

# The Basildon Philatelist.

The Journal of Basildon Philatelic Society

Editor: L.C. Stanway FRPSL.

Vol. 28 No. 2 – October 2023

## Editorial:

At our 4 September meeting, we were delighted to welcome a new member, Brian Tutt, to the society. Brian had visited us for the previous meeting as a guest.

In the light of the uncertainty surrounding the redevelopment of Pitsea Leisure Centre, it has been agreed that the society committee will meet at 7pm before each Tuesday meeting to receive and discuss the latest available information and any other urgent business. We will keep members informed of any significant developments.

---

## *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:

2 October: The Committee Entertains;

17 October: President's Night;

6 November: Essex Postal History from 1840 by John Copeland

21 November: Members displays: Queen Elizabeth II;

4 December: To be arranged;

19 December: Festive Night and Tomex Quiz - Christmas meeting and buffet.

---

### MEETING REPORTS by "Fly On The Wall"

#### **3 July: Letters G, H, I (Members).**

Five members brought displays on this occasion. Gary Green started with "Italy" and "Iceland", followed by Ian Hunt with thematic issues of "Hungary". Maggie Thompson was next, showing the "Halle" postmaster provisionals of August 1923 in Germany. All eight types were shown mint and on cover.

After the break, Alf Potter showed "Infantry Soldiers" of the USA 1775 to 1985 on postcards. Len Stanway completed the evening with "Hungary 1868-1932", a collection that he rarely shows.

#### **18 July: Grenada (Andy Soutar).**

Andy Soutar, from Ipswich, brought a fascinating display of the stamps and postal stationery of Grenada, a West Indian island that your writer has never seen displayed before. Starting with the use of a British stamp and postmark used in Grenada, he took us through all the early issues, displaying many rarities, including Specimens and at least one "Before Hardening" developmental die proof. Unusual items included postal stationery from Perkins Bacon and a Size I registration envelope. After the break, he extended his display to the middle of the 20th Century, after which the Chairman gave him a well-deserved vote of thanks.

#### **7 August: German Occupation of the Channel Islands (Alan Moorcroft).**

Alan returned to give us a hybrid digital and on-frame presentation on a subject for which he is clearly very passionate. He began with the strange affairs of 1940, when Guernsey was already evacuating school children, yet, until the fall of France, Jersey was being promoted as a place for beleaguered Britons to take summer holidays! He then took us through the events of the occupation from both social and philatelic perspectives with the experiences of some individuals caught up in the events. Coverage of stamps and postal history included revenue stamps and we were warned about the dangerous forgeries that exist of most of the stamps and essays of the period. Alan was accompanied by his wife and grandson and Charlie Mead thanked them all for coming and giving us a very memorable and enlightening evening.

#### **22 August: My Favourite Theme (Members).**

We welcomed a potential new member to the society. Alf Potter started proceedings with a selection of Victorian-era postcards designed for use as greetings cards for birthdays, etc. Maggie Thompson followed on with her "Pussy Cats", showing lions, tigers, leopards, cheetahs, ocelot, etc., on stamps and postal stationery. At the end, "confused cats" included a Puma helicopter and a Jaguar car.

Round two started with Lynn Roberts, who brought some of the Lighthouses and Ships collected by her late husband. She was followed

by Ian McElwain showing War Tax from a wide variety of countries.

The last round was given by Len Stanway, who showed a small selection from his World of Railways collection, including The Whyte Arrangement and Preservation.

#### **4 September: British Honduras (Andrew Skilling).**

Andrew travelled down from Frinton to show a recently-started collection of this rarely-displayed country. He started off with pre-stamp material, then took us through Victorian and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century material up to the early days of Queen Elizabeth II, showing, where possible, mint and Specimen stamps, plus first day or other covers. In the second round, he completed new issues to Independence, plus a range of village postmarks. As if this amazing display was not enough, he completed the evening with some of his Harwich Ship Letter mail, including a reused wrapper that had been shipwrecked on the first lap of its travels!

#### **19 September: Railway Art and Railways (Colin Evans).**

Colin started with a display of railway and tram art on postcards, posters, stamps, etc., by the late Terence Cuneo and a wide variety of other artists. Round two was devoted to Stephenson's Rocket for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, the Rainhill Trials, etc. The final round covered a wide range of other railways, including modern traction such as the Advanced Passenger Train.

---

#### **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 are now due** and should be paid to Len Stanway by post, bank transfer or at meetings. **The annual fee is now £17** 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.

---

#### **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** and the **AEPS website** 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.

---

## 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 the essential officers listed below, contact information is never divulged to third parties without their specific consent.

---

### *Essex News*

---

## AEPS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies will take place on Saturday 18 November 2023 at the Henry Dixon Hall, Rivenhall End, Essex, commencing at 2.30pm, preceded by an Executive Committee meeting at 1.30pm. A full agenda will be circulated to member societies shortly. It is hoped to have some static displays at the meeting. All societies are asked to ensure that their delegates attend the meeting, if possible.

---

## SOCIETIES CLOSED

Cheshunt & District Philatelic Society has been wound-up due to lack of support. It had just celebrated 60 years in February.

---

## SOCIETY PERSONNEL CHANGES

Due to ill health, Geoff Mallett has had to step down from the Chairmanship of Goodmayes society. Keith Rowland has taken his place,

---

## DISPLAY FRAMES

David Bremner is seeking to dispose of the six 8-sheet display frames used by Billericay P.S. to a good home. If interested and able to collect, please contact David at [bremnerdavid13@gmail.com](mailto:bremnerdavid13@gmail.com).

---

## NEW SOCIETY PROGRAMMES

Len Stanway, as Editor of "Philately In Essex 2024", is anxious to receive all new society

programmes for the coming season as soon as possible.

---

## AEPS BOXES

Ray How has found a replacement supplier for large storage boxes. The new box is the same size as the old ones, but is made of corrugated cardboard and comes flat-packed for self-assembly. Please contact Ray How to place orders ([ray.how@btinternet.com](mailto:ray.how@btinternet.com)).

---

## 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 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](http://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

### October 2023

- 2 Basildon - The Committee Entertains.
- 2 Frinton - Auction.
- 3 Sudbury - Display by Cambridge P.S.
- 4 Benfleet - Iceland (D.J. Church).

- 4 Clacton - Bourse and Members' Displays.
- 4 Goodmayes - (Provisional date).
- 4 Ipswich - Display by Frinton P.S. (afternoon).
- 5 Witham - Display by Colchester P.S. (afternoon).
- 9 Rayleigh - The 1950s (Members).
- 10 Chelmsford - More From My Collection (D. Connell).
- 10 Epping Forest - Don Davies displays.
- 12 Harlow - (Provisional date).
- 16 Frinton - Eritrea & Ethiopia (M. Carter).
- 17 Basildon - President's Night.
- 17 Sudbury - German Occupation of the Channel Islands & Aspects of collecting local Postal History (A.N. Moorcroft).
- 18 Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
- 18 Ipswich - Labuan Classics & Pictorials (J. Higgins) (evening).
- 19 Colchester - (Provisional date).
- 21 East Anglia PHS - Members' displays 10.30-16.30.
- 23 Rayleigh - Competition & Bourse.
- 24 Chelmsford - Annual General Meeting.
- 25 Leytonstone & Wanstead - One-Frame Competition.
- 26 Harlow - (Provisional date).

### **November 2023**

- 1 Benfleet - The 1966 World Cup (T. Lemon).
- 1 Clacton - The Royal Mail (K. Brown).
- 1 Goodmayes - (Provisional date).
- 1 Ipswich - Danzig - Trains, Boats & Planes (G. du Boulay) (afternoon).
- 2 Witham - Annual General Meeting & Bring and Buy (afternoon).
- 6 Basildon - Essex Postal History from 1840 (J.W.J. Copeland).
- 6 Frinton - Competitions.
- 7 Epping Forest - Mails Under London (L.C. Stanway).
- 7 Sudbury - Food and drink (Members).
- 9 Harlow - (Provisional date).
- 13 Rayleigh - Other Great Britain Post Office Services (A.N. Moorcroft).
- 14 Chelmsford - Essex Postal History 1840 Onwards (J.W.J. Copeland).
- 15 Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
- 15 Ipswich - A Plethora of Pengo - Hungary 1945-1946 (A. Soutar) (evening).
- 16 Colchester - (Provisional date).
- 18 AEPS Annual General Meeting, Rivenhall.
- 20 Frinton - British Honduras (A. Skilling).

- 21 Basildon - Queen Elizabeth II (Members).
- 21 Sudbury - Chairman's Evening.
- 23 Harlow - (Provisional date).
- 27 Rayleigh - Law and Order (R.E. How).
- 28 Chelmsford - Hong Kong Airmails (C. Norton) (11am-1pm).
- 29 Leytonstone & Wanstead - Speaker to be advised.

### **December 2023**

- 4 Basildon - To be arranged.
- 4 Frinton - Christmas Celebrations.
- 6 Benfleet - Christmas Social & Member's Displays.
- 6 Clacton - Pre-Christmas Buffet.
- 6 Goodmayes - (Provisional date).
- 6 Ipswich - An Afternoon with Dealer Sarah Brooks (afternoon).
- 7 Witham - Christmas Social & a few pages display (afternoon).
- 11 Rayleigh - Christmas Social & Competition.
- 12 Chelmsford - My Favourite Items (Members) (11am-1pm).
- 12 Epping Forest - Christmas Evening, Quiz and Bring & Buy.
- 14 Harlow - (Provisional date).
- 19 Basildon - Festive Night and Tomex Quiz.
- 19 Sudbury - Quiz Night.
- 20 Bishop's Stortford - (Provisional date) (afternoon).
- 20 Leytonstone & Wanstead - Christmas Get-Together.
- 21 Colchester - (Provisional date).

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

---

### **National News**

---

#### **RIVER WILDLIFE**

Did you buy the River Wildlife 1<sup>st</sup> Class strip? If so, look at the phosphor bands. Some, at least, of the initial stocks sold prior to 26 July had a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class single phosphor band in error. Rather tongue in cheek, I feel, Royal Mail launched a recall on 11 August offering to exchange the errors for corrected (presumably two-band) versions.

---

#### **ABPS FEDERATION LIAISON OFFICER**

Graham Winters has had to stand down from this role for health reasons and we are pleased to

welcome Daphne McMillan to this role. Over the next few months, she will be working with Graham on a handover.

---

### **URGENT HELP NEEDED BY ABPS**

Everyone in philately is finding it more difficult to find individuals who are prepared to get involved in administering or organizing philatelic activities or events. This, of course, includes ABPS. If you are someone who is prepared to give even a few hours to help out, they would welcome a discussion to see how you can provide support. Specific vacancies include a Communications Director, as well as help with development of learning resources for the website, but there are plenty of opportunities to help out in other ways. Please contact Steven Harrison, Chairman of ABPS, by emailing him at [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or calling him on 0121 313 0671.

---

### **THE PHILATELIC FUND**

Nigel Gooch has stood down as the Chairman of the Philatelic Fund and will be replaced by Simon Martin-Redman. The Fund will consider requests for philatelic projects that support learning and education.

---

### **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](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or calling him on 0121 313 0671.

---

### **YORK STAMP FAIR 2024**

The next York Stamp Fair will be held on 19-20 January 2024 with over 70 stamp and postal history dealers. Friday 10-5pm, Sat 10-4pm.

---

### **STAMPEX 2023**

The next Stampex is being held on 27-30 September 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. There will be a programme of talks at Stampex that include sessions on "Postcrossing", a Society Social Media Clinic, Modernising Stamp Clubs, Provenance, Sperati, The One Cent Magenta and Exploring Stamps. The famous One Cent Magenta will be on show on the Stanley Gibbons stand during Stampex.

---

### **ABPS AWARDS**

The Congress Medal in 2023 for outstanding service to UK philately was awarded to David Alford at the Torquay Congress.

Each year, the ABPS also honours up to 15 grass roots philatelists that have made an outstanding contribution to a local or specialised society with the Award of Merit. Nominations for the ABPS Award of Merit and for the Congress Medal can be submitted by an ABPS member society or by a federation. The closing date for the next round of awards is 31 March 2024.

---

### **ABPS NEWS**

The closing date for copy for the next issue is 15 October, followed by 15 January. 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](mailto: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. Ian Bergel has become Advertising Manager.

---

### **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.

---

### **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. ABPS is in the process of reviewing and updating the speakers list on its website. This periodic review is a key requirement of compliance with data protection regulations. ABPS has written to all current speakers to return the compliance form and update their entry, if required. Anyone who fails to respond by 31st December 2023 will be removed from the list. Forms and images can be emailed to [vicechair@abps.org.uk](mailto:vicechair@abps.org.uk)

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 that all local societies (whether members of ABPS or not) have access to the same information.

There is generally a shortage of speakers for Societies and you will be greatly assisting Programme Secretaries by adding your personal details to the website.

---

### **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](mailto:davies1890@btinternet.com). For further information, look at the Stamp Active website [www.stampactive.co.uk](http://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](mailto:stampactive@btinternet.com))

---

### **CALLING ALL STAMP EVENT ORGANISERS**

The ABPS website (<http://www.abps.org.uk>) 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. The ABPS Executive has now agreed that Society Auctions, organised by affiliated Societies, can also be included in the ABPS events calendar. 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/>

---

### **MAKE SURE YOUR SOCIETY LOOKS GOOD ON THE ABPS WEBSITE**

The ABPS website ([www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk)) is on a new platform and includes all the usual information about ABPS news and activities. It now also includes a searchable list of speakers, judges and an events calendar. If you are a speaker or judge or an event organizer, please check the information on the website and advise ABPS of any corrections, updates or additions. 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 PR Manager at [pr@abps.org.uk](mailto:pr@abps.org.uk)

---

### 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.

---

### *International News*

---

### WORLD POST DAY

Do not forget that 9 October is World Post Day, established by the United Nations to mark the anniversary of the founding of the Universal Postal Union, which makes the postal system, as we know it, possible. Can YOU think of a way to get the hobby noticed in the UK on World Post Day? Tell us now!

---

### BPS Contact information

#### Chairman & Library:

Ian McElwain, 18 Cormorant Walk, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8BG. 01245-456910.  
[ianmcelwain@hotmail.com](mailto:ianmcelwain@hotmail.com)

#### Secretary & Webmaster:

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

#### Archives:

Alan Taylor, 5 Easton End, Laindon, Essex SS15 6QB. 07899-822881.  
[alantaylor60@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:len.stanway@btinternet.com)

#### Auction:

Vacancy for an Auction Secretary/Auctioneer!

**[www.basildon-philatelic.org.uk](http://www.basildon-philatelic.org.uk)**

---

### Press Date

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



Published by Basildon Philatelic Society, 25 Clay Hill Road, Basildon, Essex SS16 5DD.  
Founded 1968 - Non-Profit-Making - Affiliated to the Association of British Philatelic Societies and the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies.



***Serving the stamp collectors and postal historians of Basildon.***