

Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation

Newsletter

December 2021

We welcome a new President after October's excellent Stamp Day and AGM at Buckden.

Many of you will know **John Spencer**, Leighton Buzzard's secretary and avid collector and researcher of the Falkland Islands and the Dependencies. We wish him an enjoyable two years with, hopefully, more opportunities than I had in my term of office with the pandemic.



John has organised all our Stamp Days and is a great source of encouragement.

Our new Vice President is **Richard Husband** who has been our treasurer for the last eight years, and despite moving to Newark remains a member of Cambridge and has joined Grantham. He continues as our treasurer alongside **Peter Morton**, the secretary of the Federation.

Our thanks, too, to **David Alford** who has stepped down, much appreciated for his wisdom at all levels of philately.

Stamp Day

A superb and really friendly gathering was entertained throughout the day by a succession of very varied displays:

- Perfins – both on cover and as stamps
- GWR Air Services and Provincial Airways
- Machins with many varieties
- Transatlantic mails during the Additional ½ period
- Saudi Arabia – modern computerised labels
- The castles of Cyprus
- Sierra Leone, Freetown post marks
- Smokes for the troops in WW1
- Czech troops in Leamington Spa during WW2
- South Africa – 1936 Philatelic Exhibition, postal history and stamps
- 1895 provisional stamps of Labuan & North Borneo
- Early airmails between the UK and Australia
- New Hebrides – Free Official mail during the British administration
- A trip through Scarborough with picture post cards
- Falkland Islands Dependencies – the map stamps/plating and errors

There was also a standing display of George VI Commonwealth stamps put on by John Spencer who organised another excellent day.

Philanglia 2022

Tony Hender is very hopeful of being able to put on this large stamp fair, probably in June and at the Burgess Hall in St Ives. In which case we shall be able to return to holding our Convention after a two year break.

Competitions.

It is hoped to be able to run all our competitions again in 2022, with the three inter-society 9 sheet classes and all the recognised classes at 16 sheet level – submitted, as usual as photocopies.

A strong suggestion has been proposed to add Literature as a display only classification, if only to see if members of the Federation's societies have been writing articles, pamphlets and, indeed, books.

Information and rules and guidelines will be sent out in January, though I shan't want to receive any entries until at least AFTER London 2022.

Bill Gibb FRPSL

Sadly, that well known character, Bill Gibb, left us suddenly recently. He was a widely respected philatelist and musician who was a great friend to so many of us. He is, and will be greatly missed.

An interesting cover – Martin Lovegrove

A small envelope measuring 12 x 9.5 cm. sent in 1926 with communication between two parents with famous or infamous children.



The cover was posted in Jeddah, in what is now Saudi Arabia, on 20th December 1926 and was routed to England in the usual manner via Port Tawfiq, Egypt, on Christmas Day, 25th December 1926.

The addressee, Sir Hugh Bell, was the father of Gertrude Bell, a remarkable woman who, inter alia, influenced the creation of modern Iraq. The sender identified only by his handwriting, was Harry St John Bridger Philby, father of Kim Philby, the notorious British Intelligence officer and double agent for the Soviet Union.

The timing of the communication may have a certain poignancy. The size of the envelope suggests it contained a card, but the date of posting indicates that it was too late to be a Christmas card, more likely a New Year greeting. Whatever the reason it must have been a sad time for Sir Hugh, because only a few months earlier, in July 1926, his daughter's life had ended. Gertrude's health was not good, and it is said that she took her own life with an overdose of sleeping pills. It has also been recorded that Gertrude's brother, Hugo, also died that year.

London 2022

It's nearly here – and there's still a lot to do for this postponed 10-yearly international exhibition.

Heavily involved in this are: David Alford, Chief Operating Officer, David Belton, Floor Manager (exhibits) and myself Trade Liaison. For several years until recently Richard Husband was the treasurer, so the MAPF is well represented in the event.



From a collector's perspective this is an 8 day show with around 120 dealers, auction houses and related areas of philately ready to welcome everyone.

Those wanting to see the 3 500+ frames of exhibits covering all the international will need to come twice as the displays are split into two halves, with a major changeover taking place on the Tuesday.

There will be many talks and meetings during the week being put on by a large number of specialist societies. For up to date information go to our website: www.london2022.co where you can see the floor plan, find out about all the stand holders, the competition entries and details of the talks and meetings - and much more.

Should you wish to attend on the first day, Saturday 19th February, then admission costs £10 and tickets can be bought online, see the website for details. For all the other days admission is free.

NOTE Covid protocols will be followed and enforced by the BDC's security staff, maybe including random checks on entry to check vaccination status.

Through the website you can also subscribe (no charge) to our newsletter, which is regularly updated by our chairman, Frank Walton RDP, FRPSL.

Machin Update with Peter Morton

Note: as stated last time: no account is taken in the listings for self-adhesive stamps in varieties of backing paper.

Walsall sheet stamp printings (self-adhesive)

“21” date code stamps – no new stamps found.

Conventionally gummed stamps “21” date code

Value	Printer	Code	Comments
2 nd bright blue	Cartor	P	ex DC Collections prestige
1 st Royal Mail red	Cartor	P	ex DC Collections prestige
20p bright green	Cartor	P	ex DC Collections prestige

NVI stamps “21” date code (self-adhesive)

1 ST bright Royal Mail red	Walsall	C	ex SAM81 Batman & SAM Wonder Woman (a very bright shade with pale Queen’s head)
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Post and Go stamps

For those who collect either the Machin head or pictorial strips, effective from 1st September 2020, three new values were introduced: (a) Europe 100g/World 20g’ (b) World Zone 1 – 3 and (c) World Zone 2. With the Post Office requesting that all old P & G stock be used up, then recent price changes are still resulting in a number of new items now being available.

For more information please contact Peter Morton, details below.

Society Calendar

December

1	Grantham	Kirk Hillard competitions – all	
1	Cambridge	Christmas social evening	
1	Spalding	Egg Cup competition; Christmas social	
2	Isle of Ely	Members’ evening: ‘I also collect’ and social evening	
2	Northamptonshire	What I bought in lockdown	
2	Fenland	T B A	
3	King’s Lynn	Zoom, Oxendales remembered	Richard Moss
3	Luton & District	Society Auction	
10	King’s Lynn	The history of the Christmas card & social	Terry Wagg
15	Grantham	Christmas related quiz	
17	Cambridge	Zoom display	

January

5	Cambridge	Members' evening ; letters T, U & V	
6	Isle of Ely	Competitions; members' displays - any subject	
6	Northamptonshire	President's evening	
6	Fenland	T B A	
7	King's Lynn	Zoom – Roland Hill, genius and benefactor	
7	Luton & District	Members' displays, G,H or O, to remember Graham O'Hara	
14	King's Lynn	Revenues	Ed Hitchings
20	Fenland	T B A	
21	Cambridge	Zoom meeting	
25	Spalding	Auction & competition E – 4 pages	
28	King's Lynn	Classic Labuan	Jon Higgins

February

2	Grantham	M is for ; Competition A – 9 pages	
2	Cambridge	T BA	
3	Isle of Ely	Australian Philatelic Exhibitions, 1947 – 1963	Alan Hall
3	Northamptonshire	Wales	Glynn Hughes
3	Fenland	T B A	
4	King's Lynn	Zoom – rise of the flying boats	Susan Burn
4	Luton & District	French visiting cards & Poste Restante mail	Mick Bister
11	King's Lynn	Members' evening – show picture post cards	
17	Fenland	T B A	
18	Cambridge	T B A	
25	King's Lynn	GB 1879 – 80, Tenders for stamps	Simon Kelly

Society Contacts

Bedford	Richard Hart	01234 301327
Cambridge	Peter Morton	01223 263946
East Anglian P H S	John Copeland	01277 218128
Fenland	Richard Lewis	01945 700594
Grantham	Martin Lodge	01400 282855
Grimsby & District	David McMann	01472 887523
Hinckley	Peter Thomas	01455 448638
Huntingdonshire	Mick Twinn	01480 383103
Isle of Ely	Chris North	01354 659358
Kettering	Gordon Tregidgo	01536 746800
King's Lynn	Dahlia Harrison	01775 423087
Leiston & District	Andy Soutar	01394 460901
Loughborough	Rowland Tatton	01509 268073
Luton & District	Fin O'Donoghue	01582 453244
Northamptonshire	Gwyn Hughes	07913 503927
North Herts.	David Belton	01438 315040
Peterborough & District	Alan Berrisford	01733 567527
Rushden & District	Malcolm Whitehead	01933 350646

Rutland	Dave Lucas	01664 474596
Sheringham & District	Jim Farrell	01263 721043
Sleaford U3A	Lew Patterson	01529 307220
Spalding	Dahlia Harrison	01775 423087

Federation Committee

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

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

LIST 162 GREAT BRITAIN.

To be posted at the House of Commons only.
Post Paid.—ONE PENNY.—Weight not to exceed 1/2 oz.

1. 1840 'HOUSE OF COMMONS' PARLIAMENTARY ENVELOPE (PE) USED FROM LONDON TO SOUTHWELL, NOTTS. A very fine and very clean example of the 1840 'To be posted at the House of Commons only./Post Paid.-ONE PENNY.-Weight not to exceed 1/2 oz.' Parliamentary Envelope (PE9) used from London to 'William H. Barrow Esq., Southwell, Notts', on front good to fine strike 'CROWN/PAID' date stamp 13 MR 1840. Slightly reduced horizontal fold at top but otherwise an exceptional example of this very scarce usage. (Ref 129068). £1750.00

2. 1915 10S DE LA RUE BLUE (SG412) SUPERB MINT EXAMPLE. A superb mint example 1915 10s De La Rue Seahorse blue (SG412), very fine colour, excellent perforations and fine original gum. (Ref 129158). £1400.00

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