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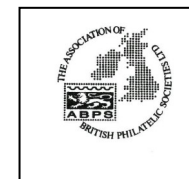
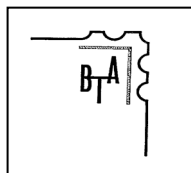
# HAMPSHIRE PHILATELIC FEDERATION



## Bulletin

**ISSUE NO. 140**  
**May 2015**

**[www.hpf.hampshire.org.uk](http://www.hpf.hampshire.org.uk)**



## Hampshire Philatelic Federation – Officers.

<b>Patron</b>	Francis Kiddle RDP, FRPSL.	
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<b>ABPS Rep.</b>	TBC	
<b>Bulletin/Year Book Editor</b>	TBC	

When writing to any of the above, please do not indicate any philatelic interest on the envelope.

The Hampshire Philatelic Federation Web Site is ;

[www.hpf.hampshire.org.uk](http://www.hpf.hampshire.org.uk)

Email; [info2@hpf.hampshire.org.uk](mailto:info2@hpf.hampshire.org.uk)

## HAMPEX 2015 Hampshire Philatelic Federation

### STAMP FAIR

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**DEALERS IN STAMPS, CINDERELLAS, THEMATICS  
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all in one large area

Junior Workshop 10am - 1pm  
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Specialist Stamp Society Meetings  
and the largest Competitive Exhibition in the South  
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PRIZE RAFFLE  
FREE SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015**  
**10.00 am - 4.30 pm**  
**Admission £1**

Wickham Centre,  
Mill Lane, Wickham, nr. Fareham, PO17 5AL

Refreshments and Free on-site Parking.

The Centre is a short walk from Wickham's Market Square served by buses from Winchester and Fareham. Wickham to Fareham is about three miles by road. HPF Website [www.hpf.hampshire.org.uk/hpfhpx.htm](http://www.hpf.hampshire.org.uk/hpfhpx.htm)

## Ringwood Philatelic Society

Meeting: March, 2015

Annual Competition Night – 'Bring and Buy'

While judging took place, the Society's publicity officer presented a short display entitled 'New Philatelic Acquisitions' (GB Victorian) which sought to share the on-going enjoyment of sourcing unusual, scarce or bargain additions to collections through friends, dealers and the internet. Members were then entertained by a most interesting range of topics for their annual competition night. Taking first place in the 'traditional class' and the evening's overall winner was Wendy Buckle with her very detailed study of Latvian 'sun' design stamps. Many were issued, but there is scarcity of used stamps and especially used on cover. Other entries were 'Persian stamps 1898-26'...definitive and provisional stamps which reflect the turbulent politics of the period and a study of 'dies' used in stamp printing. In the 'postal history' section with just one entry was Alan Whittaker's study of Australian pioneers of aviation...'Aerophilately', which achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This was a display of very scarce material, mainly covers. The three 'thematic' entries saw 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places going to 'Salvation Army' and 'Panama Canal' respectively, with the winning entry – 'U –Boat Campaign' by Burt Burton. Here the exhibit aimed to demonstrate action in the conflict with German U-boats in the Atlantic and Allied efforts to combat the threat during 1939-43. This was skilfully achieved by stamps, covers and related documents, together with a superb write-up. The meeting concluded with an insightful report from a most experienced judge...John Campbell of the Hampshire Philatelic Federation who commended excellence and pointed the way for further quality displays.



Paul Barry

## ***Your Federation Needs YOUR Help.....***

Your Federation badly needs your help because as many of you will know every two years a **Yearbook** is produced with a **Speakers List**, giving details of the many collectors who are prepared to give displays. It also gives a list of **Accredited Judges** who are prepared to help on society competition nights, but don't panic we only want your help to put this list together. Once this list is put together and published, it is generally then that we find out that so and so does not do displays anymore because of ill health and so and so died six months ago which is most frustrating to the **Yearbook** editor. The next **Yearbook** is due out in January 2016 and we would be most grateful if you could let us know now rather than when the booklet has been published. Come on, help put a little back into this great hobby of ours. If you can help please contact the Bulletin Editor.

***And remember your Federation really does need your help....***

## EDITORIAL

*This is an editorial that brings a successful era to an end, for me anyway. Even if the cancer had not struck in such a drastic way I had already decided it was time for a change. I believe that the bulletin is a fundamental thread that keeps the Federation together so I thought it was time new blood was given a chance. During my editorship I was fortunate to obtain top quality articles on a wide range of subjects and I hope these have been of interest to all. Among other things I have maintained the input to the Hampshire County Archive and produced an index for the bulletin from number 1. In addition copies are sent to the Postal Museum and Archive, the RPSL, ABPS and our advertisers. Over the years the feedback has been positive so I would close by thanking Hampshire Philatelic for giving me the Honour of being your Bulletin Editor*

Tom Fowler

**Can all Society Secretaries or Programme Secretaries please support the new editor with their programmes as soon as they are published.  
If he gets a programme you will get a slot. Thanks**

## Hampshire Philatelic Federation - 2014-15 dates

10 May 2015 - Petersfield - AGM  
13 September 2015 - Petersfield - Meeting / Competition Entries  
26 September 2015 - Petersfield - Hampex Judging  
17 October 2015 - Hampex at Wickham



16 June 1932. Letter from Pireaus to Braila, Roumania.

Adhesives cancelled by Pireaus circular datestamp.

16/6/1932. Athens Airport cds on reverse.

Boxed violet 'Par Avion Jusqu'a Bucarest' cachet ( 43mm x 16mm ).

17/6/1932. Baneasa Aviate arrival ( Bucharest Airport ) on reverse.

18/6/1932. Braila Posta arrival on reverse.

Letter carried by LOT ( Polskie Linie Lotnicze ) service from Athens via Salonika and Sofia to Bucharest.



Reverse of cover ( reduced ).

## JULY 2015

Milford on Sea - tbc

Southampton - 7 July 2015 - Royal Navy Mail to 1920 and the U boat menace - Colin Tabaert

Farnborough - 1 July 2015 - WWII - P Cant

Basingstoke - 6 July 2015 - From Post Horse to Postbus - John Armstone

Petersfield - 6 July 2015 - I don't do thematics and Messing about in boats - Phil Cant

F and West Moors - 13 July 2015 - Anything on a theme - members

Portsmouth - tbc

Alton - 14 July 2015 - Open Evening

Camberley - 14 July 2015 - Family Letters and Postcards - Members

Gosport - 14 July 2015 - Fly Navy 1939- 1845 - Mike Jacobs

Ringwood PS - 14 July 2015 AGM and Chairmans Guest - Hugh Jeffries Entertains

Vectis - tbc.

Winchester - tbc

Fareham PS - tbc

Hayling Island - 12 July 2015 - Annual Competition -Members

Farnham and District - 13 July 2015 - Competition for FDPS Cup

Southampton - 21 July 2015 - Competition results and members letter K.

Farnborough - 15 July 2015 - Members, bring, buy and sell.

F and West Moors - 27 July 2015 - Scottish Islands - Norman Hudson

Waterlooville - tbc

Thatcham and District - 16 July 2015 - Philatelic Halves - Members

Basingstoke - 20 July 2015 - Competition Evening - Members

Camberley - no meeting.

Farnham and District - no meeting

Portsmouth - tbc

Fleet and N Hants - tbc

## AUGUST 2015

Basingstoke - no meeting

Petersfield - 3 August - Visit by Hayling Island & District PS

Southampton - 4 August 2015 - Visit by Salisbury PS

Milford on Sea - tbc

Farnborough - tbc

F and West Moors - 10 August 2015 '6 in 2' stamps only - Members

Gosport - 11 August 2015 - Anything GB - Members

Alton - no meeting

Portsmouth - tbc

Fareham - tbc

Hayling Island - tbc

Vectis - tbc

Farnham and District - no meeting

Camberley - no meeting

Winchester - tbc

Ringwood PS - tbc

Southampton - no meeting

Farnham and District - no meeting

Thatcham and District - 20 August 2015 - Something of interest I have found - Members

Basingstoke - no meeting

Farnborough - tbc

Waterlooville - tbc

Portsmouth - tbc

F and West Moors - no meeting

Camberley - no meeting

Fleet and North Hants - tbc



## Society Round Up (more details of meetings and contacts are available on HPF web site.)

### MAY 2015

Basingstoke - 4 May 2015 - AGM and Competitions  
 Petersfield - 4 May 2015 - New Acquisitions and Informal Displays - Members  
 Southampton - 5 May 2015 - Aspects of Samoa - Alex Walker  
 Milford on Sea - 5 May 2015 - AGM and Bourse  
 Farnborough - 6 May 2015 - Auction  
 Gosport - 12 May 2015 - Early US Contract Airmail - Steve Little  
 Alton - 12 May 2015 - Czech Forces Mail - Garth Taylor  
 Portsmouth - 11 May 2015 - Dartmoor , Postcard and Postal History  
 F and West Moors - 12 May 2015 - AGM  
 Farnham and District - 11 May 2015 - Malaya to 1939 - Joe Robertson  
 Winchester - tbc  
 Camberley - 12 May 2015 - Civil Aviation - Tom Fowler  
 Ringwood - 12 May 2015 - One Page Competition and Bring and Buy  
 Vectis - 12 May 2015 - IOW Rural Post Offices - John Minns plus Auction  
 Fareham - tbc  
 Hayling Island - 8 May 2015 - British Honduras - Brian Rodgers  
 Basingstoke - 18 May 2015 - Auction  
 Southampton - 21 May 2015 - Social Evening and Why I collect - Members  
 Farnborough - 20 May 2015 - AGM  
 Thatcham and District - 21 May 2015 - Visit from Reading PS  
 Waterlooville - tbc  
 F and West Moors - 26 May 2015 - Australia KGV 1d Red - Colin Mount  
 Portsmouth - 25 May 2015 - no meeting  
 Farnham and District - no meeting  
 Camberley - 26 May 2015 - Imperial Civil Censorship WWII - Peter White  
 Fleet and N Hants - 26 May 2015 - AGM

### JUNE 2015

Milford on Sea - tbc  
 Southampton - 2 June 2015 - Peace - Grace Davies  
 Farnborough - 3 June 2015 - Visit from Alton PS  
 Basingstoke - 1 June 2015 - Annual Dinner  
 Petersfield - 8 June 2015 - Trophy Competition Evening  
 F and West Moors - 8 June 2015 - Cinderellas and back of the book - Members  
 Portsmouth - 8 June - 2015 - Union of South Africa - Roy Ferguson  
 Camberley - 9 June 2015 - Presidents Evening - Peter Cracknell  
 Gosport - 9 June 2015 - American Civil War - Paul Davidson  
 Ringwood PS - 9 June 2015 - South Georgia - Visiting Speaker  
 Vectis - 9 June 2015 - Bourse  
 Winchester - tbc  
 Alton - 9 June 2015 - Competition Evening  
 Fareham PS - tbc  
 Hayling Island - 12 June 2015 - New Zealand Miscellany - Brian Baldock  
 Farnham and District - 8 June 2015 - GB Postal History - Michael Lockton  
 Southampton - 16 June 2015 - Auction.  
 Farnborough - 17 June 2015 - Members, bring, buy and sell.  
 F and West Moors - 22 June 2015 - Tasmania - Pat Reid  
 Waterlooville - tbc  
 Thatcham and District - 18 June 2015 - Bourse - Members  
 Basingstoke - 15 June 2015 - Postal History of Portsmouth - Mike Hill  
 Camberley - 23 June 2015 - West Africa Airmails - Barbara Priddy  
 Farnham and District - 22 June 2015 - Bring Buy or Display - Members  
 Portsmouth - 22 June 2015 - AGM  
 Fleet and N Hants - tbc

## How I Got To Here

by Tom Fowler

My introduction to philately trod the well worn path via Woolworth's pre printed albums and packets of stamps. Luckily my grandfather had a friend who had a seemingly endless supply of stamps on paper from which I received a weekly bundle. It was at this very early stage that I learned about fugitive ink which lost me a reasonable collection of Russian stamps when washing them off paper. I started to specialise early and chose PR China as my country ( this eventually migrated to pre 1949 China). It had lots of stamps, cheap to buy, although you had to be able to recognise 'originals and reprints. I did in fact complete PRC to 1993 including all 'originals, reprints, errors and the expensive miniature sheets' unfortunately the collection did not include the illusive 'The Whole Country is Red issue'. This was all achieved as solo collector but the great change to my collecting ( and probably my life) was with a phone call to Tony Finlayson, Hon Sec, Fleet and North Hants to enquire about joining the society. Having joined the society a whole new world of talks, displays, competitions opened a whole new set of opportunities for collecting. About this time I started to get interested in Postal History, firstly Scotland, then Civil Aviation and currently the Western Road London - Exeter (with an emphasis on Basingstoke for obvious reasons ). The Scotland has done well on competition and display and the highlight so far was being asked to give the keynote presentation at The Scottish Postal History annual convention in Dundee in 2010. Civil Aviation is now the main area of interest I am collecting these days. I collect airports and airport material and have various different displays including Flughafen Berlin, General Airports and British Airports. The displays are in the main broad based but there are unique, scarce, thematic and generally strange items in each individual part of the collection. Finally there is the closet thematic collection which in my case is 'Kiwi in the Post' (there is a lot more material available than you may think). At various times I have been Hon Sec and treasurer at Fleet and currently am Vice Chairman, and Bulletin Editor of Hampshire Philatelic Federation.

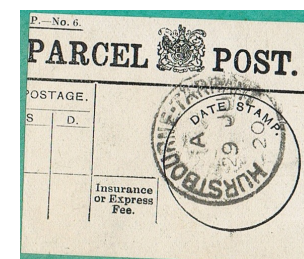
My recent steep decline in health will mean that participation in active philately will basically be finished. It will be very difficult but I fully intend to keep collecting for as long as possible.

To anyone reading this who is not in a society I would plead with you to join as you will get a greatly enhanced view of collecting.

Please Support Your Society and Federation.

## New Acquisition - Tom F

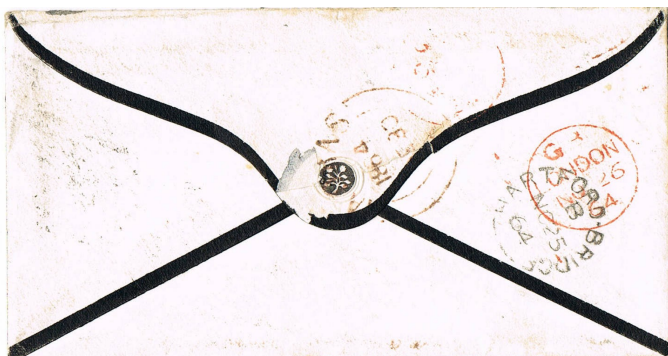
## Hurstbourne Tarrant Parcel Post Label



## New acquisition - Tom F

## Hartford Bridge to Madras

Mourning letter from  
Hartford Bridge to  
Madras in India.  
Addressed to Mr  
Huddleston, Civil  
Service, Madras, Four  
pence orange and six  
pence adhesive  
cancelled using 963  
cancels for Winchfield  
25 November 1864.  
Inscribed  
'via Marseilles'



Rear of cover  
showing a Hartford  
Bridge circular date  
stamp, Code 'B' 25  
November 1864.  
London cds transit  
mark for  
26 November 1864.  
Madras and Madras  
red cds arrival 30  
December 1864



Fleet and N Hants  
Philatelic Society

## ANNUAL AUCTION

7 June 2015

Court Moor School, Fleet, GU52 7RY

## WESTBEX 2015

Thatcham and District Philatelic Society

Another successful Westbex Fair this year and the weather was breezy but kind to us for a change which meant that we had a good attendance the place was quite busy. Thanks must go to the club members for their time and efforts in making this event a great success.

The Westbex Raffle was once again run very successfully by Ann. There were 10 prizes, 1st prize of £100 won by Brian Gardiner

The National Philatelic Society held their regional meeting at 1.30pm. Several of their members gave displays and talks and Martin Farr from our society gave his display and talk on 'Timeline - Inventions and Ideas' which was well received.

The Thames Valley Philatelic Federation 9-sheet competition results:-  
Traditional class

1st Simon Richards, Oxford, The Kingdom of Sardinia 1851-1862

Postal History class

1st Greg Wynn, Maidenhead, Mail to Madeira 1772-1861

Thematic Class

1st Ian Keel, Thatcham, Scouting for Boys

Open Class

1st Ann Stammers, Henley, Copper for the Craftsman

Aerophilately Class

1st Eddie Spicer, Maidenhead, Airmail services of the North Atlantic

Cinderella Class

1st David Potts, Oxford, German Fundraising sta Views of the day

Material courtesy of Thatcham and District Philatelic Society



## RINGWOOD PHILATELIC SOCIETY STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR 2014

### RINGPEX

Saturday 7th June 2014.

The Greyfriars Community Centre, Ringwood.

10.00am to 4.00pm.

FREE ENTRY

PENNY BLACK RAFFLE PRIZE (kindly donated by local dealer Peter Mollet)

STAMP AND POSTCARD DEALERS

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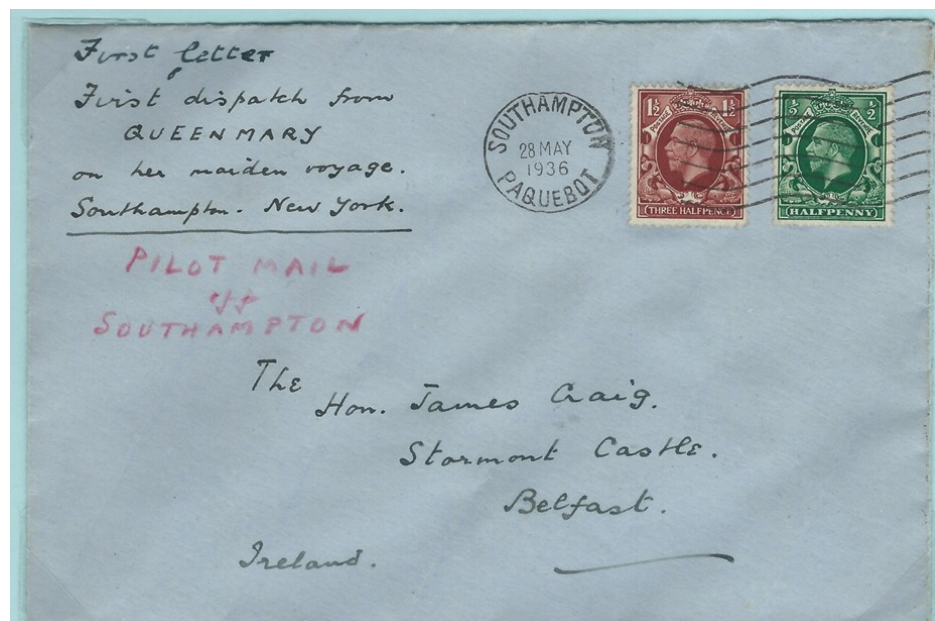
PUBLIC CAR PARK

For further info ring the RINGPEX hotline 01425 474310

RINGPEX is sponsored by local stamp dealer Peter Mollet.



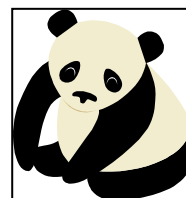
## Queen Mary covers (continued)



The two very unique covers here are provided for your enjoyment, shown courtesy of Mike Dovey of the TPO & Seapost Society.

Additional notes provided by Julian Jones

'SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS' does not appear in Robertson, Tabcart's updates thereof or Bryan Hunt's *Postmarks of Southampton*. Nor is it in Willcocks and Jay's *County Catalogue No 4*. John Dorrington reports that Hunt's *Less Common Postmarks* Second Issue, shows two types, one similar to this. The first has 'SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS' as the upper arc in single circle but otherwise empty except for small star under the 'P'. He dates this "1915-18?" The second is again a single circle with 'SOUTHAMPTON' in the upper arc and 'DOCKS' in the base arc. In the centre is bar date '24 AUG 51', the whole in purple. Hunt provides no supporting text. John goes on to add "The Southampton Society collection has one poor but clear example on a single stamp dated 19th August 1908 with time code B."



## Panda Fairs 2015

17 May	Sun	Yeovil Westlands Leisure Complex, Westbourne Close BA20 2DD
23 May	Sat	Southampton Methodist Hall, St James Road, Shirley SO15 5HE
28 May	Thurs	Plymouth Guildhall Armada Way PL1 2ER
29 May	Fri	Clyst St George (Exeter) Parish Hall, Woodbury Road EX3 ORE
30 May	Sat	Trowbridge St James Church Hall, Union Street BA14 8RU
20 June	Sat	Salisbury United Reform Church, Fisherton Street SP2 7RG
11 July	Sat	Bournemouth Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson BH10 7LH
25 July	Sat	Petersfield Community Centre off Love Lane GU31 4BW
30 July	Thurs	Plymouth Guildhall Armada Way PL1 2ER
31 July	Fri	Clyst St George (Exeter) Parish Hall, Woodbury Road EX3 ORE
22 Aug	Sat	Southampton Methodist Hall, St James Road, Shirley SO15 5HE
30 Aug	Sun	Yeovil Westlands Leisure Complex, Westbourne Close BA20 2DD
6 Sept	Sun	Portsmouth Cosham Community Centre, Wootton Street PO6 3AP
10 Sept	Thurs	Plymouth Guildhall Armada Way PL1 2ER
11 Sept	Fri	Clyst St George (Exeter) Parish Hall, Woodbury Road EX3 ORE
20 Sept	Sun	Upper Hale, Farnham. Village Hall, Wings Road, GU9 0HN
26 Sept	Sat	Bournemouth Annunciation Hall, Charminster Rd, BH8 9RW
1 Nov	Sun	Portsmouth Cosham Community Centre, Wootton Street, PO6 3AP
7 Nov	Sat	Salisbury United Reform Church, Fisherton Street SP2 7RG
14 Nov	Sat	Southampton Methodist Hall, St James Road, Shirley SO15 5HE
26 Nov	Thurs	Plymouth Guildhall Armada Way PL1 2ER
27 Nov	Fri	Clyst St George (Exeter) Parish Hall, Woodbury Road EX3 ORE
28 Nov	Sat	Trowbridge St James Church Hall Union Street BA14 8RU
5 Dec	Sat	Bournemouth Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson BH10 7LH
28 Dec	Mon	Lechlade New Memorial Hall Oak Street GL7 3AY
29 Dec	Tues	Upper Hale, Farnham, Village Hall, Wings Road GU9 0HN

Peter Jones (Solent Stamps) P O Box 14 Sarisbury Green, Southampton SO31 6YR  
01489 - 582673 e-mail [peter@solent2.freemove.co.uk](mailto:peter@solent2.freemove.co.uk) [www.pandafairs.co.uk](http://www.pandafairs.co.uk)

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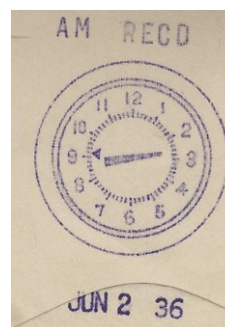
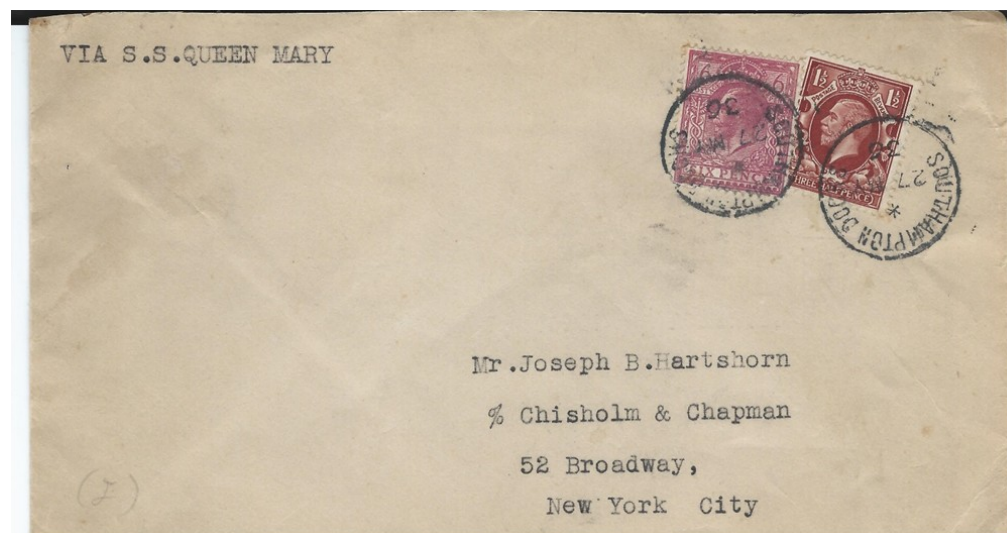


**STANLEY GIBBONS**  
A Stanley Gibbons Publication

### Queen Mary's Maiden Voyage and Associated Cover in 1936

It is probably well known among Southampton members that Cunard's Queen Mary made her maiden voyage from the city's docks on 28<sup>th</sup> May and arrived in New York on the 1st June 1936. She took exactly 4 days 12 hours and 24 minutes. By August she had broken her record a further five times so taking the Blue Riband and the Hales Trophy.

The speed may be appreciated by noting that this cover was postmarked SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS on May 27<sup>th</sup> and was received 2<sup>nd</sup> June.



The cover bears a 1½d stamp to pay the single treaty rate to the USA plus a 6d late fee payment. The addressee's post-room receiving stamp bears witness. No other ship could have carried that letter any quicker than week so it must have been put on the Queen Mary as supplementary mail!

No less amazing is the following cover which was one of the last letters mailed on board while she was still in British waters in fact while she was passing down the Solent. The letter was passed to the local Pilot and he took it back to Southampton on board the pilot boat. Presumably he handed it to the Post Office as per his usual practice. The post office dutifully cancelled the stamps with a Southampton PAQUEBOT machine cancel.



## '9 in 4' The Americas – Members

Don Seaby usually leads the team out....and what a match was enjoyed!! Eight members provided a fascinating display evening covering a wide theme. Don's American 'Revenue Stamps' revealed a 'highly collectable' interest. In mint and used form, rarely seen items included stock transfer stamps, Inland Revenue Tax stamps, Inter-revenue stamps depicting George Washington (a feature), together with overprints and perfined stamps. A well written-up study,

'The Propriety and Island Colonies' was Don Symonds chosen area. Here were featured colour plates, individual used stamps and a miniature sheet celebrating the American Bicentennial 'Interphil' 1976 issue. The chosen stamps depicted well the developing history of the founding of certain colonies – New Amsterdam (1624), Maryland (1634), Connecticut (1635), and Georgia (1732).

Hugh Jefferies, in again sharing album pages, may not give priority to writing-up, but more than compensates with his highly informative verbal commentary. 'Canadian Definitives for 1967' had been collected 45 years ago...all in mint condition were seen to be 'among the most interesting modern sets to collect'. These attractive QEII stamps revealed 5 different perforations, 3 different papers, 2 gums and phosphor and fluorescent bands...some items being scarce. The current challenge Hugh found was to collect in used condition.

John Duckworth focussed on 'American Airship Covers'. He provided much printed and verbal information revealing a truly amazing area of philatelic interest. Superb covers included the LZ126 Airship logo - built by Dr Eckener's Zeppelin company, a cover sent Lakehurst N. J. to Los Angeles, a 'Contract Mail Route' cover – Chicago/St Louis, 'Catapult Mail' via aircraft from German liner 'Bremen', 'Rocket Airplane Flight', 'Shuttle Plane Mail' and 'Censored Mail'.

Following this, members enjoyed a study in mint Canadian KGV, but mainly modern, which considered the history of indigenous peoples... 'The Plains Peoples', 'Eastern Woodland Hunting People', N.W. Pacific Coast People', and communities from 'Sub Arctic', 'Eastern Woodland Farming' and 'Inuit'. Also incorporated in the display was the 1928-9 'Dominion' or 'Scroll' issue....being the first bi-lingual wording definitive issue....all an interesting contribution from Spence Coker.

Paul Lear provided a collage of North American mint stamps and postcards ...ships, wild life and 'Historic' flags of USA, together with scenes from Canadian and Argentinian issues.

'The Panama Canal on Stamps and Covers' was presented by Chris Wheeler who ably traced the canal's building history (completed 1914) and subsequent use and ownership, via stamps, covers, postcards and an Isle of Man miniature sheet.

Brian Cropp concluded the evening's displays with a finely written-up consideration of early 'Transatlantic Mail'. Here were featured superb covers ...one sent to UK, another to Leipzig, others to Holland, Spain and Switzerland. A section highlighted the South Atlantic Air Mail Service, begun in 1934...the year in which one of Brian's covers was posted...in Recife, Brazil and carried by seaplane across the South Atlantic. The 'Condor Zeppelin' cachet was applied to all outgoing mail whether carried by seaplane or Zeppelin.

Chairman Bob Small highly commended the presentations which were studied in some detail prior to the Auction taking off!

Paul Barry

Michael Sefi (The Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection) was welcomed by members on a return visit to the Society for our second meeting in February.



The Society was once again enthralled by an excellent evening, this time on the *"The Great Britain Downey Heads"*.

In the first half, members were treated to a comprehensive mint display featuring King George V 1d issues of 1911-12. These are known as both the *'Downey Heads'* and the *'Mackennals'* as they were based on photographs by W. & D. Downey and engraved by J.A.C. Harrison into frames designed by Bertram Mackennal.

At this time the printers had changed from De La Rue to Harrisons. The resulting quality was poor and the issue did not extend beyond its initial two values - ½d and 1d. These were issued in time for Coronation Day, June 22nd 1911. The various dies were explained along with the colour and paper trials, including several unique items. The display featured the considerable range of shades as Harrisons struggled to maintain consistency.

The second half commenced with photographs from the Coronation Day procession and the Royal Yacht with the Fleet at Southampton as well as examples of invitations to the Coronation. We then had a magnificent display of postcards and covers showing the various postal rates to the British Empire and Foreign destinations with a full explanation - all utilising the Downey Head stamps.

The evening concluded with a new subject that Michael has been researching - the Transatlantic Post Office 1905 – 1914, where ships from the White Star and American Lines sailing from Southampton had on-board post offices operated by the GPO and US Post - a subject of its own for another day.

Mr Nigel Mattock 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1930 – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015



Nigel was laid to rest on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at St Leonards Church, Sherfield on Loddon. The service was well attended, with a councillor and ex-mayor of Basingstoke and many current and past members of Basingstoke and District Philatelic Society (BDPS) bidding farewell.

He was a very long standing Member of the BDPS, possibly for over fifty years. In his time he held various positions including Vice President, President and Auction Manager. He organized and ran the clubs auctions for many years. He was a recipient of many awards, including the Dr John Horsey Salver for Services to the BDPS.

Nigel was an enthusiastic collector, with many areas of interests. He collected Madeira, which he had a strong affiliation with, Great Britain, Aden, Commonwealth and especially George VI. He also had a fantastic selection of historic Basingstoke and Madeira postcards.

A dealer of used stamps both fine and space fillers, he would always be busy at the Basingstoke stamp fairs which attended for many years. He enjoyed the hunt for the stamp and would take the time and effort to find something for your collection. Yes, I know he would be going to sell it to you, but in my experience he enjoyed looking for you.

Apart from his world of stamps, Nigel served for many years as the Treasurer of the local Chineham Village Hall. He was a very keen gardener and had a substantial plot of ground at the rear of his bungalow along with a greenhouse. He enjoyed following the fortunes of English cricket and his county – Hampshire. In addition he followed the Basingstoke football team and supported the club by helping as a steward on match days. In days gone by he organised coaches to follow the team in the south of England.

Each person will have, I am sure their own memory of Nigel, but I think all will agree with the Vicars words that he was a friendly and honest man.

He leaves behind a wife Betty and son Clive.

He will be sorely missed and many will feel that they have lost a friend.

Information from Roddy Owen

## Railway "String Parcel" letters – Aldershot and the South Eastern Railway

by Francis Kiddle

The development of the railways in Great Britain greatly increased the speed of transmission of items throughout the country and the railway system remained the major network for this to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The carriage of letters was, however, the monopoly of the Post Office and so, whilst railways were used by the Post Office to transmit mail, it was not legal for them to carry letters in their own right. To overcome this problem with letters too urgent to await the next postal collection, these had to be tied with string and sent as a Railway Parcel. This carriage of 'string' or 'parcel' letters was made obsolete in 1891 when the Railway Letter system was introduced.

One additional advantage of parcel carriage was railway companies offered free delivery within one mile of a station.



The cover illustrated was sent from Aldershot to Reading Parcels Dept, Town Office.

Unfortunately, the cover is not dated, but the 9d fee paid indicates that it was posted in the early 1850s.

This cover is to be sold at the Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions sale of Roger de Lacy-Spencer railway stamps on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015. I acknowledge with thanks their permission to use the illustrations.



## Isle of Wight Central Railway by Francis Kiddle.

The Isle of Wight Central railway was formed by the amalgamation of three railways under an Act of 1887. These were the Cowes & Newport, the Isle of Wight (Newport Junction) and the Ryde & Newport Railways. The Newport, Godshill & St Lawrence Railway also became vested in the company in 1913.

The first stamps recorded are from the Isle of Wight Central & Freshwater, Yarmouth & Newport railways and were issued probably 1898. Only one value is noted by H L'Estrange Ewen (Railway Newspaper and Parcel Stamps of the United Kingdom [1906]), 3d, with and without Control; I illustrate the example with control.

The second series were issued probably in 1915 and had a change of title to Isle of Wight Railway. Two values are in the collection, 4d (illustrated, used 1 October 1915 at Shanklin) and 7/6 dated 1920, but no station name.

The third series were issued about 1922 and again the name was changed, this time to Isle of White Central Railway, which incidentally is the name used on the 1891 to 1920 Railway Letter Fee stamps used by the railway company. Two values are known, 8d and 1/- (in red), both dated 1922 and postmarked Newport.



To say the least, to me these stamps are unknown, and must be very scarce

These stamps (plus others in the series) are to be sold at the Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions sale of Roger de Lacy-Spencer railway stamps on 4th June 2015. I acknowledge with thanks their permission to use the illustrations.

## Aero OY (Aero Ltd.) ( Finnair)

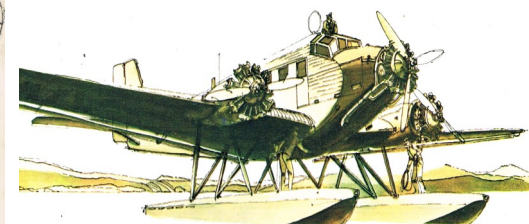
## Junkers JU52/3M

by Tom Fowler

In 1923, Bruno Lucander founded Finnair as Aero O/Y (Aero Ltd). Lucander had previously run the Finnish operations of the Estonian airline Aeronaut. In mid-1923 he concluded an agreement with Junkers Flugzeugwerke AG to provide aircraft and technical support in exchange for a 50% ownership in the new airline. The charter establishing the company was signed in Helsinki on 12 September 1923, and the company was entered into the trade register on 11 December 1923. The first flight was on 20 March 1924 from Helsinki to Tallinn, Estonia on a Junkers F.13 aircraft fitted with floats. Later services used JU52/3M aircraft also with floats. The seaplane services ended in December 1936 following the construction of the first aerodromes in Finland. They then used the normal JU52.



Commercial letter bearing JU52 adhesive



2003 Prepaid maximum card History of Finnish Air Travel, Aero O/Y JU52/3M

Official Finnair  
postcard illustrating  
Aero O/Y JU52/3M

**FINNAIR**

1932  
Finnairin  
Finnairs  
Finnair's  
Junkers Ju52/3m



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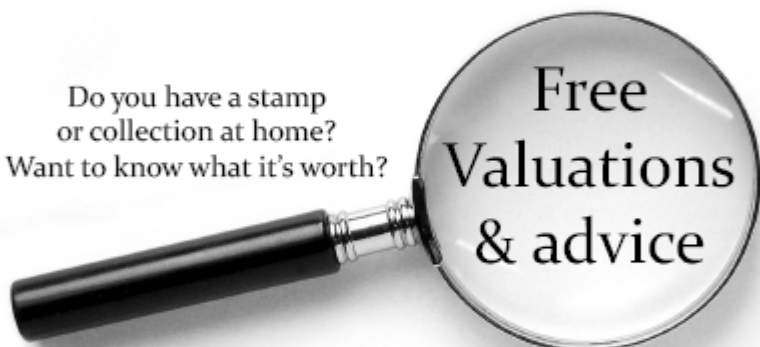
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### Portsmouth Ship Letter - Late Use Date

by Julian Jones

The cover illustrated was carried by ship to Portsmouth where it was landed in March 1848. It is rated 8d as an incoming ship letter and struck with 'PORTSMOUTH / SHIP LETTER' [Robertson type S16]. This cover demonstrates a date extension for the use of this mark and is recorded as such in Colin Tabear's *Robertson Revisited A Supplement*.



Cover from Charleston, South Carolina to London: 'PAID' '10' 'CHARLESTON S.C. / FEB 23 / 5', all in red. On arrival in Portsmouth: '8' 'PORTSMOUTH / SHIP LETTER' [Rob. S16] and 'PORTSMOUTH MR26 1848 E', in black. In London: 'AM 27MR27 1848', red.

The Charleston date stamp contains the digit 5 at the bottom and was normally used to indicate payment of a letter less than ½oz for a distance of less than 300 miles. There is no endorsement of the out port used in this case by the US Post Office, but the payment is overridden by the '10' stamp and a 'PAID' stamp for a distance of more than 300 miles, most probably to New York. The cover is also endorsed 'prepaid 444' indicating postage charged to a US post office account. The sailing time from the US east coast to Portsmouth was thirty-three days by ship as compared at this time from New York to Liverpool by Cunard packet of seventeen days.

Tabear, C. *Robertson Revisited A Supplement*, TPO & Seapost Society, 2012