



**KENT FEDERATION**  
OF  
**PHILATELIC SOCIETIES**



*CENTENARY OF THE FIRST  
UNITED KINGDOM AERIAL  
POST 1911-2011*

*The illustration above is of the miniature  
sheet to be issued on the 9th September*

No. 187

SEPTEMBER 2011

**BULLETIN**

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

# EDITORIAL

Peter O'Keeffe

Our thanks to the CINQUE PORTS P.S for hosting the Federation Day Rally at Folkestone, as part of their Centenary Celebrations, and for finding such a good venue for the event. A fuller report is elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations to Brian Stonestreet of Maidstone who won the penny black in their corner letters draw.

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At the AGM, Maurice Flack stepped up to become our new President in addition to continuing as Competition Secretary, and Seminar organiser, he could be in for a busy couple of years - lets hope that he can be contacted by telephone more easily - it seems that someone has got his number in error and keeps blocking it by leaving messages for someone else on his line. John Shaw (Eltham & Woolwich P.S has accepted the nomination as Vice-President.

Our thanks to Ron Burn for serving as the Federation Chairman for EIGHT years, during which time the Federation has made significant progress, has achieved good successes in National Competitions and the Seminars have become established events in our calendar. We now welcome Chrissie Baker (Cinque Ports P.S) as our new Chairman and wish her well for the future. We also welcome Michael Thompson back into the fray as our new Hon. Secretary, a 'new job' as in the past, Mike has been the Federation Competition Secretary, Chairman and of course he is also our Bulletin printer and despatcher, plus being the Web-site Manager. Finally, our thanks to Graham Boutle who has agreed to take on the job as our Communications Officer.

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Two clubs have new Hon. Secretaries, the Maidstone & Mid-Kent P.S have elected Peter Dunford, and Romany Marsh P & P.C Society have elected Albert Terry. We wish both of them well in their new jobs No other changes have been reported so far.

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Following the Tunbridge Wells clubs move last year to add morning meetings to their programme, it is encouraging that the Maidstone Society are also giving it a try, whilst the Dover Stamp Club are arranging to have 2 meetings each month during the coming season, instead of just one. We hope that they both get good support with these ventures.

For those societies who are finding things a little difficult, with either reducing membership or lack of willing volunteers to help with their running, perhaps a merger with a neighbouring society might be the answer ! Rather than closing down, at least some members would be prepared to travel a little further for their philatelic enjoyment and friendly companionship

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We have two fewer adverts in this issue - maybe its a sign of the economy or times having an effect on philatelic sales ? The price of philatelic albums etc. seems to rise every time I need to look for additional pages, and stamps are also more costly. Perhaps fewer people are looking to increase their collections now a days

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I regret that I am unable to include the results of the last set of competitions in this issue, nor any up to the minute details of future Seminars, as Maurice has not been in touch, I have tried his answer phone without success. He is usually so thorough with such information.

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If all is well, the next Federation Competitions should be eight pages Thematic and Aerophilatelic, plus a 16 page Traditional at the Autumn Rally on September 24th at Gravesend.

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# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2011

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

## 2011

AUG 20	Mini Stamp Fair	Clout Hall, HighSt.W.Malling
SEP 3	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Road.
SEP 4	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Knole Acad-Bradbourne Schl.
SEP 7	Strand Stamp Fair	Royal Nat.Hotel, London, WC1
SEP 14/17	"Autumn Stampex"	Design Centre, Islington
SEP 24	KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	Gravesend, St.Georges Hall
OCT 1	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Road.
OCT 8	Sussex Fed. Convention	Ardingly Show Ground
OCT 12	Strand Stamp Fair	Royal Nat.Hotel, London WC1
OCT 15	Mini Stamp Fair	Clout Hall, HighSt,W.Malling
OCT 15	Essex Federation Rally	Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex.
Oct 21/22	Judging Seminar (2 days)	Inn on the Lake Hotel, (A2)
	(Contact Maurice 01634-714584 or Bill 01892-531516)	
OCT 29	Surrey Federation Day	Claygate Vil Hall, Church Rd
NOV 3/5	"Philatex" (London)	Royal Horticultural Hall
NOV 5	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Road.
NOV 12	Maidstone Stamp Fair	Grove Green Commun.Centre
NOV 16	Strand Stamp Fair	Royal Nat.Hotel, London WC1
NOV 20	Sevenoaks Stamp Fair	Knole Acad- Bradbourne Rd
DEC 3	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd.
DEC 7	Strand Stamp Fair	Royal Nat.Hotel, London WC1

## 2012

MAR 10	KENT FEDERATION SPRING RALLY	Mascals School, Paddock Wood
JUN ?	KENT FEDERATION DAY	Host Society WANTED ! ! ! !
OCT 20	KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	(Awaiting Confirmation)
		Langley Park Schl.Beckenham

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For Web pages listing forthcoming NATIONAL events, you could try  
General: <http://www.abps.org.uk/Exhibiting/Exhibitions/index>  
BPMA lectures and events: [postalheritage.org.uk/events](http://postalheritage.org.uk/events)  
and/or: [postalheritage.org.uk/exhibitions](http://postalheritage.org.uk/exhibitions) E&OE  
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**THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT  
ISSUE, IN FEBRUARY, WILL NEED TO BE 18th JANUARY 2012**

However, it MIGHT be possible to include a late 'Newsflash' if something important is happening. Please put a note in your Diary preferably for at least one week before this, and drop me a line in good time to ensure that YOUR Society gets a mention - remind your PRESS OFFICER and SECRETARY at your society meetings

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### -ADVANCE NOTICE OF FUTURE KENT FEDERATION EVENTS-

Host Societies are still urgently needed for OUR FUTURE RALLIES ! but remember, 2012 is 'Olympic' year. (The Games start around the 20th or so of July) and date clashes (even non Olympic) with other events might affect your support. Bromley & Beckenham P/S have provisionally booked October 20th for the Autumn Rally 2012 subject to Langley Park School confirming the date. The Malling Stamp Club have booked the Autumn Rally in 2013, for Saturday 28th Sept.

IS YOUR CLUB WILLING to host 'FEDERATION DAY' next JUNE ? or early July OR either the Spring Rally OR Federation Day in 2013 ?  
**PLEASE VOLUNTEER NOW or ASAP !** Contact Mike Thompson on 01474-325507 to **BOOK** the event. Details can follow later !

\*\*\*\*\*

## PROPOSED TWO DAY JUDGING SEMINAR

The President, Bill Hedley in liasion with Maurice Flack proposed that a two day Judging Seminar should be arranged, and plans were well in hand to hold it at The Inn on the Lake Hotel on the A2 on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd October. The cost of £40 per person being to cover the hire of the hotel room and provision of food. Overnight accommodation being available to anyone wishing to stay overnight (£48 per person per night and with Friday night dinner at £13.95). To justify this venture, between 10 to 20 persons are needed, and invitations have been sent to neighbouring Federations, to see if they are interested. Our own clubs have been asked to inform their members, and all interested members are requested to book their places ASAP with Maurice on 01634-714584 OR Bill, on 01892-531516. This is most important ! We need to know soon to confirm the numbers attending, and that there is sufficient support

If we have to cancel, the hotel needs to have ample notice, otherwise the Federation maybe liable for a cancellation fee ! !

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### SEMINAR REMINDER

The Seminar arranged for Saturday 5th November at Wainscott Memorial Hall on "FAKES & FORGERIES" is to be led by Chris Harman and John Shaw, when those attending can bring along any material they may have for confirmation as to its genuineness. Starting at 10am, cost £10. which includes ample tea and coffee breaks, and a good buffet lunch. free car parking, and ending about 4pm. Again it is important that you contact Maurice Flack to book your place ASAP, but no later than 5 days beforehand please. If Maurice is not in, leave a message. Thank you.

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### THE LINGLEY SHIELD 2011

The award this year was made to DON BROOKFIELD of the BEXLEY P.S. (also a member of Sidcup PS.). Don has been the Auditor/Examiner of the Federation Accounts for several years, is a Past President of both the Federation and of Bexley, and Hon. Packet Secretary of Bexley for over 30 years, and until recently, their Press Officer. Below is a photograph of Don receiving the Trophy from Kents new President, Maurice Flack, following the Federation A.G.M. held at Folkestone on the 25th June 2011. This being the 26th occasion that the Lingley Shield has been awarded. Congratulations to Don.

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### POST DELIVERED

One day last week my Post was not delivered until 7.35pm ! Normally I do not receive it until between 12.30pm and 2.pm. So much for new technology. In the early 1900's mail posted before mid day might be with the addressee by say 4pm ! Perhaps mine had not been posted by noon on the same day !

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# FEDERATION NEWS

A brief summary of the MINUTES of the A.G.M held at Folkestone on the 25th June 2011.

The Chairman welcomed the 31 Delegates and Officers attending, and mentioned that since the Spring Rally, several problems had arisen due to the resignations of the President and the Federation Hon. Secretary. and life had not been easy. Seven apologies for absence had been received. The minutes of the last AGM had already been accepted at the Autumn Rally 2010. Bob Higgins of the Medway Towns P.S had been co-opted as acting Hon. Secretary, but without access to the relevant Federation files which had not been handed over until a few days earlier, he was not able to give a report. The Hon Treasurer, Colin Tobitt mentioned that the Affiliation Fees in 1998 indicated that membership stood at 1305, whereas at the end of 2010 it was down to 972, some 333 less in 12 years - a substantial reduction in the financial amount received from clubs. A proposal from the Malling SC, seconded by the Bromley & Beckenham P.S that the per capita Affiliation fee should be increased from 50p to 75p was approved by all present, and this becomes effective for 2012. Questions were raised regarding the costs of insurance cover for the Federations Cups & Trophies etc. and the premiums required for 'Third Party' Liability cover, plus cover for competition entries and exhibition material whilst in the care of the Federation. It was felt that perhaps a saving might be made here - the Executive Committee will investigate the situation. No action has been taken regarding any charges for competition entries and this may now be dropped. Prior to the increase in Postal rates a few years ago the Federation had made a large purchase of First class stamps when they cost 30p each - they were now 46p, and still held - a gain of 16p each! The Federation was financially healthy, and the Accounts were approved. The Competition Sec., Maurice Flack reported that the Kent teams had again done well, coming second in the Dawes Cup and winning the Inter-Federation Competition for the third time. He also reported on the entries for today's competitions. As the President had resigned, Maurice Flack, the Vice President was confirmed as the new Kent President (in addition to remaining as our competition secretary), and John Shaw (Eltham & Woolwich PS) was elected as Vice President. There were two nominations for the post of Hon. Secretary, Bob Higgins and Michael Thompson, and on a paper ballot, Michael Thompson was elected. The Chairman, Ron Burn then resigned, and Mrs Chrissy Baker (Cinque Ports) was nominated and elected unopposed. Colin Tobitt (Treasurer) and Peter O'Keefe (Bulletin Editor) were re-elected. Grahame Boutle volunteered to take on the task of Communications Officer and was duly elected. Don Brookfield (Examiner of Accounts) was appointed for a further term - he had also been nominated and was awarded the Lingley Shield for 2011. (Details elsewhere). There was no other business and the AGM ended at 12.25pm.

The Council Meeting followed with discussions on (1) the Proposed Judging Seminar at the Inn on the Lake, at Shorne, (2) The showing of the Dawes Cup entries at the Spring Rally, (3) The Bulletin on the 'Internet', and the possible reduction in the number of hard copies to be sent to clubs. Judith French stated that she would again be producing the 'KFPS Diary Dates List' and required clubs new season programmes AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Presentation Plaques for the Victorious Kent team (Inter-Fed Cup) were shown, and John Crowe (Sevenoaks), being present was given his. Those for Ron Burn and John Shaw, the 2 other members of the team would be presented later. It was mentioned that another Bar showing the Presidents name would have to be engraved following Bill Hedley's resignation and in future such bars would not be engraved until the Presidents 'Term of Office' had been completed. The meeting closed at 12.55pm

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# HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY DON DONOVAN (Bexley)

The Bexley Philatelic Society celebrated the 90th Birthday of their oldest and longest serving member, Don Donovan at their meeting on the 3rd June. A food buffet was laid on by his daughter Sheila, together with a special celebratory Birthday cake (with just one candle). Afterwards, Don gave a display of his Queen Victoria plated One Penny red stamps.

Don was born in Rugby, gained an apprenticeship at an engineering firm nearby in Coventry at 16. During WWII he was lucky to escape unscathed during the Coventry bombing raids. One night, after work he caught the last train to Rugby, travelling in the Guards Van with 90 others, a journey that took three hours to go 12 miles, and although the factory was badly damaged that night, he returned to work the next morning. He married in 1943, although his betrothed, Wynn, continued her military service until 1946. They moved to the London area in 1947, and then to Bexleyheath ten years later. Don joined the Atomic weapons establishment at Woolwich (1955-72), and retired in the early 1980's after 10 years in quality control at the Government purchasing agency Aquila.

Don joined the Bexley P.S in the mid-late 1960's. He first bought stamps for his daughter, who had a pen friend, but enjoyed visiting stamp shops while travelling for work. His collecting interests came to include penny reds (he remembers spending Saturday afternoons with former member Leslie Fletcher), GB booklets (which he picked up on their day of issue), and perfins. (he later became a member of The Perfin Society). However, it was only after a work colleague gave him an album of 'Belgian Railway' stamps that his great interest in the study of railway waybill documents with stamps attached was born. He continues to be a regular attendee of the London meetings of the Belgian Philatelic Study Circle.

On the night, Society President Frank Parsons presented Don with a card signed by the membership, the birthday cake and a rousing chorus of "Happy Birthday".

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The Photo alongside shows Don Donovan cutting his Birthday cake watched by the Bexley P.S President Frank Parsons. In the background, are Len Giles and Immediate Past President, Ray Jeal.



\*\*\*\*\*  
DID YOU KNOW ? that Fashion is something that goes in one year and out the other !  
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In today's average household there is more computer power than existed in 1965  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Indian restaurants in the U.K, employ more people than the mining and shipbuilding industries combined !  
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ITS A FACT that each time history repeats itself, the price goes up !  
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# THE CENTENARY OF THE CINQUE PORTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY - 1911 to 2011

FOUNDED - MARCH 1911



This year marks the centenary of the Cinque Ports Philatelic Society and members have participated in a number of events to mark this important milestone. Although the society is not the oldest in Kent it is still one of a select few to have been in existence for a hundred years. The society was founded in 1911 through the efforts Miss Winifred Brandreth Gibbs of Folkestone together with a small number of other enthusiastic collectors. The initial idea was to name the society "The Folkestone Philatelic Society", but when it was pointed out that a local man was circulating stamp packets called "The Folkestone Philatelic Packets" the present name was settled on to avoid confusion.

The founders could hardly have imagined that one hundred years on the society would still be going strong. The celebrations to mark the centenary started in March to coincide with the founding of the society in March 1911. A celebration luncheon was held at a Folkestone restaurant on 19 March at which the guests of honour were the Federation President Bill Hedley and his wife. The event was well attended by members and their partners.

A special centenary meeting was then held on 21 March at which Chairman Roger Dickinson gave a presentation on some of the personalities have played an important role in the society over the hundred years of its existence. He also showed the society forgery collection which dates back to 1912 and contains many interesting items. Members were also encouraged to bring along and describe their favourite philatelic item and this proved very popular and entertaining. The attendance at the meeting was 30, the highest for many years, and the great majority brought something along to show. Refreshments were laid on by Christine Moran with the help of Myrtle Wheeler and the evening was judged a great success.

The centenary celebrations continued with the Kent Federation Day and society exhibition held on Saturday, 25 June in the impressive surroundings of Folkestone Academy. The event was opened by the Mayor of Folkestone, Cllr. Sue Wallace, who congratulated the society on its success over the hundred years. Cllr. Wallace then looked at the stock available on some of the dealers' stands before examining the society exhibition.

A higher than normal number of dealers with a range of stock to suit all tastes helped to make the day a success, and the event attracted visitors from beyond the county, with some travelling from as far as London and Berkshire for the day.

The society exhibition attracted a lot of interest. It featured a display on the history of the society together displays of members' interests. There was much of local interest on show with Mary Cockburn's exhibits on Folkestone and Hythe postal history, while Richard Monk showed a range of items with a general Kent theme. There were nearly 30 frames in total with stamps and philatelic items from every continent covering traditional, postal history, aerophilately and social philately.

The society helpers were all kept extremely busy and their efforts produced a worthwhile financial bonus for the society. Gerry Bates and his team of Christine Moran and Myrtle Wheeler had no time to relax with the refreshments (continued)

while Mary Cockburn and Martin Outing managed to clear all the tombola prizes by the end of the morning. The competition to guess the corner letter of the 'penny black' proved popular and the stamp was eventually won by Brian Stonestreet of Maidstone



The Mayor of Folkestone Cllr. Sue Wallace opens the Federation Day while society President Harry Ward looks on



Christine Moran, Myrtle Wheeler and Gerry Bates in charge of the refreshments

Overall, it has been a memorable year for the Society. Despite the fact that many societies have struggled over recent years and questions are raised about the future of philately at club level, the Cinque Ports Society continues to thrive and looks forward with confidence to the next one hundred years.

Roger Dickinson.


CHAIRMAN.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (1)

Sittingbourne  
12th May 2011



Dear Peter,

After reading the May issue, no 186, I agree with Neil Russell on comments of Society reporting ! I know its the Editor's prerogative to edit articles but it does tend to detract from what is conveyed, even if repetitive. It is also nice to read what has been shown, especially when looking for speakers or visitors, when making up our programmes. Many correspondents take time and effort in reporting their meetings. Another gripe which always rears its head is the way Royal Mail rips off the collector; why do we need the many issues and repetitive values in issues, ie. three 97p stamps in the Gerry Anderson set (Thunderbirds issue) ? Two at 76p and two at £1.10 stamps in the 'Morris & Co' issue, I also see the change to adhesive stamps values to £1.65. Which, the Post Office will hardly use, because many are now using the 'Horizon' labels. Our local office say's they very rarely use stamps over £1 value. No wonder G.B. stamp collecting is a dying hobby among the younger generation, with so many issues costing around £4.60 per mint set, rarely do you see used high values. I am afraid the blame lies squarely with Royal Mail.

Regards,  
Bryan Clark, Press Officer,  
SWALE PHILATELIC & POSTCARD SOCIETY.

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Editors note: The Post Office seem quite happy to make money by issuing stamps - they know that (some) collectors will buy everything they issue, and dealers therefore need to obtain supplies to meet such demands. But Royal Mail also save on costs, the new 'Horizon' labels cannot cost as much as the traditional stamps to print and they do not need such tight security, as until they are issued (via a machine at the P.O.) there is 'no value' and therefore no need for any secure procedures !

I agree, we do not NEED so many 'values', but would it be better to have a larger quantity of one design printed ? From a collectors point of view, (more especially those overseas) its useful to have lower values making up the cost of postage, otherwise you might not find it easy to obtain a complete set.

PJOK

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Harpenden,  
27th July.

Dear Peter,

I see from your note received today regarding the availability of the Bulletin on the Internet, and although I am on the Internet, I do not want to read a Bulletin, Journal or Catalogue etc. from a computer screen. I like to sit in a chair with it, or on a train for example, so hard copy for me please. I enclose my cheque. Hope to see you at a meeting some time soon, but travelling is not always easy for me,

Best wishes,  
Neil Russell.

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Editor's note: Neil was first to respond to a note sent to most of the Bulletin subscribers - thanks Neil

\*\*\*\*\*  
PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS The trouble with having an open mind is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it.

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# LETTER TO ALL CLUB SECRETARIES

It may seem strange for me to be writing via the Editor (ie. myself) but I feel it only right that I should offer my views in response to those of Bill Hedley who wrote to all club secretaries on the 17th May this year.

8th August 2011

Dear KFPS Society Secretary,

In his letter, Bill Hedley felt obliged to mention that "the Editor of the KFPS Bulletin has not afforded me the customary courtesy as President of allowing me to write a piece in the May edition and without consulting me, has implied in that edition that this was an inappropriate reaction to 'petty disagreements and misunderstandings'. I am afraid this is completely wrong and since it casts an aspersion on both Ian Marshall and myself, I need to set the record straight."

Well, firstly, I included my comments in the Editorial in Bulletin 186 (May 2011) which was published on the 5th May. The cut-off date for that issue was announced in the February Bulletin as the 11th April, so from the Spring Rally Council Meeting on the 12th March, Bill had ample time (4 weeks!) to let me have any comments that he wished to make. He did NOT get in touch. I was unable to attend the Spring Rally, and did not learn of his intimated resignation as President until a few days later. He should have known the cut-off date: Bill did not address his letter to me, but did send me a copy. I was rather annoyed by his comment, and initially thought of replying with a much stronger letter, but time mellows one's thinking!

Two other comment needs airing, by tradition the KFPS President is a 'figurehead' NOT the decision maker, the Federation Chairman has the casting vote when necessary and he aided by the Hon. Secretary are expected to formulate policy, which the 'Executive Committee' discuss and recommend to Council for a final decision. (ie. Society Delegates, if they bother to attend the meetings.)

Secondly, Bill's comments on the need for frequent changes in the Executive Committee, might in theory be a good idea, new blood - new ideas, but the problem is finding willing (and suitable) people to accept such responsibilities. We all know the problem, even in our own clubs.

Finally, despite the upheaval caused, we must thank Bill (and Ian) for their services to Federation during their 'year'. Thanks also to Bob Higgins (Medway Towns P.S.) who had the difficult task of standing in as Hon. Secretary without having access to Federation records or files, which would have assisted him.

Peter O'Keeffe.

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## METER MARK QUERY !

My wife has just received a motor insurance renewal notice, but the envelope has a 'NEOPOST SPECIMEN' postmark dated 10.08.11 rated 39p marked 1st. I know this is a discounted rate for large firms, but why a 'specimen' meter mark? Can anyone explain? It came from Eastbourne.

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