

# THEMESCENE

Vol.23, No.3, Whole Number 84

SEPTEMBER 2006

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### REGULAR COLUMNS

#### THEMESCENE

Journal of the  
British Thematic Association  
which is a member of the  
Association of British  
Philatelic Societies

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Ipswich  
Suffolk IP8 3QE

#### Distributed by:

Richard Wheeler  
"Kincora"  
Boode Road  
Braunton  
EX33 2NW

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# EDITORIAL

## Wendy Buckle

There is always a large feature on Thematica in the September issue of *Themescene*, and this year is no exception (p.102). It is an important date in the diary for all thematic collectors, even if they are not members of the BTA (perish the thought). We have so few opportunities to spend a day (or more) talking to a wide range of dealers all keen to help us; such a nice change from the common experience of the blank, or maybe slightly startled look from someone who clearly thinks we are not “proper” philatelists. Let’s not go there – we all know the arguments. Anyway, here you will find the exhibition, the competitions and the BTA AGM. I must just mention two things here:

- The presentation at the AGM of the Francesca Rapkin Memorial Bowl to Richard Wheeler. Every year the Committee vote on the article they most enjoyed from the previous year’s issues, and it always produces a lively debate; which seems good news to me since it suggests different things appeal to different people, so I must be producing a wide-ranging coverage.
- The very welcome addition of new members to the Committee: Peter Wood, previously co-opted as Treasurer and now voted in; Richard Wheeler takes over as *Themescene* Distributor; and Mike Blackman takes over from our *very* long-serving Advertising Manager. Welcome to all.

As with any other branch of philately you can collect on a number of levels. At the top are the international gold medallists, and it is a real pleasure for me to draw your attention to the results of BTA members at Washington 2006 – President’s Page (84). And the President himself among others got the top prizes. Congratulations to you all. Then there are the specialist thematic internationals, and again we are doing well, see our Chairman’s Page (85), and are really punching our weight at this level after for many years being the Sick Man of Europe thematically speaking. However not all of us can aspire to these, so moving to a level to which any of us can contribute if we choose we have the competitions at Thematica. Full results are published here (p.102) including those of the junior competitions. It was a pleasure to see a good number of entries and some very proud faces as the youngsters collected their trophies. But maybe you don’t want to partake at any level? That’s fine, it is your choice and you do what you are comfortable with. I hope *Themescene* reflects all these approaches; one my (few) guiding principles I set out with when I took over the Editorship was a determination that the magazine should reflect the whole membership and the whole range of collecting approaches. It’s a hobby for heavens sake – do what you want to do!

Like our Publicity Officer (p.87) I am not one of those who believe that the hobby will die if we do not attract the young. Bluntly they have more exciting things to do. I think I’m jealous, I would have loved computers and computer games when I was young, in my day it was hopscotch and skipping. Tell the youngsters that these days... My own view is that our efforts should be directed at the older collector with children off their hands and time (and disposable income) on it. Certainly for the local societies I belong that is what works. Junior members are welcomed and encouraged, but they are few and far between; older recruits come with a genuine interest, perhaps resurrected from dabbling as a child, perhaps not.

*Continued on page 88*

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

**Brian Sole**


**H**ighlights, since I wrote the June "President's Page", have included a trip to Washington for the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition, where I acted as UK Commissioner, alongside Commissioners from about 60 other countries. I sent nearly 90 completed entry forms to the Organisers who accepted 36 competitive entries from the UK plus 15 Literature entries. In addition, I took Gavin Fryer's Court of Honour exhibit, "Early Europe", to Washington. Five thematic entries were accepted from the UK and achieved excellent results. Congratulations to Sheila Foster and Ian Paton who received Gold medals with their entries "The Rose" and "From Texas Statehood to the Assassination of President McKinley" respectively. My own entry "Go by Cycle!" also gained a gold medal. Two newcomers to International exhibiting did very well. David Hunter gained a Large Vermeil medal with his "Sugar: The Grass that changed the World" and Lesley Marley received a Vermeil medal with "A Whale's Tale". Jean Alexander's colourful "Supermarket Philately" was awarded a Silver medal in the Open Class.

The Exhibition Hall was huge, the size of 6 football pitches, but there was a continuous buzz throughout the eight days the Exhibition was open. In addition to the busy Dealers and Postal Administrations stands, there was a large Kids' Zone, an area for Ceremonies, and numerous lecture halls. There were queues every day for the Court of Honour, which included an entry from HM The Queen, and the large US Postal Service stand.

I was warned some time before the Exhibition, that Customs officials were likely to cut off locks from cases they wanted to inspect. This was not acceptable for trunks containing valuable stamp exhibits. After several telephone calls I eventually made contact with a very helpful Customs official at the American Embassy. He explained that travellers should obtain Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recognized locks. These locks can be opened by TSA, using special tools, thereby avoiding damage to the lock or the case. I was able to purchase a set of these locks, with the special logo recognised by the TSA, locally. It appears that the opening of cases takes place when leaving America. I arranged for a special screening in advance of my departure and although at least two trunks were opened, in my presence, the locks were not damaged in any way.

Thematica 2006 was successful. It was pleasing that there were 35 Youth entries for the Barclays' Cup competitions. The presentation of prizes has been reported widely in the philatelic press. At the start of BTA AGM I was pleased to present the Franceska Rapkin Bowl to Richard Wheeler, for the best article in *Themescene* during the past year. Also at the AGM, Chris Earle announced the Award of BTA Life Membership to John and Elizabeth Miller. Due to increasing poor health John and Betty were unable to attend the AGM but I presented the Certificate to them, on a visit to their home a few weeks later.

My wife and I made the trip to Renfrew for the 88<sup>th</sup> Philatelic Congress of Great Britain on 6-9 July 2006. The Chairman of Congress was our Past President and Life member, Margaret Morris. The Vice-Chairman of Congress was Ian Hamilton, another keen thematic collector. As always, there were some excellent papers, especially David Beech's "The Philately of the Edwardian Era as shown in its Literature", with a computer presentation. Robert Johnson presented "Humour: The Postcard Artist's View of the Postman and his Activities 1900 – 1940". Robert had found some postcards which had many of us laughing out loud. The outing to Braehead to see the "Clydebuilt" exhibition and onto the Finlaystone Country Estate for tea, was a fascinating experience. My wife and I have also enjoyed a weekend in Cambridge, when we had

dinner with Ian Paton and two other friends and a long weekend in Antwerp. Enjoy your collecting, and the social side too! 

# CHAIRMAN'S PAGE

**Christine A. Earle**

**A**s I read my previous Chairman's message written on a cold and bleak Bank Holiday Monday, it is almost unbelievable that I am writing this message on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, after what has turned out to be the hottest July on record. What a wonderful country this is! Where else could you have both winter and summer in the space of a few days?

Looking back to May — Your Chairman, Vice-Chairman and three BTA members (plus partners acting as Cheerleaders) attended the 1<sup>st</sup> European Thematic Championships in Essen. I am delighted to report that Steve Boorn with his excellent "The Heart is Life" exhibit was awarded 90 points and his first international Gold medal. We celebrated that evening in the recommended style, and boy was he a happy lad!

Our only other entrant, David Griffiths, wasn't quite so pleased with the judges' appraisal of his exhibit "Here Be Dragons", but still picked up a very credible Large Vermeil award with 85 points. He soon got over his disappointment however, and joined the celebration of Steve's success. Well done to both of them.

The next event on the calendar, Washington 2006, America's eight-day Philatelic extravaganza, ended only a few weeks ago — gosh it does seem a long time ago now. I know it's an old cliché but — time really does fly when you're having this much fun! The BTA had five members participating in Washington, with our President acting as the UK Commissioner. I am proud to report that we came home with a three magnificent Gold Medals — Sheila Foster, Ian Paton, and Brian Sole. David Hunter won his 1<sup>st</sup> Large Vermeil and Lesley Marley won a Vermeil, also with her first ever international exhibit. Congratulations go to all our representatives on their splendid achievements. We now have five Gold medal Thematic Exhibits in the UK, what an accomplishment! I like to think that the BTA has played at least a small part in these successes over the years, and we look forward to helping other members achieve their dream. Remember it's your Society, and your Committee is there for all of you. If there is anything we can do for you, whether your aim is to reach the heights of Sheila, Ian, Brian and Steve, or would just like some help and advice with an aspect of your thematic collection, don't hesitate to ask. Our addresses are in the front of this bulletin, or you could write to *Themescene*.

The 'new' season is just starting and once again we have plenty to look forward to — Internationals in Spain and Belgium, the 'National' exhibition in Torquay and of course Thematica in November. See you there — Don't forget to say Hello! ☒

**AUTUMN STAMPEX**  
**Business Design Centre, Islington**  
**20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September**  
Highlight will be a display for the  
150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Victoria Cross.

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S PAGE

**Peter Denly**

Ordinary members	211
Family members	21
Junior members	2
Society members	16
Overseas members	22
Overseas Society members	1
Honorary members	3
Total number of members (at 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2006)	276

**A**n enquiry from a prospective member in Spain reminded me that our cousins in Barcelona rang to say that their son was to be married in August 2005 and wondered why we hadn't responded to the invitation. Despite posting the invitation a month previously we had not received it. All ended well and we were able to attend and celebrate the happy event. However, on the morning of 27<sup>th</sup> July 2006 the post lady delivered our mail and guess what---- yes--- a wedding invitation posted in Barcelona 16<sup>th</sup> April 2005! The fascinating part of the story concerns the Spanish postal slogan that reads "Guaranteed fast delivery" Well this one overslept a few siestas, but I wonder where?

For the benefit of our members who collect maps on stamps, I notice that Revision 3 of the checklist "Maps on Stamps" has been published by the CartoPhilatelic Society. To find out more try the web site [www.mapsonstamps.co/checklist](http://www.mapsonstamps.co/checklist). Also The Medical Philately Study Group have a recent publication "Aspects of Medicine on Stamps" which can be obtained from Gardeners Books of Eastbourne, Sussex, UK. These invaluable publications can save hours of plodding through standard catalogues.

The displays and competition entries at Thematica in June were a real delight and it was very encouraging to see a high standard in the junior section. The dealers attending offered some exciting items, and I was lucky to find a good selection of commercial mail that fitted well in to my collection. The average dealer at fairs normally is not set up to deal with thematic enquiries, whereas the reverse is the case at Thematica which is so helpful.

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

Mr. R.A. Simmons	Manchester	Mr. I.S. Crawford	Plymouth
Mr. D. Weston	Chertsey	Mr. J. Dickinson	Corby

## **Deaths advised since the June issue**

None

# PUBLICITY OFFICER'S PAGE

**Simon Moorcroft**

I mentioned in some detail in my last page about the debate that has been raging regarding the future of national competitions. The comments I wrote I am pleased to say generated some interest with various readers commenting on the points that I raised. One letter I had, though agreeing with my belief that major exhibitions should have displays whether they are competitive or invited, pointed out that cost was the major issue especially when it came to shows such as Stampex. He said that Stampex Ltd was unable to continue funding for the Village Green display each Spring because of their tight budget. He said that it was regretful that space for displays could no longer be provided for but that was the nature of philatelic exhibitions today - lack of funds. He said that at Stampex additional revenue could only be sourced if charging was introduced, as increasing the fees further for stand holders could not be done. This he pointed out would be controversial but that with ever higher costs involved in staging exhibitions it may necessary to do, especially if collectors still want to enjoy the current facilities.

This, as I have said before, is one of the major problems we face in philately. The refusal by many philatelists to pay an entrance fee and the inevitable "competitors" who would continue not charging would mean many would opt for the "free shows" rather the ones which charge. The solution to this is to ensure that a "charging event" can offer the philatelist something that cannot be found elsewhere. Special displays, seminars, workshops, wide range of dealers from abroad would all be justifications. In turn these additional features would make a show more prestigious and again more people would be prepared to pay to enter. We have a situation where we have an enormous number of philatelic exhibitions and events taking place. Unfortunately all are run to a very tight budget and hence can only offer the minimum of non-revenue producing features (displays etc). I am a firm believer that charging should be reintroduced to many shows to ensure that the organisers have the funds available to increase the features of an exhibition. It seems ironic that philatelists will not pay £2 or £3 to enter a show and yet many of them will happily spend £50, £70, £100, £150, £200 and more when inside. However, it seems that it is only a problem with our hobby. When one visits local events such as a village fete there are entrance fees of £5 or more. Many are prepared to pay. Another example is when I recently visited the Summer Fair at Olympia – a fine art and antiques exhibition which is held annually. The entrance fee was £10. Again all who came, and there were thousands who did, were prepared to pay to enter. This meant that additional features were able to be included such as free shuttle cars, VIP lounges etc. The additional money and subsequent additional features made the show very prestigious and hence many wanted to go. These are lessons which the philatelic community should learn from.

Since the June edition it has been announced that a show will take place in Croydon in 2007. The exact month is still under discussion. This new venture is being organised due to there being nowhere else for the national competitions to be staged as there is no bi-annual show and now that Stampex is no longer the preferred venue. While not agreeing with the principle of annual competitions when it means organising another event I was pleased to learn that next year's Congress will be held in conjunction with the exhibition. This is a positive step as it should ensure that there is an increase in the numbers who attend Congress as well as the exhibition.

It is appropriate to mention two important philatelic events which are taking place before the next publication of *Themescene*. Firstly we have Torquay 2006, the tenth ABPS Bi-annual show which takes place on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November. All classes in the national competitions are now going to be on display and a large number of dealers will be present. The BTA meeting will be held on the Saturday during the morning and feature a display by Past President Margaret Morris. Secondly Belgica 2006, the eagerly anticipated international exhibition which will include youth, thematic, open and one frame classes will open on 16<sup>th</sup> and close on 20<sup>th</sup> November. Both of these



events should prove to be very enjoyable and informative and hope as many of you will be able to attend at least one of them.

On another matter Ronald Hyams, our accounts examiner, asked at the AGM what the Association was doing to appeal to younger collectors and whether a youth officer should be appointed. A general discussion ensued in which Francis Kiddle made the point that at the recent RPSL youth day only four people attended. He pointed out, quite rightly, that this was a gross wastage of resources and that the time and effort would be better spent trying to appeal to the older or retired. I pointed out that I had examined, when first becoming Publicity Officer, the various ways in which the BTA could promote itself to younger people. I concluded that the effort and costs involved were too great to justify doing them especially as it would only generate a few new "junior" members. Over the years a huge amount of effort has been poured in to youth philately with very little gain. Too many youngsters are not interested in philately or do not have the time to pursue the hobby. If that effort had been spent trying to encourage older people with time and more money to join the hobby the success rate would have been much higher. I said to the meeting that I would examine once again the feasibility of publicising ourselves to youth and present these findings to the Committee. However, I am certain that I will again conclude that while we could promote to younger people, to make it actually have any effect we would have to use colourful and interesting promotional material (costly). In addition to attract them we would have to cater specifically for them, meaning special meetings, publications etc. While all this would be possible to do even if were all done to the very best of our abilities only ten or twelve younger people would perhaps join. A similar publicity campaign with comparable vigour and effort aimed at the older generation may generate four or five times the number of members and hence can be seen to be more justified.

As we start this new season we have a busy year once again ahead of us. As is mentioned elsewhere in this issue Great Britain is hosting the Eurothema exhibition in 2007. Planning has already commenced for this major event and this will be the main emphasis for the remainder of this season and the start of the next. Although relations with our European partners can often seem strained on the political front philately unites the countries of Europe behind a common interest irrespective of nationality, belief or history.

I hope very much that you will support the Association this year and if you feel that you can give some time to help the BTA than please contact a committee member. No society can function without volunteers and help.

Enjoy your collecting! ☒

#### **EDITORIAL** *Continued from page 83*

Which is not say that efforts to encourage Juniors shouldn't happen. Of course they should, and I'm grateful to Lise Whittle for her continuing work on Themescene Juniors (p.116). She has asked me to pass on her thanks to Alan Bowen and D. Graham and the North England Thematic Group for contributions of stamp prizes for juniors. The lovely set of triangular shaped stamps was given to Lauren, who described her amazing stamp collection in the last issue.

So if you know any children who would be interested, please pass these pages on to them.

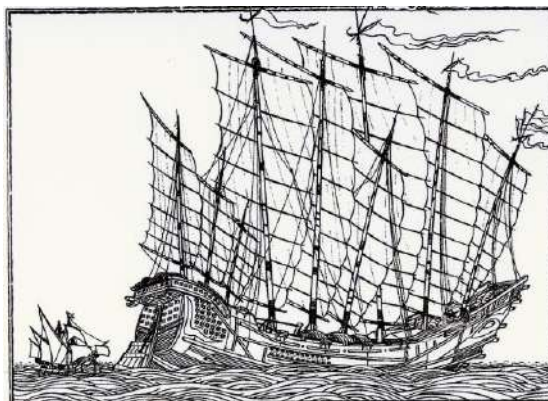
My thanks as ever to all the contributors who are published here, or who are waiting for their article to appear in the next issue. You make my life much easier. ☒

# CHINESE TREASURE SHIPS: the Chinese contribution to global discoveries

*Barry Floyd tells the amazing story of exploration 100 years before the Europeans began investigating Africa and America*



*Marshall Islands Miniature Sheet*



*Illustrated record of strange countries<sup>1</sup>*

For collectors of stamps featuring sailing vessels, the miniature sheet from the Republic of the Marshall Islands - issued in 1997 on the occasion of the International Stamp and Coin Exhibition in Shanghai - will be of great interest. It depicts a huge ocean-going ship of the Ming Dynasty with what appear to be as many as nine masts, and the same number of full sails. It is a so-called Treasure Ship, dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, when - it is claimed - Chinese mariners set out in a series of expeditions to explore the entire globe.

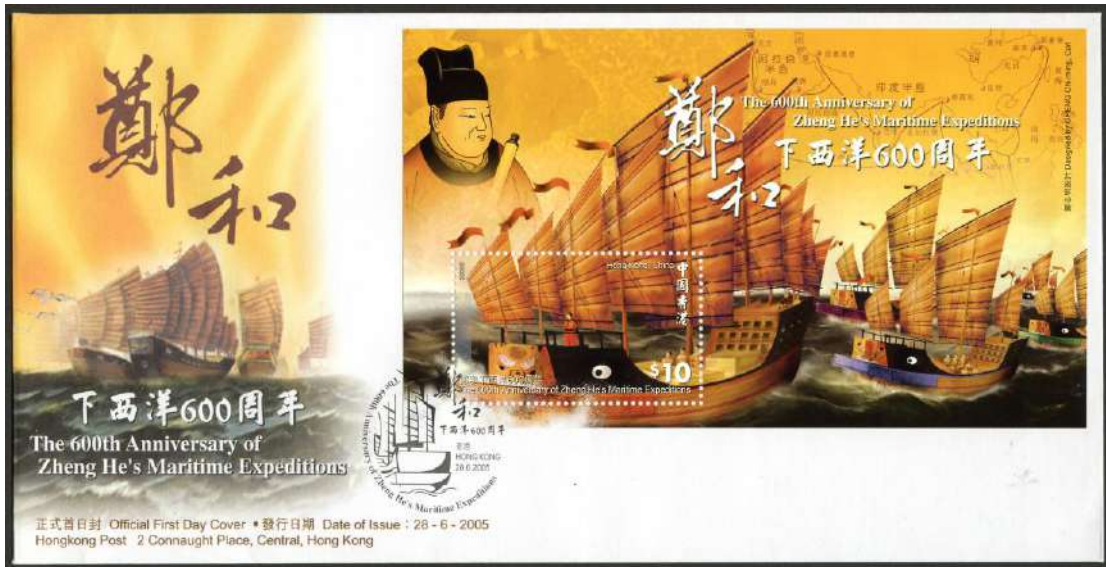
The basis for this claim is fully documented in a 'block-buster' of a book : *1421: The Year China Discovered the World*, written by Gavin Menzies<sup>2</sup>, a former submariner in the British Royal Navy. In retirement he has devoted many years to gathering data from old charts, maps, globes and documents; examining artefacts, soliciting DNA tests, visiting 800 museums and libraries in 120 countries and, and making innumerable personal contacts around the world. A fully active web site: [www.1421.tv](http://www.1421.tv) continues to establish new links and reveal further discoveries.

Menzies is convinced that between the years 1421-1423 large treasure fleets originating from the Yangtse estuary in China set out in a series of expeditions deliberately to explore the entire world. They were headed by veteran eunuch admirals: by name Zheng He, Hong Bao, Zhou Wen and Yang Qing. Whilst the name of western navigators Christopher Columbus, Vasco da Gama, Ferdinand Magellan and James Cook are familiar to many of us, it will be a rare reader who recognises the names of the Chinese admirals just mentioned.

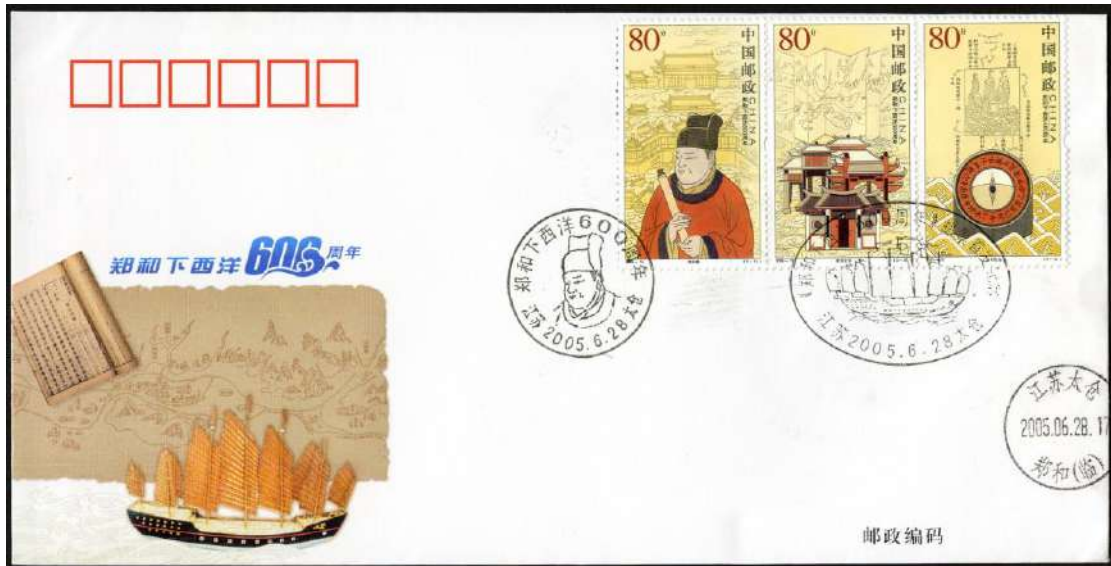
The scale of the expeditions are well documented by Menzies yet they can hardly be credited when compared to the modest outlays of western-sponsored voyages. The Chinese fleets were composed of leviathan ships, especially designed to face fierce storms on open oceans, far larger and better stocked with provisions and trade goods than any of the vessels used by later European sailors. At the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century the third Ming Emperor Zhu Di:

“Commissioned 1,681 new ships, among them many gigantic nine-masted ‘treasure ships’, named after the huge value and quantity of goods they could carry in their vast holds. ... In addition to 250 treasure ships the fleet contained more than 3,500 other vessels. There were 1,350 patrol ships and the same number of combat vessels based at

guard stations or island bases. 400 larger warships and another 400 freighters for transporting grain, water and horses for the fleet”  
 Menzies, p.52



Even before the year 1421, Menzie’s marker year, Chinese trading ships had been venturing for beyond their country’s borders. In 2005 the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first expedition headed by Admiral Zheng He was commemorated by a number of stamps and mini-sheets - additional issues to interest the thematic collector of sailing ships on stamps (see above.). On royal order Zheng He was to command no less than seven expeditions to the ‘Western Oceans’, visiting over 30 countries and regions in Asia and Africa.



A third cover issued by the People's Republic of China carries the lower value of 80 Fen commemorative stamps, picturing Admiral Zheng He, buildings at Tai Cang, a port of departure, and a magnetic compass designed by the Chinese.



A fourth cover bears three higher denomination HK\$1.40 Chinese stamps picturing ships, porcelain trade goods, a giraffe (captured in East Africa and transported back to China) and another image of the Admiral.





*Wall painting of Admiral Zheng He*

Among the ports visited by the Chinese merchantmen was Melaka (Malacca) on the Malay Peninsular, and POS Malaysia in 2005 also chose to mark the historic event with special philatelic issues. The mini-sheet shows a treasure ship tied up in the Melaka River with a Chinese captain, perhaps Admiral Zheng himself, on friendly discourse with a Malay official. Porcelain and ceramic bowls are being unloaded from the vessel. The RM 2.00 inset stamp features two forms of currency: a Malay coin from the 14<sup>th</sup> century in the shape of a cock and made from tin, and a Chinese coin from the Admiral's coffers, dated from the 15<sup>th</sup> century.



The second Malaysian cover bears the lower issue commemorative stamps, illustrating an attractive porcelain plate, the handshake greeting in colour, seals, and a support vessel.

Menzies describes in great detail the routes followed by four Chinese expeditions between 1421 and 1423 and provides a bountiful synopsis of supporting evidence in Appendix 1 of his *magnum opus* (pp. 493-595). In addition to sighting the eastern shores of North and South America, he believes the western coasts of both continents were also traversed and the Pacific Ocean en route back to China. To the south, Antarctica was reached, while in the Northern hemisphere Greenland was circumnavigated and the Northeast Passage from the Antarctic to the Pacific Oceans – across Eurasia – negotiated. All this, if in fact realised, must eventually mean a major rewriting of the history of man's attempt's to discover the bounds of planet earth.

1 Yu Thu Chuh (c.1420) *The illustrated record of strange countries*

2 Menzies, Gavin (2003) *1421: The year China Discovered the World* London: Bantam Pr.

*To be continued in December Themescene*

*Full page advert for  
Stamp Centre*

## “FOR THE SICK AND WOUNDED”

*David Roseveare delves into a fascinating piece of social history (or perhaps social philately)*

As well as my presentation “From Grandeur to Gravure”, being the study of the French designer-engraver Pierre Bequet, I have developed an interest in all things, philatelic or otherwise, relating to his home town of Versailles.

A few years ago whilst visiting a postcard fair I purchased an item which would lead to one of the most interesting projects I have attempted. It was an envelope bearing a type 16 cancel dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 1869 from the main post office in the French town of Versailles. It was addressed to a Captain Valentine Otway Inglefield R.N. from his wife Henriette Malvina, the daughter of Baron



Thiebault of Versailles. Both were members of distinguished military families, his with a long English naval tradition, and her father and grandfather were French army officers, the latter serving in America during the War of Independence.

The contents were intact. The letter began “Dear Otway” and contained references to a number of titled English people living in the town, the worsening political situation and most importantly, that Mrs Inglefield

ran a private school, mostly for children of the English community, a school that would survive for more than a century.

Now for the history. During the Franco-Prussian War Versailles was occupied by the Prussian army from September 1870 to March 1871. In fact in January 1871, ten days before the armistice marking the end of the war, Wilhelm I was proclaimed emperor of a united Germany at the chateau.

That single letter became many more as I grew more fascinated. I acquired a number spanning a period of ten years from that first date. Some were sent from the smaller Notre-Dame 1 post office and bore many types of cancels.



They were all addressed to the Captain at a number of locations: the United Services Club in London, Bognor, Torquay and Bath. There were references to the state of the children, the military and above all, a relief effort which at the time I did not know much about. I include some brief extracts:-

September 1869: “...Paper shortage... send some over... not too heavy... possible

evacuation of pupils prior to invasion...”

March 1870: “... cannot imagine anyone wishing to see their son in the army ... wretched, beggarly, idle ... unless in the scientific corps...”

July 1871: “... shortage of staff and money ... boys need writing cases, sheets and tablecloths ... you know the state we are in ...”

May 1872: “... situation improving ... bring out a dozen yards of house flannel ... a case of tea ... bring Papa a couple of loin mutton chops and a couple of thick pork chops, two ribs to a chop ...” (This one must have been very interesting, I hope they were fresh!).

As well as the above there were references to the death of Napoleon III at Chislehurst, and a visit to the Elysee Palace in Paris to see the French president.

Mrs Inglefield regularly received a copy of the *Times* newspaper during this period. She would be agitated when it arrived late, and this provided the answer to what was going on. One day, on looking through a pile of old newspapers of that period I was drawn to a letter dated January 19<sup>th</sup> 1871 which included the following under the heading of “The Distress around Versailles”.

“To supplement the local distribution of food, a committee of ladies has been established for the purpose of providing clothing, blankets and wine for invalid men and women, and milk for the children”.

Mrs Inglefield was a member of that group along with other people mentioned in the letters. There are several references to that good lady (all using the title ‘Mrs’ and not ‘Madame’) in the archives of that paper. In *A Calendar of the Letters of Florence Nightingale* by Sue Goldie she is also mentioned on several occasions, praising the work that she was doing. During the period of the war the Lord Mayor of London’s Mansion House Fund had been set up to raise donations to assist the civilian population and the sick and wounded of both sides. Royal naval ships were used to ferry stores across the channel, much more than school books and pork chops; no doubt the Captain helped to organise it efficiently. It is reported that two million dollars worth of food was sent from the United States.

Mrs Inglefield was based at the address 89, Avenue de Saint-Cloud, which is located on one of the principal routes in the town. Last year I acquired in an auction, amongst a pile of Versailles Tribunal papers, some early 19<sup>th</sup> century pieces relating to the property. In November whilst on my annual visit to the town I decided to have a look at the house for the first time. To reach number 89 seemed a long walk but it wasn’t so bad, the houses started at number 22. The majority of the lower numbers were demolished in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century to make way for a military barracks. The remainder were cleared for the creation of a new avenue in 1963. I found it, and as I was taking a photograph of the exterior the owner and his wife appeared and invited me inside.





The owner was a retired town councillor and past president of the French Red Cross. He asked me why I was showing such interest and luckily for me I had a folder of photocopies of documents relating to the house which I had planned to show another person later in the day. He explained that he had tried to research the history of the house during the period of the war but was unable to find much information, he had never heard of Inglefield, and asked for copies of virtually everything that I possessed. He told me that prior to him moving in, in April 1968, the previous occupants were two ladies with the surname 'Carme' who had a small private school for young children of high class. They were taught drawing and music.

We departed firm friends, and as I strolled back towards the chateau I couldn't help thinking of how it all began.

For further reading on the subject I recommend:-

Moorehead, Caroline (1998) *Dunant's Dream: War, Switzerland and the History of the Red Cross*  
Home, Alistaire (2004) *The Terrible Year: The Paris Commune 1871*.

There is a Thiebault family archive in the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA.



*Half page advertisement for  
Thames Themes  
(June advert)*

# THE CROSS OF LORRAINE

*Tom Wilson looks at the emblem of tuberculosis*

**T**uberculosis, also called consumption or phthisis, may not seem at first to be a promising topic for the stamp collector. After studying it for a while I found that, since it was first used on three stamps of Belgium 1923, SG 423/5, the two-barred cross, or Cross of Lorraine as it is otherwise known, it has been featured on a great many stamp designs. Why should this be? The answer is because Dr G. Sersiron, who represented France at the 1<sup>st</sup> International Tuberculosis Convention at Berlin in 1902, moved that the Lorraine Cross (which had already been registered by the American Anti-Tuberculosis Association) should become the international symbol of the anti-TB movement; a suggestion that was forthwith adopted.

The Lorraine Cross is named after Godfroy De Bouillon (1061-1100), Duke of Lorraine, who led a crusade to the Holy Land. He is depicted on a Belgian set of charity stamps of 1934, in armour, riding a horse and carrying the double-barred cross on his shield, SG 670/6. This was only one of numerous charity stamps issued by Belgium over the years to carry a surcharge in aid of the national Anti-Tuberculosis League. Some stamps from former French colonies display the Cross of Lorraine as the symbol of the Resistance during World War II. It was chosen by General De Gaulle as he thought it resembled the banner of Joan of Arc.

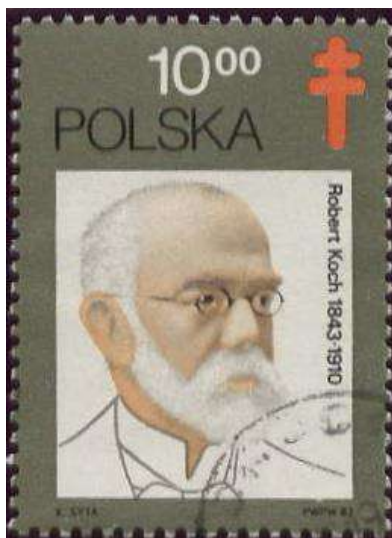
In 1980 the U.S. postal service issued a 5c stamp (Sc 1823, SG 1796) to honour Miss Emily Bissell (1861-1948). Beside her head and shoulders portrait was a Cross of Lorraine in red and the slogan "Crusader Against Tuberculosis" below. Emily Bissell had read about the Danish philanthropist Einar Holboell 1865-1927 (Belgium 1955, SG 1561), who had persuaded the Danish Post Office to issue some seals, having no postal value, at Christmas time which were to be sold from December 6<sup>th</sup> 1904, to raise funds to build a TB sanatorium for children in Kolding Fjord. Holboell's project was successful and encouraged other countries besides the United States to adopt similar schemes. Akira Furakawa, in his 1994 *Medical History on Stamps* mentions 50 countries which have since issued tuberculosis seals.

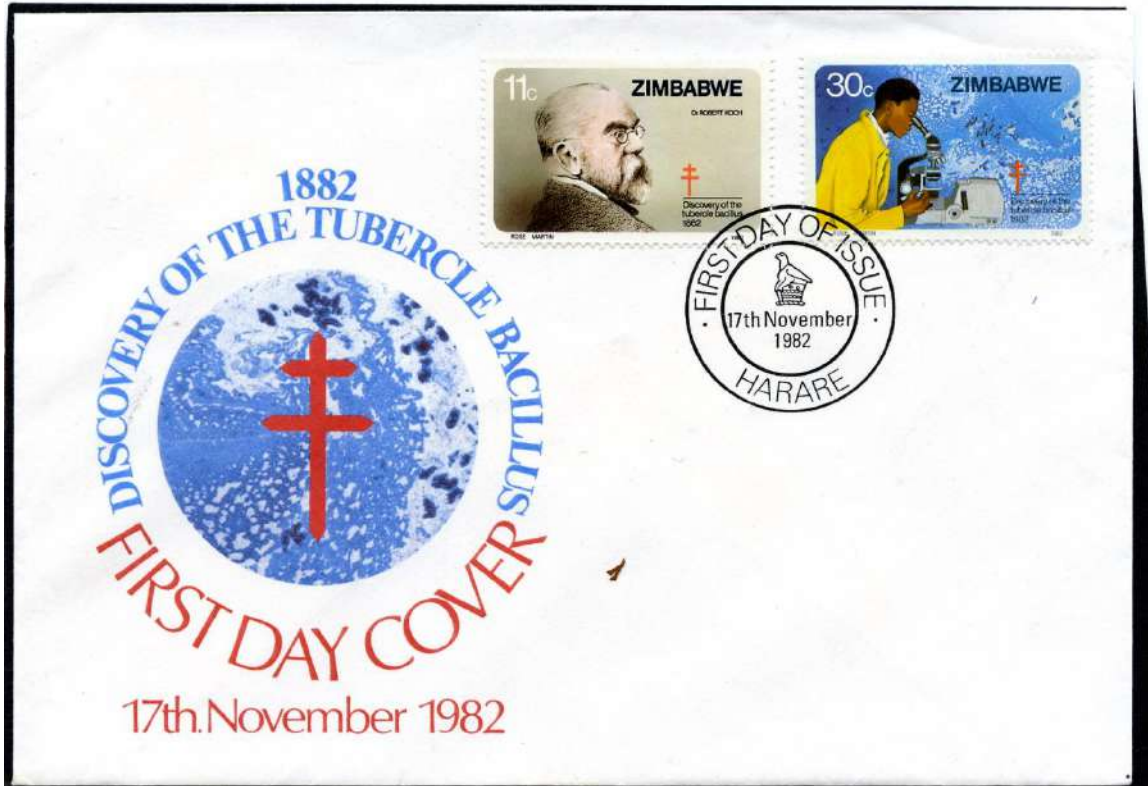
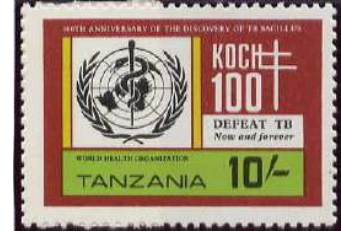
The design of Emily Bissell's first seal incorporated a conventional red cross, some holly leaves and the message "Merry Christmas". The project became an instant success and has been repeated every year since. From 1920 onwards the red cross was changed to the double-barred cross. In 1942 she was awarded the Trudeau Medal in recognition of her lifelong service to the anti-tuberculosis campaign in America.

Versions of the red double cross were used on issues of various states before 1928, when in 1928 the Union Against TB adopted as the standard emblem of their own promotional campaign the double cross, the so-called 'Cross of Lorraine'. Actually it is properly called the Cross of Constantine, aka the Patriarchal Cross. The double cross can be traced back to the 4<sup>th</sup> century when the Emperor Constantine caused to be erected in the principal square of Constantinople a large cross with horizontal double bars in memory of his conquest of Rome.

In 1099 this patriarchal cross was adopted by Godfrey de Bouillon as the badge on his standard when he conquered Jerusalem. In a certain sense it is as if the emblem of the Crusaders had become the emblem of the Anti-TB campaign. ☒

Centenary issues from Burundi, Brazil, Norway, Poland and Zaire:





# “MAY GOD EXTEND AND SHOW FORTH HIS INFINITE MERCY IN THIS MATTER”

*This quotation from the writings of St. John of the Cross introduces the final part of Stephen Toynbee's series on the Carmelites*

**J**uan de Yepes y Alvares we know better as the Carmelite Saint John of the Cross. He was born in 1542 at Fontiveros, 24 miles north of Avila. The earliest set of John of the Cross was issued by Spain in 1942 (SG 1026-1028). He was born into a poor family and at the age of 17 he enrolled at the Jesuit College taking humanities courses. Upon graduation he realized he had a vocation to the Carmelite Order, which he duly entered in 1563. It was there that he took the name of Juan de Santo Matia - translated into English as John of the Cross.

During his formation period he took classes at the University of Salamanca. He was such an outstanding student that he was named prefect of studies. The unusual Spanish cover and postmark illustrate John, and the stamp (SG 1188) is part of the 700th anniversary of the university.

John was ordained to the priesthood in 1567. It was at this time that he met Teresa of Avila who was making her second foundation of the Reform. John and Teresa met and he agreed to begin the reform amongst the friars, which he started in the summer of 1568. At present there is only one stamp with both Carmelite Reformers Teresa and John - Spain SG 3784 - which is in a comic format.

John established several Discalced monasteries. The Calced Carmelites (i.e. 'wearing shoes') were not pleased with what was happening. There were misunderstandings and disobedience on the part of the Calced, to the extent that in December 1577 John ended up in prison.

He was held in a tiny cell and was scourged regularly by each one of the friars. After six months he was given a pen and paper (Spain SG 3107) by one of his captors, and there he composed some of his amazingly beautiful poems.

John managed to escape to one of the Reform monasteries in Toledo where he regained his health. He then became Prior at El Calvario and spiritual director to the Reformed Carmelite nuns at Beas. It was for one of them that he wrote the *Spiritual Canticle*. In 1579 he founded and became rector of a college for the students of the Reform in southern Spain. John's drawing *Christ Crucified* laid the foundation for the Salvador Dali painting 'St John of the Cross' which was reproduced as an Easter issue by Guyana in 1968 (SG 463-464).

John served the Order in very high positions and continued to spread the Reform, despite opposition from within and without the Discalced Order. When he developed leg ulcers and a fever he asked to be sent to a place where he was unknown. The Prior was jealous of John's reputation for holiness and gave him the poorest cell in the monastery in which to suffer alone.

This poet, mystic, spiritual director par excellence and gentle teacher died on December 14<sup>th</sup> 1591, uttering the words: "Into Your hands I commend my spirit." Malta SG 892 was issued to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> centenary of his death.

Pope Pius XI proclaimed Saint John of the Cross a Doctor of the Church in 1926. ☒

# NEW ISSUES

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

# THEMATICA, ITS COMPETITIONS, AND THE BTA AGM 2006

*Simon Moorcroft reports*

**T**hematica 2006 was as usual a success. A good attendance on Saturday was followed by a lower than average number of visitors on Sunday. This was mainly due to the fact that it was a hot day and England were playing in the World Cup. For those who did attend there was the usual good range of competitive exhibits and invited displays. Mirroring attendance figures the number of entries in this year's senior competitions were lower than in previous years, but the standard was, as usual, high. Collectively there were fifty six entries across all classes with four entries in the BTA Cup Competition; six in the Inter-Federation Competition; eight in the John Fosbery Competition and thirty eight in the Barclays Cup Competition for young collectors, with five in group A (up to eight years); twenty eight in group B (9 – 12 years) and five in group C (13 – 18 years) respectively. The number of exhibits entered by young collectors was particularly pleasing this year just as it has been since the inception of the junior competition. We so often hear of how philately is not attracting young people but it is clear that in thematic philately, in particular, it is quite the opposite. Trophies and medals for the junior competitions were presented by Eric Friedman of Rushstamps.

Winners in the Young Collectors section:

	Winner	Second	Third
A: to 8 years	Claire Mitchell "Rainbow flowers"	Cameron McIntyre "Birds of the Americas"	Elizabeth Darwent "Birds of our seas and shores"
B: 9 – 12 years	Lara Whittle "Welcome to the Isle of Cumbrae"	Rory Whittle "Redwall"	Megan Charlton "Man's best friend"
C: 13 – 18 years	Yvonne Wiseman "My stamp café"	Jacob Whittle "Easiest sum in the world"	Bertie Brown "All the world's a stage"

The John Fosbery Competition remains popular. Because the competition has no rules it means that the exhibits are not restricted to what material can be included and as a consequence some lovely and varied material is displayed which one would not normally be able to see. The ability for exhibitors to enter all types of material means their exhibit can be more easily developed to a greater length and hence have a greater depth. This was won by Stafford May was voted the winner with "Man's measurement of time". Methods of Telling Time covered calendars, sundials, obelisks, sand-glasses, candles and time codes. Methods of Keeping Time covered clocks, watches and time zones.

The awards ceremony took place on the Sunday in the main exhibition hall. Assisted by Friends of Thematica Chairman Stuart Henderson, Jeffery Matthews MBE presented the awards for all the senior competitions. Peter Denly, our own Membership Secretary, won the 32 page BTA Trophy with "The Mariner's World" which looked at aspects of the marine industry, covering explorers, fishing boats, sailing ships, ships with sail and power, power driven vessels, special purpose vessels, naval vessels, yachts, navigation and lights and wrecks and rescue. Jim Etherington, representing Sussex, won the Healy & Wise Salver for the Inter-Federation competition. "1940: debacle in Europe" told the story of the first full year of World War II: the Phoney War, Germany strokes north, the westward blitzkrieg, British humiliation, Under the Swastika (occupation) and the Beleaguered Island (Britain).

Once again the comment was made of how the success of Thematica depends on a small number of people.

Following the presentation of awards the BTA's 15<sup>th</sup> AGM commenced with 23 members present in addition to the Chairman. Before formal proceedings got under way the Francheska Rapkin Memorial Bowl, awarded to the writer of an article in *Themescene* which the Committee considers to be the best, was presented. This year they voted to award the bowl to Richard Wheeler for his article "Just Like That" which detailed various philatelic commemorations relating to the world of magic. After this Chairman Christine Earle reviewed the activities the BTA had either staged or participated in for the year 2005-2006. In particular she mentioned the success of the Village Green display at Spring Stampex and extended her gratitude to her fellow committee members for ensuring another successful year. Christine then proceeded to describe what was happening in the near future which would involve the BTA. Top of this was Eurothema which she described as a major event and one which will be of benefit to thematic philately in the UK. The Treasurer's report was given by Peter Wood for the first time and he was able to report that despite there being a deficit of expenditure over income the financial position of the Association was very good and that we still had large reserves. No increase in subscriptions was therefore considered necessary. Peter explained that it was the Committee's belief that the funds held by BTA should be used to promote and aid the BTA and thematic philately. All other formal business was then conducted satisfactorily. It was then with pleasure that President Brian Sole put forward the proposal that John and Betty Miller be nominated for Joint Life Membership of the BTA. Brian explained that it was felt by all to be appropriate that they be given this award after many years of dutiful service. He said that John and Betty had always excelled in distributing *Themescene* four times a year despite ill health in the last few years. Needless to say the nomination was accepted by all with no opposition. A special life membership certificate had been prepared and this would be presented to John and Betty by Brian in July as they were unable to attend the meeting. After questions had been dealt with, and with there being no other business, the meeting was closed at 3:20pm.

After a short interlude 2005 BTA Cup winner Carol Turner gave her display entitled "Man and Malaria". Carol began by giving a brief background as to how she began collecting, saying that she was introduced to the hobby when she visited her local philatelic society. The first section of the display was entitled "A Perspective of Man's Early Ideas" which firstly dealt with how preventative measures for malaria were discovered and/or developed. A major breakthrough, she explained, came when the Mosquito Theory was published which established a link between



mosquitoes and the malarial disease. Secondly it dealt with early alleviations and thirdly herbal cures. One such cure was illustrated by a cover which pictured a special sort of tree which was discovered to cure malaria. Another was how tribesmen would use charms as a deterrent. The third section headed "Parasite Elimination" illustrated how malaria was diagnosed and treated and how diagnoses have become simpler and treatments

more effective over the passage of time.

Section four was the largest of all sections and dealt with "Elimination of the Vector". It chronicled the various steps which man has taken to try and destroy or disrupt the malarial mosquitoes. These include the destruction of breeding places by way of drainage; construction of dams and embankments; the use of larvicides and insecticides; and destruction by way of biological control and agricultural practices. An example of an insecticide was illustrated in the form of an advertising label picturing "Mortis", a chemical which could be used to destroy



mosquitoes, rodents and other pests. Carol explained that these methods have been effective and ensured that the malarial mosquito, in some parts of the world, have either been destroyed completely or contained. The development of modern equipment and practices has facilitated this. Section five illustrated the research and education which has and is still taking place into the causes and dangers of treatments for malaria. Material illustrating schools and institutions whose primary or secondary role is the combat of malaria was shown. Examples included special research centres, laboratories and training centres for scientists, doctors and general medical staff. Material



issued to commemorate special conferences held to discuss malaria was also included. Carol explained that amongst national and international governmental organisations and departments such as the Department for Health, The League of Nations and the World Health Organisation malaria has been and indeed still is at the forefront of their discussions and priorities, pointing out that they ensure that the development of treatments for and education regarding malaria continues. In the display were shown various cards which illustrated ways in which

it was possible to avoid being infected by malarial mosquitoes. While some showed the normal method of covering oneself with a net others showed more bizarre and slightly ridiculous methods. These made for enjoyable perusing.

The last chapter was perhaps one of the most interesting. Entitled “Malaria v Military” it detailed how malaria has affected warfare and soldiers before and during World War One and also in the Second World War. Carol explained that throughout the history of warfare, in theatres where malaria was a problem, very often insufficient precautionary measures have been taken either by a lack of knowledge, medical equipment or just general incompetence - actually all three in most cases. She explained that malaria affected soldiers fighting in the Dardanelles campaign during WWI in 1915 and in the Far East during the war against the Japanese in WWII. It was pointed out that the Americans suffered greatly from malaria during the early stages of the Pacific War due to a delay in the introduction of anti-disease methods and malaria control units. These control units became common in infected areas and the display included an airgraph to one such unit. However Carol said that man has learnt a great deal about how malaria is caused and how it must be treated by waging war in parts of the world where the disease exists. The need to find treatments and cures quickly in a state of war meant that man discovered such treatments and cures which would have taken many more years to develop had there been peace. This is the irony of warfare.

Some items have been mentioned above but to mention all the interesting, varied and rare pieces included in the display would be impossible. We can justifiably say that the display provided those who saw it with a very enjoyable and clearly illustrated story of malaria and man’s attempts to combat it through the centuries. To add to the display Carol brought with her various 3D, non-philatelic items related to malaria. These included a Mosbar, Jungle formula, Mos Quit cream and a book of mosquito illustrations and details about their dangers. These items which one would not normally be able to see added greatly to the display and were a talking point.

Summing up the display Carol said that malaria remains one the world’s most deadly and dangerous diseases and its combating is as much a priority today as it has been in the past. Words of appreciation were given by John Hayward. A wonderful display which was greatly appreciated by all those who were present.

4.3.1. Elimination of the Vector – Adult mosquitoes attacked, Insecticides

Adult mosquito control can be achieved by effective use of insecticides by house spraying.



Initially insecticides were based on pyrethrum.



Issued May 1901

On Her Majesty's Service.

Chief Geologist, Geological Survey Department,

Postal & Health Authorities combined to produce handstamps in an awareness campaign aimed at eliminating an invading potent vector, from Venezuela



Slipped in use periodically Apr 1956 to May 1966



Handstamps applied in about 8 weeks during 1959

6.1.2. Malaria v Military – WWI

Front line quinine supplies were provided by Military Pharmacies.



Each of a series of 10 Military Health Service cards supplied in the French Literature Army in Silesia



**Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the BTA held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2006  
in the Allenby Room, Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2 at 2.30p.m.**

**Present:** The Chairman and 23 other members present.

The Chairman opened the meeting by asking the President, Brian Sole, to present the Franceska Rapkin Memorial Bowl to Richard Wheeler for his article 'Just Like That' in *Themescene* September 2005.

**Apologies:** Steve Boorn, Brian Buckle, Ron Backhouse, Michael Blackman, Graham Boutle, Peter Greening, David Griffiths, John Miller, Betty Miller, Edward Quinton.

**Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on June 26<sup>th</sup> 2005**

These had been published in *Themescene* September 2005 and were circulated at this meeting. Tony Farmer proposed and John Hayward seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true record – passed unanimously.

**Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**Chairman's report**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and began her report by thanking Maurice Gale and the Friends of Thematica for staging, yet again, another delightful thematic exhibition. The only one in the UK.

The Chairman continued by saying what an exciting year it had been and one that has lived up to all expectations!

The Chairman said that she could only start her report with reminiscences about Stampex and our Display on the Village Green last February. She believed this was "Our Finest Hour".

The Chairman continued – "For anyone who was lucky enough to be at the Design Centre, Islington, I don't have to tell you what a resounding success the BTA Display on the Village Green was, and congratulate all who were involved by either helping with the organization building up to the exhibition, supplying the many varied and interesting displays, helping mount the exhibits, manning the table during the show and finally taking the displays down at the end of the show on Sunday. However I must save my biggest Thank You for John Hayward, our past Chairman and Displays Organiser for pulling off a fantastic exhibition. I was there every day and the display was being looked at and discussed by visitors all the time! Never in all my years attending Stampex have I seen such interest in the participating displays. Putting it all together took a lot of time and organisation and John, along with Brian, had worked tirelessly for two years prior to the show. On behalf of the membership I thank you both.

Moving onto May – when your Chairman, Vice-Chairman and 3 members (plus partners acting as cheerleaders) attended the 1<sup>st</sup> European Thematic Championships in Essen. Unfortunately the UK had only 2 exhibitors, Steve Boorn & David Griffiths, due to commitment of others to the major FIP Exhibition in Washington a couple of weeks later. I am delighted to report that Steve won his 1<sup>st</sup> Gold medal in Essen. David was not quite so pleased with the judges, but still picked up a credible Vermeil award amid very stiff competition. We look forward to next year's Championship, when hopefully we will be at full strength.

Even more recently, Washington 2006, America's Philatelic extravaganza ended a couple of weeks ago. The BTA had 5 members participating (our President was the UK Commissioner) and we came home with a magnificent 3 Gold Medals: Ian Paton, Shelia Foster, Brian Sole; and two

Vermeils, David Hunter and Lesley Marley, David's first Large Vermeil. Congratulations to all our representatives on their splendid achievements.

We are now looking forward to the National Bi-Annual Competitions run by ABPS, to be held in Torquay during November. You still have time to apply for an entry if you wish, I think the closing date is sometime in July; and two further International exhibitions, one in Malaga, Spain and one in Belgium. Again several of our members are taking part in these events and we wish them luck. There is expected to be a National Exhibition at Croydon in 2007.

At the last AGM we welcomed Lesley Marley and Mike Chapling onto the Committee and I would like to thank them, and the rest of the committee, on your behalf, for the work and dedication they put into running this society. For the benefit of any new members may I introduce our Secretary Anne, who is the hub of the BTA with practically all enquiries and business passing through her capable hands; Peter Denly our Membership Secretary, who keeps the Committee informed and up to date on all Membership matters, and is often the first point of contact for prospective new members; Simon Moorcroft our capable and very enthusiastic Publicity Manager who keeps our profile in the forefront; Peter Wood, who has recently been co-opted to the Treasurer's position, and is up for full election today; John, who I have already mentioned works relentlessly as our splendid Displays Organiser. If you are all members here you will know the name of our committed and hardworking *Themescene* Editor Wendy Buckle, but perhaps some of you are not so familiar with the face, Wendy take a bow!

Thanks must also go to our Librarian Ron Backhouse and our Accounts Examiner Ronald Hyams.

I would also like to record my sincere thanks, both personally and on behalf of the membership, to Betty and John Miller, who have, since the inception of the BTA, worked tirelessly and perhaps a little unsung, behind the scenes, as the distributors of *Themescene*, as well as attending to requests for back issues. For many years John (aided by Betty) ran the library until continuing ill health forced him to relinquish the position. Now, unfortunately both John and Betty are suffering poor health and have decided to retire from the BTA committee. Although they live some distance away, for many years they attended Thematica, but in the latter years, when travelling became difficult, they still maintained contact and an important part of the BTA. Later in this afternoon's proceedings I will be proposing that John and Betty be awarded Honorary Joint Life Membership in recognition of their services to the BTA.

Finally I would like to thank our President Brian Sole for the help and advice he has given me during this past year and you the membership for continuing to help make the BTA the success story it is.

### **Treasurer Elect's Report and adoption of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005.**

Copies of the Accounts had been circulated to all the members present and had been published in *Themescene* June 2006

Peter Wood reported that with Stampex Spring 2006 and Torquay in November it would be likely that a loss would be made in 2006-07, but the Committee have discussed this and feel that members' meetings are important and therefore a cost for these will continue to be incurred.

Francis Kiddle reported that there was a way to receive 20% off through one of the dealer's at Thematica (Dave Steila) – PW would look into this.

PW reported that there was a discrepancy in the figures printed in *Themescene* and those handed out at the meeting due to the application forms and publicity material not being written off in those circulated. Tony Farmer felt that those in *Themescene* were more accurate and therefore an increase in costs of £200 should be noted.

Mike Chapling proposed and John Leathes seconded that the Treasurer Elect's report be adopted. Carried unanimously.

John Hayward thanked Tony Farmer for all his work as Treasurer over the past few years and the Chairman re-iterated this and also thanked him and Peter for the good hand-over.

### **Election of Officers**

It was proposed by Simon Moorcroft and seconded by Mike Chapling that the following officers be re-elected 'en bloc'. This was carried unanimously.

Chairman	Christine Earle
Vice-Chairman	Lesley Marley
Secretary	Anne Stammers
Treasurer	Peter Wood

### **Election of Committee Members**

It was proposed by Francis Kiddle and seconded by Brian Sole that those willing to stand again be re-elected 'en bloc'. This was carried unanimously.

Wendy Buckle	Editor <i>Themescene</i>
Peter Denly	Membership Secretary
John Hayward	Displays Organiser
Simon Moorcroft	Publicity Officer
Mike Chapling	Committee member

Lesley Marley proposed and Colin Mount seconded that Richard Wheeler (Distribution of *Themescene*) and Michael Blackman (Advertising) be elected onto the Committee. This was carried unanimously.

### **Ratification by the membership of the appointment of**

Ron Backhouse	Librarian
Ronald Hyams	Examiner of the Accounts

Tony Farmer proposed and Stuart Henderson seconded that these appointments be ratified. This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman welcomed the new members onto the Committee.

The Chairman also told the meeting that as Brian Sole had 'untold skills and experience' the committee would be co-opting him back onto the Committee.

### **Honorary Life Members**

Brian Sole, President, proposed that John and Betty Miller be invited to become Honorary Life Members of the BTA. It gave Brian great pleasure in proposing this as he first met John and Betty in 1984 at the first Committee meeting of the BTA when John offered to print *Themescene*. This he did for many years and then went on to act as Librarian until his health no longer made this possible. Betty distributed the magazine, always on time, and also dealt with 'back issues'. The proposal was seconded by the Chairman. It was carried unanimously. As both Betty and John are in poor health Brian would visit them to present them with their certificate.

### **Any Other Business**

- a) Stampex Book – downstairs on the BTA table was a book with many photographs of the display and visitors to the stand, and comments etc. It was a very nice keepsake of the display and excellent archive material. The Chairman thanked Lesley Marley for her work in compiling it.
- b) West of England – Richard Wheeler had mentioned in the accounts 'meetings in the provinces' and he wished it to be known that they had been very gratified to have a BTA Roadshow at their weekend meeting with fifty-three people attending! On their behalf he thanked John Hayward for organizing and presenting the event.

c) Young Members – Ronald Hyams asked that the Committee spend some time examining how children could be encouraged into the Association and to encourage their thematic collecting and the publicity to do this. Francis Kiddle mentioned that Youth Organizations had enormous problems as member(s) had to be cleared by the police to obtain the Child Protection certificate.

The Chairman wondered if a Youth Officer should be appointed but felt that the people who should be encouraged are the ‘early retired’. The U3A would be a fabulous organization to get involved with to get people into the hobby.

Publicity could be sent to organizations for children and be put into children’s libraries.

Francis Kiddle mentioned that The Royal held a Youth day and only 4 attended possibly because it was held during the working week and they were at school.

d) Website – Stamp Domain the ‘host’ had disappeared and out of date information was still there and could not be removed. Wendy Buckle asked if there was a volunteer to design and run the website would they please contact her.

Frances Kiddle proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for all their work – the good attendance at the AGM and other meetings was synonymous of this work. Ron Hyams seconded this proposal and it was agreed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 3.20 p.m. and was followed by Carol Turner, winner of the BTA Cup at Thematica 2005, giving her winning display on ‘Man and Malaria’.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

### **PHILATELIC MUSIC CIRCLE**

*From:* Irene Lawford, President, 22 Bouverie Gardens, Kenton, Mddx, HA3 0QR

*To President Brian Sole*

Dear Brian,

You will probably have heard by now that The Philatelic Music Circle is being dissolved. This is naturally a cause of great regret to us, especially to me as co-founder 37 years ago and now President. However, it has been found necessary, owing to the impossibility of finding anyone amongst our international membership of still over 300, who is willing to take over the running of the society and the editing of our prize-winning magazine *The Baton*.

(See further information in ‘Group News’ p.115)

As mentioned in the Press Release we are donating our remaining funds to several different societies connected with music philately, thematic philately and music. Members have agreed with the committee of the Philatelic Music Circle – Geoffrey Datson, Valeric Molyneux, Trevor Brocklehurst, Sheila Hall and I - to make a donation to The British Thematic Association.

It gives me great pleasure to enclose a cheque for £750.00 for the benefit of your society. It would be nice to think that you will put it to some creative use with the name of the Philatelic Music Circle attached - a handbook of some sort, perhaps? but this is not a condition.

With Kind Regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Irene Lawford

*Full page advertisement  
For Thematica II*

# BTA NEWS

## MEMBERS' MEETING AT TORQUAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2006

A BTA Members' Meeting will be held at Torquay at 1030am on Saturday 25th November 2006 at the Riviera Centre, Torquay, Devon, during the ABPS National Exhibition. The Meeting will comprise members' displays and a special 64 sheet display by our former President and Honorary Life Member, Margaret Morris, entitled "Astronomical Communication in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century". Members are asked to bring up to 10 pages from their own collection on any theme for the informal members' displays which will precede Margaret's display.

Please take this opportunity to come along to the BTA meeting whilst attending the Torquay event and do not forget to view the thematic exhibits in the International and National Competitive Classes.

## WORPEX 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2006

Held in convenient location close to the city centre and only a few miles from the M5 (and very well signposted) WORPEX was easy to get to. Being held in a school it also had the advantages of having plenty of rooms available, a canteen for catering throughout the day, and plenty of free parking.

The theme for WORPEX this year was thematic, hence their invitation to the BTA to hold a meeting, as well as a selection of interesting thematic displays, including the excellent *Here be dragons*, covering more aspects of the theme than most of us would think possible.

The speaker for the BTA meeting was Cyril Stapley, who showed a very small part of his comprehensive collection on Christopher Columbus. He displayed 80 sheets on the iconography of Columbus; if just the man's portrait takes 80 sheets how much does it take to tell the whole story? The timing of the display was apposite, since Columbus died in May 1505, aged 54. Born in the slums of Genoa, Columbus' drive and vision got him audiences with Portuguese and Spanish royalty bidding for funds, and as every school child knows "in fourteen hundred and ninety two Columbus sailed the ocean blue".

Very little is known of his life, let alone what he looked like, and the display covered 4 areas:

1. Portraits and engravings taken from life
2. Portraits and engravings executed according to descriptions left by contemporaries
3. Imaginary portraits
4. Paintings, statues and engraving depicting events in his life.

As with any good thematic collection a whole range of material was shown including postal stationery, airmails and booklets. Impressive philatelic items included progressive proofs and early covers. The sheet that impressed me the most, however, was not even a cover, just a piece. But what a piece! Four stamps featuring a portrait of Columbus on a part front of a cover caught up in the War of the Pacific between Chile, Bolivia and Peru in the 1880's.

Those present were treated to a superb display and an entertaining story.

Following Cyril's talk John Hayward gave a short talk with helpful tips on how to draw up a thematic checklist. The starting point has to be wading through catalogues, not easy to search since relevant stamps can be hidden in mixed sets. That still only gives you stamps. What about perfins, postal stationery etc.? Well for the latter there is Higgins & Gage; some countries produce books showing commemorate postmarks, such as *Special event postmarks of the UK* but in the end there is nothing to beat going through dealer's stock, which of course is the fun of collecting.

All in all an interesting meeting and now we look forward to WORPEX 2007 on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May. ☒



# VARIETY, COLOUR & ENJOYMENT

*Simon Moorcroft has a full report on the BTA's display at Stampex in February.*

*(Gremlins infected the last issue, and only part of this appeared)*

This year's Spring Stampex display on the Village Green had a touch of colour about it. It was of course the long awaited display by the British Thematic Association which this year took centre stage. A display, in this case totalling one hundred frames, cannot be organised overnight and requires long-term and careful planning. As long ago as two years before the event a sub-committee was established to plan the display. All of this hard work and planning came to a head on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, the day before the show opened, when the frames were erected and filled by a large contingent of volunteers. When dealing with over two hundred faces of material things can quite easily go wrong, but thanks to the efforts of all those present everything was mounted and ready for Wednesday when the show opened.

The five days that the show was open saw a large number of visitors entering through the doors, many of whom were surprised to see such a beam of colour protruding from the normally dark and colourless frames. What met visitors this time was a display consisting some of the most varied and diverse material ever likely to be included in a philatelic exhibit. Stamps and postal history were supplemented with cinderella material, advertising labels and coupons, pictures, postcards, maximum cards, proofs, essays, stamps, signed covers, postal stationery, publicity and promotional material both private and commercial and much more besides. All this contributed to a display with great visual impact.

The full list of contributors was published in the booklet accompanying the display, sent out with the March issue of *Themescene*.

It was wonderful to see so many displays from so many members which added to the intense variety of the display. It is not possible to describe every display in great detail. Rather just a few items and displays have been described which were deemed to be outstanding or of great interest. One of the most fascinating stories was told by the display in the first two frames entitled Heart of Harefield. This illustrated the story of the Harefield Hospital which is now one of the world's most highly recognised and respected centres for the treatment of heart diseases. The land on which the hospital stands was originally the residence of Thomas Wakley who founded the *Lancet* journal which is still published today. A large number of correspondences to and from Wakley were included, with one interesting and rare item being an entire sent by Wakley while MP for Finsbury, with a free frank in superb condition denoting the privilege of free postage for MP's. The hospital came into existence during the First World War when it treated those seriously injured during the Gallipoli campaign.

On show for the first time was Christine Earle's display of one of Australia's most famous and recognisable landmarks, the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Included were some rare and interesting items including promotional philatelic material and a very rare 5s mint stamp picturing the bridge. It was issued for the souvenir market rather than for postal purposes. We all look forward to seeing this exhibit expand and develop.

There were also some equally impressive displays submitted by members of specialist thematic society's affiliated to the BTA. Of particular interest were the entries submitted on behalf of the Bicycle Stamps Club and the Concorde Study Circle. The Bicycle Club submission consisted mainly of the exquisite thematic exhibit *Go By Cycle*. This exhibit, entered by Brian Sole, was awarded a gold medal at the international in Singapore in 2004 and was the finest example of a modern and complete thematic exhibit in the Village Green display. The variety of material was astonishing and demonstrated the time and effort which is required to create an exhibit of high quality. Normal material such as stamps, postal history etc were cleverly supplemented by a number of rare proofs, essays, unusual and very rare material. One such item was a letter card displaying an advert for the retailer Franz Gmelin who stated that he had for sale

Coventry Bikes produced by the Coventry Company. Many visitors found the exhibit especially useful for ideas regarding the composition and development of a Plan. In thematic exhibiting the Plan is particularly important because it holds the exhibit together and has to be able to tell the person looking at it, through carefully selected titles and headings, what the exhibit consist of and what will be illustrated. Observing Brian's plan one was able to gauge what was to come in the subsequent frames. The standard comments, by those who looked at the exhibit, were that it was superb and invaluable for anybody wanting to know how to develop or start a thematic exhibit.

The Concorde Study Circle was represented by Brian Asquith's display. What was of particular interest was the plethora of proofs, colour trials, and varieties relating to Concorde stamp issues. Interestingly, the majority of proofs were from France. What caught the eye of most people were the many different proofs which were prepared for the French Concorde issue all showing the same value and design but in many differing colours with, in many cases, the final chosen colour not being the one which was originally proposed.

The following specialist societies submitted displays, in frame order:

Alba Stamp Group

The Bicycle Stamps Club

The Bird Stamp Society

Concorde Study Circle

Glasgow Thematic Society

Guild of St. Gabriel

Scout & Guide Stamps Club

Ship Stamp Society

West of England Thematic Society

As in 1997 all specialist society displays were judged to select which society had the best entries. This year's judges were Lesley Marley, Sheila Foster and Stuart Henderson. After much debate it was decided that the West of England Thematic Society's submissions should be awarded the BTA Crown Agents Cup for the best society display. This cup was presented by the Crown Agents in 1997 for awarding to the best society display in the Village Green display. The 1997 winners were the Ship Stamp Society. This cup was presented to Richard Wheeler by our President Brian Sole on the Sunday of Stampex (see photograph).

During the five days of the show a huge number of visitors came and looked at the display with many surprised at the variety of material, the quality of the material submitted and the different themes which can be pursued when collecting "thematically". There were many positive comments written in the comments book provided by Lesley Marley. Some were also persuaded to start a thematic collection once realising that any theme or interest can be collected. It made people appreciate that thematic philately is not just the collection of stamps but rather a serious and enjoyable discipline which can be developed and have very satisfying rewards.

A special catalogue detailing the displays was produced and given out free to all visitors. This was put together with the help of John Hayward, Brian Sole and Wendy Buckle. A very useful article, written by Christine Earle, regarding the formation of a thematic collection was also included in the booklet.

It is correct that all credit for the success of the display should go to the Village Green sub-committee and John Hayward respectively who spent many hours working and planning to ensure everything was a success. In addition success was also ensured by the members of the BTA committee and all those who helped to mount and take down the display.

A thoroughly successful and enjoyable display which will be remembered, by all, for quite some time to come. ☒

# **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

## THE BIRD STAMP SOCIETY



20 Years Old! We celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> year with a commemorative cover and special hand stamp on 1<sup>st</sup> August. Covers are still available either from me or from Cotswold and Stuart Covers in York (Tel: 08707 423962).

AGM. The AGM this year will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at a different venue. The Thatcham and District Philatelic Society are holding their 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Stamp Fair at the Thatcham Memorial Hall, Brownsfield, Bath Road, Thatcham and have offered us the use of a room. The AGM will take place at 14.00 and there will be light refreshments available at the hall. Parking is easy and it is near the M4. Approximately 10 - 12 dealers will be in attendance and we hope to see some new faces at this year's AGM.

JOIN US? 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)

## PHILATELIC MUSIC SOCIETY (See also Letters page 109)

The Philatelic Music Circle announces with regret our decision to dissolve our very thriving society. Ours was one of the first thematic societies in Great Britain – and possibly the largest. Founded in 1968 by the late Sylvester Peat and the current President, Irene Lawford, we have enjoyed an enthusiastic world-wide membership of between 300 - 500 collectors of music philately for 37 years. But in common with many societies, we have found it increasingly difficult to maintain our membership AND - vitally important - to encourage members to take over the work of the committee.

Our informative magazine, *The Baton* edited for 27 years by Irene Lawford and for the last ten years by Alena Pascual in Canada, has won many awards for Philatelic Literature. Sadly number 113 for Autumn/Winter 2005 was the final issue.

However, all is not lost for music philatelists. We have formed a firm bond with the 'Motivgruppe Musik' in Germany and have recommended it to our members; the Motivgruppe's magazine *Der Musikus* is published in German, English and French.

For many years we successfully ran the Robert Stolz Trophy for Music Philately for the 'best' music stamp of the year. Since the death of our first Patron, the late Lord Yehudi Menuhin we have been running the equally successful Yehudi Menuhin Trophy for Music Philately. This will in future be run by the 'Motivgruppe Musik' as The Philatelic Music Circle Yehudi Menuhin Trophy for Music Philately.

Whilst we have maintained an annual membership subscription of only £8.00 for many years, our expenses have been such that we have a healthy balance in the accounts. It will be our pleasure to distribute this to several allied philatelic and music organisations. Funds will go to the British Thematic Association; the American Topical Association; Motivgruppe Musik (Germany); Gruppo Musica of the C1FT (Italy); Groupe Musique, Theatre et Danse (France); Thema NVTF (Holland); Bath Postal Museum; the Musicians Benevolent Fund; Making Music.

Farewell!

Irene Lawford (President), Geoffrey Datson (Chairman), Trevor Brocklehurst (Treasurer), Valerie Molyneux (Secretary), Alena Pascual (Editor), Sheila Hall (Librarian).

# JUST4KIDS

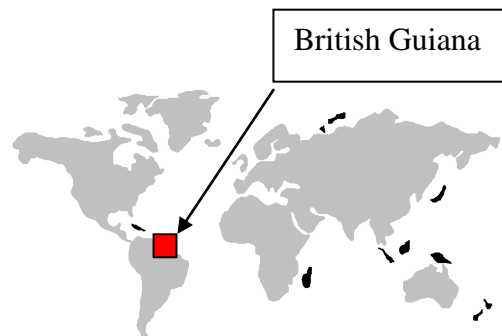
## (Junior Page)

### ‘ARTHUR’S SPECIAL STAMP’

One of our junior members has a Grandfather called Arthur Bolster. Arthur has collected stamps since he was a small boy, and he is now 84! He has lots of stamps, but one of his stamps has a particularly interesting story attached to it – and a funny ending! It is about a very old, rather plain stamp with no picture on it (see copy on the right). It came from a country called British Guiana in South America. The country is now just called Guyana as it is no longer owned by Britain. The stamp cost 4 cents, (about £5.00).



No one will ever know exactly who sent the letter with the stamp on from British Guiana to Britain, or who it was for, so Arthur has made up the first part of the story.



The setting for this story is in Georgetown, the capital city of British Guiana, on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1862. Robert Mather, Acting Receiver General of Colony (Chief Postmaster), is talking to the postboy in his office;

“Only three letters for posting on my desk this morning. One for Mr. John Smith, one for The Reverend Harold Pearson, and one for Lady Brown in London, England. Post boy! Where is my sheet of stamps and my scissors to cut them with? Oh! and fetch me my pot of paste to stick the stamps onto the envelopes. Oh! and my marking crayon for me to cancel the stamp by signing it with my initials. Post boy! Take these letters to the Captain of the three masted sailing ship in the harbour, for delivery to London, England. Hurry along now!” But in his hurry, Robert Mather forgot to sign the stamp.

It would have taken about six months for the letter to arrive in England, and then it was kept in Lady Brown’s bureau (a writing desk) for many years until one of her grandsons started collecting stamps, and found the envelope. He soaked the stamp off, threw away the envelope, and put the stamp into his stamp catalogue book for safe keeping. (A catalogue is a book showing hundreds of stamps and letting you know how much they are worth today.) In 1939 World War 2 broke out, and Lady Brown’s grandson volunteered to join the Army to train to become a soldier. He was sent to a country called Egypt, and fought in a famous battle at a town called El Alamein. Sadly he was wounded in the battle, and he died.

After the war had ended, his mother sent the old, out of date stamp catalogue to the book auctions, not knowing that her son had left the old stamp tucked inside. The catalogue was sold in London amongst a lot of other books in a wooden tea-chest, to a second-hand book dealer (a shop keeper who sells old books) from Oxford.

The rest of the story is true.

Arthur Bolster had also been an Officer in the Army in Egypt during the Second World War. When it ended, he decided to come to Oxford as an art student. He also wanted to continue his hobby of collecting stamps and so he visited a second-hand book dealer on the Cowley Road in Oxford.

“Have you got a not too old stamp catalogue?” he asked.

“I don’t think so, but you could have a look through the tea chest of books I bought at auction in London yesterday” the shop keeper replied.

Arthur sorted through the books and found a large, thick book called The Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue.

“I have found an old one which will do me finely. How much do you want for it?” Arthur asked.

“Half a crown” (two shillings and sixpence – about 13p today) said the shop keeper.

Arthur was a very poor student, and replied “Too dear. I’ll give you a couple of bob” (two shillings) – and the deal was agreed.

Walking along the pavement, turning the pages of the book, a piece of paper fell to the ground. At first glance Arthur did not recognise it as a stamp because it had straight edges as though cut with scissors – which of course it had been by Robert Mathers, who had also written his initials on the stamp with a red crayon in British Guiana almost one hundred years before. Arthur took the stamp home, and looked it up in the catalogue to find out how much it was worth. To his amazement he discovered it was a rare stamp and was worth £38 (about £2000 today!) Even though he was very poor at the time, Arthur was very honest, and he went back to the shop to ask the shop keeper if he knew who the book had belonged to, but the shop keeper did not know and told him that as there was no name in the book, there was no means of tracing the original owner.

So Arthur decided to keep the stamp. He found a very safe place to put it in, and tucked it away. The problem now is this; it was such a good safe place that he has now forgotten where it is!

Perhaps one day his grandson will open one of his old stamp catalogues, and it will once again fall out!

Have you got an interesting story about your stamps?

There are prizes for all juniors who write in.

*Send all your letters to*

***Just4Kids (Junior Page), c/o The Editor, Themescene, 71 Churchward Avenue,  
Swindon SN2 1NW.***

# LIBRARY LISTING

*Ron Backhouse*

Members asking to borrow books and catalogues are not 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, as shown in the listing, are charged at 10p each; to which must be added the calculated cost of posting. One copy weighs nine grams. At present, minimum second class allows 60 grams including the envelope. 100 grams costs 34p. To assist, I will quote 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.

Raymond Brown has kindly given the Library his up-dated very comprehensive listing of stamps on the theme of Finance & Banking. The document weighs 383 grams and at this time returning by 2nd Class would cost about £1.14. New books: *Topical Helpline* by Don Beuthel of ATA - Collecting and Exhibiting Tips, 2006 ref HB153; and *Der Musikus* supplement to postmarks (2004) on Music. In German but the postmarks are illustrated.

## ARTICLES

No.	Copies	Topic / Title	
		<b>Medicine</b>	
3			
	Wilson, T.	Women in Medicine	Stamp Magazine 4/1995
2	Wilson, T.	The Lifesavers (medical breakthroughs)	Stamp Magazine 10/2000
		<b>Motorcycles</b>	
2	Ackroyd, R.	Two-Wheeled Delivery	Topical Times 6/1995
	Chambers, E.	Motor Cycling (Manx Post Office)	Stamps 6/1982
3		<b>Music</b>	
3	Kreitzer, L.	Antonin Dvorak: A Philatelic Portrait	Stamps 8/1991
	Street, A.	Postage Stamp Opera	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 11/1984
	Van der		
3	Wait, A.	National Anthems and Postage Stamps	ThemNews 8/2004
2		<b>Navy</b>	
		Uniforms of the Napoleonic War: part 2	Stamps & Foreign Stamps 8/1984
	Lewis, B.	Attrition	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 12/1980
4	Stern, M.	Military and Naval Uniforms on Stamps	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 9/1994
	Wyatt, P.	The Royal Navy On Stamps	
2		<b>Nursing</b>	
	Cockburn,		
2	H.	The Lady With the Lamp	Topical Times 12/1996
2	Howe, J.	Nurses on Stamps	Stamp Magazine 3/1999

2		<b>Olympic Games</b>	
	Biggs, M.	The Olympic Games: a History on Stamps	Stamp Monthly 7/1984
	"Sagesse"	Olympic Games and Post-War Formosa	Stamp Magazine 1/1960
	Whitehead, A.	The Olympics Make Their Mark	Stamps 4/1991
		Olympic Stamps and notes on Haiti's issue	Stamp Magazine 9/1960
		<b>Politics and Politicians</b>	
6	Ercolini, M.	Lenin's Path to Communism	Topical Times 12/1996
1	Finlay, W.	Karl Marx in England	Stamp Magazine 10/1967
			Stamp Magazine 1 and 5/1966
2	Mackay, J.	Churchill Portraits	
1	Mackay, J.	Votes For Women	Stamp Magazine 5/1968
	Van Gelder, P.	Commonwealth Prime Ministers	Stamp Magazine 1/1988
2		<b>Rail</b>	
1	Atchison, O.	Russian Locomotives on Covers	Topical Times 6/1991
5	Downing, K.	Railways and Canals	Railway Philatelist 3/2004
2	Linecar, H.	Historic Locomotives on Stamps	Stamp Monthly 3/1982
			Gibbons Stamp Monthly 4/1984
3	Linecar, H.	British Built (engines)	
		<b>Religion</b>	
2	Mackay, J.	Martin Luther: A New Theme	Stamp Magazine 12/1967
3		Holy Father, 25 years of Pope John Paul II	Stamp Magazine 12/2003
		<b>Road Transport</b>	
	Goldsmith, B.	On the Buses	Stamp Magazine 5/2001
3		Chariots and Carriages [exhibit critique]	Topical Times 6/2005
		<b>Royalty</b>	
2	Mackay, J.	The Naked Truth (Alphonso XIII & Goya nude)	Stamp Magazine 4/2001
2	Tann, L..	European Royal Families	Stamps 4/1982
2		450th Anniversary of the Birth of Elizabeth I	Stamp Monthly 9/1993
2		<b>Scouts</b>	
3	Duck, P.	Scout Meter Slogans - USA Style	Scout and Guide 2/2004
2	Manson, T.	Canada's Earliest Scout Cancells	Scout and Guide 4/2004
		<b>Ships</b>	
	Bennett, R.	The Large Yacht Type Stamps of the German Colonies	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 11/1963
2	Bolton, P.	The Tall Ships	Stamps 8/1991
			Gibbons Stamp Monthly 6/1962
3	Wright, W.	The Blue Riband	
3		<b>Space</b>	
	Dugdale, J.	We Have Lift-Off (China)	Stamp Magazine 11/2003
3	Malcolm, D.	Dawn of the Space Age	Stamps 4/1988



3		<b>Stamps and Stamp Errors</b>	
2	Williams, LN & M	European Errors	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 2/1965
	Mackay, J.	Typewritten Stamps	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 7/1968
2	Goldsmith, B.	Inner Strength	Stamp Magazine 8/2002
3		<b>United Nations</b>	
	Dembitzer, B.	Collecting U N Stamps Is Collecting History	Stamp Monthly 10/1983
3	Mackay, J.	United Nations: stamps over 40 years	Stamp Magazine 12/1991
	Barnes, W.	Going Global: 50th anniversary of United Nations	Stamp Magazine 10/1995
3	Smithers, O.	U N : Messengers of Peace	Stamp Magazine 10/1971
4		Art & Archives [UN postal archives]	Stamp Magazine 7/2003
3		<b>United States</b>	
	Mackay, J.	George Washington (1789-97)	Stamps 2/1990
2	Paton, I.	New Sweden 1638-1655	Topical Times 10/1994
3	Schmacher, P.	U. S. Supreme Court Chief Justices	Topical Times 8/1994
1		<b>Vikings</b>	
	Duhaut, J.	Voyages and Discoveries	Log Book 5/2004
2	Last, B.	Viking Sea-Rovers	Stamps 4/1990
2		<b>Windmills</b>	
3		Windmills from Portugal	Stamps 8/1989
		Dutch Windmills [1963 Charity Set]	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 6/1963
3		<b>Women</b>	
	Mackay, J.	Votes For Women	Stamp Magazine 5/1968
2	Wilson, T.	Women in Medicine	Topical Times 10/1993
3		<b>World War I</b>	
	Mackay, J.	The Shot that Shook the World	Stamp Magazine 8/1964
1	Mackay, J.	Death of a Navy (off the Orkneys)	Stamp Magazine 6/2001
			Gibbons Stamp Monthly
1	Norris, S.	The First World War: A Philatelic Review	1,3,5/1965
	Pateman, R.	The Great War (African stop-gap overprints)	Stamp Magazine 4/1985
2		<b>Writers</b>	
3	Kafka, F.	Prague Literary Figures - Franz Kafka	Stamps 12/1991
	Leslie, P.	Charles Dickens - Collector	Stamp Magazine 1962
2	Lewy, E.	A Portrait of Anne Frank	Stamp Magazine 8/1988
2	Pike, B.	French National Pride [French authors]	Stamps 4/1989
9		<b>Zeppelins</b>	
2	Field, J.	Big is Good [Covers from Germany]	Stamp Magazine 1/1998
	Hoffman, K.	Imperial Zeppelin	Stamps 7/1988
2	Nutley, I.	Zeppelin Airmail Services to the U. S.	Philatelic Magazine 2/1977
1	Palke, K.	Zeppelins, Blimps & Hot-air Balloons	Topical Times 8/1994