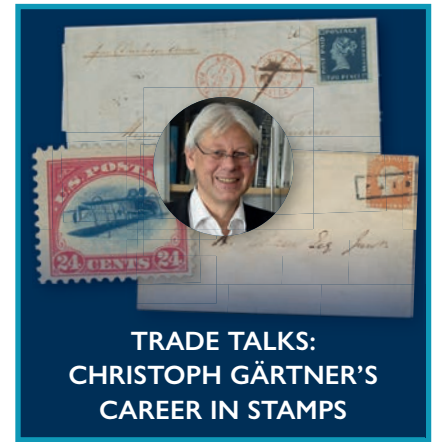


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Dear Reader

Welcome to the August edition of *Philatelic Exporter*, which goes to press as the UK

and Europe are in the grip of a record-breaking heatwave.

This month, we highlight some different areas that may be of interest to collectors. Wayne Youngblood reveals how photographic essays of American stamps are proving collectable, while Michael Burzan shows what mail delivered by pigeon has to offer. Meanwhile, Brian Lund outlines the reasons to collect postcards in 'Postcard World', and dealer Ray Howes demonstrates that even the most ordinary of items can be valued in 'My Favourite'.

Our 'Trade Talks' feature takes a trip to Germany this month, with auctioneer Christoph Gärtner answering questions about his career in stamps. If you would like to take part in this feature, please do get in touch with me.

Best wishes,

Alison Boyd
Editor *Philatelic Exporter*

www.thephilatelicexporter.com
Editorial Office: +44 (0)1425 481047
aboyn@philatelicexporter.com

Editor: Alison Boyd
Designer: Fiona Gunn

Advertising sales: +44 (0)1425 481055
advertising@philatelicexporter.com

Subscriptions: +44 (0)1425 472363
subscriptions@philatelicexporter.com

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News Round-up

Siegel's 2022 Rarities Auction • RPSL Medals for 2022 Announced • Midpex 2023

SIEGEL'S 2022 RARITIES OF THE WORLD AUCTION

ON 28 June, Robert A Siegel held their 2022 Rarities of the World auction.

The standout item from the sale was position 94 of the 1918 24c. carmine rose and blue Inverted Jenny airmail; the most famous stamp in American philately (lot 121). From the sheet of 100 Inverted Jenny errors purchased by William T Robey on 14 May 1918, the first day the stamps went on sale, and subsequently sold to prominent Philadelphia stamp dealer Eugene Klein, this very fine example from the bottom of the sheet, with original gum, went under the hammer for \$275,000.



The auction also included the only known original-gum example of the Newfoundland 1s. orange on handmade paper without mesh (lot 193). With large, even margins and a sharp impression, this extremely fine stamp, previously in the collection of Ferrary and bearing his small purple trefoil backstamp, exceeded its estimate of \$40,000–\$50,000 to achieve \$55,000.

From the 1901 Pan-American issue, there was an example of the 2c. value with centre inverted; the rarest of the three Pan-American inverts (lot 99). Perfectly centred within wide margins and with clear impressions of vignette and frame, it made \$47,500.

RPSL MEDALS

The Royal Philatelic Society London has announced the recipients of its medals for 2022.

The Tapling Medal for the best article in the Society's journal, *The London Philatelist*, was awarded to Marco Panza for the article 'Postal Rates in the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy, 1805–1814'.

The Tilleard Medal for the best afternoon display given to the Society went to James Grimwood-Taylor RDP, FRPSL for 'Postal History of the World c.3000BC to c.1940'.

The Lee Medal for the best evening presentation went to Grace

Davies FRPSL for 'Peace', while the best online Zoom presentation medal went to Murray A Abramson FRPSL for 'Commercial US Airmail (1922–41): The British-American Airmail Postal Agreement'.

The Crawford Medal for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately in book form, whether physical or electronic, was awarded to Guillerno F Gallegos FRPSL and Joseph D Hahn for *The 19th-century Issues of El Salvador, 1867–1900*.

The London Medal for exceptional service to the Society went to Geoff Hanney FRPSL for his work assisting the Expert Committee.

BOOKINGS OPEN FOR MIDPEX 2023

PLANS for Midpex 2023, to be held at the Warwickshire Event Centre, Leamington Spa CV31 1XN on 1 July 2023, are progressing well, with dealers and societies already booking up for this popular and successful show.

Organiser, Steve Harrison, commented: 'We are delighted that we are able to start planning the next show without many of the restrictions that existed in 2021. I have been very pleased with the interest already shown by dealers and societies who have been past supporters. This clearly shows that the format works and that attendance levels have enabled everyone to benefit from taking part in previous events.'

First held in 1995, Midpex is a biennial event that brings together specialist societies with local, national and international dealers covering all aspects of philately. The 2023 event will include postcard dealers alongside those selling stamps, thematics and postal history.

There is space for 70 dealers, and 40 specialist societies are expected to support the show.

For more information and booking forms, please contact Steven Harrison by email (sharrison500@btinternet.com). Additional details of the venue can be accessed on its website (warwickshireeventcentre.co.uk). For more information, see sites.google.com/site/midpex

CHANGES PROPOSED AT STANLEY GIBBONS

ON 22 July, Stanley Gibbons announced that it is sending a proposal to its shareholders to delist the company from the London Stock Exchange, thus making it a private company. In the announcement, Phoenix Asset Management, which holds a 58% stake in the business, outlined the clear financial and business benefits of delisting the company from London's Alternative Investment Market (AIM), including the cost burden of being listed and the fact the majority of the company's peers are privately owned. Phoenix have confirmed its wish to continue to provide support in order that the company can fulfil its potential but wishes to do so with the business operating as a private company.

An Extraordinary General Meeting is being convened on 30 August to consider the move to delist. To be approved, the proposal needs 75% of the shareholder votes cast to agree to the cancellation.

In addition to the proposal to delist, Stanley Gibbons also announced that Graham Shircore, Group CEO, will be stepping down on 12 September to return to work at Phoenix. It is anticipated that Graham will become a non-executive director of the Group at this stage. Tom Pickford will replace Graham as CEO on that date. The Board believes he has the ideal mix of abilities required for the next stage in the Group's journey, which began with its recapitalisation just over four years ago.

Philatelic Bulletin • First Crawford Festival • Kelleher Sale of Three Chinese Items

PHILATELIC BULLETIN TO CEASE PUBLICATION

IT has been announced that the August edition of *Philatelic Bulletin*, published by Royal Mail, will be the last one. After 59 years of publication, a declining subscriber base and increasing costs have been cited as the reason for the cancellation.

Over the years, the magazine has provided information on the latest stamp issues, along with studies in traditional philately and postal history. The final issue includes a special history of the publication.

For those who have paid subscriptions beyond August, a full refund for the remaining months of the subscription will be provided.

PROLIFIC ITALIAN STAMP DESIGNER, FRANCESCO TULLI, PASSES AWAY

ON 20 June, it was announced that the Italian artist and stamp designer, Francesco Tulli, passed away aged 89. Born in 1932, Mr Tulli graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome as a painter and engraver. He worked at Italy's National Printing House and State Mint between 1952 and 1998. During his career, he produced 60 stamps for Italy and Vatican City.



FIRST CRAWFORD FESTIVAL

THE first Annual Crawford Festival was held by the Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) at its premises at 15 Abchurch Lane on 28 and 29 June. The theme of the two-day event was 'How to write a book – A practical guide to producing a work of philatelic literature'.

The festival began with a keynote address by David Beech FRPSL entitled 'Crawford in Context, the Place of the 26th Earl in Philatelic History'. Other speeches throughout the first day focused on resources for research.



The second day was opened by Brian Trotter RDP Hon. FRPSL, who gave a keynote speech on 'Preparing for Publication'. The rest of the day concentrated on the practical aspects of producing a book.

During the festival, the 2022 Crawford Medal was presented to Guillermo F Gallegos and Joseph D Hahn for their book *The 19th-century Issues of El Salvador 1867–1900*, which was published by the RPSL in 2021.

The 2nd Annual Crawford Festival will take place at the RPSL on 27–28 June 2023. The theme for the festival will be philatelic journals.

KELLEHER SALE OF THREE CHINESE ITEMS

ON 29 June, Kelleher and Rogers held the sale of Three Select Rarities of the People's Republic of China at their agent's office in Danebury, CT, USA. The auctioneers stated that the three stamps were not only treasured by collectors but were also important cultural icons of modern China, embodying its sociopolitical history and mirroring its economic development.

The sale included a pristine and well-centred mint, never-hinged example of one of the most iconic stamps of the Cultural Revolution – the 1968 'Whole Country is Red' 8f., featuring workers, peasants, soldier and a map of China.

When issued in Beijing on 25 November 1968, geographical anomalies were discovered in the map of China, such as the omission of the Archipelagos of Xisha and Nanshi, and the map of Taiwan being in white. As a result, the entire issue was withdrawn. However, a few post offices had sold stamps before the official issue date, and these have since found their way to market. This stamp sold for its lower estimate of HK\$750,000 (£80,000).

Also from 1968, there was a mint, never-hinged example from the top-right corner of the sheet of the 8f. 'Great Victory of the Cultural Revolution' stamp, which was prepared but not issued. Showing Chairman Mao and Lin Bin Piao appearing before a Victory celebration in the countryside, it is one of the rarest stamps of the Cultural Revolution. The few examples available are due to the post office in Hebei selling the stamp before the official issue date. Upon the issue's subsequent cancellation, the entire supply of stamps was returned to Beijing. From an estimate of HK\$1,800,000–HK\$2,200,000, this stamp went for HK\$1,500,000 (£160,000).

A complete, post-office-fresh mint sheet of 80 of the 1980 'Year of the Monkey' 8f. issue completed the sale. This was



the first 'New Year' stamp issued by the People's Republic. With a print run of less than 5,000,000, most examples were sold on a limited basis by the post offices in China and to new issue collectors overseas. Therefore, the number of surviving complete sheets is relatively low. The HK\$900,000 (£96,000) hammer price of this sheet was within its HK\$800,000–HK\$1,200,000 estimate.

2021 FEPA AWARDS REVEALED

THE Board of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) has announced the winners of the 2021 FEPA Awards.

The Medal for Exceptional Service to Organised Philately was awarded to Bernard Jimenez of France (top). A member of the Board of the French Federation since 1991, Jimenez has been involved in all national and international exhibitions in France, including PhilexFrance 1999 and Salon du Timbre 2012 and 2014. He has also been very active in international organised philately, including being Vice-President of the *Fédération Internationale de Philatélie* (FIP) since 2016.



The Medal for Exceptional Philatelic Study and Research has been jointly awarded to Lars Engelbrecht of Denmark (middle) and Pedro Vaz Pereira of Portugal (bottom). Engelbrecht was awarded the medal for his study of the 'Postal Stationery of Denmark – The Bi-Coloured Issue 1871–1905', while Vaz Pereira was recognised for his research into the 'Portuguese Post 1853–1900'.



Four philatelic societies were awarded Certificates of Appreciation for outstanding activities to promote philately.



The aim of the KOSMOS Specialised Society of the Czech Republic is to promote and support collecting focused on astronautics and space research.

Founded in 1878, the Association of Stamp Collectors, Frankfurt, runs a huge library and offers monthly talks.

One of the oldest philatelic societies in Italy, the Subalpina Philatelic Union, celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2013. Over the years, the Society has organised many philatelic events.

Southampton and District Philatelic Society actively promoted philately during the last two years of the pandemic. It was one of the first UK societies to introduce video presentations during lockdown and continues to augment its programme with this technology.

UPDATE ON BOSTON 2026

PREPARATIONS are continuing for the Boston 2026 World Expo. It has recently been announced that the American First Day Cover Society has approved a \$5000 donation to the show.

AFDCS board member Foster Miller said: 'We want to send a message that the AFDCS is a major player in the hobby, not just another organization. We also want to send a message to the international stamp community that first day covers are important.'

Nancy Clark, of Boston 2026, said: 'It's just this kind of support within the philatelic community which makes it possible to continue to promote both our hobby and our mission to enrich lives through philately.'

At the Great American Stamp Show in Sacramento, California, to be held in late August, the second in a series of promotional labels for Boston 2026 will be released. This will be followed by a presentation from Yamil Kouri, who is now the show's president, with former president Nancy Clark now president emerita.

The show takes place 23–30 May 2026, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. Full details may be found on the website (boston2026.org).

LETTER: DO WE REALLY NEED TO USE TWEEZERS?

AS I read through the current issue of *PE*, I pulled up sharp at Michael Burzan's piece. For one fleeting moment, I thought it was an April issue. 'Fingerprints and Dactyloscopy'. And I must confess, that for another fleeting moment, I'd forgotten what dactyloscopy actually meant. Then it dawned on me. It's the identification of fingerprints, stupid. Not to be confused with the slightly different dactylography.

Michael asks a 'provocative question'. Do we really need to use tweezers? No. Only sometimes. Well, I wouldn't sort out a pile of rare and expensive stamps – be they mint or not – without using tweezers. So it's very unlikely that I'd leave evidence of my fingerprints on them. However, I've no doubt whatsoever that I have left the fingerprints of my various digits on literally thousands of cheap and cheerful stamps, miniature sheets and covers. And I might even have left a fingerprint on a 1929 UM £1 PUC that I sold yesterday. But that's not a rare stamp, of course.

Even though I cannot recall one of my clients ever returning an item because it has a fingerprint upon it, I want to take this opportunity to thank Michael for bringing this subject to my attention. Because from now on, every time I reach out for my tweezers I'll be subliminally thinking about the effects of fingerprints. As if I've not got enough to worry about.

I'll end with posing two other provocative questions – when will collectors stop buying Royal Mail ephemera and when will auction houses stop using catalogue prices to guild the lily with estimates?

Ray Howes, Weymouth

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David Boyd Obituary • Royal Mail Releases Eight New Stamps to Celebrate Pride

OBITUARY: DAVID BOYD

WITH great sadness, Grosvenor have announced that David Boyd passed away on 10 June, after a long illness.

David was a well-known and highly respected figure in the stamp world. He was a great friend and source of expert advice to many collectors, as well as a personal mentor to many in the Grosvenor family. He will be greatly missed.

David Boyd started his philatelic career with Robson Lowe in 1958. In 1972, he was appointed to run and regenerate the stamp department of Phillips, Son & Neale and within three years was appointed to the main board, where he served for 24 years. He secured many great collections for sale in that time, including the fabulous studies of Norway and Italian States formed by Baron



Alphonse Rothschild. He was perhaps, though, at his happiest when simply 'talking stamps' with fellow collectors, visiting local societies and sharing his tales of collections and auctions in his ever-evolving, and always well-received, presentation 'Have Gavel, Will Travel'.

David served as Chairman of the Philatelic Traders' Society and Chairman of Stampex, each for two years. He was an honorary member of both the Philatelic Traders' Society and the Royal Philatelic Society London.

In 1998, David left Phillips and continued his philatelic work as an independent expert and valued consultant to the Grosvenor company, whilst also finding time to pursue, with his ever-supportive wife, Pat, a wide range of outside interests, including birdwatching, cycling and travelling the world.

PRIDE

ON 1 July, Royal Mail issued eight colourful stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Pride rally in London in 1972. Called the Gay Pride Rally, the march was part of a week-long series of demonstrations calling for equal rights for members of the LGBTQ+ community (LGBTQ+ standing for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning, with the '+' to acknowledge that there are other genders and sexualities that people may identify with.)

The march, which took place on 1 July 1972 and travelled from Trafalgar Square to Hyde Park, was not the first demonstration for LGBTQ+ rights in the UK; similar marches had taken place in Highbury Fields, Islington, in 1970, and another in Trafalgar Square in 1971. However, the 1972 rally was the first to carry the 'Pride' name. Royal Mail's stamps were issued exactly 50 years to the day that the march took place.

The march was organised by members of the UK Gay Liberation Front (GLF), which existed from 1970 to 1973 when internal disagreements led to the movement's splintering. The march was held in response to the Stonewall Riots in the United States, which was sparked by a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village in New York, on 28 June 1969. The raid and the subsequent riots led to a global gay rights movement.

There were less than 1000 protesters at the first Pride march, but by 2015, Pride in London, as it was now known, attracted a million attendees, and numbers continued to grow, until Pride celebrations had to be cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. Today, Pride in London remains the main LGBTQ+ event in the UK, although many other Pride events take place.

One of the demands of Pride marches in the early decades was for greater legal equality for gay people. Despite homosexuality being partially decriminalised in England and Wales in 1967, arrests of gay and bisexual men were still common. Early Pride events also called for basic safety and freedom for the LGBTQ+ community and raised awareness of violent assaults on gay people. During the AIDS epidemic in the early 1980s, there was an increase in homophobia and more attacks on LGBTQ+ people in the UK.

In June 1985, the LGBTQ+ community formed an alliance with miners striking across England and Wales and the two groups marched in solidarity at Pride. A new law in 1988, Section 28, banned local authorities and schools from 'promoting the teaching of the acceptability of homosexuality'. This led to the biggest turnout at London Pride that year to protest against the bill. Despite the protests, the bill was only retracted in 2003. In 2002, same-sex couples won the right to adopt and two years later same-sex civil partnerships were legalised. In 2013, the law was changed to allow same-sex marriage.



On the Road

This month, Constanze Dennis of Grosvenor reports back from Capex in Toronto, while Tony Hender of Arun Stamps has been to Philanglia and Stafford Stamp Show.

Capex

I think it's safe to say that Capex in Toronto, which was held 9–12 June, was the most hyped international show this year. A well-organised affair in a great central location, what's not to get hyped about!

I nearly ended up in the wrong show because when I asked where Capex was the staff member assumed I was going to the video game convention happening in a different hall and tried to send me there instead. When she came running after me shouting that the stamps were downstairs, I descended down the escalators to collect my name tag and explore (1).

Inside, the show was split into three areas; the main corridor when you arrived had an array of stands for societies, then the main dealer hall and an area with auditoriums for the various talks and presentations going on. This was definitely my highlight, as there were at least two talks going on at any one time, with topics as diverse as the Quetta earthquake to gay and lesbian history on stamps.

The exhibits took an unusual format of all being one framers. This seemed to be the biggest hit of the show because this concept makes looking at such a large quantity of exhibits much less overwhelming. Obviously, the usual larger frame exhibits allow for a lot more detail, but for allowing a concise summary of a collecting area, the one-frame model definitely wins.

There was a heavy turnout of UK dealers and auctioneers, with many well-known names making the trip: Philangles, Bill Barrell, Spink, Cavendish and Stanley Gibbons to name but a few. Turnout from the North American side was also high, with various dealers, such as Chris Green, making the comparatively short journey from his shop in Ottawa, as well as a strong presence from leading Canadian auction houses, including Sparks and Eastern Auctions. The wide range of stands present made for a diverse offering of material, although the Canada collectors were definitely getting the



1 Capex, with its one-frame exhibition, took place 9–12 June and saw a number of UK dealers make the trip to Toronto

best deal with the amount of specialists there.

Overall, the vibe from the dealers I spoke to seemed to all agree that they had a good show but not an exceptional one, with some noting the absence of a lot of the expected American turnout. Many theorised that some people were put off by Canada being a little behind us on Covid-19 controls.

Grosvenor didn't take a stand at the show as it was our June auction a few days after (I think my colleagues may hate me a little bit for leaving them at our busiest period!), so I was there collecting consignments for our autumn auctions and meeting up with some of our clients who don't make it across the pond too often. Definitely a worthwhile trip for us and a great way to enjoy my first trip to Canada!

Philanglia 2022

THIS year's Philanglia, held 2 July in St Ives, Cambridge, was the first since lockdowns began in 2020. Overall, there was a good footfall, with around 200 people in attendance (2).

The show is East Anglia's largest stamp fair, and there was a good range of dealers, including J&K Halls, Mark Weaving, Bill Barrell, Andy Meir, Roger Hudson and Arun Stamps.

Among those visiting the show, the general comment was that as a number of fairs had stop running, such as in Cambridge, Laindon and Kings Lynn, they were pleased that Philanglia was still able to continue.

On the upper floor of the show, there were competition displays by the Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation.



2 The tables at Philanglia

Stafford Stamp Show

ON 17–18 July, Stafford Stamp Show took place at the County Showground in Stafford (3). There was a good range of dealers attending, along with a few new faces. Among those who took stands at the show were BB Stamps, John and Jane Rice (who organised the show), John Curtin, Arun Stamps, Robert Uden, Mint GB Stamps and Eric Wilding.

Over the two days, a very hot Friday affected the footfall at the show. Most dealers had a good fair despite the attendance.



3 Stafford Stamp Show took place in the middle of July

PTS Update

With plans for Stampex 2022 in full swing, Isobel Klempka of the PTS provides an update on the show.

THE PTS team is all hands on deck, preparing for Stampex 2022. With almost all stands, tables and advertising space sold, our focus is now on increasing visitor numbers to the show through world-class exhibits, new items from dealers and engaging activities for collectors and philatelic enthusiasts.

We want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Spink for sponsoring the show and to eBay for partnering with us to create the eBay Auditorium. We are excited about the new-look format, with a new zone at the clock end of the mezzanine. Here, you'll find those individuals previously situated in the gallery bays, including GB Naval Stamps & Covers, Benstamps, Stephen T Taylor, John Curtin and Thematix.

You might have also noticed our new-look website, which has had a refresh for this 2022 show. Ticket sales are open and the early-bird deal for the opening day will close at the end of August. Full details are available on the website (stampexinternational.com/tickets).

The eBay Auditorium will be hosting a range of talks throughout the four-day show. A full schedule will be announced in late August, but Chris Taft from The Postal Museum, Daniel Piazza from Smithsonian National Postal Museum and Richard Morel from the British Library are already confirmed. Graham Beck from the top philatelic YouTube channel, Exploring Stamps, also has a talk scheduled.

In addition, the eBay Team will have a stand at Stampex (stand 116) in order to meet sellers and buyers, and to answer any questions you have or ideas you'd like to share.

We will also be hosting an interactive #xtremephilately display. If you haven't heard of #xtremephilately, it's a fun philatelic craze, which is taking the online philatelic community by storm. Simply, find a stamp, find the exact location, object, or person in the stamp, snap a picture and share (1-2). Our showcase will include pieces from Exploring Stamps, Richard the Philatelist and the Punk Philatelist.

The Court of Honour is celebrating Chris Harman's collection on 'The Chalon Head of Queen Victoria'. The display covers the stamps from all the colonies that used the two Chalon portraits.

Africa is the lead theme for the ABPS organised competitive exhibitions and exhibits will be shown in the gallery bays.

Bill Barrell (stand 69) will be hosting line-engraved experts, Mike Williams and Graham Stockdale, who will be plating 1d. blacks and 1d. reds free of charge. Also, if you have any 'oxidised' GB line-engraved stamps then they will reverse the chemical reaction for you – watch them put 1d. blacks into water!

On 'Society Saturday', we have a whole host of societies scheduled to meet, including the GBPS, Philatelic Congress of Great Britain Study Group, Ceylon Study Circle, Egypt Study Circle and East Anglia Postal History, as well as others. This is a great opportunity to join a new society or meet them face to face.

The Youth Zone and Stamp Active are back. The kid's auction is scheduled for 2pm on Saturday, 1 October and is a big hit with the younger generation, as they are able to bid on lots and enjoy their very own auction.

Stampex stand sales are almost closed, so if you would like to find out about ways you can be involved, please do get in touch with the PTS team (info@thepts.net).

We have also launched Stampex Patronage, a one-off pledge to



1 #xtremephilately in action (Graham Beck, Exploring Stamps)



2 A scenic example of #xtremephilately (Graham Beck, Exploring Stamps)



3 PTS Patronage is now available

help support the 2022 show and everything the PTS and Stampex team is doing to boost the hobby (3).

General developments

In this month's PTS Trade Vlog, Suzanne Rae and Isobel Klempka caught up with PTS members James Leigh and Constanze Dennis. You can watch the full vlog on the PTS YouTube Channel (youtu.be/oYPC3GaBvR0).

As ever, we have lots of activity happening at the PTS. Suzanne and Simon Carson held a 'Meet the PTS' at York Stamp Show, which was a huge success. Exclusively for our members, we have been hosting 'How To' sessions, including 'How to Get into Social Media', 'How to Guide to Mailchimp' and 'How to Use Canva'. These sessions offer insights and advice to all members and help them discover new tools and ways to promote their business. Our next one is on 'Marketing for a Show' and is exclusively open to the PTS membership.

Technology updates mean that the PTS shield is now even more visible on eBay and it is easier for businesses to upload to their listings. We now have over 250,000 listings online with PTS Shields, meaning customers can shop with more confidence on the platform.

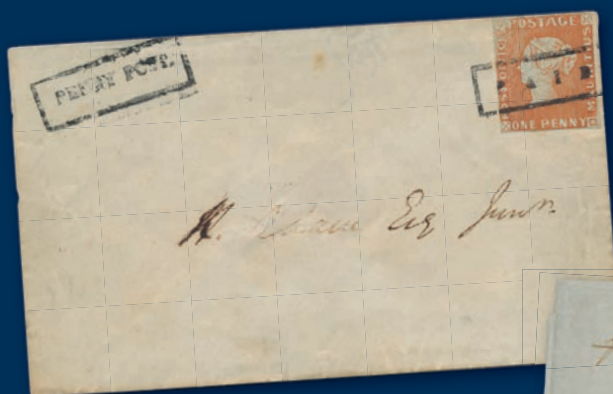
New members and AGM

We have welcomed several new members to the PTS this month. All members are vetted and referenced to ensure that they meet the society's standards and keep customers safe. If you are not yet a member and would like to join our society and journey, do check out our benefits and online application form (thepts.net/benefits).

The PTS AGM will be hosted in the eBay Auditorium during Stampex on Thursday, 29 September 2022 at 5.30pm, and we would be delighted to welcome as many PTS Members to the AGM as possible.

Trade Talks – Christoph Gärtner

This month, German auctioneer Christoph Gärtner answers questions about his career in stamps, which includes selling several world-famous items last year.



1 The Mauritius Ball Cover, which reached a hammer price of €8.1 million



2 The blue Mauritius on letter sold by Christoph Gärtner last year



3 Christoph Gärtner sold an Inverted Jenny at their 50th auction, which had a hammer price of €350,000

Can you outline your type of philatelic business?

We serve many segments because we are very broadly positioned in terms of price and areas.

As I run an auction house and a trading house, we provide auction items and a fixed price offer. In addition, it happens from time to time that I am asked to broker a private treaty offer, which is usually in the high-priced segment.

What was your first philatelic job?

I started my philatelic career very young. When I was in school, I was already trading stamps before and after school as well as during breaks.

Give us a couple of recent sale highlights?

Among them I count some highlights that I sold in 2021 as part of our jubilee auction

– our 50th auction. Of course, this includes the Mauritius Ball Cover, which reached a hammer price of €8.1 million, a blue Mauritius on letter sold in the same auction and an Inverted Jenny (position 27), which had a hammer price of €350,000 (1–3).

What is the most unusual item you have sold?

This will probably have been the unique whiskey collection of over 2600 individual

4 Among the most unusual items, Christoph has sold was a unique whiskey collection of over 2600 individual pieces, including some in very unusual shapes



pieces of high-quality decanters, crystal decanters, porcelain and ceramic jugs. There were multiple limited editions, consisting of various shapes and figures, such as trains, cars, personalities, animals, birds, sports and so on.

Do you collect – if so, what is your collecting area?

I started collecting postal stationery in my earlier years, but I soon started to build up a postal history collection about my birth town of Bietigheim-Bissingen (located near Stuttgart) and the surrounding towns. However, as an auctioneer you should not be a competitor to your own customers.

For my 50th birthday, I donated this collection to the city of Bietigheim-Bissingen, whose exhibits are stored in the city archives today and are made available to the public at exhibitions.

Best philatelic event you have attended?

I have fond memories of our auction in New York during the World Stamp Show – NY 2016. In one day, we auctioned the Goldschagg collection, the award-winning collection that contained 97 important stamps, multiples, pieces and covers of Baden philately, including three first-day covers from 1 May 1851, and realised more than €5 million.

What is the biggest change you have witnessed in the philatelic trade during your career?

In 1991, I went to a world exhibition in Asia for the first time. From then on, I became more and more enthusiastic about Asian philately. Today, the Asian section covers a large part of our auctions.

Best piece of advice you were given when starting out?

To look for postal history!

What advice would you give to someone beginning their philatelic career now?

My first advice would be to specialise in a manageable area and collect that in a concentrated way.

What would you like to change about the business?

Competition in our industry is fierce and, unfortunately, this also gives rise to envy among ourselves. I wish there was more cooperation in some respects and less envy.

Sum up your approach to your work?

For me personally, in addition to professional competence and assertiveness, the most important attributes in our business include global reach, customer satisfaction, international presence and long-standing friendships.

The latest auction from Christoph Gärtner featured a large selection from Asia. See 'Around the Rooms' for details.

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IRELAND	To advise
ISLE OF MAN	To advise
JAPAN	35p per ¥100
JERSEY	To advise
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MALTA	£35.00 per €100
NETHERLANDS	£40.00 per €100
NEW ZEALAND	£15.00 per NZ\$100
NORWAY	To advise
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Philatelic Photographic Essays Help Trace Stamp Design Process

In the USA, the collecting of photographic essays and publicity photographs of stamp issues has grown tremendously in popularity. Here, Wayne Youngblood highlights a few examples where the photographs reveal changes in the design by the USPS.

Photographic essays are not only studied by collectors, but they are finding their way into more and more exhibits as forerunners of stamp issues

IN recent years, the collecting of United States photographic essays and publicity photographs of stamps has grown tremendously in popularity. Like more traditional essays (original pieces of artwork, proofs of unadopted designs or even printed stamps different from those issued), photographic essays frequently differ in design from the finished product. In some cases, the differences may be minor. In others, the essay may essentially represent an entirely different stamp design. Because of this, photographic essays are not only studied by collectors, but they are finding their way into more and more exhibits as forerunners of stamp issues.

US photographic essays have been available in various forms since at least the early-20th century. Most of these, however, are either scarce or rare. An example from 1912 is a photograph of a wash-rendered design essay for one of the stamps in that year's Panama-Pacific issue (1). That item, backstamped with a US Post Office Department (USPOD) 'STAMP DIVISION' marking (2), depicts California's 'Golden Gate' (before the bridge was built). You'll note that although the design is essentially the same as the issued stamp, the denomination is not.



1 The original design for the 5c. Panama-Pacific issue was originally considered for the 2c. value, as shown here



2 The photo essay in the previous figure bears a dated handstamp from the USPOD's Stamp Division



3 The design, as it was finally released (a 5c. stamp)

The issued 5c. stamp of this design is also shown (3).

As is sometimes the case, the USPOD, upon reflection, changed its plans and released a stamp showing the opening of the Panama Canal as the 2c. stamp, since this was the primary reason for the stamp issue, and the 2c. value would be the most commonly used. (It was originally planned as the 5c. value, as the photographic essay illustrates.) As previously mentioned, these types of photographic essays were not generally released in quantity, so they are rather scarce today.

However, by the 1940s, the USPOD released publicity photographs to both the philatelic and general press for most upcoming stamp issues, including black-and-white and, later, full-colour prints, transparencies and slides. The destruction rate on these is high, as most were simply used and destroyed, and there was little to no demand for them in the philatelic marketplace.

While most of these publicity photographs/essays closely match the issued stamp, there are many that do not, including several different versions of some. Although some purists are loathe to admit it, those publicity photographs that do not match the design of the finished stamp are valid photographic essays and should be collected and identified as such.

Although all publicity photographs and photographic essays are fairly scarce, the earliest are rare. Those from the 1960s through to the 1990s were distributed and saved in somewhat larger quantities, but they are still generally quite difficult to find – particularly those with strong topical appeal.

Since the early 2000s, with the regular distribution of electronic images, photographic essays have become all but non-existent and were discontinued entirely by 2010.

Due to their nature, studying photographic essays can give one a much better idea of – and appreciation for – the stamp designing process, although none can adequately reflect its entirety.

Once the idea for a stamp issue is finalised by the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) and is approved by the postmaster general, several artists are usually asked to submit a few conceptual pieces of artwork. From these designs, the artist is selected.



4 The 4c. Dental Health issue of 1959 (Scott 1135)



5 An earlier version of the Dental Health stamp features a different girl and different type fonts



6 Even the final approved design, shown in this photo essay, differs a bit from the final stamp



7 Early designs for the 'Hap' Arnold and Crazy Horse stamps featured original artwork and no denominations



8 The final photographic essays distributed were taken from the engraved designs for these issues, but there are still differences between them and the final stamps



9 The stamps – as released – for 'Hap' Arnold and Crazy Horse essentially match the essays shown in the previous image but have a few minor differences

That artist then prepares several related designs for CSAC to consider. Once the final design is selected, there is considerable tweaking that takes place before a stamp is printed and distributed – even after the basic design is released to the public. That's where some photographic essays come in.

Dental Health commemorative of 1959

Let us take a look the 4c. Dental Health commemorative of 1959 (Scott 1135); released to pay homage to the centennial of the American Dental Association (4).

The design of the Dental Health stamp features a smiling, young girl in the foreground and a boy and girl playing in the background, with the words 'Dental Health' above them. Across the top of the design is 'American Dental Association 1859–1959'. Below the design is 'United States Postage'.

An earlier version of the stamp is – in principle – the same approved design concept, but it has a far different look (5). The toothy girl is completely different and leaning forward, rather than laughing slightly and leaning backward. The words 'Dental Health' are rendered in a different type font (as is 'United States Postage'), and the legend is below the children, rather than at the top of the design. Even the children themselves are ever so slightly different.

Although there is no record as to why the changes were made, it is pretty apparent that – from a design standpoint – the earlier version is clumsy and unwieldy compared with the final design.

Sometime prior to the 14 September 1959 release of the Dental Health stamp, another photographic essay was sent out (6). Although it reflects the final design, it differs from the issued stamp in several ways, including slightly thinner type at bottom and the adaptation of artwork to an engraving. This is what renders it an essay, rather than a simple publicity photograph of the issued stamp.

'Hap' Arnold and Crazy Horse

Sometimes, when the USPS unveils a stamp design for a future issue, certain details are not yet finalised and a design may or may not be

finished. This is very well illustrated by the essays shown of 'stamps' for H H 'Hap' Arnold and Crazy Horse, which were dummied up using preliminary artwork (7). It is easy, particularly in the Crazy Horse design, to see the original charcoal or graphite drawing nature of the design, which would eventually be engraved. In addition, the Arnold stamp bears a '00' denomination and there is none on the Crazy Horse design.

By the time the final photographic essays were sent out to the media, there had been significant type font and design alterations to both stamps and both now feature their finished denominations (8). Note, especially, Arnold's jacket, where significant shading has been added, and Crazy Horse's shoulder. By this time, both engravings had been essentially completed and the image appears to have been taken from those engravings, but there are still some minor differences from the final stamps (9).

There are hundreds of these modern photographic essays out there, with relatively little work

having been done to document the many varieties available, including some that are extremely scarce.

Greetings from...

Other promotional photographic essays can feature errors in design or any other variable that can cause a stamp design to be changed between the time it is first unveiled and when a finished stamp is actually issued. Among the most obvious of these is the 2002 34c. 'Greetings From...' issue. In mid-2001, the USPS released the designs of several planned issues for 2002, including a pane of 50 different stamps that were reminiscent of old tourist postcards. The 'Greetings From...' stamp planned for New York contained an image of the twin towers of the World Trade Center, which were destroyed in the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks (10). The image of the twin towers was removed before the stamp was issued on 4 April 2002 (11).

Keep your eyes peeled for photographic essays and see what you find. In some cases, a half-dozen or more slightly different essays are known for a single issue!



10 The 'Greetings From...' stamp planned for New York in 2002 included an image of the twin towers of the World Trade Center, which were destroyed in the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks



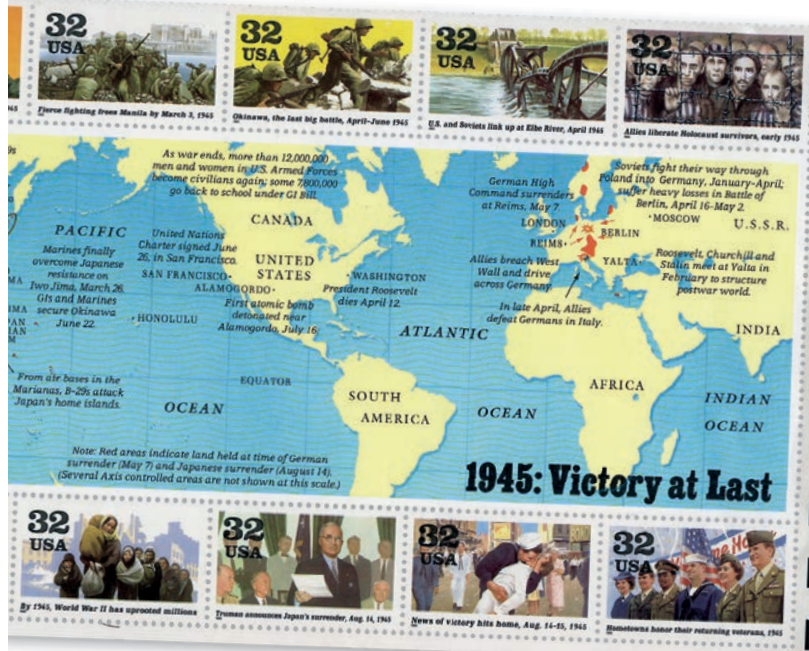
11 The image of the twin towers was removed before the stamp was issued on 4 April 2002



12 The original proposed design – as released to the press – for one of the 1995 stamps marking the 50th anniversary of World War II featured the mushroom cloud of an atomic bomb explosion



13 After some objections to the proposed stamp design were raised (and with some presidential interference), the design was changed to this rather generic image of Truman announcing the end of the war



14 Sheet of the '1945: Victory at Last' issue from 1995 showing the design eventually chosen to illustrate the end of the war in Japan

The stamp that never was

One of the most popular modern photographic essays deals with the original proposed design for one of the stamps in the 1991–95 World War II 50th anniversary sheetlets, each of which contained ten designs representing the relevant year.

It all started in early December 1994, as the United States Postal Service unveiled artwork for its final sheetlet of ten stamps marking important events of World War II – all designed by William H Bond. The sheet, titled '1945: Victory at Last', featured events ranging from liberating Holocaust survivors and Germany's surrender, to raising the flag on Iwo Jima and hometowns honouring the return of their veterans. Those, however, were not images that particularly attracted anyone's attention. It was the design that features a mushroom cloud set against a red background, with the caption 'Atomic bombs hasten war's end, August 1945' (12). The basic design, in my opinion, was factual and unemotional. It did not glorify the act; it simply and quietly noted a fact.

Almost immediately, there was friction. On 2 December, the Japanese Embassy formally protested the stamp, noting the large loss of life suffered during the US attacks. 'Beneath that mushroom cloud,' stated Nagasaki Mayor Hiyoshi Motoshima, 'hundreds of thousands of noncombatant women and children were killed or injured on the spot.' He felt it would have been a 'heartless' act to issue a stamp marking what he expressed as an 'indiscriminate massacre'.

Then, on 7 December (Pearl Harbor Day), Dee Dee Myers, White House Spokeswoman, stated, 'We agree that the atomic bomb helped speed the end of the war, but again there could be more appropriate ways to depict that event.' Of course, neither she nor the Clinton Administration offered an acceptable alternative. Two days later, on 9 December, the USPS officially scrapped the mushroom cloud design in favour of a much more generic one showing President Truman reading an announcement of the end of the war. A colour

transparency of just that stamp was immediately distributed to the press (13–14). And just like that, the marking of the 50th anniversary of that solemn – but important – global event was erased from US philatelic history. Shortly after, plans to exhibit the *Enola Gay* at the Smithsonian were also scuttled due to White House pressure.

In a prepared statement, Postmaster General Marvin Runyon stated, 'We are changing the design of the stamp because of the importance of US–Japan relations at this critical time in US foreign policy, and because President Clinton conveyed his views that it was appropriate to do so.' This also was the second time in a month that the White House sought to intervene in the US stamp programme. It also tried to quash the popular, long-running and ongoing Madonna and Child series of Christmas stamps. Clearly, Runyon wasn't happy, but this wasn't the first time he bowed to various types of pressure to alter history as portrayed on stamps. He had already done so with several, including approving the design of the Robert Johnson stamp that quite literally removed the cigarette from the guitar player's mouth in an image based on one of only two known photographs of the blues guitarist. He was also responsible for the Bill Pickett/Legends of the West debacle (which could be the subject of its own column, and which generated yet another interesting photographic essay), as well as others. I mention this because the outrage over the World War II design change was set against a backdrop of altered stamp designs during a wave of various forms of political correctness that weren't popular.

Veterans (particularly those who served in World War II) were livid, as were other groups. Collector backlash to the War War II design change was almost instantaneous, and I'll admit I was one of those leading the charge. At the time, I was editor of the *Scott Stamp Monthly*.

In the February 1995 issue, I ran an editorial titled 'Don't Blow Smoke,' in which I fairly lambasted the USPS for caving into what I felt was unnecessary pressure. I prefaced the piece with an explanation that much of my earlier profession (and training) was as an executive director of a county historical society (and as consultant for a couple of museums). My argument was that it was my job 'to ferret out the truth from various historical accounts' and publish it 'as it happened, not as it was desired'. This approach, of course, frequently alienates folks, as many popularly held positions are nothing more than historical myth. So why wouldn't we wish to accurately portray history on the stamps of our nation?

But there was another issue as well. Should the White House be able to essentially dictate what appears (or doesn't appear) on a US postage stamp? Of course not. The USPS isn't even supported by tax dollars, and stamp commemorations (or the avoidance of them) are powerful tools in the education of the American public. We educate even when we aren't intending to. We do not have to like or approve of distasteful historical events, but we do owe it to future generations to record them accurately.



Wayne L Youngblood has been a professional philatelic journalist for almost 35 years. He ran a mail-order business and is now a frequent bourse dealer. A gold-medal exhibitor, he is the recipient of the APS Luff Award, a member of both the Writers Unit and Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs' Halls of Fame, and a distinguished topical philatelist.

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Research Resources – The Postal Museum

The team from The Postal Museum in London provide a useful guide to the resources available at their site in Phoenix Place or online.



1 King George V
imperforate 2s.6d.
Seahorse registration
sheet, 24 June 1913
(POST 150/KGV/SH/01)



2 Artwork by Harold
Nelson for the Postal Union
Congress £1 stamp of 1929
(POST 150/GV/PUC/2/005)

ROYAL Mail's collection was transferred to the Postal Heritage Trust, the independent charity behind The Postal Museum, in 2004. Since then, we have preserved and grown the collection for the public, culminating in the opening of the museum in 2017.

We now strive to make this extraordinary collection available to all (1–5).

The philatelic collection

The philatelic collection comprises registration sheets, essays and proofs of all stages of British stamp production from 1840 to the present day. We also hold selected metal dies and printing plates. From 1924, the collection includes artwork, adopted and unadopted, for all issued and some unissued stamps.

Amongst the collection are stamps for overseas territories produced under the auspices of the British Post Office, along with some material on stamps for British colonies produced by the Royal Mint or the Inland Revenue. Extensive De La Rue volumes contain the correspondence and day books of this stamp printer to about 1940 (available on microfilm).

We also hold key collections from Reginald M Phillips and Frank Staff. The Phillips Collection (digitised and available online) is an essential resource for the understanding of postage stamps and philatelic research. It contains two of the world's very first, first day covers, 1839 Treasury essays for pre-paid postage, Rowland Hill's letters and unique proofs, along with studies of stamps, such as the Twopenny Blue and the Penny Red.

From Frank Staff, the museum acquired three major collections of postal markings. One charts the history of the Penny Post from its private beginnings in 1680 London by William Dockwra, whilst the other two are his studies of markings on maritime mail and transatlantic mail up to the beginning of the 20th century.

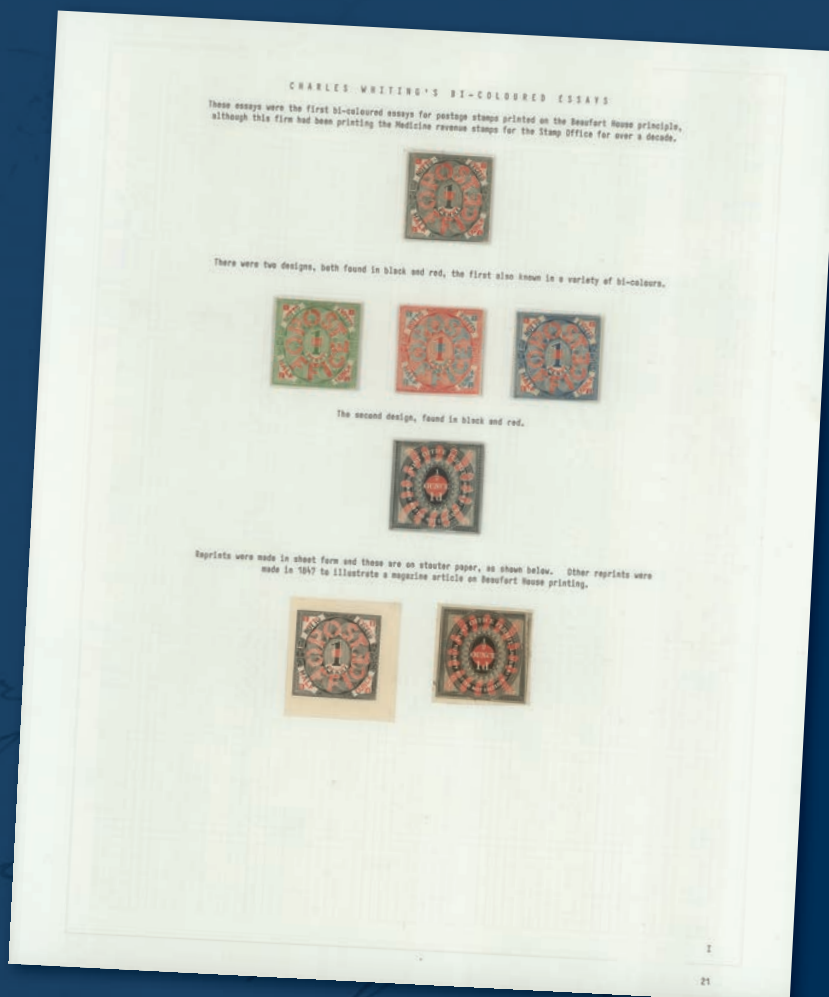
The Postal Museum also holds more than 200 albums of postal history dating from before and after the introduction of the first adhesive postage stamp. These include entire letters, covers, envelopes, postcards and postal stationery. They contain studies of particular markings for penny posts and for the various transport systems. Postal mechanisation and meter marks also have extensive coverage and bring the collections into the modern era.



3 British Empire Exhibition 1925
1½d. letterpress die for postal
stationery (OB1998.0480)



4 Phillips Collection,
Volume IV, stamped cover
dated on the first day of
issue (POST 141/04)



5 Phillips Collection, Volume I,
1839 Treasury Competition essays
submitted by Charles Whiting, with
reprints (POST 141/01)

The archive

The Royal Mail Archive holds a vast, wide-ranging collection of records on Post Office and Royal Mail business. The reference library includes publications on stamps, postmarks, handstamps and postal stationery. Listings can be seen via the online catalogue (catalogue.postalmuseum.org).

The archive includes a series of records. 'Post Office: Postage Stamps: Records' (Finding Number: POST 54) contains minutes, reports, correspondence and statistics on postage stamps. Also, it includes records on design and selection.

'Post Office: Stamp Depot' (POST 52) covers the manufacture and distribution of postage stamps, including items on stamped stationery and postal orders.

'Post Office: Handstruck Date Stamps (datestamps): Proof Books' (POST 55) includes specimen impressions of new date, machine cancellation or other handstruck stamps and historical summaries of machine cancellations.

'Post Office: Inland and Overseas Postage Rates' (POST 53) includes reports and correspondence relating to alterations of

postage rates, and postage rate tables based on individual post towns, both inland and overseas.

Research

Much of our collection is searchable online via the catalogue or by exploring our highlights pages on the website. Skilled staff can help remotely with your enquiries, or if you would like to see material in person, this can be facilitated in our Discovery Room. We also offer a number of professional museum and archival services, such as digitisation and conservation.

Practical details

The Postal Museum, along with Mail Rail, can be found at 15–20 Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DA. If you are interested in visiting the museum or using their research facilities, check out the website (postalmuseum.org) for more information and current opening hours.

Pigeons in the Service of the Post

As Michael Burzan explains, the delivery of messages by pigeons has left fascinating traces in postal history since the earliest issues.

...the use of pigeons to carry messages over long distances was a significant strategic advantage

EVER since the legendary ‘Basel Dove’ was the first three-colour postage stamp in the world to be decorated with such a representation in 1845, many stamp designs refer to the delivery of the post by carrier pigeons.

It should be noted at the outset that most of these issues give a completely false impression of this mode of transport (1). In reality, the trained birds do not carry a letter in their beak at all: the messages are attached to one of their feet, usually rolled up in a small metal tube. This is why pigeon mail does not consist of envelopes, as misleadingly depicted on many stamps, such items would be far too bulky and heavy for this form of air transport. Instead, special thin paper, which can be folded up easily, without envelopes, is usually used.

Carrier pigeons also cannot be sent on a journey to any desired destination. They are first transported in containers or cages from their home location to the take-off point (launch site), up to several hundred kilometres away. With their good sense of direction, they are then able to return from there to their point of departure within a short time, bringing small-format information with them.

Even in Roman times, the use of pigeons to carry messages over long distances was a significant strategic advantage that was also used for military operations. The birds were able to cross enemy lines much more quickly and unobtrusively than a messenger on foot or even a horseman. Until well into the 20th century, carrier pigeons were part of specially trained detachments in the military of several countries, some documented by covers and postmarks (2).

Start-up of the first news agencies

In the 19th century, an intensified use of carrier pigeons began in Europe. Until the spread of telegraphy, they were the fastest form of transmitting news, making them a valuable aid for businessmen, bankers and stockbrokers.

This was also recognised by two entrepreneurs who founded news agencies that are still among the world’s leading ones today. The trader and translator Charles-Louis Havas (1783–1858) started his Bureau Havas in Paris in 1832 and Agence Havas in 1835, which was the world’s first news agency. The strategically ideal location opposite the main post office at the Louvre helped.

In addition, Havas established carrier pigeon lines between Paris, Brussels and London (3). The birds took off from London every morning punctually at 8am, with the latest news and price quotations from the stock exchange, crossed the English Channel and, after a distance of around 360km, landed six hours later at Havas’ home in Paris. In this way, he was able to be the first to pass on the latest information and stock exchange prices from England to his customers at around 2pm every day.

His example was followed by Paul Julius Reuter (1816–99), who worked for Havas before founding his own news agency in Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) in 1850, which transmitted news by carrier pigeons over 125km between Brussels and Aachen.

Sought-after ‘Basel Doves’

We can conclude that at the time of the ‘Basel Dove’ between 1845 and 1854, the carrier pigeon was understood to signify speed in postal transport.

The famous ‘Basel Dove’ from Switzerland, with a letter in its beak, is one of the internationally sought-after classics. Prices are based on many quality criteria, such as a sufficient margin (‘white margin’), relief of the embossing and clean cancellations. In the first months of 2022, several four-digit results were



1 Again and again, stamps bear misleading depictions of carrier pigeons carrying letters in their beaks



2 Swiss field postmark from pigeon platoon 15 and letter to the division from 1940





3 Havas Paris, the world's first news agency, used communication means such as pigeons and air balloons (€650, Delcampe)



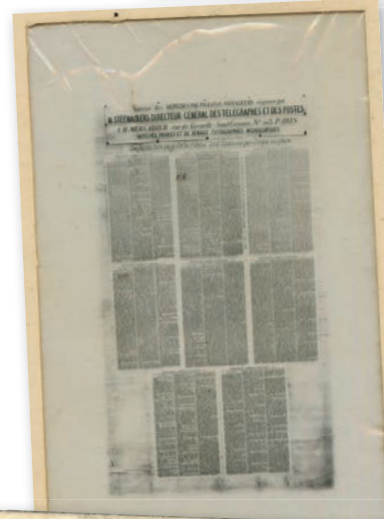
4 The third known used date of a Basel Dove was driven up to CHF46,000 at the Rapp Spring 2022 auction

recorded in euros or Swiss francs. Up to CHF3800 was paid even for examples with small detractions, up to CHF5400 for good unused ones and €7000 for a colour intensive used first edition with a visible plate break in the 'P' of 'POST'.

A beautiful piece of a cover with a best-quality, second-edition example and a black frame 'FRANCO' cancel, reached €9500 (Gert Müller). A bidder paid €18,000 for a beautiful local folded cover in fresh condition bearing the 35th stamp of the sheet of 40 in an even cut with strong relief (Christoph Gärtner). There was a CHF30,000 hammer price from Jean-Paul Bach for one of the most beautiful unused Basel Doves in perfect condition, with original gum and a wide sheet margin of 3.7mm at the top.

The Rapp Spring 2022 auction included a result of CHF46,000 for the sixth stamp of the sheet. This was in bright fresh colours and had a strikingly embossed relief, along with white margins on all sides, a wide upper margin. It was franked inverted on a complete folded cover for a death notice from Thann in Alsace on 20 August 1845 and handed over to the post office in Basel on '22 AOUT 1845' (4). This forwarded printed matter is the third earliest known date for a Basel Dove. The earliest known letter is dated 7 July 1845, while another is dated 13 August 1845 (auctioned at Rapp in 2004). Qualitatively, this Basel Dove is an exceptional piece and with the completely preserved letter is philatelically of great importance.

5 Example of the photographically reduced message sheets carried in tubes on the feet of the pigeon (Lugdunum)



6 Letter from November 1870 reporting the first successful return to Paris of carrier pigeons sent by balloon (€1200, Roumet)

Pigeons by balloon from Paris

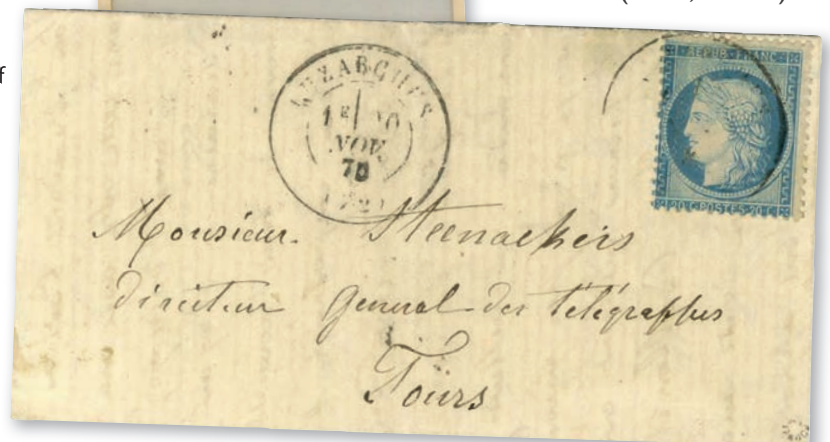
Even after carrier pigeons became dispensable due to the use of telegraph lines, they continued to play an important role when or where no telegraph connection was possible.

This was especially true during the Franco-German War of 1870–71 during the siege of Paris. Balloons not only carried more than two million messages, reduced-size newspapers and balloon mail letters from Paris across the siege ring. Some 360 carrier pigeons also travelled with them and could be used to transport information back to the surrounded capital from unoccupied areas of France.

In order to increase the number of messages transmitted, they were transferred onto a wafer-thin layer of collodion at a greatly reduced photographic scale (5). In this way, a carrier pigeon could transmit up to 40,000 letters of up to 20 words. The transmission cost 50 centimes per word for the so-called 'pigeograms'. Once received, the messages were projected and enlarged by magic lantern, transcribed and delivered to the recipients. Some pages were coded and consisted only of long rows of numbers that specialists were able to decipher.

Roumet Histoire Postale offered two lots of five such photographic pigeograms with news pages in reduced format from the war of 1870–71, which sold for €933 and €856 in 2022

A balloon mail letter with interesting text, dated from Paris on 16 November 1870, was signed by Garnier Pagès and addressed to Mr Steenackers, Director General of the Telegraph and Post Office in Tours, and carried by the *General Urrich* balloon (6). It



says: 'I am the first sender of pigeon mail by balloon... During ten days not a single pigeon arrived, the last brought us the victory of Coulmiers and Orléans. Unspeakable joy. I think it is appropriate to let the pigeons take off from Paris on the next possible day.' It was stamped 'LUZARCHES (72) 20 NOV. 70/No. 37', while on the reverse, it bore an arrival stamp of 24 November 1870 (Roumet Histoire Postale, €1200).

From 26 November of that year, a balloon mail letter to Villefranche (*Gazette des Absents*, no. 11), franked with 20 centimes, was transported by the *Le Jacquard* balloon and postmarked on arrival on 5 December 1870. The contents dealt with replies

International Report: Europe

by carrier pigeon and the four standard questions for returns by telegraph dispatch (La Postale Philatelie, €1100). Behr Philately had a printed decree from the Telegraph and Postal Administration laying down the conditions for sending private dispatches between the departments and Paris by carrier pigeon (€160). A Corinphila auction offered a pigeongram as an officially mailed reduction of the Steenackers information no. 45 in a 31×42mm format, which was carried into the city by pigeons outside besieged Paris, which started at CHF150.

Bids for Havas

In recent years, I have also collected some offers and results from internet sales on the Delcampe platform of correspondence via *Ballon Monté* from the Havas agency. For example, back in 2010, there was a bid of €650 for an example in superb quality from the Le Lavoisier–Havas correspondence in French.

After a €1 start, there were 75 bids for a *Ballon Monté* Havas correspondence to London by the *Général Ulrich* balloon with two stamp values, which ended at €421. A fixed price of €375 was asked for an Agence Havas letter of 3 Decembre 1870 'Par Ballon Monté' on *Le Franklin* to Brest. €349.95 was the price for a *Ballon Monté* transported by *Le Washington* or *Le Louis Blanc* between 8 and 17 October 1870 with *Dépêche Havas*. There were 15 bids for a *Ballon Monté* by *Le Vauban* from Agence Havas to Caen, which went for €311. One bidder bought an Agence Havas '4 MAI 1871' envelope from the 'COMMUNE DE PARIS' via Versailles to Caen (Calvados) for €325.

Other pigeongrams were issued in the 20th century on various occasions, some of them as special mail promotions at philatelic events (7–12). In some countries, postal stationery with imprinted value stamps was also issued for such promotions.

First airmail in Germany

Another interesting set of stamps with the incorrect depiction of a bird transporting a letter in its beak was issued locally in June 1912. A total of 110 years have passed since the first semi-official airmail stamps were used in the German Empire. They were classified as semi-official because covers were to be franked with the definitive issues of the Reichspost at the usual rate for onward postal transport.

A special place is given to the airmail stamps issued in June 1912 for use on the Rhine and Main between the cities of Darmstadt, Frankfurt, Offenbach, Mainz and Worms. They appear in the German catalogues, with the Roman sub-numbers I/VI, between the stamps Mi 94/97 AI and the Germania war stamps (Mi 84 II/93 II). Michel points out that for Mi I/VI the stamps had a semi-official character and had to be used as an airmail surcharge alongside the Reichspost stamps.

The first two values of 10pf. and 20pf. were issued in dark red-orange on light grey-yellowish paper and with line perforation 11½. In the central oval, a dove with a letter in its beak flies through the sun's rays. From 17 June 1912, a third value of 30pf. in the same design appeared in dark opal green (13). Mi I leads with an edition of 500 000, followed by Mi II with 200,000 and Mi III with 100,000. A total of 10,000 stamps at 10pf. were overprinted '– 1 M – Gelber Hund' (*Gelber Hund* was the name of the airplane) in dark blue (Mi IV), with a first issue date of 10 June 1912 (14).

According to a market report on the 1950s, the price development of this trio (Mi I/III) began quite modestly. One did not need to spend more than three marks for the unused set until 1956. In the following five years to 1961, the three made a leap to 12.50 marks. The used condition was four times as expensive in 1951 at 11 marks mounted mint; in 1961, it was at 24.50 marks – only just twice the price. Since then, the catalogue value for unused



7 French postcard for 'The mail by pigeons' event of the newspaper *Le Matin* on 23 July 1905. It features a small message carried by carrier pigeon (Timbre Classique)



8 Pigeon mail from Zurich dated August 1934 (Pilatusmail)



9 A 1957 maximum from France with carrier pigeon, pigeonier and special cancel in honour of the French naturalist Georges-Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon (1707–88)

sets has worked its way up to €70, with market prices one to two thirds lower.

The now more highly valued mint condition without hinges and with original gum was not a separately established category in the 1950s–60s. Today, with unmounted mint at €230, it is three times more valuable than hinged, and the price of the genuinely used ones has risen just as high. Depending on the quality, one can spend between €50 and €150 for the set unmounted today.

Fly with *Gelber Hund* (Yellow Dog)

The scarcer 'Gelber Hund' overprint (Mi IV) climbed used from 8.50 marks in 1951 to 13.50 marks in 1956 and 32 marks in 1961. According to the Michel catalogue, they have since moved up to €200, about a twelvefold increase. At auctions, 2022 calls started at €40, so there are obviously still bargains to be had, provided they are genuine. Also on flown special cards from 1912, the *Yellow Dog* without further special features can be had for acceptable premiums.

The scarce unused specimens were found with a price quotation of 78.50 marks in 1956, while in the meantime they are valued at €600 in Michel. The few preserved mint ones are listed at €2800 – 366% higher. In the first half of 2022, two auction results for single



10 Special mail transport by carrier pigeons from Yugoslavia for the 70th birthday of Tito in 1962



11 Austrian 1963 pigeongram sent from Graz to Bruck with carrier pigeon flight to the exhibition of press photographers



12 A 1966 Czechoslovakia pigeongram as flown postal stationary with time of flight indicated by cancels (Christoph Gärtner)

13 The trio of airmail stamps from 1912 (Mi I/III), which have appreciated more for unmounted mint than unused (Hadersbeck)



14 Only 10,000 stamps received the 'Gelber Hund' 1m. overprint (AAK)

15 Rare 'E. EL. P.' overprint (Mi VI) with plate error V (spot on the 'P' of 'Pf') on the original stamp



16 Postcard with the Gelber Hund aircraft featuring four rare 1912 varieties (Poblocki)

pieces were reported at €700 plus buyers' premium. A result of €1300 was achieved for a mint sheet corner at DBA.

There are categories of varieties for the 'Gelber Hund' overprint (Mi IV). On the one hand, it occurs with plate errors on the corresponding parts of the used original 10pf. stamps (PF I/VI). In addition, the overprints can show the deviation 'Huna' instead of 'Hund'. As Mi IV F, such pieces are offered loose or on flown special cards between €90 and €200. Only a few specimens have been discovered with an inverted overprint. At Jean-Paul Bach, a 1m. on 10pf. with inverted 'Gelber Hund' overprint (Mi IV K) in impeccable condition was estimated at 5000 francs. A double '-1.M./Gelber Hund' overprint (Mi IV DD) was estimated at €6000. At first, yellow had been tested as the printing colour, but due to poor recognisability, it was printed again in dark blue. A partially and somewhat irregularly perforated stamp with a single-circle 'FRANKFURT (MAIN) 13.6.12' segment cancel was certified as genuine in 2018.

For the finale of the air transport with the airship *Schwaben* or the aeroplane *Gelber Hund* on the routes of the time, Mi I and Mi II

appeared on 22 June with the black overprint 'E. EL. P.' in the lower field and became the rare Mi V and VI in small editions of 3000 and 6000 (15). They were only valid until 23 June 1912 and were intended for a prize competition.

The variety of special cards and picture postcards, the postmark dates and versions that occur as well as the franking combinations and destinations, offer a wide field for further airmail history specialisation (16).

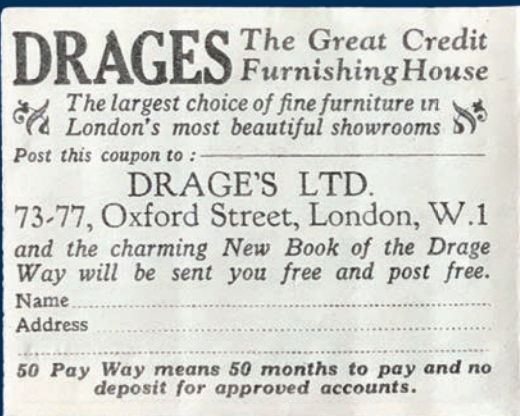


Originally from Stuttgart, Michael Burzan formerly traded in stamps and philatelic literature. During his career, he has been the press officer for the German Philatelic Dealers' Association and a member of the art council for new German issues but is now an established philatelic author, as well as a columnist and editor.



1 Front cover of the King George V booklet

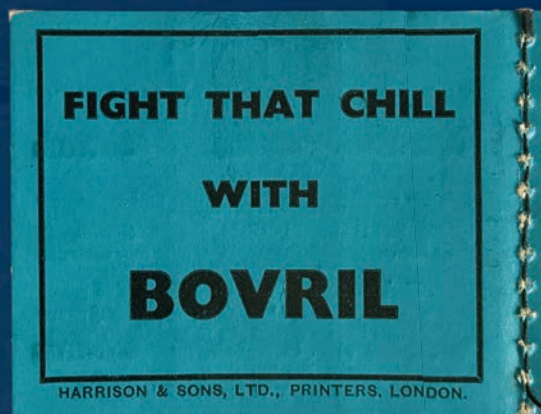
2 Inside the booklet, you find that each of the stamps in the pane of 1/2d. values has been 'CANCELLED' and each features a punch out



3 Reverse image of the 1/2d. stamp pane within the booklet

My Favourite

The choice of favourite for Ray Howes shows that even very modest items can turn out to have a high personal value.



4 Back cover of the booklet

PROBABLY like many other stamp dealers, I began my stamp career whilst still in short trousers by swapping and selling stamps at school. When I turned 13 years old, I got into the, then, popular activity of sticking stamps in a small book of whatever description called approvals, which I'd send out to my ever expanding clientele – at that juncture during my ongoing philatelic journey, mostly to school children and upwardly mobile teenage stamp collectors.

Anyhow, as time went by and my turnover increased beyond avarice, my stamp approvals featured items of a more exotic kind. However, as these sales went upwards and onwards, 'lost in the post' sendings went in a similar trajectory. I soon found out that a small minority of people had no intention whatsoever of paying for any of the stamp approvals they'd received. They kept it all! It was par for the course. Funny thing was, I had a couple of clients back then who were being held captive courtesy of Her Majesty's pleasure. One of whom, I recall, was incarcerated in HMP Pentonville, London. Never had a problem with *them*. Good as gold.

Now, I'm not known for braggadocio. I like to keep a low profile – better to be safe than sorry, as my late friend Richard liked to remind me. His grand pile out in the sticks had been ransacked three times! Not to put too much spin on it, I've handled and sold all the usual suspects that litter the stamp trade like plastic in the oceans. And I've also bought and sold many other rare items that a few upmarket stamp collectors would fight tooth and claw to own – and quite happily shell out a fortune to salivate over them in quiet and private contemplation. I won't name them here, as most readers will guess what sort of items I refer to. But even though most of this type of stuff has now gone to pastures new, including an unmounted mint Falkland Islands 1933 Centenary set – I held on to this for 30 years because it was the first set of unmounted

mint stamps of some relative rarity that I 'stole' for a song back when my mum was still washing my underwear and my dad told me when I had to go to bed. So, my favourite isn't this particular set of stamps. Nor a US cover I once owned with a lovely pair of the 10c. 1847 first issue haphazardly affixed to it. My favourite item isn't a stamp, it's a stamp booklet. Again, something I picked up for virtually nothing when I was a young lad eager to get a foot on the ladder of philatelic discovery.

The King George V booklet

The item is a 1934 King George V block cypher stamp booklet – edition number 261, emblazoned with 'Turban Mixed Fruit' (1–2). But not of the ordinary kind. This one, as can be seen, is of the 'CANCELLED' variety and with punch outs (3–4). Unfortunately, it is not the sort of item that once sold I could book a Caribbean cruise with the proceeds. It is perhaps a worth a couple of hundred or so given the cancellation overprint and punch outs, but its condition could be better.

There again, it is not something you see every day – unless you happen to have an example sat resplendent in an album. Booklet panes of this variety do crop up though.

When I first set my eye on this booklet, hidden inside a 1950s Stanley Gibbons stamp catalogue, I didn't realise it contained a secret – until I opened it. I was then smitten. From that day, I've always had a tender spot for King George V philately. Especially, stamp booklets. And I probably always will.

Additionally, the excitement of such an unexpected find led me to believe that I might discover another. Alas, I never did. But I once found a crumbled unused \$5 US Columbian in a bag of kiloware, though. That was also extremely exciting!



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Commemorative and Christmas Stamps Made up in mixed bags containing £50 or £100 face value	We pay 47% face value Lots must include a wide range of different values.	Commemorative Presentation Packs, Year Books and all Booklets	We pay 50% face value.

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15 July 2022



GREAT

LATEST GB DEFINITIVE SET PRICES

Definitives								
SG. No's/range	Year	Description	Values	U/M	L/M/M	AV/M/M	FU/VFU	GU
164-169	1880	INDIGO	set 5v.	850.00	325.00	200.00	30.00	20.00
178-183	1883	2/6- 10/-	set 3v.	2000.00	1000.00	650.00	150.00	80.00
187-196	1883	Q.V. Lilac & Green	set 10v.	POR	1100.00	850.00	230.00	150.00
197-214	1887	Q. Victoria Jubilee	set 14v.	480.00	160.00	135.00	62.00	45.00
215-314	1902-13	Edward 7th simplified	set 15v.	350.00	135.00	110.00	45.00	26.00
215-257	1902	DLT Ordinary paper	set 15v.	550.00	135.00	110.00	40.00	25.00
223-259	1906	DLR Chalky paper	set 9v.	450.00	120.00	95.00	45.00	25.00
267-278	1911	Harrison perf.14	set 5v.	225.00	110.00	95.00	90.00	POR
279-286	1911	Harrison perf. 15x14	set 5v.	120.00	45.00	35.00	20.00	11.00
287-314	1911	Somerset House	set 8v.	270.00	110.00	85.00	40.00	25.00
321-350	1911-13	GEO. 5th Downey Head	set 10v.	85.00	30.00	25.00	20.00	12.00
351-396	1912-22	Royal Cypher wmk.	set 15v.	220.00	70.00	58.00	22.00	12.00
397-8	1913	Multiple-cypher wmk.	set 2v.	340.00	180.00	-	175.00	135.00
413a-417	1918	Bradbury seahorses	set 3v.	650.00	235.00	POR	65.00	36.00
418-429	1924	Block cypher wmk.	set 12v.	125.00	38.00	30.00	9.00	6.00
418a-421b	1924	Block cypher sideways wmk.	set 4v.	130.00	38.00	30.00	35.00	18.00
439-449	1934	Photogravure	set 11v.	42.00	18.00	15.00	6.00	3.50
439a-442b	1934	Photogravure sideways wmk.	set 4v.	140.00	38.00	32.00	35.00	12.00
439wi-441wi	1934	Photogravure inverted wmk.	set 3v.	15.00	6.00	5.00	2.00	1.00
450-452	1934	Re-engraved seahorses	set 3v.	560.00	230.00	180.00	35.00	20.00
457-460	1936	Edward 8th	set 4v.	0.40	0.30	-	0.40	0.20
457wi-459wi	1936	Edward 8th inverted wmk.	set 3v.	8.00	3.00	-	3.00	1.50
462-475	1937	George 6th Dark colours	set 15v.	18.00	8.00	-	1.90	0.80
462a-466a	1937	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 5v.	70.00	22.00	-	22.00	12.00
462wi-466wi	1937	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	70.00	25.00	20.00	6.00	3.00
476-478b	1939-48	Square' High Values	set 6v.	180.00	95.00	80.00	20.00	12.00
485-490	1941	Light colours	set 6v.	1.00	0.40	-	0.45	0.25
486a-489a	1941	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 3v.	13.00	7.00	-	6.50	3.50
485wi-489wi	1941	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 3v.	3.00	1.50	-	0.40	0.10
503-508	1950	New Colours	set 6v.	1.50	-	-	0.60	0.30
504a-507a	1950	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 4v.	1.25	-	-	1.75	0.80
503wi-507wi	1950	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	7.00	4.00	-	5.00	2.50
509-12	1951	Festival High values	set 4v.	42.00	19.00	17.00	7.50	4.00
515-531	1952	QE2 Tudor Watermark	set 17v.	42.00	17.00	14.00	11.00	6.00
517a-519a	1952	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 3v.	2.00	-	-	2.50	1.75
515wi-519bwi	1952	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	17.00	-	-	10.00	6.00
536-539	1955	Waterlow High values	set 4v.	115.00	45.00	36.00	18.00	6.00
540-556	1955	Edward Crown wmk.	set 18v.	65.00	20.00	16.00	12.00	5.00
542a-545b	1955	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 5v.	9.50	6.00	-	6.00	2.75
540wi-545wi	1955	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 7v.	9.00	-	-	6.00	3.00
561-566	1957	Graphite lines	set 6v.	4.00	3.00	-	3.50	2.00
536a-539a	1958	1st De La Rue Castles	set 4v.	350.00	175.00	-	30.00	12.00
570-586	1958	Multi-Crown wmk.	set 17v.	5.00	-	-	1.00	-
570a-576ab	1958	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 8v.	3.75	-	-	3.50	1.30
570wi-576awi	1958	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 9v.	65.00	-	-	30.00	16.00
587-594	1958	Graphite lines	set 8v.	55.00	40.00	-	40.00	25.00
587wi-592wi	1958	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 5v.	45.00	-	-	30.00	18.00
595-598	1959	2nd De La Rue Castles	set 4v.	70.00	35.00	30.00	5.00	2.00
599-609	1959	Phosphor-Graphites	set 8v.	35.00	27.00	-	30.00	24.00
610-618a	1960	Phosphor crowns	set 17v.	4.50	-	-	2.50	-
610a-616ab	1960	ditto.....sideways wmk.	set 9v.	10.00	-	-	10.00	6.00
610wi-616awi	1960	ditto.....inverted wmk.	set 10v.	140.00	-	-	120.00	POR
595a-598a	1963	Bradbury wmk. castles	set 4v.	7.50	-	-	5.00	1.50
759-762	1967	Bradbury no wmk. Castles	set 4v.	7.00	-	-	5.00	1.75
723-744	1967	Machin Head	set 16v.	1.00	-	-	0.90	-
787-790	1969	Machin Head High Values	set 4v.	5.00	-	-	3.00	2.00
829-831b	1970/1	Machin Head 10p to £1	set 4v.	2.50	-	-	0.40	0.20
1026-1028	1977	Machin Head £1-£5	set 3v.	8.50	-	-	1.40	0.75
1026b-1026f	1983/7	Machin Head £1.30-£1.60	set 5v.	13.00	-	-	10.80	6.00
1410-1413	1988	Castles High Values	set 4v.	11.50	-	-	1.50	0.75
1611-1614	1992	Gold-head Castles High vals.	set 5v.	20.00	-	-	2.75	1.50
1658	1993	£10 Britannia	1 value	14.00	-	-	4.50	2.50
(1611-14)	1994	Gold-head Castles Re-engraved	set 4v.	14.00	-	-	3.20	-
1993-1996	1997	Enschede Castles High vals.	set 4v.	25.00	-	-	7.00	-
Y1800-3	1999	ditto....Small format High vals	set 4v.	15.00	-	-	3.00	-
Y1800-3	2000	DLR Small format High values	set 4v.	15.00	-	-	3.00	-
Y1726-1729	2003	DLR Small format High values	set 4v.	15.00	-	-	12.00	-
S2917-2920	2009	DLR Self-ad, with security slits	set 4v.	13.50	-	-	13.50	-

BRITAIN



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POSTAGE DUES / TO PAY

SG. No's/range	Year	Description	Values	U/M	L/M/M	AV/M/M	FU/VFU	GU
D1-D8	1914	Royal Cypher	Set 8v	275.00	75.00	55.00	10.00	6.00
D10-D18	1924-31	Block Cypher	Set 9v	380.00	90.00	70.00	25.00	16.00
D19-D26	1936-7	Edward VIII	Set 8v	260.00	90.00	70.00	45.00	35.00
D27- D34	1937-8	George VI	Set 8v	130.00	45.00	30.00	6.00	4.00
D35- D39	1951-2	Colour change	Set 5v	40.00	15.00	10.00	7.50	5.00
D40- D45	1954-5	Tudor wmk	Set 6v	130.00	65.00	—	55.00	40.00
D46-D55	1955	Edward wmk	Set 10v	175.00	65.00	55.00	20.00	15.00
D56-D68	1959-63	Multiple crowns	Set 13v	22.00	12.00	—	5.50	4.00
D69 - D76	1968-69	No wmk	Set 8v	6.00	—	—	5.00	—
D77 - D89	1970	Decimal	Set 13v	12.00	—	—	2.75	—
D90 - 101	1982	Decimal	Set 12v	8.00	—	—	3.50	—
D102 - D110	1994	Elliptical	Set 9v	18.00	—	—	18.00	—

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71	100.00	103	80.00	137	80.00	181	80.00
72	95.00	104	80.00	139	110.00	182	80.00
73	100.00	105	80.00	141	150.00	183	80.00
74	80.00	106	80.00	142	240.00	184	80.00
76	80.00	108	80.00	143	220.00	185	80.00
78	80.00	109	90.00	144	220.00	186	80.00
79	80.00	110	90.00	145	80.00	189	80.00
80	80.00	111	80.00	146	80.00	190	80.00
81	80.00	112	80.00	147	80.00	191	80.00
82	120.00	113	125.00	149	80.00	192	80.00
83	140.00	114	125.00	150	80.00	193	80.00
84	80.00	115	100.00	151	100.00	197	90.00
85	80.00	116	100.00	152	90.00	198	80.00
87	80.00	117	80.00	153	150.00	199	80.00
88	150.00	118	80.00	154	80.00	202	90.00
89	80.00	119	80.00	155	80.00	203	120.00
90	80.00	120	80.00	156	80.00	206	140.00
91	80.00	122	80.00	157	80.00	207	140.00
92	80.00	123	80.00	158	80.00	208	150.00
93	80.00	124	80.00	159	80.00	209	150.00
95	80.00	125	80.00	160	80.00	214	200.00
96	80.00	127	80.00	161	150.00	215	200.00
97	80.00	129	80.00	168	80.00	216	200.00
98	80.00	131	150.00	169	80.00	218	150.00
99	80.00	133	300.00	170	80.00	220	150.00
100	125.00	134	80.00	171	80.00		
101	90.00	135	250.00	173	120.00		
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A Card, a Card, my Kingdom for a Card!

This month, Brian Lund explores some of the different potential postcard collecting areas and reveals the reasons why people collect.

Putting together a representative Shakespeare collection offers plenty of challenges

DOES Shakespeare have any postcard potential? Surely he was over 300 years too early? That's no problem – he and his works feature on thousands of postcards published in the 20th century, mostly the early part of it (1–6). As for our headline – well, Richard III would probably have said something like that today if (a) he was still alive and (b) had been in need of just one postcard to complete a collection. I'm reminded of the A R Quinton collector trying to complete the artist's output who paid a quite colossal amount for the last card needed! But whether it's Richard III or any of the great playwright's other works, postcard collectors can indulge an interest in Shakespeare-related cards.

Edwardian publishers were quick to spot the Bard as a suitable subject for cards, and many of the big names in the field – Tuck, Faulkner, Nister, Salmon and Hildesheimer – got in on the act. Raphael Tuck as usual were to the fore, portraying characters from his plays and artist-drawn scenes on a series of 'Shakespeare's Country' Oilettes. Putting together a representative Shakespeare collection offers plenty of challenges, though. Apart from the obvious course of trying

to ensnare every single relevant postcard, an interesting initial idea would be to collect a single card featuring each of his plays. By the time you'd done that, you would have a decent idea of the range available. Next angle to pursue might be to search for places and buildings associated with



1 Postcards showing actors in Shakespeare plays were commonplace in the early-20th century. This is an advertising postcard for a touring company, detailing ten plays it could offer on the reverse

the playwright. Stratford-on-Avon offers plentiful and easily available cards, while Venice, Verona, Athens and the various other locations would seem straightforward to find.

Soon the theatrical side will begin to pop up. Edwardian postcards are rich in photographic depictions of actors and actresses starring in Shakespeare's roles. Then, of course, there is the great man himself, portrayed in many guises.

Most of the cards showing scenes from the plays are necessarily artist drawn, given the historical nature of the subject. Perhaps the best of these is the Marjorie Bates collection of 12 published by the British Art Co. The Scottish satirical artist



2 Raphael Tuck featured Shakespeare's character Polonius on a postcard in their 'Calendar' series 2728. Polonius featured in *Hamlet* as an adviser who made serial wrong decisions. This card was posted at Eastbourne in August 1910 (far left)

3 One of a set of sketches by cartoonist Sydney Carter. Inspired by *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, it was published by London firm Hildesheimer (left)



4 Artist Frank Chesworth imagined a scene from *Measure for Measure* on a 'Clarion' series postcard



5 Clown from *Twelfth Night* pictured by Nottingham-born artist Marjorie Bates on a card published by A & C Black



6 C W Faulkner published two fine series of six postcards showing illustrated scenes from Shakespeare plays (by an anonymous artist). This 'Juliet & the Nurse' design was posted at Norwich in December 1904

Cynicus also had a stab at serious postcard art with a sextet of Shakespearian characters, while Harold Copping did a fine job for Tuck on *Hamlet* and *A Winter's Tale* series, both of 12 cards. Comic contributions came from Sydney Carter. One of the areas in which the early postcard artists excelled at was illustrating famous quotes in a clever way, and Shakespeare was one of a number of poets/ playwrights to receive the quotation treatment.

One advantage of compiling a collection on a theme like this is that it's cheap, easy and good fun. Cheap, if you stay away from the early Raphael Tuck chromos, easy if you adopt a fairly broad strategy, and definitely fun – Shakespeare cards can turn up in many different categories. Literary is the obvious one, then topographical of specific places, but relevant artists, comic cards, greetings, theatrical and publishers are all likely to provide good hunting!

Why collect picture postcards?

'WHY would anyone want to collect postcards?' a friend asked me, recently and incredulously. Well, of course I wasn't stumped for an answer, but I also gave him a copy of the 2012 *Picture Postcard Annual*, with my definitive (!) article on the connection between postcards and art and photography. To be honest, I was a little taken aback by the question because I'd never really considered that anyone could not be fascinated by these amazing rectangular images from the past. Of course, it is perfectly obvious that 99.99% of the population are not going to be fixated on postcards as a diverting

hobby, but equally I've found that most people are pretty intrigued when they're shown a bunch of cards from, say, their home town or a selection on some subject that they're interested in. The leap from being *interested* and actually making a positive *effort* to collect postcards is a pretty big one, which explains why the number of active collectors always seems less than it ought to be. By active collectors I mean those who attend fairs or clubs and buy regularly from dealers, often on internet auction sites.

So I'll try to answer that initial question. Why collect postcards? Let's start with the emotional side of it. Picture postcards throughout their c.140 years of publication have provided an almost infinite range of images reflecting some aspect of life at the time. I'm fond of misquoting Dr Johnson – 'He who is tired of postcards is tired of life' but it is a truism that postcards do show you the past in gripping detail. Whether it be photographs of places and events (the most popular side of the hobby for collectors), pictures of contemporary personalities, wonderful art nouveau and glamour, artist-drawn representations or comic commentary on social life, there is something in the postcard cupboard for absolutely everyone.

To people outside the hobby, the default image of the genre is the saucy seaside postcard. But as I said to a national newspaper journalist preparing a feature recently, these cards are just a small fraction of those that attract collector interest. As I told him, there are still hundreds of millions of century-old examples around, of which only a small fraction are what you would call 'collectable'. That's why the vast majority can be picked up for very little, and why postcard collecting can suit people with all kinds of budgets for their hobbies. Indeed, a dealer recently told me that his best-selling line was his 50p postcard boxes, where customers could indulge the thrill of the chase without breaking the bank.

Those seeking art, culture and history from the past know that picture postcards are first-class source material, but do they represent a good investment? Broadly, the best bets, as in other areas of art and collectables, are the best quality and unusual cards in top condition in any field, along with perennially popular subjects – *Titanic*, suffragettes, football and railway stations are good examples. I wouldn't recommend anyone to come into the postcard hobby from the investment angle; the rule of thumb is always to go for subjects that really interest you. Normally, any carefully and lovingly assembled (and wisely bought) collection will show an appreciation in value over time. Wisely bought can be hard work, though, trawling through endless dealers' stocks, cultivating those dealers to find appropriate postcards for you and monitoring

Regular Feature: Postcard World

7 A lovely promotional postcard from top publisher Raphael Tuck. Artist Lance Thackeray, who provided Tuck with hundreds of postcard designs, was behind this advert for Tuck's own postcard competition, one of four in which they encouraged the collection of as many Tuck postcards as possible. The winner amassed 20,364 cards over the 18 months of the competition. As an idea for kick-starting postcard collecting and boosting Tuck's business, it was brilliant



the internet for good buys. The fact that picture postcards are not individually listed, catalogued and priced in the way that stamps, coins and cigarette cards are gives an initiative to the savvy buyer who knows his or her subject inside out.

In the end, though, a collection should be principally for your enjoyment while you curate it. The postcards illustrated are just examples of the endless pleasure to be derived from postcard collecting (7–13). Cards are ideal, too, for displays – at local clubs, schools, events and so on, and many collectors are happy to share and show off their collection.

A treasure-trove postcard

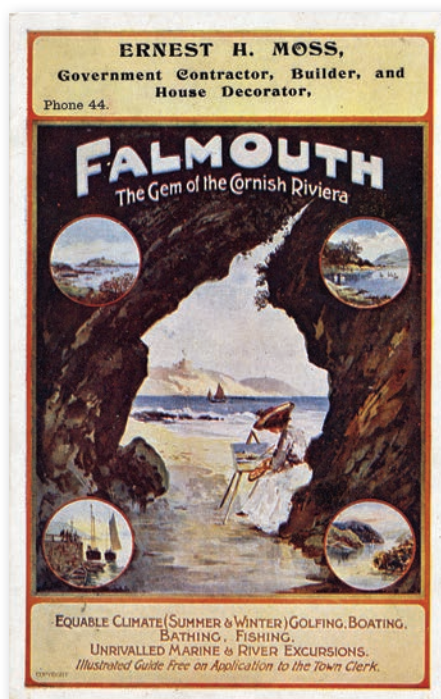
I'M constantly reminded of just how much can be gleaned from a single picture postcard, underlining time and time again the endless and enduring fascination of this hobby. The postcard illustrated (14), designed by the great Lance Thackeray and published by Raphael Tuck in their 'Oilette Remarque' series, is full of hidden gems. The caption is an absolute classic, a brilliant spoonerism with a spoon in the title. Flip the card over and the stamp used to pay the postage to Paris (18 December 1911) also features the Sphinx and a pyramid! Was this a deliberate choice by the sender? And fancy being wished Happy New Year from the desert! In the picture are five courting couples and a bewildered guide, while in a separate segment of the picture side are a couple of laughing donkeys and a smiling moon. The extra panel was a peculiar aspect of the Oilette Remarque type, adding a little extra to the original story. Worst of all, I've just sold this postcard for a mere £4 – I really should have kept it!



8 If this image of Hull's Alexandra Dock existed as a one-off photograph, it would surely be worth hundreds of pounds. As a picture postcard, £20 would be more likely. But think about it – why should this be? How many copies of this postcard image exist? It could be unique in itself. It was published by Hull photographers W J Wellsted & Son and posted from the city in April 1907 to Cambrai, France. Wellsted postcards are collected in their own right, like those of hundreds of local photographers across the country



9 This early undivided back by Carl Josza is a good example of the classy art postcards that will always retain their value. The design is said to have been the inspiration for many of Raphael Kirchner 'smoking' paintings



10 I think this little-heralded genre has great possibilities – adverts published by or on behalf of tourist resorts to promote themselves. Similar railway posters sell for three figures and upwards, but these 'resort' posters can be picked up for around £10. Worth keeping your eyes open for



11 Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* inspired me to start a collection of cards based on the famous Verona balcony scene. This card reverses the traditional pose, with the man on the balcony! Just an example, I think, of the endless fun and fascination that postcard collecting can bring



12 Part-nostalgia, part-romance, part-technical history, the appeal of railway history to postcard collectors seems to focus on stations, particularly those smaller ones that were once the hub of village life. Photographic cards from local publishers typically sell for £50 upwards and represent one of the types of card that have risen in value progressively and sometimes spectacularly. This card, published by R Johnston & Son of Gateshead (probably the best and most collected publisher in the north-east) shows a scene at Shotley Bridge station, on the Newcastle–Durham line operated by the North Eastern Railway. This station closed to passengers in 1953



13 As a prime example of the discoveries you can make when wading through a bundle of postcards, I found a set of ten advertising Chicorée Arlatte. All feature children and Easter themes, with different imaginative designs. Butterflies, rabbits, birds, frogs and dogs are in evidence, while children and an egg are omnipresent. The early undivided back postcards for the company were published by Raphael Tuck from their Paris office

Celebrating Forest

ONE of the raisons d'être of picture postcards has always been to commemorate events, creating a souvenir of a moment in time. Reflections of a Bygone Age has tried to continue that tradition in an era where such cards are unusual. Staples today are viewcards, with the odd (bland) comic thrown in. Shown is one of a pair of cards that we're going all out to promote around Nottingham (and hopefully beyond) as an addition to the reservoir of existing football cards (15). Incidentally, at a time when few clubs actually publish picture postcards of players, Nottingham Forest have bucked the trend with over 30 different ones featuring present players and retro legends.



15 One of a pair of postcards published by Reflections of a Bygone Age marking Nottingham Forest Football Club's promotion to the Premiership in 2022



14 Lance Thackeray, the Sphinx and romance in Egypt, with a stamp depicting the Sphinx and a pyramid on the reverse

Top postcard fairs in August

- 13 Aug Stockport – Town Hall
- 20 Aug Llandudno – Craig-Y-Don Centre
- 20 Aug Shoreham-by-Sea – Shoreham Centre
- 21 Aug Bristol – BAWA Centre
- 27 Aug Canterbury – Westgate Centre
- 28 Aug London Bloomsbury, Holiday Inn, Coram Street



Brian Lund has over 40 years' experience in the postcard hobby. He edited and published (along with his wife Mary) *Picture Postcard Monthly* from 1980–2015. The duo, as Reflections of a Bygone Age, have also published many postcard-based books and organised postcard fairs in Nottingham since 1982. Brian currently does a daily blog on the Reflections of a Bygone Age Facebook page.

New Books

Philatelic Exporter's book reviewer, David Rennie, takes a look at the latest books and catalogues from leading publishers.



MICHEL EUROPE, VOLUME 3, WESTERN EUROPE 2022 (107TH EDITION)

Publisher: Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH
Address: Industriestraße 1 82110 Germering, Germany
www.michel.de
ISBN: 978-3-95402-383-7
Price: €54/£54

I last reviewed this catalogue in June 2021, and since then, some 1000 new priced items have been added, as well as 200 more illustrations and 20 extra catalogue pages.

As before, it contains the stamps of French Andorra and France (both to January 2022) and Monaco (to November 2021). France also includes the early Levant and Egypt, as well as overseas post offices in Africa and general colonial issues. All the main categories are included, such as postage dues, booklet panes, which show the make-up of the various values in a pane, parcel stamps, local stamps and telegraphs, along with the popular machine labels.

There is a comprehensive index to all the

volumes in the European series, which includes all the individual sections in this volume. The

map of Europe highlighting the countries in this volume faces the page listing the country content of all 16 volumes in the series. Although there are numerous tables for long-running French series, over 8000 main numbers make a single design index for France a daunting task.

New varieties have been added in France and Andorra, but no indication is given of the Michel numbers. Over 320 new issues were made in total by these three countries. French vending machine stamps are now listed with and without the Matrix codes. Prices of tariff denominated items (NVI) have been adjusted to reflect higher postage rates.

Once again, this is a fine, Post Office mustard-orange, lie-flat hardcover, with 908 catalogue pages and 9200 colour illustrations. Lists of specialists and expertisers, and the guide to markings on the reverse of certified stamps, is also included.

...some 1000 new priced items have been added



MICHEL EUROPE, VOLUME 4, IBERIAN PENINSULAR 2022 (107TH EDITION)

Publisher: Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH
Address: Industriestraße 1 82110 Germering, Germany
www.michel.de
ISBN: 978-3-95402-384-4
Price: €54/£54

THIS new edition contains Spanish Andorra (to November 2021), with the Azores (to July 2021) and Madeira (to June 2021), Portugal (to October 2021) and Spain (to November 2021), which includes the Carlist Posts, the 1937–38 Civil War issues and the earlier post offices in Morocco. Publishers as well as philatelists are aware of the enormous importance of paper. This new edition was delayed because printing plants have faced great challenges due to paper shortages.

Fittingly, last year's philatelic research about Portuguese stamps also aimed its focus on paper, especially the types of paper that vary, notably in classic Portuguese issues. Current research findings about the Ceres postage stamp series from 1917 to 1930 have also led to a

comprehensive revision of paper varieties and a new discovery: The 1920 1c. (Mi 204 C) on cardboard paper is listed and priced under Mi 204 Cz in the current edition.

As in Volume 3, a review of prices has been undertaken with minor adjustments both up and down for some of the post-World War II period and especially the NVI issues, as in France above. Editorial revision in this new edition was particularly focused on Portuguese postage stamps and booklets.

The section explaining expertisation, with the list of certifiers, also appears in this volume. This is a fine, lie-flat hardcover, with 871 catalogue pages, plus a list of dealers and the Michel information pages, which is in full colour throughout, except for some Spanish Civil War and local issues. New issues mean 200 more illustrations and over 41,000 priced entries.

Editorial revision in this new edition was particularly focused on Portuguese postage stamps and booklets



...new issues and editorial changes require more than 100 additional pages, 1000 new prices and 500 new illustrations

MICHEL OVERSEAS, VOLUME 7, PART 1, AUSTRALIA, OCEANIA, ANTARCTICA 2022 (A-M) (42ND EDITION)

Publisher: Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH
Address: Industriestraße 1, 82110 Germering, Germany
www.michel.de
ISBN: 978-3-95402-405-6
Price: €98/£98

IT is nearly two years since the previous edition was published (see *PE* January 2021). Since then, new issues and editorial changes require more than 100 additional pages, 1000 new prices and 500 new illustrations, totalling 68,000 and 12,000 respectively. Almost all illustrations apart from some Australian States are in colour.

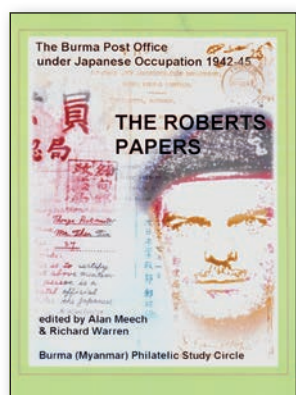
As well as the main territories of Australia, now including Norfolk Island, and the states, and the many British Empire and Commonwealth countries, such as Cook Islands, Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, it also includes the former German colonial issues, French colonial issues and the USA administered territories, such as Guam and Marshall Islands, and the British and French Antarctic issues, including the Falkland Islands. The two maps are retained.

Prices have been reviewed and the publisher particularly mentions increases for New South Wales and Queensland.

Travelling to the territories of Australia, Oceania and Antarctica has always been an adventure, but this year's discovery of Ernest Shackleton's ship *Endurance*, which sank in November of 1915, has prompted renewed interest. Thrilled researchers were delighted to find the ship is still in a remarkably good condition after all these years, and numerous stamps from the British territories in Antarctica show images of that famous expedition. A philatelic journey into that solitary collection area is an adventure trip of its own – albeit without the perils of pack ice, frostbite and starvation.

The latest Australia issue is Christmas 2021 and the Falkland Islands is to January 2022, but Fiji is only to March 2021, French Polynesia to February 2022 and the Marshall Islands are only to September 2021.

The publisher provides a full worldwide country index to volume and page in its various catalogues, with the specific edition being given. This is a fine, lie-flat, ruby-coloured hardcover with two marker tapes, but paper and printing costs mean a substantial increase in the cover price.



...a nicely produced 57-page, A4 booklet

THE BURMA POST OFFICE UNDER JAPANESE OCCUPATION 1942-45: THE ROBERTS PAPERS

Editors: Alan Meech and Richard Warren
Publisher: Burma (Myanmar) Philatelic Study Circle
rwarren99@yahoo.com
ISBN: 978-0-9532191-4-8
Price: £9.50 plus p&p

ALAN Meech's introduction sets out the history of the postal circulars and memoranda published here for the first time, and which contain much original information regarding the organisation, post offices, postal rates, and stamps and postal stationery issues of the postal service of Burma under Japanese Occupation.

In 1945, Brigadier G L Roberts was able to obtain and preserve the originals as the British forces advanced southwards, and he later used them as the basis of his book, co-authored with E A Smythies, *Japanese Occupation Stamps of Burma 1942-54*, published in Lahore in 1947.

While these originals were not quoted in full in that book, they were passed down via the late Gerald Davis and are now preserved in the

collections at the Royal Philatelic Society London.

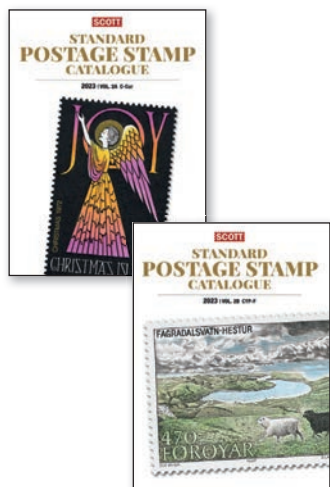
The original list of 31, is now presented in chronological order, together with some additional items. These contain inter alia lists of postmasters, the validity of stamps and postage rates (including guessing of weights where no scale were available). There are also lists of staff and their positions at Rangoon GPO/sub-postmasters and the value of initial stamp issues. Monetary arrangements, including change of currency, use of service postage stamps, the withdrawal of postage stamps on 15 October 1942, metric rates, hours of business and extension of registered letter service also feature.

There is a full list of post offices under each of the district head offices, including the Shan States.

Two appendices provided by Richard Warren cover the resumption of postal services under the Burma Independence Army and the Shan States, together with the new postal rates introduced on 1 April 1945.

The final pages detail the work of the Rossiter Trust (rossitertrust.com) and a list of publications currently available.

This is a nicely produced 57-page, A4 booklet, mainly text but with a few strategic colour illustrations.



Canada and Canadian provinces were extensively reviewed

SCOTT 2023 STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE, VOLUME 2, COUNTRIES C–F OF THE WORLD (179TH EDITION)

Publisher: Scott Publishing Co
Address: 911 Vandemark Road, Sidney, Ohio 45365-0828, USA
ISBN: 978-0-89487-653-0
www.scottonline.com
Price: \$111.99 for bound two-volume set discounted from £149.99 and \$99 for digital version (www.amosadvantage.com)

AS before, Volume 2A includes countries Cambodia through to Curacao, with Cyprus through to F in Volume 2B. The introduction pages in 2A are not repeated in volume 2B because they are sold together as a unit.

Interruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic mean details of the new issues released from some countries proved harder than usual to obtain. However, the Scott catalogue editors have endeavoured to be as up to date as possible.

Canada and Canadian provinces were extensively reviewed and most of the value changes were increases due to strong auction

realisations for items in the classic period.

In China, a handful of changes were made; there were about 300 in Taiwan and about 400 in the People's Republic of China. A line-by-line analysis showed that through the year 2000 values were relatively stable, with somewhat more increases than decreases, but up to 1995, many increases were noted. This is still a very volatile market.

Finland and Aland received an extensive line-by-line review up to 2015, with approximately 3000 value changes. For Finland prior to the 1950s, values tended to decrease, but for post-1950s issues, value changes reflected a mix of increases and decreases, as did Aland. For example, the Finland 2014 Castles booklet pane of six (Sc 1454) increased from \$16.50 to \$18 in unused condition.

Both Cilicia and Hatay were reviewed, with a handful of changes made for each. Egypt has about 60 changes.

Many other countries received reviews but are not specifically noted in the editor's letter. As usual, recourse should be made to the number, additions, deletions and changes pages provided in both volumes.



This eagerly awaited catalogue is ideal for many Great Britain collectors of whatever grade

STANLEY GIBBONS GREAT BRITAIN CONCISE STAMP CATALOGUE 2022 (37TH EDITION)

Publisher: Stanley Gibbons Publications
Address: 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants BH24 3SH
www.stanleygibbons.com
ISBN: 978-1-911304-95-1
Price: £39.95

IN this edition, a total of 15 additional pages have been added to include the new issues and the updated 'Design Index' to April 2022 and updated postage rate tables to 4 April 2022. A new section lists the now 'V' prefixed and numbered Barcoded Security Machins, including all issued values up to £5. Royal Mail says: 'the stamps in question can be uniquely identified, in a move that could pave the way for innovative customer services in the future'.

Details of the 'Swap Out' scheme are mentioned by Vince Cordell in his preface, and it is worth noting that the publisher recommends keeping the self-adhesive used stamps, which are not water soluble on paper, on their original envelope paper, neatly trimmed.

This year PO numbers for collector packs and yearpacks have been included, and there is a small index of the dedicated Machin section at the beginning. The editor has provided a list of the stamps and issues that will be invalidated on 31 January 2023.

As usual, some new images have replaced the older ones, and more varieties are now illustrated in colour to enable collectors to more easily

identify them. Prices have been reviewed, but it is probably too early to say what the impact of the barcoded Machins and the Swap Out scheme will have on the collector and 'postage' markets.

Both the blue-edged Machin and the Post and Go sections continue to expand, where John Deering (familiar to GSM readers) continues to keep the tables and pricing up to date. The individual introductions to these sections are required reading before even looking at the stamps. This section includes lists of Security Codes at the beginning of the relevant section, with these being quoted and priced for the relevant stamp. First day covers and presentation packs are listed and priced in chronological order after the main list.

The title 'Concise' really is a misnomer with so much information and the extensive listings, but it is the 'go-to' volume for most GB collectors, and the last edition had to be reprinted due to its popularity. The volume also includes extensive sections for the Regionals and post office booklets of all types, post office label sheets, postage dues and official postal fiscals. First day covers are usually priced for the Philatelic Bureau or Tallents House and a local special postmark, such as Windsor or Bethlehem. Pack and PHQ card numbers are also quoted, with the latter priced for sets both unused and used. Gutter pairs and, where available, traffic-light gutter pairs are priced for unmounted mint.

This eagerly awaited catalogue is ideal for many Great Britain collectors of whatever grade and now includes issues up to 30 April 2022.

There are now 579 catalogue pages, plus the Introduction, and numerous adverts.

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**) Loosely translated: "give a bid"*

Around the Rooms

Reports from recently held philatelic auctions, including Christoph Gärtner in Germany, David Feldman in Switzerland and Grosvenor in the UK.

Christoph Gärtner

The summer auction of Christoph Gärtner took place in Bietigheim-Bissingen from 20–25 June, with the philatelic material on offer in the first five days. The focus of the auction was China and Germany, with German States, Saar and Memel, as well as estates. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

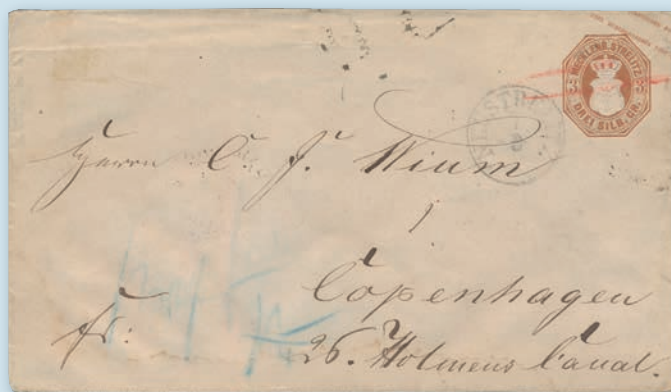
From China, an exceptionally clean collection dating from 1949 to 1980 went under the hammer for €50,000 (lot 5191). Meanwhile, a mint, never-hinged example of the 1962 Mei

Lan-fang miniature sheet achieved €18,000 (lot 317). Also from China, a set of the 1967 Poems of Mao Tse-tung issue had a €6000 hammer price (lot 354), while a mint 1964 15th anniversary miniature sheet sold for €3400 (lot 343).

Dating 1853–2019, a comprehensive Portugal and colonies collection, in approximately 50 albums, as well as some extra material, made €16,000 (lot 5876).



Among the postal stationery items, a Mecklenburg-Strelitz 1864 3sgr. light brown, with red chalk pencil cancellation, was used as original postal stationery to Copenhagen, Denmark (lot 2982). On the front, there was an adjoining single-circle 'NEUSTRELITZ 7 9' cancel, while on the reverse, it had a 'HAMBURG 8 9 67' transit cancel and a 'KJOBENHAVN 9 9' arrival cancel. It went under the hammer for €3000.



Spink

THE first part of the Klempka family collection of Great Britain was sold by Spink at the Royal Philatelic Society London on 21 June. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

A great rarity was a 1 October 1840 Mulready envelope to India, being one of only two known Mulreadys with stamps to India (lot 79). This 2d. envelope to Ajmeer, which was redirected to Agra, was uprated with two 2d. plate 1 pairs (CI–CJ and DG–DH) and a single (DI) in a rich, full blue shade, paying the 1s. rate to India. The cover, with stamps cancelled by orange Bristol Maltese Crosses and a matching c.d.s. on the reverse, which was also tied with a Clifton undated postmark and endorsed 'via Falmouth/Red Sea', went under the hammer for £75,000.



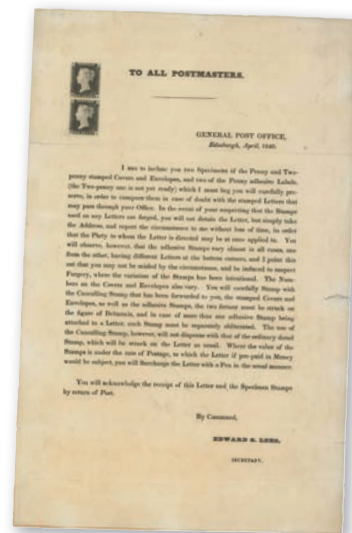
An extremely rare April 1840 'TO ALL POSTMASTERS.' notice advising of the imminent dispatch of the new postage stamps and stationery envelopes was affixed with a vertical pair of the Penny Black from plate 1a. (QA–RA) and sold for £48,000 (lot 3).

From the 1847–54 Embossed issue, there was a 19 September 1854 cover to Madras, India, bearing a 6d. dull lilac horizontal pair and a 1s. pale green cancelled by a London District numeral '13' (lot 239). Redirected to Kotirchery with the addition of a strip of three of the India 1854 1a. red (die I), which were cancelled in their first month of use, the cover sold for £29,000.

An 1840 Mulready of 13 February 1841 was the only known example with a double strike of a blue Maltese Cross (lot 53). Cancelled by two neat strikes of the rare dull grey-blue cross of Newcastle on Tyne, it sold for £21,000.

From the black plate printings of the 1841 1d. red-brown, there was a block of 30 (FA–JF) from the state 2 plate, which is believed to be the largest block from this plate (lot 179). Featuring a double letter 'J' (JE) and part original gum, it sold for £20,000.

An incredibly rare item, believed to be the largest recorded franking (16) of the Penny Black with Maltese Cross cancellation, was a strip of four (IF–II) and strip of four (JF–JI) (forming a severed



block of eight) on a 16 July 1840 entire from Manchester to Glasgow (lot 132). From Plate 1b, the entire was redirected to Edinburgh and the eight pence fee was paid with a strip of eight (NE–NL). With very large margins all round, the strip was originally concealed and had been separated for display purposes. With all stamps cancelled by Red Maltese Crosses, the cover sold for £16,000.

Dating from 1 May, an 1840 Mulready, which was issued to the public on that day but not valid for postage until 6 May, was a very rare item, being one of only four Mulready lettersheets recorded used on that date (lot 43). Addressed to Worcester and prepaid in cash, it had been cancelled by a neat red tombstone 'PAID' datestamp for 1 May 1840, alongside a 'P.O Strand/1py.P.Paid' straightline postmark and sold for £14,000.

A couple of days later, on 23 June, Spink held the sale of the 'M' Collection of India and Indian Feudatory States.

From the 1854 India issue, there was a fine example of the famous 4a. red and blue inverted head variety from the first printing (head die I, frame die I) (lot 1051). With a strong colour and impression, this cut-to-shape stamp, neatly cancelled with a diamond of bars, had a £60,000 hammer price.

An unused pair of the 1852 ½a. white Scinde Dawk, from the

left of the sheet, was an outstanding multiple of this rare stamp (lot 1001). With large-to-huge margins and virtually full original deep-brown streaky gum, which gave the paper a toned appearance, the pair sold for £30,000.

Another rare multiple from the same issue was a used vertical pair of the ½a. white (lot 1002). Featuring intaglio star in circle (type F) cancels on both stamps and close to very large margins, the pair made £20,000.

From the ½a. reds of the issue, there was a superb example that featured sharp embossing (lot 1015). Cancelled by a diamond of 64 dots, it achieved £24,000.

Another sharply embossed ½a. red, in a good fresh colour and neatly cancelled with a diamond of dots, was a very rare example (lot 1016). This attractive stamp, tied to a small piece bearing a small part of another example alongside, sold for £22,000.

An entire letter of 20 August 1859 from Singapore to Penang, marked 'p. Steamer', bore an 1855 4a. black on blue glazed paper bisected diagonally; one of only nine single 4a. bisect covers and the only inter-settlement example (lot 1058). Tied by a 'B/172' obliterator and showing a 'SINGAPORE/SHIP LETTER/PAID' datestamp in red on the reverse, this very rare cover made £16,000.

Grosvenor

A British Empire and Foreign Countries sale was held by Grosvenor on 15–16 June. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

From the British Bechuanaland issues, a December 1888 'One/Half/Penny' on a 3d. pale reddish lilac and black was of the broken 'f' in 'half' variety (lot 304). With a large part of its original gum, this fine example made £6000, which was just under its lower £7000 estimate. An August 1888 Bechuanaland Protectorate 10s. green and black in mint condition exceeded its £1500–£2000 estimate to go under the hammer for £2300 (lot 321).

In the South Africa section, a highlight was from the Mafeking Siege issues. This was an April 1900 narrow-format 3d. deep blue tied to piece by an 'AP 23/1900' c.d.s., and accompanied by rare autographed note, explaining the issue, written by Robert Baden-Powell (lot 1106). Dated 'Nov 1937' and signed 'Baden-Powell', it surpassed its estimate of £300–£400 to reach £2300.

A 1951 presentation booklet from the People's Republic of China, which included the surcharged Taiwan 1 January 1950 Whistling Swans set, the 1950 Koxinga set and the 1951 Division perforated set and miniature sheet, sold for £2300 from an estimate of £1200–£1500 (lot 501).

From the British currency issues of British Levant, there was a rare unissued 1905 'LEVANT' 2s.6d. pair overprinted 'SPECIMEN' (lot 369). This fine pair, with original gum, achieved its lower estimate of £1550.

A cut-to-shape 1852 ½a. blue Scinde Dawk from the Sind Province in India, which was affixed to piece and with a red cancellation, reached its higher estimate of £1550 (lot 691).

From New Guinea, a fine 1915–16 'N. W./PACIFIC/ISLANDS' overprint, on a Second watermark 5s. grey and yellow Kangaroo, exceeded its £700–£800 estimate to go under the hammer for £1250 (lot 886)



Cheshire Stamp Auctions

THE public sale held by Cheshire Stamp Auctions at their Knutsford auction room on 11 June included various specialised sections (the prices shown exclude buyers' premium). Among these was an Egypt Hotel Post display collection of covers, cards and stamps or pieces, displaying the various cancels and including some advert envelopes (lot 294). With approximately 170 covers or cards and 130-plus stamps or pieces, it went for £1850.

Another collection highlight was a Malta postal history one in seven albums, which sold for £2400 (lot 456). Also from Malta, an extremely fine mint example of the 1860–63 ½d. buff, described as one of the best in existence, achieved £1550 (lot 440). Meanwhile, an extremely fine marginal block of six of the 1863–81 ½d. yellow showing the 'ONE HALF PENNY' inscription sold for £850 (lot 443).

A very scarce imperforate block of four of the Ceylon 1867–70 1d. deep blue, in a fine condition, went under the hammer for £775 (lot 246).

From India, a used 1866–78 4a. green (die I) was the only known example with the newly discovered inverted watermark, which will be listed in the next SG catalogue (lot 378). This fine example achieved £650.

A plate 9 GB 1858–76 2d. blue reconstruction sold for £525 (lot 729), and a mint block of 12 of the GB 1868 2d. blue (plate 13) made £500 (lot 731).



Auckland City Stamps

AUCKLAND City Stamps held the public auction of the New Zealand Full Face Queen Collection formed by the late George Branam, as well as other New Zealand stamp rarities, on 18–19 June. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

An 1862–63 6d. black-brown (serrated 16–18) on pelure paper on a cover to Adelaide was tied by a 'Dunedin' cancel; one of only six recorded examples and the only known on cover (lot 145). With an Adelaide GPO 'FE 22 63' receiving cancel and backstamped with a 'Dunedin/Otago FE 7 63' strike, it exceeded its NZ\$12500–NZ\$15000 estimate to sell for NZ\$17,000.

From the 1855–58 imperforated issue printed by Richardson, a fine used horizontal strip of five 1d. reds, on unwatermarked paper, was a rare multiple (lot 1). With four clear margins, its NZ\$16,000 hammer price was within its NZ\$15000–NZ\$18000 estimate.



With four close margins, a single 1855–58 1d. red was a very scarce mint example that sold for NZ\$16,000, which was at the lower end of its NZ\$15,000–NZ\$18,000 estimate (lot 2).

A fine used 1862–64 2d. deep blue (serrated 13), with a Large Star watermark, which had the serrations unopened on the base, achieved more than four times its lower estimate of NZ\$3500 to sell for NZ\$14,500 (lot 79).



Two stamps in a fine horizontal strip of three of the 1856 2d. blue (Richardson printing) showed the very rare 'overlap' variety (lot 45). This used strip exceeded its NZ\$5000–NZ\$6000 estimate to reach NZ\$8500.

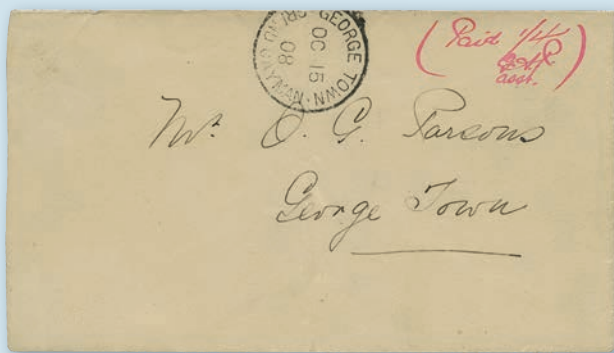


An 1864 2d. deep blue, with Large Star watermark, on a folded letter from Hokianga to Waimate was tied by an obliterator '3' (Hokianga) cancel, with additional oval Hokianga and Russell unframed transit cancels (lot 62). This rare postal history item sold for NZ\$5250, more than double its lower NZ\$2500 estimate.

Stanley Gibbons

ON 15 June, Stanley Gibbons sold the Graham Booth Collection of Cayman Islands Postal History. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

A rare type 5 manuscript provisional of 'Paid 1/4d, G.A.P., asst.' in brackets, with a Georgetown 15 October 1908 c.d.s. alongside, was one of only two recorded examples (lot 50). The initials were those of Miss Gwendoline Angeline Parsons, who was postmistress but resigned on 1 October 1908 to become assistant to the new postmaster, Mr McCausland. From an estimate of £3000–£4000, it went under the hammer for £4500.



An 1899 small cover to Jamaica with a Jamaica Queen Victoria 1d. purple and mauve was tied by a full strike of the rare 'CAYMAN BRAC/CAYMAN ISLANDS' boxed handstamp (type 1) (lot 9). With a Kingston, Jamaica, '6 SP 1899' backstamp, its selling price of £4200 was just over its lower £4000 estimate.

A rare commercial cover to the United States bore a strip of four and a single of the 1907 '1D' on the 5s. salmon and green all tied by strikes of the Georgetown '9 DE 07' c.d.s. (lot 24). With a Kingston, Jamaica, transit handstamp on the reverse, the cover's hammer price of £2800 surpassed its £1500–£1800 estimate.

There was a 1908 registered cover to Germany bearing the '1D' surcharge on a King Edward VII 4d. grey and red on yellow, issued for revenue purposes, which was cancelled with a Georgetown c.d.s. of '11 NO 1908' (lot 41). Also with a 1/4d. brown pair and a single 4d. grey and red on yellow (similarly cancelled), as well as a blue pencil registration mark, the cover's £2000 selling price was just over its £1500–£1800 estimate.

Another registered cover to Germany bore dented frame varieties of both the King Edward VII 1902 6d. brown and 1s orange, the only known Cayman Islands cover with two of these varieties, and an additional 2½d. bright blue (lot 17). All were tied by full strikes of the Grand Cayman c.d.s. of '1 SE 1902'. From an estimate of £1000–£1400, the cover made £1600.

On 6 July, Stanley Gibbons held the sale of the David Spivack Admiral Collection.

A lower-left corner block of six in the (maroon) deep dull purple and (bluish black) indigo shade of the 1917–20 7s.6d. (head die IIIA, perf. 14) was almost certainly the largest multiple in existence and sold for £4500, right in the middle of its £4000–£5000 estimate (lot 435).

The 1916 cover front to London, known as the 'Imray front', with values to £1 but missing the 10s., had a Salisbury c.d.s. of '18 JAN 16' (lot 557). The 2s.6d., 7s.6d. and £1 all showed handpainting and the £1 had a very deep purple frame that is not known other than on this front. From a £1800–£2000 estimate, it rose to £4500.

A 'jumbo' example of the 1917–20 £1 (head die IIIA, perf. 14) from plate 3R state 1 in grey-black and deep rose-lilac was one of only a few examples so far recorded and achieved £4200, more than four times its lower estimate of £950 (lot 531).



A fine block of four of the 1917–20 3d. (head die IIIA, perf. 14) in deep black and (pinkish) dull orange (the 'Peach') was a unique multiple featuring the 'beta' flaw in the lower-left stamp (lot 49). With original gum, the block sold for its lower estimate of £3500.



A mint, top-marginal block of four, with part imprint, of the 1913–17 5s. (head die II, perf. 14) in blue and sage-green was believed to be the only multiple in this rare shade and exceeded its estimate of £2000–£2500 to sell for £3200 (lot 353).

Cavendish

A Worldwide and Great Britain auction was held by Cavendish on 22–23 June. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

A highlight was a full set of the 1929 PUC issue with first day cancels of 10 May on Congress stationery (lot 1467). Fine and extremely rare with all five values, it surpassed its £1500 estimate to achieve £7000.

A block of 35 of the China 1885–88 3ca. mauve 'Small Dragon', with Yin Yang watermark, had a marginal selvage on three sides and an interpanneau margin between columns four and five (lot 368). This unused block, with original gum, more than doubled its £2000 estimate to achieve £5000.

One of 11 Irish examples of Corsini correspondence believed to exist was a 9 June 1591 letter from Cork, which is the only example from Cork and probably the earliest surviving Cork letter (lot 2129). Unusually very fine and intact, this major Irish postal history item made £3000, which was just over its £2600 estimate.

The auction included a remarkable postage due and used abroad item. This 8 June 1864 entire from New Zealand to London was franked with an imperforate New Zealand 6d. red brown and a 2d. blue (perf. 12½) in combination with a GB 1d. red, which were all tied by two strikes of an Auckland barred numeral, with the latter additionally tied by '8'(d) in manuscript, being the total amount due (lot 774). On the front was a deficient postage '2/6' mark and a circular 'MORE/TO/PAY' handstamp. From an estimate of £2000, it went under the hammer for £2200.



One of only a handful of known Ilfracombe ship letters and a very rare step-type example also featured in the auction (lot 1758). Sent on '11 Sept. 1842 EL' from 'Colotlan' (Mexico), 'Via Panama', to France, it bore a fine brown 'FRANCO/COLOTLAN' on the front, along with a very rare framed downward step-type 'ILFRACOMBE/SHIP LETTER' handstamp, which matched the large 'ILFRACOMBE' c.d.s. of 22 December on the top flap. It almost doubled its £1200 estimate to sell for £2000 (lot 1758).

David Feldman

ON 13–17 June, David Feldman held their Spring Auction series at their Geneva headquarters, where there were specialised catalogues for the Olympics, Italian postal history abroad and Egypt. Prices shown exclude buyers' premium.

Among the large lots and collections, the auction included an example of the *Album Timbres Poste* (eighth edition) by Justin Lallier that was produced by A Lenègre in 1869 (lot 51592). This leather-bound, all-world album, covering 1840 to 1864 surpassed its €100,000–€150,000 estimate to reach €210,000.

In the GB section, a rarity was an Inland Revenue 1902 10s. ultramarine 'I. R. Official' (lot 60435). This mint example exceeded its £20,000–£25,000 estimate to sell for £30,000. Another GB rarity was a horizontal pair of the surface printed 1855 4d. carmine (plate 1) (lot 60241). From an estimate of £8000–£10,000, this mint pair on white paper and without corner letters achieved £12,000.



A block of four of an overprint essay for the Vatican 1934 11.30 on 11.25 blue, with original gum (except at top right), was believed to be the only block of four in existence (lot 21116). From an estimate of €12,000, it made €17,000.

An L-shaped strip of six of the Sicily 1859 ½gr. orange from plate I on porous paper was believed to be the only vertical multiple. On a folded letter to Salemi, it exceeded its estimate of €12,000 to reach €17,000 (lot 21041).

An extremely rare philatelic usage was a set of five of the 1900 'AM' surcharge on the 1896 Athens Olympics issue on a 24 April 1901 registered envelope to Germany (lot 30081). This very fine cover, with each stamp tied by an Athens '4' c.d.s., achieved €21,000 from an estimate of €14,000–€16,000.



Invitation to auction houses

If you would like your auction results to be considered for inclusion in this monthly feature, please send a brief illustrated report of your sale's highlights to the editor (aboyd@philatelicexporter.com).

New Issues

New and recent stamp issues based on information received from postal authorities and/or their agents. In the light of the current situation, some release dates are liable to change.

ALAND

9 June, Contemporary Art, booklet 7×€3.20; Centenary of Self-government, miniature sheet €5.

ALGERIA

11 June, National Artist Day, 2×25d.
27 June, 19th Mediterranean Games 2022, 4×25d., 100d.

ANDORRA (FRENCH)

28 May, Brown Cow, €1.16.
27 June, Volkswagen 1303 S, €1.65.

ANDORRA (SPANISH)

2 June, Landscapes, Estany de les Salamandres, €1.75.

ARMENIA

31 May, 200th Anniversary of Ignacy Łukasiewicz, 160d.
2 June, Prominent Armenians – 200th Anniversary of Tserents, 290d.
3 June, Armenian Football Team, miniature sheet 500d.
6 June, Historical and Cultural Monuments of Armenia, 230d.+120d., 340d.+120d., 350d.+120d.
7 June, UN in Armenia – The Future We Want, 290d.
10 June, Presidency of CSTO, 380d.
14 June, World Famous Armenians – Ardem Patapoutian, 350d.
20 June, 100th Anniversary of Armenian State Pedagogical University After Khachatur Abovyan, 590d.

ARUBA

28 March, Orchids, 140c., 200c., 320c., 650c.
29 April, Flamingoes, 220c., 320c., 420c., 500c.
8 June, Marine Life, sheet 4×420c.

ASCENSION ISLANDS

22 June, 40th Anniversary of Falklands Liberation, 20p, 35p, 50p, £3.

AUSTRALIA

7 June, Megapodes of Australia, 3×\$1.10.
10 June, Paralympians of the Year 2020 and 2022, 2×\$1.10.
14 June, In Memoriam: HRH Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh, \$1.10.

AUSTRIA

10 June, Augustiner Bräustübl Mülln, €1.35.
11 June, 150 Years of Raab–Oedenburg–Ebenfurt Railway, €2.75.
24 June, Pilgrimage Church of Maria Strassengel, 85c.
29 June, Giuseppe Arcimboldo – Water, 1566, €2.10; MQ Libelle – Museums Quartier Vienna, €1.80.

BELGIUM

13 June, Stories and Myths (Europa), €12.54; Medicinal Plants, €11.60; Jean Capart and Egyptology in Belgium, €11.60; Together We Win, €11.60.

BERMUDA

19 May, Centenary of St George's Historical Society, 50c., \$1.15, \$1.35, \$1.55.
9 June, Platinum Jubilee, 50c., \$1.15, \$1.35, \$2.

BRAZIL

13 June, Homage to Daniel Azulay, 1st.
16 June, Brazil–Ireland – Centenary of Ulysses, 2r.60.
17 June, Bicentennial of Independence – Bicentennial Mark, 1c.
25 June, Bicentennial of Independence – Popular Movements, 1st.
29 June, Bicentennial of Independence, 2m.60.

CANADA

20 May, Endangered Whales, 5×92c.
9 June, Vintage Travel Posters, 10×92c., souvenir sheet \$4.60.
21 June, Indigenous Leaders, 3×92c., miniature sheet \$2.76.

CHINA PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

28 April, Natural World Heritage – Karst, South China, 7×1y.20.
5 May, 100th Anniversary of Founding of Communist Youth League of China, 80f., 1y.20.
18 May, Prosperous Suzhou, 80f., 3×1y.20, 2×1y.50.
19 May, Ancient Towns in China, 4×1y.20.
28 May, Dongting Lake, 2×80f., 2×1y.20, souvenir sheet 6y.
1 June, We Grow Together, My Country and Me, 2×80f., 3×1y.20.
6 June, 120th Anniversary of Southeast University, 1y.20.
28 June, Hydropower Development, 2×1y.20.

COLOMBIA

27 May, 200 Years of Diplomatic Relations with Peru, sheet 4×2000p.
21 June, Departments of Colombia – Córdoba, sheet 12×1000p.
24 June, National Parks of Columbia, sheet 8×2000p.
27 June, 180 Million Trees in Columbia, sheet 4×5000p.

EGYPT

15 March, Egypt Independence Day, 10l.
22 March, Egyptian–Armenian Diplomatic Relations, 10l.
26 March, 75th Anniversary, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University 10l.
29 March, First Anniversary of Ever Given Salvage Operation, 10l.

10 April, Cairo Capital of Culture in Islamic World, 10l.
7 May, 90th Anniversary of Egyptair Company, 20l.
18 May, Diamond Jubilee of Egypt Council of State, 10l.
22 May, Centenary of Art Lovers Association, 10l.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

2 June, 70th Anniversary of First Direct Airmail, £1.30, £2.05.
14 June, 40th Anniversary of Liberation, 33p, 80p, £1.07, £1.30.

FRANCE

30 May, Balata Garden €1.65; Sarah Moon, €2.86.
7 June, Alain Resnais (1922–2014), €1.16; SmileyWorld, booklet €13.92.
27 June, 95th FFAP Congress – Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris, €1.43; Firefighters, miniature sheet €4.64; Tutankhamun, €1.65; Sports Colour Passion 2022, miniature sheet €9.90; Doré Paris Salon Philex 2022, €12; You Have 12 Messages, booklet €13.92; Pasteur – Paris Salon Philex 2022, miniature sheet €12.

FRENCH POLYNESIA

2 June, Miss Tahiti 2022, booklet, 4×1f.; Jakob Roggeveen Expedition, 1f.
10 June, 80th Anniversary of Battle of Bir Hakeim, 1f.30.

GERMANY

2 June, World of Letters, 70c., 85c.; 50th Anniversary of Stockholm World Environment Conference, €3.70; Sylvensteinsee, €1; Antarctica – Protect Something Unique Together, 85c.+40c.; Organ Donation, 85c.
23 June, G7 Presidency Germany 2022, 85c.

GREAT BRITAIN

1 July, Pride, 4×1st, 4×£1.85.

GREECE

22 March, Speak Now – No to Bullying, 4×€1.
29 March, Children and Road Safety, 10c., 50c., €2, €2.50.
19 May, Parthenon Marbles, 4×A.
26 May, Stories and Myths (Europa), €2, €4.50.
5 June, Geoparks of Greece, 2×€1, €1.50, €2, €2.50.

GUERNSEY

22 June, Seagull Mischief (Sepac), 52p, 79p, £1.10, £1.35.
Alderney
9 June, Alderney Wildlife Trust, 52p, 79p, £1.10, £1.35.

HONG KONG

17 June, 120th Anniversary of Ta Kung Pao, miniature sheet \$10.
30 June, Hong Kong Palace Museum, \$2, \$2.60, \$3.40, \$3.70, \$4.90, \$5, miniature sheets \$10, \$20.

INDONESIA

28 Feb, Letusan Gunung Semeru, sheet 15×3000r.
18 March, Sirkuit Mandalika, 15×3000r.

IRELAND

25 June, Centenary of Irish Civil War, €1.25.

ITALY

12 June, Centenary of Birth of Margherita Hack, €1.25.
21 June, Centenary of Galup Srl, €1.20; 120th Anniversary of Italian Federation of Judo Fighting Karate Martial Arts, €1.20.
23 June, Centenary of Three-phase Electric Locomotive (E.431), €1.20.

30 June, Serie A Football Championship Winners, miniature sheet €7.20.

JAPAN

1 June, Summer Greetings, 10×63y., 10×84y.
8 June, Flowers in Daily Life Greetings, 10×63y., 10×84y.
15 June, 50th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations with Mongolia, 10×84y.
22 June, Sea Life (Series 6), 10×84y.

JERSEY

1 June, HM Queen Elizabeth II – Platinum Jubilee, £10.
16 June, Jersey Statues and Sculptures, 56p, 82p, 91p, £1.20, £1.37, £1.75.

KIRIBATI

3 June, Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II, miniature sheet \$10.

KOREA (SOUTH)

4 May, Children's Day, 430w.
10 May, Inauguration of 20th President of Republic of Korea, 430w., miniature sheet 430w.
3 June, Endangered Species Saved from Extinction, 2×430w.
14 June, Charitable Blood Donation, 430w.
24 June, Sky Map, miniature sheet 7×520w.

KOSOVO

24 May, 30th Anniversary Parliamentary Presidential Elections, €2.10.
12 June, Kosova Heroes, 3×€1.30.
20 June, Global Peace, €2.10.

LIECHTENSTEIN

7 June, In Memoriam Princess Marie of Liechtenstein, miniature sheet 6f.30, Crypto Stamp 80f.; 100th Anniversary Birth of Oskar Werner, miniature sheet 2f.90; Local Beverages (Sepac), 1f.80; Mountain Panorama, 4×1f.10.

LITHUANIA

3 June, World Environment Day, 70c.
9 June, Fundraising of Bayraktar Drone for Ukraine, €1+€1.

MALAYSIA

29 June, Traditional Boats, 30s., 1r.50, miniature sheet 5r.

MALTA

9 May, Stories and Myths (Europa), 59c., €2.
2 June, HM Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee, miniature sheet €5.

MONACO

3 June, Federation of Grimaldi of Monaco Historic Sites, miniature sheet €3.30.
14 June, International Cat Show, €1.43; Local Beverages (Sepac), €1.65.
23 June, 150th Anniversary of Birth of Louis Blériot, €2.28; Albert I and Spitsbergen, €3.30; Bee Hives on Roof of Museum of Stamps and Coins, €1.65.

MONTENEGRO

27 May, Nature Protection – Meanders of Čehotina River, 30c.
16 June, Božidar Stanišić Cikota, €1.
24 June, Stories and Myths (Europa), 95c.

NETHERLANDS

13 June, Experience Nature – Mount Saint Peter, sheet 10×96c.
20 June, 250th Anniversary Birth of King William I, sheet 6×€1.55.

NEW ZEALAND

1 June, Te Kura 100, \$1.70, \$3, \$3.80, \$6.70, miniature sheet \$15.20; Scenic Definitives, \$3.80, \$5.10, \$6.70; Welcome Back, miniature sheet 2×\$1.70, \$3, \$3.80, \$4.30, \$4.50.

NORWAY

17 June, Posthorn 150th Anniversary, 90k.; Love is Love, 25k.

PAKISTAN

14 Jan, 70th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations with Spain, 2×20r.
23 March, 48th Session of OIC Council of Foreign Ministers Islamabad, 20r.
25 May, 100 Glorious Years of Lahore College for Women University, 20r.

POLAND

3 June, Jubilees of Pontifical Mission Societies, miniature sheet 4z.50.
4 June, Jan Olszewski, 4z.50.
6 June, 30th Anniversary of Establishment of Diocese of Elblag, 3z.60.
9 June, 100th Anniversary of Police of Silesian Province, 3z.60.
17 June, Polish Cities – Lubliniec, 3z.60.
20 June, Centenary of Return of Upper Silesia to Poland, 3z.60.
22 June, 125th Anniversary of Birth of Henryk Dobranski, 3z.60.
24 June, 1050th Anniversary of Battle of Cedynia, 3z.60.
28 June, Poland See More, 2×3z.60.
30 June, 75th Anniversary of Emigration Monthly Magazine *Kultura*, 3z.60; Miron Białoszewski, 3z.60; Lost Architectural Treasures, 2×3z.60.

PORTUGAL

27 June, Seahorses of Ria Formosa, 57c., €1.05, miniature sheet €3.50.
28 June, Blessed Charles of Austria Series, 57c., 95c., €1.05, miniature sheet €3.
30 June, Epic Works of Portugal, 57c., 95c., €1.05, miniature sheet €3.

ROMANIA

2 June, *Monitorul Oficial* – 190 Years, 10l., sheet 32l.
17 June, Treasures of Peleş Castle, 2l., 4l., 10l., 16l., sheet 32l.
24 June, Invasive Species, 3l., 6l.50, 10l., 10l.50.
29 June, International Danube Day, 4l., 6l.50, 10l., 10l. 50.

SERBIA

6 June, 100 Years of Red Star Rowing Club, Belgrade, 30d.
9 June, 350 Years Since Birth of Peter the Great, 30d., 85d.
15 June, Serbian Police Day, 30d.
20 June, Bajrakli Mosque, Belgrade, 30d.
24 June, European Nature Protection, 30d., 80d.
29 June, 25 Years of Telecom Serbia, 30d.

SINGAPORE

22 April, Festivals, 4×1st.
27 May, Art Deco, 1st, 60c., 70c., 90c., \$1.15, \$1.50.
17 June, Singapore Mascots, 3×1st, 2×80c.

SLOVAKIA

10 June, Maria Theresa Manor House, Holíč, €2.40.
22 June, 150th Anniversary of Railway Station in Zvolen, €2.10.

SPAIN

1 June, Celestino Fernandez de la Vega, 75c.
10 June, Botanical Illustration – *Punica Grantum L.*, €5.10; Centenary of CETA Spanish Mail Transport Airline, €1.75.
20 June, International Amnesty, €2.10.
21 June, Sierra de las Nieves National Park, Malaga, €2.70.
30 June, Women in Science – Dolores Aleu Riera, €1.

SURINAME

1 June, Birds, sheet (total) 464srd.

THAILAND

23 June, 80th Anniversary of Thai Meteorological Department, 3b.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

16 May, 40th Anniversary of Falklands Liberation, 3×£1.50.
25 May, Centenary Death of Sir Ernest Shackleton, 35p, 70p, £1.60, £2.

UKRAINE

25 Feb, Nature Reserve – Medobory, sheet 4×V.
28 Feb, Space, L.
14 March, 150th Anniversary Birth of Oleska Novakivskiy, V
12 April, Russian Warship... Glory to Heroes, sheets 6×F, 6×W.
23 May, Russian Warship... Is Done!, sheets 3×F, 3×W.
28 June, Ukrainian Dream, sheet 6×U.

USA

14 June, Katharine Graham, 84c.
20 June, Floral Geometry, \$2, \$5.



Aland: Contemporary Art



Belgium: Jean Capart and Egyptology in Belgium



Norway: Posthorn 150th Anniversary



Singapore: Singapore Mascots



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Auction Diary

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AUGUST

1/31 STANLEY GIBBONS
399 Strand, London
WC2R 0LX (online)

3 WARWICK & WARWICK
Chalon House, Scar Bank,
Millers Road, Warwick
CV34 5DB

3/5 ABACUS
29 Hardner Road, Mount
Waverley, VIC 3149,
Australia

3/5 ADAM PARTRIDGE
Withyfold Drive,
Macclesfield SK10 2BD

10 AJH
The Laurels, Manchester
Road, Accrington BB5 2PF
(postal)

13 BIL
Community Centre, Fen
Road, Washingborough
LN4 1AB

15 PHILANGLES
Carson House, 44 Legh
Street, Warrington,
Cheshire WA1 1UJ

17/18 AB PHILEA
Svartensgatan 6, 116 20
Stockholm (online)

18 COLONIAL
5757 Wilshire Boulevard,
Penthouse 8, Los Angeles,
California 90036, USA

22 HORNERS
Old Norwich Road, Acle,
Norwich, Norfolk NR13
3BY

24 TOOVEY'S
Spring Gardens,
Washington, West Sussex
RH20 3BS

25/26 RARITAN
PO Box 425, Cranbury, NJ
08512, USA (online)

25/27 GERT MÜLLER
Carl-Zeiss-Straße 2, 76275
Ettlingen, Germany

31 CORBITTS
Britannia Hotel, Newcastle
Airport, Ponteland,
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE13 8DJ

SEPTEMBER

3 AVH
PO Box 569, Welwyn
Garden City AL7 9NP

3 WORTHING
70 Victoria Rd, Worthing,
BN11 1UN

3/4 ACE
Exhibition Centre,
Corner of Station Street
and Albany Highway,
Cannington WA 6107,
Australia

6 CAVENDISH
Cavendish House, 153–57
London Road, Derby DE1
2SY

7 AB PHILEA
Svartensgatan 6, 116 20
Stockholm (online)

7 WARWICK & WARWICK
Chalon House, Scar Bank,
Millers Road, Warwick
CV34 5DB

10 CHESHIRE
Egerton Court, Haig Road,
Parkgate, Knutsford WA16
8DX (online)

10 SOMERSET
Hill Farm, Hemyock,
Cullompton, EX15 3UJ

10/11 BURDA
Dejvická 306/9, Praha 6,
160 00, Czech Republic

12 PHILANGLES
Carson House, 44 Legh
Street, Warrington,
Cheshire WA1 1UJ

13 SPINK
15 Abchurch Lane,
London EC4N 7BW

13/15 LODDON
Unit 3, Ducks Nest Farm,
Eversley Road, Arborfield
RG2 9PJ

14 AJH
The Laurels, Manchester
Road, Accrington BB5 2PF
(postal)

14/15 LOCKDALES
52 Barrack Square,
Martlesham Heath, Ipswich
IP5 3RF

**15/17 CORINPHILA
NETHERLANDS**
Mortelmolen 3, 1185 XV
Amstelveen, Netherlands

18 INVICTA
PO Box 5, Dover CT16
1YQ

19 VIENNAFIL
Auerspergstrasse 2/4,
1010 Vienna, Austria
(online)

19/20 TONY LESTER
Unit 2 The Sidings,
Birdingbury Road, Marton,
Rugby CV23 9RX.

19/24 HEINRICH KÖHLER
Hasengartenstraße
25, 65189 Wiesbaden,
Germany

24 JOHN MOWBRAY
247–53 Main Highway,
Otaki, New Zealand

25 PROVINCIAL
90 Park Road, Didcot,
OX11 8QR

25 SOUTH WEST
Harewood House,
Ridgeway, Plympton,
Plymouth PL7 2AS

28 VANCE
PO Box 267, Smithville,
Ontario L0R 2A0, Canada

29/1 POSTILJONEN
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Malmö, Sweden

OCTOBER

1 STADE
Markgrafenstraße 5,
79639 Grenzach-Wyhlen,
Germany

4 UNIVERSAL
4 The Old Coalyard, West
End, Northleach GL54
3HE

4/5 GROSVENOR
Third Floor, 399–401
Strand, London WC2R 0LT

5 WARWICK & WARWICK
Chalon House, Scar Bank,
Millers Road, Warwick
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5/6 AB PHILEA
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6 SPINK
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10 PHILANGLES
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FORTHCOMING

HORNERS

Horners in Acle are holding a specialist single-owner auction of railway philately on 22 August. The sale comprises GB and Ireland railway letter, parcel and newspaper stamps, which are largely duplicate material and remainders from a multitude of collections and auction lots purchased by the vendor over many years. These include railway-related postal history, overseas material from Australia, Canada, South Africa, Denmark and others, plus literature, postcards and ephemera.

Among the highlights is a mint Highland Railway (Inverness) Parcels set, ranging in denomination from 1d. to £5 (shown). All values have 'Specimen' diagonally in manuscript.

One of the covers in the auction is a Lynton and Barnstaple Railway 1917 'Wilson' cover, bearing a 2d. stamp alongside a 1d. tied boxed handstamp.

Also included in the auction is a Bristol and Exeter Railway 3d. Newspaper Parcel proof, which dates from around 1866, with signature excised and an ink cross.

There will be room attendance on auction day and live online bidding via Horner's website.



Major Events

Before travelling, readers are strongly advised to confirm with organisers that events are still being held. Please email aboyd@philatelicexporter.com with details of future events.

2022 AUGUST

4/9 INDONESIA 2022

Indonesian Parliament, 10270 Jakarta, Indonesia

indonesia2022.id/

25/28 GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW

Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, USA

stamps.org

26/28 ALPEN-ADRIA PHILATELIE

Kongresshaus Toscana, Gmunden, Austria

alpeadria.eu

2022 SEPTEMBER

23/24 AUTUMN SOUTH OF ENGLAND POSTCARD FAIR

Leisure Centre, Woking Park, Kingfield Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 9BA

postcard.co.uk

28/1 STAMPEX

Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH

stampexinternational.com

30/2 PERTH STAMP & COIN SHOW

South Perth Community Centre, South Terrace & Sandgate Street, South Perth, WA 6151, Australia

perthstampandcoinshow.com.au

2022 OCTOBER

7/9 STAMPA 2022

Griffith College Conference Centre, South Circular Road, Dublin 8, Ireland

stampa.ie

8 MANCHESTER 2022

Stockport Town Hall, Edward Street, Stockport SK1 3XE

terryhunts@yahoo.com

13/16 LIBEREC 2022

Wellness Hotel Babylon, Košická 415, 460 07 Liberec, Czech Republic

liberec2022.eu

14/15 SALISBURY STAMP SHOW

Five Rivers Leisure Centre, Hulse Road, Salisbury SP1 3NR

salisburystampshow.co.uk

14/16 NOJEX-ASDA POSTAGE STAMP EXPO

Hilton Meadowlands, 5 Meadowlands Plaza, East Rutherford, NJ 07073, USA

americanstampdealer.com

27/29 ULM INTERNATIONAL

UlmMesse, Böfinger Strasse 50, 89073 Ulm, Germany

briefmarken-messe.de

2022 NOVEMBER

8/12 CAPE TOWN 2022

Convention Centre, Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town, South Africa

capetown2022.org

11/12 STAFFORD STAMP SHOW

County Showground, Weston Road, Stafford ST18 0BD

jrs-stamp-shows.co.uk

24/26 MONACOPHIL 2022

Terrasses de Fontvieille, Monte Carlo, Monaco

monacophil.eu

2023 JANUARY

20/21 YORK STAMP & COIN FAIR

Grandstand, York Racecourse, York YO23 1EX

stampshows.net

2023 FEBRUARY

3/4 LIVERPOOL 2023

Liner Hotel, Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool L3 5QB

terryhunts@yahoo.com

2023 MAY

4/7 NZ 2023

Auckland, New Zealand

nzpf.org.nz

25/28 IBRA 2023

Messe Essen, Norbertstraße, 45131 Essen, Germany

ibra2023.de

2023 JUNE

2/4 NORDIA 2023

Ásgarður, Garðabær, Iceland

scc-online.org

2023 JULY

1 MIDPEX

Warwickshire Event Centre, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN

sites.google.com/site/midpex

2023 AUGUST

10/13 GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW

Huntingdon Convention Center, 300 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114, USA

stamps.org

11/15 TAIPEI 2023

World Trade Center, Xinyi Roadm Xinyi District, Taipei City, Taiwan

taipei2023.post.gov.tw

2023 SEPTEMBER

7/10 MULTILATERALE 2023

Koper, Slovenia

27/30 STAMPEX

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stampexinternational.com

2023 OCTOBER

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americanstampdealer.com

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stamps.org

15/19 PHILAKOREA 2024

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6 BOURNEMOUTH (PA)

Edmund Campion Church, Castle Lane West BH8 9TN

6 LEICESTER (JLS)

Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester LE1 5LX

6 LICHFIELD (JRS)

Boley Park Community Hall, Ryknild Street WS14 9XU

6 RAWRETH

Parish Hall, Church Road, Rawreth SS11 8SH

ejw4632@gmail.com

6 ST EVAL – NEWQUEX (CPF)

Trevisker St Eval Community Centre, Orion Drive PL27 7TU

6 SOUTH LONDON (RM)

Shirley Methodist Church Hall, 2 Eldon Avenue, Croydon CR0 8SD

7 OXFORD (TB)

Women's Institute Hall, North Hinksy Lane, Botley OX2 0LT

7 SANDY (SI)

Scout Headquarters, Sunderland Road, Bedfordshire SG19 1QY

10 TORQUAY (PF)

Torquay Boys' Grammar School, Shipway Manor Drive, Torquay TQ2 7EL

13 DERBY (HVJ)

Nunsfield Community Hall, 33 Boulton Road, Alveston DE24 0FD

14 WOKINGHAM (TB)

St Crispin's School, London Road RG40 1SS

17 EAST GRINSTEAD (MJP)

Chequer Mead Arts Centre, De La Warr Road RH19 3BS

20 HULL (HVJ)

St James Centre, 169 First Lane, Hassle HU13 9EY

20 SITTINGBOURNE (CR)

Carmel Hall, Ufton Lane (off West Street) ME10 1JB

21 DRONFIELD (HVJ)

Coal Aston Village Hall, Coal Aston, Sheffield S18 3AY

21 SLIP END (SI)

Village Hall, Markyate Road and Grove Road, Bedfordshire LU1 4BU

27 CHESTER (TEB)

United Reformed Church, Hoole Road, Hoole CH2 3NT

27 CHICHESTER (R&R)

Parish Hall, Stockbridge Gardens, Donnington PO19 8QR

27 EALING (TB)

Kingsdown Methodist Church Hall, Northfields Avenue, London W13 9PR

27 MORLEY (HVJ)

United Reformed Church Hall, Commercial Street LS27 8HY

29 AYLESBURY (SI)

Church of the Good Shepherd, Churchill Avenue, Southcourt HP21 8ER

29 FELBRIDGE (CR)

Felbridge Village Hall, Crawley Down Road RH19 2NT

SEPTEMBER

3 RAWRETH

Parish Hall, Church Road, Rawreth SS11 8SH

ejw4632@gmail.com

3 SOUTH LONDON (RM)

Shirley Methodist Church Hall, 2 Eldon Avenue, Croydon CR0 8SD

3 SUTTON COLDFIELD (JRS)

Methodist Church Hall, South Parade B72 1QY

3 WESTON-SUPER-MARE (MH)

Saint Paul's Church Hall, Walliscote Road BS23 1EF

4 CHELTENHAM (CP)

Civil Service Club, Tewkesbury Road GL51 9LS

4 OXFORD (TB)

Women's Institute Hall, North Hinksy Lane, Botley OX2 0LT

9 LONDON (TDP)

Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, Russell Square WC1H 0DG

10 DERBY (HVJ)

Nunsfield Community Hall, 33 Boulton Road, Alveston DE24 0FD

10 LEICESTER (JLS)

Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester LE1 5LX

10 MILTON KEYNES (MK)

Methodist Hall, Queensway, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK2 2HB

11 WOKINGHAM (TB)

St Crispin's School, London Road RG40 1SS

17 EALING (TB)

Kingsdown Methodist Church Hall, Northfields Avenue, London W13 9PR

17 HULL (HVJ)

St James Centre, 169 First Lane, Hassle HU13 9EY

17 PLYMSTOCK (PF)

Community Centre, 6 Memory Lane PL99GH

18 DRONFIELD (HVJ)

Coal Aston Village Hall, Coal Aston, Sheffield S18 3AY

18 NORWICH (ARUN)

Brook Hotel, Barnard Road, Bowthorpe NR5 9JB

21 EAST GRINSTEAD (MJP)

Chequer Mead Arts Centre, De La Warr Road RH19 3BS

24 ABERDEEN (NEF)

Queen's Cross Parish Church, Albyn Place, Aberdeen AB10 1YN

24 EAST MALLING (MRT)

East Malling Village Hall, New Road, near Maidstone, Kent ME19 6DD

24 LIVERPOOL (TB)

St Columba Church Hall, Hillfoot Road, Hunts Cross L25 0NR

24 MORLEY (HVJ)

United Reformed Church Hall, Commercial Street LS27 8HY

KEY TO ORGANISERS

ARUN: Arun Stamps (01328 829318)

CP: Chris Proctor (07813 260752)

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CR: Chris Rapley (01795 478175/07711 677760)

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JLS: John Suschitzky (0116 2350441)

JRS: JRS Fairs (01785 259350)

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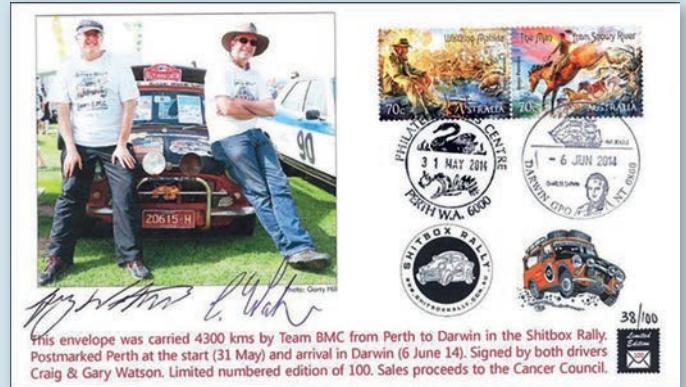
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Regular Feature: Back Stampix

Graham Phillips takes another look at some of the pictures that appeared in *Philatelic Exporter* in...

AUGUST 2014



In June 2014, Gary Watson of Melbourne auction house Prestige Philately, with his brother Craig, drove a 1969 minivan 4500km (2700 miles) from Perth (WA) through the Kimberley desert to Darwin (NT). With them were about 250 other teams participating in the annual Shitbox Rally, so-called because the vehicles had to have cost less than A\$1000. The charity rally was held for the Cancer Council of Australia, for whose benefit Gary produced 100 commemorative covers priced at \$45 each – number 38 is shown here with the brothers and their minivan.



Twelve of the 20 member countries of Euromed Postal, including Cyprus, issued stamps on the theme of the 'Mediterranean 2014'.

Michael Burzan devoted his monthly 'Europe' column to QR (Quick Response) stamps, noting that Europe's first official QR postage stamp was issued on 14 March 2011 by Liechtenstein. The code on the stamp was for the Liechtensteinische Landesbank on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.



Globetrotter Glen Stephens visited the French territory of Saint-Pierre et Miquelon, taking this picture of Saint-Pierre, which Glen said housed almost the entire population. Whilst there, he met the world-renowned SPM specialist Jean-Jacques Tillard.



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Thank you for reading. If you have higher value material and would like to try selling profitably through UPA's quarterly auctions, please contact Andrew to discuss.

To our mutual success, sincerely,

Andrew McGavin, Managing Director

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