

# THEMESCENE

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DECEMBER 2005

## THEMESCENE

Journal of the  
British Thematic Association  
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# EDITORIAL

Wendy Buckle

**W**e have a variety of topics in this issue. As ever I am indebted to our regular authors for their support. Without them there would be no issue. Ian Paton comes up with ways of using airmails thematically (page 142), Vladimir Kachan continues his story of the silk worm (page 154) and Barry Floyd spots some unusual postal items in new Zealand (page 156). But here comes my regular plea: how about more of you putting something together? We have one new author here – Stephen Toynbee (page 149), who has promised me more. Producing this magazine sometimes feels like a leap of faith: the faith being that the post will contain enough contributions to put an issue together. This one has been a real last minute achievement, and my life would be so much easier if I knew ahead of an issue that I would be able to fill it. We do have a letters page this time, which is always pleasing (page 140). If you don't want to write an article, how about just a few lines?

On page 163 John Hayward gives the details of the BTA display on the Village Green at Stampex next spring. Fantastic publicity for us, but it will only work if enough of us help out, particularly staffing the Information Table. Do your bit for the BTA – help us out, and let John know.

Our indefatigable Librarian, Ron Backhouse, has studiously worked his way through a large back run of *Topical Time*, kindly donated by Barry Floyd. The first part of the index appears here, with more to follow. Do check it out, it's always worth following up what other people have written on your topic. And if your interest is Malaria then you need a run of *Malerial Philatelic International* September 1979 – June 1986, kindly donated by Carol Turner. The cost of posting these back to the Librarian, should you wish to borrow them, will be £4.52.

At the end of September I joined a coach load of fellow members of Swindon Philatelic Society and headed off for a long weekend in Antwerp, to visit the twice-yearly NIPA fair. It was very big (around 140 dealers), and well laid-out. Clearly seventh heaven for Belgium collectors it also had lots of thematic dealers: far more than you would see at a national fair in this country. I also liked the amount of space given over to catering: dozens of tables, and two separate counters selling good basic hot meals and drinks at very reasonable prices. Why can't our fairs do that? Everyone came back with a few (or more) choice items. I heartily endorse what Simon Moorcroft says in his Publicity Officer's page: if you have the chance to see an overseas fair or exhibition do take it.

Unlikely as it feels to me now, writing this while Guy Fawkes Night fireworks are whizzing outside, by the time you read this Christmas will be nearly upon us; so it only remains for me to wish you all the season's best wishes and hope for a prosperous new year. ☒



# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

**Brian Sole**

**S**tamp collecting is a hobby which can be enjoyed in the privacy of one's home and/or shared with others by attending Philatelic Society meetings and Stamp Exhibitions. A collector is also free to show his collections at Society meetings and in competitions. Unfortunately the hobby is not attracting enough newcomers, although there is potential to bring in both children and recently retired adults. It is not sexy enough in today's age. Perhaps we are too insular. One of the most popular programmes on TV is "Who wants to be a millionaire". It was featured on the 68p stamp in the Classic TV set issued 8<sup>th</sup> September 2005. The possibility of somebody answering 15 questions and winning £1 million pounds makes the programme compulsive viewing. It is surprising how often contestants pick the wrong answer from a choice of four possible answers. How many of you have sat in your armchair shouting out an answer and then staring in disbelief at the screen when the wrong answer is selected. I know I have! Sometimes my wife says to me "How did you know that?" and quite often I find myself saying "stamps"! Perhaps we should be writing to the newspaper editors and pointing out how many general knowledge questions can be answered from information on stamps. What do you think? Your Editor will be pleased to hear your views.

If you display your collection, either to your own society or to other societies and also to enter competitions, a whole new world is opened up! Collectors are always pleased to offer advice, suggest where additional material can be purchased or even point out mistakes in your write up! Displayers of thematic material have a big advantage over country collectors. I am continually surprised, when I show my "Go by cycle!" collection, by the stories I am told about cycling exploits and also the suggestions for additions to my collection. We are lucky to be part of a very sociable hobby, but sadly only a small proportion of collectors are willing to participate to the full.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Dundee for the Philatelic Weekend on 28 – 30 October 2005, organised by Ken Norris and a small team. There was an attendance of over 80 and no less than 45 participants filled one frame each, during the "shot gun philately" session. A brief talk of no more than one minute was allowed to each participant and the Chairman, Mike Turnbull ensured that nobody ran over time! It was also a pleasure to meet some old friends, including Margaret Morris, who was as bright and cheery as ever and Val Beeken, who gave a very personal display of her 6-day trip on the ship "Invincible", along the East Coast of GB. It included some special covers with the ship's cachet. At the Dinner on Saturday night I was proud to wear the BTA chain of office, purchased in memory of Franceska Rapkin.

*Continued on next page*

# CHAIRMAN'S PAGE

**Christine A. Earle**

**I**n the last issue of *Themescene*, on behalf of your Committee, I submitted a plea for a member to take over as Treasurer, as Tony has expressed a desire to retire, and also for someone to help with setting up a BTA Website. I am happy to report that my appeal did not fall on deaf ears because I have had several members contact me regarding both positions. That is fantastic and proves to me that there are people out there who care what happens to the BTA, and wish to see it continue to flourish. I would like to thank all those who offered their help, and to say how pleased we are to welcome Peter Wood on board as our new Treasurer. Some of you will know Peter already, as he won the BTA Cup at Thematica 2004, and gave a splendid display of his winning entry to the AGM earlier this year. I would also like to take this opportunity to offer my special and personal thanks to Tony Farmer, who as one of the Founding Fathers of the BTA has worked untiringly for many years as our Treasurer. Every society needs a safe pair of hands to guide its finances, and Tony has certainly proved to be ours over the years. I would also like to thank member Ian Keel for volunteering (!) his son, Martin, to help with our Website operation. Martin is working with our Editor and they are in the process of designing a new look BTA Website, so watch this space!

As 2005 draws to a close I am looking forward to 2006 with great anticipation. We have so many exciting events on the horizon starting with the Society's presentation on the 'Village Green' at Spring Stampex 22-26 February (don't miss it!) and culminating in November with the bi-annual ABPS exhibition being held at Torquay, where there will also be an abundance of Thematic exhibits/displays on show. Add to that the two Thematica events and three International exhibitions where BTA members are participating and you can see 2006 is going to be a bumper year for UK Thematic Philately! Make sure you are part of it by continuing to support the BTA!

All that remain is for me to wish you all the Season's Best Wishes and a Happy (Thematic) New Year. ☒

*President's Page, continued from previous page:*

The previous week I had displayed in Newcastle, which involved a stay overnight. The Society made me very welcome. The President, Gillian Birchenall, who is building a collection on horseracing, and the Secretary, Rick Temperley, entertained me to a meal beforehand. Familiar faces at the meeting included Jean Wood, who works hard for Youth philately, Pat Rothnie, recently retired General Secretary of ABPS, and Mike Oxley. After the meeting I joined half a dozen members for a drink in the nearby pub. It was a very pleasant way to end the evening.

Wishing all members and their families a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

☒

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S PAGE

**Peter Denly**

Ordinary members UK	209
Family members	23
Junior members UK	3
Society members UK	19
Overseas members	24
Overseas Society members	1
Honorary members	2
Total number of members	281

It is to be hoped that our readers were able to participate in some of the very successful events hosted by the BTA this year. The West Country workshop was well attended, and may well prove to have been a fruitful recruiting ground for new members: it cannot be stressed too often that healthy membership numbers provide greater flexibility for your committee and the events they can stage.

In the High Street on Saturday I overheard two girls discussing the Christmas presents already bought. After the panic subsided, this acted as a prompt to remind you all that subscriptions for the next twelve months will be due fairly shortly, in fact the renewal form will be found included with this issue of *Thamescene*. Of our membership, 35 have already pre-paid for the coming year in whole or in part. They will receive a separate note to ensure that they do not over-pay.

Less people are pre-paying their subscriptions now than in previous years, so can I just remind you that a benefit of paying for a number of years in advance, is the avoidance any increases in the rate in the years pre-paid.

Please respond promptly to the call for subscriptions, as the less postage paid out for reminders is money in the bank.

## **New Members joining since the December issue**

Mr & Mrs P.J. Miller	Bristol
Miss H. MacMillan	Dingwall
Mr B. Stagg	Cheltenham
Mr J. Baron	Thatcham

## **Deaths advised since the December issue**

None

# PUBLICITY OFFICER'S PAGE

**Simon Moorcroft**

**B**y the time you get to read this we will all be looking forward to Christmas and the New Year. 2006 looks to be another busy one with a number of important events taking place.

I was extremely pleased to hear that the Ashburton meeting, held jointly with the West of England Thematic Society, went very well. The attendance of over fifty people shows the popularity and strength of thematic philately in that part of the country. Much of this strength is down to the WETS who should be congratulated on how they have promoted the hobby and the BTA. Many collectors in the West find it difficult to come to London on a regular basis and therefore a well organised and popular regional association is essential in fostering new collectors and exhibitors.

Our display on the Village Green next February will be a superb event and one which should not be missed. I am pleased that many of you have decided to display. John Hayward is working extremely hard to ensure the event is a success. We will be producing a full colour brochure to accompany the display which may become a collectors item in its own right! Because of our major presence we will need a large number of stewards to answer peoples queries and generally help to promote the BTA. If you can offer assistance on any of the days please contact Anne Stammers as means that other people can take a break.

The major international event of the decade, Washington 2006, will take place in June next year. However, if, like me, you are unable to attend or feel it is too far to travel then Belgica 2006 should be a serious consideration. This will take place between 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2006 in Brussels, held under the patronage of FIP. Originally the Youth was to be the only class but this has now been amended to include Thematic, Open and One Frame classes. With Brussels only two hours travelling by train from London it is perfectly suited for those of you who do not wish to travel a long distance.

Back in Britain Torquay 2006 will take place the next weekend, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>. Barry Horne and his small team have been doing an excellent job and from all accounts it will be a extremely good show. Although originally the main class was Thematics, the ABPS and the British Philatelic Trust have decided to display all classes at Torquay instead of some at Torquay and the rest at Autumn Stampex. However, I am certain that the thematic exhibits will not be overshadowed, and from the WETS meeting in September it looks like many people are planning to enter. The BTA will be manning a table and the Committee are discussing plans for meetings and other events.

We therefore have much to look forward to for next year and I do hope you will be able to attend some or all of them.

Finally, may I wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and peaceful New Year. ☒

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The views expressed in these letters may not necessarily be those of the Editorial Board.*

## AUSTRIAN PNEUMATIC MAIL

*From:* Joyce Boyer, by email

I read with interest Ian Paton's article "Anyone for Pneumatics" as I have never considered this as a thematic topic.

My main collecting area is Austria so I have been aware of pneumatic mail for many years, although I only have a few items of pneumatic postal stationery in my collection as this area has not interested me. However the reason for this letter is to tell Ian and anyone else interested in this topic that the Austrian Philatelic Society published a book earlier this year on the Pneumatic Post of Vienna. Copies are available from the joint author, Andy Taylor, 10 Eastfields, Stokesley, North Yorkshire, TS9 5EJ at a cost of £40.00 plus postage. The Society also obtained an Austrian 'Personal stamp' depicting a pneumatic card and I understand a few may be available from the same source for £1.00 each.

## A SPORTING CHALLENGE

*From:* Dr. D. Jones, 39 Thorngrove House, 500 Great Western Road, Aberdeen, AB10 6PF.



Few countries appear to have issued postage stamps illustrating billiard balls and cues; and I illustrate a Denmark stamp produced in 1984 and a Nederland stamp issued in 1986. Peru produced a stamp showing billiard balls and a cue. There may be others. Although snooker is quite a different game from billiards the balls and cues on these stamps bring to mind the current Snooker Grand Prix in the Guildhall, Preston, where play commenced with the first round on Saturday 8th October 2005. The coverage on BBC 2 is superb but is not to everyone's liking! However, it will be over by the time this note is published.



*New issues from*

# **CROWN AGENTS**

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# THEMATIC USE OF 'AIRMAIL' PT. 1.

*Ian Paton looks back at the pioneering days of aviation*

Living in Britain has been a slight disadvantage because I never had home-grown airmail stamps to arouse my interest when I started stamp collecting; a small free 'blue label' marked AIRMAIL is not very inspiring. If you are familiar with Scott as well as Stanley Gibbons Catalogues you will know that the former has a separate section at the end of each country for Air Post issues and the numbers start with a C. As a thematic collector I find this especially irritating when the top value in a set is Air Post, and so not shown in the main list. I prefer the continuous list for all stamps for each country used by SG; the Subject Indexes by Country make appropriate stamp identification much easier.

When I started my American Panorama 1492-1912 in 1976 its end date was 1976, and my intention was to build up a collection of philatelic material which interested me and related to the history and development of the U.S.A. and its Postal Service. I was not just forming an exhibit based on F.I.P. Thematic Class Regulations, to which I conform only when I design an Exhibit from part of my collection. To ensure consistency over the years as I added material, I wrote down my own 'collecting rules' which covered foreign material and not just that originating in the USA. For postal history (and aerophilately) type material I adopted the term 'ARTEFACT' which meant that each item not only had to relate to an event in American history, but also had to be contemporary with it. I had no problems defining some airmail covers as Artefacts because even the simple linking together of two cities, usually for commercial reasons, was an historical event. I adopted the term 'ILLUSTRATION' to describe all unused stamps (and postal stationary) and while these still had to relate to an event in U.S history neither their country nor date of issue matter. A valid illustration used on a cover posted after 1912 is not an 'Artefact' in my collection because the postmark date cannot be contemporary with the event.

Over the years at exhibitions I gained many ideas from items in the Traditional, Postal History and Aerophilatelic classes, as well as from numerous thematic displays on topics like Aviation, Aeroplanes, Dirigibles, War in the Air, etc; but for this article my focus is on Airmail pre-1960. I will ignore all airmail postal stationery for the purposes of this article, but this is far from the case in my collection.

By 1986 I realised that I needed to reduce the end date from 1976 and picked on 1912 (48<sup>th</sup> State joined the Union then) which excluded all airmail covers (U.S started in 1918), but I could not bring myself to sell these and they now remain as just a supplement outside the collection. I have selected the airmail artefacts for this article mainly from the period prior to 1940 and hope that they are of general interest.

I will start with a couple of airmail 'Illustrations'. Both surface mail and airmail stamps may be definitive or commemorative but what is depicted on the latter may be connected neither to airmail, nor even to aviation and so are of use in many different themes; for example this one celebrates the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the settling of New Sweden. My concept of 'two-interest' people (see 'A distinguished dozen' *Themescene* nos.78-79 March, June 2005) also applies to people depicted on airmail stamps.



For example Harriet Quimby (1884-1912) was shown on an airmail stamp because of



her achievements as a pioneer pilot who in 1910 was the first person in the world to win a licence to pilot a monoplane under revised International Rules of the Aero Club of America and France. In 1911 she was the first woman in America to gain an aviation licence and in 1912 was the first female pilot to cross the English Channel solo. Her non-aviation interest was that in

1902 she was the drama critic for the *San Francisco Drama Review*.

Gen. Philip Sheridan, a Union cavalry officer in the Civil War, was an official American observer with the German army in the Franco-Prussian War, and he called on Count von Moltke at his HQ outside Paris in 1870. This artefact comes from that dramatic



period in the transport of mail by air during the Siege of Paris, and les Ballon Mont are listed by departure date in a table on page 125 in Yvert & Tellier Catalogue Volume 1 (1975). It covers the period from 21<sup>st</sup> September 1870 to 28<sup>th</sup> January 1871 and gives full details for each balloon. This ballon

mont which was posted in the Place de la Bourse on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1870 was one of very few addressed to the USA. It was carried on the balloon 'Le Tourville' departing on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1871 and took 6 hours to cover the 433 Km to Eymoutiers. Even though in poor condition its transit markings LONDON (3.JAN.71) and NEW YORK (21.JAN.71) are clear, and the dates indicate it crossed the Atlantic on the Cunard Liner *Cuba*, and prove it reached its destination.





The next two artefacts came into my collection in unusual ways when I was a British Empire collector; they meet my conditions as artefacts except that neither has any connection with the USA! The 'First UK, Coronation, Aerial Post between London and Windsor' in 1911 celebrated the Coronation of King George V who had been crowned on 6<sup>th</sup> May 1910. It is a bit tatty but I know several of my London based contemporaries who started collecting about the end of World War II were given one by elderly relatives glad to find a good use for something they had put aside for 40 years. The addressee, Mrs. Evans was a friend of my grandfather.



This cover, addressed to me, was carried on the 'Round Australia airmail' in 1951 to celebrate the Commonwealth Jubilee. On the reverse are the postmarks of all seven State Capitals.



The flight was just one of the official publicity events organised by the Jubilee Celebration Committee of which Lt- Gen. Sir Frank Berryman was Chairman, and it was my good fortune that he had been my father's friend since 1920 when they both attended a course at the Staff College, Camberley.

During the period 1929-1935 two German liners of the North German Lloyd line, *SS Bremen* and *SS Europa*, were equipped with seaplanes and

launching catapults so that they could despatch the mail when they were about 600-700 miles from Bremerhaven or New York, thus saving about 45 hours (West-East direction) or 35 hours (East-West direction); there were no flights in the winter months. This airmail cover to Berlin, with 18c in U.S. stamps was carried on the *SS Bremen* and launched on 16<sup>th</sup> June 1930.



This technique ceased to be used in 1936 when regular transatlantic flights of the German airship *Hindenburg* started.

In 1933 Chicago marked its 100<sup>th</sup> year as a city by staging the Century of Progress Exposition, and as part of the celebration the German airship *Graf Zeppelin* paid a visit to it. The route was from Friedrichshafen via South America to USA (Chicago) and back to Friedrichshafen. The U.S.A. issued a 50c stamp (SCOTT # C.18) to commemorate the flight and letters stamped with \$2 posted in New York (2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> October 1933) were taken by normal means to Friedrichshafen and then carried on the complete round trip via Chicago and back to Friedrichshafen. This cover with a block of four of the 50c US commemorative stamps was postmarked New York on 4.OCT.1933 and carries both the triangular German cachet (red) and the U.S. Graf Zeppelin Flight cachet (purple). It was back-stamped 2.NOV.33 at Friedrichshafen after the flight, and also 18.NOV.33 at New York when it returned there for normal delivery in the USA.

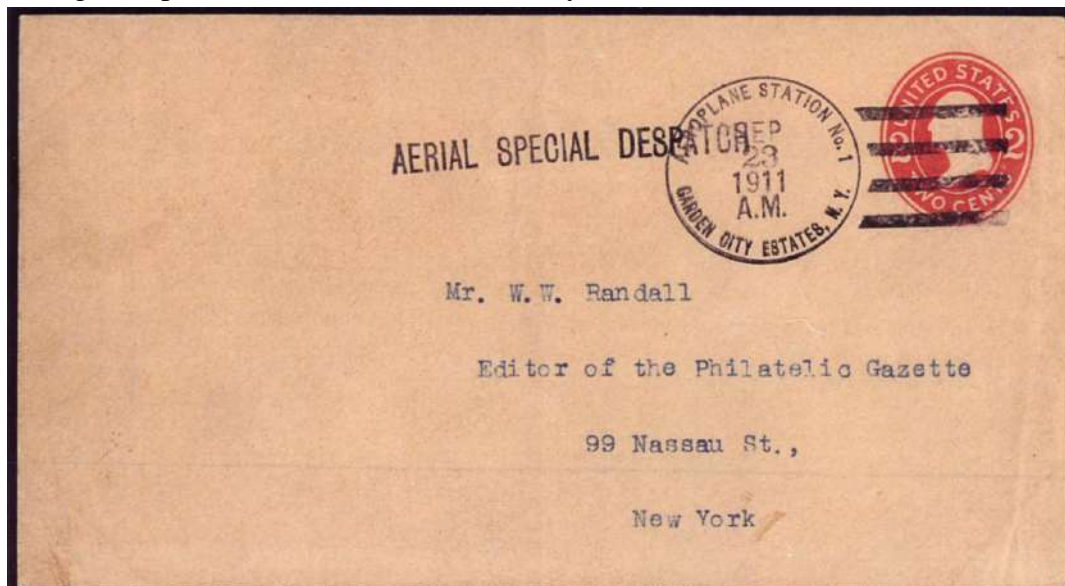




This next artefact represents an important event in October 1958, namely ‘knocking the first nail in the coffin of the transatlantic liner’. The Jet service between Paris or London and New York killed off the transatlantic liner over the next few years. Cover is postmarked PARIS/ AVIATION 17-10-1958.

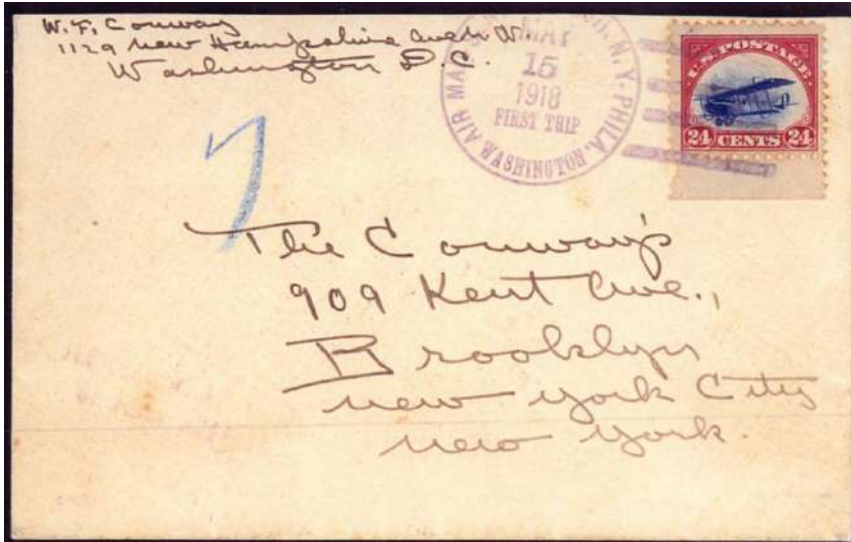


Now I will turn to U.S. airmail, starting with a 1911 Pioneer Flight. There was an International Aviation Tournament from 23<sup>rd</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October 1911 at the aerodrome on Nassau Boulevard, Garden City, NY; and the PMG Gen. Frank Hitchcock approved the swearing in of Earl L. Ovington as the first official airmail pilot. A temporary post office was set up so that postal clerks could frank the mail collected from 20 mailing boxes provided at the aerodrome. Daily flights were made except on 29<sup>th</sup> September and 1<sup>st</sup> October. The duplex cancellation on this cover [Fig. # 10] has the wording Aeroplane Station No. 1/ Garden City Estates, N.Y., and is dated SEP.23.1911.



The sealed pouch handed to Ovington before he took off in his Bleriot monoplane *Dragonfly* on 23<sup>rd</sup> September contained 640 letters and 1280 post cards. He dropped the pouch near the post office at Mineola, N.Y. at 5.30pm and the mail was delivered in the usual way.

In 1917 Congress provided an appropriation of \$100,000 to purchase planes and operate an airmail service which was set to start on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1918 with US Army pilots.



The route selected was to provide a business link between Washington DC, New York, and Philadelphia and this cover was carried on the first trip from Washington on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1915 on Curtis Plane No. 38262 (number shown on 24c stamp!), piloted by Lt. G.L. Boyle. Unfortunately the plane cracked up about 25 miles south of

Washington and the mail had to be picked up by a relief plane - the *Brooklyn*: NY receiving backstamp is 16.MAY.1918. 24c rate included 6c Special Delivery which was reduced to 16c in July.

War surplus planes were clearly not up to the standard required so in 1925 Congress authorised the Post Office Department to arrange with private enterprise for Contract Airmail Services (CAM) on 12 Routes. The first contract was placed with the Ford Motor Company for the Detroit-Chicago (CAM 7) and Detroit-Cleveland (CAM 6) routes and this



cover was carried on the inaugural flight from Chicago to Detroit on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1926. The 10c rate was applicable from 15<sup>th</sup> February 1926 on Contract Routes for distances under 1000 miles. See Part 2 (*Themescene* March 2006) for the first flight between Chicago

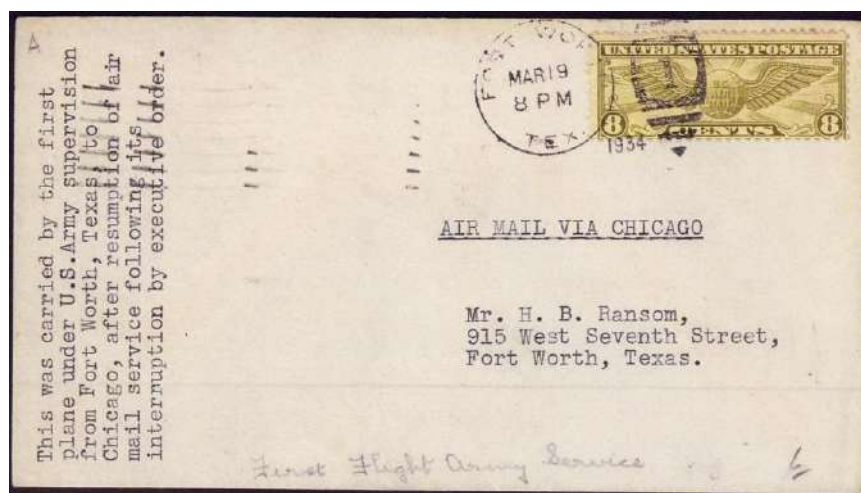
and St. Louis on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1926 when Lindbergh was the pilot.

The next cover is a 'disaster artefact' from CAM 33 when an American Airlines Plane on the Los Angeles, CA to Atlanta, GA Route caught fire on take off at Fort Worth, Texas on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1933. Only 458 letters were saved, handstamped "Damage due to airmail Interruption at FORT WORTH TEX Mar 16, 1933", and forwarded to the addressees.





Early in 1934 President Roosevelt, under an executive order, suspended all the commercial airmail contracts after a Senate investigation committee revealed that there had not been enough competitive bidding and a few favoured corporations had been awarded too much business. This produced chaos as the Army was to resume flying the mail, and it had neither the planes nor the pilots to start from 19<sup>th</sup> March 1934. This cover postmarked FORT WORTH/ TEXAS with a date of 19.MAR.1934 is only identifiable as an Army flown cover because of the typed message on it.. The AAM Catalogue states that due to the speed of the change-over there was very little philatelic mail, but I think this cover is philatelic because it was posted in Fort Worth and addressed to Fort Worth. It reached Chicago and was backstamped CHICAGO, ILL at 10.0am on 20.MAR.1934 before being sent back to Fort Worth.



The source of all information relating to flight and cover details, including the names of airline operators and pilots is:

*American airmail Catalogue* - 5th Ed. 6 Vol. American airmail Society, 1985 ☒



# THE STORY OF A SOUL

*Stephen Toynbee looks at the history behind a Parisian landmark*

Every stamp they say tells a story and these two French stamps are part of my thematic on the history of the Carmelites.

Marie Françoise Therese Martin was born on January 2 1873 in Alençon, Normandy. Her parents were Louis Martin, a watchmaker, and his wife Zeiie. She



was baptised on January 4 1873 at the church of Notre Dame in Alençon. Amazingly, the stamp (SG 1981 Yvert 1737) was issued to commemorate the centenary of her birth being released by the French Post Office on January 6 1973. The stamp was designed by Pierrette Lambert and engraved by Georges Betemps. A total of 8,350,000 were printed. The

reason becomes clear as we continue the story.

At the age of 15 on 9<sup>th</sup> April 1888 Therese entered the little known Carmelite monastery in Lisieux. She made her Profession on September 8 1890 and became known as Sister Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face. She was asked to write her autobiography by the Prioress. The autobiography was published after her death under the title of *L'histoire d'une ame* - The Story of a Soul. Sister Therese died of tuberculosis on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1897.

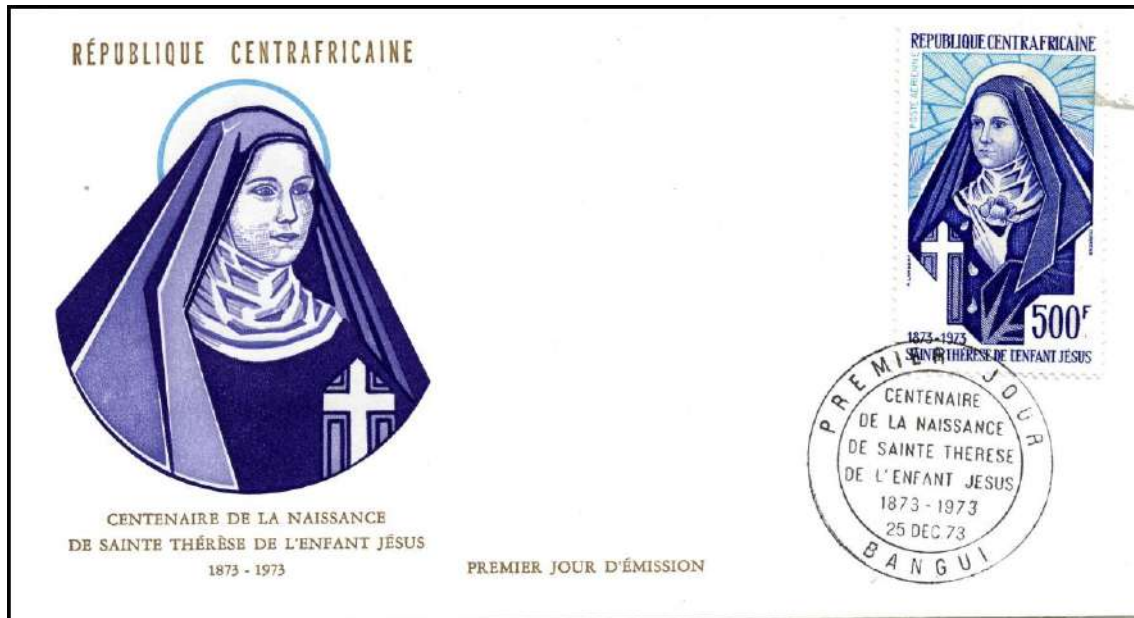
The book was a sensational success. It had an instant appeal in every language into which it was translated; veneration to the unknown nun of Lisieux spread worldwide and miracles and answers to prayers were attributed on all sides to her intercession in heaven.

Sister Therese was beatified by Pope Pius XI on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1923 and she was canonized in Rome on 17<sup>th</sup> May 1925. Saint Therese of Lisieux was declared Patron Saint of Missionaries and of the Missions on December 14<sup>th</sup> 1927.

The basilica at Lisieux (SG 1485, Yvert 1268) dedicated to her was inaugurated and solemnly blessed by Cardinal Pacelli (future Pope Pius XII) on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1937. A total of 4,795,000 stamps were printed and released by the French Post Office on September 24<sup>th</sup> 1960. On the stamp a statue of St. Therese is in the foreground with the basilica behind her.



Other stamps of Saint Therese and the basilica have been issued by the Central African Republic (SG 354); French Polynesia (SG 165); Dahomy (SG 494-5); Cameroon SG 667-8); Gabon (SG 507 -8); all of which I have in my collection. There have been a few other stamps printed by non-French countries all of which tell a little more of “The Story of a Soul”. ☒



*Half page advertisement for Thames Themes*

# RULE BRITANNIA

*Chris Earle gets all patriotic*

The British Postal Museum & Archive have an exhibition running at the moment called “Victorian Innovation”. I was lucky enough to be invited to the opening evening, where I was presented with a commemorative cover for the exhibition.



The cover features the 1987 31p ‘Victorian’ commemorative adhesive, cancelled with an attractive handstamp, and it was this cancel that caught my eye. The mark seemed familiar, and when I returned home a little root around in my office proved why. A very similar cancel was used 3 May 1990 cancelling the miniature sheet issued for the Penny Black anniversary. Fine, I thought, curiosity satisfied.



However, as I went to put the cover away I noticed that the 1990 cancel read “250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary RULE BRITANNIA” (not, as I had assumed, 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Penny Black)... curiosity aroused again! A quick search on the Internet the next evening, put my confusion to rest, finally!

Apparently, Britannia was the original name given by the Romans to the province that comprised what is now England and Wales (neighbouring Ireland was known as Hibernia, Scotland was Caledonia, Germany was Germania, Brittany was Armorica and France was just plain Gaul). After the Romans left, the name gradually fell into disuse, but later, in the days of the Empire, it came to represent the spirit of Britain, herself.

Since 1672, Britannia has been anthropomorphised into a woman wearing a helmet, and carrying a shield and trident. It is a symbol that blends the concepts of empire, militarism and economics.

The poem "Rule Britannia" by James Thomson (1700-48) was put to music by Thomas Augustine Arne (around 1740) and is sung as an unofficial national anthem. Thus 1990 was the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the song *Rule Britannia*.

## **Rule Britannia**

*a song by Thomas Augustine Arne, 1740*

When Britain first at Heav'n's command  
Arose from out the azure main;  
This was the charter of the land,  
And guardian angels sang this strain;

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the  
waves:  
Britons never will be slaves.

The nations not so blest as thee,  
Shall in their turns to tyrants fall;  
While thou shalt flourish great and free,  
The dread and envy of them all.

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the  
waves:  
Britons never will be slaves.

Still mor majestic shalt thou rise,  
More dreadful from each foreign stroke;  
As the loud blast that tears the skies,  
Serves but to root thy native oak.

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the  
waves:  
Britons never will be slaves.

Thee haughty tyrants ne'er shall tame,  
All their attempts to bend thee down  
Will but arouse thy generous flame;  
But work their woe, and thy renown.

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the  
waves:  
Britons never will be slaves.

To thee belongs the rural reign;  
They cities shall with commerce shine;  
All thine shall be the subject main,  
And every shore it circles thine.

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the  
waves:  
Britons never will be slaves.

The Muses, still with freedom found,  
Shall to thy happy coast repair;  
Blest Isle! With matchless beauty  
crowned,  
And manly hearts to guide the fair.

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the  
waves:  
Britons never will be slaves.



*Full page advertisement for the Stamp Centre*



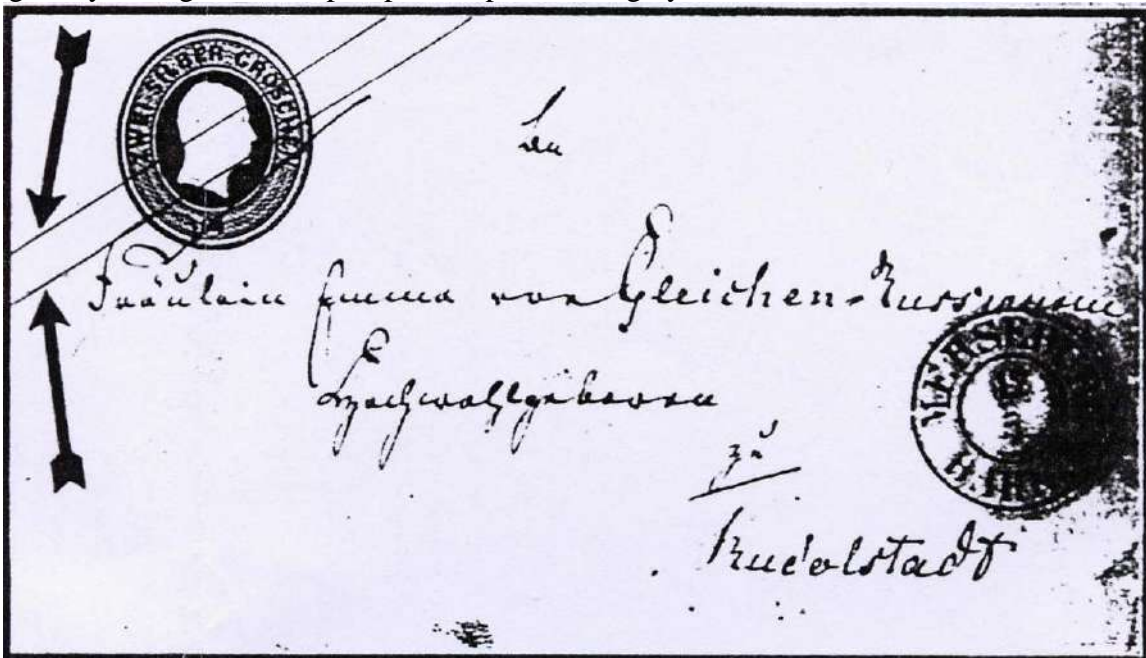
# FIRST PHILATELIC MATERIALS WITH MOTHS AND SILK

*Kachan Vladimir takes up an earlier story*

It is well-known that the early production and use of silk depended on the rearing and cultivation of the silkworm (*Bombyx mori*). This fact may be seen in many early philatelic items.



In the journal *The Swallowtail* September 1989, the editor Tom Lloyd described the first Bavarian stamp issued 1<sup>st</sup> November 1849 and included it in a collection of Butterfly and Moth stamps, because this stamp was threaded with silk of the silkworm. In such a collection must be included other early stamp issues. Schleswig-Holstein 1850 and Wurttemberg 1851. Prussia utilized silk thread, dark blue and orange-yellow colour, in the paper as a means of thwarting forgers. Car post stamps of Switzerland 1939 also have coloured silk fibre in the paper. The cover shows an 1851 entire postal from Prussia with two silk threads passing diagonally through the stamp imprint to prevent forgery.



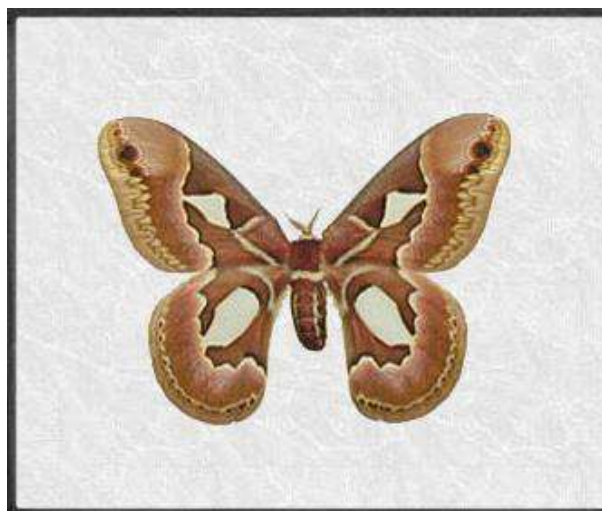
In my article “First philatelic materials with butterflies and moths” published in *Themescene* December 2003 I showed a Mulready envelope of 1840 with an advertisement in the lower right corner for “Satins and Silks”. However there is another Mulready envelope known with the advertisement “Silk Shawls”.

The caterpillars of the moths *Bombycidae*, *Saturniidae* and *Lasiocampidae* families make a cocoon to protect the chrysalis. The most interesting is the moth silkworm. Before changing into a chrysalis the silkworm caterpillar spins very long strong threads to make its cocoon. People collect the cocoons before the adult moths have time to form and break the threads. They soften the cocoons by putting them in hot water. The threads are then wound on to reels and used to weave delicate fabrics. One cocoon gets from 300 to 1000 metres of silk thread, sometimes even up to 4000 metres. One square millimeter of cross-section of silk thread of the cocoon of the silkworm bears a load of up to forty six kilos.



This illustration shows a ‘franchigia’ (free post letter) granted to the mail exchanged between two Mayors, sent from the Bozzolo Commune in Italy 14<sup>th</sup> December 1869. The Italian word ‘bozzolo’ is ‘cocoon’ in English. The oval handstamp “Sindaco di Bozzolo” including the signature of the Mayor is the ‘franchigia’ confirmation.

At the end of my article I mentioned about silk post-card of England which was issued in 1903 (R. T. Morgan and Co.) in London. If anybody has this England silk post-card please contact me at P.O.Box 36, BY-220089, Minsk-89, Republic of Belarus. Email [Vladimirkachan@mail.ru](mailto:Vladimirkachan@mail.ru). ☒



# NOVEL POST-BOXES IN NEW ZEALAND

*Barry & Jean Floyd continue scouring the Antipodes for unusual post-related items*

Philatelic visitors from Great Britain to the Antipodes may wish to take advantage of a fine day's outing, by arrangement with New Zealand's Postal Authority. The trip begins with a ferry ride from Auckland to some of the islands scattered throughout Hauraki Gulf, lying east of the city. The isle to disembark at is Waiheke Island. Low-lying,



HAURAKI GULF

deeply embayed and with splendid beaches, providing a popular vacation setting for North Islanders, over weekends or for longer. There is also a permanent population of inhabitants, manning resort accommodation as well as arty crafty shop and restaurants; others are scattered around the island in more isolated settlements, engaged either in crop and livestock farming or living simply in retirement.

It is to serve all Waiheke Island's inhabitants that New Zealand Post run a daily rural delivery and pick-up service (save Sundays) and — for a nominal charge — one is invited to join the 'Postie', (in our case a charming young woman, together with her pet dog), to venture around the island on a half-day's excursion, helping to deliver the mail (letters, magazines, newspapers etc.) and to pick up items for eventual mailing via the capital. In a happy pose (courtesy of the Postie), the writer and his wife are seen next to the vehicle: in the act of collecting mail.



The post-box may consist of conventional metal containers, modelled along the line of those widely used in the U.S.A., but elsewhere there are some thoroughly intriguing creations. Some owners have utilized old boxes and crates, even a discarded refrigerator! Others have gone further in creating their own designs. Two are depicted here: a modified version of an American-style box in the form of a Holstein dairy cow (obviously a farmer's abode) and a wooden-crafted roof-top garden, a bit weathered but still functional. Wouldn't it be nice if we in Britain were permitted by Royal Mail to craft our individual post-boxes,

modelled to reflect our professions or personal interests? Designs in the form of cars, house types, shoes, musical instruments, nesting boxes and piggy-banks come to mind. Located at the front of our properties they would save our own Posties a fair amount of shoe leather, as well as shortening their rounds. But sadly this could never take place in contemporary Britain, with vandalizing youth and lager louts regrettably in the ascendancy. Still, it's a nice thought for all the mail-oriented collectors. ☒





*Any letters today?*



*Waiheke Island*

# NEW ISSUES

*The stamps below are reproduced with the kind assistance of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau*



## BTA ROADSHOW 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2005

This was the second of a series of meetings which the BTA intends to hold in various parts of the country over the coming months. It was held at the Dartmoor Lodge Hotel, Ashburton, Devon, and attended by 45-50 people - we lost count it was so popular.

They were mostly WETS or BTA members, but a few were not members and we hope we did enough to convince them to join! The format was displays by individuals and a guest speaker in the morning followed by a thematic workshop in the afternoon all ably pulled together by the BTA's Displays Organiser, John Hayward.

The day started with the presentation of the BTA Cup to WETS member, Carol Turner, by



Chairman, Chris Earle, and then moved on to 12 individual displays of 8-12 pages with no more than two minutes to describe the display. A wide variety of themes and philatelic material was provided by Gillian Gray with "Technical Advances in Shipping", Dave Herrity "A Dakota Winter Count", Tony Smith "Portuguese Pioneers", David Hiscock "Lighthouses", Pam Hiscock "Teddy Bears", Maurice Buxton "Votes for Women", Pearl Buxton

"Peoples' War – Xmas", Trevor Fray "Masonic Postal History", Richard Wheeler "Circus", Carol Turner "Discovery of Quinine", Anne Lewis-Jones "Christmas Story" and David Roseveare "Verseilles".

These were all greatly enjoyed even though it was difficult for 50 people to view them.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the superb presentation before and after lunch by



our guest speaker, Colin Mount, with his well known "Pig in the Post" display. In his usual inimitable style Colin told us all about the pig from its place in history, its various breeds, its source as food, etc. With the material at his disposal he showed how it is possible to bring to life a display of this mundane animal. There were stamps from all over the world of course, but the fun was in finding all the other thematic material

especially postal stationery, metermarks, and telegrams, and from the social side commercial covers and letters. I particularly liked the Swine Tax stamps from Queensland and the warning notices about Swine fever. It was a truly great display of how rewarding and pleasurable a thematic collection can be. Let us hope it inspires those who attended to broaden their thematic horizons. The Chairman's vote of thanks reflected the enjoyment Colin's display had provided to all.

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to a thematic workshop where John Hayward provided advice on forming thematic checklists and discussed the pros and cons of Stanley Gibbons, Yvert, Michel and Scott catalogues. Colin Mount, who works for Stanley Gibbons, took quite a few notes of the audience's criticisms of Gibbons' publications! John also reviewed specialist thematic catalogues and provided examples of dubious and illegal issues. The final part of the meeting was devoted to what to include in a display and in a 16 page thematic exhibit.

A similar Roadshow will be provided at Worcester on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2006 – watch next year's programme for details.

*And from WETS members:*

*1) Mary Clayden*

Members of WETS have had successful entries in both Thematica and Swipex. Mrs Carol Turner received the BTA Cup at Thematica and at Swipex Mr. Richard Wheeler received a Gold, Mrs. Gillian Gray a Silver Gilt and Mr. K. Ramsey, Mr. Tony Smith and Mr. David Roseveare a Silver award. Our congratulations to them all.

On September 24<sup>th</sup> we were delighted to welcome the BTA team of John Hayward, Christine Earle, and Lesley Marley bringing the BTA Roadshow. There were 40 people present all of whom enjoyed the day thoroughly. The first part of the proceedings were displays from WETS members of ten sheets from their collections - this showed the wide range covered by thematic subjects. Then Colin Mount gave a presentation of his "Pig in the Post". The display was most interesting but everyone thoroughly enjoyed the entertaining talk by the presenter. After lunch Colin Mount concluded his display and then John Hayward gave information on the various catalogues available to help thematic collectors and a few web sites to contact. Questions and answers flowed freely and everyone present felt the day had been not only enjoyable but very informative. Grateful thanks from WETS to the BTA. Mary Claydon.

*2) David Roseveare*

To all those members who have not yet attended a BTA roadshow - you don't know what you're missing.

I was one of many WETS members who attended the roadshow at Ashburton in September and was treated to an excellent all-day presentation. We are very fortunate to belong to an association where the officers and committee are prepared to travel long distances to meet us and to pass on some of their considerable knowledge. Our grateful thanks to them. We were treated to an excellent display by Colin Mount with "Pig in the Post". A number of people had never had the opportunity to see it and they were most impressed.

Thanks to Mary Claydon for her part in organising the event. Without her and a few others we wouldn't have a West of England Thematic Society and the event would not have occurred. An excellent day was had by all. ☒

# SEMINAR ON THEMATIC COLLECTING

*Alan Sabey learns some tricks of the trade*

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2005 a whole day meeting was held to show how to collect thematically and how to display the material. About thirty of us, from the simply curious to those who already collect and sometimes show thematics, met at 107 Charterhouse Street, London. Coffee was available as we registered and prepared our name badges.

In the morning session Brian Sole showed his opening pages over the years to demonstrate how he had learned from his early mistakes and misapprehensions in order to be able to form an award winning collection. He then continued to show pages from his collection to show how various philatelic items could be used together to tell the story. However there were warnings: such as the use of French proofs prepared and issued for publicity purposes whereas the better item to use is an Epreuve De Luxe. Covers with privately printed illustrations are not thematic unless the postmark and postage stamp are relevant to the theme. The private illustration is not acceptable so the item should be 'windowed' to show only the stamp and postmark and then the space created on the album page can be used for other relevant philatelic material.

After a fine buffet lunch, Sheila Foster based her talk on Presentation and generously provided everyone with two pages on how to use the Excel program which Brian also uses. This system allows one to adorn the page with border lines if one so wishes.

Personally I do not get on easily with Excel and use Word because it has rulers along the top and side edges. Covers and stamps can be measured and then you know how much space to leave when inserting the description.

Sheila also spoke on how to present your material, with suggestions like peoples' faces looking towards one another and not anti-socially with their backs to each other. If backing card is used it should be of a colour that does not intrude on the stamps and covers, and borders round items should be minimal. Sheila showed some of the implements she uses in preparing her pages using a scalpel and steel edged ruler, and she revealed the secret of 'windowing' with the backing card on all four sides of the portion being shown. The secret is to fix straight strips of backing card under the other two sides of the window to complement the two corners of the item which is already on backing card.

There were opportunities for questions all the way through the sessions and a number of questions were asked. At the end of Sheila's talk members were invited to show pages from their collections for constructive comments from Brian and Sheila.

We all came away feeling that we had learned something more that day. ☒



# BTA NEWS

## **STAMPEX VILLAGE GREEN 2006**

The BTA's plans for a display on the Village Green at Spring Stampex 2006 from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February, at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London N1, are almost complete. All 200 frames which we have been allocated will be filled. Ten of our affiliated thematic Societies will be filling 120 frames with thematic displays from their members – Alba Stamp Group, Bicycle Stamps Club, Bird Stamp Society, Concorde Study Circle, Glasgow Thematic Society, Guild of St Gabriel, Philatelic Music Circle, Scout & Guide Stamp Club, Ship Stamp Society and West of England Thematic Society. The remaining 80 frames will be filled by thematic displays from 44 of our individual members. It should be a truly memorable display. To mark the occasion the BTA is producing a special 28 page brochure with details of all the Societies and the displays. This will be available from the information table on the Village Green.

The information table is to be manned voluntarily by individual BTA members and members of our affiliated thematic Societies. We still do not have enough people for this task, so would members please contact our Displays Organiser, John Hayward, and let him know which days and for how long (1 or 2 hours will do) they can assist. The opening times of Spring Stampex are Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Noon to 7pm, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 1030am to 6pm and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 1030am to 3pm. **Do enjoy the displays, but please do not forget to help your Association as well.**

John Hayward will shortly be contacting all the Societies and individual members who are providing displays about the handing in and handing back arrangements for the event.

## **LESLEY MARLEY: INTRODUCING OUR NEW VICE-CHAIRMAN**

I first began collecting in about 1978 or thereabouts when living in Wiltshire and joined a local stamp club in Trowbridge. Everyone was very helpful and I was soon landed with the Secretary's job. A visit to Stampex with a friend soon got me hooked but I was not sure what I wanted to collect. 'The World' was too large, so my childhood stamps were pushed to one side and I was encouraged as a newcomer to try 'Thematic' collecting. Ships, stained glass windows, and a few years later I settled on 'Whales.' In 1983 we moved to Cornwall on the Rame Peninsular. I was soon Treasurer of my new club the Liskeard Philatelic Society, and being near to Plymouth I joined the club there as well.

I joined the British Philatelic Federation in 1984 as I could be a member of the new British Thematic section at no extra cost. I was on the Wessex and Cornwall committees representing Liskeard and was Cornwall's thematic co-ordinator to the B.T.A. Encouraged by the good friends I made, I was soon entering local competitions and was asked to join a group of friends who met two or three times a year to discuss 'Thematics.'

We were all very enthusiastic; we had to be, as we all had long distances to travel to Ashburton in Devon. Out of these informal meetings The West of England Thematic Society was born and I became the Treasurer; and W.E.T.S. as it is affectionately known has gone from strength to strength.

I spent 18 happy years in the West Country but for family reasons moved to Hampshire in 2001, missing old friends but now making new ones, and I hope meeting many of the B.T.A. members in the future.

# HERE AND THERE

## COLIN MOUNT TO DISPLAY THE ROYAL

Colin Mount will be giving a thematic display and paper of his well known "*Pig in the Post*" at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY. Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup> 2005, 5pm

Members of the BTA have been invited to attend this event.

PLEASE NOTE: If you intend to visit the Royal for this display, you must contact your Chairman, Christine Earle, before 11 December, to place your name on the visitors' list. There is no limit to numbers, but you will not be allowed entrance to the Royal unless your name is on the list (obviously this does not apply to RPSL members).

## WORPEX 2006

Worcester Philatelic & Postcard Society will be staging WORPEX 2006 at Oldbury Park Primary School, Oldbury Road, St Johns, Worcester, WR2 6AA on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2006 from 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Society is pleased to welcome the British Thematic Association to Worcester when various thematic subjects will be on display.

Enquiries to the Society may be sent to: PO Box 4394, Stourport-on-Severn, DY13 3AB or email to: [lawherne@onetel.com](mailto:lawherne@onetel.com)

## 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICTORIA CROSS

The 29<sup>th</sup> January 2006 will be 150 years since Queen Victoria instituted the Victoria Cross by Royal Warrant to be awarded "to those officers or men that have served Us in the presence of the enemy, and shall have performed some signal act of valour or devotion to their country". George Ingouville, born in St. Helier, Jersey, was awarded his whilst serving on *HMS Arrogant*. His was one of 62 awards presented at Hyde Park on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1857, the first investiture of the Victoria Cross.





# AUTUMN STAMPEX

*From the official Press Release*

**A**round 6,200 eager visitors poured through the doors of the Business Design Centre in September. Pleasingly, the majority of dealers pronounced themselves “very satisfied”.

There was plenty on offer for the collector. The Royal Mail on the Village Green was

first  
issue  
  
plus



offering a  
day of  
on the  
Thursday  
special

the  
ITV

Mail was the equipment to enable you to have your photograph on the ITV Smilers sheet. There was a Stampex cancellation available from Malta Post Office on their Europa edition postal card as well as ordinary mail. At the Bletchley Park Post Office stand was a display entitled “Code Breaking and the Post Office” which attracted a lot of interest.



Nelson collectors have been overwhelmed recently by the number of issues commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Not to be outdone the Stampex organisers presented every visitor with a free limited edition postcard showing an unadopted design submission by Mary Adshead for a proposed “National Heroes” issue. One could also purchase a Stampex Business customised sheet celebrating Nelson.

Being the Autumn Stampex the national competitions were hosted, both junior and senior. The British Philatelic Trust can provide a full list of winners. Following the Awards Ceremony on the Sunday morning a judging critique was held, hosted by Graham Childs, Chairman of Stampex. Young collectors were catered for as ever at the Stamp Active stand, undertaking quizzes and tasks to earn points to spend at the auction. Both young and not-so-young were entertained by a conjurer.

A number of specialist societies took the opportunity to have meetings at Stampex, including the Concorde Study Circle and the Bird Stamp Society. ☒

# **HANDSTAMP SPECIAL**

*The Handstamps reprinted on these pages first appeared in the "British Postmark Bulletin".  
For a free sample copy, write to: The Editor, Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, Gavrelle House,  
2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ*

# GROUP NEWS

## **BIRD STAMP SOCIETY**

The Society held its AGM at the Autumn STAMPEX and re-elected its officers and committee members, with the exception of the Packet Secretary. Tony Wise stood down after many years of successfully running the Packet but luckily a volunteer had come forward and Mike Gurr was duly elected.

Roger Chapman, the Editor of our magazine, *Flight*, has done an excellent job for the last 12 years and his work is much appreciated by the membership. However, Roger is hoping that someone will come forward with an offer of help during the forthcoming year so that he can hand over the Editorship in due course.

In recognition of his long and excellent service as Secretary, those present at the AGM agreed to award Graham Horsman Life Membership of the Bird Stamp Society.

The new Secretary, Rosie Bradley, had found her first year as much of a challenge as she had expected and thanked her colleagues (and Graham in particular) for their assistance.

The Bird Stamp Society is also proud to have Harry Wright on the Committee. Harry was awarded an ABPS Award of Merit earlier this year.

If you would like to join the 230 members of the Bird Stamp Society, please contact the Secretary: Mrs Rosie Bradley, 31 Park View, Crossway Green, CHEPSTOW, NP16 5NA or go to [www.bird-stamps.org](http://www.bird-stamps.org)

Would you like details of your affiliated society to be advertised here? Drop *Thamescene* Editor a line – or an email. We will be pleased to publish it.

# **BOOK REVIEWS**

# LIBRARY LISTING

*Ron Backhouse*

Members asking to borrow books and catalogues listed in the catalogues section of the library are no longer required to pay the cost of outward posting, only the return cost.

Requests for lists of articles on particular topics must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, unless being sent with a borrowed book. The number of copies needed for articles (shown in the listing) are charged at 10p each, to which must be added the calculated cost of posting. One copy weighs 9 grams. At present, minimum 2nd class allows 60 grams, including the envelope -100 grams costs 34p. To assist, I intend quoting the current postal rates when I send a list.

If you would like to receive a list of articles on your topic(s), send a stamped sae to the librarian.

## BOOKS

Topic	Weight in grams	Title
Medical	1,249	MIASMA Philatelist: journals of Malaria Philatelic International Sept. 1979 to June 1986
Millennium		The Millennium stamps of Great Britain, 1999 - 2000

## ARTICLES

No. copies	Topic / Title	
	<b>Aircraft</b>	
	What Happened to the Aircraft?	
2	Baird, J. Vanishing Planes	Topical Times 4/1998
1	Lera, T. The First Powered Flight	Topical Times 11/1992
2	Wood, K. Aircraft of World War II	Topical Times 6/1994
	<b>Ancient World</b>	
2	Manns, B. Alexander the Great	Topical Times 4/1996
2	Younghouse, R. Seven Wonders of the Ancient World	Topical Times 4/1997
	<b>Animals</b>	
	The Zodiac Animals: Happy Chinese New Year	
2	Chan, C. Mammals and Reptiles (on Malaysian stamps)	Topical Times 8/1995 Malaysian Naturalist 58(1) 2004
7	Floyd, B. Arctic Animals	Topical Times 10/1999
2	Seitz, G. Elephants and Black Rhinos: Fighting the poachers	Topical Times 8/2001
2	Szynka, J. Arctic Land Mammals: Coping with the cold weather	Topical Times 8/2001

	<b>Architecture</b>	
3	Smith, D.	Old Walled Cities Topical Times 8/993
2	Walters, E.	The Brandenburg Gate Topical Times 8/1994
	<b>Arctic</b>	
2	Seitz, G.	Arctic Animals Topical Times 10/1999
2	Warnock, G.	Arctic Land Mammals: Coping with the cold weather Topical Times 8/2001
	<b>Art</b>	
4	Anderson, H.	Art Nouveau: History & Influence on Stamp Design Topical Times 12/1998
2	Anderson, H.	Palaeolithic Art Topical Times 10/1998
2	Chan, C.	Famous Japanese Painters Topical Times 10/1997
2	De Luca, V.	Caravaggio - the Damned Painter Topical Times 6/1996
1	De Luca, V.	Leonardo da Vinci Topical Times 10/1995
2	Faybyshev, E.	The Hermitage Art Museum Topical Times 12/1995
2	Faybyshev, E.	The Renaissance Master (Titian) Topical Times 12/1996
2	Faybyshev, E.	The Impressionist Painters Topical Times 6/1997
2	Riegel, G.	Durer's Arthropods (beetles) Topical Times 4/1993
	<b>Astronomy</b>	
2	Foster, C.	Sheer Lunacy Topical Times 4/1993
2	Morris, M.	Minutiae of Astronomy Topical Times 2/1997
	<b>Authors</b>	
2	Cartier, R.	Jules Verne: Prophet Topical Times 10/1990
1	Dugdale, J.	Philatelic Wonderland: Chaucer and Lewis Carroll Topical Times 6/1999 Philatelic Magazine 9/1978
2	Harris, G.	Tolstoy: A Literary Colossus
3	Solczanyk, A.	Women Writers of the Ukraine Topical Times 8/1995
	<b>Banking</b>	
2	Deely, R.	The World Bank Topical Times 4/1994
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