

Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation

Newsletter

June 2025

Welcome to the next edition of the federation's newsletter with Philanglia and our Convention very close at hand.

Many of our societies have now had their annual general meetings and so hopefully have managed to keep going into next season and hopefully many more to come. We depend upon those few who are prepared to put in the work needed to keep us going – unsung heroes, perhaps – who ensure we can all keep going. **We should celebrate them and thank them; they should not be taken for granted.**

Federation Competitions – judging our entries



Competition entries - 9 sheet inter-society classes

Traditional

Development of registered mail in G B & Ireland, 1784 – 1863

Thailand: Temple of Dawn issue

Czechoslovak forces in Siberia

Postal History

Edinburgh: dotted circle duplex cancellations

Censored mail during the Spanish Civil War, 1936 – 1939

Maidenhead – the early mail

Lynn's sub-post offices and their hand stamps

Thematic

The Kalavala from East Karelia to Middle Earth

The importance of church buildings (and two other entries)

16 sheet individual entries

Traditional

QEII – 2021 Machin stamps with revised larger head and barcode

Postal History

London's FREE hand stamps, 1764 – 1807

Canadian squared circle post marks of the Quebec Tercentenary issue of 1908

Thematic

Caring in crisis - the Red Cross and the nursing profession

Vaclav Hollar – graphic artist

Orchids around the world

Aerophilately

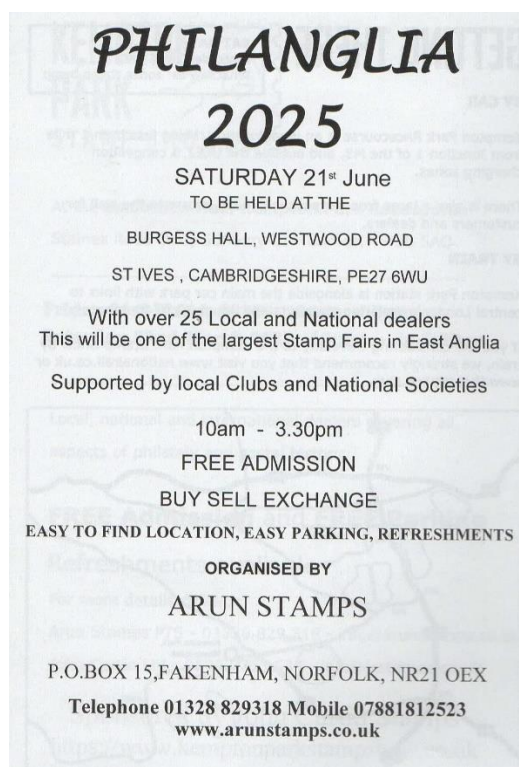
The 1931 Christmas air mails between Australia and England

Picture post cards

Guardians of the gothic masterpiece – Notre Dame Cathedral

Philanglia 2025

This date should be in our diaries as it is the **largest stamp fair in the region**, especially as so many local fairs have disappeared. The hall at the St Ives venue should be full with dealers eager to help you with your collections, and, of course, there will be our competition entries for the convention.



Europhilex 2025

This 5-day international exhibition was at a new venue, the NEC, which was hailed as being very easy to get to with plenty of parking, all on one level for easy access for dealers and collectors alike, and an awful lot cheaper to hire than the BDC in London.

However, I was disappointed overall, as the exhibition felt soulless and unprofessional, with so many dealers on bare tables. There were still plenty of opportunities to meet dealers and 'invest,' the exhibits were excellent, but difficult to navigate to find the ones you particularly wanted to see. But it was great to meet so many friends and catch up with their news.

Three of our regular MAPF competitors entered exhibits and were successful:

Renichi Yamada: (Cambridge)

GB definitive stamps, 1911 - 1934	85	Large Vermeil
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Jon Higgins: (King's Lynn)

North Borneo – 1888 – 92 small shield issue, its surcharges and forgeries	82	Vermeil
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Japanese occupation, one-line overprint and its forgeries on the stamps of Brunei	81	Vermeil
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Wojciech Kierstan: (Grantham)

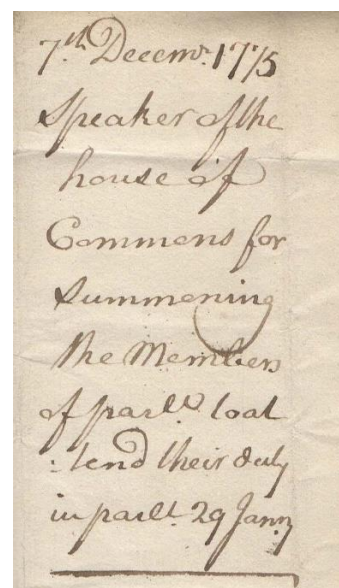
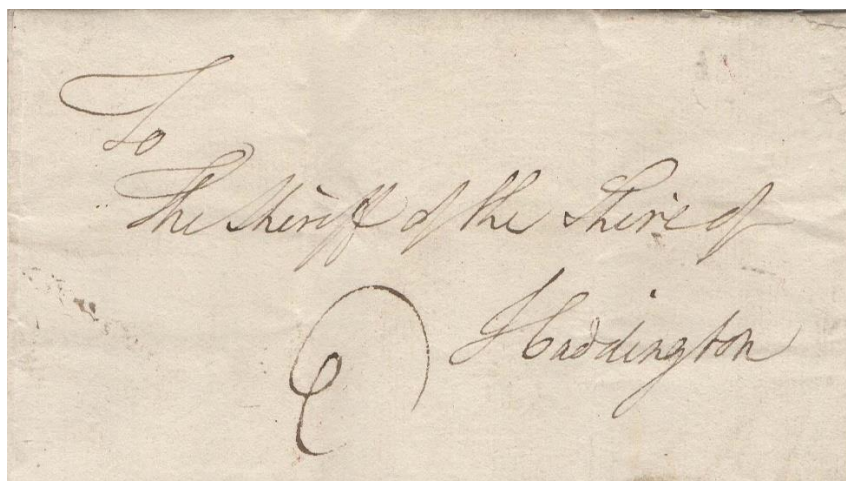
Perfins of the Czechoslovak Territories	78	Large Silver
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Our congratulations to all three philatelists.

Cover of the quarter

By 1652, under Cromwell's Parliament and Commonwealth, MPs were eligible to receive and send letters **40 days** before, **during** and for **40 days** after a session of Parliament. So too were certain officers of state. This continued to be the case for well over 100 years.

This letter was sent in December 1775 by the Speaker of the House of Commons to the High Sheriff of Haddington, south of Edinburgh. It was a recall for a parliamentary session commencing on 29th January 1776 with the Sheriff was required to inform the MPs in his county.



Unfortunately, in his haste, the Speaker sent this letter **53 days** before the next session, due at the end of January, and this was picked up by a postal clerk, probably in London, and the letter was **charged 6d**.

MAPF Website

Martin Lovegrove has kept our website up to date – **so many thanks** – and has added another feature:

E books are downloadable works of reference which are FREE to read and print.

As Martin says: *'A page has been added to the MAPF website containing free eBook downloads. There is currently only one book listed, so if anyone has written anything as a free download, please would you consider sending it to the webmaster for inclusion (email: weatherings@aol.com). The book currently listed should be of interest to collectors of forgeries, Saudi Arabia and Transjordan'*

Martin would welcome any and all such e books that you may have, or have access to, for addition to our website: www.mapf.co.uk for the eBook: <http://mapf.co.uk/freebooks.html>

King Charles III new barcoded 'Machin' definitives with Peter Morton

I summarise below another NVI issue during 2024 with a '24' encoding in the iridescent security overprint, and also three set new value stamps issued on 27th March 2025, the latter with coding of M25L MAIL indicative of a sheet printing.

1 st Purple plum	M24L MBIL	Business sheet printing
£3.20 Spruce green	M25L MAIL	sheet printing
£3.50 Wood green	M25L MAIL	sheet printing
£4.30 Bright blue	M25LMAIL	sheet printing

A further Prestige Booklet was issued on 17th February 2025 for music giant AC/DC printed in gravure by Cartor, but under a 2024 date: M24L MPIL. This contained 1 x 1st class, and one each: of the 5p, 50p and £1 values.

The prestige Booklet issued on 1st May 2025 was printed in gravure by Cartor, but under a 2025 date: M25L MPIL. This contained 1 x 20p, 2 x 50p and 1 x £1 stamps. A scan is shown below:



Society Programmes

June

4	Spalding	A railway miscellany	Paul Bush
4	Kettering	Dealers' evening	
4	Cambridge		
5	Isle of Ely	AGM; members' one frame displays	
5	Peterborough	Portugal	Paul Boswell
6	Luton	A G M and summer auction	
10	Huntingdonshire	Italian revenues	Pepi Mainelli
19	Peterborough	A G M	
20	Cambridge	Zoom display	
24	Spalding	'Say it with flowers' – members' displays	
24	Huntingdonshire	A G M and members' displays	
25	Leiston	Samoa	Alan Martin

July

2	Spalding	A British Borneo potpourri	Jon Higgins
2	Cambridge		
2	Kettering	Society auction	
14	Sheringham	Displays by Terry Wagg and Mike Kentzer	
18	Cambridge	Zoom displays	
22	Spalding	Members' displays - I frame or more	

August

6	Spalding	Rubbish I have collected	Frank Wilson
6	Kettering	Members' evening: workshops, displays; 'bring & buy	
6	Cambridge		
26	Spalding	The many faces of the Madonna	Dahlia Harrison

Stamp Fairs

June

1	Slip End (Luton)	Village Hall, LU1 4BU	01494 446 004
7	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
21	PHILANGLIA	Burgess Hall, St Ives, PE27 6WU	01328 829 318
25	Rickmansworth	Mill End Community Centre, WD3 8HD	07957 158 299

July

5	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
5	Leamington Spa	MIDPEX	(CV31 1XN)
12	Northampton	The Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 2HN	07803 142 933
18/19	York Race Course	THE YORK STAMP SHOW	(YO23 1EX)

27	Peterborough	Holiday Inn, PE3 6SG	07803 142 933
27	Knebworth	Village Hall, SG3 6PD	01494 446 004
30	Rickmansworth	Mill End Community Centre, WD3 8HD	07957 158 299

August

2	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
27	Rickmansworth	Mill End Community Centre, WD3 8HD	07957 158 299

Society contacts (correct at time of going to press)

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Hinckley & District	Peter Thomas	01455 448 638
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Isle of Ely	John George	jvgbluntisham@gmail.com
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	01773 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 Officers and Committee

President	Richard Husband	Grantham/Cambridge
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



Our thanks to Bill Barrell for his continuing support for the federation

Note for society secretaries:

Please may I have a copy of your programmes for 2025 – 2026 as and when they are ready, but particularly for the period up to Christmas (Thanks, editor)

Don't forget to visit our excellent website at: www.mapf.co.uk