



KENT FEDERATION of PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



Pte. William C Tickle lied about his age (15) when he joined the Army, and was killed aged 17.

No. 196

SEPTEMBER 2014

BULLETIN

PLEASE VIEW THE KENT PHILATELY WEBSITE

<http://kentphilately.weebly.com>

It supports the K.F.P.S.

Welcome to a New Season for Collectors, Philatelists and dare I say Novices? Apart from those still ‘young at heart’, we are all a little older, possibly wiser, and obviously raring to go! Well trying to. Now we know that getting members to volunteer to help their club, even if only putting the chairs away after a meeting, is not easy, but someone has to do the minor jobs as well as the more important ones. So your helping hand would be welcomed by your club. It’s not asking too much, and no matter how old you feel, surely there is something you could offer to do? You get a lot, but do nothing - is that fair?

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In this issue Graham Brown, not a member of the Executive, has written a letter of appreciation of the work done by the Officers of the Federation, and maybe a few more members will realise that things just don’t happen – someone has to do something, even if it is just to book a venue for a Rally, arrange for dealers to attend, sort out catering, judges, frames, table & chairs, parking, the clearing up afterwards, collecting the competition entries and returning them to their owners, insurance cover, flyers and advertising, all time consuming but not difficult. It’s all for our mutual benefit, and enjoyment, but the response of many club members is poor! How many of your club members attended the Federation event at Ashford? Did you attend? If not, why not? Don’t you care about the hobby, if there were no club meetings what would you do? Someone needs to do something, are you just a sponger? Blow you Jack, I’m alright!

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The Autumn Rally is at Dartford on Saturday 4th October, make a note, try and come along, bring or travel with a car load of your members, and stay the whole day. If you have not been, you don’t know what you are missing, if you have been, but did not stay long, you couldn’t have been very social-able! Even if you do not want to spend a few pence on stamps, you can look at the competition entries, see whether you can better them, or perhaps set your sights higher and enter the next competitions - you might get some better ideas on how to set out or improve your stamps. Don’t be shy, mix with and talk to other collectors, most of them don’t bite, and many can make good friends!

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After many years publishing the Bulletins in February, May and September, The Executive, and Council have decided to change the dates, starting next year. A number of clubs close down for the Summer months, and claimed that the May Bulletins arrived after their meeting that month, and were out of date by the time they next met in September. So next year we will try to publish in January, April and September - this means that cut-off dates will be on average a month earlier than at present. Hopefully ALL clubs will endeavour to submit reports and those clubs & members who give up stamps in favour of gardening or holidays during the Summer will get more time to prepare for the New Season!

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Our front cover depicts the GB stamps issued to mark the 100th Anniversary of the outbreak of WWI in 1914. They were issued on the 28th July.

DIARY DATES REST OF 2014

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 FEBRUARY 2015 issue of the BULLETIN needs to be the 15th DECEMBER 2014. 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. Beware of Postal delays before Christmas !

Check these dates BEFORE booking your holidays, so that you don't miss the events.
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SEP 6 Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
SEP 6 Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
SEP 7 Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Knole Academy, Bradbourne Vale Road.
SEP 13 Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
SEP 14 LW Stamps Stamp Fair at Bexley.	Freemantle Hall, High St, DA5 1AA
SEP 17/20 Autumn Stampex (Germany & Cols)	Design Centre, Islington, London. N1.
SEP 20 Chris Rapley Fair	Sittingbourne, Carmel Hall, Ufton Lane. ME10 1JB
SEP 27 Surrey Federation	Bookham, Old Barn Hall, Church Rd, KT23 3PQ
OCT 4 KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	Hosted by Federation at Dartford Grammar School for Boys, Mick Jagger Centre at West Hill, Dartford. DA1 2HW
OCT 4 Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
OCT 4 Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
OCT 10 Strand Stamp Fair.	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
OCT 11 Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
OCT 11 South of England Fair (Sussex Fedn)	The Ardingly Showground, RH17 6TL
OCT 12 Chris Rapley Fair.	Southborough, Meadows School, TN4 0RJ
NOV 1 Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
NOV 1 Malling S.C. - Mini Fair	Clout Memorial Hall, West Malling.
NOV 1 Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
NOV 8 Maidstone & Mid-Kent P.S. Fair	Grove Green Community Centre, ME14 5BT
NOV 8 Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
NOV 14 Strand Stamp Fair.	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
NOV 15 Chris Rapley Fair.	Carmel Hall, Ufton Lane, Sittingbourne.
NOV 16 Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Knole Academy, Bradbourne Vale Road.
NOV 23 LW Stamps Stamp Fair at Bexley	Freemantle Hall, High St, DA5 1AA
DEC 6 Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
DEC 6 Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
DEC 7 Chris Rapley Fair.	Rochester, Masonic Hall, ME1 1QD
DEC 12 STRAND STAMP FAIR	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
DEC 13 Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
DEC 20 Chris Rapley Fair.	Carmel Hall, Ufton Lane, Sittingbourne.

Some Events in 2015. (Unfortunately, as few dates have been advised so far, as we go to press I include those I am aware of, but if no one tells me, we all miss out !)

(continued)

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2015 (continued)

JAN 25 LW Stamps Stamp Fair at Bexley Freemantle Hall, High St, DA5 1AA
 FEB 18/21 "Spring Stampex" The Design Centre, Islington, London
 MAR 22 LW Stamps Stamp Fair at Bexley Freemantle Hall, High St, DA5 1AA
 MAR 28 KENT FEDERATION SPRING RALLY East Malling Village Hall,
 APR 11 Maidstone Stamp Fair Grove Green Comm.Centre, ME14 5BT
 MAY Tunbridge Wells P.S. host a Fair at Crowborough on Bank Holiday Monday
 MAY 13/16 "London 2015" The Design Centre, Islington, London
 JUL 12 (Sunday) KENT FEDERATION DAY Great Danes Hotel (Mercure)
 SEP 16/19 "Autumn Stampex". again at the Design Centre, London.
 OCT 24 KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY Langley Park Schl, Beckenham
 For more information, try 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" 14/17th 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 !

We have two 'Kent based' stamp & philatelic material Auctions in the County, namely MARTELLO PHILATELIC AUCTIONS, (Office Telephone no. is 01303 - 269712 or E-mail : info@martelloauctions.com) They hold their auctions at The Holiday Inn, Canterbury Road, Ashford TN24 8QQ. Their next Auction is on 24th October. The other is T & T AUCTIONS LTD which use's St. Marks Hall, Bayham Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5LX As they will be at STAMPEX in September, their next auction dates are October 11th and December 6th. Please NOTE THESE CHANGES ! (Office telephone 01892 - 529898 or you can E-mail them on info@tandtauctions.com.)

THANKS to our advertisers for their support - Please mention our Bulletin when contacting them. THANKS also to the Essex, Middlesex and Sussex Federations for copies of their Journals, and to Sevenoaks, Sidcup, Swale and Tunbridge Wells for their Newsletters. Finally, thanks to Michael Thompson for printing and distributing this Bulletin. Apologies for the slight delay, this being due to holidays. PJOK.

PERSONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS If you have your copy direct, may I remind you that all, bar two, subscriptions are now due again, one or two are definitely OVERDUE, Thanks to those of you who have recently been in touch. I should remind you that for those of you who can 'download' it, the Bulletin is on the Internet, usually four to six weeks prior to our Kent Rallies.

CONTACT DETAILS In this issue, following suggestions made at the recent Council Meetings, the full contacts of Society/ Club Hon. Secretaries, (quoted in full on page two, but NOT included on the Internet) will in future also be listed on a separate page, but will only give the basic telephone no. and where known the e-mail addresses and this will appear on the internet !. It is therefore important that this information is accurate, so please advise me of any errors, changes or additions/deletions needed.

EVEN LARGER This issue contains 30 pages - our largest ever printing ! You do get more value than ever before. But I still need more, particularly some informative longer philatelic articles. Can you come up with something ?

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE AGM & COUNCIL MINUTES 28/6/14

The retiring Chairman, Chrissie Baker welcomed 28 attendees, representing 17 of our 22 Affiliated clubs, with apologies from 3 Past Presidents and one member. (Where were the 5 missing delegates?). Reports included mention that the Executive Committee met four times, there were the usual 3 Rallies in the year, (here again a number of clubs were not represented!) Federation teams competed in three important competitions, winning one and coming second in two others. In general several clubs suffered a loss in membership – we stood for a minute in remembrance of 14 members (of various societies) who had passed away. Details of the ‘Open Philately’ competition were announced. In his absence, due to his recent operation, a letter from the President, John Shaw was read to the meeting. He thanked all the Executive for their hard work during the year. The Treasurer reported that the finances were in good shape despite a deficit of £188 in running costs. Ron Burn was unanimously elected as Chairman for a second term, and all other Officers were re-elected en bloc. The Lingley Shield this year was awarded to David Rennie, a former Federation Secretary and now Hon. Secretary of the Bromley & Beckenham P.S. A vote of thanks was passed to Chrissie Baker for all the time and effort she had put into the job of Chairman over her three years in office, despite still working for a living. The Council Meeting; This followed the AGM with details of the number of entries for our competitions, reports from other Officers, and of the Rallies held during the year. Details of future events were mentioned and Seminars were discussed. The competition rules were to be rewritten to standardise them’

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SEMINARS Due to the poor attendance recently, no Seminars have yet been arranged for the immediate future - if members are not prepared to turn out on a Saturday in greater numbers, we cannot justify inviting a speaker to give up his or her time and travel to display and talk to us. We need at least a dozen members who will commit to attending. You have had the chance and have failed to accept some excellent displays and talks. If demand is forthcoming, we might re-consider this decision, but it needs YOUR support.

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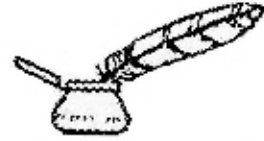
SPACE FILLERS Every now and again I need something to fill the odd space on a page, after I have fitted in a report, an advert or a short article. Fortunately my ‘printer’ can reduce or enlarge illustrations etc, but I cannot go on using the same cartoons or jokes, one liners etc in every other issue. If you have any suitable smaller items that might amuse our readers, it might be just what I need for the gaps! Can you supply any?

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HONEST ? One day on returning home I found a message on ‘Call Minder’ - a friend wanted me to give him a reference for a job he wanted. I would need to confirm that he was trustworthy and reliable. There was a form which I needed to sign, but as I was not available, he had forged my signature! XXX



‘HANG ON A MINUTE, I MUST FINISH ENGRAVING THE ADDRESS.’ (PTT Switzerland)



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (1)

It is always nice to receive an acknowledgement and especially praise of something that you or others have done, and I was delighted to receive one letter a few days ago, which, apart from the writers address, I reproduce below, exactly as it was received. It is always easy to criticise, but few appear to appreciate what is actually done (for them!) and actually 'put pen to paper'. One hears comments on what or how certain things should be done, (some good ideas have been brought to light this way) but unless there is someone who volunteers to do it, one can not assume it will be done. Blaming someone for not doing it your way, does not do anyone any good, unless a better way is suggested. Many ideas are put forward and usually the majority opinion is accepted and tried. However, unjustified criticism is not helpful, it sows the seeds of distrust, and it seems that critics rarely consider the 'other sides' thinking, and without the full facts they may take a wrong view. If they then spread inaccurate information, it creates a bad atmosphere, and too many other people get the wrong impression of those who are doing the job. Do you listen to both sides or are you one of those who believe every comment you hear as being accurate? There are two sides to every situation - the wrong one and the right one! I know which I prefer!

PJOK.

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Bexley

19th August 2014

Dear Peter

Further to my telephone conversation, below are my comments on the meeting.

I was recently invited to attend an Executive Committee meeting of the Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies, I must be honest and say that went along with preconceived ideas that this was going to be a far from an effective body of likeminded philatelists and would represented a rather poorly managed gathering of bickering individuals with no set goals in mind. How wrong can one be? I was firstly impressed with how efficiently the Chairman manages the Committee members, that every representative had set tasked to perform and duties to carry out within the committee. It was so noticeable that each officer was passionate about their role in the organization. The agenda was reasonably lengthy but each section was well discussed and many questions were asked before a decision was made. It was also very noticeable that a lot of work was being carried out in updating and simplifying policies and procedures in order to improve clarity and understanding for all its members. I came away from the meeting enlightened that there was a body of like-minded philatelists trying desperately to protect and further the interests of our hobby and this is all carried out on a purely voluntary basis. Please keep up the good work.

Regards

Graham Brown

19/08/14

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Editor's Note Thank you Graham, your comments are much appreciated. One wonders if many members realise what is involved either in running a Club or the Federation - things don't just happen - people have to do something!

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COMPETITION RESULTS These were held at Ashford on 28th June

Well done to Maidstone & Mid-Kent with their members entries gaining two firsts, two seconds and a third place. It is interesting to note that the 3 clubs with winners are probably the 3 largest in Kent. Where were the others ?

<u>W.A. Page Postal History Trophy</u> for Clubs, 8 pages with 4 entries.			
1 st	CINQUE PORTS PS	Canadian Mail to GB via the U.S.A - 1868 to 1890	84 points
2 nd	Maidstone & Mid-Kent PS	Russian Post Offices Abroad - The Khanates of Buckhara and Khina	75 “
3 rd	Maidstone & Mid-Kent PS	The Maori Wars in New Zealand	74 “

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<u>The Cinderella Trophy</u> for Clubs, 8 pages with 4 entries			
1 st	MAIDSTONE & MID-KENT PS	Cancellations of the 1907 Revenue Stamps of Imperial Russia	75 “
2 nd	Maidstone & Mid-Kent PS	Imperial Russia Telegram and Document Seals	71 “
3 rd	Bromley & Beckenham PS	Marketing Black Gold	69 “

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<u>Open Class Philately</u> for Individuals, 16 pages 3 entries			
1 st	MARCUS SHERWOOD-JENKINS (Maidstone & Mid-Kent PS)	Russian Postal Worker and his work 1750 – 2000	78 “
2 nd	Grahame Boutle (Bromley & Beckenham PS)	Marketing Black Gold	75 “
3 rd	Chrissie Baker (Cinque Ports PS)	“Charlie’s Desk”	71 “

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Our thanks to both of the Judges, Brian Coates and Brian Thurlow, of the Middlesex Federation for giving up their time and joining us on the day. My special thanks to Colin Tobitt and Michael Dobbs who helped out on the Friday evening erecting the display frames etc and to Bob Higgins who manned the Tombola stand, and to those of you who donated Tombola prizes. Finally thanks also to Barry Knight and others who helped tidy up everything after it was all over. Maurice Flack.

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THE COMPETITIONS TO BE HELD AT THE AUTUMN RALLY at Dartford On October 4th will be Thematic (8 pages), Aerophilatelic (8 pages) and Postal History (16 pages) . You should know the rules by now, (your club Secretary has been given copies of the rules) or contact Maurice if you have a query, and not later than the 20th September to notify him of your intention to submit an entry, and it’s title! - try 01634- 714584, or mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk

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NEXT YEAR the competitions will be Spring Traditional (8 pages), Thematic (16). Summer Cinderella & Postal History (both 8), and Aerophilately (16) and Autumn Thematic and Aerophilately (both 8) and Traditional (16). Why not start preparing your entries during the winter months ? Have a go !

The second round of the 16 page competitions are scheduled for 2016 with Spring Cinderella, Summer Open Philately, and Autumn Postal History.

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G.B. NEW ISSUES

I understand that we are soon to have a set of former Prime Ministers on our stamps' fairly soon. Unfortunately few details are available todate, but they will depict, Churchill, Atlee Wilson, Thathcher, Robert Peel, William Pitt the younger, Charles Grey, and William Gladstone. Four are for 1st class postage and four are at the 97p rate. Illustrated below are the 1st class stamps, but I do not have details of the date of issue yet !



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CAN YOU HELP ? Does anyone have any information about the Maori Wars in New Zealand around 1864 ? Our member Lewis Giles, is seeking as much detail as is available on a battle between British Troops and Maori men and women known as the Battle of "Gate Pa" at Tauranga when 1,700 soldiers, lead by a Lieutenant-General Duncan Cameron stormed the bunkers. Apparently the Maori's survived a heavy artillery bombardment, before they routed the attacking force. If you know of any details, or source where of information of this engagement, please let Lewis or myself have the details - thanks. I have enquired of a few members of the Forces P.H.S, but so far without any success. PJOK

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Congress : I attended the two day mini GB congress at Market Harborough on 25th & 26th July, but was disappointed to see only 3 others from the South East - all from Sussex, with only me from Kent. No one else interested ?

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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.
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WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ! If the Powers that be who choose the designs for our GB stamps had been a bit more imaginative or progressive, we might have had designs for the first QE II definitive stamps as shown below.



One assumes the colours would have been as the lower values of the time, i.e. in 1952/53, but they would have needed to be larger so that the scenes would be clear. Alas the 2d value depicting Edinburgh Castle does not show clearly enough in black. These were hinted at by the then Editor of Gibbons Stamp Monthly, but I do not think they were actually submitted as essays.

Now a days, the Queen's head is smaller on many of the commemorative stamps, but the stamp size seems to be regularly used.

DID YOU EVER THINK we would have politicians on our stamps ? Well, I understand that fairly soon a set depicting former Prime Ministers is to be issued - I don't have the full details yet, but I read in a paper that there will be six stamps, 3 first class, and 3 at 97p, with Thatcher, Churchill, Atlee and Wilson, plus Gladstone and another. Hopefully not Blair !

NEW ISSUES Another set of 'POST & GO' stamps (now referred to as stamps and not 'labels') is due to be issued on the 17th September, featuring "Symbolic Flowers" - six first class stamps (for up to 100 grms). Three are illustrated below. Then on 18th September we will have 6 more 'ordinary' stamps depicting various Seaside features - 2 @ 1st class, 2 @ 97p, and 2 @ £1.28. Three of them have rather dark clouds - not a good advert for the seaside. Four are shown below.

1st Class
up to 100g



1st Class
up to 100g



1st Class
up to 100g



DID YOU KNOW ? In Bulletin 195, on page 22, I mentioned that there was a British Savings stamp which featured a Swastika, (before it was adopted as a Nazi emblem.) Ian Nutley has sent kindly sent some illustrations; (1) of the outside of the War Savings Association card (dated July 1917 or 1919?) plus (2) the inside, with 10 stamps. In the Cinderella Club Handbook no 4, by Lionel D. Jones, it reports that these were first used in or about July 1916. The 1st issue had the KGV simple cypher watermark, but the 2nd issue (from 1924) had the block cypher watermark - both issues were in use at the same time (from 1924) - they were withdrawn in 1928. The first of these stamps were printed in black on white paper by Harrisons, whilst the second printing, omitted the word 'war' (see the single illustration) and was in vermilion ink. Ian was able to acquire these at face value i.e. 5/-, but he does not tell us when! The 'Swastika' design was considered to be a sign of 'Joy' or 'Happiness' and Good Fortune', and can be traced back to early totem pole carvings and some Temple carvings in India. It has also been found in Saxon and Scandinavian usage. The other illustration (3) is of a poster issued by the War Savings Committee to publicise this method of saving for National Savings Certificates. The illustrations below and overleaf are reduced in size.

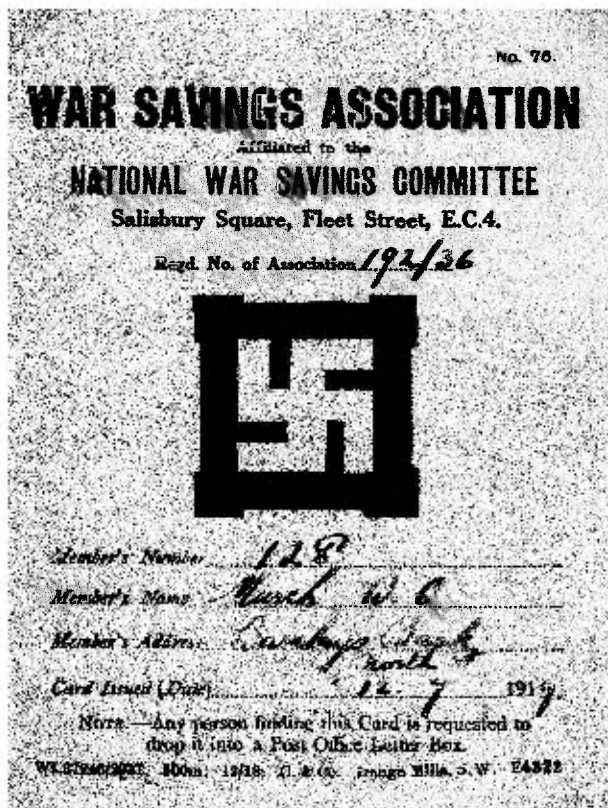


Figure (1)



Figure (3)

Figure (2) is shown overleaf.

Thanks Ian, My 'note' was just a space filler, but it is nice to have a more detailed version, with illustrations. I doubt that many of these have survived.

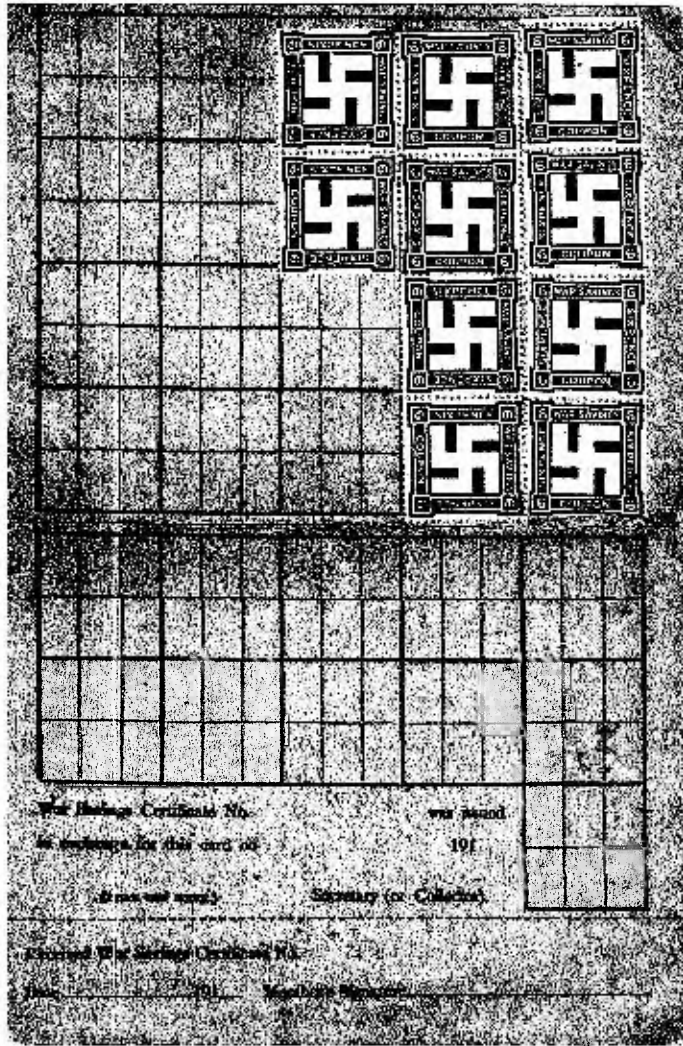
DID YOU KNOW ?

The Swastika on British Savings Stamps (continued)

Figure (2) shows the inside of the Savings card (which would be folded in half) with 31 spaces to stick 6d savings stamps, and when full, it could be exchanged at any Post Office for a National Savings Certificate. However the N.S Certificate, at the time, cost (I think) 15/- (i.e. it needed only 30 stamps @ 6d each) so why the odd extra space ?

Shortly after this issue the use of ordinary 6d postage stamps was permitted for a short period - probably due to a shortage of savings stamps or a delay in the arrival of a new issue !

It is unlikely that you might find any of the ordinary stamps with a Nat.Savings cancel, as no doubt they would have been destroyed



THE SALE ROOM

A member wishes to offer for sale the following items and should you be interested, your written offers, (or a telephone call, routed via the Bulletin Editor can be passed to the seller. As a reference Please quote 'Box A1' or 'A2' If you are interested please make contact by say Tuesday the 30th September, and maybe arrangements to view (and to complete a purchase) can coincide with the next Federation Autumn Rally at DARTFORD on the 4th October. Earlier enquiries accepted. The seller has a outer London phone number. The Federation however can not accept any liability - any arrangements are between the seller and buyer(s) only. The items for sale are:

A1 EAST GERMANY Collection 1949 to 1962 in red LINDNER album (Falzlos album T pages 1 – 54) U.M.M. Catalogued over £4,000
Offered at £1,000

A2 GREENLAND A collection of 33 used Parcel Post (Paketmarken) stamps from 1915 to 1937, all listed in the FACIT Specialised Catalogue, and all have been shown at various displays to 4 Kent Federation clubs. Illustration of one alongside. The asking price is £900.



A.G.M.'s and ATTENDANCES !

David Rennie

Why are attendances at our A.G.M.'s better than our normal numbers at a display meeting ? This point was raised from the floor at our recent AGM. Often attendances at AGM's are lower because nothing else happens, the same old people say the same old thing. "Membership numbers have fallen again", "the Auction did very well", "Subscriptions are too high", the Packet Secretary complains about blank spaces, delays in the box being passed on, and members inability to do simple arithmetic ! Someone proposes the accounts are accepted and the committee are re-elected 'en bloc' because no one else wants to get involved ! We have tried different things over the years, from having a bourse; So everyone rushes through the AGM business. Having a display, everyone rushes through the AGM business or they look at the display and are then in a hurry to get home. Someone tries to get a discussion going, or bemoans the lack of juniors, or complains about too many new issues from Royal Mail; at which point they all agree; end of discussion. There is a mini-auction after the AGM so everyone rushes through the business and there is no discussion. There is always one grumpy member who complains about something trivial but who never gets involved except under protest. Nothing new in any of those scenarios ! What to do ?

We have started having our "President's Cup" Competition on the same night. The Competition evenings are quite popular, even if the competition secretary struggles to get a decent number of entries. However the President's Cup is different because no effort is involved. Entrants bring up to a dozen sheets taken straight from their collections, and these are judged by the President giving "credit for the arrangement, presentation, and general impression".

While the President is judging, the Secretary deals with normal business, gives more detailed reports on progress of whatever is in hand, may show off the 'Press Cuttings' book, asks for members input for the programme, gives the floor over to whoever wishes to make a statement, comment or report, etc Judging does not take too long, since there is no deliberation on marks, and the result is announced as soon as possible, and presentation of the cup is made. After this, members can view the entries, disappear to have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. The meeting is then called to order and the raffle is drawn, thus ensuring everyone is in their seat for the start of the AGM.

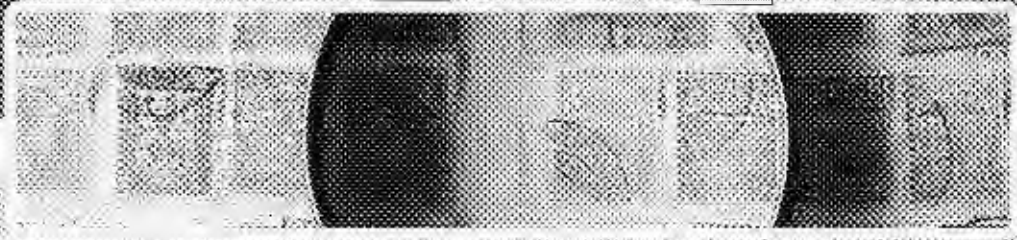
Suitably refreshed and entertained, the AGM follows at a reasonably brisk pace since all members will have the reports in advance, and any questions are quickly answered.

Knowing that there are already nominations for the vacancies on the committee also allays the fears of those timid mortals who hesitate to step forward, but might gladly come on the committee for a couple of years if asked. This is the tricky part and requires tact, encouragement, even arm twisting on the part of the Secretary, President or indeed any other member. Business accomplished and everyone happy that they have contributed if only by sticking their hand up when asked to vote, there is still time to look at the competition entries before departing after an enjoyable evening. Sounds easy, but it seems to work for us. Why they don't all come to normal meetings is what we now have to learn !

P.S. The views of the Secretary and not necessarily those of the members
David is Secretary of BROMLEY & BECKENHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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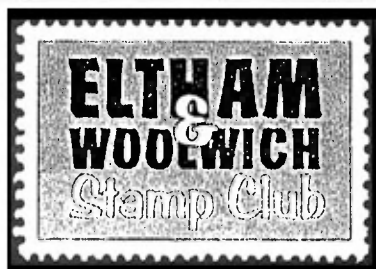


SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (1)



Bexley Philatelic Society has had a busy time, celebrating its 50th birthday in 2014: the stamp fair at the Freemantle Hall in May, generated lots of interest about the club, and gained us five new members, plus netting almost £100. for club funds, thanks to the hard work of the volunteers. The celebration dinner at 'Sophie's Choice' in Sidcup, held just a few days before the actual Anniversary date in mid-July, featured as guest of honour, Chris Carr, a founder member, and was a fine way to mark the occasion. In April, Brian Stonestreet gave a presentation of New Zealand KGVI 1938-53 definitives detailing the different papers used, colour variations, overprints, plate blocks and coils. Next we saw the 1953 QEII issues, again with many varieties, plus a display of official stamps. The second half started with the 1960 pictorials, with varieties of fauna landmarks, wild life, occupations and notable places of interest. He continued with the 1967 change to decimal values, showing lots of varieties, plus fish, moths, butterflies, Maori artwork, industry, and national parks. In May, members displays showcased the club's wide range of collecting interests, including Swiss overprints, trees, ship mail, KGVI high values, followed by a 2 page competition, (with 12 entries), judged by the members present, and won by Pat Parsons "Views of London". We had a team visit from the Chelmsford P.S. with displays of Norway, Italy, including an item of 1459 from Florence to Venice, and various Italian states. After our AGM in June, we had members displays of plated GB Penny Reds, and post-war Herm stamp issues. On July 4th, (an appropriate date!) we saw a thematic display of Abraham Lincoln given by Angus Lincoln (nor relation) consisting of postcards, Cinderella items, fiscals, and stamps. The season ended with an auction which raised £85 for the club. Our new season commences on September 19th, when our former Treasurer, Len Barnes displays "French Aviation from 1870" followed by another auction on October 3rd.

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Eltham & Woolwich Stamp Club Not much to report in this issue – our meeting on April 17th was our competition night, followed on the 8th May with our A.G.M. when with no nominees or volunteers, all the 'officers' and the committee, i.e. those who run the club were re-elected 'en-bloc' On June 5th we held our first Summer

meeting when the 'officers' entertained us. We had an auction on July 10th with most members bagging an item or two. The last Summer meeting was on August 7th when all members get the chance to show items from their collections, and it is always surprising what turns up.

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Isle of Thanet Philatelic Society Our last session of the 2013/14 season, although down in numbers, we enjoyed many interesting displays. Our programme for 2014-15 is now complete and starts on September 17th with members invited to show items connected with the letters A, B and C. As usual this allows a good variety of choice for stamp displays. At our A.G.M., John Elsey was elected as our new President. In the discussion that followed about how to attract new members and encourage our regulars, suggestions of 'Free' membership and refreshments, plus plans for local advertising were agreed.



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