



KENT FEDERATION of PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



The miniature sheet issued to commemorate
The LONDON 2012 PARALYMPIC GAMES
August/September

NO 190

SEPTEMBER 2012

K.F.P.S. Website: <http://kentphilately.weebly.com>

If you notice any difference in this issue of the Bulletin, it is because I am now using my wife's computer rather than the old word processor that I have used over the last 21 years. Hopefully by the time I have finished the typing I may have some better idea of how this machine works, and whether I have tamed it ! I have still to learn more about what I can make it do, and can only apologise for the rather plain appearance. In due course, I hope to change the width of the margins, top, bottom and sides, and also vary the size of the printing, gauge more accurately the space needed for illustrations, and perhaps discover a few more improvements.

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The Federation Day Rally at Folkestone seems to have been a success, despite the poor weather, and our thanks go to all the helpers on the Friday evening and on the day, both before, during and afterwards.

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Our next event is the Autumn Rally, which will be at Beckenham on October 20th, and hopefully all our regulars will be there, plus perhaps many of those who we do not see that often. As I have suggested, many time before, if you are travelling by car, bring a couple of friends with you, it does make the journey time pass that much quicker, and perhaps your friends might reimburse the cost of the petrol you use.

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Regrettably, Judith French has decided not to continue producing the Programme Directory which many clubs have found very useful. It would be most helpful if someone would volunteer to take over this important job - I believe it would only take a couple of weeks per year, and ought to be easy for someone with computer skills. Unfortunately, Judith has not indicated the reason for her decision, and I hesitate to hazard a guess.

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Unfortunately at the A.G.M., our Hon Secretary, Michael Thompson decided not to seek re-election for this post following the election of the Hon. Chairman. Apparently this may be due to differences of opinion with certain others on the Executive Committee. It is a pity that the Federation has lost two useful members of the team, but we should remember that there is no "T" in TEAM !

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I now understand that Cinque Ports PS and Medway Towns PS have appointed new Hon. Secretaries - please can someone let me have their full details ASAP, however, we wish them both an enjoyable term of office and look forward to seeing them at a Federation event fairly soon.

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I have received reports from 15 of our societies for this issue and could have fitted in the other EIGHT, but it seems they failed to remember the cut-off date, were still on holiday, were in the garden, or still getting over the Olympics. Even though some clubs "Shut Down" for the summer, did they not have any meetings since the middle of April (the cut-off date for the May Bulletin) or surely they could tell us something of their forthcoming programme ? The Federation does still need your support, and your news can be helpful to other clubs.

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Insanity is hereditary: You can get it from your children !

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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..

2012

SEP 1 Beckenham Stamp Fair Azelia Hall, Croydon Road, Beckenham
 SEP 2 Sevenoaks Stamp Fair Knole Academy,Bradbourne ValeRd,Sevenoaks
 SEP 8 T & T Auction St.Marks Hall, Bayham Road, Tunbridge Wells
 SEP 12 Strand Stamp Fair Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, London
 SEP 15 Orpington Stamp Fair 227 Poverest Rd, Petts Wood, Orpington
 SEP 26/29 "Autumn Stampex" Business Design Centre, Islington, London, N1
 OCT 6 Beckenham Stamp Fair Azelia Hall, Croydon Road, Beckenham
 OCT 10 Strand Stamp Fair Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, London
 OCT 13 T & T Auction St.Marks Hall, Bayham Road, Tunbridge Wells
 OCT 19/20 "G.B. Congress & ABPS Exhibition" Queen's Hotel, Perth, Scotland

OCT 20 KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY Langley Park Boys School
 Beckenham

OCT 27 West Malling Mini Stamp Fair The Clout Memorial Hall, West Malling

NOV 1 "Philatex" CANCELLED.

NOV 3 Beckenham Stamp Fair Azelia Hall, Croydon Road, Beckenham

NOV 10 Maidstone Stamp Fair Grove Green Community Centre, Maidstone

NOV 14 Strand Stamp Fair Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, London

NOV 17 Orpington Stamp Fair 227 Poverest Rd, Petts Wood, Orpington

NOV 18 Sevenoaks Stamp Fair Knole Academy,Bradbourne Vale Rd,Sevenoaks

NOV 24 T & T Auction St.Marks Hall, Bayham Road, Tunbridge Wells

DEC 1 Beckenham Stamp Fair Azelia Hall, Croydon Road, Beckenham

DEC 12 Strand Stamp Fair Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, London

FUTURE EVENTS FOR 2013

MAR 16 KENT FEDERATION SPRING RALLY Hosted by the Gravesend &
 District Stamp Club, at Larkfield Village Hall, near Maidstone.

JUL 20 KENT FEDERATION DAY/ A.G.M. (note - revised date) hosted by
 Swale Philatelic & Postcard Society at Borden School, Sittingbourne.

SEP 28 KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY Hosted by Malling Stamp
 Club, at East Malling Village Hall.

FUTURE EVENTS FOR 2014

awaited KENT FEDERATION SPRING RALLY Hosted by Bromley and
 Beckenham Philatelic Society at Langley Park Boys School, Beckenham

awaited KENT FEDERATION DAY / A.G.M. provisionally to be hosted by
 Bexley Philatelic Society

awaited KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY provisionally to be hosted
 by Cinque Ports Philatelic Society.

NOTE : The CUT-OFF date for the February Edition of this BULLETIN will
need to be the 15th JANUARY 2013. Please let me have YOUR
Club news by that date ! Thank you ! Make a note in your diary

I have completed the first year as the President of the Kent Federation and I hope that I can do a little better than I have performed over the last year, but the pressure of work is still there and with the Olympics fast approaching there is very little spare time at present. We are still very short staffed at work and at the moment I am working with the Ghurkhas, wonderful lads with whom to work.

The Federation Day at St.Saviours Church in Folkestone was a success, although the weather could have been better, but if you can live in England you can probably live anywhere in the world. I would like to thank all the members of the Executive Committee and the stewards on the day, who worked so hard to make the event a success - a good team effort, also to everyone who travelled down on the day, for your continued support.

By the time you read this, you have probably had your holiday and I hope that the weather was kind to you.

After a rather difficult year, I am looking forward, with the help of the Executive Committee to put Kent back on the right tracks so that everything will run a lot smoother in the near future, so lets all pull in the same direction for the Kent Federation, because we are the best!

I am also looking forward to the Autumn Rally, on the 20th October at Beckenham when we can meet again for the last of our rallies for 2012.

Please take care of yourselves, see you at Beckenham.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Flack,

President K.F.P.S 2011 – 2013

A FURTHER THANK YOU

Maurice also wrote to add special thanks to several people connected with the event in Folkestone:

To Chrissie Baker who organised the whole day, with a tremendous amount of work and effort. The various people who helped on the Friday night to set up the venue moving furniture and arranging the dealers tables, and also for their efforts in clearing things after the event. To Colin Tobitt, the grafter who set up the display frames and later dismantled them on the Saturday evening. Colin, goes 'the extra mile' on behalf of the Federation and does a superb job. To Andrew and Diana who both worked hard in the kitchen throughout the day - the tea, coffee and food were much appreciated. Thanks to those who ran the Tombola stall, (modern Dick Turpin and his gang), for their efforts, well done. Additionally, to those who helped the dealers unload, etc. and to the dealers who (at rather short notice) turned out for us. Apologies to anyone I have missed out, but all who helped did a grand job. Thank you. Maurice Flack.

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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!"

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF BOTH THE TWO SEPARATE MEETINGS – THE ‘COUNCIL MEETING, FOLLOWED BY THE A.G.M. HELD ON THE 14th JULY 2012

This year “Federation Day“ was held at St. Saviour’s Church Hall, Folkestone. The Chairman, Chrissie Baker welcomed 29 delegates, representing (only) 13 clubs, with apologies from 7 delegates. In Michael Thompson’s absence, due to his holiday, the minutes were taken by Grahame Boutle.

The Hon Treasurer, Colin Tobitt reported that affiliation fees, based on a per capita basis were down from 972 in 2011, to 883 in 2012. Surprisingly, the venue hire fee for Paddock Wood, in March, had still not been invoiced, so he had not been able to finalise the accounts for that event just yet. He reminded delegates that the stock purchase of over £200 worth of NVI G.B. first class postage stamps, prior to the last rate increase, did not mean that mail was necessarily being sent by 1st class post. It was used as a “make up” rate, unless the particular item was urgent. The Bulletin Editor, Peter O’Keeffe reported that the ‘Word processor’ on which the Bulletin had been typed over the last 20 years had now died, and was uneconomic to repair. He would have to convert to a computer, which might take a little longer for him to get used to. He also mentioned that a report had been received from one club, without quoting it’s name, or the sender. Fortunately he guessed correctly after reference to the Club Programme Directory.

Grahame Boutle reported that the responses to the Questionnaires handed out to the dealers who attended the Spring Rally indicated that due to the lack of public transport, it would probably not be in the interests of the Federation to continue to use the Mascall’s school. Obviously, not being close to a High street, there was unlikely to be any passing traffic, and the general public were unlikely to ‘pop in’. (We all knew this, but how many non interested general public even bother to visit a rally any way ?) Grahame also reported that arrangements for the Autumn Rally were well advanced, There would be 19 dealers, and ‘fliers’ were to be sent to every affiliated club with the next issue of the Bulletin.

Maurice Flack (President) reported, as Competition Secretary, that Kent had again hosted the Dawes Cup, but may find it necessary to host it yet again in 2013, as the Sussex Federation may not be able to do so !

The Election of Officers and Executive Committee brought forward two nominees for the Chairmanship, Chrissie Baker (current chairman) and Judith French, both left the room and their merits were discussed, both were invited back to state their views, and Following a secret vote Chrissie was confirmed as Chairman. Tony Bosworth then announced that in the circumstances, Michael Thompson was standing down as Hon. Secretary. No nominations were forthcoming for this unexpected vacancy. All other Officers were re-elected ‘en bloc’.

Don Brookfield was re-appointed as Accounts Examiner. It was announced that Len Lasseter (Orpington & KPHG) had been awarded the Lingley Shield, for services to both societies. Due to his absence, the presentation would be made at a club event in the next season. (later arranged for 12th September.) Colin Smith (Malling) paid tribute to Mike Thompson for his services to the Federation, and to various clubs that Mike belonged to, and congratulated him on his being awarded the ABPS Award of Merit for 2012. (This incidently, was nominated by Malling S/C (not KFPS as shown in the ABPS Journal). Possible future Seminars include topics Booklets, Boer War, Mediterranean islands, but the Seminar by Gavin Fryer scheduled for November 24th has been cancelled due to unavailability.

P.S. A further note appears elsewhere in this issue.

OUR NEXT SEMINAR.

This will be on Saturday, 27th October 2012 when IAN NUTLEY will lead a discussion entitled COLLECTING ZEPPELIN MAIL. This will be held at the Wainscott Memorial Hall, (ME2 4LG) Holley Road, Wainscott, Near Rochester

Commencing at 10am (Doors open from 9am) it is expected to finish about 4pm There will be Tea and Coffee breaks, plus a buffet lunch, and the cost is £12.

Please book your place A.S.A.P, or to obtain further information, by contacting Maurice Flack (01634-714584).

Lunch is usually from 12.30 to 1.30 pm. There is free car parking in the road or on the driveway at the venue.

NOTE The Seminar scheduled for November 24th (by Gavin Fryer) has had to be cancelled, as the speakers wife is to have an operation, and he is unable to guarantee his availability. This is the same date as the Kent Postal History Group Auction, so you could attend that - its free, but take your own lunch!

Other Seminars being considered for 2013, include Booklet Collecting, the Boer War, and Mediterranean Islands. It is also hoped that Gavin Fryer can join us again sometime next year.

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THE LINGLEY SHIELD If you (or your club) feel that a member has given good service to a club or to the Federation, you might care to nominate him or her for this annual award. Please drop a line to Chrissie Baker setting out your reasons. Nominations must be lodged no later than the 31st March 2013.

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CONGRATULATIONS to John Shaw (Eltham & Woolwich PS.) and to Michael Thompson (Malling S.C.). Both of whom have received the "ABPS Award of Merit". (But I do not know whether they have been presented yet).

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PLEASE NOTE !

The date for next Year's Federation Day has had to be changed! It will be on the 20th JULY 2013 and not the 13th. Your Programme Secretary may need to alter your Club cards! Sorry about this.

<p><i>Interested in military / wartime / censored mails ?</i></p> <p>Join the:</p> <p>Forces Postal History Society</p> <p><i>[Affiliated to The Association of British Philatelic Societies]</i></p> <p>Quarterly Journal - Extensive Library - Postal Auctions - Packets - Regular meetings</p> <p>View our website: www.forcespostalhistorysociety.org.uk</p> <p>Further details contact: Martin Hopkinson Trewinney Barton, Mevagissey, ST AUSTELL, Cornwall PL26 6TD</p>
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PLEASE REMEMBER Competition entries for the AUTUMN RALLY need to be advised to Maurice Flack on or BEFORE the 6th of October.

HARMER'S AUCTIONEERS I understand that Harmers have moved from Chiswick and have closed their Stamp Department - no further information at present; this therefore is the first time, since we included advertising, that we have not carried one of their adverts. It's a pity !

THE STRAND STAMP FAIR IS MOVING AND CHANGING IT'S DAY
For those of you who travel up to London and attend the "Strand Stamp Fair" at the Royal National Hotel, near Russell Square, you will be interested to know that it is moving from the current suite, to the 'Galleon A & B Suite' at the same venue BUT FROM NOVEMBER this year it will be held on a FRIDAY NOT a Wednesday ! The September and October Fairs in 2012 will continue as normal, but these new arrangements will come into force for the November (23rd) and December (14th) Fairs. The suites currently used are being re-developed, so the Fairs will return to their old home, across the foyer.

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"GOLD" PILLAR BOXES ! The Royal Mail decided to paint a pillar box Gold in the home town of each of the Team G.B. Gold Medal winners. They would be repainted in the traditional red, after the games had finished. Pity the Boxer who won Gold on the pen-ultimate day of the games !

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OUT AND ABOUT. I have received a note from Royal Mail advising me that they are shortly to introduce a new service: If I am out, they will leave any post that will not fit through my letter box, with a near neighbour, or if he is out, they might leave his post with me. I have the option of refusing to agree, and if I decline, they will give me a sticker to place alongside my letter box, so that the postman knows not to put other people's mail through my box. What happens if either I or next door are away ?



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FUEL SHORTAGE ! During the last prolonged petrol shortage, I was getting desperate to fill up my petrol tank, as I was about to go on a long trip. I spotted a sign by the roadside "Fuel in next layby". I breathed a sigh of relief, and pulled in – only to find a wheelbarrow full of logs !

ANOTHER NEW ISSUE Now we are having a miniature sheet to commemorate the Paralympic Games, costs £3.76. (2 @ 1st class & 2 @ £1.28) ! See illustration on front cover.

A Gardening Tip !

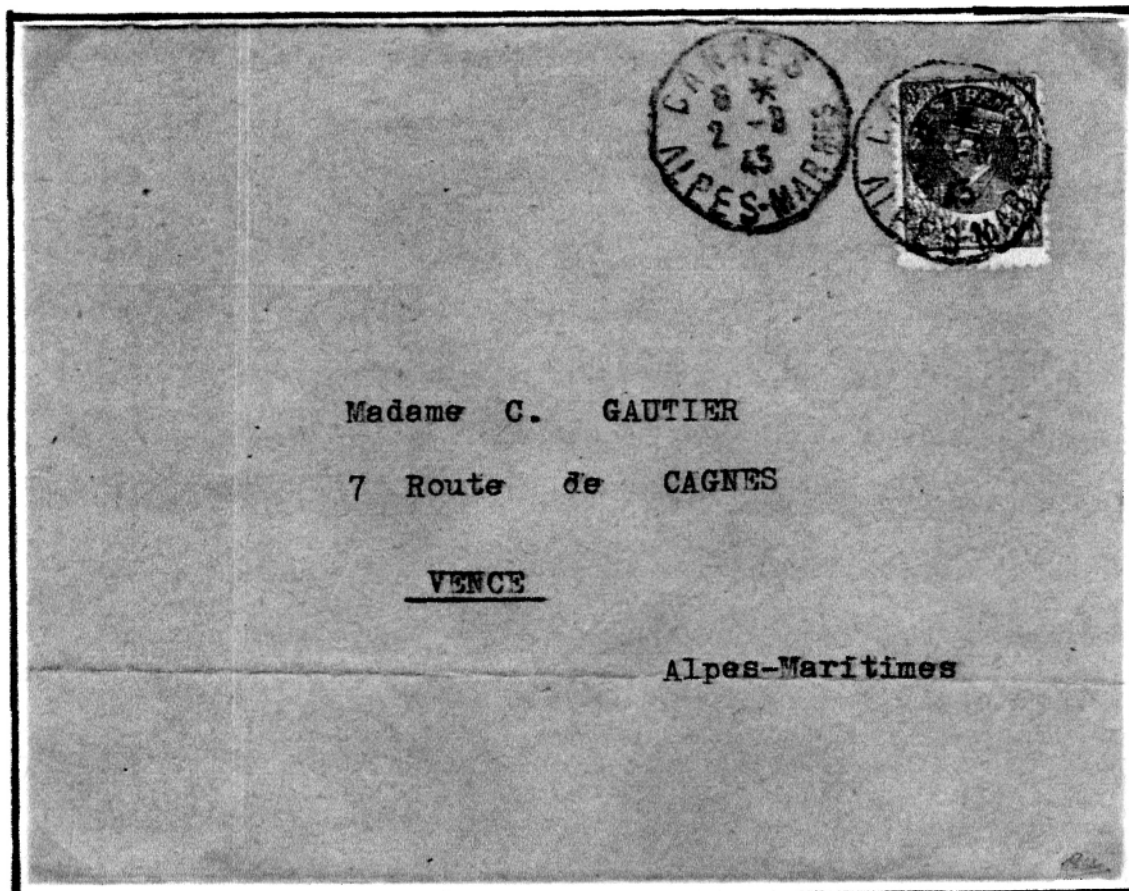
Paddy was planting a number of trees in his garden; a Lady passing by says "I see you are digging out the holes Mr Murphy", "No Mam, Oi'm only digging out the soil, and leaving the holes" says Paddy.

I was in PARIS for a philatelic event (of course), staying in a modest little hotel near the rue Drouot, which I am sure you all know is the home of many Parisian stamp shops, although sadly not as many as there once were. It was mid-afternoon, which gave me time to take a walk down there before they began to close. At the second or third shop I spotted in the window a single copy of a British Intelligence Forgery of a wartime French definitive. I had all of these in complete sheets of 20, but what I had never found was a Maquis forgery of a definitive, the 1Fr 50 brown with DeGaulle's head, instead of Petain's. I therefore entered the shop, more in hope than expectation, and asked the proprietor if he might have such a stamp.



"Mais oui, Monsieur" he replied, and produced a small stock-book, which he opened to reveal about 10 copies ! I gleefully selected a nice copy from the corner of the sheet, and was reaching for my wallet when he said "Would Monsieur be interested in a complete sheet of 9 ?"

Hardly able to contain my joy, I gazed upon the next page of his stock-book where lay 2 such pieces. Before I could effusively thank him, and with a twinkle in his eye, he added "And perhaps a copy on cover ?". I thought I'd died and gone to heaven, as he revealed just one, used on a cover dated in Cannes in 1943 ! This was beyond my wildest, and my French did not stretch to thanking him adequately. This sort of thing seems not to happen to me any more, but every time I display my WWII propaganda and espionage forgeries I cannot resist telling this little anecdote. I have been in the same shop since and found absolutely nothing. See also a post script on another page.



Well, I have been forced to take my first steps into the 21st Century, or as most of you know it as the Computer Age ! My ancient wordprocessor has finally given up the ghost, and has gone to the nackers yard. After 20 years it passed away peacefully five weeks ago, and despite the surgeons diagnosis, it would have been uneconomic to revive it. It gave very good service, but two years ago it became difficult to obtain the special cartridge's needed and I reluctantly decided that I would probably have to seriously consider another means of typing future Bulletins and ways of writing up my various pages for displays. So here I am, now endeavouring to understand why a computer is so sensitive, (and taking rather longer to type each page) and why it seems to want to annoy me with it's own ideas, and not do what I want it to ! Certain keys differ from the keyboard I had on the wordprocessor, and through force of habit I seem to touch the wrong ones too often. However, I am at last beginning to find my way around some of these problems, without troubling my wife every few minutes to sort out why it does some unexplained things. Hopefully you will not find many typing errors, omissions or misplaced lines or words. Some of the major difficulties I am finding are getting the right spacing when I want to insert an illustration, or when I am getting near the end of a page. Also the width of margins, adjusting the size of lettering etc, but these will I hope come later. So for this issue, at least, I will just try to master the basics ! I have been offered advice from several friends, and in time, I hope to get the hang of these modern contraptions. At the moment, I feel that I am travelling at about 4 miles per hour, behind a man with a red flag ! My biggest problem is that I have no means of reading the wordprocessor discs I had, and thus printing the addresses of those to whom the Bulletin is to be sent. Chrissie and Colin are attempting to read the old discs via their computers, but I am not sure if they are compatible - if between us we can not print labels, it may be a case of hand writing being needed. Everyone seems to want to tell me that Computers are easy, at the moment I am finding this one rather confusing, and presumably, as I get used to it, maybe I will form my own opinion. Watch this space !

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 P.S. This is a Windows 98 model, inherited from our son, which my wife uses occasionally, so if I get the hang of it, it might become the workhorse for future. It is not connected to the Internet, and I do not have E-Mail, or any other add-ons.

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Please complete and forward to: The Editor. K.F.P.S. Bulletin. 8 Stainer Road. Tonbridge. TN10 4DR

SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (1)

The Romney Marsh Philatelic & Postcard Society

With our first scheduled meeting of 2012 cancelled due to the iced up car park, we first met on the 29th February when our Chairman, Derek Martin showed us some of his collection of China; stamps, covers and postcards, covering subjects such as Watermills, the making of Ceramics, Dress & Culture. In March, our Postcard Competition was well supported, and our thanks to Mr and Mrs Egon for giving up their evening to judge for us. Winners were Derek Martin, Richard Mittell and Kathy Carr. Also in March, our member, John Edwards gave us an excellent display of Postcards. As well as our local Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway, we saw Camber Trams, Railways of the South East, and shipwrecks, plus Lifeboats from Ramsgate to Hastings. April started off with the sad news of the passing of Ann May, a member from the start of our Society. Our first meeting in April was the Philatelic Competition, rather poorly supported, but the winners were Gerrie Bates, and Richard Mittell. Then came our A.G.M. in May, with everyone remaining "in office". There was a lively discussion about advertising and attracting new members. June saw the welcome return of Frank & Pat Parsons, who entertained us with "Mourning Mail" from Queen Victoria through to George VI. Pat later showed cards of prison buildings, going back to the 11th Century. These included drawings done by prisoners. Frank displayed early Syrian stamps, a country we had not seen before, and this was followed by a display of Military Hospitals in Brighton, where Religion and colour seemed to be kept separate. In July Stewart Henderson came all the way from Essex to see us, and displayed stamps, post-cards, labels and notices in "Aspects of W.W.I."... He showed how governments raised the revenue to help pay the costs of war, and covered the consequences of wars, with Empires breaking up, and new countries emerging, their first overprints, and their first "new" issue of stamps. He had one small set of postcards tracing one soldier's war, from his enlistment through to his demob. Our last meeting of the season was an opportunity for members to show off their "new acquisitions", then we look forward to the start of a new season, commencing on the 12th September.



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Edenbridge Stamp & Postcard Club In April, we were pleasantly surprised when Chrissie Baker brought her "World of Stamps" to display to us. She said that there were some 2200/2500 countries and the way she had written them up was so different. Our small number of members present all enjoyed the evening. In May Ray Barton entertained us with "Mexico Postal History", showing covers and sets of stamps - another interesting display. Our season concluded with our A.G.M. and "open evening". At the moment, we are not sure where we will be meeting next season, as the



building we have been using, is up for sale for development and the new Community Centre, which is being built, has been delayed by the dreadful rainy weather. This was being considered as a possible venue. Future visitors will of course be advised in good time, where we set up a new home, as will our members.

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Editor's Note : The Society reports are not in alphabetical order, nor in the order I received them; it's a case of fitting them to a page, and adding odd notes to fill it !

SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (2)

Dover Stamp Society Towards the end of the season we had visits from the Swale and the Whitstable Societies, and as usual, these evenings produced a variety of display themes. Our thanks are extended to both groups for travelling down to this outpost of the "Empire" and entertaining us so well. Additionally, we felt quite honoured to see a stamp portraying the White Cliffs of Dover on the front page of the May edition of the Federation Bulletin. Perhaps we are not so far from the centre of things after all!



Curiously we still look forward to last season's A.G.M. scheduled for the 28th of May! This was deferred until the first meeting of the new season, in September, due to an unusual and unfortunate occurrence, caused by a mixture of illness and holidays. It is to be hoped that a bourse arranged to accompany the AGM will encourage members to attend and reduce the fears that they might end up being voted into an executive position.

Several members of the Society attended the Kent Postal History Group meeting at Ringwould, near Dover recently, with Peter Read, Tony Belsey and Mike Clarke offering displays on local themes. At the time of writing we look forward to the Federation Day Fair in Folkestone, which is of course, right on our door step. It is hoped that members will turn up to support it.



Medway Towns Philatelic Society Despairing of persuading more members to enter our competitions, we tried out an idea which other clubs might care to copy or adopt. After the serious competition entries had been studied, the trophies awarded and tea made, we announced what would happen next. Each member had been asked to bring along about twenty stamps (they had no idea why!) that they no longer wanted, and the Committee provided another hundred or so. From the combined mix, numerous "packets of some thirty stamps were compiled.

Each member was then provided with a small album page, some and a packet of stamps and asked to make up an interesting page. They were allowed to swap, with others, or with any left in the kitty, and when they had finished, they were asked to give their "entry" a title, then put their page up on the display boards. The idea worked surprisingly well, several had never used hinges before, most had not submitted a competition entry before, but all seemed to enjoy the session, and one person was heard to exclaim "This is FUN".

Titles of some of the completed pages included, The Map of Europe, Evolution, Outposts of Empire, as well as more predictable names, such as Birds, Kings and Queens. The winner, judged by those present, was an extremely neat display, entitled "The Green Page" which featured stamps from a variety of countries, harmoniously arranged.

POSTAL DELIVERY ROUTES An article in my local paper states that the Postal Deliveries to the TN9, TN10, TN11 and TN12 postcode areas are set to change in the next few weeks. This could mean customers receiving their post later than at present. I am in TN10; over the last 6 months, I have received my Post at varying times, ranging between 8.15am (once) and 7.45 PM. (also once). So presumably 'later', means next day, unless the Postman is on overtime! This is "To maintain efficiency and keep prices low". They also state that "Many customers will continue to get their mail by lunchtime"