

The Basildon Philatelist.

The Journal of Basildon Philatelic Society

Editor: L.C. Stanway FRPSL.

Vol. 28 No. 4 – April 2024

Editorial:

We now understand that we will be returning to the George Hurd Centre with effect from 21 May, but a formal announcement is still awaited. We also understand that our meetings will have to start a little later, at 8pm, because of other meetings.

Meanwhile, philately seems to be alive and well in Basildon. We have had three new members so far this year, the most for many years. At our next meeting on 16 April, we welcome back Giles du Boulay to see further aspects of Danzig philately.

Basildon Society News

VENUE & FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Basildon meetings are held at Pitsea Leisure Centre (The Place) Northlands Pavement, Pitsea SS13 3DU from 7.30 to 9.30pm on the first Monday and Third Tuesday of each month.

Forthcoming meetings are scheduled to be:

- 1 April: No meeting - Bank Holiday.
- 16 April: Danzig Train, Boats & Planes (G. du Boulay)
- 6 May: No meeting - Bank Holiday.
- 21 May: Me and My Collections (S. Alpe). (Note: Venue expected to be George Hurd Centre from this date)
- 3 June: Annual General Meeting.
- 18 June: Philatelic Exhibitions & Trade Fairs (D. Connell).

MEETING REPORTS by "Fly On The Wall"

16 January: Members displays: "Anything Philatelic".

Len Stanway opened proceedings with a full round of stamp issues by "International Organisations" (other than the main issues of the United Nations). Maggie Thompson led off the second round with triangular postmarks including London Penny Paid, printed matter, Paris, B^oite Mobile and commemorative marks. Harry Flatman followed with Pre-Decimal Machin cylinder blocks. Garry Green then showed covers marking the visit of Pope John Paul II to the UK. Ian McElwain concluded proceedings with a round of Canada from the early Dominion issues through to the 1960s.

20 February: Alan Moorcroft: "Colchester Postal History".

Alan made another welcome return to Basildon to show a second tranche of his postal history collection. He began with a PowerPoint presentation that took us through his display, enabling everyone present to see, in detail, the key items of his collection, after which we were able to view the material on the display frames. Having previously shown us Corsini and other mediaeval mails, this time he began with the introduction of postmarks in the 18th Century, taking us through all the postmark types, through introduction of Penny Posts and the reforms of 1840, up to the introduction of regional postal centres in the 1990s. A fascinating evening and a good introduction for anyone contemplating a study of the postal evolution of a town of interest to them.

21 February: Basildon team visit to Ipswich P.S.

Charlie Mead, Ian McElwain and Len Stanway made the 130 miles round trip to Ipswich for an afternoon meeting, in a very relaxed atmosphere at Kesgrave Community Centre. Len Stanway kicked off with two displays from his Richmond Yorkshire collections, starting with a reproduction of a Roman letter from Cataractonium to Vindolanda in AD90, then showing the postal history, incoming and outgoing, from 1765 to 1908. He then showed a small part of his postcard collection illustrating the town. After a break for refreshments, which included delicious homemade savoury cakes, Charlie Mead showed the King George VI definitives and a wide variety of other material from his extensive Fiji collection. After a second break, Ian McElwain took us to Malta from the pre-stamp period to the 1950s.

4 March: Ian McElwain: Malta.



After a historical introduction, our Chairman, Ian, started with disinfected mail and took us through the pre-stamp period to the introduction of GB stamps on international mail. The first Malta postage stamps were for local use only, but the formation of the UPU led to a wider range of values enabling use on international mail. Issues were then taken in sequence with many plate varieties highlighted by enlarged photographs. After a break at the mid-point, he continued with issues to 1975. Charlie Mead gave the vote of thanks.

19 March: Members' Displays: "J, K or L".

Len Stanway opened the displays with the pre-1935 stamp and postal stationery issues of Johore, Kedah and Kelantan. Garry Green followed with stamps and miniature sheets of Jersey. Alf Potter showed Locomotives on stamps, postcards, etc. Harry Flatman took us back to his young Cup Scout days with anecdotes about a Lamp. Finally, Charlie Mead displayed the Fiji De La Rue Key Type issues followed by other aspects including war tax and forgeries. A Crown Agents inspection sign-off label was particularly noteworthy.

FROM THE EXCHANGE PACKET SECRETARY

The packet is now fully functioning and gets some excellent material, but needs more members to take part. If you are not taking part, however "complete" you think your collection is, you may be missing out on a hitherto undiscovered variety at a bargain price (as I have done a number of times!). Ask Len how to join today!

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

The Society's **Library** is run by Ian McElwain. It contains catalogues and reference books that members can borrow for one month from the date of issue to research their collections and to find out how to get more from our hobby. Thanks to our new storage facility, it is available in our Tuesday meeting room. If you are disposing of redundant catalogues or books, the society would welcome donations, which may update items in the library or, if surplus, sold to raise society funds. The library also contains philatelic aids, such as the Signoscope watermark detector and ultra-violet lamps. The full list is available at every meeting. Please make good use of this free (but expensive to maintain) resource.

Alan Taylor holds the **Society Archives**. If you find any old documents, cuttings, programmes, etc., or see any reference to the society in the current press, he would welcome them in case they fill gaps in the collection.

Do you want details of other societies in Essex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire or East London? If so, look at **Philately in Essex** or, for further afield, the **ABPS Website**.

SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS JOURNAL

This newsletter is published in both electronic and hard-copy formats. The hard-copy version is distributed only to members of the society who do not have e-mail facilities. The electronic version is sent to all members who have e-mail. It is also available free-of-charge to any interested collector outside the society. To request addition to or deletion from the distribution list, please contact the Editor.

WANTED - YOU!

We require the help of all members. If you see or hear about anything that you feel should be mentioned in the journal, tell the Editor.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

The Society does not obtain or retain personal data of members or correspondents with the exception of (i) current contact data for distribution of news, etc., appropriate to the society's normal activities and administration, (ii) historical record of competition winners, officers, etc., as published in *Philately in Basildon*. With the exception of essential officers listed below, contact information

is never divulged to third parties without their specific consent.

FACEBOOK

The Basildon Philatelic Society Facebook group provides an on-line form for club members and others. This is where members are kept up to date with what's going on and where members can participate in discussions about the club. It does not replace the Society's website which contains our on-line resources including downloads. To participate, please apply on the Facebook page or contact Charlie for assistance.

Essex News

AEPS NEWSLETTER

The AEPS newsletter will be relaunched from the June issue after a gap of almost ten years. It will resume its original title of "Essex Philatelic Contact" and contain reports of meeting of all the AEPS societies, future events, etc. It will be a digital-only publication as the cost of printing and postage would otherwise be prohibitive. All societies have been asked to provide reports of meetings and forthcoming meeting details.

ALBUMS CLOSED

John Came, the President and Packet Secretary of Chelmsford society has passed away at the age of 90.

Bryan Stokoe, a founder member of EAPHS, passed away on 11 January, aged 94.

AEPS e-NEWS

This free e-mail service may be received by any philatelist, publicity or press organisation. It provides a monthly list of events in the AEPS area, plus press releases on selected AEPS or society events. To subscribe, or to request publicity for an event, contact Len Stanway.

AEPS WEBSITE

Please use www.stampessex.org.uk, the AEPS website, that gives details of member societies and other useful information. Send any corrections and amendments to the Editor.

PHILATELY IN ESSEX HANDBOOK

The book is published in three volumes: Vol.1: Essex Present; Vol.2: Essex Past; Vol.3: Catalogue of Essex Philatelic Souvenirs. The 2024 edition of Vol.1 was published in December 2023. New editions of Vol.2 and Vol.3 were not published. This free digital handbook is sent by e-mail to AEPS e-News subscribers. Len Stanway continuously updates the master record and will be glad to receive details of any other new or updated information for inclusion in the 2025 issue and any interim publicity. Please send amendments to Len Stanway a.s.a.p. Copies of all three volumes are available free by e-mail on request.



Philatelic Events at AEPS Societies

April 2024

- 1 - EASTER Bank Holiday Monday
- 2 - Sudbury - Bring & Buy, Informal and Letters P, Q, R.
- 3 - Benfleet - British Empire Exhibition and Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador (H. & D. Johnson).
- 3 - Clacton - Annual General Meeting.
- 3 - Goodmayes - (Provisional date).
- 3 - Ipswich - Auction (4pm for 7pm).
- 4 - Witham - Iceland (Mrs. P. Adams) (afternoon).
- 8 - Frinton - London 1980 International Stamp Exhibition (C. Evans) (afternoon).
- 8 - Rayleigh - Aspects of Malaya (L.C. Stanway).
- 9 - Chelmsford - The Titanic (M. Routh).
- 9 - Epping Forest - Competitions.
- 11 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
- 13 - EAPHS - Annual General Meeting and Members' displays.
- 16 - Basildon - Danzig Train, Boats & Planes (G. du Boulay)
- 16 - Sudbury - British Honduras and Early Bulgaria (A. Skilling).
- 17 - Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
- 17 - Ipswich - Without this we would not be here (T. Slemons) (afternoon).
- 18 - Colchester - (Provisional date).
- 22 - Frinton - Covers (R. Peters).
- 22 - Rayleigh - Annual General Meeting 7 Competitions.
- 23 - Chelmsford - Don Davies Entertains.
- 24 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Auction.
- 25 - Harlow - (Provisional date).

May 2024

- 1 - Benfleet - Iceland Part 2 (D.J. Church).
- 1 - Clacton - Auction.
- 1 - Goodmayes - (Provisional date).
- 1 - Ipswich - President's Display (evening).

- 2 - Witham - The Ross Dependency (C. Evans) (afternoon).
 6 - *MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY*.
 7 - Sudbury - Annual General Meeting.
 9 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
 13 - Rayleigh - Mac Nunn Entertains.
 14 - Chelmsford - Postcards - Postal Regulations and Rates (J.W.J. Copeland).
 14 - Epping Forest - Annual General Meeting, Competition and Bring & Buy.
 15 - Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
 15 - Ipswich - Annual General Meeting, Quiz & Social (evening).
 16 - Colchester - (Provisional date).
 19 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Society Social Meal, The Eagle, Snaresbrook, 7.30pm (by invitation).
 20 - Frinton - GB Specimens (D. Leathart).
 21 - Basildon - Me and My Collections (S. Alpe).
 (Note: Venue returns to George Hurd Centre from this date)
 21 - Sudbury - Going Off-Piste (Members).
 23 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
 27 - *SPRING BANK HOLIDAY*.
 28 - Chelmsford - Aspects of Local History (A.N. Moorcroft).

June 2024

- 3 - Basildon - Annual General Meeting.
 3 - Frinton - Display by Chelmsford P.S.
 4 - Sudbury - London (D. Connell).
 5 - Benfleet - German Occupation of the Channel Islands (A.N. Moorcroft).
 5 - Clacton - South Australia (R. Hider).
 5 - Goodmayes - (Provisional date).
 6 - Witham - Australian States II (D. Gottesmann) (afternoon).
 8 - Epping Forest - Auction (2pm for 3pm).
 10 - Rayleigh - PAIForce (M. Carter).
 11 - Chelmsford - Irish Airmails (R.E. How).
 13 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
 17 - Frinton - Auction.
 18 - Basildon - Philatelic Exhibitions & Trade Fairs (D. Connell).
 18 - Sudbury - (Provisional date).
 19 - Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
 20 - Colchester - (Provisional date).
 24 - Rayleigh - An Evening with Mike Kentzer and Terry Wagg.
 25 - Chelmsford - Dead Countries (Members).
 26 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Annual General Meeting.
 27 - Harlow - (Provisional date).

For venues, times, etc., contact the Editor or visit <http://www.wherecanwego.com>, which is updated with the latest available information.

National News

EUROPHILEX 2025

A full European International Exhibition, under the auspices of FEPA with FIP Patronage, will take place at the NEC, Birmingham, on 7-11 May 2025. <https://europhilex2025.co.uk>. The Chairman of the organizing Committee is Jon Aitchison.

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GB 2024

The next Congress will be in Southampton on 11-14 July 2024. It will be based at the Leonardo Grand Harbour Hotel, close to the harbour and city centre. Free parking is available for visitors. Local attractions include the Sea City Exhibition, featuring Titanic, and a Spitfire Museum. Other nearby hotels include the Holiday Inn, Premier Inn and Travelodge to suit all budgets. The programme will feature discussion on new directions in philately including "Context Philately". We can share latest developments and best practices in philately. This is an event for everyone with displays by local collectors as well as leading overseas collectors. It is expected that the presentation ceremony for the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists will take place during Congress 2024. For more information contact Steven Harrison, Chairman of ABPS, by emailing him at sharrison500@btinternet.com or calling him on 0121 313 0671.

ROYAL CHALLENGE AND STAMPEX 2024

The next Stampex is being held on 23-26 October 2024 at the Business Design Centre, London. There is an entry charge of £10 on the first day only. There will be no competitive displays at this event.

To coincide with this, and only three stops away on the Northern Line, the Royal Challenge will be held at 15 Abchurch Lane. A Team Competition open to teams from the world's Royal Philatelic Societies, deriving their title from His Majesty the King. It will feature 130 frames of wonderful material to make for a memorable week.

ABPS NEWS

The closing date for copy for the next issue is 15 April. Articles and enquiries relating the ABPS News can be submitted via the website or you can

write direct by email at editor@abps.org.uk This is an opportunity for you to promote your Society. Society reports should be limited to 250 words please. Do not forget to tell me if you are intending to send something, to avoid "mixed messages" or duplication of effort. Affiliated Societies and Federations are entitled to one free advertisement each year, space permitting.

ABPS SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

The ABPS is always there to help! If you are planning a local event to promote philately and may need financial assistance, please have a look at this scheme on our website as you may be eligible for a grant.

In particular, there may be some small societies of less than ten members who made need financial help to keep going. ABPS is very willing to consider financial support.

STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK

Stamp Active Network, the voluntary organisation that promotes stamp collecting for children in the UK, will be at Autumn Stampex providing free stamps and goodie bags for young collectors. There will be a range of free activities including Stamp Art fun with special prizes. The theme of the activities will feature Sport related stamps. The popular free children's auction on the Saturday will take place in the Stampex auditorium at 2pm with a free draw for a Penny Black for the participants. Stamp Active will also be giving a limited number of £20 vouchers to under-18 youngsters that attend Stampex to spend with dealers there. 10 will be available on each of the first three days with a maximum of 50 vouchers to be given out during the show. The Kids Zone will be located at the far end of the mezzanine level (under the clock) on the right-hand side of the Hall. Activity sessions are available for school groups on weekdays, either morning or afternoon, by arrangement. Schools should contact the Events Manager for Stamp Active, John Davies, if interested in attending, initially by email on davies1890@btinternet.com. For further information, look at the Stamp Active website www.stampactive.co.uk

Can you donate any material suitable for child collectors to Stamp Active?

Kidstamps is a free postal club for children. Donations of stamps, etc. would be welcomed by Peter Barham, Hon. Secretary, Stamp Active

Network, 2E Broomwood Road, Orpington, Kent, BR5 2JH. (stampactive@btinternet.com)

EXHIBITING

Full details of all opportunities to take part in both national and international stamp exhibitions can be found in the Exhibiting section of the ABPS website.

STAMP FAIR & AUCTION DAIRY

Steve Reeves advises that the updated nationwide list of 2024 stamp fairs and auctions is available at:

<https://stampfairsdiary.co.uk/index.htm>

STUART ROSSITER TRUST

The trust publishes and sells Postal History books, and sponsors authors and research. To date, it has published many books and helped a number of individuals and specialist societies with research and production costs for their books. It can help societies or individuals with research costs, publication costs or publishing books. When it publishes or supports books, the trust promotes them through our its website and e-newsletters. The full list of its publications currently available is on www.rossitertrust.com. To discuss how it could help your Society or members with their Postal History book, or monograph, contact their Corresponding Trustee Andy Gould at srtcorr@gmail.com.

International News

NEW RDPs

At the meeting of the Board of Election of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists on 7 March 2024 it was unanimously agreed that the following philatelists be invited to be the new signatories to the Roll:

- Walter Britz, RDP, Uruguay.
- Yu-An Chen, RDP, Chinese Taipei.
- John Davies, RDP, United Kingdom. John is well-known for his work in promoting junior philately.
- Bernard Jimenez, RDP, France.
- Ivar Sundsbø, RDP, Norway.

This year's signing ceremony, on the occasion of the 103rd anniversary of the first signatories to the Roll, will take place at 5pm on 12 July 2024, in

Southampton, during the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

OVERSEAS EXHIBITING

More-advanced collectors (some of whom are members of this society) enjoy exhibiting items from their collections abroad. International exhibitions are once again in full swing. Overseas exhibitions fall into three categories:

1. National and private exhibitions that choose to invite overseas entrants. These set their own entry and judging criteria.
2. Continental federation exhibitions are organised by the international federation responsible for that region. In Europe, that is FEPA (European Federation of Philatelic Associations), in Asia-Pacific, FIAP, etc. These set their own entry criteria, but generally judge to FIP rules.
3. Full international and world exhibitions that invite entries world-wide, organised by a national organising committee under the auspices of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP).

Unless otherwise decided by the organisers, to be eligible for five frames at a FIP, FEPA or other overseas Federation competition, UK collectors must first reach qualifying standard (75 points and vermeil medal) in an ABPS national exhibition.

Entries must be made through the UK Commissioner for the event, appointed by ABPS.

Potential exhibitors should consult the ABPS website for details of forthcoming national and international exhibitions that they might enter.

WORLD POST DAY

Can YOU think of a way to get the hobby noticed in the UK on World Post Day 9 October,

which marks the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union? Tell us now!

BPS Contact information

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Auction:

Vacancy for an Auction Secretary/Auctioneer!

www.basildon-philatelic.org.uk

Press Date

The intention is that the next issue should be published on 1 July. Your news or articles should be with the Editor by 15 June.



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Serving the stamp collectors and postal historians of Basildon.