

Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation

Newsletter December 2022

Display Day at Buckden

Well, if you weren't there you missed the best meeting yet.

Not a huge turnout, but the displays were many and varied and showed a range of subjects and approaches to collecting which continue to keep us all motivated. The day was split by a trip to the Lion Hotel for a delicious and sociable Sunday roast. Many thanks to John Spencer for organising the day.

Annual General Meeting

Reports received indicating a healthy year despite the slow emergence from the pandemic. The accounts showed a planned deficit for the year for the year, due largely to the holding of two display days which always run at a loss. The committee was tasked with looking into whether two display days was sustainable and whether a move to less expensive venues be considered. It was further suggested that a small attendance fee might be charged to help with the cost of venue hire.

The officers and committee were re-elected unopposed.

The committee was also asked to look at competitions, particularly to how the literature class might be formalised. It was well supported at the Convention with 19 entries varying from single articles to a published book and an e-book.

The revised website has been well received with approval coming from the Royal's IT director.

Stamp Fairs

The pandemic closed these gatherings down and it would appear that rather too many have not come back. Stampex will, from now, be held only once a year, in the autumn, and of course, there are hardly any stamp shops left. This means there are fewer opportunities for philatelists to develop their collections and so we have to fall back on the internet and stamp auctions. Add this to the ageing nature of collectors where does this leave the future of our hobby, one that kept many of use sane during the covid epidemic?

Maybe it is up to societies to help keep dealers going by holding their own stamp fairs or meetings where a few local dealers are invited to attend.

National Competitions

Speaking of Stampex, I note that in the latest edition of the ABPS News, that at that Exhibition in September 2023 the usual range of national competitions will NOT be held.

Rather it is hoped that there will be a Royal Challenge competition. The format would be teams of 4 offering 2 x 5 frame exhibits and 2 x 8 frame entries, covering 4 different classes, with presumably the Royal Philatelic Society, London representing the UK.

The organisers are hoping that Canada, South Africa, Victoria, New South Wales and New Zealand will take part. This would give 168 frames of top-quality displays.

The displaced national competitions would then be offered at Perth in April 2023 and York in the July.

More details to follow.

Society Programmes

There are still some societies whose programmes I have yet to receive! Your help, here, please.

Cover of the quarter. (Martin Lovegrove)



The description on eBay for the cover was quite clear:

A small cover sent in February 1924 to Mrs G MacLaren, The Governate, Jenin, Palestine and franked with a Saudi 1 pi. Dark blue (Scott. L35). On the reverse, Haifa 13 FE 24 transit and Jenin 16 FE 24 receiver. The cover has been slightly cut down on the left.

Major MacLaren was the Military Governor of Jenin at the time. Faint pencil notation showing 'King Hussein ???, good used at top'; a vertical crease does not affect anything; very clean.

The ??? in the description was the word for 'commemoration' and the Scott catalogue number given was for an un-overprinted Hejaz stamp, nevertheless, the information given was enough to identify the stamp as Jordan SG 118 (Scott 110). The violet cancellation appears to be three strikes of the distorted circular AMMAN type used in

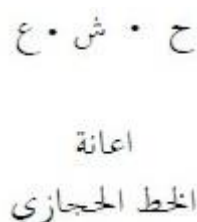
January and February 1924. The price of about £30 was about right for that auction site but quite a lot less than the major auction houses.

Upon the arrival of the cover, close examination of the stamp showed that although the top line had three Arabic characters, it was NOT the King Hussein visit overprint (Fig. 1). These characters are the abbreviation for 'the Arab Government of the East'. The next line of the overprint translates as 'aid' and the bottom line as 'Hejaz Railway' (Fig. 2). At the time of purchase, this overprint was unrecorded. The use of Postage Due and Revenue stamps for postage is known and may have been caused by the shortage of postage stamps when sent to the various post offices.



ذوق ج
ملك العرب
١١٤٢ هـ

Fig.1



ح ش ع
اعانة
الخط الحجازي

Fig.2

This example of a Hejaz Railway Revenue stamp, postally used, is probably unique – unless you know different!

Despite the incorrect description on eBay – this cover will NOT be returned.

Huntingdonshire Philatelic Society Stamp and Post Card Fair.

This regular fair will be held on Saturday 18th February 2023 at the Corn Exchange, St Ives town centre

The post code is: PE27 5AD.

Admission is free with doors opening at 10:00 am and the fair ending at 3 o'clock.

For further information please 'phone: 01480 468037

Competitions and Convention 2023

By the end of January all decisions should have been made about the competitions for next year when the date of Philanglia may well also be known.

As soon as possible, thereafter, rules, entry forms and guidelines will be sent out with details of timings. We hope we have secured the judges for 2023 with good contacts having been made with the North Western Federation.

This will be my last year running the competitions and so we will be looking to appoint an officer at the next AGM.

It is hoped (!) a volunteer will come forward, and the ideal situation would be that that he or she would work with me for 2023 to see how the operation works now, and most likely improve on the status quo.

The future for our societies

It appears that quite a few societies, including some of our own, are finding it increasingly difficult to keep going, represented mainly by falling attendances. Several have already wound up. This raises one problem immediately, what to do with any moneys left over after paying any dues. Does your society have anything in its rules or constitution to cover this? If not, there may be problems ahead.

Another area that comes to mind is speakers, their quality and their expenses. There are a few societies that do everything within their own membership, but many don't. How should speakers' expenses be afforded, petrol and diesel are ever more expensive and so too rail fares, if, of course, there is a train!

It shouldn't be up to the generosity of philatelists willing to travel, sometimes considerable distances, to entertain and encourage us to do more and better with our collections.

Many societies are existing on what they have in the bank or building society, and yet these dwindling resources are not being matched by rather ridiculously cheap annual subscriptions, of £10 and £12 pa.

It is clear that we, as collectors, are an ageing group, what do we need to do now to keep our hobby going so it will still be there in years to come.

There might just be new collectors yet to realise the huge benefit of philately in all its guises.

Society Programmes

December

1	Isle of Ely	Social Evening	
1	Spalding	Egg Cup competition; Christmas Social	
1	Northamptonshire	Warren Trophy – 10 sheets 'Not your normal'	
2	Luton & District	Society Auction	
2	King's Lynn	Zoom – Tobacco around the world	Dahlia Harrison
6	Hinckley	Ian Varey entertains	
7	Cambridge	George VI postal and social history Additional ½d mail into Scotland from abroad	Terry Wagg Mike Kentzer
8	Peterborough & District	Pre-Christmas Memners' afternoon	
8	Fenland	members display their collections	
9	King's Lynn	Members display 1 frame; followed by seasonal refreshments	
12	Sheringham	Annual competitions and Christmas buffet	
13	Hinckley	Christmas Party; single sheet & open competitons	
14	Leiston & District	Quiz, a special display & Christmas nibbles	
15	Grantham	Christmas related quiz	

January

4	Cambridge	Members' evening – display – letters A – C	
5	Fenland	Pictorial journey down the Wisbech Canal	Bill Smith
5	Peterborough & District	President's afternoon	
5	Isle of Ely	Members' displays, 9 sheets – any subject	
5	Northamptonshire	President's afternoon	
6	King's Lynn	Zoom – Revenues	Edward Hitchings
6	Luton & District	Members' displays – any topic beginning with B, P or E.	

9	Sheringham	Members' sales evening	
10	Hinckley	Members' displays – the letter 'W'	
13	King's Lynn	Christmas & Easter Islands	Rufus Barnes
19	Peterborough & District	Colin Hepper entertains	
19	Fenland	Richard Moss entertains	
24	Hinckley	Another Bloody Railway	Peter Pugh
	Leiston & District	Members' displays	25
25	Spalding	Auction and competition – E – 4 pages	
27	King's Lynn	Five frames by 4 members	

February

1	Cambridge	Competition Evening – Part 1	
2	Fenland	Free Czechoslovak Army	Terry Harrison
		Fairy tales to fantasy	Dahlia Harrison
2	Spalding	M is for; Competition A – 9 pages	
2	Isle of Ely	Australian Philatelic Exhibitions	Alan Hall
2	Northamptonshire	Dual Display	Gerald & Gwynn
2	Peterborough & District	Society Collection, Part II	
3	King's Lynn	Zoom – Nothilfe, German Charity issues	Rex Dixon
3	Luton & District	Objects used as subjects on stamps	David Bunyan
7	Hinckley	Auction Night	
13	Sheringham	Annual General Meeting	
16	Fenland	Society Quiz	Derek Pollard
10	King's Lynn	Plymouth maritime mail & Isle of Man	David Belton
16	Peterborough & District	Greece	Angela Cooper
22	Leiston & District	Competition evening, up to 10 sheets, any subject	
22	Spalding	Annual competitions; bring and buy	
24	King's Lynn	Members' evening – one frame or more!	
28	Hinckley	Members' displays – transport of any kind	

Society Contacts

Bedford	Richard Hart	01234 301 327
Cambridge	Peter Morton	01223 263 946
East Anglian Postal History Society	John Copeland	01277 218 128
Fenland	Richard Lewis	01945 700 594
Grantham	Martin Lodge	01400 282 855
Grimsby & District	David McMann	01472 887 523
Hinckley	Peter Thomas	01455 448 638
Huntingdonshire	Mick Twinn	01480 383 103
Isle of Ely	Chris North	01354 659 358
Kettering	Gordon Tregidgo	01536 746 800
King's Lynn	Dahlia Harrison	01775 423 087
Leighton Buzzard	John Spencer	01525 370 745
Leiston & District	Andy Soutar	01394 460 901
Loughborough	Christine Harris	01509 230 848
Luton & District	Fin O'Donoghue	01582 453 244
Northamptonshire	Paul Boniface	07909 937 366
North Herts.	David Belton	01438 315 040
Peterborough & District	Alan Beresford	01733 567 527
Rushden & District	Malcolm Whitehead	01933 350 646

Rutland
Sheringham
Sleaford U3A
Spalding

Dave Lucas
Jim Farrell
Lew Patterson
Dahlia Harrison

01664 474 596
01263 721 043
01529 307 220
01775 423 087

Federation Committee

Officers

President	John Spencer	Leighton Buzzard
Vice President	Richard Husband	Cambridge/Grantham
Secretary	Peter Morton	Cambridge
Treasurer	Richard Husband	
Competition Secretary	Mike Kentzer	King's Lynn
Webmaster	Martin Lovegrove	King's Lynn

Committee Members

Mike Kentzer (Past President)	
David Belton	North Herts.
Terry Wagg	King's Lynn
Jon Higgins	King's Lynn

Don't forget to visit our excellent new website: www.mapf.co.uk; there are new displays for you to enjoy.


B

BILL BARRELL Ltd
SPECIALISTS IN THE POSTAL HISTORY AND
POSTAGE STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN.


B

LIST 165 GREAT BRITAIN.


1. 1840 1D GREY-BLACK PL.1A (SG3)(IB) CANCELLED
BLACK MALTESE CROSS (SPEC AS3). Fine used 1840 1d
grey-black pl.1A (SG3) lettered IB with four close to fine margins
and cancelled very fine strike BLACK MALTESE CROSS (Spec
AS3). (Ref 131987). **£495.00**




2. 1840 1D BLACK PLATE 1A WATERMARK INVERTED
(SG2W)(IA). Fine to very fine used 1840 1d black plate 1A
WATERMARK INVERTED (SG2W) lettered IA with four close to
large margins and cancelled light strike red Maltese cross.
Stamp clearly shows 5 and 10 o'clock ray flaws and dots in 'A'
square. Inverted watermark (Spec AS2g) on plate 1A is very
rare and cats £4000. (Ref 131985). **£1500.00**



3. 1848 10D EMBOSSED (SG57) CORNER MARGINAL
BLOCK OF FOUR WITH 'SPECIMEN' OVERPRINT
(SPEC H2s). An exceptional upper right corner marginal
block of four 1848 10d embossed issue (SG57) with
superb original gum, superb colour and margins, each
overprinted 'SPECIMEN' type 1. A very rare multiple of
exhibition quality. (Ref 132212). **£6500.00**



**THE
Philatelic Traders'
SOCIETY LTD**

*"The PTS. The International Society for
Philatelic Professionals."*
Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved.

B

BILL BARRELL LTD
PO BOX 10494, GRANTHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE, NG31 0HS
UNITED KINGDOM
TEL: (+44) 01476 594698

B

E-mail: bill@barrell.co.uk Website: www.barrell.co.uk