



CAMBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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The sponsor for our newsletter which we gained in August 2014 has very kindly agreed to renew the sponsorship for a further period of twelve months through to August 2016. Members are encouraged to contact our sponsor for advice as detailed above.

The editor will try to publish newsletters on a three monthly basis. Newsletters since that for the August 2014 edition are also available as a pdf file from the Society website. A new section "5" on the Society web site has been designed to accommodate this.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the late autumn/early winter 2015 newsletter. We have had an excellent start to the new programme year and hope to repeat the quality and mixture of speakers over the first eight months of 2016. Our thanks are due to Richard Husband, our Programme Secretary, who has organised this for the Society.

From time to time we have to make changes to our published programme on the blue cards. However, the editor tries to keep the programme details on the Society's web site always up to date; this can be found at; - www.cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk

If any member is on email, and has not received this newsletter by email, but would be happy to receive future newsletters and communications by email then would you please let the secretary know at; info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk ; this will help save on both postage and paper costs.

MEMBERS' NEWS

John Pearce FRPSL, our treasurer, suffered a severe heart attack early on Saturday 29th August and was transferred by ambulance to Papworth Hospital. Though he was subsequently transferred to Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge it is very sad to have to report that John died on the evening of Sunday 13th September. He had been a member of the society for many years and was a very active and supportive member. He was president from 2010-2012, and also the curator of the society's United Nations collection since it was started. He was also actively involved with the Royal Philatelic Society London and also the Federation. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his widow and relations.

We also have to report the death of **David Hall** on 23rd October 2015. Though he had not



attended any meetings for some time he had been an active member of the society and was president from 1993-1995. We offer our condolences to his family and relations.

Congratulations are due to **Richard Husband** in being elected a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London.

The opportunity is also taken to extend a very warm welcome to those new members who have joined the society in recent months; John Baron. John is the chair of the ABPS and in moving house to the mid Anglia region we are delighted that he has chosen to join our society. Congratulations are also due to **John Baron** in being elected a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London, in October this year.

Wednesday 2nd September

PRESIDENT'S EVENING

Simon Kelly had prepared his display but due to illness was unable to attend. Peter Morton kindly stepped in and offered to display Simon's display which was all written up covering; British Stamps and postal history of the 20th century from the viewpoint of the Postmasters General. Simon has kindly prepared a very detailed resume of his display which is shown in full in the appendix.

Friday 18th September

MEMBERS' EVENING; LETTERS H, I AND J

Roger Carr kicked off proceedings with the 1957 Golden Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield with sets of stamps depicting the event, other scout Cinderella sets and a copy of the event programme. **Stafford May** followed with the Haydolphin cancelled machins, Horizon labels, Isle of White postcards and information concerning IMP- Integrated Mail Processor. **Tony Crowther** continued with Hanover Street, Edinburgh double line cancels and also for India Street. **Michael Leveridge** depicted covers and information regarding Anthony Thornhill who was in the Indian Army. **John Towler** followed with Indian Army Post Offices with covers from the western front and the early days in Mesopotamia back to the UK. **Steve Hannath** based his display on the spanish bride as depicted in the Georgette Heyer novel with examples of army mail from Harry Smith Town in South Africa including postcards, postal stationery and stamps. **John George** concluded the first half with instructional marks on Huntingdonshire based mail from different towns.

Rufus Barnes started the second half with International pre-stamped postcards, and International images of nature from around the world. **Simon Kelly** showed the Emerald Isle (Ireland) with hooded postmarks, and hooded marks on a variety of outgoing mail. **David Stirrups** continued with Italy in the mid 1980's with maxim cards for the regions. **Geoffrey Datson** followed with the composer Handel as the theme with covers from many different sources followed by Handel Street in London. **Alistair Kennedy** put up covers from Imperial Hotel in Japan, and postal stationery from Hawaii and Honduras, followed by covers from Ionian Islands. **Ray Revell** covered Indian States with stamps from Hyderabad, and covers from Jaipur, Jamu and Jind. **Peter Morton** covered GB KEVI stamps printed by Harrison & Sons after the death of the king, and first issues of GV. **Keith Weston** rounded up the evening with Iran with various stamp issues from 1900's to 1950's.



Wednesday 7th October

A POSTCARD FROM TANGIER

A warm welcome was given to **David Stotter**. His interests cover Morocco in its entirety but this evening he concentrated on Old Tangier, displaying caches from the hotels, hotel stationery and hotel postcards. He covered the Continental Hotel, Cecil Hotel and New York Hotel in some detail, with smaller hotels such as Hotel Ville De France and Royal Victoria Hotel and many other obscure hotels with fewer individual items.

Friday 16th October

A CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE REVELATION

The Society gave a very warm welcome to Professor Simon Catling and Chris Harman, RDP, FRPSL.

Simon indicated that he was a teacher by profession, and not a philatelist. He explained that his grandfather's collection of Cambridge College stamps and related documents including correspondence had remained sealed in a tin trunk for at least 75 years in various attics until it was discovered untouched in 2010. The documentation also included the draft manuscript for a book on the subject completed by Harry Catling in 1939. The latter detailed the case that the suppression of the Cambridge (and Oxford) College Messenger Stamps by the General Post Office was not legal.

The draft manuscript also outlined in more detail where the college stamps had been printed, which corrected earlier publications on the subject. Following consultation with various parties, including Chris Harman it was decided that the Cinderella Stamp Club should publish the manuscript in full, as was the original intention. [Copies still available from The Cinderella Stamp Club, c/o Ian D Pittway, 91 Hawkswood Road, Sible Hedingham, Halstead, Essex, CO9 3JS at £18.00 post paid.]

Simon displayed a selection of the single stamps from Selwyn College, printed in black on pink paper, as these were generally only available as singles, as the sheets of 480 were cut up by the printers and delivered to the college in batches of 100 single stamps. The green printed stamps of Queens' College followed with different varieties, including a complete sheet of 96 stamps. Then the red stamps of St John's College which included two complete sheets each of 96 stamps, and additionally various cancelled stamps including covers. This was then followed by a whole series of original correspondence between Harry Catling and the Postal Services Department of the General Post Office.

In the second half Chris Harman concentrated on the messenger stamps of the Oxford colleges, as these were far more abundant than those of the Cambridge colleges. He commenced with the embossed stamps of Keeble College, including a tete-beche vertical pair. The provisional printing with the five dot cancellation was also shown on cover, and the lithographed blue stamps, plus many items of college stationery. Stamps from Hertford College, Merton College, Lincoln College and Exeter College were also displayed including several items of printed college stationery.

Grey-blue stamps from St John's College (Oxford) were also displayed followed by proofs from All Souls' College and several of the unissued stamps for Balliol College.



Chris fully endorsed the findings of Harry Catling and was a key party in getting the completed manuscript printed. This was an excellent and exceptional evening of the college stamps of both Cambridge and Oxford with several scarce and rare items on display.

Wednesday 4th November

COMPETITION EVENING

{POSTAL HISTORY, GREAT BRITAIN, CINDERELLA AND FIRST TIMERS}

We gave a warm welcome to Richard Page and John Hossack from Leighton Buzzard Philatelic Society who were extremely helpful and professional in the way in which they carried out the judging, and commenting afterwards on the various entries.

Overall nine entries were received for three of the listed competitions, up from eight entries the previous year. Congratulations are due to the winners of the competitions as follows;

Postal History; David Stirrups Spanish Mail transiting through Gibraltar to and from Malta and the Philippines

Great Britain; Peter Morton Imperforate plates of the 2d blue, Queen Victoria

Cinderella; Simon Kelly George VI Cinderella Stamps 1937-1952

First Timers; No entry

During the judging Alistair Kennedy gave us a varied display of different stamps which included POSB stamps, QV line engraved, perfins, telegraph and fiscal stamps. This was followed by examples of Felixstowe Dock stamps used on internal mail. Covers were also shown ranging from Somalia, Afghanistan to the first GB airmails.

Our thanks are due to Alistair and for all those members who entered the various competitions.

Friday 20th November

ANOTHER BLOODY RAILWAY:- PART I

Our speaker this evening was Peter Pugh, in place of the advertised speaker. The subject covered a detailed display of British mail emanating from Hong Kong via Siberia, and European mail from the far east all brought by the British postal system via Siberia. There was a wealth of different covers shown, including registered mail. Of further interest detailed photographs and information was also shown about the type of engines and rolling stock used at different times to bring the mail.

Wednesday 2nd December

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This was a social evening. A very good evening was had by 23 members and their partners/guests. Thanks are due to those who provided and organised the food and drinks, especially **Roger Carr**, and to the ladies in particular who helped clear up. Thanks are also due to those members who put up short stamp displays, and to **Ray Revell** and **Simon Kelly** who provided the many quiz questions which kept many of us bemused.



FUTURE MEETINGS

The 2015-2016 programme continues with the following meetings.

Wednesday 6th January

MEMBERS' EVENING; POST CARDS AND ILLUSTRATED COVERS

Friday 15th January

RICHARD HUSBAND; 70 NOT OUT

Wednesday 3rd February

REG HOUNSELL; IMPERIAL AIRWAYS

Friday 19th February

COMPETITION EVENING

**{35 YEAR TROPHY, TRANSPORT OF MAIL, THEMATIC, FOREIGN,
COMMONWEALTH AND OPEN CLASS}**

OTHER MATTERS

SOCIETY AUCTION

The 2016 Society auction will take place on the 2nd March 2016 and once again will be run by Rufus Barnes. Copies of blank lot forms are enclosed for the regulars who attend meetings. Please complete these clearly and hand them to Rufus at the Society meeting on Wednesday 6th January, or email details of your auction lots to Rufus on roodle2@sky.com by the 6th January. The forthcoming Christmas break is sure to provide you time to find unwanted and surplus items for inclusion in the auction.

Rufus will be typing up an auction list, which will be circulated well in advance of the auction and, as in previous years, members of other local societies will be invited to attend to ensure that bidding is brisk!!

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Included within this newsletter is a reminder to the few members who have not yet renewed their subscription which was due on 1st September 2015. The subscription is being held at £10.00.

MID ANGLIA PHILATELIC FEDERATION

Full details of events, contacts and recent newsletters appear on the federation website; www.mapf.co.uk

The late November newsletter gives details of all members society meetings through until the end of February as well as a write up from the special Federation Display day which took place at Warmington Village Hall, near Peterborough on Saturday 26th September when Jane Moubray RDP, Hon FRPSL showed 180 sheets covering the GB Queen Victoria 2d Blues and David Stirrups FRPSL {our member} showed 90 sheets on Cartophilately.

PJM 6th December 2015

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