

# The Basildon Philatelist.

Acting Editor: L C Stanway FRPSL.

Vol. 14 No. 1 - July 2009

Many thanks to Charlie Mead for his period as Editor. As no one came forward to replace him at the AGM, I have stepped into the breach temporarily. Apologies are tendered to members who may have felt out of touch since the last issue.

Distribution of this issue to members has been sponsored by TNS Consultants at no cost to the Society.

## *National News*

### **2010 AND ALL THAT.**

It cannot have escaped your attention that a year ending in zero is not far away, and with it will come the decennial London international stamp exhibition. 2010 will, however, be a little different to past years.

We will still have the international stamp exhibition. This will be held in May at the Business Design Centre in Islington. For Stampex, only part of the Centre is used. The whole Centre, including an air-conditioned hall at least as big as the usual hall, will be used for 2010 and it should be an excellent event.

However, the aim is to make it a year of events, under the Festival of Stamps 2010 banner, around the country to encourage the general public to get involved in philately. Events are still being developed, but the provisional programme includes the following events:

**27 March** - Thames Valley & District Philatelic Federation "WestBex10". Thatcham.

**March onwards** - King George V Exhibition, Bath Postal Museum.

**April onwards** - Treasures from the Archive Exhibition, British Postal Museum & Archive, Clerkenwell.

**16-17 April** - Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies. Perth.

**24 April** - Midland Philatelic Federation. Solihull.

**May - November** - Exhibition, British Museum Money Gallery, London.

**6-7 May** - Royal Philatelic Society London. Exhibition, 41 Devonshire Street, London.

**7 May - 25 July** - Empire Mail - George V and the GPO Exhibition. (Royal Collection & BPMA) Guildhall Art Gallery, London.

**8-15 May** - Festival of Stamps London 2010. Business Design Centre.

**22 May** - Federation of South Wales Philatelic Societies. Port Talbot.

**5 June** - AEPS "StampEssex - Festival of Stamps", Colchester.

**12 June** - Yorkshire Philatelic Association "YPA2010", Pudsey.

**3 July** - Wessex, Cornwall and Somerset & Dorset Philatelic Federations "SWIPEX 2010", Plymouth.

**10 July** - Kent Philatelic Federation "KENTPEX 2010". Tonbridge.

**22-25 July** - Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. Kenilworth.

**21 August** - East Midlands & East Anglian Philatelic Federation. Cambridge.

**4 September** - Middlesex Philatelic Federation. Amersham.

**11 September** - Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies. Croydon.

**24-26 September** - North-East of England Philatelic Federation "Nephilex 2010". The Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

**9 October \*** - Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies "The South of England Stamp Fair and Sussex Convention". Ardingly. (\* World Post Day)

**16 October** - Hampshire Philatelic Federation. Wickham.

**24 October** - Cornwall Philatelic Federation "Cornex 2010". Liskeard.

**30 October** - North-Western Philatelic Federation, Bolton.

Apart from further regional events, there will also be related exhibitions at the British Library Philatelic Collections, Bletchley Park National Codes Centre, MCC Museum at Lords Cricket Ground, Museum of Rugby at

Twickenham, British Postal Museum and Archive, Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum (dates to be announced) and several other events are being discussed.

It should be quite a year for philately! Further details of all these events can be obtained from the Editor.

---

### **PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN MARKS ITS CENTENARY.**

This is the premier annual social event of the philatelic calendar and is usually a delightful opportunity to relax with fellow collectors from all around the country and from overseas in comfortable surroundings, to enjoy excellent food and drink and to see some of the best displays available. A growing number of Essex philatelists are to be found there. Congress is also the venue for the signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, the world's most important philatelic honour, by new appointees and one of the new RDPs is usually invited to display.

The first PCGB was held in Manchester in 1909, so it is fitting that the centenary event will return to Greater Manchester. PCGB 2009 will be held at the Copthorne Hotel, Salford Quays from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2009, which is an excellent base from which to see many other museums and places of interest to suit all tastes and interests. A full report will be in the next issue.

---

### **WORLD POST DAY**

Did you know that, each year, 9 October is designated by UNESCO as World Post Day, marking the anniversary of the founding of the Universal Postal Union.

Many countries mark the day with special philatelic events, special postmarks, etc., but in Britain - Nothing!

Have you any ideas how we could make a splash and get the society noticed this World Post Day? If so, tell us!

---

## **Essex News**

---

### **SPRING STAMPESSEX 2009**

Spring StampEssex was hosted by Sudbury PS on 25 May 2009. Attended by over 450 people, with the usual mix of displays, dealers and refreshments, the Spring AEPS event was judged as excellent by everyone that I have spoken to. Sudbury P.S. issued a Smiler sheet and cover (enquiries to Sudbury secretary - see below). Bishop's Stortford won the Stamps Competition (David Armitage), Postal History Competition (Peter Denly) and GB Postal History Award (Peter Denly), so they inevitably won the Stokes Cup (again!). Cheshunt's Terry Hawkins won the George Pearson Award for best Foreign entry. Basildon had only two entries, so did not qualify for the Stokes Cup, but Len Stanway brought home the Aerophilatelic Trophy. A Smiler sheet was issued, together with first day covers, some signed by the artist.

---

### **NEW SUDBURY SECRETARY**

Sudbury society, one of the two AEPS societies in Suffolk, has a new Secretary in the form of David Gottesmann, who can be contacted on 01787-469527.

---

### **VALEDICTION**

AEPS was saddened to learn of the death, on 31 December 2008, of Frank Jones, the last surviving Honorary Member of the AEPS. Frank was an eminent thematic collector, with an award-winning display of Bridges, and judge. He moved to north Essex in later years and was an occasional visitor to Basildon. He retired from Philately in 2003, one of his last roles being in guiding the early stages of the highly-successful ABPS Basildon 2004 national exhibition.

---

### **NEXT AEPS EVENTS**

**Autumn StampEssex** will be on 31 October at Great Wakering Primary School, at which

the society will be defending the Quiz Trophy that we won at last autumn's event. We will need a new team as Charlie and Len are barred this year. We will also need 16-sheet displays for the Thematic, Cinderella, Social, Modern Traditional, Modern Postal History and Modern Aerophilately competitions (Modern means under 30 years old). If you would like to enter, please contact Charlie urgently.

The next **Council** meeting, to which we can send up to three delegates, will be at 2.30pm on 5 September at the Red Cross Hall, Chelmsford. If you would like to come and meet delegates from other Essex societies, please contact Len or Alan.

The next **Executive Committee** meeting will be on 1 September. If there is anything that you feel should be raised at County or National level, please contact Len before the meeting.

---

### ***Society News***

---

#### **WANTED - NEWSLETTER EDITOR & REPORTERS**

A volunteer is required to edit this journal. Please contact Len Stanway or Charlie Mead.

We also require the help of all members. If you see or hear about anything that you feel should be mentioned in this journal, please let the Editor know. We also need volunteers to do a brief report of each meeting, to reduce the workload on the Editor. Please contact Len Stanway.

---

#### **BASPEX APRIL 2009**

100 people attended Spring Baspex, almost three times the number that came to the Autumn event, providing a slow but steady flow of visitors through the day. As well as dealers, some new to the society, there were displays from members, the auction lots were available for viewing and catering was provided. The event made a small profit for the society, but not sufficient to justify the

amount of work put in by the small team of volunteers before and during the event, to whom the Society's thanks are intended. Special thanks are due to David Church for bashing his head against the brick wall while trying to get sufficient dealers to run the event, to Vivien Holloway and May Colvill for manning the Raffle and Tombola tables throughout the day and to Claude Crowder for running the Auction table.

---

#### **ANNUAL COMPETITIONS APRIL 2009**

The society trophies were presented at the Annual General Meeting, following the competitions on 21 April. Members competed in five classes and there were a total of sixteen entries from eight members. The trophies were awarded as follows:

- Dawe Cup (Traditional): Chris Cooksey. Chris's display of "Southern Rhodesia - Small Falls" was awarded Gold by the judges, the only gold award of the night.
- Postal History Cup: Chris Cooksey for "British South Africa Company Postal Stationery".
- Aerophilatelic Trophy: Charlie Mead for "First Pan American Flight via Suva".
- Cinderella Trophy: Chris Cooksey for "British South Africa Company Prospecting Licences".
- Festival 70 Cup (Thematic): Len Stanway for "Light Railways".
- Post Office Cup (Novice Thematic): Beth Stevens for "Medical Matters".
- Colvill Cup (Modern Material): Charlie Mead for "Fiji - Land Bird Definitives".
- Ladies Trophy: Ann Coltman for "Teddy Bears".

---

#### **AGM REPORT JUNE 2009**

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at George Hurd Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> June. After approval of the minutes, the well attended meeting received the annual reports from the officers. Key elements of the meeting were:

- The President emphasised the need to recruit new (and younger) collectors to the hobby and the society. This will be a major theme of 2010's nationwide Festival

of Stamps, but every member needs to play his or her part in spreading the gospel and bringing in new members.

- Finances have improved significantly, with the major loss last year reduced, before exceptional items, to a small deficit. The exceptional item was the Smiler sheet, which had raised much-needed working capital.
- Our club stamp fairs are no longer viable with our limited membership and attendances. However, we will continue to host StampEssex every five years.
- The exchange packet handled 285 books during the last year and 29 packets were circulated.
- All officers and members who have contributed over the past year were thanked for their efforts.
- The annual subscription was raised, in accordance with discussion at last year's AGM, to £11 for all members.
- The contents of the Library have now been reviewed and a sale of surplus items was held during the interval. Members were encouraged to make better use of it.
- All Officers were re-elected and Appointments were re-appointed with the following exceptions:
  - David Church decided not to stand for re-election as a Committee Member. He was thanked for his long service on the Committee, on which he first served as Junior Representative in 1972! There is now a vacancy on the Committee.
  - Ian McElwain resigned from his post as Public/Press Relations Officer. There is now a vacancy in this role.
  - Charlie Mead resigned from his post as Newsletter Editor. There is now a vacancy in this role.
- Member of the Year was awarded to Alan Taylor for his tireless service as Secretary including fund-raising at David's stamp shows.
- Under "Any Other Business", members raised the need to improve distribution of auction lists (already being addressed by the Committee - more vendors are also needed) and discussion took place on publicity and recruitment opportunities.

## ALBUMS CLOSED

The AGM noted with regret the loss during the year of Doug Hex, who with Albert Thomas co-sponsored the Tomex Quiz Trophy, and Bob Lovell.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE

Members are politely reminded that subscriptions were due from 1 June. The 2009-2010 rate is £11 for all members. Please pay your subscription to Mick Coltman.

## Philately in Basildon 2003 Handbook Amendments.

All members are requested to record the following amendments to Schedule 2, the Exchange Packet Rules, approved in Committee 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009:

1. Amend Rule 5.1 by adding at the end: "However, vendors may opt out of the Society's insurance cover on the understanding that in doing so they absolve the Society from liability for any loss or damage, however caused.";
  2. Amend Rule 5.6 to delete redundant reference "(see also Rule 6.3)".
  3. Amend footnote 11, for "5%", read "10%".
- These amendments took effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 for new packets entering the circuit.

All members are requested to record the following amendments to Schedule 3, the Competition Rules, approved in Committee 15<sup>th</sup> July 2008:

The dates in Competition Rule 7.2 are amended to "2009", "1979" and "2009" respectively.

Rule 7.3 (Modern Material Competition) now reads:

"7.3 The trophy shall be awarded to that entry in the Stamps, Postal History & Postmarks and Aerophilatelic Competitions that:

- 7.3.1 - qualifies under the criteria specified in paragraph 7.2 above, and
- 7.3.2 - is awarded the highest mark among such qualifying entries."

Rules 7.3.3, 7.4, 7.5 and 7.6 are deleted.

These changes took effect from the 2009 competitions.

You've never entered the Modern Material competitions before? Well, why not give it a try next summer - There's plenty of material around. It comes through your door every day!

## AUCTION NEWS

The Spring Auction was very successful, yielding a significant addition to the Society's coffers, both from commission and from lots sold for Society funds. About 60% of the lots sold (much better than last year, reflecting better material on offer). Prices were fairly good for the lots that sold, with some ferocious bidding wars breaking out. Several lots sold for over £20, the highest being £22 for an album page of the British Military Administration of Malaya.

The Autumn Auction will be on 5 October. **Auction lots lists must be submitted to Claude Crowder by 21 July.** At present, we are dependent on just a few members to provide lots. If every member just submitted a few items, we would have a much larger selection to tempt new buyers. Please look out your better spares to make up lots with a minimum reserve of just £2 or above.

## MEETING REPORTS

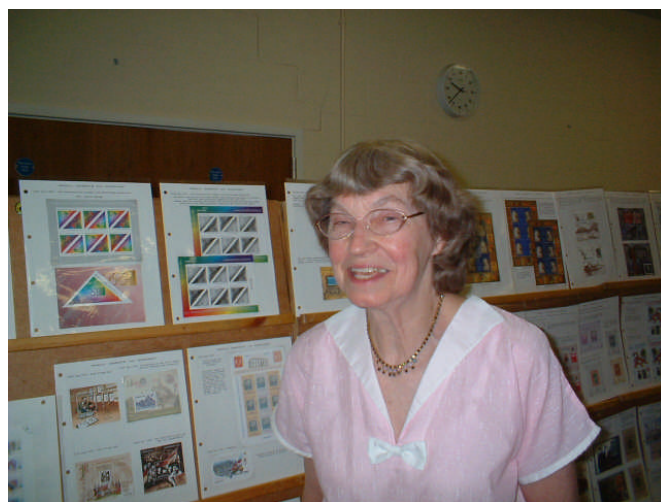
**16 June 2009 - 1936 Olympic Games - Tony Bosworth.**



Our good friend from Maidstone joined us to display some more items from his outstanding collection. He opened with a tribute to the late President of the British Thematic Association,

Franceska Rapkin, who had been his mentor in starting the collection. Tony is a passionate speaker and held his audience spellbound as he took us from the inception of the Olympic Games, through the political background to Germany's participation in the game, the development of the 1936 games and the events of the Games themselves, illustrated throughout with scarce and rare stamps, postcards, cancellations, telegrams and other related material. Our Chairman thanked Tony for an excellent display and made a small presentation on behalf of the society. If you missed this event, watch out for any other opportunity to see it at another society. It will be well worth the journey!

**6 July 2009 - Hungarian Small Sheets - Maggie Thompson.**



Our own Maggie Thompson displayed part of her Hungarian collection on 6 July, her original appointment on 2 February having had to be cancelled because of blizzards! Hungary's first miniature sheet was issued in 1934 to mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hungarian Philatelic Exhibition in Budapest and they never looked back. Without hesitating to express her concern at the continuous proliferation of such material and the likely motives for this, her first sixteen sheets showed the development of the small sheet from a single stamp with border, through triptychs, attached labels, imperforate sheets and small counter sheets to exhibition overprints and non-postal sheets. She then gave us a three-session, largely chronological display up to the late 1990s, when her collection ended. Our Chairman thanked Maggie for an excellent display and made a small presentation on behalf of the society.

**NEXT MEETING:****21 July 2009 - David Tett - Prisoner of War Mail.**

David is the acknowledged expert in the field of World War II PoW mails, especially from the Eastern Theatre, and the author of a series of prize-winning reference works. Attendance is strongly recommended.

**NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

A review of exchange packet finance in February resulted in the decision to allow packet vendors to opt-out of the society's insurance, but, to balance the books, this has necessitated the increase of the commission rate from 5% to 10%. As this is the "industry standard" rate, it was not expected to deter vendors and this has proved to be the case. All vendors were notified of the change before they came into force.

On 15 July, your Committee considered the future of the Modern Material Competition. Instead of having a completely separate Modern Material competition, it was decided to revise the rules so that, in future, all Traditional, Postal History and Aerophilatelic entries will be judged together. The highest scoring entry composed of material less than 30 years old will now be awarded the Modern Material Trophy. This makes life simpler for both judges and your Competition Registrar and avoids the need for the competitor to decide which competition to entry if, say, he or she has an entry which is both Modern and Traditional.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for 15 September. If you wish to raise any issues, please tell a committee member as soon as possible.

**The EXCHANGE PACKET - All you ever wanted to know!**

Most members will already be familiar with the Exchange Packet but there may be some of our newer members who are not familiar with the concept, so here goes -

**What is an Exchange Packet?**

Members put stamps, covers, etc., into booklets, together with prices at which they want to sell each stamp, set or cover, etc. and gives them to the Packet Secretary. He gathers books together into boxes of typically 10 books and circulates them around the membership. Each member takes what they want, completes a slip (even if nothing is taken) and sends the slip and money to the Packet Secretary, who audits the books at the end of the circuit, takes a commission for the Society's funds and pays the vendor.

**Can anyone join?**

Both vendors and buyers must be members of the society, but not necessarily attend meetings. There are special arrangements for vendor-only members.

**How long does a box take to go around the circuit?**

Typically about two-to-three months if everyone abides by the rules. Each member is allowed three days from receiving a box to passing it on, but special arrangements can be made when necessary by contacting the Packet Secretary.

**I specialise - will it be worth my while?**

We try to get as wide a spectrum of material as possible from vendors and one never knows what will turn up. I have personally found some real gems for my specialist collections going for peanuts among Basildon packets.

Similarly, it is impossible to predict what will sell. Some good-looking books have returned untouched, while both "nothing special" and highly-specialised books have surprised me by returning almost returned empty.

**Where can I get booklets to fill?**

David Church will be able to sell you booklets for a few pence each, or you can make your own providing you follow the standard format that will fit the box and be convenient for the customers and Secretary to use.

## How do I find more about buying or selling through Basildon packet?

Contact the Packet Secretary at any time.

### Tips for vendors:

Every Packet Secretary is able to regale you with horror stories of the packet book from Hell, yet it is often just a case of a little forethought on the part of the vendor:

- Assume that someone will drop the packet at some point in the circuit. Stamps loosely stowed in Hawid strips will end up in an unsightly mess and may not go back in the right place. Stamps in paper or plastic bags should be closed but not sealed as it will be necessary for potential purchasers to examine the contents.
- Use reasonably new hinges, so that the stamps do not fall off the pages.
- If you are reusing a book that has been circulated before, cover over any old markings, so that when a stamp is removed, there is not already someone's signature under it to cause confusion.



## Philatelic Events in Essex

### July 2009

- 7 Benfleet - To be advised.
- 8 Brentwood - Olympic Special (R Wilcock).
- 9 Hullbridge - United Nations (L C Stanway).  
Witham - Europe (Members).
- 10 Harlow - To be advised.
- 11 ABPS - AGM & MIDPEX Stamp Fair,  
Canley, Coventry CV4 8DY, 10am to 5pm.  
Kent - CANCELLED.
- 13 Cheshunt - Quiz & Fun Competition.  
Rayleigh - An Evening with F Dunn and K Burr.
- 14 Epping Forest - Railway Hotels & Steamers  
(Mrs L Roberts).
- 15 Bishop's Stortford - European Stamps and  
Postal History (Members).
- 16 Billericay - Gibraltar - King George VI and  
later to 2000 (R Everett).
- 16-19 ABPS/PCGB - Philatelic Congress of  
Great Britain, Copthorne Hotel, Manchester.
- 17 Colchester - Annual General Meeting &  
Chairman's Cup.

ABPS - Closing date for Autumn Stampex competitions.

- 21 Basildon - War Prisoners' Mail (D Tett).  
Southend - Display by Chelmsford P.S.
- 22 Brentwood - Open Night.
- 23 Witham - Chile (R A W Orrin).
- 24 - Harlow - To be advised.
- 27 Rayleigh - Acquired in 2008 (Members).
- 30 - Shoeburyness - The Caribbean (G Basco).

### Aug 2009

- 3 Basildon - Display by Leytonstone &  
Wanstead P.S.
- 4 Benfleet - To be advised.
- 5 Bishop's Stortford - Masks and Puppets (R  
Wheeler) - Social meeting and supper at  
Thorley.
- 6 Witham - The Committee Entertains.
- 7 Harlow - To be advised.
- 10 Rayleigh - Bourse.
- 11 Epping Forest - Europe (Members).
- 13 Hullbridge - Scottish Postal History (D W  
Sibley).
- 18 Basildon - USA: Steamboat Mail (H  
Feldman).
- 19 Bishop's Stortford - Commemorative  
Stamps 1930-1960 (Members).
- 20 Witham - Informal / Bring and buy.
- 21 Harlow - To be advised.
- 24 Rayleigh - Birds of Prey (R Page).
- 26 Brentwood - Open Night.
- 20 - East Anglian Postal History - Strike and  
Scout Posts of East Anglia (at Stowmarket).

### Sep 2009

- 1 AEPS - Executive Committee.  
Benfleet - To be advised.  
Sudbury - To be advised.
- 2 Bishop's Stortford - President Entertains &  
Competitions.  
Goodmayes - To be advised.
- 3 Billericay - Airmails UK to India/Australia  
(J Rawlins).  
Witham - USA - Carriage of Mails by Water  
(H Feldman).
- 4 Harlow - To be advised.
- 5 AEPS - Council Meeting, Chelmsford.  
Closing date for Autumn Competitions.
- 7 Basildon - United Nations (L C Stanway).
- 8 Braintree - To be advised.  
Chelmsford - Display by Sudbury P.S.  
Epping Forest - To be advised.
- 9 Brentwood - Display by Billericay P.S.  
Ipswich - To be advised.

- 10 Hullbridge - Wars & Rebellions - Napoleonic to Boer (J Cowlin).  
 12 Leytonstone & Wanstead - To be advised.  
 14 Cheshunt - Fakes, Forgeries and their Creators (C G Harman).  
 Rayleigh - Australia (M Musgrave).  
 15 Southend - To be advised.  
 Sudbury - To be advised.  
 16 Bishop's Stortford - It begins with Letter "C" (Members).  
 Goodmayes - To be advised.  
 16-19 London - STAMPEX, Business Design Centre, London (including ABPS BPE National, One-frame and Inter-Federation Competitions, and Seminar on Introductory Pages and Social History).  
 17 Billericay - A trip through the West Indies (L Keeley).  
 Witham - Chairman's Evening.  
 18 Colchester - To be advised.  
 Harlow - To be advised.  
 19 Basildon - STAMP FAIR, CANCELLED.  
 21 Frinton - To be advised.  
 22 Basildon - Display by Southend P.S.  
 Braintree - To be advised.  
 Chelmsford - Disinfection on the Age of Cholera 1831-1884 (D Vandervelde).  
 23 Brentwood - Open Night.  
 Ipswich - To be advised.  
 24 - Shoeburyness - China 1878-1945 (D W Sibley).  
 26 Frinton - STAMP FAIR, Frinton Community Centre, Triangle Shopping Centre, Soken House, Frinton-on-Sea CO13 0AU. 10am-4pm.  
 Kent - KFPS Autumn Rally. East Malling Village Hall, New Road, East Malling, near Maidstone ME19 6DD. 10.00am to 4.00pm.  
 28 Leytonstone & Wanstead - To be advised.

For venues, times, etc., contact the Editor.

## BPS Contact information

### Chairman:

Charlie Mead, 70 Gernons, Basildon, Essex SS16 5TN. 01268-522052 (H), 07956-570884 (M).  
[charlie.mead@aeps.org.uk](mailto:charlie.mead@aeps.org.uk)

### Secretary:

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

### Membership:

Mick Coltman, 17 Little Dodden, Basildon, Essex, SS16 5TZ, 01268-413952.

### Library and Archives:

Ann Coltman, 17 Little Dodden, Basildon, Essex, SS16 5TZ, 01268-413952.

### 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:

Claude Crowder, Mayville, Brentwood Road, Dunton Waylets, Essex, CM13 3SH. 01268-414143.

### Future programme:

Geoff Miller, . 10 Essex Close, Laindon, Essex SS15 6PT. 07905-122857.

[geoffmiller578@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffmiller578@btinternet.com)

## Press Date

The intention is that the next issue should be published on 1 October. Your news or articles is invited and should be with the Editor by 25 September.



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

