



Basildon Stamp Collector

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Editorial

Winter is now upon us, the lawn mower has been placed into hibernation and the central heating turned on. At the time of writing this (end of November) we have been warned of heavy snow falls and a very cold spell. However, you know what weather forecasters are like.

Christmas is only a few weeks away and I have noticed that the shops are busy and everyone is rushing about stocking up on provisions for the festive season.

If you do have some spare time over Christmas, it is a good opportunity to get those

stamps put away that you bought during the year. Also time to think about the Society competitions. March 21st sees the Thematic, Cinderella and Modern classes and I hope as many of you as possible will put in an entry. Our competition Registrar goes to a lot of trouble to invite judges and if only a couple of entries are on show it puts everyone in an embarrassing position, so please try and support the competitions. There are novices trophies up for grabs for those who have not won before so many of you have a chance.



Winter

It just remains for me and all the Committee to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope 2006 brings you all some good items for your collections.

New Members

I am pleased to report that we have gained 1 new member this quarter. John Cowlin has recently moved nearer to us from his previous address in Southend. John is a member of Rayleigh & District Philatelic Society

and a collector of Boer War material. We welcome you John and hope you enjoy your membership of Basildon Philatelic Society.

Meeting Report : 3rd October Visit from Bishops Stortford

Two members of Bishops Stortford P.S. came along to entertain us.

First up was Peter Denly with his display of Wembley Exhibition material. It all started about 9 years ago whilst clearing his mothers house and came across a tea caddy souvenir of the exhibition. He remembers this when he was at home but didn't realise then how important this would become in later years. Since then Peter has amassed a vast collec-



Viewing the display

tion of 1924/1925 Wembley material, from stamps to souvenir programmes and examples of the slogan cancellations in use, together with much background information. You may be familiar with the British stamps, shown here, of which 13.5 million of the 1924 set sold and 4 million of the 1925 set, hence the difference in catalogue value. A real treat tonight to see this superb display, beautifully presented.

Not to be out done Dave

Armitage followed with Canada Special Delivery stamps. These started in 1898 which Dave showed, then continued with their postal uses with many different examples including airmails from 1928, up to 1949 when the special stamps ceased. During this period the rate doubled from 10c to 20c.

By contrast Dave's second part was modern Canada definitives with varieties of perforation, mis placed and missing phosphor, including those from sheets and booklets.

As always nice to have a visiting Society and to see a variety of material.

Meeting Report Tristan Da Cunha by Geoff Miller

Our very own Vice Chairman, Geoff Miller, showed a very comprehensive display of Tristan Da Cunha. Not only the basic stamps but also photographs of the Island so that we could try to understand the difference in geography, buildings and lifestyle of the people on this small volcanic island. Only a small number of inhabitants all descended from a Scot, Mr Glass who settled

there following the lost at sea of many of the men folk.

Geoff's display was superbly presented to depict the flora and fauna and history of this lonely island.

Ships visit only occasionally to bring provisions and mail, which is why it

can take months for letters to reach them. Tourist ships pass by from time to time, however there are no moorings for these large vessels so smaller launches are sent.

The Lonely Island

I know this is only part of Geoff's South Atlantic collection, so I look forward to seeing some more.

Auction Review By Ann Coltman

This was my first auction as Auction Secretary and Treasurer and I did wonder whether it could be managed, but nobody seemed to mind on those occasions when I needed to change hats. Thank you to all of you for being patient.



Fierce bidding

The auction went extremely well. This was despite the lack of help from club members, except those who quietly help behind the scenes. To these volunteers may I say a big thank you and well done. Many thanks to Claude Crowder for being the Auctioneer and for looking after the late lots on

the night. Without Claude there would be no auction and he did a grand job ably assisted by Mrs Crowder. We sold 55% of the lots on offer and made a total of £58.86 for the club. The commission on the late lots came to £3.30. Well done to all those who brought items and helped raise money for the club.

A visit to The British Postal Museum & Archive Store

Article by David Church

Tucked away on an industrial estate in Debden, Loughton, just off the M11 is the British Postal Museum & Archive Store. They had one of their infrequent open days in September and I went along to take a look, having applied for tickets a couple of months earlier. There were 2 main areas of display, a huge range of Pillar Boxes and Postal vehicles ranging



Pillar Boxes

from Queen Victoria's reign to modern day. Guided tours were optional or you could just browse around. Also on display was Sloper's Perforating Machine, Automatic Letter Facer (A.L.F.) and Rowland Hill's very own desk. Informative handouts were freely available and a sales counter for postcards, books and models were doing a good trade. If you have a couple of hours to spare it is well worth a visit,

however if you go on a chilly day take your thermals as this is just a warehouse without heating.

For further information on future open days and other events and newsletters checkout their website www.postalheritage.org.uk where you can subscribe to a free on line newsletter or write to The British Postal Museum & Archive, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL. Have you been to any Postal Museums and would like to put a few words together for the next newsletter? If so, please contact the editor.

Meeting Report : Competition Night

Results of the Competitions held on 7th November were:

Stamps:

1st : Chris Cooksey

2nd : Charlie Mead

Postal History:

1st : Chris Cooksey

2nd : Charlie Mead

Aerophilately:

1st : Chris Cooksey

2nd : Len Stanway

Congratulations to Chris who swept the board. Next time members don't let the

same people win, put in your entry!!



Meeting Report : Visit from Rayleigh P.S. - 5th December

I always enjoy other Society visits as we see such a variety of material. This evening we started with the postal history of the Milford Haven to Waterford Packet Service route by their secretary Ray How. Various examples of the different rates and routes were shown including many overseas destinations, as well as surcharges for re-direction. Also on show were some examples of penny black covers used on these routes.

Next to display was their Treasurer, Eric Day with his Union of South Africa, commencing in 1910. The first part consisted of stamps, together with examples and explanation of how sheets were made to produce booklet stamps and tete-beche pairs. The second part was airmail covers, supported by photographs of first and return flights. The third part concentrated on KGV 1935 Silver Jubilee, showing multiple blocks and varie-

ties, many of which are hard to find.

We saw over 150 sheets of beautifully displayed material, the like of which we had not seen before.

Charlie Mead gave his customary vote of thanks to our visiting speakers.

Meeting Report : 22nd November - Visit from Colchester P.S.

Four of our friends from Colchester Philatelic Society entertained us on a cold night in November, with a variety of material, the subjects of which had not been seen for a long time.

First was a thematic display of Masonic stamps arranged in country order, accompanied with some commercial mail. We were told that the Masons were not a secret society, but a society with secrets.

Next up was a



Malta, Coronation & Jubilee

nice range of early Austrian including those from 1850 on hand made paper.

After the tea break we were given a showing of Mint Malta from King George V up to Queen Elizabeth II around 1960. It was nice to see some items in imprint blocks of 4, including those from different printers.

Time was running short, but the last display showed a tour around the Algarve in post-

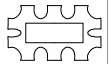
cards. Accompanied by a map of the area we were shown cards from most places and given a geography lesson at the same time. We also were shown a couple of cobbles from the area made from highly baked mud as well as a piece of sandstone from the area.

Telephoning Doris : by Rosa Howe

Oh hullo Doris, ow yer bin? Well yes I'm glad ter ear from yer. Ow am I well busy yer know—what's that? Outing? Lovely I love outings—oh next Thursday ooh wot a shame I can't make it Why? Well I've joined a stamp club—oh did you—well so did I when I was a kid—you've still got 'em, worth a mint? - I don't know about that Doris but I've learnt a thing or two lately about stamps. Me 'n me mate went to an exhibition at the local library, all the queen's 'orses it was called, all to do with

thematics, a different way of collecting stamps. There was all these big posters wiv all thes 'orses wot were really stamps on the walls and lots of real stamps showing 'er majesty in 'er posh gear on 'er horses, lovely they were to, and the queen of course! Well we was right impressed 'onest—so I went along to the meeting the very next week and joined up. Well I know it might 'ave been a bit rash but there you are—of course, you find yourself forking out a few bob here and there but so what, you can't take it wiv yer when you go can yer?

What did you say, oh no, there're quite a nice lot really, they know a lotta things about stamps, things about perfs NO Doris PERFS. Not the other thing!! I've decided to collect Birds, no Doris birds of the feathered kind silly, thing is there's such a lot of 'em, I've already got books and books of 'em. My mate is into 'ealth stamps 'n Islands and other things. Stamp collecting is like measles, catching, which reminds me, I've got to catch the bus now, I can't stop, I've got a stamp fair to go to...Bye Doris see ya between meetings.....



The Other Side of the Counter : by David Church

So what's it like on the other side of the counter? Over forthcoming editions, space permitting, I will try to enlighten you all to how I as a Dealer handle many aspects of the trade which buyers are not always aware of. For example how do you set up as a Dealer?, what insurance do you need?, do you have to be registered with anybody?, how do you

purchase stock?, are you cut out to deal with the public face to face or do you want to trade by post or the internet? Hopefully I will give you an insight into these questions and many more.

I have been a full time Stamp Dealer for nearly seven years now and prior to that part time.

I gave up my full time employment to pursue a better quality of life doing something I enjoy for my own benefit. However during the past seven years I have put in twice, if not 3 times as many hours as when I "went out to work" It is not easy dealing in stamps, but it is rewarding.

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www.basildon.aeps.org.uk



Member's Ad's

Still waiting for your advert !!

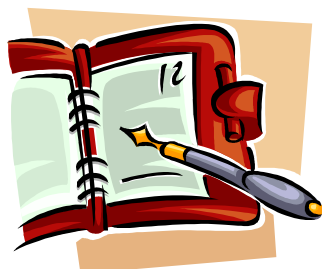
Member's adverts are free, subject to space being available.

What's On

Local Stamp Fairs :

14th January - Laindon
5th February - Ingatestone
18th February - Witham
19th February - Billericay
5th March - Southend
18th March - Laindon
25th March - Rayleigh
2nd April - Ingatestone
16th April - Billericay

Rawreth Stamp Fair is usually 1st Saturday in the month, but no dates have been submitted.



Make a diary note now!

Future Meetings :

Tues 17th Jan : Workshop
Mon 6th Feb : Round the Television by Mark Routh
Tues 21st Feb : Basildon v Billericay Quiz
Mon 6th March : Auction. (viewing from 7.30pm)

Tues 21st March :
Competition Night
& Bourse

Mon 3rd April : Visit
from Witham P.S..

Tues 18th April :
Members Displays
Something beginning

with A or B.

Please Note :

There will be no meeting on Monday 2nd January 2006 as this is the New Year Bank Holiday Monday.