



# Basildon Stamp Collector

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- **Editor:**
- **David Church**
- **87 Worthing Road**
- **Laindon, Basildon**
- **Essex SS15 6JU**
- **Tel : 01268 543371**
- **Or 07973 308219**
- **E**  
**mail:Djcstamps@aol.com**

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## Editorial

We are now at the end of a very dry winter and spring is here. The Daffodils are sprouting out and soon I shall have to think about cutting the grass.

On a cold January Saturday morning walking into Tesco's I was joined by two of our members, and then at the check out, met another doing the weekly shop. We did think about having a special club meeting! I shall not name the members in question to protect the innocent.

I am sorry to report that our Chairman's mother, Doris Mead passed away in February. Doris was known to many of us as

she used to be a member. Our condolences go to Charlie and his family.

By the time you get to read this the postal rates will have increased again. They go up on 3rd April, 1st class from 30p to **32p** & 2nd class from 21p to **23p**,

furthermore in August 'pricing in proportion' comes into effect, which means you will be charged on the size as well as the weight of your letter. This will of course mean new stamps, (see the next newsletter). I can see lots of problems administering this.



## Spring

I would like to wish our member Alan Redston a speedy recovery following a knee operation recently. Although Alan does not attend the meetings he is a keen collector of Australia. Lets hope he can be persuaded to attend some meetings in the future.

## New Members

I am pleased to report that we have another new member, Peter Fernandez. Peter lists his interests as First Day Covers and stamps of Great Britain, Spain and the Commonwealth.

**Apologies for the late issue of this newsletter.**

## Meeting Report : Colne Valley Postal History Museum

On 7th February we had a change to the advertised programme. Unfortunately Mark Routh could not be with us as he had to go into hospital (we wish him well). Instead Stephen Knight of The Colne Valley Postal History Museum came along and presented us with a computerised slide show of the history of the Postbox, from the earliest up to the modern. His talk and presentation included the familiar Pillar Box to Wall and Lamp Boxes,



**G.B. Post Box set**

Airmail Boxes painted blue and others in different livery. Also included in the display were pictures of stamp designs showing postboxes. Stephen's pleasant easy going nature, together with amusing anecdotes proved to be most interesting.

In order to help pay for the 'Red Paint' as he called it, Stephen had a few fridge magnets, key rings and books for sale and I know he had a few purchases.

I personally enjoyed the talk as it complimented my earlier visit to the British Postal Museum Archive (see previous newsletter).

Whilst the museum only has an official public open day the first week in september, members were told that they were welcome to visit at other times by prior arrangement, contact the editor for further details or visit the website [www.cvphm.org](http://www.cvphm.org)

For information, Mark Routh will be giving us his 'Round the Television' display on 17th October, so please note your programme and diaries.

## Meeting Report Workshop 17th January

With a view to helping members prepare and writing up their collection, not only for their own enjoyment but for competing and displaying, a special workshop was held.

Three of our own prominent and respected members, Len Stanway, Charlie Mead and Chris Cooksey took the floor to advise, guide and pass on their experience in display-

ing and writing up a collection.

They showed examples of how to do it with tips on mounting things as large covers, types and colours of pages etc. Many different aspects of collecting were discussed from Traditional collecting to Cinderellas.

### Workshop

I'm sure most members present found it most enlightening. For certain two did as they told me after the meeting. Maybe another similar workshop can be held on the use of computers in writing up as some members expressed an interest in this subject.

## Auction Report By Ann Coltman

The outcome of the March auction was better than expected even though there were fewer lots and not as many buyers on the night. The amount raised for the club exceeded £65 which will help to boost the funds in a small way. There were just



### Fierce bidding

45 lots left unsold out of a total of 186.

Thank you to all those volunteers who helped on the night, without their effort the auction would not take place.

The next 'proper' auction will not be held until 2007 but in

October this year we, hopefully, will be having an Instant Auction. The details have still to be worked out, but attend the meetings and read the newsletter to find out more.

*Ann*

## Stamps in Schools Project

On 20 January 2006, Alan Taylor and Len Stanway assisted Erene Grieve of the ABPS Stamp Active Network "Stamps in Schools" Project to present a Stamp Day to the children of Herringham Primary School at Chadwell St.Mary, using the society's ex AEPS display frames. This event supported the formation of a school stamp club by Johan Vanas, a young South African teacher



who has previously formed two stamp clubs at schools in Basildon, but who has since moved to this Chadwell school. A representative of Royal Mail, who has taken over sponsorship of the project from the British Philatelic Trust, also attended. Erene Grieve is a former teacher and connects ex-

tremely well with the youngsters, who were very well behaved and enthusiastic. Although Chadwell falls outside our catchment area, we were contacted because of our previous experience. Thurrock Society was invited to participate, but was unable to do so.

### Stamps in Schools

## Stamp Packet News

Ann Coltman

Most of you are aware that I took over the stamp packet accounts when Peter Nye resigned and finally the bank have made it official. Now that I can do the accounts myself I would like to know if any member has an interest in putting their name forward for inclusion on the list. There are a few rules and regulations to abide by but isn't that the same for everything!

We have three circuits in operation at the moment - Billericay & Laindon, Pitsea & Vange and Corringham. It costs you nothing but a little bit of time and you may, like me, find something in a box that has eluded you for ages. If you join the circuit list you also have the opportunity to put your own books into the boxes.

Please feel free to contact me at the

club meetings if you want any further information.

*Ann*

PS Stamp Packet Box no. 608 has not been returned. Can people on the circuit lists please check that they have not forgotten to forward the box on.

## Meeting Report : Basildon v Billericay Quiz

On 21st February we were pleased to welcome our friends from Billericay Philatelic Society to participate in the annual quiz. The Billericay team was David Barter, Arthur Richins and Jean Taylor. The Basildon team Geoff Miller, David Perry and David Church.

The quiz master was Jim Charlton ably assisted by his scorer Ray How, both from Rayleigh P.S. The quiz consisted of ten rounds on different collect-

ing areas. The first round was a draw and then it was a very close fought contest, but gradually Basildon moved into the lead, eventually winning by 81 points to 63.

The quiz had some very interesting questions which were demanding upon the teams, some of which though should have been known but the pressure of the spotlight affected many of our brain cells.

Our thanks must go to Jim Charlton and Ray How for setting the questions and giving up their evening. Thank you also to the Billericay members who came to Basildon on a wet night.

The next annual quiz will be at Billericay in 2007

# Telephoning Doris

By Rosa Howe

'Allo again Doris—Ow was your Christmas? Wot! Stayed out orl night did 'E Oh I know they all end up down the pub—they tell us they lose orl track of time don't they.

Yes I've ad some in me younger days I can tell yer. Big 'angovers an' can't eat ther christmas dinner wot we've all slaved over such a waste innit. Apart from orl that bit of how



'Allo again Doris

'ave yer bin? Our christmas was alright a bit of telly...well a lot of telly really but somefink new this christmas, stamps hundreds of 'em in a tin box 'n in books. Yes Doris stamp books stuck in wiv 'inges made of sticky paper, we've ad some old ones, but the stick 'ad wore orf 'em so we ad to get some more, which meant we went to a stamp fair, and guess wot—that's right more stamps came 'ome didn't they.

How did we get so many stamps well I'll tell yer. we went to a stamp auction

that's wot... it was narf good. All the stamp packets and books 'ad numbers on and we could take a butchers'ook at 'em before the auction...all spread out so's we could see proper...lovely prices but we did know the prices could go up 'cos it was to raise money for the club as well as the folks wot put the stamps in.

Wot did you say No Doris, it's not a waste of money, it's a lotta fun, 'n my frind Beth likes stamps 'n 'all, specilly 'ealth stamps. We got a card wiv a big number on so them people wot run it know 'oo we are when we bid.....

## **Telephoning Doris** : continued

'cos we don't shout or nuffin we just 'old up the card when we wanna join in. Then we get to see the lots—even if the're little if you know wot I mean. 'Onest Doris, I got so excited I'ad to sit on me 'ands I got so carried away that I wanted to bid for everythink.

Me 'n Beth ended up bidding against each over by accident so we paid more didn't we...made a few folk larf though.

We didn come 'ome wiv everythink but we come 'ome wiv a lotta lots and a toffee tin fulla stamps wot weren't stuck to paper so we wouldn't 'ave to soak em off paper, which is narf a long job. Take my word for it Doris, yes you do 'ave to take the paper orf if it's on but as it wasn't we didn't 'ave to did we?

No it's not that 'ard, but a bit messy, anyway Doris I'll 'ave to go now, but I'll keep you posted about our meetings, 'specially

about march 'cos we've got another auction on 6th and I reckon we'll be there...Bye

**The Telephone  
What a wonderful  
invention**

## **The Other Side of the Counter** : by David Church

Setting yourself up as a Stamp Dealer can be straight forward depending on how you want to trade. Many trade from home only, postal or ebay, of which I will write about later. You can rent a table at a local stamp fair or advertise in your local paper or stamp magazine.

Registration? If you have an ex-

tra income you must declare this to Inland Revenue, completing the necessary tax forms. VAT is a different matter as you need only register if your turnover exceeds £57,000 per annum (*subject to any budget change*)

Some counties such as Kent and Yorkshire require registration with Trading Standards if you

intend to trade at Fairs or other public places.

You can if you want join a trade organisation which may be able to help with legal, tax & insurance issues. It is wise to take out insurance on your stock and particularly public liability if you have contact with the public, for example at Stamp Fairs.

Newsletter Editor : David Church  
87 Worthing Road, Laindon, Basildon, Essex SS15 6JU  
Tel : 01268 543371 or 07973 308219  
Fax : 01268 543371  
Email : Djstamps@aol.com

Secretary : Alan Taylor  
Tel : 07899 822881  
Treasurer : Len Stanway  
Tel : 01268 522305



Due to a lack of response for members adverts this section is discontinued for the present time.

### Members in the News.

On 30 November 2005, Len Stanway was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London (FRPSL).

### **Advance Notice**

The Society is holding a Stamp Fair on Saturday 9th September at Woodlands School, Takely End Basildon. Helpers are wanted, any help you can give will be greatly appreciated, please contact one of the Committee for further details. This Fair is being organised to promote the Society and generate much needed funds.

## What's On

### Local Stamp Fairs :

2nd April - Ingatestone

16th April - Billericay

14th May - Southend

20th May - Sawbridgeworth

27th May - Laindon

4th June - Ingatestone

18th June - Billericay

2nd July - Southend

8th July - Laindon

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

### Future Meetings :

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

Tuesday 18th April : Members Display. Something beginning with A or B

Tues 16th May : The Motor Car until 1970, display by A.R.Miller

Mon 5th June : 38th AGM

Tues 20th June : Japan by Mark Fuller.

Mon 3rd July : Visit from Clacton P.S..

Tues 18th July : The Committee Entertains

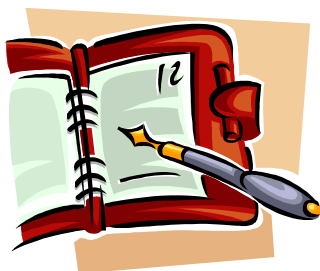
Mon 7th August :

Aerophilately, display by Bill Trower

### **Please Note :**

There will be no meeting on Monday 1st May 2006 as this is the May Day Bank Holiday Monday.

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Make a diary note now!