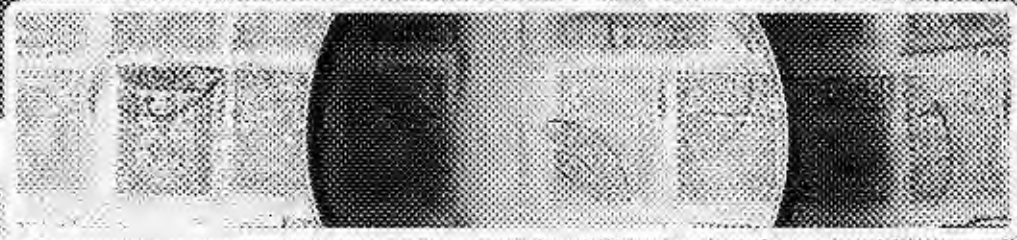




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## THE 'INTER - SOCIETY' COMPETITION. 2011 - 2013

David Rennie has kindly sent me an extract from the Bromley & Beckenham P.S., minutes relating to the forming and development of this meeting between clubs. The first visitor to the Bromley Society on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1933 was LCC Nicholson, FRPSL, the then President of Croydon P.S., and a few months later (on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1934), he returned to give a display of Jamaica. Later that year he Judged our first club competition evening on December 19<sup>th</sup>. The first full Society visit was on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1936, when six members of Croydon gave displays, having first been entertained to a light meal. Bromley returned the compliment, visiting Croydon for the first time on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1937. The two Societies have enjoyed a friendly rivalry and exchange visits ever since.

In late 2010/ early 2011, I was speaking with Frank Simpson, Hon. Secretary of Croydon, and we were comparing notes about various aspects of our societies, the activities, attendances, competition arrangements, programmes and history. I Wondered if Croydon would take up a challenge to a competition evening. The idea being to encourage new entrants with less formal rules. It was felt that existing competition rules were not 'team' events, rather anonymous individual entries. A number of local societies were approached, and seemed interested so a date was set - 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Rules were drawn up, there would be three classes, Stamps, Covers, and Thematics, (Cinderella or Social Philately.) Invitations were sent out, and Brian Sole, FRPSL. and BTA, was invited to be the Judge, with members from Croydon, Lewisham, and Bexley, taking part. and while the judging was taking place, they amused themselves with three quizzes. The exhibitors were invited to talk about their entries, each of 12 pages and a general discussion of views ensued. Lewisham P.S. were declared as winners, with a clean sweep winning all four classes, scoring 249 points, Croydon were 2<sup>nd</sup> (233), and Bexley, 3<sup>rd</sup> (230). The second meeting was hosted by Lewisham on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012, with visiting teams from Bromley, and Bexley, Croydon were absent. However, the competitive element was not implemented. The third meeting, on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013, hosted by Bexley - see their report elsewhere, but it seems that the clubs involved have differing opinions regarding the format, and marking of exhibits. Croydon have withdrawn, and it seems that the original aim of encouraging new competitors seems to have been lost. However Bromley are to host the fourth meeting with displays by visiting societies - the date still to be announced !

.....

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (1)

Maidstone,  
17<sup>th</sup> March 2014.



Dear Peter,

I found Cliff Hurst's letter in the last 'Bulletin' regarding the possible mergers of a number of our Philatelic Societies thought provoking and interesting. Would it work, that is the 64 dollar question? In some areas it could possibly succeed if the societies were close together, especially in the London area. Although I think that just one society for S.E. London may be optimistic, but two may work!

Regarding societies that are located further out, that is where I think it would become problematic with transport issues. For instance Maidstone/Malling and Medway may work, especially as Maidstone has several members that come from both societies. But would Maidstone travel to Medway or Malling, that I am not sure of, maybe just a few would! The same applies to other possible groupings, i.e. Dartford/Gravesend, Bromley/Orpington, Bexley/Dartford, Eltham/Sidcup, Folkestone/Romney Marsh, perhaps Herne Bay/Swale, Dover/Deal and Isle of Thanet, or Sevenoaks/Edenbridge and Tunbridge Wells. Those societies located out of London area which are several miles apart would have the problems. As members get older that do not always wish to travel far when it is dark. There is the cost of petrol to take into account and public transport is often non-existent at the time that these societies finish, unlike London which has buses throughout the night. However I do feel that if members live reasonably close to their Society, they will attend, but if there is a longer distance to travel, then they are not prepared to go 'the extra mile'.

As Cliff suggested, this may well be the future of Philatelic Societies. It will be interesting to see what response, if any, there is to Cliff's letter.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Stonestreet,

(Maidstone & Mid-Kent Philatelic Society)

---

Editor's note: With so few club members now under 50, day time meetings might be a temporary answer, but in 10 to 15 years, one does wonder how many clubs will still exist. Very few (if any) clubs are maintaining their membership levels of say 10 years ago, and the time will arrive when it will be uneconomic (or too costly for members to contribute - collectors seem reluctant to spend money unless it's on stamps,) and the few who willingly give some time and effort to run the clubs, are becoming rare! PJOK

---

Editors Second Note: As an Editor, it is always good to have 'feed back' and hopefully, constructive suggestions as to how the hobby can improve. But how many club members read the article referred to above, how many discussed it? Again, how many read Brian Stonestreet's letter? A few have aired their views on these issues, but it seems that many club members don't support their society, they just attend when it suits them. They are NOT interested in the wider circle of the hobby, they rarely, if ever, show any of their collections. One does wonder if THEY ENJOY their membership to the full? PJOK.

---

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (2)

Biggin Hill,  
20<sup>th</sup> February 2014.



Dear Editor,

I read with much interest the letter from Brian Stonestreet In the Bulletin, no 194, on page 12. I have been facing the same problem for some time.

My main collection now runs to some 26 volumes; and to give a full display, if asked to show 150 or 160 sheets, is simple not possible. As Brian quite rightly states it would mean giving the display in two parts, or to cut it down to a point which would lose much of the interest and story. To give even 180 sheets would mean an average of only seven sheets per volume; clearly this is ridiculous, and I welcome it when I am asked for 200 sheets times two.

Unfortunately this does not occur very often. If asked for 150 – 180 sheets, I unashamedly take just about half and offer to return to do the rest! If this is not required, then they have only the first half and an apology!

Actually, the solution is obvious: if a society has room for 180 or 200 sheets, a guest speaker does not have to fill all of them. He can be offered up to the capacity, and provided he is informed of this in advance he can tailor his show to match. The idea of restricting all societies to 100 - 120 sheets is a nonsense; let the speaker decide on the size, and be sure to let him know in advance the number required, up to x amount. Let us not go down the road of more regulation. Because the present system is tried and tested, it is not necessarily bad.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Nutley.

.....  
Editor's note: There are perhaps a number of problems here, (1) the design of the display boards, - some take three rows of four sheets, some three rows of five, and some of three rows of three, or even two rows of five, plus the larger ones having four rows of four. This often means that if the speaker is showing the same display elsewhere within a few days, he might well have to reconstruct it to fit any different format. Where clubs have to transport their frames, size is also important if they are to fit in an average car, or are stored at the venue in a small cupboard. (2) If the frames are too close together, any overlapping to sheets might cause a problem, or produce a lack of viewing access, i.e. with members crowding out others. (3) Some speakers take too long to talk about their displays, which leaves less time to view (this is most noticeable at 'team' displays). (4) and one should remember, that if say only 10% of the audience collect the same material, that's only one out of every 10 attending may really be interested. The others may look, if only out of courtesy. Remember – a speakers lot is not always a happy one!  
.....

And a second note Again, no other comments received, but thanks to Ian and Brian for their thoughts. Has anyone else given these topics any thought? It's not too late just yet! Try the next Bulletin PJOK  
\*\*\*\*\*

Sign seen on a plumbers van: "In our game, a flush beats a full house"  
.....

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (3)

Sidcup,  
March 2014.

Dear Editor,

NIL DESPERANDUM



I could hardly believe it when I read Cliff Hurst's article in the February 2014 bulletin; surely he must be writing tongue in cheek! He said that he would sell his collection because nearly all the collectors at a local society meeting were 'Freedom Pass Holders' and the younger generation had no interest in philately. In time, he said, there would be nobody around who would want to buy our collections. He went on to say that falling membership would be the cause of philatelic societies joining together. I think that a robust response to his doom and gloom analysis is needed.

If we collect stamps, postcards or postal history just because they are saleable investments, this completely ignores the whole point of our hobby. Ownership, doing research, giving displays or even writing about what we have collected should be a great source of pleasure for the collector, a pleasure which we can share with others at displays. When you buy anything to add to your collection you are paying for that continuing pleasure; the re-sale value is almost irrelevant. What I think is much more worrying is not that prices will fall for lack of interest, but that, for the more desirable and scarce material, prices will continue to rise significantly and these items have become beyond the reach of collectors of modest means. Take a look at the prices realised at public auctions and you will see what I mean. Your collection (and Cliff Hurst's too!) could well be appreciating in value.

There is no reason to suppose that falling membership will escalate and cause further closures or society amalgamations. Our area boasts a lot of societies and membership is bound to fluctuate when societies are juxtaposed. I have seen much enthusiasm in societies that I have visited when giving displays and I feel confident that they will all continue to thrive. A possible problem that could arise is in getting members to serve as officers in their society. We should all be prepared to shoulder some responsibility in our society whenever the need arises and not leave it to the others.

It is understandable that, after a long day's work and travel in crowded commuter transport, those who are not pensioners may be reluctant to give up their evenings to travel, say twice a month, to see a display on a topic in which they do not have a collecting interest. Their turn to take an active interest in local societies will come when they retire.

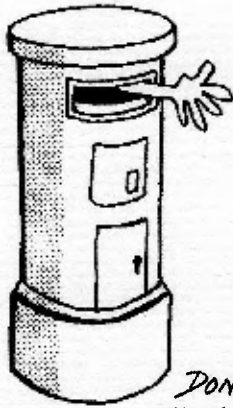
As I see it, the future for societies within the KFPS is bright!

Cliff Gregory,  
President, Sidcup Philatelic Society.

.....  
Editor's note It's nice to have an optimistic and encouraging view, and we know that there are numerous collectors out there who have not yet joined clubs but who do visit stamp fairs, but are we doing enough to attract them?  
.....

Quote: You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have!  
.....





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (4)

London S.E.20  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Dear Peter,

This letter is written with both my own and my Bromley hats on, to comment on some of the items in the February 2014 *DON* edition, and on which you invited comment. However they are not necessarily the views of all the BPS members who have not yet had a chance to read this issue.

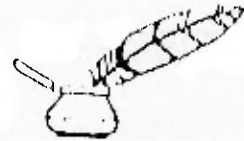
(1) Congratulations to Bexley, but why are they not hosting the Federation Day and AGM as part of their celebration event? Maybe the venue is not suitable or big enough?

(2) Once again you are requesting reports from all the societies, and as soon as possible before the deadline. We spoke about this, so you already know my feelings. What is the point of the Society Secretary sending in a two page report covering say five or six meetings in detail, if that report is then condensed down to just 14 lines? I do not accept your argument that you like to limit the society reports to half a page each, since both Eltham & Woolwich, and Bexley are given full pages, whilst Maidstone and Bromley (the 2 biggest clubs in the County), are given one paragraph each.

(3) We read the same names in different society reports, often just a single sentence mention. These are boring in the extreme: much more readable are the reports that give some meat to the display and its content, and also the presentation by the speaker. These detailed reports are a godsend to the poor Programme Secretary looking to fill the bookings for the next year, especially if they are new to the post. My suggestion, therefore, is that a page or two pages, should be devoted to two or four speakers, providing more details of their displays, the special items which members may expect to see, and their ability to hold the interest of their audience.

(4) Whilst I agree with Cliff Hurst's thinking, he is wrong when he says that the younger generation has no money to spend on stamps. It spends it on the things which are important to it: namely I-pods, WIs, Blackberrys, Mobile phones, I-pads and Aps, as well as designer clothes and the like. My generation, (and his), was no different, but our aspirations were Sturmeys Archer 3 speed gears, Raleigh 3-2-1 tubing, teddy boy clothes and hairstyles, (or Mods), jazz clubs, Vespas, etc. However he should not tar Bromley with the same brush as the other clubs he mentions. We continue to recruit new members: not as many as we would like: but new members nevertheless. How do we do it? There is not any one way, and one has to recognize that the new members you attract may not be dedicated philatelists, or ardent collectors without other interests. These are some of the things we have done in the past year, and some we do every year. Make sure your programmes/fliers are available and on display in every library and your meeting hall. Attend or organize local events such as Stamp Fairs, Victorian Days, etc. Never turn down a request from a non-philatelic society to give a display or provide a speaker. Get reports of your meetings published in the local press (difficult these days with so much going on-line), the Philatelic press, (easier, but space is limited). Make sure the Society web-site is up to date and gives plenty of detail about past meetings, news of forthcoming meetings and plenty of local philatelic events -

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (continued) (5)



Stamps and postcard fairs, shops and auctions. If the local stamp fair has some space, get them to give you a FREE table now and again, and TALK to the collectors. (Even if you don't know them, a simple ploy which tends to work is "Hi, how are you, what are you collecting these days ?).

(5) The subject of combining societies into a larger, more centralized unit, will be discussed both by our committee and our members in due course. Suffice to say that we have absorbed members from several societies over the last twenty years, including Penge, (where I was a member), Norwood and Dulwich: and some of our members are also members of some of the clubs Cliff mentions. The other contentious point is whether at some stage Kent needs to be divided into two federations, simply because of its size, in which case any new federation at this end of the county might overlap into Surrey.

(6) John Shaw's point about co-opting is perfectly sound, and indeed that is why we have "gash" committee members.

(7) No names, no pack drill, but I was surprised to see an accredited judge receiving such low marks in the recent competitions.

(8) Brian Stonestreet's comments about the number of sheets to be displayed are very relevant as Bromley has recently taken the decision to reduce the number in each half. The main reasons for this are to allow more time to speak about the better or feature items of the display; to allow members more time to look at each page or display board, and still get a cup of tea; and to concentrate the mind of the speaker in eliminating "padding" from the presentation. We already only use the top two rows of the display boards which avoids members having to crouch or bend to view the bottom row: and seven boards with ten sheets each means a full evening's display is at least 140 sheets.

Finally, as I was the prime mover of the Inter-club evening, I will write to you separately about this.

As always, Best Wishes,  
David Rennie,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Bromley & Beckenham Philatelic Society.



\*\*\*\*\*

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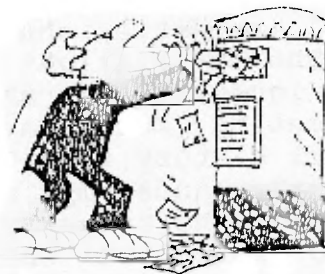
DID YOU KNOW ?

That a British Savings Stamp had a swastika Design and was in use on the 6d savings stamp in 1917. This represented 'Thrift' and was not the Nazi emblem. A swastika appeared on a QEII commemorative stamp in 1965, in the Battle of Britain set.

\*\*\*\*\*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (6)

Rainham.  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2014



Dear Peter,

Having read the Bulletin, (well done for keeping it going, by the way), the following points occur to me.

Seminars: Do all members of our clubs know what actually goes on at these events? I think it may well be worth explaining that it isn't just for those with FRPSL after their names, but that everyone will learn something. I have been to several, and thoroughly enjoyed them, but because I don't collect GB, I didn't attend that one. Had recent Seminars been billed as "Booklets of Western Europe", or "South Africa during the Boer War Period", maybe more might have been encouraged to attend. - even some who have relatively recently started (or returned to) collecting. "Why Collect Asia", sounds very promising. Other possibilities might be an area or a country during a particular reign or time, such as WWII.

I think one reason why relatively few Kent collectors come to Wainscott is that there is no reasonable public transport. Perhaps if clear maps of the area were made available, more might make their way there. The hall itself is ideal for these occasions, and since the cost of £12 includes an excellent lunch and numerous teas/coffees, etc. as well as the expertise of the eminent philatelists in charge, they offer excellent value for money. Are flyers advertising them made available at Stamp Fairs?

Speakers: As one who both displays and enjoys seeing what others show, I agree that there is rarely enough time to do justice to 180 sheets, especially the later frames. Often I feel it would be better to include fewer sheets, and spread them more widely across the available boards. Then if someone wanted to study one sheet in detail, others would still be able to look at adjoining sheets. Another suggestion would be to break the display down into shorter periods, so that we listened for about 10 minutes (max) then looked at 30 - 40 sheets while what the speaker has just told us is still fresh in the mind.

I know this might mean that some of us have to rethink our displays...

Perhaps each club should have discussions about how they feel on both these topics and report back to the Federation.

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Dellar.

Medway Towns Philatelic Society.

---

Editor's note: Thanks Rosemary, It seems only the keen collectors have so far attended a Seminar, and I have never received anything but praise for the content of these gatherings. Maurice does send out notices to every club with full details - it is up to club secretaries or delegates to TELL their members, and encourage them to attend. The title of the talk (and display) often needs to be fairly brief, but your point is noted. I usually try to include a 'local' map of the area once a year in the Bulletin, but 'Fliers with a map could be useful. It is well known that many collectors are reluctant to spend £12 even on club subs, and many feel that they have family commitments on Saturdays. I agree that most clubs display boards are placed too close together, this does restrict viewers when trying to crowd around them, and unless you are quick off the mark at the interval, surely it will suffice to start elsewhere and view the first couple of frames later. (see Ian Nutleys comments elsewhere) PJOK

\*\*\*\*\*





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (7)

Beckenham.  
10th April 2014

Dear Peter,

At the Council Meeting in March, I mentioned that ideally it was not a good idea to be Hon. Secretary of the Federation if you are without a computer and E-mail facilities. Fortunately, with the help of other people these duties can be fulfilled. At present there are now three members of the Executive Committee who have reached their eightieth birthdays, and ideally perhaps they should be replaced by younger members so that the Federation can face the future. But, it seems there is a lack of interest. I was pleased to read in the accounts of the 'Royal' that their Council members are basically in their sixties and early seventies. I feel that it is this age group that should be planning the future of Philately in Kent. Seriously, we should be thinking about the future, because if we don't start soon, it will be too late. We are all well aware that the age of our membership is top heavy with elder members. Attendance numbers are falling drastically (probably 10% to 15% per annum) and will continue to do so. The younger generation has very little interest in our hobby.

What are the options open to us? I suspect clubs will have to amalgamate just to survive, certainly if they wish to attract visiting speakers to attend their meetings.

I also believe that County boundaries (of the Federations) could disappear as they will become less relevant, if clubs from different counties may be merging, to form a strong healthy club. I certainly believe there will be fewer stamp clubs in existence in the future, and this could be as soon as 10 to 15 years. So it is up to the younger members (60's, or even 50's?) to step forward with their ideas and thoughts. Perhaps more use of the pages 'Letters to the Editor' could be provided in the Bulletin, with shorter versions of the Club Reports !.

Regards, Grahame Boutle.

Kent Federation Hon. Secretary.

\*\*\*\*\*

### North West Kent Postcard Club

Our next meetings are as follows:-

- 19 May Club outing to Maidstone Postcard Club Evening Fair.
- 28 July A Night out with the Ladies by Roger Stone.
- 22 September Panama Canal and Panama Pacific Exposition.
- 27 October Giant Wheels by Bob Appleton.
- 24 November Special Tourist Attractions by Michael Thompson.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings. We meet at the United Reformed Church Hall, junction of Singlewell Road and Kings Drive, Gravesend, which is the same venue as Gravesend and District S.C. Meetings are 7.45pm for 8 pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE BERLIN AIRLIFT

Three stamps issued in Berlin showing the monument erected to commemorate the Berlin Airlift of 1948/49. From L to R.  
1956 issue of Berlin Monuments  
1974 issue - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
1959 issue - 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## HOW GOOD IS YOUR MEMORY ?

David Rennie has been looking through the archives of the B & B P.S. and has found reference to a visit and display of Heligoland by a Mr J. Douse, on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 1934. Mr Douse is recorded as being the President of the "FARNBOROUGH STAMP CLUB", but David has been unable to trace any record of such a club locally. It might be assumed to have been located in Farnborough village, near Orpington, (but it might have been Farnborough in Hampshire). The Kent Federation Bulletins only commenced in February 1952, and even my memory had not developed that fully at that stage (I was only 6 months old). I do not know whether our Archivist, Derek Hamilton Smith has any Federation minutes which might mention that club, but remember the Kent Federation was not founded until 1947. Does the Orpington P.S. have any knowledge of it ? or can anyone else find any information, if so, please let David know. If anything is discovered, a brief note in the Bulletin would at Least 'put it on record'. PJOK.

---

**NEW ISSUES** On the front is an illustration of six new stamps depicting Buckingham Palace, issued on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014. All are 1<sup>st</sup> class values (now 62p) You know the post code, SW1A 1AA and this is used as a special postmark for the first day covers. There is also a miniature sheet of four 1<sup>st</sup> class stamps, showing interior views of larger rooms. Additionally there is a Prestige Booklet which contains a new £1 stamp, which is coloured grey, plus two of the mini sheet stamps. Some nice stamps here, but it will cost you for all of them.

---

**PRICE INCREASES** You will have noticed postage rates have risen, 1<sup>st</sup> Now 62p, 2<sup>nd</sup> are 53p and it seems all other rates have gone up !

---

**BRITISH MOVIES** British Films are depicted on six new stamps 3 x 1<sup>st</sup>, and 3 x £1.28, plus a mini-sheet, 4 x 1<sup>st</sup>, all due out on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The mini-sheet are a different size and pictures. All are in colour, and include scenes from Lawrence of Arabia, 2001 A Space Odyssey, and Chariots of Fire. If you are a keen FDC collector, you can save yourself VAT, by addressing them to a friend overseas, and getting the friend to send them back, but they might charge you their postage costs. I don't find them particularly inspiring



\*\*\*\*\*  
Childish minds - The Pyramids were built by a building firm named 'Geezer'  
\*\*\*\*\*

## WHAT HAPPENS TO MY COLLECTION WHEN I DIE !

Rosemary Dellar (Medway Towns P/S.) has designed a set of slips which she feels will be helpful for her Executors in due course. Its a simple note which can be placed with a 'Will' or inside an album. Should you decide to do the same, it would probably be a wise move to check it occasionally to ensure that it is still accurate and no Officers of the named societies have changed.

### To whom it may concern

Please do not consign my stamp collection to the garage or any outhouse that may be damp, where it could soon deteriorate. I think it may be worth £..... but be prepared for rather less, as condition and other factors are very important.

My collection consists of the following main parts:-

- 1) Netherlands, Netherlands Indies and Indonesia, all of which is stored:-

.....  
Estimated value as .....

Please get in touch with the Netherlands Philatelic Circle before disposing of any of this material. They will sell it on behalf of my estate, at a commission of :- The Secretary is.....

Address:- .....Postcode.....

Telephone..... E-mail.....

Alternate contact -- The President,

Name..... Address.....

Telephone: .....E-mail..... Postcode.....

- 2) Ifni and Spanish Sahara, These are kept.....

Please contact the Spanish Study Circle, the Hon. Secretary is

.....Address.....

Telephone.....E-mail..... Postcode.....

- 3) 'Cattle' This includes stamps, covers, and postcards and is stored

.....  
It would probably be best disposed of via .....

and they can be contacted at .....

Telephone..... Website:.....

Suggested value..... (but take their advice)

(continued next page)



## WHAT HAPPENS TO MY COLLECTION WHEN I DIE ? (continued)

Your Executors may not be Philatelists and have no knowledge of the value of your collection, so you might care to give them details of a collector friend who might be able to advise them of what could be important, how to pack it if being sent away, etc. or even deal with it themselves (if considered competent).

Leave written details of your friend, and their contact number/address etc.

It might be useful to mark (in pencil) the amount you paid for an item, and the date it was acquired. Indicate how many albums are involved, stockbooks, boxes, loose items, carrier bags, old suitcases, or files, and don't forget, any catalogues, reference books, magazines, journals etc. Are stamps u/m, mint or used! what sort of date span is involved! Victorian, modern, FDC etc.

Rosemary Dellar

.....  
Editor's note Thanks Rosemary, this is a subject that many collectors appear to overlook, so it's useful to mention it. KFPS held a seminar on this topic some years ago, and it has been suggested that we should hold another soon. Finally, as a Trustee for a collection left in Trust, can I recommend that YOU DO NOT bequeath it intact in Trust! It can create many problems for the Amateur custodian, and it means, in many cases, that it might never see the light of day again - it would be far better to sell it and hopefully it will circulate on the open market, and form part of a display given to a local society again.  
.....

PJOK.

## How Good Is Your Memory ?

Here is an article that appeared in "The Stamp Magazine" some 50 years ago, and refers to a local 'Express' delivery service that operated in the Bromley area. It might interest some of our members now living in that area.

### Bromley & District Express Delivery

It was on this page in February that we posed a question about the Bromley & District Express Delivery, of which an example of the 1d. stamp had come our way, but that query remained unanswered. Being undeterred by the lack of information from readers of THE STAMP MAGAZINE we decided to try lay sources, and in April a letter of enquiry we had addressed to the Editor of the *Bromley & Kentish Times* was published in that paper.



*The Express stamp*

Within a few days a reply was forthcoming from none other than the manager of the firm which ran the service and issued the stamps. He was Sidney Bax, of Bromley, who stated that the delivery service was begun early in 1915 by a Mr. Powell who owned three drapers' shops, one of which was at 79 High Street, Bromley, and it was in the yard at the back of this shop that the service was organised. The reason why the service was begun was that, owing to the war, there was a shortage of delivery men, so the Bromley & District Express used to go round the shops in Bromley, collect parcels, sort them out, and deliver them in the town and outlying districts such as Hayes (Kent), Keston, Downe and Petts Wood.

At first the transport was effected by four old "box" cars, with engines beneath the seats, but afterwards a van was used. "There were about six of us all told", said Mr. Bax, "including those in the office."

Stamps were printed to denote payment of the fee charged and showed the amount per parcel according to its weight. Unfortunately Mr. Bax can no longer remember the name of the stamp printers, how many specimens there were in a sheet or even what denominations were printed, but obviously there were more than the 1d. value. The parcels were weighed after collection and the stamps affixed according to the delivery charges.

*June, 1964*

## COMPETITION RESULTS - SPRING RALLY - 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014

### THE GRANT CUP Thematic 8 page 'Team' competition - 6 entries

1 <sup>st</sup>	BROMLEY & BECKENHAM P.S.	Queen Victoria – St Lucia	80 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Maidstone & Mid-Kent P.S.	1840 Two Penny Blue	79 “
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Maidstone & Mid-Kent P.S.	The Camel Postman	70 “

### THE DES KILL TROPHY Cinderella 'Individual' competition - only 2 entries

1 <sup>st</sup>	RICHARD SOLLY (Bromley & Beckenham P.S.)	Sending Money By Post In France	75 “
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Grahame Boutle (Bromley & Beckenham P.S.)	Marketing Black Gold	72 “

The thank the Judges of both competitions, Brian Coates and Brian Thurlow from the Hertfordshire Federation for joining us in Beckenham on Mothering Sunday.

.....

THE DAWES CUP - 2014. Kent again hosted the Dawes Cup, which was Judged at the Royal Philatelic Society on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The Kent team scored 346 points to take second place. Our Congratulations to the Essex Fedn. team, this years winners, with 349 points, and Surrey gained 328 points, with Sussex on 302 points.

Our team (of four) being:

<u>John Shaw</u> (Eltham & Woolwich)	A Study of the South African 5/- Rotogravure Ox Wagon Pictorial set.	83 points
<u>John Crowe</u> (Sevenoaks & Dist)	Pioneer Flights of England - Australia.	93 points
<u>Grahame Boutle</u> (Bromley & Beckenham)	The Imperial Airways S23 "C" Class Flying Boat Crashes 1937 to 1939	85 points
<u>Ron Burn</u> (Bromley & Beckenham)	Tristan da Cunha, WWII	85 points

The next 'Dawes Cup' competition will be hosted by the Surrey Federation, on Sat. The 5<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at Addlestone.

.....

### THE A.B.P.S. 'Inter-Federation' competition - 2014.

This was held at the Design Centre in London in conjunction with 'Spring Stampex' 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The Yorkshire Federation were the winners, with 261 points, the Kent Team taking second place, with 254 points, Hampshire were third with 253 points and Sussex took 4<sup>th</sup> place with 245 points. Quite a close contest ! For this competition, Kent were represented by three members, Colin Tobitt, (Eltham & Woolwich) awarded a Large Vermeil with 80 points, in the Postal History class. John Shaw, (Eltham & Woolwich), a Large Vermeil, with 83 points, (Traditional class) and John Crowe (Sevenoaks) a Large Gold, scoring 91 points, in the Aerophilately class. Special congratulations to J.C. for gaining the highest score of all entries in this competition.

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CHEER UP, Life is for the old to enjoy, and the young to look forward to !

.....

MAKE WAY, I AM A ----- In a crowded shopping mall, a man trips over a broken paving slab and knocks himself out. Onlookers quickly gather : A smartly dressed young man elbows his way through the crowd saying "Let me through, I'm A Lawyer"

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THE KENT FEDERATION OF PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

ARE HOSTING "FEDERATION" DAY & THEIR A.G.M. ON

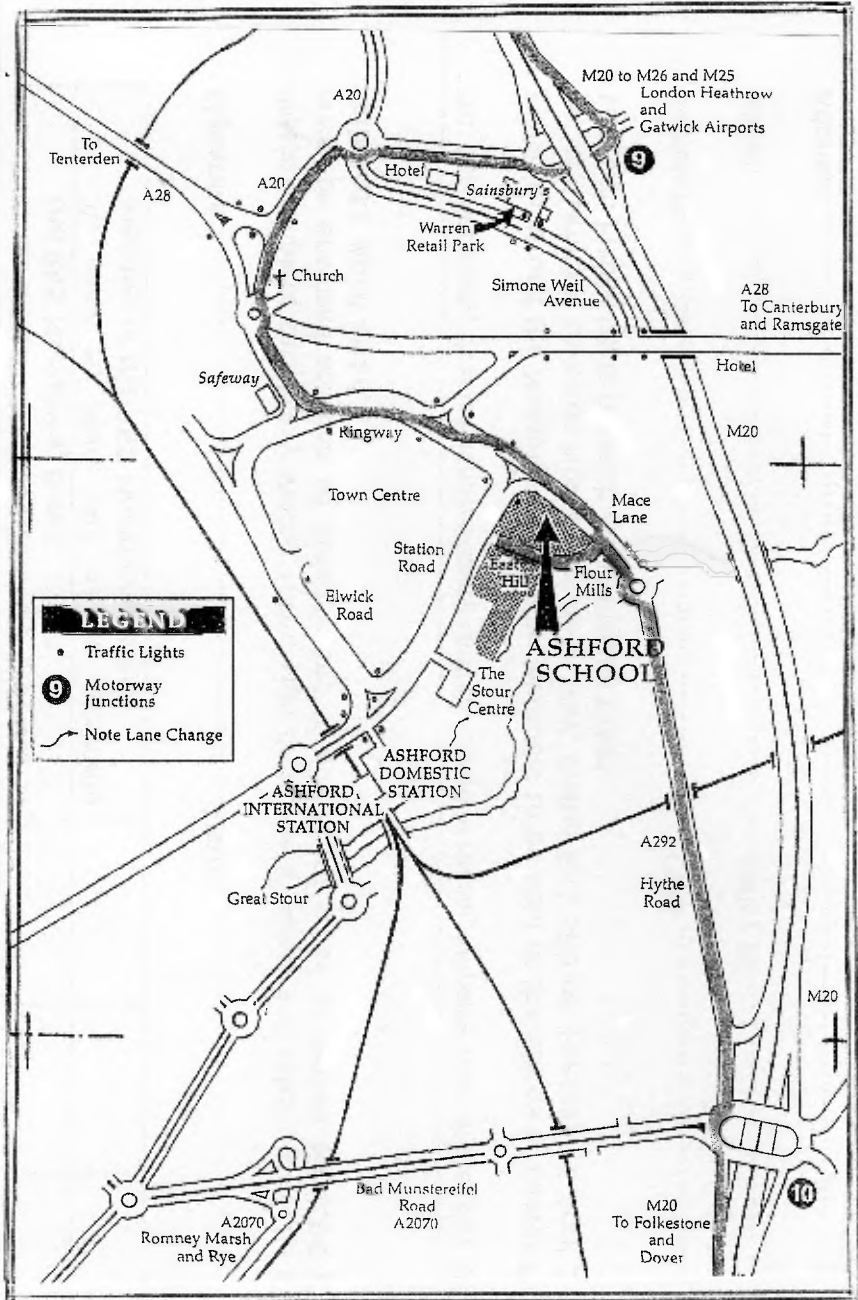
SATURDAY, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2014.  
10am to 4pm. Admission Free  
DEALERS. REFRESHMENTS  
--- FREE CAR PARKING ---

At ASHFORD SCHOOL,  
East Hill. Hythe Road,  
TN24 8PB

The map shows the routes from Junctions 9 and 10 of the M20, and from Ashford (Domestic) Rail Station. (It is regretted we no information regarding any local bus routes or times has been forthcoming).

\*\*\*\*\*  
Don't come alone, bring a friend or colleague, even your other half might care to look around the shops/ town centre!  
\*\*\*\*\*

**SLIMMING COURSE !**  
Do you know why married women find dieting more difficult than single women ? One reason might be that when single women come home they look at what's in the fridge, and go to bed. When married women come home they look at what's in bed and go to the fridge.  
\*\*\*\*\*



**THE A.B.P.S. CONSTITUTION**  
is being reviewed and I understand that all affiliated clubs have been sent copies of the proposed new Constitution which will be voted on at an E.G.M. prior to the A.G.M. on July 26<sup>th</sup> at Market Harborough in Leicestershire.  
Don't put it in a draw, but do draw it to the attention of your members and if your club is not being represented at the E.G.M., please complete the proxy form and send it off in good time.  
\*\*\*\*\*

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[Affiliated to The Association of British Philatelic Societies]  
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View our website: [www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk)  
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