



# KENT FEDERATION of PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE STAMPS  
(see page on New Issues inside)

No. 195

MAY 2014

## BULLETIN

PLEASE VIEW THE KENT PHILATELY WEBSITE

<http://kentphilately.weebly.com>

It supports the K.F.P.S.

Firstly, my sincere apologies to the Dover Stamp Society, Keith Gawn, their Hon. Secretary gave me his club report, when I visited them a month or two ago, and I placed it with my display sheets, and now I cannot find it. Sorry Dover, but when it turns up, I will add it to your next report. I believe that when I returned home, I removed it from my sheets, but it’s gone missing. and despite delaying the issue of this edition, I have failed to find it. I have searched everywhere, obviously bar one place, with-out any luck. My ‘office’ (3<sup>rd</sup> bedroom) is in rather a mess at present, as I have been extremely busy, clearing and selling a house of an elderly friend who is currently in a nursing home, and I have a lot of his paperwork and the remainder of his stamp collection which is piled high, pending my sorting it out and disposing of it. Sorry folks, I need to do better, otherwise I might be dismissed. as the Editor ! Incidentally, I am still looking for someone to take over as Editor !

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I regret to have to report the passing of two senior members of our societies, Peter Reed (Dover S.S.), and Tai Foo, (Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells). We offer out condolences to their families and their clubs.

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This edition is, I believe the largest issue we have ever had, as comments in the last edition have drawn a healthy response, with 7 pages of “Letters to the Editor” - it is gratifying to know that there are some readers out there - YOUR views are important, they can help to formulate policies or changes that the Executive Committee can consider.

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The Spring Rally at Beckenham was another enjoyable event, with a reasonable attendance, and although I personally did not find many bargains, even on the tombola stand, I did renew several acquaintances with many friends. The fact that it was on Mothering Sunday may have prevented some members with families, from attending, but I think it was a successful day. Thanks to the Bromley & Beckenham Society members for the good organisation.

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We have a new advertiser , and I have noticed members from several Kent clubs who are regular attendees at the T & T Auctions in Tunbridge Wells.

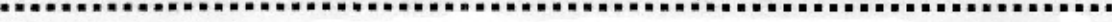
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I have had to omit the Club’s Programme Listing from this issue, but as most of it up to mid July was included last time, I hope that Mike Dobbs will not lose too much sleep over it. Any one wanting details for July, Aug and Sept can obtain them from Mike. (0208 402 5409) or [michaeldobbs@ntlworld.com](mailto:michaeldobbs@ntlworld.com)

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OUR NEXT COMPETITIONS - 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2014 - AT ASHFORD

We are holding the 8 page Cinderella, the 8 page Postal History and the 16 page ‘Open Philately’ competitions. The 8 page entries are restricted to two per club, and the 16 page is for individuals. YOU should advise Maurice Flack (01634 714584 or [mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mauriceflack@hotmail.co.uk) no later than 12noon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June if YOU are putting an entry into any of the competitions. It would be advisable to check with your club competition officer that for the 8 page competitions, your club has no more than two entries. Failure to advise Maurice in good time, will mean that your entry cannot be accepted, so it is up to YOU, don’t leave it to someone else – they might forget.



## DIARY DATES 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 SEPTEMBER 2014 issue of the BULLETIN needs to be the 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2014. Do PLEASE let me have YOUR CLUBS NEWS, or any other items for inclusion in good time. I sometimes start assembling pages before the cut-off date, so any early contributions are welcome. THANK YOU ! PJOK.

Check these dates BEFORE booking your holidays, so that you don't miss the events.  
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MAY 3	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair,	Knole Academy, Bradbourne Vale Rd
MAY 5	Stamp & P/C Fair (hosts T/Wells PS)	All Saints Hall, Crowborough, TN6 1ED
MAY 10	Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, Sandgate Rd, CT20 2UQ
MAY 16	Strand Stamp Fair.	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
MAY 17	Chris Rapley Fair.	Sittingbourne, Carmel Hall, ME10 1JB
MAY 17	Bexley Phil.Soc'y. (50 <sup>th</sup> Anniv)	Freemantle Hall, Bexley, DA5 1AA (10am)
JUN 1	Chris Rapley Fair (Meadows School)	London Rd, Southborough, T/Wells, TN4 0RJ
JUN 7	NOTE :- The Federation Seminar has been put back until July 19th	
JUN 7	Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
JUN 7	Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, 129 High Stm CT14 6BB
JUN 8	Collectors Fair.	Kings Hall, Herne Bay CT6 6BA
JUN 13	Strand Stamp Fair	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
JUN 14	Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
JUN 21	Chris Rapley Fair	Sittingbourne.
JUN 28	<u>Kent Federation Day &amp; A.G.M.</u>	Hosted by Federation at Ashford School, East Hill, Hythe Rd, Ashford TN24 8PB
JUL 5	Stamp Fair,	Azelia Hall, Beckenham
JUL 5	Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
JUL 11	Strand Stamp Fair	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
JUL 11/14	British Phil.Congress.	At Ypres in Belgium !
JUL 12	Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
JUL 19	FEDERATION SEMINAR - "Asia Postal History" at Wainscott (Rochester)	
JUL 19	Chris Rapley Fair.	Sittingbourne.
JUL 26	A.B.P.S. EGM & AGM	Three Swans Hotel, Market Harborough LE16 7NJ
AUG 1	Strand Stamp Fair.	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
AUG 2	Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
AUG 2	Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
AUG 9	Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
AUG 16	Chris Rapley Fair.	Sittingbourne.
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 17/20	Autumn Stampex (Germany & Cols)	Design Centre, Islington, London. N1.
SEP 20	Chris Rapley Fair	Sittingbourne.
OCT 4	KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	Hosted by Federation at Dartford Grammar School for Boys, at West Hill, Dartford. DA1 2HW

(continued on page 6)



## REPORT ON THE SPRING RALLY - 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014

David Rennie, Hon. Sec. of Bromley & Beckenham P/S., hosts of this event report that despite the change of date to Mothering Sunday and the fact that the clocks were put forward, the weather was kind, and there was a steady stream of visitors. Some 60% of whom came from outside the BR postcode area.

The Society was able to present the local Mayor with a cheque for £100 for the Mayor's charity, and subsequently a similar amount was donated to the school, and to K.F.P.S. (for which many thanks – Ed)

Bromley club members were successful, winning both of the day's Federation Competitions, with John Shaw, the Kent President presenting the Trophies.

The Tombola, run by Diana and Ian Nutley, the Catering by Ian & Betty Crees, and a small raffle produced a useful financial surplus. David Rennie.

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## BRIEF REPORT ON THE COUNCIL MEETING 30/3/2014

Unfortunately there had been a lack of liaison between the KFPS and ABPS, the latter had issued the rules for "Open Philately" competitions, and sending copies to their affiliated societies, without advising KFPS. As we needed to consider, and adopt these rules, so that we could accept entries from members of clubs not affiliated to ABPS, we needed to be able to advise entrants. The problem has been resolved – Grahame now has the details and these can be obtained from him. A question was raised from the floor as to whether KFPS were considering any change to the 'capitation fees' charged to clubs, as the affiliation fees were falling by some 20% per annum. This is under review, but no new proposals have yet been made. The Bulletin Editor reminded Council that he wishes to retire, but as yet no volunteer or even an interested person had come forward. If we don't find a volunteer, we may have to press gang someone ! Hopefully, someone will declare an interest soon and can operate for a year 'learning the ropes' before taking over on their own.

A suggestion was made that details of Bus & Train services are included on fliers. Host societies are asked to try and arrange this. ! Sorry, but with no local connection, it has not been possible to include it for the Federation Day fliers.

Disappointment was expressed that, apart from (few) dependable stalwarts, few ordinary club members seem prepared to take on the tasks at many clubs - is this a generation fault, lack of willingness to 'do their share', general apathy, or it runs OK at present, why should I bother ? A proposed Seminar had to be called off last year, when the speaker (who would have had to travel quite a distance) discovered that the audience might only be 7 or 8 people - this being a great disappointment for our organiser, Maurice. Remember, the Seminars are for YOUR benefit - you were asked to advise Maurice of what topics you would appreciate, when he goes to the trouble of arranging one, do please support him, Club Secretaries PLEASE ensure YOUR club members know what's on, and persuade, coerce, or whatever, but encourage them to attend at least one a year. Finally, MORE clubs willing to host Federation events are needed - Committee's please consider when, and where you can do this - it can be a useful fund raiser, choose a date, venue etc and advise KFPS as soon as possible.

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A friend had some cards printed to announce the arrival of her first child. Her surname being Fee. The cards read "Because of the high cost of loving, there is an additional Fee"

DIARY DATES (continued)

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 12 Chris Rapley Fair.	Southborough, Tunbridge Wells.
NOV 1 Stamp Fair.	Azelia Hall, Beckenham.
NOV 1 Deal Stamp Fair	Landmark Centre, CT14 6BB
NOV 8 Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
NOV 14 Strand Stamp Fair.	Royal National Hotel, London WC1
NOV 14 Maidstone Stamp Fair	Grove Green Community Centre
NOV 15 Chris Rapley Fair.	Sittingbourne.
NOV 16 Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Knole Academy, Bradbourne Vale Road.
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 13 Folkestone Stamp Fair	Trinity Church Hall, CT20 2UQ
DEC 20 Chris Rapley Fair.	Sittingbourne.

E&O.E.

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Some Future Events in 2015.

FEB 18/21 "Spring Stampex" The Design Centre, Islington, London.  
 APR Maidstone usually hold a Stamp Fair - possibly 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday (?)  
 MAY Tunbridge Wells P.S. host a Fair at Crowborough on Bank Holiday Monday  
 MAY 13/16 "London 2015" The Design Centre. Islington, London  
 Autumn Stampex probably in September, again at the Design Centre.

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

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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](mailto:info@martelloauctions.com)) They hold their auctions at The Holiday Inn, Canterbury Road, Ashford TN24 8QQ. Their next dates are 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 25<sup>th</sup> July, and 24<sup>th</sup> October. The other is T & T AUCTIONS LTD which use St. Marks Hall, Bayham Road, Tunbridge Wells TN2 5LX Their next dates are 28<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> August, 20<sup>th</sup> September, the 1<sup>st</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> December. (The office telephone no is 01892 - 529898 or you can E-mail them on [info@tandtauctions.com](mailto:info@tandtauctions.com).)

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If YOU know of any 'dates' when Philatelic events are being held in KENT, perhaps you will let me know please. It can help collectors who like to visit the fairs. PJOK

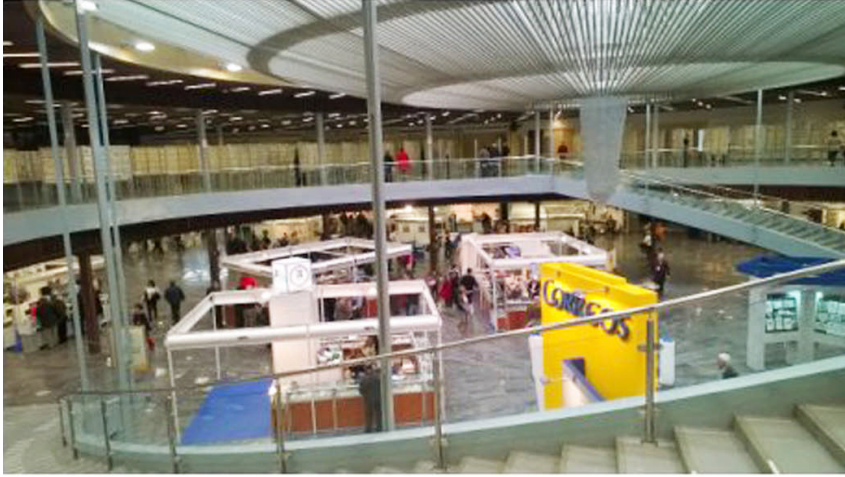
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 THANKS to our advertiser for their support - Please mention our Bulletin when contacting them THANKS also to the Essex, Middlesex and Sussex Federations for copies of their Journals, and to Sevenoaks, Sidcup, Swale and Tunbridge Wells for their Newsletters.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

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 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 overdue, so I shall Be pleased to hear from you soon. Thanks to all subscribers for their support. PJOK

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 SPELLING MATTERS: A man was recently arrested for having a forearm!  
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# NEWS FROM OUR SPANISH CORRESPONDENT'S EUROPEAN CONVENTION FOR COLLECTORS TORREMOLINOS 27 FEBRUARY TO 2 MARCH 2014

After 5 years here in deepest Spain, we have finally found a stamp fair! So on a dismal Saturday morning, we made our way across to Torremolinos, found the Palacio de Congresos [an achievement in itself] and joined the crowd waiting to be admitted.



The venue was marvellous and would easily have accommodated all the vendors who attend York or Stampex.

The dealers mainly came from Madrid and Barcelona. There were a couple of numismatic dealers from Malaga along with one with ephemera.

Robert Uden had a stall although we didn't see him.

We did notice dealers from Portugal, Malta and Germany to name a few. All in all, we guess around 60 dealers.

Talking to some of them, it appears that the majority of people in Spain buy through the internet now. The fact that this was the first fair we have found locally explains why there were no local dealers – there are no fairs for them to attend.



Societies too seem to be on the wane. It was suggested that there would still be societies in the major cities of Spain but we have still found none here.

However, as a collector of Spanish covers and stamps, I found the selection wonderful. There was such a lot to choose from that it made it extremely hard at times to know where to spend my money first! John was not so fortunate as most of the wares were Spanish and his collecting needs are now rather specialised.

The convention also hosted some top class displays. We counted around 650 display frames. Some displays took one with 16 pages whereas others stretched to 4 frames. It was interesting to see displays so similar to those we see in the UK – studies of early Isabel stamps, revenue collections and thematic displays.

Many people were chatting away to each other as they do in the UK at a fair, meeting old friends and discussing their purchases. However, with the lack of local societies, we were left wondering how they knew each other and where was the incentive to enter the displays. Who was cajoling them to put an entry in? We shall continue to look around until we find the answer!

It was quite like old times to get to a stamp fair and we look forward to the next one whenever that may be.

Linda Hood and John Grant



## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (1)



Romney Marsh Philatelic & postcard Society At our first meeting of 2014 on February 26th, our member Richard Mittell gave an excellent display of some of his "Red Cross" collection; 180 pages, telling us how it started, it's early history and activities, covering transport, distribution, medical care, hospitals and the blood transfusion service. He also explained the fund raising schemes used in other countries. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, one of our founder members, David Matlock, sadly passed away, after a long illness, our sixth loss in eleven months! On March 12<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed the Cinque Ports P.S., with five of their members giving us a very interesting and varied displays. These ranged from Balloons, old Folkestone, looking for mice on the rails of the 'Famous Trains' issue by Terrence Cuneo in 1985, Japan, and Canada's 'King' definitives. Then on March 26<sup>th</sup>, David Luckhurst from the Isle of Thanet P.S. came to see us with his display of 'Poland - a General History' - a Country that, it seems, has struggled to exist over the centuries. In early April, we have our own Philatelic Competition and then on April 23<sup>rd</sup> we hold our annual joint meeting with HESPS (the Hastings & East Sussex P.S.) - with each Society giving displays and ending with a small auction. Its our A.G.M. on May 7<sup>th</sup>, and on May 28<sup>th</sup>, Rosemary Dellar is to give us a display of "Ifni" - yes, it is listed in 'Gibbons' as being a Spanish enclave on the Atlantic coast of Northern Morocco, which issued its own stamps between 1941 (overprinted Spanish stamps up to 1950) through to 1960, when it added the title 'Espana'. Its administration was transferred to Morocco in 1969. A rare topic!

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Dartford & District Stamp Club Since the last newsletter we have had some excellent displays in our new venue, (one of Mary Portasses ventures) - the only downbeat has been the building work which has been going on nearly the whole of this couple of months. We started off with a display of Haiti, something not often seen which I believe was enjoyed by all. This was followed by a display of all 'Africa' by

Clifford Ayers - a most comprehensive and superb collection. Next we had an auction, with Cliff again doing the business. Steve Alpe, our Secretary, then gave us a very interesting show of his collection interests which made us all wonder where he keeps all his treasures, and how he finds time to accumulate it all. Finally, Judith French showed part of her fine Dartford postcards collection, which brought back many memories to our older members. Before our A.G.M. in mid May we have an "Easter on Stamps" evening and a further evening still to be arranged. The AGM will be followed by another auction and a couple of 'Members Evenings' which should prove very enjoyable. We hope the building work will soon be finished and things will be more peaceful

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TELL ME WHY ! Is the third hand on my watch called the second hand ? WHY is the time of the day with the slowest traffic, called the rush hour ? WHY is it necessary to nail down the lid of a coffin ? and why is lipstick so called, when you can still move your lips ?

Quote : If you don't have a leg to stand on, you can't put your foot down !

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (2)



Swale Philatelic & Postcard Society On January 10<sup>th</sup> our speakers were Rosemary Dellar and Bob Higgins, both from the Medway Towns P.S. Rosemary showing postcards of Margate, circa 1830 and coastal resorts along the Thames Estuary, plus photo's of various companies operating along the river up to Tower Bridge. Bob displayed cards of Gibraltar, and mentioned that the Airport there is the only one with a road running across it, which was closed whenever an aircraft needed to land or take off. He gave an interesting history of the territory, as he had worked there in the 1960's. On February 7<sup>th</sup>, our member Mrs Frances Howland entertained us with a talk and display about a journey made in the late 1800's, by her uncle, using a horse and a two wheeled carriage (long before any motor vehicles were around) from Sheerness to Scotland. Our speaker for February 21<sup>st</sup> had inadvertently failed to note the date, so two of our club members, had to save the day, Bryan Clark showed Post History in cards and photo's from early mounted postboys, through the coaching era, to modern transport, plus the '2012 London Festival of Stamps'. Bob Browne gave the second show with "Cricket on Stamps", with several personalities and sheetlets to the fore. On May 7<sup>th</sup> we had a display by Bob Turcan., with more postcards and photo's depicting famous people. The Kent Federation President, John Shaw visited us on March 21<sup>st</sup>, with his display of the 'Union of South Africa' from 1910, with some very scarce material, stamps and postmarks, and his expert and technical knowledge of his subject was outstanding. On April 4<sup>th</sup> Bob Appleton delighted us again with a fabulous display of cards entitled "A Tale of Suspense" involving the German Wupperthal railway which opened in 1906, followed by a selection of 'Ferris Wheels' including the 'London Eye.'



SEVENOAKS

Sevenoaks & District Philatelic Society In February we saw a display of 'South West Africa' by Richard Hart a region formerly known as German South West Africa, and which is now named Namibia. It's use of German, Cape of Good Hope and then South African stamps, all being overprinted, before, in 1931 using stamps with the then correct title, South West Africa. In 1990 the territory became Independent as Namibia. Richard showed items from each period, including German postmarks amended for use following the ousting of Germans in WWI. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, Derek Mauri was our guest, showing 'American Railway Post Office's which included T.P.O.'s, R.P.O.'s, routes (the longest being 1500 miles and the shortest only 8 miles), and one route which crossed into a part of Canada Amongst postmarks was one of 'Sing Sing Jail'. An interesting display, which complimented a similar display of Canadian Railway Mails we saw a year ago. Jeremy Gaskell visited us again on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, to show 'Chinese Treaty Ports', Covering the British Post Offices and also most Foreign Agencies. His usual enthusiastic manner adds to the talk, which included a brief history of H.M.S. Kent which was 'On Station' in China for several years, and of which he had acquired some photo's from the I.W.M. He also referred to Pirates operating in the China Sea. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, we should have received a visit by the late Martin Lynes, but Ian Nutley has kindly agreed to be our speaker for that evening. Our A.G.M. (and Auction) is on June 4<sup>th</sup>



## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (3)



Eltham & Woolwich Stamp Club Our first meeting of the New Year was on January 9<sup>th</sup>, entitled "Something beginning with W", continuing through the letters of our club name. Ray Hoghton showed Wurtemberg, Colin Tobitt, an unusual display of 'Woods' including stamps depicting trees and actual pieces of wood. John Smith had mail damaged by sea water and Terry Cawtheray "Winds of the Greek Tower" John Shaw showed "South African War Trains" and Cliff Hurst produced his "Western Canadian Airmails" - it is always surprising what turns up on these occasions. Our meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> was an auction, and on February 6<sup>th</sup>, our visitor was Frank Simpson with a nice collection of Hanover, with stamps (including some forgeries), covers and Postal History - which was enjoyed by all present. Two members of the Orpington society visited us on February 20<sup>th</sup>, Len Bridger gave a wonderful display of Aviation and Airmails, ranging from Zeppelins to Jets. (John Shaw, one of our members, signed a page for Len, showing an Avro Vulcan, which he had piloted in the past.) Then Paul Skinner showed Channel Islands and the Jersey Occupation in WW2, with stamps and other memorabilia such as ration books and newspapers. Paul also showed an unusual display entitled "The Development of Space Travel" with stamps, covers and other related material, enjoyed by our members - a big thank you to Len & Paul. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, Harry Layne was our Quiz master, with 40 questions on philatelic or general knowledge, enjoyed by all, especially the winner, Cliff Hurst. Another auction was held later that month, and on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ray Barton displayed 'Mexico', with plenty of interest for all - Ray's knowledge of the subject was captivating - thanks Raymond. We have our competitions on April 20<sup>th</sup>, and A.G.M. on May 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have any material for our packet please get in touch with our Hon. Secretary, Ray Houghton, (0207 237 6314) and if you would care to join us, he can supply all the info you need, we meet at the Community Centre, Eltham High Street.



Lewisham Philatelic Society The letter 'A' was our topic for the meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, and our members excelled themselves, finding some ingenious items to show. Cliff Ayres, from Dartford visited us on January 21<sup>st</sup> with his display "A Tour of British Africa" which was both interesting and superb. On February 4<sup>th</sup>, we received a visit from members of the Orpington Society, which as usual with such 'team' visits had some very interesting material on display. February 18<sup>th</sup> was our Competition Night, with several entries, judged by Maurice Flack, (who had nothing better to do on his birthday!). Then on March 4<sup>th</sup>, Richard Mott from the Epsom & Ewell P/S, gave us a display of 'German Hyper Inflation' material - another memorable evening. Next we enjoyed a fine display by Geoff Hanney of Haiti, which improved our knowledge of both History & Geography. On April 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Farrant of the German & Colonies P/S showed us German East Africa from 1914 to 1917, a relatively short period, but it was mostly in WWI, and was a world class display of some outstanding material. On April 15<sup>th</sup> our friend Barry Cook gave his display of "KGVI Overseas Agencies and U.P.U. Commemoratives of the Commonwealth" - another great nights entertainment. On April 25<sup>th</sup>, Lewisham visit the Gravesend S/C and our AGM is May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (4)

Bromley & Beckenham Philatelic Society On September 23<sup>rd</sup> last our member, David Milsted, showed a wide range of covers and postcards which were used on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1902 – the first day of the ½d, 1d and 2½d King Edward VII issue, plus the Coronation issue which was postponed from June until August 9<sup>th</sup> due to the King having appendicitis. He also included a full range of stamps including Revenues, and “Posted In Advance For Delivery on Christmas Day” marks. In the second half David showed various overseas British Post Offices, with Morocco Agencies, Levant, and Somaliland, some illustrated advertising covers, Royal Visits and KEVII Funeral items. Kent Vice President, Paul Cahill was our guest on October 9<sup>th</sup>, showing “Crash and Interrupted Mail” – which seems to be the only philatelic material where the condition does not matter! Many items had damage caused by water, or fire, various additional cachets explaining the reason, and ranged from early American flights to Zeppelins and Flying Boats, Comet Airlines and the Boeing 747. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Trevor Devon gave a ‘Power Point’ display of “Minerals”, explaining how they were formed, the different types and sizes, colours and he also showed stamps issued by some 100 countries depicting the different types. Next up was another member, Michael Dobbs, showing “Aspects of NATO” on November 27<sup>th</sup> with a display of stamps, and slogan postmarks issued by the NATO countries since its founding in 1948. There are numerous organisations dealing with its political and military aims and objectives, and lots of abbreviations. There were items from Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and other places where NATO Forces have endeavoured to act as Peace-keepers. To end the year, we held our Christmas Social on December 11<sup>th</sup> and our President, Ron Burn displayed more of his collection of Tristan da Cunha - including ‘Potato’ stamps, and mail relating to various surveys in that area, plus visits by RMS Caronia. Several covers & letters from and to residents and clergymen - (Editor’s note: talking of which it seems that Ron is now a man ‘of the cloth’ and perhaps he should now be referred to as the Reverend - photos can’t lie - can they?) Refreshments then followed, provided by the President, ably assisted by Ian and Betty Crees. Additionally, we have had our “Bring on the Night Auction” and taken part in the ‘Inter Society Competition at Bexley.



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Gravesend Stamp Club Our winter meetings are held in the afternoons, so that the members and speakers do not have to travel in the dark. Our January meeting was a display by our President, Michael Thompson. Our February meeting was an afternoon with Peter O’Keeffe entitled “It went through the post”. Our spring auction was held in March, there were several visitors and a good selection of lots was on offer. Cliff Hurst visited in March with his display of Canadian First Flights. In April a team from Lewisham P.S. visited and proved that Lewisham members do not only collect Germany! as they showed under cover mail, modern Kenya, buses and mail carried by bus, Australia and Greenland polar bear issue.

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (5)



Isle Of Thanet Philatelic Society Many collectors will remember Tony Hayes who sadly passed away in mid February. He exhibited at many clubs in the Country and was a stalwart of our Society, and had served at various times as Librarian, Packet Secretary, club Secretary and was a Past President. We are struggling to continue with only one 'working' member, and three of twelve are on crutches. This obviously makes setting up and clearing away difficult. Regarding the points raised in the Feb. Bulletin, the number of sheets displayed must be controlled by the author, by his theme and what his display is trying to say. Our biggest moans are when guest speakers talk about every sheet as it is put up. (Our club policy, at home and away, is to put up the display and speak briefly) Also, if the speaker cannot be heard, does not face the audience and fails to use brief notes. We have come to see the stamps and we will always ask for an explanation about something which has caught our eye. Finally, the merging of clubs; we in "Thanet" are a long way from clubs listed in the Bulletin. Some of us are limited as to how far we are allowed to drive, and of course, some do not drive. We have for years collected members and returned them to their home. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, its 'President's Night' with David Luckhurst, then on May 21<sup>st</sup>, we have our A.G.M. and an auction.



Royal Tunbridge Wells Philatelic Society Our evening meetings this year have included 'British & Spanish P.O.s in Morocco' by member, Bob Deakin, on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 'Women of Achievement' by another member Suzanne Targett on February 13<sup>th</sup>, followed by "Cook to Quantas", by John Crowe, which included his award winning competition items on March 13<sup>th</sup>, and 'Bermuda' by Richard Watkins on April 10<sup>th</sup>. All four being excellent presentations, with interesting histories. Coming up we have member Robin Morton, showing 'KGV British Empire' on May 8<sup>th</sup>, and Malcolm Roberts with 'Mail and the Steamship' on June 12<sup>th</sup>, followed by 'Austria' by member Bill Hedley on July 10<sup>th</sup>, and 'Hong Kong' by Ernie Walden on August 14<sup>th</sup>. At the morning meetings we have been entertained by member Brian Stalker with 'Carlisle: A Railway City' on January 16<sup>th</sup>, the 'British P.O.s in Latin America' by another member, Bill Kemm, on February 20<sup>th</sup>, then 'Nelson' by Tony Davis on March 20<sup>th</sup>, "Propaganda in Germany - 1918/1933" by Tony Hickey on April 17<sup>th</sup> - again four very good, and varied displays with much to interest members. The next morning meetings include "German FPO.s and Naval Mail 1933-45" by John Rawlings on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 'Ascension Island' by Ray Jeal, on June 19<sup>th</sup>, there is NO Morning meeting in July, but we resume again on August 21<sup>st</sup>, with 'Austro-Hungarian Naval Mail' by Lindy Bosworth, and this is followed on September 18<sup>th</sup> with "Tunbridge Wells & Villages Postal History" by John Weston, of the Kent Postal History Group. However our next big event is the "Crowborough Stamp Fair" which our Society hosts on Bank Holiday Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May at All Saints Church Hall, Chapel Green, Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 1ED with 14 dealers, 10am to 4pm.

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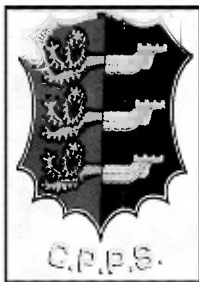
Some people will do anything to attract attention. Wedding Announcement!  
"The Bride was given away by her father wearing her mother's veil"



## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (6)



Kent Postal History Group Our annual visit for a meeting at Hurst Green, which is just over the border into East Sussex, on February 15<sup>th</sup>, was again well supported, with plenty of interesting material on show. Next came our A.G.M. which was held on April 5<sup>th</sup>, followed by a mini auction. On June 7<sup>th</sup> we hold a meeting at the Challock Village Hall, when the topic will be "Thanet Postal History", plus 'Kent Postcards'. If you do not have any philatelic items relating to Thanet, any period, bring along a few sheets of any Kent based mail, plus any postcards of Kent scenes, or with Kent postal markings. As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the outbreak of WWI, our meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> at Sevenoaks Red Cross Hall, is for WWI material, plus, as usual, we like to see any 'new acquisitions'. To round off the year, we hold our main Auction on the 15<sup>th</sup> November, at Sandling Village Hall, so prepare some lots and advise MRT as soon as you can, so they can be noted in the catalogue. Visitors are welcome to join us, and see what we collect!



Cinque Ports Philatelic Society We had a visit from near neighbours, the Ashford Society on January 20<sup>th</sup>, and saw displays of GB Victorian postmarks, Australia, Jersey, (incl. Jersey Revenues), Rhodesian banknotes, and modern G.B. February 3<sup>rd</sup> was 'Chairman's Evening', when Paul Cahill gave a very interesting display of European Airmails, and this was followed on February 17<sup>th</sup> by our Competition night, followed by a mini auction. The competitions were as usual hotly contested, and many of the auction lots found new homes. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Barry Knight displayed the 'Orient Express', well written up in Barry's unique style. We visited the Romney Marsh Society on March 12<sup>th</sup> and once again were made to feel very welcome. Ray Barton was our guest on March 17<sup>th</sup>, giving a first class display of the 'Duplex Postmarks' as used in the Victorian era in GB. On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, we visited the Hastings & East Sussex P.S., with an excellent turnout, and an enjoyable evening. Harry Wood is to display 'Japan' to us on April 28<sup>th</sup>, and the Hastings Society pay us a return visit on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Our A.G.M. is on May 19<sup>th</sup>, followed by our Single Sheet Competition.

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Malling Stamp Club Our January meeting was competition and bourse. There were a good number of entries and the winner was Malcolm Buller with a fun entry. Our competitions are not very serious and the winner is decided by popular vote. The February meeting was a display by Tony Hoad. The programme card just said "Tony Hoad Entertains" so we had no idea what Tony would show. His display was favorite items and countries from his Commonwealth KGVI collection. Tony said that he had been collecting some of the countries since he was a boy but others he had started when he visited the country. Our March meeting was Canadian First Flights by Cliff Hurst. This was quite a surprising display as it included so many covers, which the members had never seen before, particularly covers with labels for various airlines. Our April meeting was our auction, which was well attended. There were a good variety of lots on offer. Most people went home with something new for their collection and our newest member went home with a box full.

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## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (7)



Bexley Philatelic Society The 'Big' news is that our plans to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an all day Stamp Fair on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Freemantle Hall, (our home venue) DA5 1AA are in place, with 10 dealers, a bourse, tombola, great refreshments and more, with two car parks close to the hall, and we hope to see many of you there. Displays during the Spring have included Jeremy Gaskell showing 'British & Foreign Treaty Ports' in China, including a collection of correspondence from missionary schools, British Military personnel and mail relating to the Trans-Siberian Railway. February 7<sup>th</sup> was auction night, which raised some useful funds for the club. John Shaw, one of our members and the Kent President, showed items relating to the early years of the 'Union of South Africa', the printing techniques used and the special train that was part of a war time recruiting campaign in 1941. Geoff Chivers displayed Morocco Agencies with a fine selection of covers, various overprinted stamps and a full history of the post in that area. In March, John Hayward gave a thematic display entitled 'The Motor Cycle' which ranged from 1885, with covers, ephemera, stamps, miniature sheets, and military mails carried by Army Dispatch Riders. Four members of the Basildon P.S. entertained us with shows of 'Toys on Stamps', dates of Royal events, the Recorded Delivery Service, and the Parcel Service operated by the Metropolitan Railway, and it's newspaper stamps. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> we have a members 2 page competition, and later a visit from the Chelmsford Society. On June 6<sup>th</sup> we have our AGM, followed on July 4<sup>th</sup>, Angus Lincoln shows his collection of Abraham Lincoln - an appropriate date! Our last meeting of the season is another auction, on July 18<sup>th</sup>.



Sidcup Philatelic Society On January 14<sup>th</sup> members were invited to show "Things I Like", and this produced some a varied selection of items. Our President, Cliff Gregory displayed WWI items from Indian P.O.W. Camps (mainly from civilian internees) - all mail sent and received had to be censored in the UK, so long delays occurred. In the second half, we saw "Tin Can" mail items, and learnt of it's history and the reasons for it's need. With the introduction of an airfield in 1983, only 'Philatelic' items are now produced and use this method. On February 25<sup>th</sup>, Ian Reed showed "Small Islands and Music" - this covered various 'British' islands in the West Indies and Atlantic areas, followed by stamps featuring musical instruments and musicians, including composers, conductors and singers. For the 'Victor Mills Memorial' evening, on March 7<sup>th</sup>, various members showed an assortment of items from their collections, both philatelic and non philatelic. Next, Peter Boyd gave a display on March 25<sup>th</sup>, entitled "Four Kings" - this being a comprehensive showing of the only stamps featuring Kings of GB. Unexpectedly, he started from KGVI working backwards to KEVII, all the pages were well written up with plenty of information.

HELP - I raised a query about my printer/computer in the last issue, (page 22), but no one managed to answer it yet ! The problem continues - why does a typed line of asterisks \*\*\*\*\* appear as small black squares between the paragraphs when I move to the next line of type ? PJOK.

## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (8)



Medway Towns Philatelic Society The opening meeting of our 2013/14 season, last September, was "Something beginning with the letter F". This attracted displays of Flowers as State Emblems, Falklands Sea Battles, Flags of the United Nations, Friesian Cattle, and stamps of Fiume and French West Africa. A Quiz, also based on the letter F revealed that although not many may know the cost of a current 1<sup>st</sup> class stamp, the club's collective philatelic knowledge is impressive. A question that stumped everyone however, was 'Which country offers its citizens Free inland postage ? (The answer is Andorra). On October 7<sup>th</sup>, Cliff Hurst presented some of his collection of 'Imperial Russia', with the first half concentrating on the stamp issues, including tax and Consular Fee stamps. The second half was mainly Postal Stationery and commemorative postcards. The Kent Federation President, John Shaw was our guest on November 4<sup>th</sup>, with an outstanding display of 'Iraq from 1918 to 1970' covering the period when it was a British mandated territory, through to the Revolution in 1970. An essay of the "Young Faisal II" stamp, one of only seven known to exist, and rare die proofs, plus a unique Waterlow specimen were just some of the treasures on show. We held our annual auction in December along with 'President's Evening' with Richard Barnard displaying GB issues of 2013. In the second half, Edwin Jarvis showed some stone age tools, Bob Higgins had Fossils on stamps, and Eddie Shilling showed old postcards of the Medway Towns. At Competition evening in February, the 'Challenge Cup' was won by John Mortimore with 'British Occupation of Italian Colonies', Richard Barnard carried off both the Thematic and the Cinderella competitions, with 'Stamps on Stamps' and 'Labels'. A new Venture, a silent auction ran during the evening and was well supported. In March, a team of three presenters from Bromley & Beckenham P.S, David Milstead, Ian Reed and Paul Elliot gave displays of Edward VII, Saint Lucia, and 'WWI as seen by a Frenchman in the trenches'. It proved an enjoyable evening, with an exceptional quality of both exhibits and presentations and it was pleasing that the meeting was well attended, including 2 first time visitors whom we welcome. Our next speaker will be Ian Nutley, who will show 'Zeppelin Mail' on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and on May 12<sup>th</sup>, we have a 'Members Night'.

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Editor's Note: Sorry, I omitted the Medway report last time - I mislaid it.  
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Maidstone and Mid-Kent PS Our evening meetings have included displays of G. B. 2d blues, German East Africa 1914-1918, a club visit from Basildon PS, W.W.I. Russian Revolution and Civil War, WWI, Aspects of Eastern Europe, Belgian Congo and Finland at War. There was a good crowd for our auction in April. Our morning meetings continue to be well attended. These meetings are usually displays by members, either individuals or groups, but there was a visit from Heathfield P.S. in March. These meetings are more informal than the evening meetings.

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Doesn't it make you sick ? The boss confronted an employee who had called in sick the previous day, and showed him the local newspaper with the headline "Local man takes second place in National Golf tournament" with a photograph of the employee holding a trophy. "So" said the boss "What have you got to say for yourself?" "If I hadn't been sick" said the man, "I'd have won it!"  
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