

Newport & Gwent Philately (May 2013- Number 49)

News of Members

We welcome Lee Morgan as a new member. Oli Littlehales also attended one meeting. We hope that he will become a regular member.

Club Competitions

Competition night saw only four entries but the standard was high with two exceptional entries Neil Jones and one from Roy Bentley and Robert Agg. This year we also had five junior entries that we judged on another day using the Stamp Active rules for the first time. All of the juniors had put a lot of effort into their work and it was difficult to choose a winner. Two senior and five junior entries then go forward to the South Wales Federation Convention on 18 May 2013.

Recent meetings

Maureen Phillips and Nigel McGaw were the visitors from Bridgend on 31 October. For the following meeting, 12 members provided displays on the theme of planes, trains and auto mobiles. Leading up to Christmas, Dennis Martin as treasurer entertained us with Gibraltar and Japan. For the Christmas social, 11 members provided one sheet displays, with the most popular, Falkland Islands Dependencies by Alistair MacKinnon, winning a box of chocolates. Moving into the new year, the letter "B" produced a further 12 displays. Alistair then displayed a further selection of Antarctica for his chairman's night. The auction raised money from several lots for the Cancer Research Wales charity, which with other sales resulted in a donation in March 2013 of £68.40 plus 15 Euros.

Roy Holliss provided a good rummage as usual in March 2013. Colin Lewis, our visiting speaker, entertained us with The Balkans. We then had visitors from Barry, with Noel bringing not only stamps but actual bows and arrows for his talk on archery, and further displays from Alan Rosser and Brian Brandon. Margaret Harding, Bev Davies and Diane Cannard provided a real May Day Celebration with their ladies' evening.

The club provided four displays to Barry members on 12 November 2012: Denmark at War (John Perry), Antarctic ships (Alistair MacKinnon), Abergavenny (Martyn Britton) and Christmas Island (Roy Bentley). On a later evening John also provided the entertainment for the Barry club with a display of Scandinavian train ferries. We also visited Cardiff (on 5 March). For the Bridgend visit on 28 March, John included a rendition of the "Kungsholm Song", inviting all to sing along. One member remarked that in 53 years this was the first time that he had sung at a stamp meeting.

John provided one of the displays ("Cruising on the Gripsholm") for the 60th anniversary display of the Scandinavia Philatelic Society (SPS) at the Royal Philatelic Society in London at the end of November 2012.



John Perry's frames at the RPSL

John Perry organised the first recorded meeting of the Wales and Herefordshire region of the RPSL in its 150 year history. The most convenient location was at Worcester during Worpex on 11 May 2013.



RPSL Wales & Herefordshire at WORPEX

The next event will be a display to the Royal in London on 30 January 2014, when members in Wales and Herefordshire will be joined by Welsh Philatelic Society member of the Royal and members from the South Wales Federation in putting on a show of 500 sheets!

John also organised a meeting of the Scandinavia Philatelic Society (SPS) in Undy on 27 April 2013 to which local club members were also invited.



Peter Hellberg entertains SPS members in Undy

A Bit of Club History

The Cardiff Philatelic Society was formed on 6 November 1899 but a little known event occurred eight years later. A meeting of the leading philatelists in Cardiff and district was held at the Cardiff Town Hall on 16 November 1907. Its purpose was the formation of a society to reunite Welsh philatelists, encourage junior collectors, and generally to promote the study and development of philately in the district. The result was the creation of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society.

The Society held an Exhibition of Postage Stamps at the City Museum, Cardiff, from 18 to 26 February 1908. The last mention of the Society was in 1914. So was the formation of the Newport (Mon) club 1907 not 1947? If so, it pre-dates the start of our partnership club Heidenheim in Germany who celebrate their centenary from 11 to 13 October this year.

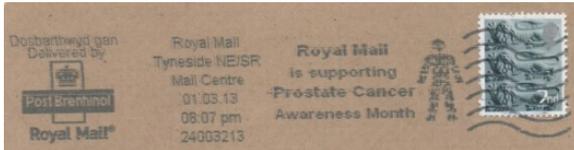
Stamp News

This year the local Christmas post saw a repeat of eight of the designs from 2011 and at the same price (18p). The two new designs were number two (bridge replacing lighthouse) and four (clock tower replacing castle).



As a result it is possible to determine the year of issue only if kept in a strip of ten stamps.

Following on from the previous newsletter, the new postmarks for mail within and to Wales are now in place. The examples below show the bi-lingual "Delivered by Royal Mail" on mail to South East Wales from Tyneside (1 March 2013) and a local delivery within South East Wales (dated 6 December 2012).



In January, Stanley Gibbons asked the club to take a photograph of the display of Gibbons Stamp Monthly in the local W H Smiths. This was because previous promotions had not been displayed prominently. The photograph below shows that W H Smiths had followed instructions this time and gained us a £25 SG gift voucher.



Dates for your diary

Please note that the meeting on 19 June 2013 has been cancelled. In its place, we have booked the Civic Centre on Wednesday 26 June 2013. This will be the "Members' Interests" meeting that was postponed earlier in the year because of the bad weather.

John Perry, Honorary Secretary