



CAMBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER** ISSUE 102

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**The editor will try to publish newsletters in future by mid-December and by the end of April and August. Newsletters since that for the August 2014 edition are also available as a pdf file from the Society website, in section "5" on the web site.**

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Spring 2020 newsletter which is our 102nd edition. We have now completed around two thirds of our new 2019-2020 season programme which has been not only very varied but also very interesting. Our thanks are due to **Rufus Barnes**, who has organised the programme 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](http://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](mailto:info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk); this will help save on both postage and paper costs.

## CORONAVIRUS: COVID-19

Due to the impact of COVID-19, and given the background information issued by both the government and the health authorities in mid March we did postpone the 20th March 2020 meeting and either postponed or cancelled all meetings through to the end of May 2020.

With different medical views being quoted for stringent measures to remain in force ranging from 12 weeks to 25 weeks from mid March it seems likely at present that the committee will have to review in due course whether meetings beyond the end of May are cancelled or postponed.

In the meantime the message is quite clear: stay at home: stay safe.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

**Tony Crowther** visited King's Lynn P S on 24th January 2020 and gave a display on both Edinburgh Postal History and also British Levant Postal History.

**John George** gave a display entitled More Princely States at Huntingdonshire P S on 30th January 2020.



### Friday 17th January

#### GB SURFACE PRINTED COVERS

Our member, **Graham Wylde**, presented a very interesting and fascinating evening. The different postal covers were grouped together in line with how Gibbons catalogue the different stamps. Almost without exception, all the low value stamps including the different plate numbers were displayed by way of a postal cover. The main exceptions were the different high values, though the lower high values of the Jubilee period were seen.

The quality of all the covers was exceptional.

### Wednesday 5th February

#### BELGIUM

**Mike Brindle**, our member, gave a detailed history of postal services in Belgium evidenced by the many stamps and covers. The history of the Belgian postal service was explained with many stamps/covers covering famous Belgians, famous painters as well as the different cultures in the country. War time issues were also very prominent including occupation of part of Germany by Belgian troops in the immediate post war period. Several covers had both German and Belgium stamps on them.

Private issues, charity stamps, labels, postage dues and concessionary parcels rates were also included.

### Friday 21st February

#### COMPETITION EVENING

{35 YEAR, TRANSPORTATION OF MAIL, THEMATICS, FOREIGN, COMMONWEALTH AND 16 SHEET}

We gave a warm welcome to **David Leathart** and **Winston Williams** from King's Lynn 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 twelve entries were received for the five listed competitions, compared to nine entries in 2019. Congratulations are due to the winners of the competitions as follows;

35 Year;	No entries	
Transportation of Mail;	No entries	
Thematics;	<b>Geoffrey Datson</b>	Benjamin Britten
Foreign;	<b>Simon Kelly</b>	Ethiopia Pre UPU Stamps
Commonwealth;	<b>Simon Kelly</b>	Bahamas
16 Sheet;	<b>Simon Kelly</b>	McCorquodale & Co Tender Issues



During the judging **Ray Jones** gave us a very detailed and interesting display of the main stamp issues of St Helena including most of the ship issues and main commemoratives. Examples were also seen of covers and the war time tax issues. In the final frames issue from Tristan de Cunha were also displayed.

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

### **Wednesday 4th March**

#### **SOCIETY AUCTION**

The Society Auction was held on this evening. Our thanks are due to **Rufus Barnes**, who not only collated all the auction lots and produced the printed sheetlet, but also acted as auctioneer. Thanks are due to **Graham Wylde** and **Peter Morton** for keeping detailed records, and to those members who helped in finding the lots and sorting them. We are grateful for all those members who submitted lots and also bid in the auction. Compared to the previous year's auction the value of lots sold was higher with a good contribution being made to Society funds.

### **Friday 20th March**

#### **GB MACHINS and BRITISH LEVANT POSTAL HISTORY**

As already advised this meeting was postponed.

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

As already indicated all meetings from now and until the end of May 2020 have either been cancelled or postponed. I will let members know what is happening say in early May about meetings beyond the end of May 2020.

We are of course due to hold the Annual General Meeting on Friday 19th June 2020. The Constitution just indicates that the Annual General Meeting must be held in either May, June or July each year. At present it would seem unlikely that we will be able to meet up in person for this meeting. My personal view is that we should keep the date and deal with all relevant matters by way of a specific newsletter for that purpose with the ability of members to communicate back by email, mail or telephone. The Society Committee will fully discuss within the next 4-6 weeks to decide what should be done.



## **OTHER MATTERS**

### **MID ANGLIA PHILATELIC FEDERATION**

For the time being all meetings and events have been suspended.

The end February 2020 Newsletter, is on the federation website as a downloadable pdf file.

The display of the Federation competition entries at Philanglia at Burgess Hall, St Ives on Saturday 6th June 2020, has been cancelled. Provisionally all entries will now be displayed at the Special Display Day on Sunday 18th October 2020 at Buckden Village Hall.

### **2020 CELEBRATIONS**

The special sub committee of the Society will meet again shortly, but remotely. As already advised the Society lunch is due to take place on Friday 6th November 2020 at the University Centre, Granta Place, Cambridge at 1.00pm. More details of this latter event will be made available in due course.

**May I take this opportunity to say that the Society committee trust that all member will stay free of the COVID-19 virus.**

**PJM 30th March 2020**

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