

### Meeting Report

For the first meeting on the letters M & N Pat Harris led off with things Navel and Nautical with stamps from Guernsey and Jersey including stamps of HMS Alderney and for Military the various Alderney stamps of Regiments and Forts were shown.

John Pettit followed on with stamps of Mozambique before independence and George V issues of New Zealand. Mails of Switzerland, the UPU and miniature sheets were Dennis Sales contributions to the evening. Alex McGratten displayed sheets of Germany that included the Millionen and Milliaren inflation issues pointing out the various plate flaws he also showed "Yacht" key type stamps of former German colonies of Cameroon's, Marianen and New Guinea. Len Stanway completed the evening with stamps, miniature sheets and covers of the United Nations from each of the three centres New York, Geneva and Vienna, he also shown some Prestige booklet including one showing the Terra-cotta army from China.

Did you know that Anndora allows its people free postage on its letters.

### Extract from a story in 1911

May 1911 saw the seventieth anniversary of the first prepaid postage stamp. It has now become so familiar in our daily lives that it is difficult to realise that there were people still living who could recall its introduction. Some can still remember taking a letter to the post office and paying the correct fee the letter was crossed with a red diagonal line, the fee from London to Edinburgh was at that time 1/31/2d.

That method was for those who could afford it the poorer in society used various ways of

to convey messages in unpaid letters. The writing of the name and address in different ways could tell the addressee whether to pay for the letter or not.

A story from before 1840 is that Roland Hill was out walking when he came across a young lady refusing to accept a letter, he then paid the postage fee and presented it to the young lady who then told him that it was a blank sheet of paper from her sweetheart to tell her all was well. It was after this that the 1d universal post was introduced. The stamps were printed in sheets of 240 and it became the practice of post office clerks to ask if the customer wanted the stamp close cut or with the "fat" left on that was as the stamps were cut from the sheets with scissors the margins could be left on or cut off.

Did you know that New Zealand was the first Country to put advertisements on the backs of stamps in 1843.

Before the second evening of M & N we visited Billericay for the annual quiz match, our team of David Church, Pat Harris and Len Stanway regained the shield convincingly by 821/2 points to 58 well done.

### Meeting Report

The second evening of M & N was started off by Brenda Nye showing Modern Material and miniature sheets from her extensive Christmas collection. Mark Wheeler had Mamel, Match-box Labels, Newspaper stamps and Marks (censor) as his display. John Church showed the Natural history of Iceland and Nordic Countries as his part of the evening. Maggie Thompson called her contribution "Missing Bits" namely Bisects and errors from her triangle

collection. Steve Apse chose "My life and my collection" and went on to show stamps and covers that connected with events in his life. David Church put up material of "Marine life and Maritime" from his Faeroes collection.

Len Stanway completed the evening with "Malaysian Millennial Madness" a collection of material showing variations on Malaysian issues between 1999 and 2000.

Did you know that Germany was the first country to use postcodes in 1942.

### **Disputed Boundary**

An outbreak of hostilities between the rival republics of Dominica and Hayti in the West Indian of that name, was avoided by the timely distruction of a series of postage stamps issued by the Dominican Republic in 1900. The stamps in question bore a map of the island of Hayti, which is equally divided between the two countries; but in their anxiety to demonstrate to the world at large the importance of the Republica Dominicana the scheme of nations by means of the stamp map, the ingenuous Dominicans light-heartedly overstepped the boundary line, and appeared to have annexed a considerable portion of Haytian territory.

This was somewhat naturally regarded as a grave affront by the susceptible Haytians, whose government made strong diplomatic representation on the subject of these objectionable labels, and it is even stated went as far as to mobilize its troops on the Dominican border, ere the authors of this fragrant libel were induced to make the amende honorable.

St. Kitts is the only country to show Columbus using a telescope.

### **Stamps that caused a Revolution.**

The first attempt to introduce Western methods, as exemplified by the ubiquitous postage stamp, into the Kingdom of Korea in 1884 was fraught with disaster, being followed by a severe anti-foreign outbreak, attended bloodshed and incendiarism.

Whilst a banquet was given by the Postmaster-General in honour of the opening of the newly erected General Post Office in Seoul, was being held an anti-progressive riot broke out amongst the populace, and an attempt was made to assassinate the Kings Agent.

The disorder continued for several days, the Post Office being burnt down and the Postmaster shot, and the stock of stamps in readiness for the inauguration of a national postal service scattered through the streets. Peace was restored but it was nearly ten years before further efforts were made to establish a viable national service.

All the stories in this issue were taken from a magazine dated November 1912. (thanks to Brenda and Peter NYE)

### **Visit from Sudbury Philatelic Society.**

Ed Hutchings led off with his "Forgeries and Revenues" starting off with with the USA "Black Jack" this stamp was marked after printing so that the ink of the cancellation penetrated the stamp in order to prevent people removing the postmark and reusing the stamp other items of US postal stationery followed with a certified item from the collection of F D Roosevelt.

A cover with a 1d black with a Maltese cross and dated 1838 was next.

This was followed by by a card of the first-cont.



National Insurance together with a series of postcards lampooning against the idea. These were followed with a whole series of revenue items including Prescription charge stamps on a card, 1950 OAP money off vouchers for tobacco, tax discs for cars from 1921 that had one for a combine harvester in its holder.

A 1/2 lottery ticket from 1812 that cost nearly £12 making the full ticket about £24. This was followed with some unusual items i.e. stamps etc. for hats, servants, carriage that included an extra if it had a coat of arms and a box of hair powder from the 18 century that was also taxed.

Peter Baker was next showing his collection of Free French stamps and covers from the second world war. General De Gaulle formed the Free French after the fall of France in 1940, the colonies gradually joined De Gaulle and there were many covers with differing censor marks. Peter finished up with a number of flight covers including some of flight testing in Madagascar.

Ian(Ginger) Pittway first showed a post card and newspaper cutting to show the flooding that prevented them from visiting us earlier in the year. He went on to display some 12 postcards that were photographs of the Jersey Occupation Tapestry that each of the parishes of Jersey had made depicting events that took place during the German occupation. The Post Office Tower was the next section of this display that was of stamps, covers and other items Ian finished with items from the postal strike of 1972 and memories of "Stampex" from 1956.

Charlie Mead gave a vote of thanks for a very interesting and unusual evening.

Did you know that the first 1d black cover was posted in Bath on 2 May 1840

Our Society was represented at Rayleigh recently by Len Stanway and Pat Harris. Len showed items from his AEPS collection that related to Rayleigh and railway items coinciding with the publication of his "Rails under London" a book detailing the Post Office and other railway that run under the capital (This book is available from Len). Pat show items from his new collection of the German occupation of the Channel Islands.

### **From your Secretary**

We have now come to the end of an other club year and some changes have taken place. This is my last note as Secretary as I retired at the AGM I wish my successor good luck. As you know we are now meeting in the George Hurd Centre that seems to be a much better venue. Peter tells me that we could do with more member taking and contributing to the Exchange Packet so if you can help let him know. The Auction is getting bigger but again we would like to see more of you putting in material that you no longer want we have people from other clubs attending so there is scope to sell your un wanted material the closing date for the next Auction is 7 August when we need the lists of lots

**From the Editor** As I did not get any replies from you I take it that you are happy with this newsletter.

**I desperately need your stories and remember if you need anything from other members this letter goes to all our members so why not use it my address is 9 Chilham Close, Pitsea Basildon Essex SS13 2 AQ.**

## **Programme for the next quarter.**

**18 July** Six members of the committee displaying 24 sheets from their collections.

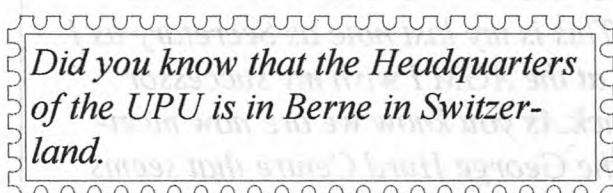
**7 August** Stamps etc of Croatia 1941 to 45 by Tony Bosworth.

**22 August** All members showing one sheet from their collections.

**4 September** "Toombssiana" a display of this stamp designers work by Eric Waldock.

**19 September** Workshop to collecting to a "Theme" such as Birds, trains, music etc.

**2 October** Autumn Auction



### **news from the AGM.**

**We picked an unfortunate date for the AGM with England on the box but some 26 members did attend.**

**As most of you know Len Stanway had given up his Chairmanship earlier in the year and Pat Harris was retiring as Secretary.**

**Charlie Mead is the new secretary with Alan Taylor becoming Secretary, Alex Mc Clacken will take up the Committee vacancy.**

**The post of assistant Secretary is vacant if any one is interested please contact Alan.**

**Peter Nye produced his accounts that showed that we made a profit and he was pleased to say that there would be no increase in the subscription rates of £2 for under 16's £8 basic rate and £5 for over 60's and that they were now due if you wish to send them to him his address is**

Mr P J Nye  
41 Chevers Pawen  
Pitsea  
Basildon Essex  
SS13 3EL

he will send you a signed membership card a valid second class stamp would help club funds.

Three motions were put to the meeting by the committee-

1) That Dennis Livermore be the Societies Personality of the year he has stood in as Auctioneer and Quiz master sometimes at short notice due to Albert's continuing illness he has also represented the Society on visits to other Society's and generally stepped in when help was needed.

2) That Albert Thomas be made an Honorary Life Member for all his work for the Society over the passed 20 odd years.

3) That Pat Harris also be made an honorary Life Member for his work as Secretary since 1992 and the other works he has done and continues to do since joining the Society.

All these motions were carried with acclamation.

I had the pleasure of presenting Albert with his framed certificate at his home on your behalf after expressing his surprise he asked me to convey his thanks to ever one and although it will be some time before he can attend meetings he will be back as soon as he is able.

### **Auctions**

Michael is always looking for more lots if you have spare material why not put it in the Auction details can be sent to him at - Mr M Musgrave, 49 Vowler Road Laindon SS16 6PT or E mail michael.musgrave@virgin.net. by 7 August lots are not required until the first meeting in September.