

Now that the dust has settled on the Convention and the AGM is past, I have a little more time to put pen to paper (or more correctly, finger to word-processor) to keep members up to date on what is happening. The previous Newsletter was produced during November. Since then we have got some new members: Margaret Pead, Bryan Wilson, Gareth Jones and Ron Morgan. The publicity surrounding the Convention has generated several other queries, which I hope will result in others giving the club a try, at least for one meeting.

I am putting together the programme for 1991/92. This will start with three Summer meetings at members' houses. The first meeting of the season at the Civic Centre will be on 18 September in a new room, 131. This is opposite the Mayor's Parlour at the top of the main staircase. We had a couple of meetings there while the tables in our usual room were being renovated. It is a bright room with lots of chairs. Let us see if we can fill it.

Before the programme goes out, we have a meeting on 29 May 1991 in room 147. This will be a members evening. Bring along 6 (or more) sheets or 10p for the Treasurer. I will bring the display boards.

CONVENTION

I hope you all enjoyed the day. It was certainly ideal for a stamp fair - cool but dry and sunny. Total attendance was nearly 300 with a good representation of local collectors. Everyone seemed pleased with the number of dealers (15) and the breadth of their stock. The dealers themselves were even smiling, which must mean that they did well. St Julians School hall is an ideal size for the convention: it gives the dealers plenty of room and lots of natural light and collectors can move around easily.

This was the fourth stamp fair held by our club in the school, the first being in 1951. We have also held two previous conventions, in 1976 and 1982. This time, as well as the dealers, the Post Office put on an impressive display of the Europe in Space stamps that were to be issued on 23 April. This display on red boards covered one wall of the hall and framed the philatelic sales counter. As usual the private treaty sale did not attract as many buyers as it deserved but those items priced competitively did sell (55 lots in total). The mayor (Councillor Harry G Jones) and Mayoress opened the Convention and presented the prizes. In the competition there were 25 entries, each gaining at least a bronze. One entry stood out: Geoff Cooper's "Mauritius Postal Markings 1817 - 1861" which gained a gold medal, only the second in a Convention. There were only two junior entries and although there were many small children, teenagers were notably absent from the hall. This was Peter Ooss' last Convention for the Post Office. He has been a friend of the Federation for many years and excelled himself with his stand this year. He was presented with an engraved tankard to mark the occasion. Peter also won a prize in the raffle later in the day.

STAMPIAU '91

Federation of South Wales Philatelic Societies



Hosted by Newport and Gwent Philatelic Society

20 April 1991

The Convention cover this year showed the Civic Centre with the hands of the clock set at 7.15 pm. The postmarks used were the Caldicot PSO dated and undated cancels. The postmarks include Newport and Gwent, quite suitable for a club that covers the whole county. We now look forward to the Convention in Barry in 1992.

RECENT MEETINGS

With all the work involved in the Convention, there has been a little less happening elsewhere. Bridgend Stamp Club entertained us last November: Richard Buckland showing US Air mails and Mike Styles showing 1935 Silver Jubilee, both displays developed from Stampex entries. The evening was completed with short displays of perfins and late mail. The visit from Cardiff saw another instalment in the Norman Clowes airmail saga (this time Belgian Congo), Yugoslavia "Chainbreakers" from John Peters and British island postmarks from Bill Hicks. These displays from other clubs certainly provide a varied evening as well as a chance to keep in touch with their members. To round off the season, we had a visit from Dave Tarry of the Indian Ocean Study Circle. His excellent display of Mauritius needed more time for detailed study. He ended his evening with a short presentation on Newport postmarks (not Gwent but Shropshire, his home town).

Four of us also made a trip to darkest Nailsea. The Nailsea club has about the same number of members as Newport. It uses a large hall in a community centre, which only the initiated could find. I had no trouble in getting there using the excellent instructions provided by their Secretary, Alan Osborne, but getting back was an adventure. Anyway, the usual team made the trip: Martyn with Fiji, Vic with Russia, Gwen with FRAMAS and myself with Denmark.

STAMPEx

What of Stampex? I made the trip twice, once with the Cardiff coach on the Saturday and once with Roy Bentley on the Sunday. The contrast between the two days was quite striking, being quite busy on the Saturday but nearly empty on the Sunday. The dealers were well-stocked (at a price !!!), the music and forces post office displays were excellent, but, oh dear, the appraisal displays were awful. There were just three of these, and one of them would be a disgrace to a stamp album let alone a National competition. I did well with two of the dealers, adding to my collection of engravings by Czeslaw Slania and to my Finnish collection, the latter through the Helsinki dealer, Kaj Hellman. I had been after a set of postcards depicting the Kalevala, the Finnish epic poem, for several years and he had a complete set in pristine condition. This is the sort of thing that makes a trip to Stampex worthwhile.

BPF CONGRESS

The venue for this was changed at the last moment from Dyffryn House to the Park Hotel in the centre of Cardiff. Stamp Mail for May (which has been circulated to members) gives details. The dates are 19 to 22 September. I do not yet have full details of the specialist society displays on the Friday night (20 September) but one of them is by members of the Scandinavian Philatelic Society. I will keep members informed.

FUTURE STAMP EVENTS

Those of you attending the Convention will be aware of some of the forth-coming stamp fairs but here is a reminder:

26 May - Mid West fairs at the Two rivers Hotel Chepstow
26 May - Hobbies Day at Dyffryn House Cardiff

Later on:

1 June - Anne Scott (postcards) BAWA leisure centre Bristol
8 June - Symes Fair Cardiff City Hall
21 July - Mid West Fair Two Rivers Hotel Chepstow
7 September - Symes Fair Cardiff City Hall
5 October - Federation Autumn Day RAF St Athans

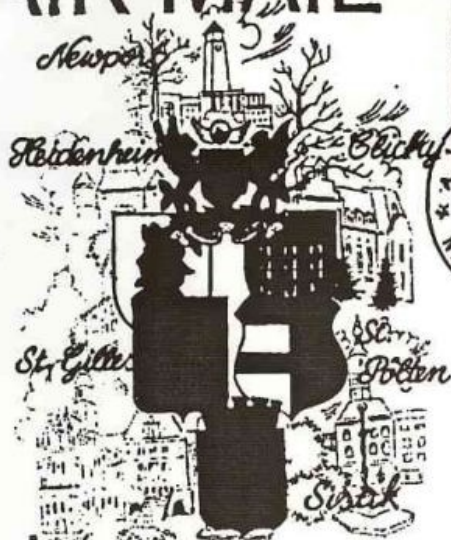
MEMBERS INTERESTS

Please remember that I keep a list of members interests and specialist societies. Please help to keep it up to date. Martyn Britton collects unusual postmarks. Can any member help him with his task of completing the hand stamps of Newport. Since seeing Martyn's list (printed below), I have found four others: Caldicot, Rogiet, Bridge Street "T" and Caldicot PSO undated (the last of these was used on the Convention cover).

HEIDENHEIM

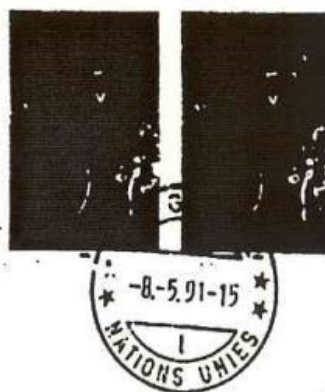
Following the convention, I sent a copy of the cover to the Heidenheim stamp club, Heidenheim being twinned with Newport among other towns. I have printed below the cover that I received in return. It shows us that there is to be a philatelic twin town congress in Heidenheim in November. The stamps on the cover are from the United Nations building in Geneva. The postmark is dated 8 May. By co-incidence I was also in the building on the day (as Bill Osborn can vouch from the cover that I sent to him) but I did not meet our German friends.

AIR MAIL



21. INT. PHILA. STÄDTE PARTNERSCHAFTS-KONGRESS

Heidenheim - Clichy - St. Pöthen
St. Gilles - Newport - Salsk
1. - 4. November 1991



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1211 Genève 10
Nations Unies

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Mister John P e r r y
12 Whitehall Gardens,
Windy / Mager

GB - G W E N T HP6 3EW

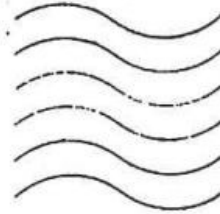
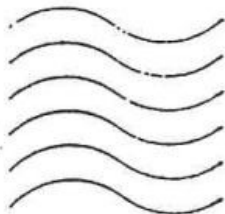
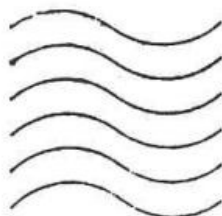
W A I L E S G B.

**REGISTERED
RECOMMANDÉ**

KLUSSENDORFF

The examples of new postmarks shown below was given to me by Martyn. They show the trials of a new German cancelling machine which started in London SE1 on 5 February 1991 on prepaid mail. The canceller is currently being applied in fluorescent pink to 1st and 2nd class mail where large envelopes are involved. The trial may extend to standard sized envelopes and other post offices so watch your letterbox.

TRIAL OF GERMAN KLUSSENDORFF MACHINE



That's all for now - enjoy your holidays - enjoy your stamps!

John Perry Hon. Secretary

PS Newsletters 1 to 4 can be supplied at 15p each or 50p the set.
PPS Remember to pay your subscriptions to the Treasurer.

		NEWPORT	HAND	STAMPS		