

The Basildon Philatelist.

The Journal of Basildon Philatelic Society

Editor: L.C. Stanway FRPSL.

Vol. 27 No. 4 – April 2023

Editorial:

It can be very disheartening to society officers and, more importantly, to speakers when we have poor attendance at club meetings. Some recent ones have been pitifully small, but excellent displays. Please try to get there whenever possible.

The closure of our neighbouring Billericay society should act as a wake-up call to members to give their maximum support.

Basildon Society News

VENUE

Unless otherwise stated, 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. This venue has free car-parking and excellent public transport connections. The staff at the centre are very helpful and will be pleased to point you in the right direction if you haven't visited before.

MEETING REPORTS by "Fly On The Wall"

17 January: Member's Displays - Anything.

One first meeting in our new venue. The Fly was still recovering from Christmas, so there is no record of those who displayed.

6 February: Don Davis Entertains.

In a late change to the published programme, Don Davis provided a varied display from his impressive GB postal history collections. Starting with the Victorian era and finishing with humorous Edwardian seaside postcards.

21 February: Abu Dhabi and Essex Postmarks by John Copeland.

The first half of the evening was devoted to Abu Dhabi, a country rarely displayed. A brief history was followed by a variety of fascinating material. John completed the evening with a selection from his extensive collection of Essex postal markings.

6 March: Mauritius Postal History by Eric Hutton.

Eric travelled from Waltham Abbey to display to us. His first half took us from 1953 to the early part of the 21st century with mostly used stamps, which are often far more difficult to find than mint ones. Like a number of countries, recent Mauritius definitives include reprinting dates in the design, adding an extra challenge to collecting these issues. His second half was a fascinating medley of material including postmarks, cheques, bills of exchange and other revenue uses, perfins (including large blocks showing how they were folded before perforating), a savings book, airmails, etc. An excellent evening with something for everybody!

21 March: Fiji During the Reign of King George VI by Charlie Mead.

Due to unavoidable circumstances, our booked speaker was unable to attend, so our Secretary stepped into the breach with a miscellany of issues from his extensive collection including the first pictorial definitive issue, airmails, WW2 censorship and paquebot markings.

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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions should be paid to Len Stanway by post or at meetings. The annual fee remains at £13 for full Membership, £2 for Juniors and 50p for Associate Members (exchange packet and auction vendors). In a normal year, this covers overheads, plus a small part of our hall hire costs. Members attending meetings also pay £1 attendance fee at the door to cover refreshments and assist with hall hire. Participation in the

exchange packet is conditional on payment of the subscription for insurance reasons.

SOCIETY TROPHIES

If anyone has society trophies from before lockdown, please arrange to return them to Len Stanway.

FROM THE EXCHANGE PACKET SECRETARY

The packet is new 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!

ARE YOU E-CONNECTED?

If you have an e-mail address, you could save the society money and keep yourself up to date with local philatelic news, programme changes and auction catalogues by sending your e-mail address to the Editor.

Non-members are also invited to join the e-mailing list to receive this newsletter and other society information.

PHILATELY IN BASILDON 2022

Our members' handbook was updated following last year's AGM and distributed to e-mail recipients. Please contact Len Stanway if you would like another copy sent to you.

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.

THIRD-PARTY RESOURCES TO HELP YOU!

Steve Reeves maintains his "Stamp Fairs and Auction Diary", listing events throughout Britain, on his website <http://stampfairsdiary.co.uk/>. Give it a try!

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.

Essex News

SOCIETIES CLOSED

Billericay & District P.S. threw in the towel in March 2023, defeated by falling attendances.

ALBUMS CLOSED

Arthur Ritchin, for many years a stalwart of Billericay society, passed away on 16 March. BPS has extended its condolences to Arthur's family.

Chelmsford society has lost its Secretary, Tony Edwards, following an operation. Pat Adams has taken over the role.

AEPS BOXES

Ray How has found a new supplier for large storage boxes. The new box is the same size as the old ones, but comes flat-packed for self-assembly. Please contact Ray How to place orders (ray.how@btinternet.com). Basildon members may obtain theirs from Alan Taylor, who has 7 in stock at £6 each.

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 2023 edition of Vol.1 was published in December 2022. 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 2024 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.

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 details of 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.



Philatelic Events at AEPS Societies

April 2023

- 3 - Basildon - Collecting Postal History (A.N. Moorcroft).
- 3 - Frinton - Dominica (S. Richards) (afternoon).
- 4 - Sudbury - "Bring & Buy", informal, letters M, N & O (Members).
- 5 - Benfleet - Revenue Stamps (C.G. Harman).
- 5 - Clacton - Annual General Meeting.
- 5 - Goodmayes - An Evening with Cliff (C. Cashman).
- 5 - Ipswich - Auction 7pm, Viewing from 4pm.
- 6 - Witham - Two Members display (afternoon).
- 7 - GOOD FRIDAY
- 10 - EASTER MONDAY
- 11 - Chelmsford - Pages From My Collection (N. Harris).
- 11 - Epping Forest - Competition Evening.
- 13 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
- 17 - Cheshunt - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
- 17 - Frinton - Instant Auction.
- 18 - Basildon - Iceland (D.J.Church).
- 18 - Sudbury - Miscellany (A. Soutar).
- 19 - Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
- 19 - Ipswich - President's Display (afternoon).
- 20 - Colchester - Classic Chile & Seaside Postcard Censorship (D. Davies).
- 24 - Rayleigh - Annual General Meeting & Competitions.
- 25 - Chelmsford - Thematics (C. Evans).
- 24 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Society Social Meal (by invitation).
- 27 - Harlow - (Provisional date).

May 2023

- 1 - - - EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY
- 2 - Sudbury - Annual General Meeting.
- 3 - Benfleet - Lundy Island (Ms, J. Lester).
- 3 - Clacton - Auction.
- 3 - Goodmayes - My Other Collections (Members).
- 3 - Ipswich - Display by Sudbury P.S.
- 4 - Witham - Free Franking & Telegram Service (J. Rawlins) (afternoon).
- 6 - CORONATION DAY

- 8 - **CORONATION BANK HOLIDAY**
 9 - Chelmsford - Display by Frinton & District P.S.
 9 - Epping Forest - Annual General Meeting & Bring and Buy
 11 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
 13 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Competitions (afternoon).
 15 - Cheshunt - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
 16 - Basildon - To be arranged.
 16 - Sudbury - Going Off-Piste (Members).
 17 - Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
 17 - Ipswich - Annual General Meeting, Quiz and End of Season Social.
 18 - Colchester - Display by Witham P.S.
 22 - Rayleigh - To be advised.
 22 - Frinton - Covers Night (Members).
 23 - Chelmsford - My Favourite Items (Members).
 24 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Auction.
 25 - Harlow - (Provisional date).

June 2023

- 1 - Witham - Australian States (D. Gottesmann) (afternoon).
 5 - Basildon - Annual General Meeting.
 5 - Frinton - One Frame from All Members.
 6 - Sudbury - Egypt (K. Burr).
 7 - Benfleet - Penny Reds 1841-1854 (D.G. Davies).
 7 - Clacton - Bourse.
 7 - Goodmayes - Army, Navy or Air Force (Members).
 8 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
 10 - Leytonstone & Wanstead - Annual General Meeting & Members' displays (afternoon).
 12 - Rayleigh - Mike Kentzer & Terry Wagg Entertain.
 13 - Chelmsford - Mauritius Postal History (E. Hutton).
 15 - Colchester - The Things I Like To Display (R. Barton).
 17 - Epping Forest - Grand Auction (afternoon, 2pm).
 19 - Cheshunt - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
 19 - Frinton - Law and Order (R.E. How) (afternoon).
 20 - Basildon - To be arranged.
 21 - Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
 21 - Goodmayes - Postal Auction.
 22 - Harlow - (Provisional date).
 26 - Rayleigh - Middle East Forces (M. Carter).
 27 - Chelmsford - Norwegian Miscellany (Mrs. P. Adams).

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

National News

STAMPEX 2023

Stampex national exhibition, organised by the Philatelic Traders Society (PTS), will take place at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London, from 27-30 September

ABPS AWARDS

Nominations for the ABPS Award of Merit and Congress Medal are always welcome. Full details and nomination forms can be found on the ABPS website.

Each year, the ABPS honours up to 15 grass roots philatelists that have made an outstanding contribution to a local or specialised society. Nominations can be submitted by an ABPS member society or by a federation. The closing date for the next round of awards is 1 March 2023. Nomination forms can be obtained from Yvonne Wheatley, ABPS Awards Committee Chairman, Weltevreden, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds LS15 9BW, 0113-2601978 awards@abps.org.uk.

ABPS NEWS

The closing date for copy for the next issue is 15 April, followed by 15 July. 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. Do not forget to tell me if you are intending to send something, to avoid "mixed messages" or duplication of effort.

STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK

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)

STAMP FAIR & AUCTION DAIRY

Steve Reeves advises that the updated list of 2023 stamp fairs and auctions is available at https://stampfairsdiary.co.uk/index_files/StampFairAuctionDiaryStampPostcardfairs2022.htm

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.

CALLING ALL SPEAKERS

If you are prepared to give displays to Societies, either in person or by Zoom, please pass your details to the Secretary of ABPS or input your information on to ABPS website. We will be updating the site with additional information about speakers relating to Powerpoint presentations as this has become a popular development resulting from the pandemic.

If you are sending new or amended information to ABPS, do not forget to send the same information to the Editor of "Philately In Essex" so local societies (whether members of ABPS or not) have access to the same information.

MAKE SURE YOUR SOCIETY LOOKS GOOD ON THE ABPS WEBSITE

The latest ABPS website (www.abps.org.uk) includes all the usual information about ABPS news and activities. It also includes a searchable list of speakers, judges and an events calendar. If you are a speaker or judge or an event organiser, please check the information on the website and advise ABPS of any corrections, updates or additions. If you are a Society or Speaker, you can add some pictures of your meetings or displays to create attractive content. If you have any images of your local Society, events or seminars etc. that you think might enhance the website please send them to the Communications Director, Alan Godfrey, at communications@abps.org.uk

ABPS WEBSITE (<http://www.abps.org.uk>) CALLING ALL STAMP EVENT ORGANISERS

As we re-emerge from the pandemic, events are now being re-organised and new ones

planned. The ABPS website provides the opportunity for organisers of philatelic events such as Stamp Fairs, Philatelic Exhibitions, Society Weekends and Regional Society Meetings, to promote their events free of charge. It is also a chance, if you are planning an event, to check that it does not clash with anything else. You can request an event to be added to the ABPS Events Calendar directly on the website. Entries will then be checked by the administrator and approved. Go to:

<https://www.abps.org.uk/request-event-addition/>

ENTRY FOR NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

The ABPS has introduced on-line entry for exhibitors at the York and London national exhibitions. Details are on the ABPS website.

ABPS EXHIBITING & JUDGING SEMINARS

ABPS believes that exhibitors at every level deserve to be given quality feedback by accredited judges. All ABPS judges are expected to attend a refresher Seminar every 5 years to maintain their accreditation. Anyone interested, should contact David Alford at exhibiting@abps.org.uk. These events can be held in any part of the UK, subject to the level of interest. Ray How would be like to organise one in Essex if there is sufficient interest. Please let him know if you want to him to do so.

ISSUES TO TAKE UP AT NATIONAL LEVEL?

The Editor is the Essex ABPS delegate and is willing to assist societies and their members in raising issues with ABPS.

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 our Corresponding Trustee Andy Gould at srtcorr@gmail.com.

DONATIONS TO KIDSTAMPS

Kidstamps is based in Liverpool, but if you are able to deliver, they can be taken at a weekend to Peter Barham at 2e Broomwood Road, Orpington, Kent BR5 2JH. These details can also be found on our website <https://www.stampactive.co.uk/about-us/>. As an alternative, he could meet up at a London main line station or items could be delivered to him at his place of work (Bank Saderat plc, 5 Lothbury, London EC2R 7HD). The bank is open from 10am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday. (Peter Barham, Secretary & Donations and Auction Manager, Stamp Active Network, November 2022).

MIDPEX

The 2023 Midpex exhibition and fair will be held at the Warwickshire Event Centre, Leamington Spa CV31 1XN on 1 July 2023.

Internet News

PRINT YOUR OWN STAMP ALBUM

The Stamp Web website provides some valuable free resources for stamp collectors. Go to <https://www.thestampweb.com/>. These resources include free downloadable stamp albums covering many popular countries and software to create your own.

International News

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

Chairman & Library:

Ian McElwain, 18 Cormorant Walk, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8BG. 01245-456910.

ianmcelwain@hotmail.com

Secretary & Webmaster:

Charlie Mead, 70 Gernons, Basildon, Essex SS16 5TN. 01268-522052.

charlie.mead@mail.com

Archives:

Alan Taylor, 5 Easton End, Laindon, Essex SS15 6QB. 07899-822881.

alantaylor60@hotmail.co.uk

Treasurer, Membership, Exchange Packet & Newsletter items:

Len Stanway, 25 Clay Hill Road, Basildon SS16 5DD, 01268-522305.

len.stanway@btinternet.com

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.