

# IT'S AN ODD WORLD !

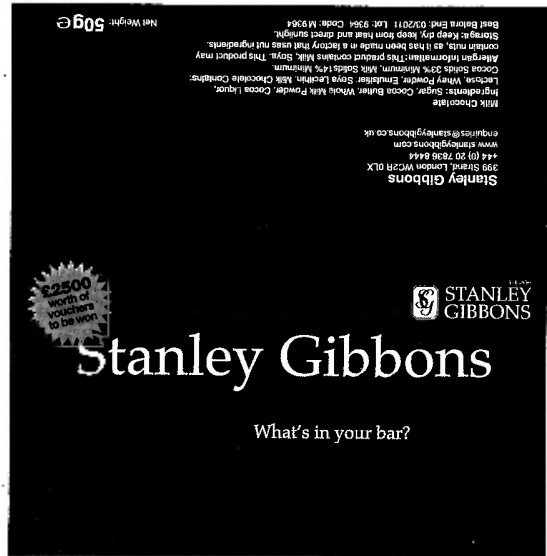
## SOUTH AFRICA

has recently issued a miniature sheet containing five "SMALL LETTER STAMPS" two are fairly large triangular shape one is a small triangle, one really is an odd shape, being a rhombus and the fifth is a square shape. All have the words 'Southern Africa Small Letter' One assumes that they are only for use internally in South Africa, and also only for use on small letters. They do not show a value (nor a letter) and I have no information regarding their face value or cost. Apart from the square stamp, it seems they each have one unperforated edge. They were issued as part of the "7th Plenipotentiary Conference of the Pan African Postal Union" (PAPU). The theme being 'The post, a veritable means of bridging the digital divide'. They are quite colourful and no doubt some collectors will want them !



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Following the 'Kraft' takeover of Cadbury's, we now have CHOCOLATE on offer from STANLEY GIBBONS ! Initially they have started in a small way, by issuing arrivals at 'London 2010', Festival of Stamps with a free 'goodies cloth bag' which has some sales literature, a useful ball point pen advertising the company, a note pad and a real surprise - a 50g bar of chocolate. If you didn't attend, you really missed out. Yes it did taste OK, but I prefer Cadbury's Fruit & Nut perhaps as they grow bigger in the confectionery market, we will see other varieties - how about :-



"GIBBONS 57 VARIETIES" ? ? ? ?  
The Australians produce some wines with 'stamps' on their labels, so can we expect SG to do likewise ?

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## PLASTIC STAMPS

Well I suppose it had to come ! FINLAND has issued a virtually transparent and very thin plastic postage stamp. I have a fine used copy, but I cannot tell whether it had glue on the back, or whether it was self-adhesive. It has perforated sides, but these seem so fine that it is doubtful that the stamp was from a sheet. To the naked eye it seems like a sliver of glass, and the design is not evident against a dark background. It depicts a frosted white snowflake with stars in the background at dusk, and has a pinkish tint where the sun has gone down. The name SUOMI FINLAND and the value, (1st klass), plus the darkening night sky are in blue. If you place the stamp on a pure white background it is quite a nice design, but it would be a mistake to mount with a hinge, as this would show through. A transparent Hawid mount seems more suitable. I acquired it from a club packet - its another novelty !



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# SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (1)



HERNE BAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY On January 22nd we had a 'Members Night' when the subject was 'Cards, Covers & Miniature Sheets'. We saw a selection of two lots of Military cards, both different, Covers were represented by Chinese and Swiss, with a series of Royal Events from the past year, and Miniature Sheets consisted of various British sheets and sheetlets with some special Remembrance Day issues. Members were shocked to learn of the death of our Hon. Secretary, Dennis Grant, and ten members attended his funeral on March 4th. The display by our President, John Mills, was of the stamps of the Gold Coast during the reign of King George V and King George VI. followed by postal history, postal stationery and Air letter forms. Three members, John Mills, David Russell and Roger Stone were well received when they visited the Isle of Thanet P.S. in March. Four members from the Dover Stamp Society entertained us on the 12th March with displays by Jim Gifford, Peter Read, Tony Belsey and Richard Monk. Four of our members, John Mills, Ryan Epps, Ian Burniston and Roger Stone then paid a return visit to Dover on the 12th April. On 26th March, the letters 'G' & 'H' provided early Guernsey Postal History covers, Gibraltar cruise ships, various geese, a selection of ducks with names such as Harlequin, or Goldeneye, and even 'Green winged' teal, stamps from Grenada, Health stamps from New Zealand, Chocolate related items from Great Britain. The state visit of the Queen to Germany in 1965, military items featuring Hitler and the Hitler Youth movement, with Butterflies and insects on stamps from Holland and Hungary, a further selection from Guernsey this time from the modern era and a number of special postmark covers. The current President of Kent, Grahame Boutle was our guest on April 9th, showing his view on the life of Sir Winston Churchill - Preparing for Leadership, Leader of the Nation, Recognition and Remembrance. It was well illustrated with cancellations and covers, the odd cigarette card and some of the many stamps that exist. The second half was entitled "Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered by Bereavement" - a fascinating collection, well received by the members.

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NORTH WEST KENT POSTCARD CLUB In March Tony Hickey gave an excellent display of German Propaganda postcards, describing the events surrounding the issue of these cards and made the history of the period very interesting. In April, Mark Routh displayed Titanic postcards and covers, explaining that original Titanic material was very expensive and his interest was mainly in commemorative items, including signed covers and postcards, together with Limited edition cards, some of which are now quite scarce. Mark has been instrumental in the issue of some of the items in his display. The club has an outing to Maidstone Postcard Club evening fair on the 17th May, followed by a summer break, before meeting again on the 23rd August to see members displays.

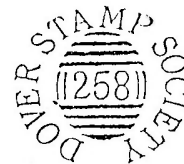
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**A REMINDER** The next edition of the KENT CLUB'S DIRECTORY and PROGRAMME LISTING is being compiled by Judith French. Please will all club Hon. Secretaries OR Programme Secretaries let Judith have full details of your programme for the remainder of this year and the first part of 2011, or as much of it as has been completed as soon as possible, or by the Federation Day Rally on July 10th. Mrs Judith French can be contacted at 25 Lambarde Avenue, Eltham, London SE9 3HH Telephone 020-8851-5858 or [freju39@btinternet.com](mailto:freju39@btinternet.com)

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## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (2)

DOVER STAMP SOCIETY. "News from that outpost of the Empire" - The Society is sorry to have to report the death of Maurice Stanbridge, a very long standing member, who had been unable to attend meetings for some years because of ill health.



We have had two very successful members meetings in the early part of the year, one on postcards, covers or postal history and the other on memorabilia, non philatelic themes. The latter 'topic' had been omitted from our programme for a number of years, but its return proved a success, with subjects ranging from American lighthouses to model railways. Most stamp society members also seem to collect in other areas as well as the postally used 'perforated bits of paper' we all love and this was apparent during the evening. We have had visits to the Cinque Ports and Herne Bay societies, where, in each case we had a warm welcome. Then we had a return visit from Herne Bay and enjoyed an unusual display by Roger Stone, of our Queen's 1965 state visit to Germany. There were three other subjects on view, all Africa based. Ian Burniston had some excellent early South African material touching on that country's complex history. Ryan Epps treated us to a collection centered on the Victoria Falls on one set and John Mills showed some fascinating varieties of early Gold Coast. As April and the current season draws to a close, we are looking forward to our Annual Dinner, always well attended, a visit to the Deal club, and a display by Derek Mauri on the United States in May. Our A.G.M. in June concludes the season.

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GRAVESEND STAMP CLUB Unfortunately our meeting in January had to be cancelled due to the snow; it was to have been our 'President's Night' when Michael Thompson was to have given a talk on 'Buying and Selling On The Internet'. We plan to reschedule this for next season. Following our A.G.M in February, we now have a new Hon. Secretary, Graham Green, and a new Hon. Treasurer, Roger Pope. Michael Thompson had been acting Secretary for the last 2 years. Maurice

Flack stood down after 23 years as our Hon. Treasurer. The Spring Auction in March was well attended with many lots being sold. Later that month, Stuart Henderson entertained us with a varied display including a large amount of Australian material which he said was an impulse purchase!

Our first meeting in April was cancelled owing to the sad death of Fred French who was to have given his display of the Netherlands. On the 23rd April, we had our competition evening and a bourse, although there were not many entries and the 'Cinderella Trophy' was not awarded as there was only one entry. The John Dalton Trophy was won by Hugh Johnson with Transatlantic Mail.

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### JUDGING SEMINAR

Maurice Flack needs at least ten people interested in becoming 'accredited' judges, before he can arrange another Judging Seminar. This would require your attending on two Saturdays (probably about a month apart at Wainscott). If you are interested please let him know and await developments.

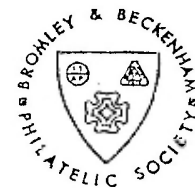
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### DON'T FORGET

Judith French wants details of your club's programme for next season/year as soon as possible OTHERWISE IT MAY NOT APPEAR IN THE KENT CLUBS LISTING, due to be published shortly. If partially completed, let Judith know on 020-8851-5858.

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# SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (3)



BROMLEY & BECKENHAM P.S. 'Members Silent Displays' was the topic for the meeting on February 10th with 15 displays, covering a wide variety of stamps and covers. For Competitions Evening on February 24th we had 12 entries: the winners being Grahame Boutle (Thematics) and the Jubilee Cup (for Airmails), Frank Schofield, the Gilman Davis Cup (for Postal History), and Richard Solly, the 'Stanley Gibbons Salver' (for Stamps) showing Western Australia Postal Notes. The 'Tom Davis Crystal Bowl' (for best overall) was awarded to Graham Boutle for his entry of Australia 1934 Official Flight. On March 10th, we had 'postcard' displays by 7 members, and on the 24th, with the booked speaker failing to arrive, member Michael Dobbs put up an impromptu display for our entertainment. In April we had a 'Grand Auction' followed on the 28th by a visit from two members of the Wallington and Carshalton P.S., Brian Asquith showed 9 different 10 sheet displays and Derek Mauri showed German Inflation Period internal mail. Coming right up to date, on May 12th, it was 'The Letter B', with nine members producing an interesting miscellany of stamps and covers.

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MALLING STAMP CLUB In January members were asked to give displays of 5 sheets or pay a fine of 25p. Unfortunately due to the weather only 8 members were present, but most managed to bring 5 pages or more. February was competition night, with postal history traditional, and Thematic entries. Malcolm Buller chosen as the winner with his entry "Shaping Up". Len Barnes was our visitor on March 9th with a very interesting display of 'Pre-war French Aviation'

including some unusual material with several Cinderella vignettes of French Air Shows, which was much appreciated. In April we held our Spring Auction, with some lively bidding as one or two members seem to have started new collections. We had several visitors and 3 new members joined on the night.

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MAIDSTONE & MID-KENT P.S. As usual, Tony Bosworth has put together an excellent and varied programme for the current season. Recent displays have seen 'Bavaria 1806-1918' including some 'back of the book' material, and tracing the history of its rulers. Then Greenland which was a surprising show from this 'small' country, followed by Finland, with much early postal history, including some 'feather' letters. In April the display was "Peace & Nobel Laureates" followed later that month with "Aspects of Rhodesia" with several 'Double Head' stamps and a number of fiscal documents. The half yearly 'Stamp Fair' was well attended despite the need to change the date: our next fair will be on 6th November 2010 at the usual venue, However we plan to return to the usual slots, next year, i.e. on the 2nd Saturday in April & November, - so make a note in your diary now.



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**MISSING !** If YOUR Society is not mentioned on one of these pages, it means that no one cares that YOUR club gets no publicity or perhaps your Hon. Sec. is too busy. If so, why don't YOU offer to send in a report of what happens at your meetings? Its only needed three times a year! Just a few minutes to write a brief half page or so article. The Publicity might attract one or two new members! Surely YOU don't want your club to close down, if it does what will you do then? When YOUR A.G.M. comes around try and appoint a Press Officer - any age will do.

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# SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (4)

## SIDCUP PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The first meeting of the New Year on January 12th was cancelled due to the snow and ice, but on the 26th, Alan Barrett showed French Cinderella material of Fairs & Exhibitions between 1900 and 1937, then Len Giles showed some of the less well known Channel Islands, Herm and Bercqhou. Cliff Gregory showed various Indian States, and Geoff Hannay produced some Haiti related paquebot items.



Cliff Hurst showed Russian Inflation stamps of 1992, and Eileen Elton displayed items relating to her trips on the QEII Liner. Don Brookfield completed the evening with stamps commemorating the 1940 Stamp Centenary, held in Brighton, plus some 1967 Congress items held in Cambridge. Meeting on the 9th February for the Club Auction, we had a minutes silence as a tribute in memory of Fred French, who together with Judith did so much for the Society. February 23rd was to have been the 'Presidents Night', but it was changed to "Fred's Tribute Night" Fred had prepared a display of the Netherlands, which Judith very kindly showed in his place. On March 9th, former member, Roger Bailes gave a display of G.B. with a wide selection of stamps and covers. The 'Victor Mills Memorial Evening' consisted of Thematic and Traditional items shown by Don Brookfield, Eileen Elton, Geoff Hannay, Cliff Hurst and Len Giles, and covered an amazing variety of stamps.

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## BEXLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Tony Hickey was to have been our first visitor of 2010 on 8th January, with display of the 'Nuremburg Rallies', but due to the awful weather conditions, thus had to be called off and he has been rebooked for next year. Later that month we held our first auction of the year, which brought out the usual auction enthusiasts, and made some useful income for the club. The two page competition and members displays in February was well

attended, although entries were down on previous years. We visited the Royal Tunbridge Wells Society on February 11th, unhampered by the weather, although a heavy snowfall was only a few miles away. A team of four from the Croydon P.S were our visitors on February 19th, with, as usual, some interesting displays. Early March saw a fine display of 'Classic Stamps' by Alec Johnson; he showed many colonial issues, including all the Australian States, Mauritius and most of the West Indies issues, plus some GB line engraved thrown in for good measure - a memorable evening. The second meeting in March was of material from the "1851 Great Exhibition" right up to the Millennium Dome, displayed by Don Knight. In April, there was quite a good turnout for a members evening 'A, B, or C' with extra display boards required to cope with all the material available, and a longer but excellent evenings entertainment. Our season finishes off with a visit from the Orpington Society in May, the AGM in June, and two meetings in July, which are a Summer auction and a visit by David Milsted, showing Army Officials 1896-1904. Meetings for the 2010/2011 season commence on the third Friday in September, and thereafter on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of most months at the Freemantle Hall, Bexley Village. Enquiries to the Hon. Sec. Adrian Smith on 01322-559210, or E-mail [adethebeak@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:adethebeak@yahoo.co.uk)

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## **HI HO TONTO**

An intellectual snob is someone who can listen to the "William Tell Overture" and not think of 'The Lone Ranger'

# SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (5)

SEVENOAKS & DISTRICT P.S. Our membership secretary, Bob Probert had to give up the post, and fortunately member R.Appelt has taken it on until the AGM. Sadly Bob passed away in March, and we have just learnt that his widow died a few days ago. Bob and his wife were regular attenders at our meeting, but both have been unwell for several months. They will be sadly missed.



On February 3rd, our guest speaker was Nigel Gooch, who entertained us with a most interesting display of the stamps of Iran (formerly Persia), plus covers, giving a full history of the area and reminding several of us of our school boy collections when some of us had some very colourful stamps showing the then Shah. Included

where a number of tax stamps intended to raise funds for hospitals. A very interesting display of a territory whose stamps we rarely see nowadays.

Federation Vice-President, Bill Hedley was our guest in March with his fine display of Austria, with both stamps and covers plus a background history of the country. Again a well presented show with some scarce material.

Tony Davis surprised us in April with his indepth and early history of Iceland ranging from when the Vikings settled there in the 7th century, through to the 1960's, including the WWII period, when Iceland was occupied by British and later U.S. Forces. A good selection of stamps and covers plus some photographs made for an interesting evening.

March 6th was a bit of a muddle, due to the venue being required as a Polling Station the next day, and a Dance Group apparently wishing to move their booking forward, we had been told we would have to have the venue about an hour later than usual. Fortunately, we had arranged for several members to bring 'impromptu' displays, so that we could fit them in to the time available. However when we got there, the Dance Group were nowhere to be seen. We managed to amuse our selves with four very mixed displays. Our A.G.M. and auction follow on the 2nd June, and we end the season on July 7th with Presidents Night and the 'Theo Jones' Thematic competition.

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## ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS P.S.

The good news is that the morning meetings continue to have good support and the attendances at the evening meetings have not suffered. The bad news is that our Vice-President, the Lord Cornwallis has died. A keen attendee at both the evening and the first two morning meetings he was terribly shocked by the death of his wife just before Christmas last, and now he has also gone.



For the evening meetings we have enjoyed visits by both the Bexley PS and by the Ashford PS in February and March respectively. Both gave a varied selection of stamps/postal history which were enjoyed by our members. In April, John Priestly showed Brazil, a country which we have not seen before, with some unusual designs in their early issues, however they did improve in time, as did the printing quality. Another unexpected country was shown by John Terry (no not the footballer) when he was our visitor on the 13th May with D.D.R. (i.e. German Democratic Republic, or Eastern Germany). His display is mostly of stamps, and again not often seen in the U.K. We move to warmer climes in June when Dr. D. Watson shows us 'West Indies' and on July 8th, our member Robin Morton displays used King George VI. On the 12th August, Christine Earle shows "The Post Office Went To War" which many of us will no doubt see items we may well have seen during the war. Our morning programme includes displays of Jamaica, France, Sudan/Egypt, in June, July & August. If you are interested why not come along? Contact Lis Clare on 01892-527587 or Henry Hupfield on 01892-529780.

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## SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (6)

Swale Philatelic Society and Postcard Group met on Thursday February 4 at the Pheonix House Sittingbourne. The first meeting of 2010, The January meeting was cancelled because of bad weather.



Colin Such Director of Warwick and Warwick the auctioneers gave members a slide show entitled "30 years on the rostrum" starting with a pair of mint penny blacks that sold for £12,000. Also shown were a varied collection of items from the first stationary card of Great Britain, Illustrated letterheads and picture postcards, some of our local area, including one of Sittingbourne high street from the old post office and the Guildhall in Faversham. Another fascinating old card was the three squirrel's public house with horse drawn carriages outside on the A249 Maidstone Road.

The auctioneers handle stamps, cards, coins and medals to name just a few. Colin said he was the auctioneer when a USA inverted Jenny (aircraft) stamp was sold for £184,000. Also sold was a letter from Ernest Shackleton to a London society woman realising £4,200.

The Titanic memorabilia commands a high price for quality material like a second class ships breakfast menu saved by a steward who was rescued this was eventually sold for £8,000.

Mr Cliff Gregory from Sidcup society was our guest speaker on February 18. He displayed India International underpaid mail from 1850 to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, mainly between the United Kingdom and India.

Before 1868 there were two routes one from Southampton and another from Marseilles, mail was cancelled in Bombay with a steamer bearing cancel on letters going to India. The underpaid item were subject to a fine which was shared between the two countries, a cachet cancel on the letter stated Deficient Postage 1d and Half Fine 3d a total of 4d (old pence). The second half display was similar mail covers from military field forces in Somalia and Persia. One particular letter was address to the haggdent (Adjutant) 22 Regiment Ben Gall, Indear (India), possibly the writer was not that intelligent.

On March 4 Mrs Vicky Harris one of our members gave a display of Plants Trees and Gardens on postcards. These included Botanical and Landscape as well as Parks and Castle gardens. In her second half display she showed gardens and open spaces around the South East and South coast of England also the East coast from Essex. A very colourful display mainly of places she has visited.

March 18 we had two visitors from The Cinque Ports society. Roger Dickenson displayed a wealth of Canadian material from 1868 to 1899, combined with an interesting talk on the stamps history. Mrs Chris Baker followed on, from 1899 to 1900 with a collection of varied material from the Boer war which she carried on collecting after inheriting it from her father. An interesting item was a Night Pass issued to a Mr Croaker allowing him access to the town of Ladybird after 8pm.

April 1 Mrs Judith French from Sidcup Society was our guest speaker; she showed a display of various postcards entitled "Tours of Kent" starting with Hampshire's towns and villages along the A30. Hartford Bridge, Hartley Wintney and Hook.

In her second half display was through the streets of Chislehurst and Crayford, she mentioned that there was no other place in the world named Crayford ?

Mr Shaun Caveney thanked Mrs French for coming to swale under difficult circumstances, with the loss of her late husband Fred also a collector, who had visited Swale many times.

On April 15 Mr Peter O'Keeffe from Tunbridge Wells Society gave a display of Postcards and Postal covers sent during the 1914/18 World War, some were uncensored others were opened by censors.

A field service postcard sent to a Mrs A. Wilson and signed Arthur. Peter commented could this be the same Sergeant Wilson of Dads Army in WWII, portrayed on TV. He also showed a photo card sent to troops at Christmas 1914 signed by Queen Mary and George R. There were green envelopes made available to troops serving with the British Expeditionary Force, these were nicknamed "Greenies".

In the second half display there was prisoner of war and interned civilian mail. A soldier's registration act document of 1915 and OHMS post free ration paper envelopes, one with a circular orange embossed crowned "Defence of the Realm Ministry of Food" which was used to obtain sugar coupons.

He ended his display with a child's ration book, a National ration book and a Demobilization ration book.

A vote of thanks was given by Mr Bob Browne .

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**OH DEAR !** When I got home from work last night, the wife demanded that I take her somewhere expensive. . . So I took her to the petrol station !

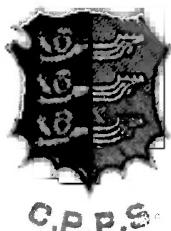
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# SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (7)



MEDWAY TOWNS P.S. Brian Stonestreet was our speaker in February with a comprehensive display of New Zealand definitive stamps of KGVI. Brian described the useage of the stamps, reasons for overprints and colour changes. The second half featured later definitives, flowers, birds, fish, Maori artefacts and views pointing out a farm animals sheetlet issued with stamps at 45c, which was reprinted a month later with stamps priced at 40c, due to a fall in postal rates. Despite reminders, there were few competition entries in March, but Eddie Shilling won the Challenge Cup, with "Germania", and Rosemary Dellar, the Thematic Trophy, with "Not to be trifled with - the Cape Buffalo". In April, Roger Stone's display of "Royal Tours" covered visits by members of the Royal family during the first 25 years of the Queen's reign. Visits usually resulted in special stamps, commemorative cachets and cancellations. There was a 'royal' meter mark produced by Pitney Bowes in 1957, but one anomaly was when Brazil used Prince Phillip's personal coat of arms rather than the Queen's on a commemorative stamp.

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CINQUE PORTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY Member Gerry Bates gave us the second part of his display of Bermuda on the 4th January, supported by a number of postcards illustrating the beauty of the island. On January 18th we had an "Imagination Evening", featuring the letters 'K' and 'L', which produced an excellent variety of displays such as Luxembourg and 'Killer Whales' (Harry Ward), Line engraved 1d reds (Anthony Baker), Libya, the Italian Occupation (Paul Cahill)

K.L.M. Airline, 'Kings', Lord Roberts, 'Luftpost', Liechenstein, The League of Nations and Lundy, (all by Pat Kennedy), and a medley of stamps of both letters by Cliff Walter. The Dover S.S. were our guests on February 1st, showing Rocks, Minerals & Fossils (Shirley Chambers), Czechoslovakia from 1945 (David Luckhurst), Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps, Telegraph stamps and Victorian Mulready covers (Peter Read), and Canadian Airmail covers (Richard Monk). The snow and ice on 15th February kept the audience down to a few hardy and frozen members who enjoyed a very interesting display by Bernard Kennett with the story of the Boys Brigade, from 1883 up to date. There were stamps, cover, slogan postmarks, postcards, news paper articles etc. Roger Holt completed the evening with Russian Royalty on postcards. Dennis Grant was booked for March 1st, but unfortunately he passed away early in February, so Maurice Flack stepped in and displayed QEII stamps of New Zealand and Hong Kong from 1953 to 1997, plus Malta, Sri Lanka and some Social Philately. On 29th March, Henry Hupfield from Tunbridge Wells, showed "Money through the Post", this told the story of how 'Registered Post' was introduced and what had happened before. On the 19th April, Richard Hart, also from Tunbridge Wells, was to show 'The Boer War' and our AGM and competitions are on May 17th.

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**CHANGING YOUR CLUB SECRETARY ?** If you do find someone new to take over as Hon. Secretary, Competition Sec. Council Delegate or Press Officer, please advise the Federation Hon. Secretary (there might be a change at the forthcoming A.G.M) or the Bulletin Editor know soon. Full names, address, phone number web.site etc please. Otherwise communications & the Bulletin will continue to be sent to the present officer(s)

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# SOCIETY NEWS ROUND UP (8)

THE KENT POSTAL HISTORY GROUP The first meeting in 2010 was at Hurst Green Village Hall, on Saturday, 15th January - the snow had disappeared and we had a good turn out. The topic was "Tonbridge Villages" being part two of mail in the Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells area. Again we saw plenty of very interesting material ranging from very early, pre stamp items to a few post WWII covers. The A.G.M. was held at a new venue, the Towers School, Ashford on the 6th March, followed by a bourse and an auction. The school is easy to find, spacious and on a nice day we again had a good attendance. The committee were re-elected on block, the Treasurer reported a sound financial position and in view of this it was decided that existing members would have free membership for this year. Our next meeting is on 26th June and will be held at Etchinghill Village Hall, near Folkestone when the topic will be "New Acquisitions", but if you have nothing to show, bring something else - the more the merrier. On the October 2nd we meet at the Willesborough Windmill, Ashford, and the topic will be Military Mail in/from/to Kent - any period. Enquiries to John Weston, 01732-358163.



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LEWISHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY Ron Burn visited us on the 19th January, showing Tristan da Cunha, again a superb display with an interesting historical background. On February 2nd, Switzerland was displayed by Frank Parsons, (but Maurice Flack interrupted the proceedings with a joke about William Tell - ha ha) Then on 16th February, Derek Hamilton Smith entertained us with "What I like to collect", being postal history including Zeppelins and covering various

aspects of stamp collecting. Four members of the Croydon Society visited Lewisham on March 2nd, with displays of Social Philately, Falkland Islands Dependencies and the Gilbert & Ellice Islands. An excellent evening's entertainment. March 16th was competition night with the overall winner being Ron Burn. The judges were Grahame Boutle and Maurice Flack - (need one say more?). Tony Hickey on April 6th, showed "Undercover Postcards of WWII", something very different from the norm. On 20th April, Vic Punter from Watford P.S. and the Middlesex Federation is due to visit us with "Day of The Stamp" and Hitler's Birthday, which is appropriate because 20th April was Hitler's birthday. An important change at meetings is that members now pay 50p to the Treasurer, so that Tony Hickey does not tell his very poor jokes at the start of meetings. Members were tired of laughing, mainly out of sympathy!

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## HOW MANY REMEMBER 1940 ?

Well the Royal Mail have just issued (on May 13th) a set of eight stamps, printed in black and white depicting wartime scenes featuring people 'on the home front' and entitled "BRITAIN ALONE". There are two 1st class, two at 60p, two at 67p and two at 97p, Each value is on a separate sheet. At the same time, a miniature sheet of four stamps to commemorate 'Dunkirk' has been issued. They are also in black and white with one for 1st class, one at 60p, one at 88p and one at 97p. There is also a prestige booklet, cost £9.76, which has all twelve stamps, plus a pane of 4 x 5p, 2 x 10p and two x 60p 'Machin' stamps.



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### THE INTER-FEDERATION THEMATIC COMPETITION - 16th APRIL

This was held at the '81st Scottish Congress' in Perth: The KENT team were placed 3rd with 219 points. - Surrey were winners with 239 points, and Essex, second with 223 points. The Kent team was

Grahame Boutle  
75 points - with  
Man under the Sea  
Michael Thompson,  
The History of  
Archery, 74 points  
and Erica Banks,  
with St. George, 70  
points. The South  
was dominate again  
but fancy going  
all that way. The  
judges were from  
Sussex (Richard  
West) and Surrey  
(Brian Sole).  
Good try Kent !

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## ROBIN EDWARDS

### SPECIALIST IN FINE STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN

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**FROM OUR CHIEF FOREIGN REPORTER** Paul Davey  
Paul is now based in Oerlikon, Switzerland although at present he is regularly commuting weekly back to Ashford. Here is his report on how he is finding the 'Philatelic World' in Switzerland.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Peter,  
Oerlikon  
19 April 2010

Having been stuck in Zurich this weekend just gone due to our Icelandic neighbours, I took the opportunity of visiting a stamp fair. In fact, wandering through Zurich, I came across a sign saying "Briefmarken Bourse" outside the Restaurant Weisser Wind. I found the room but saw only a couple of dealers (probably collectors) with a few boxes of covers/stamps. Most were Swiss. It seems this happens every Saturday but once a month it appears to be a much bigger do. On the Sunday I took the S4 train to Sood, near Adliswil and found a much larger affair. Around a dozen dealers in postcards, stamps and postal history in a relatively small room made it seem cosy and busy. Again much of the material was Swiss but one dealer had several boxes of "overseas" CHF3 covers (£2 each), boxes of CHF1 covers and when I asked for any better covers I got to spend an pleasant hour or more viewing 34 books of them. Several nice items made it into the Davey collections including two Chinese covers. I noticed that WW1 Isle of Man Internment Camp covers seemed to rate very little. I bought one from the CHF3 box. Might get a few more in due course. There was no real classic GB but I am sure he would do really well the first time a Kent fair saw his material!

There are two main stamp magazines here. The trilingual Schwiezer Briefmarken Zeitung which comes out basically monthly and the German Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung which is a fortnightly publication. I can't remember when we had a magazine more often than monthly in the UK.

Still not gotten around to visiting a local club until I have a permanent place to live.  
More news when I have some.

Paul

\*\*\*\*\*  
Editor's note: Thanks Paul, I don't think that many of our members realise how lucky they are having local stamp fairs fairly regularly and much bigger venues in London. I am unsure what you mean when you refer to CHF1 and CHF3 ! I know that 'CH' is the international car index lettering for Swiss cars, but I doubt this has any connection with boxes of stamps ! Perhaps you can explain this in your next report please. It would be interesting to learn how club meetings fair in Switzerland, how many there are and how membership, support etc compare with here. PJOK  
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***VERY LATE NEWS FLASH - 27<sup>th</sup> MAY 2010.***

**THE 2010 "DAWES" CUP COMPETITION RESULT.**

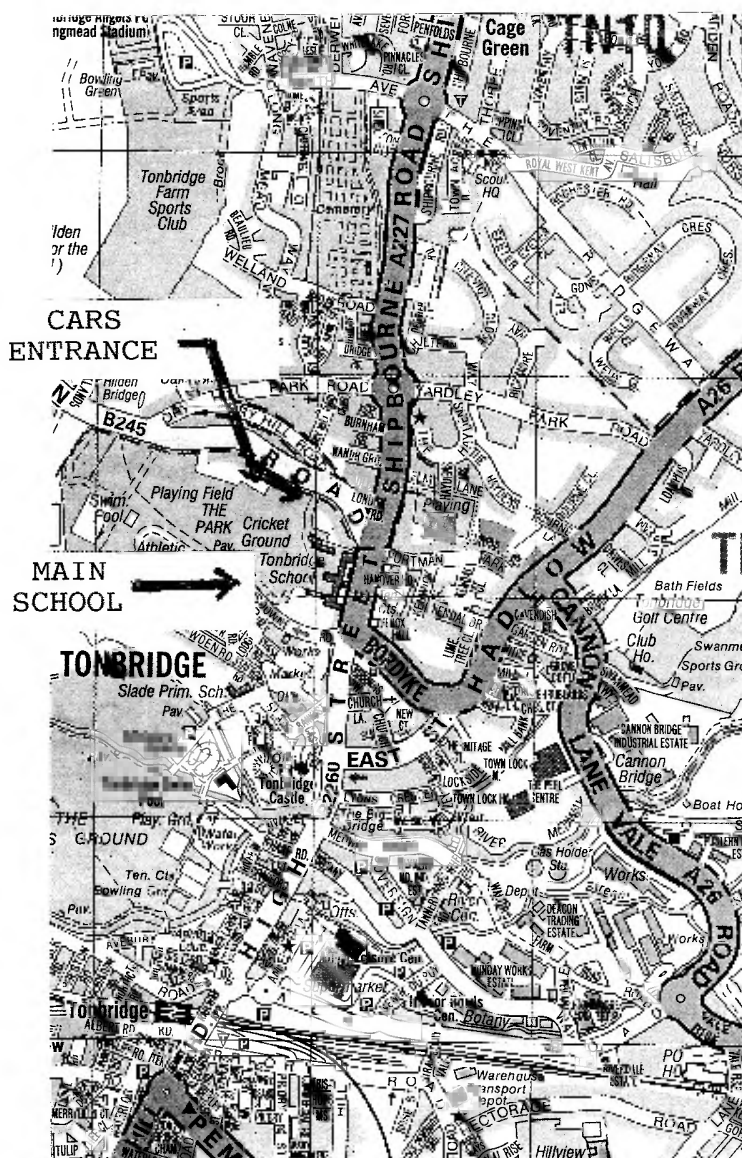
1 <sup>st</sup>	SURREY.	427 Points.	
2 <sup>nd</sup> =	ESSEX.	410 Points.	
2 <sup>nd</sup> =	KENT.	410 Points.	Further details in the next issue.

# KENTPEX 2010

THE '2010 FESTIVAL OF STAMPS' INCORPORATING THE KENT FEDERATION DAY STAMP FAIR AND EXHIBITIONS, HOSTED BY THE ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS PHILATELIC SOCIETY AND THE KENT FEDERATION OF PHILATELIC SOCIETIES.

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ENTRANCE FOR CARS IS FROM THE B245. MAIN GATE AT PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC LIGHTS (DEALERS CARS FROM THE HIGH ST, A227 or the B2260)

PEDESTRIANS - USE EITHER ENTRANCE 10 minutes walk from TONBRIDGE main line rail From LONDON, ASHFORD FOLKESTONE, HASTINGS

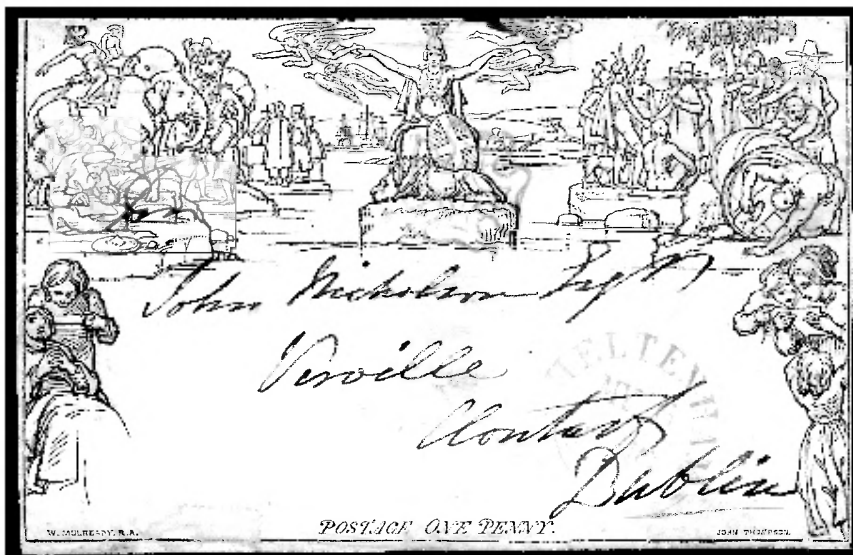
CARS FROM THE WEST FROM M25, A21 then B245 - HILDENBOROUGH PASS Premier Inn/Beefeater From M20 use A228 and A26 through Hadlow.

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# Fine Great Britain at Auction



*Great Britain: 1840 2d. blue Plate 2: MG-MK, a superb horizontal strip of five in a dark blue shade, used with Maltese Cross cancellations in black, good to large margins all round. A beautiful strip. • Fine and rare*



*Great Britain: 1840 (May 6), Mulready 1d. letter sheet used on the first day of issue, sent from Cheltenham to Dublin, arrival datestamp of May 7 on reverse.*

• A rare FDC • Unrecorded in "May Dates"

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