



KENT FEDERATION of PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



TONBRIDGE CASTLE

A Norman castle, originally built c 1100 and enlarged in the 14th century, it was a stronghold until the Civil War (1642/5). This view is of the inner gatehouse, with a lawn enclosed by the outer walls alongside the River Medway. The Castle is open to the public. The new block of Council Offices at the side was added early in the 20th Century.

No. 183

MAY 2010

BULLETIN

FEDERATION WEBSITE: <http://kentphilately.weebly.com>

EDITORIAL

Since our last issue a number of Kent members have departed this world, namely, Fred French (Sidcup), a past President of Federation Denis Grant (Herne Bay), Hon. Secretary of that club for 20 years. The Lord Cornwallis (Tunbridge Wells), Vice-President of the club and Maurice Stanbridge (Dover). All will be sadly missed by their many friends.

I am again disappointed with the apparent lack of support shown by a number of societies who regularly fail to persuade someone to represent their club at Council meetings. Indeed the lack of any of their members attending a Federation Rally - and its often the same clubs who don't make an effort to submit any news of what they have been doing or are planning to do in the near future. Maybe they don't want any publicity, perhaps they are shy! Whatever their reasons, it would be nice to know that they do still exist!

There is a detailed report on the attendance figures at the Spring Rally on page 11, and if anyone cares to comment, it might be worth hearing from you! The next Federation event is a BIG ONE! Its "KENTPEX 2010" and is being held at TONBRIDGE SCHOOL and it is jointly hosted by Federation and the Royal Tunbridge Wells P.S. In addition members of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and the British Air Mail Society are holding sub-meetings at the same venue on the day. No matter where you live, any support you can offer will be much appreciated, especially helping to tidy up afterwards - it won't take long, if there are enough willing hands to do what is necessary. Please help out if you can. Its known that many collectors are not as young or as fit as they might like to be, so the more willing and able will be appreciated. Thanks.

The competitions are ALL being pre-judged for this event, so they will be available early for viewing, as will several frames of various exhibits from a number of societies. A special 'Souvenir' cover will also be available on the day. The local post collection on the Saturday is at 12 noon, so if you want a (Tonbridge) post-mark of the 10th July, you will have to be quick.

We welcome new Hon. Secretaries at Gravesend, and Herne Bay, whilst at Sidcup, Judith French will handle their affairs until a new appointee is found. Many of you will know that one of our members has been elected as the A.B.P.S. Clubs Liaison Officer. He is one of our busiest members - a certain Maurice C. Flack, Esq. - its amazing that he can find the time. There is a saying, that if you want something done, get a busy person to do it! Good luck Maurice

We have recruited a FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT - Paul Davey now working in Switzerland has sent in his first report, see page 26 of this issue. Wonder if he will start collecting Swiss Postal History next?

I was able to get to "THE FESTIVAL OF STAMPS" main show at THE DESIGN CENTRE on three days earlier this month, and attended four of the 'specialist society' meetings. I saw about a dozen Kent club members there - I wonder how many did attend? Nice to see John Caryl & Babs, Judith French, Len Barnes, Paul Davey, Michael Thompson, Bill Hedley, Brian Stalker, Grahame Boutle, Richard Hart and Maurice Flack, plus Tony & Lindy Bosworth. There may have been others, possibly on different days. I enjoyed it. PJOK

Apologies for the quality of the illustration on the front of the February Bulletin - too many variations in the colours. Sorry.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2010/11

(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.

2010

JUN 5	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd.
JUN 5	'Stamp Essex' (Federation)	Colchester, Leisure World.
JUN 12	'Swinpex' (Swindon)	St Josephs School, Ocotol Wy
JUN 16	Royal National Hotel,	Russell Square, London.
JUN 19	Orpington Stamp Fair	227 Poverest Rd, Petts Wood.
JUL 2/3	"Thematrix 10" Twickenham	Harlequins Rugby TW2 7SX
JUL 3	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd.
JUL 10	2010 "KENTPEX" (Federation)	TONBRIDGE SCHOOL, Tonbridge
JUL 22/25	Philatelic Congress of GB.	Holiday Inn, Kenilworth, Wark
JUL 31	T & T Auction	Tunbridge Wells
AUG 7	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd.
SEP 4	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd
SEP 5	Sevenoaks Fair	Bradbourne School, Sevenoaks
SEP 11	Surrey Federation Fair	Croydon
SEP 15/18	Autumn Stampex	Design Centre, Islington.
SEP 25	Orpington Stamp Fair	227 Poverest Rd, Petts Wood
SEP 25	T & T Auction	Tunbridge Wells
OCT 2	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd.
OCT 9	Sussex Federation Fair	Ardingly Showground, Sussex
OCT 16	'Hampex' (Hants Fed.)	Wickham
OCT 30	KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	East Malling Village Hall.
NOV 4/6	'Autumn Philatex'	Horticultural Hall, London
NOV 6	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd
NOV 13	Maidstone Stamp Fair	Grove Green Comm. Maidstone
NOV 13	Orpington Stamp Fair	227 Poverest Rd, Petts Wood
NOV 21	Sevenoaks Fair	Bradbourne School, Sevenoaks
NOV 27	T & T Auction	Tunbridge Wells
DEC 4	Beckenham Stamp Fair	Azelia Hall, Croydon Rd.

2011

MAR 12	KENT FEDERATION SPRING RALLY	Mascalls School, Paddock Wood
JUN 25	KENT FEDERATION DAY & AGM	Folkestone (Cinque Ports)
JUL 2	"MIDPEX"	Leamington Spa (New venue)
SEP 24	KENT FEDERATION AUTUMN RALLY	Gravesend & District S.C.

THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR NEWS IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS

THE 1st SEPTEMBER 2010. Do please put a note in your Diary and drop me a line in good time to ensure that YOUR Society gets a mention - remind your PRESS OFFICER at your society meetings.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF FUTURE KENT FEDERATION EVENTS

As no society has offered to host the 'SPRING RALLY' in 2011, the FEDERATION will have to act as hosts. It will again be held at MASCALLS SCHOOL, PADDOCK WOOD - YOUR HELP will be necessary both on the day (and hopefully the evening before) - Don't leave it to a few 'regulars' - YOU can help if YOU make the effort PLEASE !
Even further ahead, the MALLING S/C are hosting the Autumn Rally on 28th September 2013. If YOUR Society are willing and able to host a Rally please contact the Federation Hon. Secretary early to book the event - the date and venue can be announced later. E&OE

MIDPEX in 2011, will be at a NEW VENUE, THE WARWICKSHIRE EXHIBITION CENTRE, just south of Leamington Spa. There is double the space compared to last year.

THE PRESIDENTS "END OF TERM REPORT"



This is the end of the first occasion when a Kent President has undertaken an 'official' two year commitment as your President.

So what are the positives and negatives of such an undertaking: I can only answer for myself and how I have found things.

Yes it is more desirable for the term being of 2 years as this does allow the President to spread his visits to Kent clubs over a longer period.

I do not know how previous Presidents managed to fit in visits to all 22 clubs over the course of what in reality, is only about 8 months, due to the Summer breaks.

I am indeed grateful to Ron Burn for accompanying me to some of the 'coastal' societies. I can say that as one gets older, it is not much fun driving home in the dark on the motorways by oneself I did have some difficulty (in the dark) getting on to the M20 at Ashford and Malling. (failed completely, so used the A2).

In the past it has been normal practice to hold Executive Committee meetings only a few weeks before a Federation rally, but over the last 2 years we have had more frequent committee meetings and this I feel has been beneficial to the running of the Federation. I would strongly recommend that this practice be continued.

As many of you are aware there is the possibility that Federation Rallies may have to be reduced from three to two per year (due to lack of support from clubs !). It is you, the members who should make the final decision and not the Executive Committee. However one of the problems is finding a suitable venue (that would suit everybody) and also where members could have access the previous evening to 'set up', and on the day 'close down', besides 'officiating' in some capacity during the day. At present too much is being left on the plate of the Kent Officers.

One thing we would all like to see and that is some 'young blood' in our membership. All clubs seem to be suffering from diminishing attendances at club meetings, and I am afraid that as things are, it will get worse as time goes by.

I will end by thanking you for having me as your President. I have enjoyed the pleasure of visiting clubs, and the hospitality and enthusiasm was likewise 'bewitching'.

I trust that you will all give Bill Hedley a welcome reception.

Grahame Boutle.
Kent President 2008-2010

SPECIAL SOUVENIR COVER OF KENTPEX

A 'one off' Souvenir cover will be available at KENTPEX using whichever of the KGV "FESTIVAL OF STAMPS" issues you require. They can go by Post (only if posted by 11.30 am) or be hand cancelled any time during the day. Limited numbers available.

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GUEST SPEAKER AT A CLUB

Some clubs have a pretty good arrangement for looking after their guests, but some leave a lot to be desired ! Ideally, the speaker needs written confirmation of the date, the time, the format of your frames (i.e. each frame being 3 rows of four, making 12 pages by say 8 frames, giving 96 pages, by 2 sessions, = 192 sheets in all, or any different layout). Additionally, the venue, car parking (free ?, off road, or metered, and if so the cost for the period. Remember also that the post-code of your meeting place is useful if the visitor travels by car: details of one way systems and any road works could also be helpful - your visitor is not likely to be familiar with your town and any helpful local knowledge (of say pubs, stations or other landmarks could be useful). Also, provide him/her with a contact number, and finally, a call three or four days prior to the visit, to confirm that everything is in order is appreciated. (its also for your piece of mind).

When a speaker arrives, please ensure that he is welcomed, introduced to the Chairman, Secretary etc and not ignored, if organised properly, a club member could look after him/her until the display starts, and don't take too long over club notices - these could be announced whilst the sheets for the second half are being put up!

However some members look at their society programme and think, ah its a display of 'Whatchameland', and as I don't have any interest in that country, I wont bother to attend that evening. The club Programme Secretary then feels obliged to apologise to the guest speaker for a below average attendance! Is this the way to treat someone who has prepared a display for YOU, (Yes, if done properly, he or she will have assembled the display to fit your frames, possibly rewritten part of it or especially included an item of local interest of your area). Quite probably travelled several miles to reach you venue, and arrived, often before most of your members.

I know of some societies which have invited the guest for a meal before the display (and two, in fact, after the show) or perhaps a drink. Virtually all present a 'Certificate', and some present a small gift or a bottle of wine. The majority of speakers rarely accept the offer of travelling expenses, (but do ensure that either the Chairman or Treasurer does offer them), despite petrol costs having soared over the last few years. Remember that if someone travels by public transport their expenses may be higher than the use of a car and it often costs you virtually nothing for a good evenings entertainment. (Has anyone thought of passing the hat around for say, a silver collection for the speaker ?)

I do know of one speaker, who was not offered expenses, so when he got home he wrote to the club and demanded his full travelling costs. This involved the Treasurer in having to send a cheque by post, and no doubt it cost more than if offered on the night.

Don't let your club down by ignoring these suggestions; it can be difficult enough persuading someone to give your society a display and the word soon gets around if you fail. Phil Atelist.

Did you know ? that George Washington was the first man to send an airmail letter ? It was carried in a hot air balloon from Philadelphia to New Jersey in 1793.

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ADVERTISERS.....THEY ARE
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OBITUARY

FRED FRENCH

1939-2010

Thursday, 25th February 2010

Some of us who attended the 'Service of Thanks-giving' for Fred's life, might have been surprised at hearing "The Way We Were" sung by Barbara Striesand. In Fred's eyes she was the best.

The day we paid our respects to a man Pat and I feel honoured to have known - not only as a friend - but also as a fellow stamp collector. He was a member of several stamp clubs, including the Lewisham, Sidcup, and Bexley Societies, the Malayan Study Group and the Netherlands Philatelic Circle. Fred spent part of his Army service in the Far East. He worked for the Post Office at Mount Pleasant and never missed the reunion meets with other post office workers.



The Far East wetted his appetite for curries. Judith and Fred would often join Pat and I on as Saturday night for a curry. Pat always made Fred's curry special- if the curry was not RED, it was not hot enough for Fred !

One one particular day, Pat and I mentioned that we were going to spend a few days with the caravan down in Hampshire. We asked Fred and Judith if they would like to join us. Yes, was Fred's reply - if you find somewhere near Odiham. Never heard of it said I, winding Fred up. We did find a small site just outside Odiham. Fred was in his element.

We had a three day guided tour with wonderful weather; we saw his old home, school, church and one or two or two public houses. We also walked along the Basingstoke canal where Fred met a man near the ruins of King John's Castle. This man was on the opposite bank - searching the bank. Fred later met the same man at the Odiham History Group and he told Fred that on the same day that we saw him at the canal, he had found a musket ball on the bank.

Among other things Fred was a very keen photographer. Fred and I spent many a Monday at a Photographic Club in Greenwich, processing our films and printing photo's.

In the latter years, Family History became one of Fred's favourite subjects, along with Postal History and postcards. I loved to find a cover from my area of Postal History (Brighton), which was going to Hampshire, around Odiham, and pull his leg about it.

We as a group of four visited many stamp fairs along the Sussex Coast and gained the name the 'Noisy Gang'. We could be serious about collecting, but also have a laugh and a joke.

I remember one such visit to a Southend Fair. Fred and myself both looking for the Railway set of Egypt. Fred went left around the hall, and I went right. We both found what we were looking for, except that Fred paid a lot less than me. We had a good laugh about it on the way home.

What a privilege to have known such a wonderful man and call him a dear friend.

Frank Parsons.

FRED FRENCH. Fred's family would like to say a big Thank You to everyone in The Kent Federation who sent cards, letters, e-mails and phoned with kind words about Fred at this sad time. Also thank you to the people who attended Fred's funeral, for the flowers and generous contributions donated to the Odiham Cottage Hospital. The funeral directors sent a total of £695 to the hospital. It was nice to know that Fred had so many friends and colleagues who thought so much of him and gave so generously.

A bit about ODIHAM COTTAGE HOSPITAL

In 1998 a charity now known as Odiham Cottage Hospital Charitable Trust (Reg.Charity,no.1068721) was established to save the hospital from closure. There followed a frantic five month period in which the community raised the sum of £245,000 - the purchase price of the hospital - to carry out its complete modernisation and on the 30th June 1998, after exactly 50 years of N.H.S. management, the hospital returned to community ownership. Today, all clinical services at the hospital are provided by the NHS, whilst the charity provides financial support towards these services, the buildings and its facilities. The Odiham Cottage Hospital Charitable Trust has to raise over £100,000 each and every year. All of this money is raised through charitable means.

 Note; Odiham is just off the M3 and A287, about 8 miles West of Aldershot. There is (or was) a large R.A.F. Aerodrome there, which I believe may have featured in the film "REACH FOR THE SKY".

BUYING ABROAD - BEWARE ! CHARGE

I am a keen collector of New Zealand stamps and have an arrangement with the N.Z.Post for them to send me the yearly collection of issued stamps and miniature sheets.

This year, I was surprised to find that their package, which amounted to £79, is now subject to VAT Customs charge, previous issues have always come through OK. Whilst the VAT charge is £3.46, what disgusts me is the charge of £8. by the Royal Mail as a 'handling fee'. Is this another stealth tax of Gordon Brown ?

Gordon Darby.
 Sevenoaks & Dist P.S.

DATE 19/01/2010 CHARGE NO. ZA002009890GB

Goods purchased & imported into the EU with a value over £18 (for VAT purposes) and over £135 (for import duty purposes), or goods imported from one private person to another private person as a gift with a value over £40, are subject to Customs charges. These reliefs do not extend to Excise goods e.g. tobacco products & alcohol. Queries about Customs charges are to be made in writing to the above address or by telephoning 0207 239 2449 quoting the above charge number & date.

Retain outer wrappings & documents, they may help to resolve your enquiry.

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Royal Mail International Handling Fee	£8.00
TOTAL	£11.46

Editor's Note: Some years ago I made a purchase from the Channel Islands of some literature - I was charged VAT as the package was marked "Philatelic Material". On protesting to the Royal Mail, (not the local Post Office) and proving what I had bought, they refunded the VAT. There was however no handling fee then ! PJOK

SEMINARS 2010

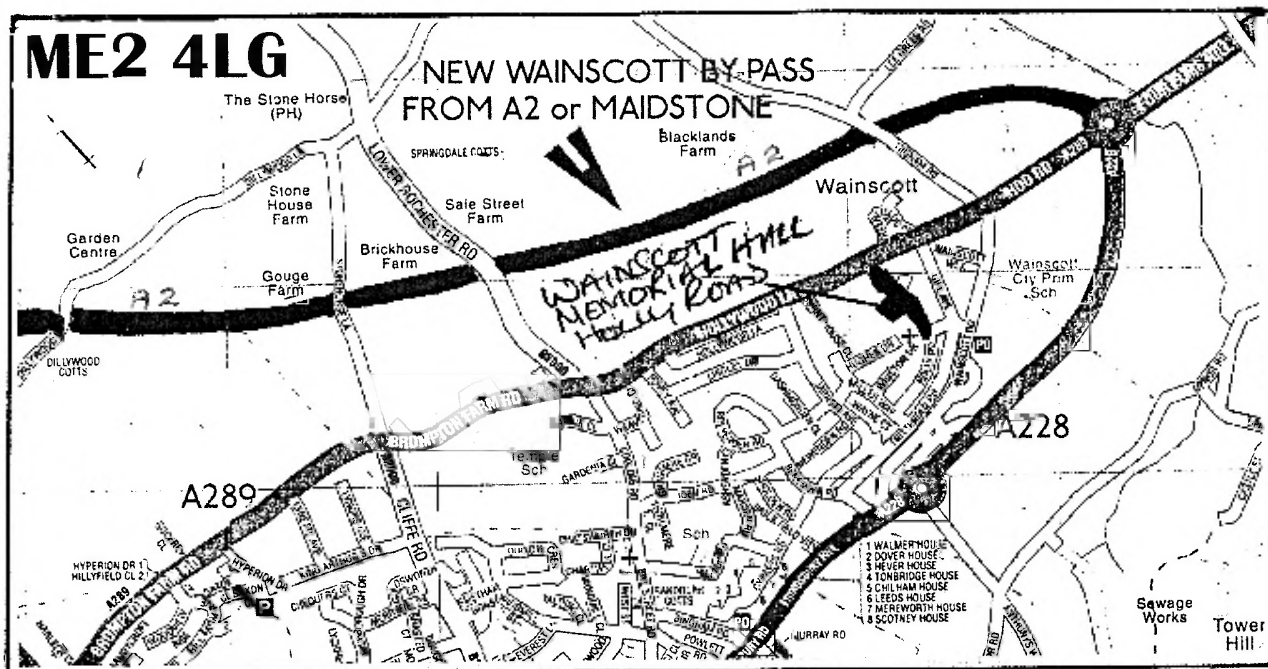
Federation have two Seminars scheduled for the remainder of this year, namely,:

2nd OCTOBER If you have ever wondered about 'PERFINS', now you have the opportunity to learn all about them, why they exist, when they were started how they are produced, what to collect, how to store and show them, are they valueable, scarce or rare, British or Foreign ? Come along to find out about another reason for collecting. Members of the PERFIN SOCIETY will be telling what its about.

20th November Members of the FORCES POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY will be showing and telling the story of Military Posts and how they have managed through many wartime situations. More on this seminar in our next issue

BOTH these seminars offer YOU the chance to learn about two different aspects of philately and whether you collect either YOU will certainly know a lot more afterwards if you care to attend ! and the food is good! Why not make a day of it ? The chance to meet other collectors in a friendly get together.

ROUTE TO THE WAINSCOTT VENUE !



DO YOU COLLECT PERFINS ?

THE PERFIN SOCIETY

Together with the

KENT FEDERATION

invite all "PERFIN" collectors or anyone wishing to know more about 'Perfins' to a

SEMINAR

at 'Wainscott Memorial Hall' Holly Rd, Wainscott, STROOD, near ROCHESTER, Kent (just off the A2 and A228) on Saturday

THE 2ND OCTOBER 2010

from 10am to 4pm. Free car parking £10.00 per person, which includes a buffet lunch, plus numerous coffee and tea breaks.

Enquiries:- to Maurice Flack on 01634-714584 or to mauriceflack@hotmail.com

OR Stephen Steere secretary.gbperfinsoc@ntlworld

SEMINARS 2011

During 2011, it is planned to hold three seminars, one with the Cinderella Society, one on 'Crash Mail', and one about the stamps of King George VI. Dates will be announced later

FEDERATION COMPETITION RESULTS - 20th MARCH 2010

THE GRANT CUP Traditional, 8 page competition. - 7 entries.

1st	MALLING STAMP CLUB	Bermuda,1910-1936 Ship issue	69	points
2nd	Cinque Ports P.S.	The Camel Postman	64	"
3rd	Maidstone & MK P.S	The ½d Mount Cook Green	63	"

THE LOTTIE GRAY AEROPHILATELY CUP 16 pages, 3 entries

1st	MICHAEL THOMPSON	The Airmails of Chile	75	points
2nd	Lewis Giles	New Zealand Pioneer Airmails	69	"
3rd	Grahame Boutle	Australia-England 1934	67	"

Intermediate to and from Africa

THE DES KILL CINDERELLA TROPHY 16 pages, one entry.

1st	MICHAEL THOMPSON	Herm Island - The 1949 Nautical Chart Map issues	67	points
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Our thanks to both the Judges, Brian Coates (Herts Federation) and Richard Akers (Middlesex Federation) for judging the competitions,

THE NEXT COMPETITIONS - 10th JULY 2010

The Federation Day competitions are:-

The W.A.PAGE Postal History Trophy 8 pages for club entries

The CINDERELLA CUP 8 pages for club entries.

The SOCIAL PHILATELY competition, for 16 pages by individuals.

THE CLOSING DATES FOR ENTRIES IS THE 31st MAY 2010 this date was advised to ALL club competition secretaries by Maurice's letter of the 4th April.

We are also holding 32 page competitions for Traditional, Postal History, Cinderella, Aerophilately, Social Philately, and Postal Stationery. Details from Maurice Flack (01634-714584). Entrants should advise Maurice of their intention to enter which of the competitions and the title(s) to him as soon as possible and also arrange to hand their entry (or entries) to him (or Colin Tobitt) on this occasion by the 5th July so that they can be pre-judged at the Royal Philatelic Society in London on the 7th July. The Judges for the 32 page competitions are to be Francis Kiddle and Chris King, and the 8 and 16 page competitions, by Brian Asquith and Brian Sole.

THE DAWES CUP 2010 The KENT FEDERATION team chosen to compete in this years competition, and their entries are:-

IAN MARSHALL	Traditional	The 1840 Issues of Great Britain (Royal Tunbridge Wells P.S.)
CHRIS BAKER	Postal History	Glasgow Town Marks 1800-1840 (Cinque Ports P.S.)
COLIN TOBITT	Postal History	Austrian Postage Due Rates 1922/5 (Lewisham P.S.)
GRAHAME BOUTLE	Aerophilately	Australian Flights to S.Africa (Bromley & Beckenham P.S.)
JOHN CROWE	Aerophilately	December 1934. Flying the Tasman-The Australia to New Zealand Air Routes (Sevenoaks & D P.S.)

WE WISH THEM GOOD LUCK.

YOUR SOCIETY COULD HOST A FEDERATION RALLY !

If your club wishes to improve its finances, hosting a Rally can be rewarding, and could ensure that you don't have to increase your subscription rates perhaps for a year or two. It does require a team effort and it can be time consuming, but it can also be well worth the effort. Other societies, both large, medium and even small have succeeded - so YOU could do it. Perhaps you might join with a neighbouring club and organise it as a joint venture ! If you need any guidance contact the Fed.Hon.Sec.-there is a printed listing of suggested procedures available. It seems that at present we have no takers for 2012, although the Federation will probably need to host 'Federation Day' that Summer. It leaves both the Spring and Autumn rallies, plus the Spring 2013 event needing hosts. Why not get your club to host an event ? Get your club committee to consider it ! Raise the matter at your A.G.M. and you will find it can help your financial position, provided that it is well planned and gets your members full support. Why leave it to other clubs every time - at least offer to do it once in a while! When, if at all, did YOUR society last host such an event ?

THE SPRING RALLY AT BECKENHAM - 20th MARCH 2010

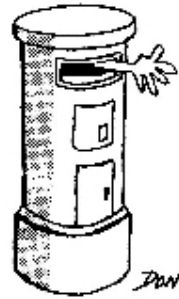
SOME STATISTICS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER.

152 visitors were logged through the doors, of which 64 were from the local area and 29 were members of the the B & B Society. A further 52 were from the rest of Kent and/or S.E.London, and 29 were members of other Kent Societies. Seventeen attendees did not wish to join a Society, and only 6 did not give a blank refusal ! (So much for recruiting new members!) Discounting those from B & B, there are about 923 members of other Kent clubs and allowing for dual membership, this might suggest that out of approximately 850 others, only 29 bothered to attend, (and 16 of these attended the Council meeting - less than one per affiliated club) The other 36 visitors came from further afield, mainly from Surrey and Sussex, with one from France. Could it be that our members are just apathetic and are not bothered? Are they too old or infirm to travel? Maybe they think its too far to travel? or what? They may have had Birthdays, or Family get togethers, sporting distractions or other excuses. Don't collectors want to see what others put into competitions or what the dealers have to offer ? Can anyone offer any acceptable excuses, or maybe suggest what might attract more members to show some support? If YOU didn't attend, why not drop the Editor a brief note setting out your views. Did YOUR society tell you about the event ? Or maybe you don't bother to read the Federation Bulletin ! PJOK

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rainham.
27th April 2010



Dear Peter,

I enclose news of the activities of Medway Towns PS - probably more than you need, so feel free to edit it as required. I myself find the club reports very useful in finding future speakers, as frequently the names cited don't appear in the official list.

Thank you for publishing my letter about competition rules in the last Bulletin.

Despite what you say about Kent rules being readily available via Competition Secretaries (or the dogsbody known as Secretary), I have yet to see a copy. Is there any way they can be obtained?

Maurice Flack is so elusive, and our previous secretary kept no hard copies of anything. When were the rules published, and where?

Unfortunately I can't make "KENTPEX" this year as it clashes with our Maidstone Choral rehearsal and concert in July, but perhaps we'll meet elsewhere!

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Dellar. Hon. Sec. Medway Towns PS

Editor's Note: I have managed to button hole Maurice, and arranged for you to receive a full list of the up to date competition rules by the 7th June, when incidently, I expect to be one of the Royal Tunbridge Wells Society team visiting your Society that evening.

The Lingley Shield

A reminder that this trophy is awarded by the Kent Federation

to a member of a Kent affiliated society for his or her services to Philately in the County, either to a club or to the Federation. Nominations for this award, should be submitted in writing, setting out your reasons, and sent to the Federation Hon. Secretary no later than the 31st of May.

An up to date list of previous winners appears below. The Executive Committee will consider the nominations and decide to whom the award should be made each year.

A previous winner is not precluded from again being nominated, and any unsuccessful first time nominees are automatically carried forward for one more year.

THE LINGLEY SHIELD

LIST OF THOSE AWARDED THIS HONOUR

1986	Kath Patterson	1987	Richard Saundry	1988	Vic Daniels	1989	Alec Page
1990	Hugh Sharp	1991	Alec Page	1992	Hugh Sharp	1993	Roy Garland
1994	not awarded	1995	Bob Larg	1996	Tom Rumbold	1997	Yvonne Larg
1998	John Dann	1999	Peter O'Keeffe	2000	Bert Legg	2001	Dennis Rosser
2002	Fred Stacey	2003	Ralph Grove	2004	Phillip Tyrrell	2005	Geoff/Joyce Kemp
2006	Ted Needham	2007	Eileen Elton	2008	Irene Stacey	2009	Olive Davis

THANKS TO all our regular correspondents and to the Essex, Middlesex and Sussex Federations for copies of their Journals, To Sevenoaks, Sidcup, Swale and Royal Tunbridge Wells societies for their Newsletters, and to Michael Thompson for the printing and distribution of this issue.

PJOK.

G.B. NEW ISSUES.

LONDON 2010 - "THE FESTIVAL OF STAMPS" Virtually every collector of G.B. stamps wants to acquire copies of the first commemorative stamps the Royal Mail issued. One can argue that the stamps for the "British Empire Exhibition" of 1924 were the first British Commemoratives, or the 'Seahorses' issued in 1913.

Well the 'Royal Mail' have now released a miniature sheet with 4 of them reproduced as QEII stamps, and so you can now obtain these replica's. The 1d and 1½d of 1924 and the £1 and 10/- Seahorses. But have they made an error ? The £1 'Seahorse' has horizontal & diagonal shading behind the King's head whereas the only £1 Seahorse issued in 1913 had only horizontal shading. There was no £1 value with both types of shading, i.e. no £1 value was issued in 1935. This therefore might be a forgery, replicated on a current £1 stamp ! The 10/- value could be the 1935 issue, but this now costs £1. The 'BEE's are for 1st class postage (with a face value of 41p each



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ACCESSION OF KING GEORGE V - 6th MAY 1910

The 100th Anniversary of the King's accession also coincides with the "Festival of Stamps", and a special miniature sheet showing the double heads of QEII and KGV on a 1st class stamp, and the 'Downey and 'MacKenna' heads of KGV appear on a £1 stamp.



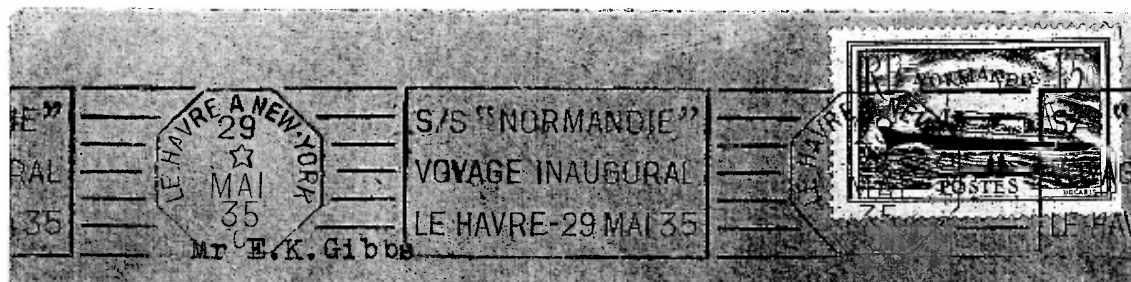
L O N D O N 2 0 1 0 F E S T I V A L O F S T A M P S

A 'Prestige' booklet, costing £11.15 is also available containing all the above mentioned stamps, plus 6 Machin 1st/2nd class, and two 50p Machin stamps. (There are 5 x £1 values, 11 x 1st class, 2 x 2nd class, and 2 x 50p). The booklet front is the 1936 design.

THE "NORMANDIE" Further to my note in the last Bulletin I am delighted to acknowledge letters from Ian Nutley (with 5 pages of data - its 'all on google'), and John Crowe, together with a phone call from a Ms.Main (?) of the Deal P.S. Thanks to all three, here is a brief resume of what I have learnt.

On the outbreak of war, the S.S.Normandie was in New York Harbour to be joined shortly afterwards by the Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth. For two weeks the three largest liners in the world were side by side. In 1940, after the fall of France, the U.S. seized the Normandie, under the 'right of angary'. By 1941, the U.S. had decided to convert the Normandie into a troopship and renamed it U.S.S.Lafayette, in honor of a famous French General who fought on the colonies behalf in the American Revolution, and the Alliance with France that made Independence possible. The Americans first thought of converting it into an Aircraft carrier, but it would be quicker as a troopship. However on February 9th 1942, sparks from a welding torch ignited a stack of thousands of life vests, and the fire quickly spread, badly damaging the ship. The conversion was abandoned. In September 1943 the ship was towed to Brooklyn Naval Yard, where she remained until after the war, and was then scrapped in 1946. As a Luxury Liner, she was launched in 1932 at St.Nazaire, made her maiden voyage to New York in May 1935, earned the Blue Riband for five record breaking Atlantic crossings. She arrived in New York on 28th August 1939 at the end of her 139th crossing.

One version of her history reports that after the fire she sank and was salvaged at great expense. Her length was 1,029 feet, she had 12 decks, a maximum designed speed of 29 knots (she achieved 32.knots), had a crew of 1,345, and could accomodate 1,972 passengers (in 3 classes).



Le Havre was the 'home' port of the S.S.Normandie.

TASTY MEDICINE ? The understaffed London Hospital hired a group of cannibals to work as cleaners because it couldn't find any British people who would do the job. "You are part of a team now" the HR Director said during a welcoming briefing. "You are free to use the staff canteen, you'll enjoy all the holiday and pension benefits, but please don't eat any of your fellow employees" The cannibals promised that they would be good. Four weeks passed then one morning the Director called them over "You're all working very hard and I'm extremely pleased with you. However Gloria, one of our Secretaries has gone missing. I don't suppose any of you know what happened to her ?" The cannibals shook their heads. After the Director had walked off, the chief said to the others, "Which one of you idiots ate the Secretary ?" A hand rose hesitantly. "You fool" hissed the chief "for weeks we've been eating managers and no one has noticed, but you had to go and eat someone who actually does something!"

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The Society celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year, having been founded by a Mr A. Leon Adutt in 1910. He was its first President. Two years later, its success was rewarded when the National Philatelic Congress (launched in 1908) held its fourth Congress at the Queen's Highcliffe Hotel in Cliftonville; the Hotel being managed by Mr Adutt. The 1912 Congress was the first "to be graced by Philatelists of the fairer sex" !

The years rolled by and in 1985, (Bernard quoted 1975, but I see from the Fed. Bulletin of the time, that it must have been 1985,) the Society held a 'Weekend Exhibition' at the Winter Gardens in Margate to mark its 75th Anniversary with 'Federation Day' being on the Saturday. It was opened by Mr Ron Lobeck, the well known weather forecaster and keen philatelist. The 'Exhibition' continued on the Sunday with 2000 sheets on show. It was called "KENTEX '85". Further details can be found in the Federation Bulletin of May 1985.

Our 'Centenary' celebration evening, delayed by snow and ice, on the 2nd January, was held on February 3rd and included a display of Historical Papers, membership cards, stamps and covers celebrating Centenaries Worldwide as well as covers issued by the Society. Exhibitions were presented by B. Kennett, B. File, T. Hayes, P. File, D. Prestedge and Chris Carr, (a member since 1944). The Centenary Evening included a Buffet.

The photograph below shows the current President, Bert File, with six past Presidents. left to right, back row, Ken Austin (2007), Bernard Kennett (2003), Peter File (2006), Roger Hoult (2005), and on the front row : Dudley Prestedge (1984), Bert File (2009) and Alan Munday (1999).



 My neighbour offered to help me dig a hole in my garden, and fill it with water. He means well !

 Whilst working for the Samaritan's, I called in one day to tell them I wasn't feeling well - they talked me out of it !
