

Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation

Newsletter

March 2026

Welcome to the spring edition of our newsletter with the unexpected notification that **PHILANGLIA 2026 will NOT TAKE PLACE!!**

We have been in regular contact with Tony Hender of Arun Stamps who has organised this regional stamp fair for about 10 years. Unfortunately, he has found continuing hurdles to communicating with and meeting management at the Burgess Hall in St Ives. Added to this he found that charges were again to rise this year along with an extra charge for lighting on an hourly basis. This together with a declining number of dealers and decreasing footfall meant that holding Philanglia this year would have been a considerable financial loss.

But all is not lost. OUR CONVENTION lives on!

We have booked the village hall in **Tempsford**, Bedfordshire (SG19 2AW) for the equivalent date of **Saturday 20th June**.

There will be: displays of all the competition entries,
 the awarding of trophies,
 members' displays throughout the day,
 a bourse, and
 the presence of three dealers

The dealers will be: Tony Hender – GB stamps, booklets etc
 Scott Kibby – GB postal history, and
 Charles Rudge – GB, Commonwealth & worldwide postal history

We hope that this will be an interesting and sociable day, as all our display days have been.

Please put Saturday, 20th June in your diaries.

MAPF AGM and Display Day

A reminder that this is booked for Sunday 20th September at Warmington Village Hall, which is just off the A 605, a few miles west of Peterborough and the A1.

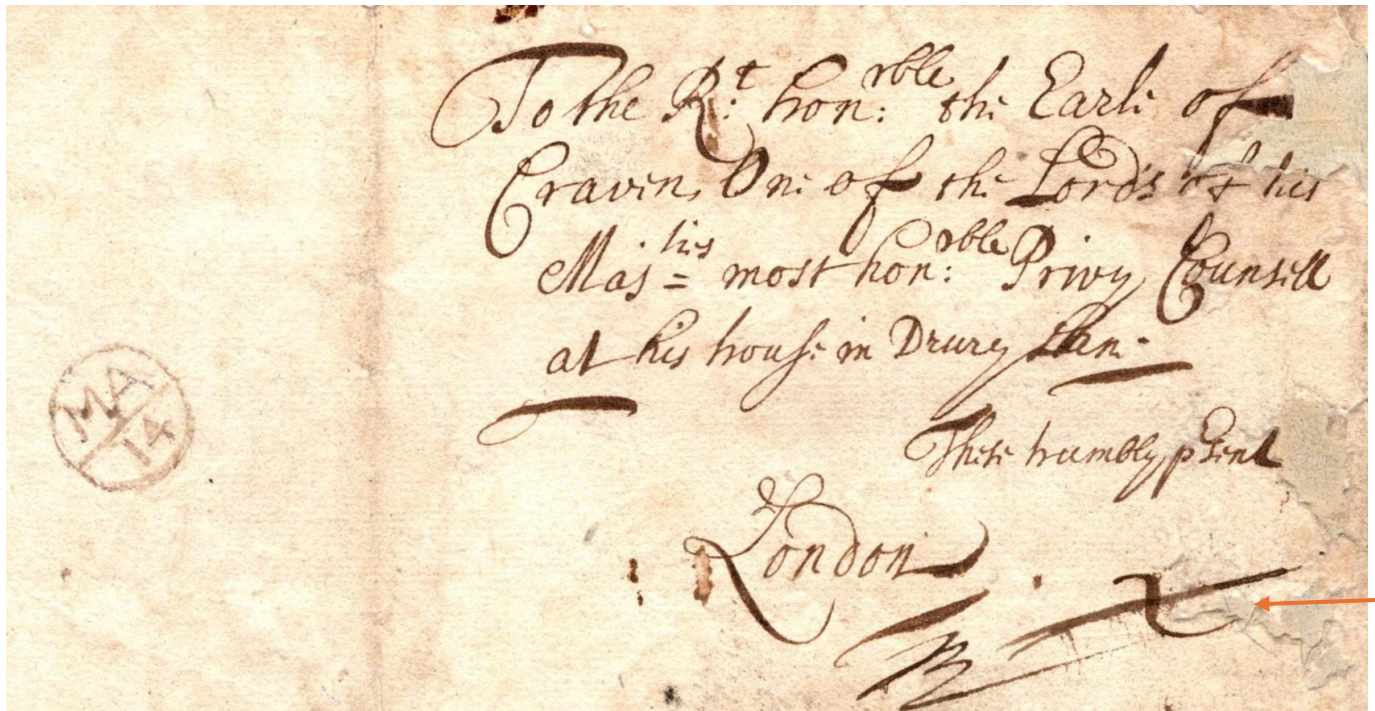
Cover of the quarter

This letter was sent to William Craven, 1st Earl Craven (1608 – 1697) by his steward at Caversham Park in Buckinghamshire in May 1677. Craven became one of the wealthiest men in England. He used his money to support both Kings Charles, and particularly Elizabeth of Bohemia, elder sister of Charles I.

He was a soldier who fought in several wars including the Eighty Years' War and the Wars of the Three Kingdoms, being severely wounded. At the Restoration he accompanied Charles II to England and was charged with looking after the king's interests.

In 1665, when many wealthy families left London during the Great Plague, Craven remained in the capital helping to maintain order and donating land for burial grounds.

During the Glorious Revolution of 1688, as Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, he was responsible for the safety of James II at Whitehall Palace.



The letter was originally charged 2d, until a senior postal clerk in London, realised that Craven was a Privy Councillor and so had the privilege of free mail.

King Charles III new barcoded Machin definitives with Peter Morton

Like the previous quarter, the present quarter has also been very quiet.

A new prestige booklet called 'Stranger Things' was issued on 13th January 2026. The Machin style pane contains four stamps, namely 2 x £1 and 2 x 50p values. However, all the stamps are encoded with M25L date coding and MPIL source coding, despite the 2026 issue date. A scan of the main definitive pane from the prestige booklet is shown below.

During March each year we normally see stamps appeared with the new year coding, so it is likely that the M26L date encoding could appear very shortly.



Society Programmes

March

3	Hinckley	Bring & Buy and club dealers
4	Grantham	AGM followed by members' displays – beginning with the letter 'I'
4	Cambridge	Society Auction and delayed competitions
4	Spalding	Alan Berrisford entertains
5	Peterborough	Indo China – Colin Thorpe
5	Isle of Ely	British Borneo – Jon Higgins
6	King's Lynn	(Zoom) A Philatelic Journey – Robin Buchanan
6	Luton & District	Muscat & Oman – Chris Marsh
10	Huntingdonshire	Members' displays – letters F, G and H
11	Leiston & District	Zoom Meeting
13	King's Lynn	16 sheet competitions & Bring & Buy
17	Hinckley	Visit by Kettering Philatelic Society
18	Grantham	(Zoom) German Occupation of the Channel Isles – Alan Moorcroft
19	Peterborough	Belgium – locals and railway stamps – Tom Tomalin
20	Cambridge	Zoom presentation - TBA
24	Huntingdonshire	British Borneo – John Higgins
24	Spalding	The Third Reich – Derek Pollard
25	Leiston & District	Birds on stamps – Reggie Cullum
27	North Herts	An evening with Tim Harrison
27	Luton & District	Switzerland – stamps & postal history – Richard Akers
27	King's Lynn	Specimen & sample stamps – David Leathart
31	Hinckley	Canada – Ken Flint

April

1	Grantham	Members' displays
1	Spalding	Competition A: W, X and Y are for ...
1	Cambridge	Competition evening
2	Peterborough	Joyce Boyer entertains
2	Isle of Ely	Bourse and get together
3	King's Lynn	(Zoom) The Cyprus Government Railway – James Wigmore
8	Luton & District	Cruising the Bristol Channel – John Spencer
8	Leiston & District	Zoom meeting - TBA
10	King's Lynn	That railway thing – Paul Bush
14	Huntingdonshire	Oxendales Mail Order – Richard Moss
15	Grantham	(Zoom) Cyprus:GB overprints – unrecorded flaws – Jim Wigmore
16	Peterborough	Displays by Val Moyneux & Angela Cooper
17	Cambridge	Zoom presentation - TBA
22	Leiston & District	1971 Strike Mail – Robert Mason
24	King's Lynn	Members' 1 frame displays
26	Isle of Ely	Czechoslovak Free Army – Terry Harrison
27	North Herts	An evening with Lyn & Rob Lester
28	Spalding	Members' displays of postal history
28	Hinckley	Ian Varey entertains
28	Huntingdonshire	New Zealand Prisoners of War – Lorraine Maguire

May

1	King's Lynn	(Zoom) Putting together pieces of the puzzle – Mark Bailey
6	Grantham	Members' displays – your latest acquisitions
6	Cambridge	Mail Coach Routes in East Anglia – Hugh Feldman, RDP
6	Spalding	Frank Wilson entertains
7	Peterborough	Malta - Alan Bannister
8	King's Lynn	AGM and members' displays
12	Hinckley	Members' display – Numbers or connected to numbers
12	Huntingdonshire	Austria – Joyce Boyer
13	Leiston & District	AGM followed by one sheet competition
15	Cambridge	Zoom presentation - TBA
20	Grantham	(Zoom) Falklands Isles – WWII mail
21	Peterborough	Dahlia Harrison entertains
26	Spalding	AGM and Trophy awards – Competition E and a Quiz
29	North Herts	AGM and display by Steve Hannath

Stamp Fairs

March

1	Reepham (Lincs)	Reepham Village Hall, LN3 4DU	07808 665 472
22	Knebworth	Village Hall, SG3 6PD	01494 446 004
22	Peterborough	Highgate Hall, Elton, PE8 6RT	07803 142 933

April

4	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
5	Reepham	Village Hall, LN3 4DU	07808 665 472
5	Slip End	Village Hall, LU1 4BU	01494 446 004
11	Kettering PS	Ise Lodge Community Centre, NN15 5DR	01536 746 800
11	Norwich PS	Hewitt School, NR1 2PL	01328 829 318
11	Northampton	The Abbey Centre, East Hunsgate, NN4 0RZ	07966 565 151
19	Sandy	Scout HQ, Sunderland Road, SG19 1QY	01494 446 004

May

2	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
15-16	Stafford	County Showground, Ingestre Suite, ST18 0BD	01785 259 350
23	Peterborough	Highgate Hall, Elton, PE8 6RT	07803 142 933
31	Knebworth	Village Hall, SG3 6PD	01494 446 004

Society Contacts

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Grantham	Barry Saunders	07837 419 469
Grimsby & District	Mike Webb	07434 285 888
Hinckley & District	Peter Thomas	01455 448 638

Huntingdonshire
 Isle of Ely
 Kettering
 King's Lynn
 Leighton Buzzard
 Leiston & District
 Loughborough
 Luton & District
 North Herts
 Peterborough & District
 Rushden & District
 Sheringham & District
 Spalding

Mick Twinn
 John George
 Gordon Tregidgo
 Dahlia Harrison
 John Spencer
 Andy Soutar
 Christine Harris
 Fin O'Donoghue
 David Belton
 Alan Berrisford
 Malcolm Whitehead
 Jim Farrell
 Dahlia Harrison

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Federation Officers and Committee

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 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Competition Secretary
 Webmaster

Peter Morton
 Richard Husband
 Peter Morton
 Richard Husband
 John Spencer
 Martin Lovegrove

Cambridge
 Grantham
 Cambridge
 Grantham
 Leighton Buzzard
 King's Lynn

Committee Members

Terry Wagg, Jon Higgins and Mike Kentzer

All King's Lynn

Don't forget to visit our excellent website **MAPF.co.uk**

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

LIST 181 GREAT BRITAIN.

1. 1911 FIRST U.K. OFFICIAL AERIAL POST WINDSOR PRIVILEGE POST CARD IN VIOLET FROM WINDSOR TO G.P.O., LONDON WITH 1d LILAC (SG172). A superb used 1911 First U.K. Aerial Post Windsor PRIVILEGE postcard in VIOLET from Windsor to 'H.J.Howard Esq., Secretary's Office, G.P.O. E.C.' (London) with fine Queen Victoria 1d lilac (SG172) tied good to fine strike 'FIRST UNITED KINGDOM/AERIAL POST/WINDSOR' date stamp SP 16 1911. On front 'CRICKLEWOOD' date stamp SP 18 11 die 1. These 'privilege' items were sent by the organisers to civic dignitaries, celebrities and other 'worthies' and were not available to the public. All such examples from Windsor are cancelled on the 16th and flown 17th or 18th. This 'privilege' mail was flown in Bag No. 1 by Greenwell, the bag contained 445 items. A rare and beautiful usage. (Ref 141202). £1250.00

PTS Philatelic Traders Society Ltd *The PTS. The International Society for Philatelic Professionals.*

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Our thanks to Bill Barrell for his continued support

