

FEDERATION AGM

The weather in Port Talbot always seems to be bad for the Federation AGM, and this year was no exception. John Gunn and I were the Newport reps. The AGM was the chance to publicise the Newport Convention. One of the other points of interest was that I was elected one of the Vice-chairmen (this honour(?) goes to the Convention organiser!).

The exhibiting seminar booked for 10 November was cancelled due to lack of support. It is hoped to run it in May 1991. Please tell me if you want to attend. There are still no badges and the cost is escalating (£2 each at the last count). The Federation will be attending a hobby day at Duffryn House near Cardiff on 26 May 1991 (a repeat of a successful event last year). The youth officer resigned and a replacement has not been found. As a result the youth account is held in suspense.

The 1991 Autumn day will probably be hosted by RAF St Athans. The 1992 Convention is likely to be at Barry. There was some discussion about the future of the Annual Convention. One idea was for the Federation itself to run it at a fixed venue. The profile of the event could be increased to make it a Welsh Stampex ... "Wales Own Stamp Exhibition".

The BPF Congress at Duffryn House is still going ahead from 19 to 22 September 1991. Phillips the auctioneers will be hosting one evening at their Cardiff offices. Other events will include specialist society evenings as mentioned in a previous newsletter. Please tell me if your own specialist society could be approached.

1991 CONVENTION

The venue is booked : St Julians School on 20 April 1991. Doors open at 10 am, which means a very early start for us that day. There will be the usual Federation competitive displays, with judging by the Three Counties Federation. There will also be a private treaty sale. Please prepare your own entries and dig out items that you want to sell. We may have room for other displays, preferably with a local theme. Dealers so far confirmed are: Bay Stamps, A M Bennett, Peter Best Postcards, William R Hart, Roger Hudson, Eric Langdon, Mart Stamps, Roger and Jean Snell, M R Sumbler, Symes Promotions, John Rouse, C Williamson and Mark Grimsley.

RECENT MEETINGS

I suppose that it seems a long while since Stamp World 90. Many members went up on the coach with Cardiff. I was lucky enough to be able to stay for the week-end, although there was so much to see that even two days was too short. You will all have your own memories. For me, seeing the engravers at work was wonderful. Having found out that Chris Matthews engraved the "Penny Black" sheet, I now have an autographed copy in my collection.

Visits to Bridgend and Cardiff societies gave us a chance to meet old

friends and see new faces. Gwen, Vic, Elsie and I went to Bridgend, displaying New Zealand Healths, Badges, Swiss and Newport postcards and Faroe Islands respectively. For the trip to Cardiff our team of three displayed NZ healths (Gwen), entertainers (Vic) and Czechoslovakia (myself). We are expecting return visits from both clubs. The visit from Nailsea was a new event. Several of their members, led by their Secretary Alan Osborne, made the trip and we were treated to South Wales postcards and postal history (which included a few unusual items of local interest), Straits Settlements key plates, Fiji and the Netherlands.

FUTURE EVENTS

The last Newsletter gave you dates up to mid-November. I know of the following stamp and postcard fairs over the next few months:

- 16 November, 7 December - Chris Doble Hotel Diplomat Cardiff
- 17 November, 19 January 1991 and 16 February - John Crouch at St Mary de Crypt, Gloucester
- 24 November - Mid-west at Chepstow Two Rivers
- 15 December - Ann Scott at the BAWA leisure centre Bristol
- 28 December - Mid-west at Avon House Bristol
- 6 January (1991!) and 7 April - Symes at Parkside Hotel Bristol
- 2 February and 6 April - Symes at the City Hall Cardiff
- 2 March - Stampex with Cardiff members
- 20 April - NEWPORT CONVENTION !!!!!!

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

I provided a list of the collecting interests of members in the first newsletter. Gerry Burkett, who collects Gilbert & Ellice Islands has just joined the Society.

Specialist societies noted to date are:

- Martyn Britton and Gerry Burkett - Pacific Study Circle
- Martyn Britton - GB Postmark Collectors
- Vic Sheppard and Lori Morrison - British Soc. Russian Philately
- Margaret Harding - Perfin Society
- Bill Osborn - Philatelic Music Circle and UN Study Group
- John Perry - Scandinavian Philatelic Society and Czech PS of GB

All of these could be candidates for the BPF Congress in 1991!

OTHER NEWS

Newport Philatelic counter has now closed. Does anyone know if the Newport handstamp is still available?

I have had dealings with a Mr Bishop of Blackpool who was advertising quite widely in the stamp magazines at the end of last year. He has not delivered the goods and has since been banned from the magazines. His affairs are now being investigated by the Lancashire Constabulary. Perhaps the best advice is to pay dealers by Barclaycard as at least then you might get your money back.

John Perry
Hon Secretary