

March 2024

Welcome to the spring edition of your newsletter. There is a burst of philatelic auctions over the next few weeks, with Corbitt's, Cavendish and Grosvenor all offering a wide range of super material to tempt us. Still, it costs nothing to look!

If you do find a lot or two of interest and haven't tried bidding live through EasyLive auctions, it's simple and easy to do, it must be because I've managed to do so, successfully!

We are heading into the competition season in as much as we now have a date for **PHILANGLIA** – it will be held on **Saturday 29th June at St Ives**. As usual we are holding **our Convention** at the Burgess Hall alongside the stamp fair and to that end competition details will be arriving very shortly, if they haven't already done so.

Our competitions are now in the capable hands of past president, John Spencer, the secretary of Leighton Buzzard P S. He will be hoping for lots of entries in the 9 sheet inter-society section (traditional, postal history and thematic), and exhibits in any and all of the 16 sheet individual classes.

National Spring Exhibition

With Stampex now only being held once a year, the Royal Philatelic Society, London is hosting a smaller version at its headquarters at 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW. The seven-storey building – with a lift – is just a few minutes' walk from Bank Station. It will be held on 28th – 30th March with 150 frames of exhibits, this being the last opportunity for philatelists to qualify for Europhilex 2025. Three dealers will be present: Stanley Gibbons, Bill Barrell and David Griffiths (thematics).

Entry will be free and while there you would be able to browse, what is probably the finest philatelic library in the world.

Autumn Stampex

This, now once a year exhibition, will take place at the British Design Centre, Islington from 23rd to 26th October. This time the event will be based in the Atrium Hall and the Gallery, above and to the right of where it is normally staged. Further details can be found on the ABPS website.

Europhilex

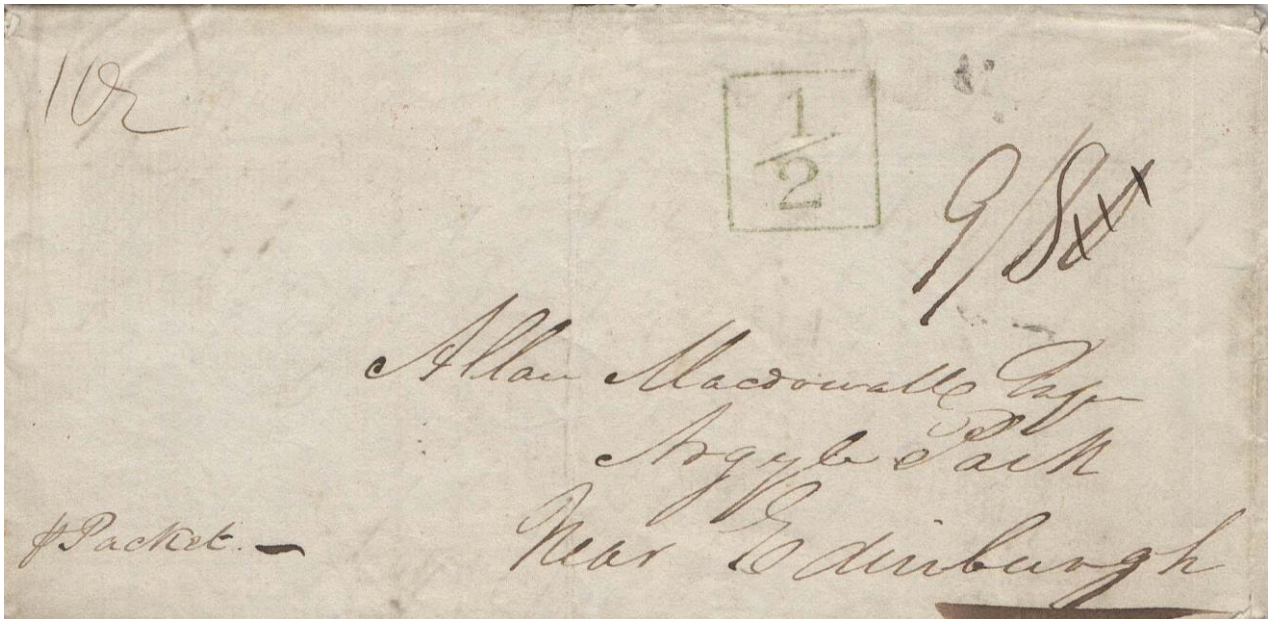
The exhibition, held every 10 years when the year ends in '5', will be held at the National Exhibition Centre, near Birmingham. Physically, the exhibition will be much larger than London 2022, and offer 2000 frames of exhibits, many more dealers, as well as lectures and entertainments.

For further details look up Europhilex 2025, or via the ABPS website.

Cover of the quarter

Slavery was an evil practice which involved not just Britain and other developing nations but also Arab traders in Africa and even some African tribes. The devastating effects of this dreadful trade, whereby African people were transported in appalling conditions to the Caribbean and parts of North America, are still felt today.

Many wealthy British people became immensely rich using slave labour. The letter below, from the island of St Vincent, shows how thoroughly some of these plantations were run.



This 1831 one-ounce letter was charged the quadruple rate of 9/8, a monthly return, and bears a Type IIIA additional half mark of Falmouth, CO 422.

MONTHLY STATISTICAL ACCOUNT of PARKHILL ESTATE,
 ST. VINCENT, from 1st *Novr* to 1st *Decr* 1831 .

POPULATION.						NAMES.			
BLACK.			WHITE.			Name.			
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.						
At last Return,	116	115	231			<i>George Rickards</i>			
At present, . . .	110	114	224			<i>Hugh Rawley</i>			
Difference, . . .		7	7						
DISPOSAL OF POPULATION.						REMARKS ON PEOPLE.			
	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.	Deaths.	Births.		Conductors and Nurses.
At field work, . .	48	69	15	15	147		Mother.	Child.	
Coopers,	5	1	1	1	8		<i>Peggy</i>	<i>girl</i>	<i>Christina</i>
Carpenters,	4	1	1	1	7				
Masons,	4	5	3	1	13				
Domestics,	3	5	3	1	12				
Stock-keepers, . .	7	1	1	1	10				
Watchmen,	110	1	1	1	113				
In Hospital, . . .	1	3	1	1	6				
Invalid and superannuated, }	3	6	1	1	11				
Children under ten years, . . }	1	1	12	14	28				<i>Two children sickly</i>
Exempt labour, having 6 children, }	1	2	1	1	5				<i>Cherry (Wm) foot</i>
	84	80	31	31	226				

The letter contained amongst its contents a proforma report, part of which is shown above. It shows a breakdown of the category of the slaves, but most distressingly notes that there are two women, who having 6 or more children are exempt from hard labour, as, presumably, their offspring are more valuable as a part of the workforce, which will not have to have been bought!

The Stuart Rossiter Trust

This charitable Trust was set up in memory of Stuart Rossiter who was a leading postal historian of his day to support research and publication relating to the history of communication by postal systems of the world. It's publications can be found on their website: www.rossitertrust.com, along with information about financial support for original research and their ability to publish suitable works.

The Trust also hosts an annual lecture. This year the theme is: '**Postal History, which is more interesting, the postal aspect or the history aspect**' with the talk being presented by Simon Martin Redman FRPSL, at the Royal Philatelic Society, London on 15th May.

Admission is free, but tickets need to be ordered in advance at: rexdixon@btinternet.com

Society Programmes

March

1	King's Lynn	Zoom – Crimea War, Part 2	Adrian Pearson
5	Hinckley & District	Members' night – the letter 'Z'	
6	Spalding	Members' displays – picture post cards	
6	Cambridge	Society auction	
7	Peterborough	Malta	Alan Bannister
7	Isle of Ely	President entertains	
7	Northamptonshire	Egypt	B J Davies
8	King's Lynn	Humanitarian Aid	Dahlia Harrison
12	Huntingdonshire	German occupation of the Channel Islands	Alan Moorcroft
14	Fenland	King's Lynn postal history, PPCs and ephemera	Terry Wagg & Mike Kentzer
14	Luton & District	President's Cup competition	
15	Cambridge	Zoom presentation (TBA)	
19	Hinckley & District	Society auction	
21	Peterborough	Germany and States	Tom Tomalin
22	King's Lynn	Abu Dhabi and Tokelau	Rufus Barnes
26	Spalding	TBA	
26	Huntingdonshire	Australian Exhibitions from 1938	Alan Hall
27	Leiston & District	Local posts and New Zealand	Ed Hitchings
28	Luton & District	A Dutch evening	John Jackson

April

3	Cambridge	Competition evening; display by John George	
3	Spalding	Indian Feudatory States	John George
4	Peterborough	Joyce Boyer entertains	
4	Isle of Ely	TBA	
4	Northamptonshire	Competitions; displays of the letters G, H & I	
5	King's Lynn	Zoom – Sudan, 1898 – 1910	Malcolm Coe
9	Hinckley & District	Visit by Leamington Spa P S	
11	Luton & District	German stamps	Colin, Trevor & Christine
12	King's Lynn	Specimen stamps and postal stationery, 1694 – 1902	David Leathart
18	Peterborough	Romania	Colin Thorpe

19	Cambridge	Zoom presentation (TBA)	
23	Spalding	Nature – members’ displays	
23	Huntingdonshire	Images of Victoria	Robert Hill
23	Hinckley & District	Members’ meeting – ‘wildlife and habitat’	
24	Leiston & District	Suffolk postal history	Kevin May
25	Luton & District	GB railways	Yvonne Wheatley
26	King’s Lynn	16 sheet competitions; bring and buy	

May

1	Cambridge	Display by Edward Hitchings	
2	Isle of Ely	Commonwealth in the Antarctic , 1945 – 65	Brian Clayton
2	Northamptonshire	Air Mails	The Lindleys
3	King’s Lynn	Zoom – The development of the picture post card	Malcolm Gascoyne
4	Peterborough	Society auction	
7	Hinckley & District	AGM; display by Ian Varey	
9	Luton & District	Canada postal strike and courier mail	Ken Flint
10	King’s Lynn	AGM and members’ I frame displays	
14	Huntingdonshire	Austria	Fin O’Donoghue
16	Peterborough	Ladies’ afternoon – display	
17	Cambridge	Zoom presentation (TBA)	
21	Hinckley & District	members displays – ‘oceans, coast & seaside, rivers, lakes, etc.	
22	Leiston & District	AGM followed by a 1 sheet competition	
23	Luton & District	Channel Islands	Lionel Blower
28	Spalding	AGM and trophy awards	

Stamp Fairs

March

2	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
31	Peterborough	Holiday Inn, PE3 6SG	01945 700 594

April

6	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
7	Slip End (Luton)	Village Hall, LU1 4BU	01494 446 004
13	Northampton	Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 2HN	07966 565 151
27	Northampton	Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 2HN	07597 158 299
27	Kettering	Ise Lodge Community Centre, NN15 5DR	01536 746 800
28	Sandy	Scout HQ., Sunderland Road, SG19 1QY	01494 446 004

May

4	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
26	Peterborough	Holiday Inn, PE3 6SG	01945 700 594

Society Contacts

Bedford	Richard Hart	01234 301 327
Cambridge	Peter Morton	01223 263 946
East Anglian P H S	John Copeland	01277 218 128

Fenland	Richard Lewis	01945 700 594
Grantham	Martin Lodge	01400 282 855
Grimsby & District	Mike Webb	07434 285 888
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	07909 937 366
North Herts	David Belton	01438 315 040
Peterborough & District	Alan Berrisford	01733 567 527
Rushden & District	Malcolm Whitehead	01933 350 646
Sheringham & District	Jim Farrell	01263 721 043
Sleaford U3A	Lew Patterson	01529 307 220
Spalding	Dahlia Harrison	01775 423 087

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	King's Lynn

Make sure you visit our website

www.mapf.co.uk

As well as information and archive material, there are displays to view as well.

A note for society secretaries:

It would be helpful if you would send details of forthcoming meetings, especially where changes to original programme are involved. For instance if you are hosting a stamp fair – and they are few and far between, these days, do please let me know (mike.kentzer@gmail.com) and also our excellent webmaster, Martin Lovegrove (weatherings@aol.com)

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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 K23i). A fine example of the extremely rare 1883 unissued 5d green (SG193) lettered CB with 'LINE UNDER d' overprinted 'SPECIMEN' type 9 (Spec K23i), 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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Bill Barrell sponsors our newsletter and has done for many years, for which we are most grateful.

He has a fine selection of GB stamps, especially line engraved, and postal history; he also has philatelic books and hosts a gallery of exhibits which are well worth looking at.

Bill is a fellow of the RPSL and has a superb exhibit of the development of our postal service leading up to the Penny Black and 2d blue and beyond. Well worth seeing.