

If you weren't there then you missed it!!!

Federation Stamp Day

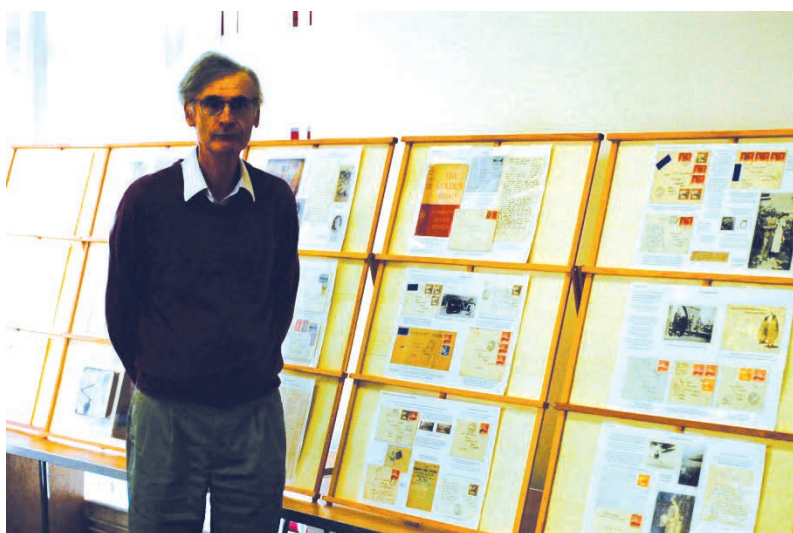
Our 4th annual Stamp Day proved a rousing success on Sunday 7th October at Buckden Village Hall. With the focus being on thematic and open philately classes we were treated to a superb display on birds with a power point show by Richard Page and then an emotional, biographical study of the life and times of a family in and around Cyprus by David Alford.



Terry Wagg, FRPSL offers thanks for a very well organised and interesting day.



Richard Page explains the basis for his wonderful display of birds of prey.



David Alford tells his family's story and points out some of the finer points of open class.

David Alford was on hand to help those of us lucky enough to be there of the finer points of each class, and particularly that:

In open class at least 50% of the entry has to be philatelic, but that as wide a range as possible of non-philatelic material should be included, as long as it develops the story being told, and

For thematic entries ALL items MUST be philatelic, but as varied as possible within this limitation.

A superb day, enhanced by a fine carvery lunch, which it is hoped will be repeated and built on at the same CENTRAL venue next year. A challenge for John Spencer, but he's the man for the job! Thanks John.

NEXT YEAR'S STAMP DAY WILL BE AT THE SAME VENUE ON SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER 2019. Places have also been reserved at the Lion Hotel, Buckden for carvery lunches

Annual General Meeting

The meeting was held at the Arbury Centre, Cambridge and received the officers' annual reports including the financial one. President, Terry Wagg FRPSL thanked all for their hard work reflecting on the successes of the Convention and the Stamp Day. Those present were reminded of the changes/improvements for next year's competitions. All the existing officers and committee members were re-elected.

A nascent Federation

Recently, when sorting through about 100 boxes of journals, books and pamphlets from The Royal Philatelic Society London and preparing them for auction, John Jackson came across 4 editions of the newsletter of the **East Midlands Federation of Stamp Clubs**.

The earliest of these is dated January 1952 and shows just how difficult things were in these days soon after the war. This was a year after the Federation's foundation and reflects attitudes and collecting habits of the time. The editor, Ian Hamilton, reflects on a number of issues:

"There were no rules, the title of the Federation was in the balance, no funds were available and there remained the everlasting problem of distance. Nevertheless, the Federation was born, an orphan from birth with no maternal eye to see that it went on the straight and narrow path".

After 4 meetings in its first year, the Federation had £4 in the Bank! A badge was designed featuring a Maltese Cross.

On 5th December Peterborough P S hosted a display of disinfected mail by Dr Donald Patton which included letters from the 16th century, including the Great Plague in London, letters having passed through quarantine stations or lazarets and examples of the variety of treatments used such as vinegar, gunpowder fumes and roasting, together with the use of slits in later letter to allow the fumigating 'gas' to do its job better. Despite the travel difficulties of the time, no fewer than 45 members of local societies and guests attended.

It is clear, however, that the major area of collecting was stamps and lots of them.

More snippets will follow in future editions.

Club Competitions

I feel I must have my say about judging particularly at club and society.

Why do we have competitions? Is it to fill one or two meetings a year? Or is there a higher purpose involved?

I believe that it is a twofold 'thing'. First to encourage collectors to do more with parts of their collections and second, to compete, which some people do like to do.

If the first approach is the society's wish then perhaps judging will be carried out by members. But on what basis are these decisions made? *My friend's is the best. This is my favourite subject/country. This is the most attractive.* Are any of these approaches going to help the exhibitors improve what they do with their material?

If the aim is for members to compete (as well) then the judging **MUST** include tips for future improvement. This means, in my view, that the trained judge(s) need(s) to have relevant experience at exhibiting and judging and thus should be able to help and encourage those taking part to do more and better in the future.

I hear claims that there are no judges available. This is **NOT** the case. There are currently 15 judges 'qualified' to Federation level in our Federation from Bedford, Cambridge, King's Lynn, Leighton Buzzard and the North Herts group. They have all been through training at seminars and are expected to both judge and compete, and re-train after 5 years. Their details may be obtained through Federation secretary, Peter Morton.

Please remember that judging at society and Federation levels these days, is not just about marks out of 100 or the award gained, but about doing better and getting even more pleasure from our wonderful hobby.

Machin Watch with Peter Morton

Walsall sheet stamp printings (self adhesive)

Additional self adhesive stamps have now been added to the range as set out in the September newsletter, as follows:

Value

1p	maroon	Sheet printing (09.05.18)
2p	dark green	Sheet printing (08.05.18)
2p	dark green	Sheet printing (09.02.19)
5p	ash pink	Sheet printing (09.02.18)
10p	light tan	Sheet printing (26.08.18)
20p	light green	Sheet printing (08.05.18)
£1.00	wood brown	Sheet printing (09.05.18)
£2.00	holly green	Sheet printing (10.01.18)

All were printed by Walsall with no code and violet tinted fluor.

NVI stamps

Additional values have now been added to the previous list as follows:

Value	Printer	Code	Comments
2 nd Large, bright blue	Walsall	no code	Sheet printing (14.02.18) with violet tinted fluor
1 st Royal Mail red	Walsall	no code	Sheet printing (08.05.18) with violet tinted fluor
1 st red	Cartor	P	The Great war: 1914-18 Prestige booklet

Walsall Fluor additives

It would appear that Walsall have been sourcing the phosphor for their recent sheet printings from different sources. All the stamps printed on 9th February this year and one printing on 14th February have a distinctly different fluor additive than normal. Although still very much a blue colour overall, when examined under short wave UV light the phosphor on the above printings fluoresces with a yellowish tint to it, when the phosphor usually has a violet blue tint.

Stamps from the above dated printings are:

2p deep dark green, 10p light tan, 20p light green, £1.00 wood brown and 1st Royal mail red.

Country Issues

Errata: (with apologies.) The country issue stamps with the revised value tablets are of course printed by Cartor in Litho.

Society Programmes

December

4 N Herts (S)	Vatican City	Mr M Humphreys
5 Cambridge	Christmas Party	
5 Grimsby	Christmas auction, no 51	
5 Spalding	Egg Cup competition & Christmas Special	
6 Peterborough	Christmas Social and members' display	
6 Isle of Ely	Christmas Social; members display 9 sheets	
6 Kettering	Christmas Fun Night, quizzes, games & refreshments	
6 Fenland	Get together, and Russell Biggs; Royal Christmas cards	
7 Luton	Society auction	
10 Sheringham	Annual competitions and Christmas buffet	
11 Huntingdonshire	Members display anything to go with mince pies	
11 Hinckley	Christmas Party, single sheet and open philately competitions	
12 Bedford	Christmas Social and Egg Cup competition	
12 Leiston	Quiz; guest display & Christmas nibbles	
12 N Herts (R)	Display anything (not necessarily philatelic)	
13 Loughborough	Party and Thematic Christmas	
14 King's Lynn	Christmas Special with John Shaw	
18 Leighton Buzzard	Pre-Christmas social	
19 Grimsby	Germany	Mr T Beesley
20 N Herts (H)	Members' displays; mince pies and stolen	
21 N Herts (L)	Recent acquisitions plus cake & mince pies	

January

2 Grimsby	Pigeons and goats	Mr G Winters
	Booklets	Mr D Davenport
3 Peterborough	President's choice	
3 Fenland	World War II miscellany	Christine Finn
8 Huntingdonshire	Something interesting	Bill Gibb
8 Hinckley	Members' night: 1 to 18 sheets to 'tell a story'	
8 N Herts (S)	Stevenage P O cup; exchange and mart	

9	N Herts (R)	Members evening	
9	Bedford	A dealer's life	Tony Hender (Arun Stamps)
9	Kettering	Registration, members' evening, Exploring the horizon	Tony Martin
10	Isle of Ely	Competition evening; packets and bourse	
10	Loughborough	Two Kings	I J Shore
11	King's Lynn	Members' one frame displays	
11	Luton	Members displays – any subject	
14	Sheringham	Bermuda	Tim Turner
16	Leighton Buzzard	Members' displays, letters D,E & F; bourse	
16	Grimsby	Members' displays	
17	Peterborough	World war 1	Alan Berrisford
17	N Herts (H)	My favourite pages	
17	Fenland	Quiz afternoon with Richard Moss & Richard Lewis	
18	Cambridge	Easter Island	Rufus Barnes
		Strike posts of Cambridge	Simon Kelly
22	Hinckley	Members' night – a date with history	
22	Spalding	Auction	
23	Leiston	Members' display evening	
24	Huntingdonshire	Competitions; More princely states	John George
24	Loughborough	Foreign P.O.s in the Ottoman Empire	Mike Fulford
25	King's Lynn	British Borneo: trains, planes & stamps	Jon Higgins
25	N Herts (L)	H is for ... ; Ron Sax Trophy; exchange and mart	

February

5	Hinckley	Members' night 1 to 18 sheets or pay 50p	
5	N Herts (S)	Isle of Man	David Belton
6	Cambridge	Persia and aspects of Iran	Nigel Gooch
6	Grimsby	Hospice presentation (D McMann); Theme 95 members, displays	
6	Spalding	K is for ; monthly competition	
6	Kettering	Dealers' evening	
7	Peterborough	USA airmails	Colin Hepper
7	Isle of Ely	Society auction	
7	Fenland	First flights miscellany, models and related items	Simon Lind
8	King's Lynn	5 frames by 4 members	
8	Luton	France, 1929 – 1979	Mick Bister
11	Sheringham	A G M followed by silent auction	
12	Huntingdonshire	Visit by Cambridge P S	
13	Bedford	Something beginning with 'S'; preview of entries for MAPF Convention	
13	N Herts (R)	Members' evening	
14	Loughborough	Is your heart in philately?	
15	Cambridge	Competition evening; Scouts	Roger Carr
19	Hinckley	Stamps of the Kingdom of Italy	Tony Clayton
20	Leighton Buzzard	9 sheet competitions; society auction	
20	Grimsby	Alderney	Mr M Webb
21	Peterborough	Malta and pot luck	Angela Cooper
21	N Herts	Mr J Sharpe and Mr R Hill entertain	
21	Fenland	Art in miniature, Part 2	Chris Nursey

22	King's Lynn	GB Machins	Scott Bibby
22	N Herts (L)	New Zealand, making of a nation	Mr D Northover
26	Spalding	Annual competitions; monthly competition, bring & buy	
27	Leiston	Competition evening and bourse	
28	Huntingdonshire	Belgium	Mike Brindle
28	Loughborough	President's Cup & single sheet competitions	

Stamp Fairs

December

1	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
1	Northampton	The Abbey Centre, NN4 0RZ	01283 820151
2	Bedford	St Marks Church Hall, MK41 7UY	01623 621143
2	Hopton	Village Hall, NR31 9BE	01502 563759
2	Potters Bar	Mount Grace School, EN6 1EZ	01303 238807
8	King's Lynn	Gaywood Church Rooms, PE30 4DZ	01328 829318
28	Rickmansworth	Mill End Community Centre, WD3 8HD	07957 158299

January

5	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
6	Milton Keynes	Novotel, MK13 7RA	01494 446004
12	Northampton	The Abbey Centre, NN4 0RZ	01283 820151
16	Slip End	LU1 4BU	01494 446004
20	Norwich	Brook Hotel, NR5 9JB	01328 829318
27	Peterborough	Holiday Inn, PE3 6SG	01945 700594
27	Northampton	The Abbey Centre, NN4 0RZ	07957 158299

February

2	Leicester	Holiday Inn, LE1 5LX	0116 235 0441
3	Bedford	St Marks Church Hall, MK41 7UY	01623 621143
3	Hopton	Village Hall, NR31 9BE	01502 563759
9	King's Lynn	Gaywood Church Rooms, PE30 4DZ	01328 829318
17	Slip End (Luton)	Village Hall, LU1 4BU	01494 446004

Society contacts

Bedford	Richard Hart	01234 301327
Cambridge	Peter Morton	01223 263946
East Anglia P H S	John Copeland	01277 218128
Fenland	Richard Lewis	01945700594
Grantham	Martin Lodge	01400 282855
Grimsby & District	David McMann	01472 887523
Hinckley	Peter Thomas	01455 448638
Huntingdonshire	Mick Twinn	01480 383103
Isle of Ely	Chris North	01354 659358
Kettering	Gordon Tregidgo	01536 746800
King's Lynn	Terry Wagg	01485 544743
Leighton Buzzard	John Spencer	01525 370745
Loughborough	Rowland Tatton	01509 268073

Luton & District	Fin O'Donoghue	01582 453244
Northamptonshire	Gwyn Hughes	07913 503927
North Herts	David Belton	01438 315040
Peterborough & District	Alan Berrisford	01733 567527
Rushden & District	Malcolm Whitehead	01933 350646
Rutland	Dave Lucas	01664 474596
Sheringham & District	Jim Farrell	01263 721043
Sleaford U3A	Lew Patterson	01529 307220
Spalding	Derek Pollard	01778 426904

Federation Committee

Officers

President	Terry Wagg	King's Lynn
Vice President	Mike Kentzer	King's Lynn
Secretary	Peter Morton	Cambridge
Treasurer	Richard Husband	Cambridge
Competitions' Secretary	Mike Kentzer	
Webmaster	David Alford	North Herts

Committee Members

Bill Gibb (Past President)	Huntingdonshire
David Belton	North Herts
Jon Higgins	King's Lynn
John Spencer	North Herts

May I, on behalf of your Federation committee, wish you and all your members a wonderful Christmas and a most happy and enjoyable New Year.

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