



Basildon Stamp Collector

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Spring 2005

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Editorial

Spring is here at last, it seems to get earlier each year. I know it's spring because the dafodils are out, we had our first one out in early february.

First of all I assume you were not too impressed by the quiz questions I set last time, as no one bothered to enter, so the prize of ??? was not won.

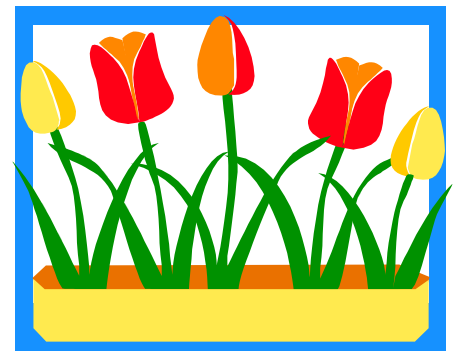
To those who may be interested, the answers are as follows:

- Q1. Travelling Post Office
- Q2. Watermark
- Q3. Guyana, 500
- Q4. "The Postage Stamp"
- Q5. 1957
- GBQ1. 1914
- GBQ2. Frama Labels
- GBQ3. 1961
- GBQ4. 68 million

GBQ5. The first Self Adhesive stamp
GBQ6. 33

What would you like to see in the newsletter? Write to me, we can have a letters page, or how about writing a short article (100-150 words would be ok) Please let me know and if possible I will try to accommodate it. Volunteers are also required for the 'Members profile', it does not have to be too long, just a couple of small paragraphs will do.

This is your newsletter, not mine, so please give some input or suggestions



Spring is here at last

Included with this edition is a copy of the Auction list for our **Auction Night on Monday 4th April**. Make a note now not to miss it!!!

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* New Member * Charlie Nicholson Auction

A warm welcome to a new member Bill Dakin, who collects Great Britain

I hope you find the Society interesting and look forward to your continued support, please feel free to approach any member

if you need any help or advice.

Charlie Nicholson Auction : 5 members of our society were present out of the 40 on the night to join in the auction sale of some of Charlie Nichol-

son's collection. Havering Society did not anticipate the response judging by the 12 chairs put out and the room was very cramped. Despite this the evening went well and over £870 was raised.

Meeting Report 6th December 2004

We were due to have a visit from the Ipswich Philatelic Society at this meeting, but unfortunately due to a mix up and lack of communications, they did not attend. However I believe a couple of our own members saved the day once again and showed some of their own collection.

I was not able to attend this meeting myself as I was in Yorkshire on another buying trip.



How about writing a few words on one of our meetings for our regular meeting report features.

Alternatively, perhaps you might consider writing a small article for the next newsletter. Subjects could be:

“What I collect and why”

“My specialised subject”

“Other Societies I belong to”

“A visit to ??? Stamp Fair/Auction”

Contact the editor for further information or help.

Tomex Quiz & Festive Night

On 21st December we had our last meeting of 2004. This has traditionally been the Tomex Quiz (the name derived from 2 of our members Albert Thomas & Doug Hex who donated the cup in their appreciation of the enjoyment they received from membership). Albert is still a member.

This year the trophy was won by

our Chairman Charlie Mead, congratulations! Thank you to Dennis Livermore for supplying the questions.

A big thank you to all those who brought food etc. on the night for the members to indulge. We had

a good spread including some delicious grapes supplied by a prospective new member, many thanks
Ian.

**Questions &
Food!**

Meeting Report 18th January

Our own member, Michael Musgrave entertained us with a very small part of his vast collection of Labels, the ones issued by the Post Office. There were so many different types, Recorded, Special Delivery, Air Mail, those in Welsh, speedpost, C.O.D., sheets of labels. I



Special Delivery
Label

started to list them all but in the end gave up. Anyway, I am sure like myself all of those present were not aware that so many existed and that the Post Office offered such a variety of services. As you may know they want to put those white labels on now,

instead of stamps (are they a thing of the past?).

Michael's third part of the evening was on Australia, highlighting the many cancellations on Olympic covers and numerous reprints of many modern issues.

Meeting Report : 7th February Forgeries by Arthur Bowles

Our very own member Arthur Bowles showed us some of his Forgeries collection. Highlighted were many forgers, including Fournier, Sperati, and Spiro. These forgers said that they did not produce them to defraud the Post Office, but simply to help collectors fill



Classic Forgeries

their gaps which they otherwise could not afford to fill. Lots of the forgeries have small errors which enable you to tell them from the genuine article, however this is not an easy task as many collectors cannot afford the genuine ones to be able to compare. Not only were the stamps forged, but overprints, perforations and postmarks, all examples of which Arthur

showed. As well as classic stamps such as the 1d Black and Cape of Good Hope Triangulars, also displayed was a Mulready envelope.

Some of the audience were going home to review their album contents that same night, in the light of receiving some of Arthur's experience and wisdom as a collector and Dealer of many years.

Thank you very much Arthur for an interesting display.

Meeting Report : 22nd February Norway - Display by Pat Adams

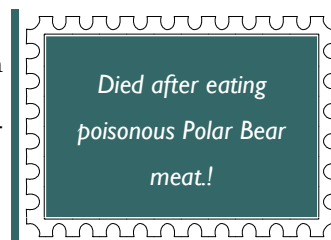
Pat Adams made her second visit to us in just a few weeks. However this was a full evening's display on her own. Pat is well known locally for her huge collection of Norway and she commenced with pre stamp letters. These were difficult to distinguish as no markings were used. The first cancels to be used on stamps were multi lined obliterations. The Posthorn design is the

world's longest running stamp design which started in 1872. We were treated to a comprehensive collection of covers and postcards, including Free Post, C.O.D., Paquet items.

The second half started with a history lesson of how Spitzbergen became Norwegian after the war due to the help they gave with their

large merchant navy. Then covers and postcards of various expeditions to the North Pole by Ship, Plane, Balloon and Airship, including the story of the balloon crash and lost

explorers who died after eating poisonous Polar Bear meat. Their remains were not found until 33 years later.



Basildon / Billericay Quiz : 17th February

Billericay Philatelic Society played hosts to this annual Quiz night, which has been fiercely fought over for a number of years. As a Billericay member as well as Basildon, your Editor was poached to be a member of the Billericay team of 3, the others being Jean Taylor and Arthur Riching. Basildon fielded a strong team, Len Stanway, Charlie Mead and Maggie Thompson. Alan Boyce was

the quiz master and divided the event into various rounds. After a shaky start Billericay managed to pull into the lead at one point and at half time the difference was only half a point. However the end result was Basildon 61.5 points to Billericay 46 points.

Basildon therefore secured another away win, with the help of the few

Basildon supporters in the audience. The Shield was presented to Basildon by Billericay's President Dennis Sales. The whole point of the evening was a bit of fun and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

Our thanks go to Billericay for hosting this year's quiz. Next year it will be at Basildon.

Do you want to be in the team??

Members in the News!

Everyone must be aware of the terrible natural disaster which occurred in Asia on Boxing Day.

Kind hearted members of our neighbouring Philatelic Society in Billericay held an auction at their recent Dealers Bourse night to raise funds for the relief effort. The idea came from their public relations officer Alan Jubb who said that the 20 members present on the night gave generously. There was a good selection of



Auction for Tsunami Fund

stamps, covers and books, which eventually raised over £120. A set of first day covers featuring locomotives was the most expensive lot sold, adding £20 to the fund.

Featured in the Evening Echo on 24th January were two of our newer members, Rosalie Howe and Beth Stevens, who are both Basildon and Billericay members.

If you see any articles or photos of any of our members, please send them to the Editor for possible inclusion in future editions of the newsletter.

If you also want to write a few lines or paragraph this would be welcomed.

Visit to Benfleet P.S. : 1st February

We were represented by four of our members recently who went and displayed to Benfleet Philatelic Society:

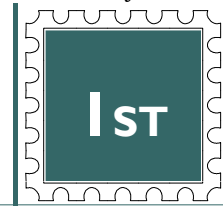
Len Stanway showed modern Malaya, Geoff Miller - Tristan Da Cunha, Chris Cooksey - Antarctic Survey and Dennis Livermore - Battle of Britain.

Displays by members :

Dennis Livermore will be displaying at Southend on 20th September, the subject "Lest We Forget"

STOP PRESS

Postage rates are due to be raised in April, 1st class will be increased from 28p to 30p, plus several of the other weight bands as well as overseas rates. Ask at your local post office or check Royal Mail's web site at www.royalmail.com



However, 2nd class is unlikely to be increased and will remain at 21p

Letters to the Editor

Having attended "Basildon 2004" 5th ABPS Biannual National Stamp Exhibition, on Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st November, this was the first time we had attended such an event, and being fairly new members to thematic collecting we were almost overwhelmed by the diversity, skill and imaginative displays shown across every age group, with thematics in most unusual subjects.

The displays were beautifully presented and for sheer hard work could not be beaten.

We were so impressed we returned for another look on Sunday because we thought the exhibits deserved a second look.

Needless to say we visited the Dealers also. **Rosa & Beth**

Thanks to Rosa & Beth for the comments.

(If you want to write to the Editor, the closing date for publication in the next newsletter is the 6th June, which is our 37th A.G.M. club meeting night. Ed.)

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www.basildon.aeps.org.uk



Member's Ad's

This space has been left for you!

Don't waste it.

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

What's On

Local Stamp Fairs :

26th March - Laindon

2nd April - Rawreth

3rd April - Ingatestone

9th April - Wanstead

17th April - Billericay

7th May - Rawreth

8th May - Southend

14th May - Laindon

28th May - Sudbury

4th June - Rawreth

5th June - Ingatestone

26th June - Billericay

Future Meetings :

Mon 4th April : Auction

Tues 19th April :
St George's Day, Display by John Snoding

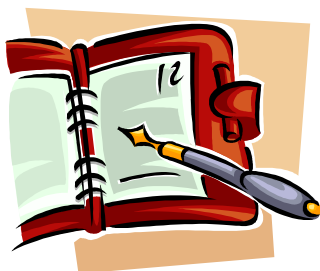
Mon 2nd May :
BANK HOLIDAY NO MEETING

Tues 17th May : Something beginning with X,Y or Z members' displays

Mon 6th June :
37th A.G.M.

Tues 21st June : President's Guest - Development of Empire Air-mails by John Rawlins

LAINDON STAMP
FAIR



Make a diary note now!

I'm pleased to say that the new venue proved to be a success, despite being slightly smaller. Some of the Dealers even said they preferred it to the old venue.

Don't forget it is now held at **The Methodist Church Hall, High Road, Langdon Hills.**

Next Stamp Fair at Laindon is

26th March