members attending each meeting. For this fee members would receive free refreshments and one go on the "bus stop" competition. Several then gave displays after the refreshments break. Our November meeting was a visit from Bexley P.S. The team was Frank and Pat Parsons - Firstly, Pat showed a very interesting and unusual collection of 'Customs Documents and Revenues'. Frank then gave a display of his 'Syria' collection and apologised because it is only a 'side-line' collection. However it was a fascinating and interesting show of another country which most members had never seen before. For December we have a Christmas auction and in January, it's five sheets or a fine of 25p!

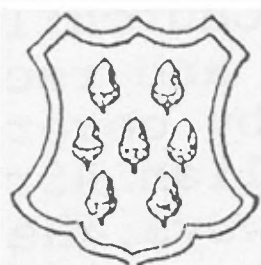


## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (4)

Gravesend Stamp Club Our first meeting of the new season was a Three sheet competition and bourse, with a good attendance, with a Potential new member in attendance. Michael Thompson and Hugh Johnson tied for first place; Michael's entry was Lundy - The 1936 'Large Map' issue, and Hugh's entry was Early Maritime Mail. At our second meeting, in September, Eddie Shilling displayed his new collection of Spain, but unfortunately, due to our correspondent being on holiday, we have no report for that meeting, although it is understood that the members present enjoyed the display. The auction in October was again well attended with a good number of interesting lots on offer. The second meeting in October was a joint meeting with the North West Kent Postcard Club, when Bob Appleton displayed 'Giant Wheels'. This was a very enjoyable lighthearted display and we hope that some of the stamp club members will also start collecting postcards. Unfortunately, the scheduled speaker for our first meeting in November was unable to attend, but John Corderoy, who was booked to come in 2015, kindly agreed to change his date at very short notice, and he gave us a display of his collection of Israel, which was enjoyed by our members. Our joint Christmas social took place on a very cold night but owing to the change of date, many people were not able to attend. However, a good time was had by those attending. The NWK Postcard Club provided the displays.



XX



SEVENOAKS

Sevenoaks & District Philatelic Society To kick-off the new season, our competition evening on September 3<sup>rd</sup> saw some amusing, interesting and excellent items on show connected with the letters X, Y & Z, plus A.. The 8 page competition for the 'W.E. Corderoy Cup' was won by John Crowe with Zoology. There was also a 4 sheet event, but in all we had 12 entries, these being from 7 different members - hopefully more might enter next time! Lindy Bosworth was our guest on October 1<sup>st</sup>, with a fine display of the 'Austro-Hungarian

Naval Mail during WWII' - backed by some very interesting stories and several unexpected illustrations on post cards. A change on November 5<sup>th</sup> with our hoped For visitor unable to join us, so Colin Evans stepped in with his most interesting display of mail during the American Civil War - well presented, and again with much information of the background history of many of the events. The Auction On December 3<sup>rd</sup> although having more lots than of late, was disappointing - it seems that the majority of members do not collect the items on offer! There is a lesson here - know your market! The New Year gets underway on January 7<sup>th</sup> with our 'Annual Christmas Cheese & Wine Social', then on February 4<sup>th</sup> we have a 'Members Evening' (hopefully free of snow or frost) with ALL members invited to mount a small display of 8 pages or 3 frames of 12 pages on any subject of their choice. On March 4<sup>th</sup>, Maurice Flack is our visitor with his 'Mystery Tour', which we guess could be stamps of the Commonwealth? We have read in the local press that the Sevenoaks Town Council have decided to sell the Council Offices adjacent to our meeting venue (The Red Cross Hall), the plan being to redevelop the site with houses, but whether this will mean the hall will also be affected (we understand that the council owns all the site) we have not been officially advised. This may take at least a year for the Council to refurbish another site for their meetings and rehouse the Red Cross people, we await some news. We may have to seek a new venue - Watch this space!

XX

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (5)

Maidstone & Mid-Kent Philatelic Society The first half of the season has seen a varied selection of displays / talks, starting off with Nigel Chandler, showing 'Tobago', both before and after its linking up with Trinidad. Then David Luckhurst showed his 'History of the Third Reich' which covered an important part of German/World history. In October we saw Mike Slamo display 'St Pierre et Miquelon', islands off the S.E. tip of Newfoundland, which were offered to French Fishermen to live on, rather than have them in Newfoundland. They used French stamps until 1926 when they ran out, then home made labels, then they just cancelled the envelopes. They now have their own stamps. Later in October, John Terry (not the Chelsea player) showed us 'Germany - WWII Occupation Issues' with a variety of different forms of philatelic material. The November 6th meeting was our bi-annual auction which was well attended, and later that month Bob Deakin showed us 'Morocco', which is 2½ times bigger than Britain. He included a map which showed the mail routes and also highlighted the problems of delivering mail. Our 'Stamp Fair' on November 8th was again well attended, and it was pleasing to see members of other societies, and catch up on news over a coffee. The early December meeting we saw a superb display of Canada, by Roger Dickinson, from 1867, the start of the Federation through to the early part of the QEII reign. A wide range of stamps and covers for all types of mail. The 18th December is President's Evening and we are looking forward to see what Tony Bosworth shows us. Our morning meetings continue to attract an average attendance of 18. September was a club visit from the Ashford Society, with another varied selection of material. Then in October, Mrs Wendy Lynes, brought along items from the WWI collection of her late husband, Martin Lynes with Tony Davis providing a fascinating talk about the items on display. Our December gathering will focus on the Falklands conflict. Sadly, we have to report the death of Nigella Kent - an obituary appears later.



XX



Lewisham Philatelic Society Our start to the season was a display of Australia by our President, Ray Houghton on September 2nd. Then on the 16th, we had 'Recent Acquisitions', with some interesting new items. On October 7th, John May from Ashford, (Middlesex) came to display his extensive collection of 'Lundy' - a fine show. Tony Hickey gave a very interesting show entitled 'Victory and Peace' later that month, making it an enjoyable evenings entertainment. November 5th was '5 sheets or 50p, with only one member failing to bring something - he coughed up £1 for club funds. Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins was our speaker on the 18th, with his 'World War One Russia' display - an absolutely superb show which everyone present enjoyed. On December 2nd, an old friend, Bob Larg will be offering his "Larg at Large" - we wait with baited breath to see what he brings. We are taking part in the Inter Society Competition at Beckenham on December 3rd, and we look forward to seeing many other friends there. On December 16th, we have our 'Christmas Evening' with food and drink, plus a few displays with a Christmas theme - a very nice social event. We send our good wishes for a Happy Christmas and a great New Year to all other societies.

XX

GETTING OLD ? In the good old days: ...today's antiques were available new ! ..... you could warm your hands on the radio ! .....fashion models were not constructed of silicon ! ..... bare knees were shocking ! .....old people seemed much older than they do now !  
Reminiscing is the Art of combining fact with fiction to produce fantasy !

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (6)

Swale Philatelic & Postcard Society Going back to 18<sup>th</sup> April 2014, we felt that as it was Good Friday, the scheduled meeting should be cancelled for fears of a poor attendance; our speaker, Chrissie Baker, was informed in good time. The meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> was our AGM at which all existing Officers and Committee were re-elected; it was nice to see our packet secretary, Deryk Kitney at the meeting following his sudden illness in the early part of the season. The results of the two competitions were, Shaun Caveney winning the Postcard Cup, and Marion Jordan won the Members Cup. During the meeting, Honorary Life Membership was bestowed on Mrs Clark for all the work she does providing refreshments at meetings. After the Summer break, the new season commenced with Harry Ward as our guest speaker on September 19<sup>th</sup>, showing 'Whales and Whaling' which covered all types of whale, including Baleen, Blue, Minke, Fin, Humpback, Sperm, Pilot and Dolphin. He also had some teeth adorned with scrimshaw. His knowledge of the subject was fantastic and a delight to listen to. On October 3<sup>RD</sup>, Laurie Tomlin showed postcards of 'The Gaiety Theatre, old and new, together with it's history, and illustrations of actors & actresses over many years of the Music Hall era. Tony Davis was our visitor on October 17<sup>th</sup>, with a fine display of the Victorian twopenny blue stamp from 1840. An eye watering collection of stamps, covering all the plate numbers and varieties, including a complete reconstruction of 240 stamps from plate 7, and part constructions of some other plates. We also saw Mulready twopence envelopes and embossed twopenny blue Victorian stationery, some having advertising rings around the stamps. Tony also showed items from commonwealth and some foreign countries – in all, a terrific display. Vickie Harris gave a display of postcards on November 7<sup>th</sup> featuring 'Farming and Harvesting', with various types of windmills. Rosemary Dellar visited us on November 28<sup>th</sup>, with a display of Netherlands mail from 1667 to 1934 including postal markings, air-mail covers, postal stationery, cards, censored mail, ordinary stamps., and charity stamps. She also showed a set of Insurance stamps issued in 1921 ensuring that mail by sea to the Indies was carried in boxes that should float should the ship flounder. A very interesting display with plenty of history. December 12<sup>th</sup> was our Christmas Party and competition night - the Hales Cup was awarded to Marion Jordan, and the Postal History competition was won by Brian Day. Both trophies were presented by our Chairman, Shaun Caveney. Michael Thompson had arranged a quiz entitled "Stampingo", after which we enjoyed some festive refreshments, and some members displayed certain items from their collections. The chairman thanked everyone, wishing all a Merry Christmas and hoping to see them all again in the New Year. xxxxx



XX



Kent Postal History Group We had about average attendance for our meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> at Sevenoaks, with several interesting displays on the topic 'WWI with a Kent connection', especially as 2014 was the centenary of the outbreak of the war. Then on the 15<sup>th</sup> November we had an auction at Sandling Village Hall. Our next meeting is on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> January, at our usual venue for that time of the year, namely Hurst Green Village Hall, when members of the Sussex P/H Group are to give displays, and our own members can show some of their recent acquisitions. We are back to Sandling Village Hall on March 21<sup>st</sup> for our AGM, and on June 6<sup>th</sup> we will be at Ringwold Village Hall, when the topic will be Kent 'Squared Circle' cancellations, and Maritime Mail, plus new acquisitions. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we are back to Sevenoaks for 'Parcel Post' and 'Skeleton' postmarks. More information from John Weston 01732 – 358163