

# Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation

**Newsletter**

**December 2023**

Welcome to the last edition for 2023 in what I hope has seen the beginnings, at least, of a return to normality. Unfortunately, it has become clear that quite a number of collectors have lost the routine of attending face to face meetings and several societies are shrinking in size of membership to a disappointing degree. Indeed, we have lost the Rutland P S after many happy years of existence.

Towards the end of October, we had another most enjoyable **Stamp Display Day** at Warmington with grateful thanks to John Spencer for arranging the event. It was also where the Federation held its **AGM**.

## **Peter Morton, our secretary reports:**

*Richard Husband (Cambridge and Grantham) took over as President for a two year term. Peter Morton (Cambridge) was voted as Vice-President, while John Spencer (Leighton Buzzard) filled the post of out-going President.*

*Peter Morton, Richard Husband and Martin Lovegrove (King's Lynn) were re-elected as secretary, treasurer and webmaster respectively. John Spencer was voted in as Competition Secretary.*

*Up to five society members can be elected as committee members: David Belton (North Herts), Jon Higgins and Terry Wagg (King's Lynn) were all re-elected for a further term.*

*Details of the suggested changes which had been sent out to society secretaries in advance, were all passed. A new constitution will shortly appear on the Federation's website.*

**Hinckley P S** have moved to a new venue: The Meeting Centre, Marchant Road, Hinckley. LE10 0LQ

## **Europhilex , Birmingham, 2025**

This is to be held at National Exhibition Centre on 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May. Potentially it will be larger than London 2022 in all respects, with many more opportunities for exhibitors, and all on one level. Those wishing to exhibit need to be 'qualified' with at least a vermeil at national level and there will be another chance to do so in the Spring Show to be hosted by the Royal Philatelic Society, London at their HQ at 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4 7BW from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Website: [www.europhilex25.co.uk](http://www.europhilex25.co.uk)

For entries: [enquiries@europhilex25.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@europhilex25.co.uk)

## **Stampex 2024**

The PTS are now holding one exhibition per year and next year this will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER at the Business Design Centre in Islington. The show is being held in Main Atrium and side halls at the gallery level and NOT in its usual situation.

## **Philatelic Congress 2024**

This annual event will take place at the Leonardo Royal Hotel Grand Harbour, Southampton (SO15 1AG) on 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July. Its theme will be '**new directions in philately**' which may lead to more positive thinking to our hobby, given current trends. For more information go to page 18 of the ABPS newsletter which can be viewed on their website.

See also ABPS newsletter, page 18.

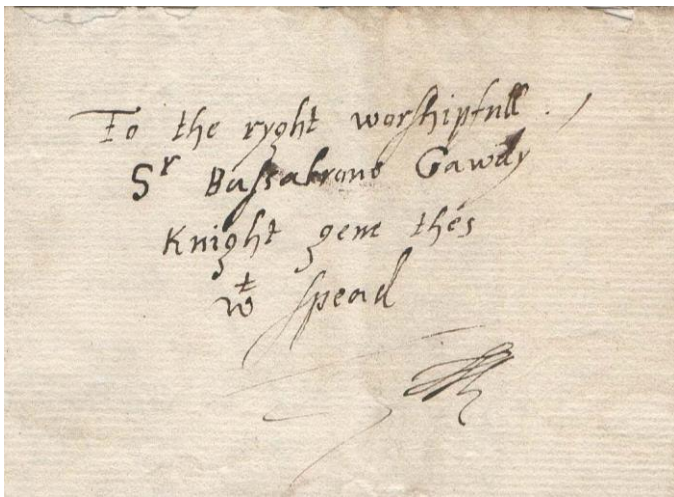
### The Royal Mail Swap Out Scheme

There still seems to be confusion about what can be swapped out and whether or not closing dates have been given for trading in GB special issues stamps.

For an excellent update go to pages 20 -22 for details.

### Cover of the Quarter

This letter was carried privately to the High Sheriff of Norfolk, Sir Bassingbourne Gawdy at West Harling on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1599. In it Clement Spilman relates how he and other members and friends of the Earl of Northampton have spent a pleasant evening in Castle Rising Castle, 4 miles from King's Lynn as guests of the Howard family.



Front of letter, actual size



Castle Rising Castle

During the evening there had been much discussion about the health of a great friend, **Sir Robert Southwell** of Woodrising, Norfolk, who is most unwell. It seems he has a 'postume', probably abscesses and ulcers, which one member of the gathering tells that he had had a man with the same the previous year and recovered in six weeks.

Unfortunately, Sir Robert Southwell died the next day, which allowed us to date the letter. This arises from the significance of Sir Robert, as he had been Vice Admiral of the fleet which had seen off the Spanish Armada!

### Society Programmes

1	King's Lynn	Zoom display – Apollo Moon Landings	Bary Feltham
6	Spalding	Egg Cup competition & Christmas social	
6	Kettering	Christmas Fun Night, tombola, quizzes & games	
6	Cambridge	Informal meeting with a Christmas flavour	
7	Northamptonshire	Warren Trophy – 10 sheets – Anything but stamps	
7	Isle of Ely	Social morning	
8	King's Lynn	Members display PPC; Festive refreshments	
11	Sheringham & District	Annual competition and Christmas buffet	
12	Huntingdonshire	Members' displays – any subject to go with mince pies	
12	Hinckley & District	Competitions - Single sheet, Cinderella & Informal	
13	Leiston & District	Quiz & social with Christmas Nibbles	
15	Cambridge	Zoom meeting - TBA	

## January

3	Cambridge	Members' evening – Letters D to F	
4	Northamptonshire	President's afternoon	
5	King's Lynn	Zoom display – Crimean War Part 1	Adrian Pearson
9	Huntingdonshire	Dive, dive, dive	Michael Kemp
8	Sheringham & District	Members' sales evening	
12	King's Lynn	Poland & Czechoslovakia	Wojciech Kierstan
18	Peterborough & District	Members' afternoon, M & N is for .....	
19	Cambridge	Zoom display – Geo V low values, varieties	Peter Morton
23	Spalding	WWII, a philatelic view, Part 2	Derek Pollard
23	Huntingdonshire	Members' evening – Q, R, S & T	
24	Leiston & District	Members displays	
26	King's Lynn	Five frames by 4 members	

## February

1	Isle of Ely	GB philatelic milestones, 1760 – 2023	Barry Ross-Bain
1	Peterborough & District	Australia	Angela Cooper
1	Northamptonshire	Zeppelin Mails	Brian Hyner
2	King's Lynn	Zoom - Mail to Scotland from Europe & Africa to 1839	Mike Kentzer
		Early Sarawak air mails	Jon Higgins
4	Isle of Ely	Members' meeting, 9 sheets, any subject	
7	Cambridge	Competitions Judges from King's Lynn	
7	Spalding	Competition A – 'Q', 'R' or 'S' is for .....	
8	Luton & District	Trains, planes & automobiles/film industry	
9	King's Lynn	GB to 1936	Tony Taylor
12	Sheringham & District	Annual General Meeting	
15	Peterborough & District	Bourse	
16	Cambridge	Zoom display, TBA	
17	Huntingdonshire	<b>ST IVES STAMP FAIR</b>	
22	Luton & District	displays by Andrew Higson & Christine	
23	King's Lynn	Members' evening – 1 frame or more	
27	Spalding	Competitions – all categories – Bring & Buy	
27	Huntingdonshire	President's display	John George
28	Leiston & District	Competition, up to 10 sheets, any subject	

## Stamp Fairs

### December

2	Leicester	Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle. LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
3	Slip End	Village Hall, LU1 4BU	01494 446 004
10	Sandy	Scout HQ, Sunderland Road, SG19 1QY	01494 446 004
23	Northampton	Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 0RZ	079557 158 299

### January

6	Leicester	Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Centre, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
6	Northampton	Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 0RZ	01283 820 151
17	St Ives	Society Fair Corn Exchange, PE 27 5AG	01480 468 037

18	Sandy	Scout HQ, Sunderland Road, SG19 1QY	01494 446 004
19/20	York	The Grandstand, Racecourse, YO23 1EX	

**February**

24	Northampton	Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 0RZ	07957 158 299
25	Leicester	Glen Parva Memorial Hall, LE2 9JD	078003 142 933

**Federation Committee**

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

**Committee Members**

David Belton	North Herts
Terry Wagg	King's Lynn
Jon Higgins	King's Lynn
Mike Kentzer (to be co-opted)	King's Lynn

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

**LIST 171 GREAT BRITAIN.**

1. 1884 5D GREEN UNISSUED DESIGN 'LINE UNDER D' (SG193 SPEC K23a). A good to fine mint example of the extremely rare 1884 5d green UNISSUED DESIGN 'LINE UNDER D' (SG193 Spec K23a), lettered SC, light gum bend but otherwise fine original gum. One of only seven examples believed to exist and one of the rarest surface printed stamps. Catalogue £25,000. (Ref 133422). £16000.00

2. 1883 UNISSUED 5D GREEN WITH 'LINE UNDER d' OVERPRINTED 'SPECIMEN' TYPE 9 (SG193 SPEC K23c). A fine example of the extremely rare 1883 unissued 5d green (SG193) lettered CB with 'LINE UNDER d' overprinted 'SPECIMEN' type 9 (Spec K23c), excellent colour and very fine o.g. RPSL cert 236942 'full original gum is genuine, small ink spread at right and smudging of overprint'. One of only seven examples recorded, the others lettered BA, CC, CD, DD, SG and SH. (Ref 135573). £8500.00

3. 1881 5D INDIGO (SG169) IMPERFORATE PLATE PROOF IN BLACK. A very fine imperforate plate proof 1881 5d indigo (SG169) in black on thick white wove paper, very fine margins. Very scarce. (Ref 123109). £575.00

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