

# THEMESCENE

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MARCH 2009

## THEMESCENE

Journal of the  
British Thematic Association  
which is a member of the  
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# EDITORIAL

Wendy Buckle

I am delighted to say that we have a very full and varied magazine this month, with, I hope, something for everybody. None of our UK readership, at least, can fail to be aware by now that 2009 marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin. Everyone seems to be celebrating this fact – television, museums, universities and more, and so are we, with a two part article starting on page 9.

Subjects covered in this issue range far and wide and I am pleased to welcome a number of new authors (well new to *Themescene* anyway). Rabbi Zaiden (page 17) and Owen Green (page 21) both write about specific events which feature within their wider thematic field, and perhaps there is an idea here for other potential contributors: a sharper focus for an article rather than tackle the whole thing. The story of Herbert Kappler is a good example of where thematics can become social philately, and social philately is something currently exercising the minds of your Committee. Our President has written an article (page 28) opening a discussion on the pros and cons of the BTA embracing social philately within its area of responsibility. This will be discussed at our AGM, so do please read the article, and let us know your views. We have plenty of means of doing this: you can write to or email a Committee member (see previous page), you can write to *Themescene*, or even better you can come along to our AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> July and speak in person when this item is debated.

Our other new contributor is Jim Wigmore, a name possibly already known to you as he does a sterling job as our Webmaster. Here he offers some advice on using Word to write up a collection (page 23). Many of us may already use these tools effectively, but for those unused to computers here are some good, easy to follow instructions. *And* I already have further articles from him on railways – thanks Jim. And don't forget that the website is always the most up to date source of information on meetings and events. Check out [www.brit-thematic-assoc.com](http://www.brit-thematic-assoc.com), which now has details of Midpex and Thematix.

The BTA Committee all work extremely hard, something which I hope is apparent from their own pages. And none more so than Publicity Officer Simon Moorcroft, who has put together a very useful page on the Services which the BTA offer. We hope all of you benefit from your membership, but are you fully aware of everything on offer? Have a look at page 27 and make sure you are getting your money's worth. If you know of fellow thematic collectors who are not members why not draw their attention to what we can offer. Application forms for membership are available on the website.

And on the subject of application forms, enclosed with this magazine is the entry form for competitions at Midpex this year: the Fosbery and BTA Trophies. Start thinking about these now! Competing isn't for everyone, but if you are interested this is a very good place to start.

I hope you enjoy reading this latest magazine, and if you respond to any of the advertisements included in it please make sure you mention *Themescene*: it sends the message that advertising is money well spent. ☐

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

**John Hayward**

I have recently been trying to obtain some stamps issued in 1985 by the Turks & Caicos Islands commemorating the Centenary of the Automobile as the selvedge (margins) of all the stamps in the set contains a reference to Gottlieb Daimler, one of my thematic interests. It seems that no one has the set with the selvedge and on reflection of course I should have made sure back in 1985 I bought the set with the selvedge. It started me thinking however about what is printed not just on the selvedge of stamps, but also in the gutter margins and sometimes on the back of stamps. There is so much there for the thematic collector and I do not just mean the plate or control number, printer's name or colour codings. How many of you in fact collect stamps on your theme with such markings and how did you learn of their existence?

Printing on the back of stamps started in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and I expect many of you know of the advertising underprints on GB 1d red plates and on New Zealand's early definitives. These are a very good source for thematics. In more modern times the backs of stamps have carried all manner of printing from security markings to private advertising and pictures. Some of the early self-adhesive labels display a host of thematic subjects, e.g. Tonga and Norfolk Island, and more recently several countries have been using the backs of self-adhesive labels. Gutter margins very often have words or a picture that can fit a particular theme. Not, I hasten to add, your own photograph that some Post Offices will allow! The selvedge has been used for over 100 years for advertisements, e.g. in early booklets. French booklet panes from the 20s and 30s have a profusion of alcoholic drinks and tobacco adverts. The selvedge gets more and more used these days to continue the subject of the stamps into the margin often running the width of the sheet. Such items can make a thematic collection particularly attractive and that much different. But unlike me, make sure you obtain these items when they are issued as they are bound to become elusive years later.

I was very pleased to see that 14 of our members have applied for an entry in the Thematic Class at London 2010. Most of them are seasoned veterans of exhibiting at International Exhibitions, but some are first time applicants which is a good sign that new blood is coming through from the BTA Cup and Stampex competitions to the top echelon of thematic exhibiting. I do hope they are all successful in obtaining an entry so we can show the world the strength of thematic collecting in the UK. Entries in Eurothema have also assisted in this respect as this competition gives an opportunity to those who have done well Nationally to experience the International level before going on to a full blown International Exhibition. Whilst mentioning Eurothema, we have received an invitation to participate in Eurothema 2009 to be held in Denmark in November. The BTA has accepted the invitation and the UK team of six exhibitors has been selected. I will supply more details of the team and the event in June 2009 *Themescene*.

I am also pleased to say that the date for Thematix '09, which the BTA will be supporting with a table, has now been fixed for Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at the Harlequins Rugby Club, Twickenham. So make a note of this in your diaries as this will mainly be a thematic stamp fair well worth attending on at least one of the two days.

*Continued on page 7*

# CHAIRMAN'S PAGE

**Richard Wheeler**

**W**e are now well into the New Year with a number of events to occupy our interest in the coming months. Whilst the acquisition of items for our collections can be within a modest budget, sometimes a temptation catches us off guard with a need for a deep pocket or a visit to the hole in the wall!

Our President has been working especially hard in promoting the collecting of thematics and the types of material that can be included. I do hope that many of our members in the southern counties will attend the day at Emsworth on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Those who didn't attend the day at the Royal last year missed a most informative and instructive workshop. John puts in a lot of work for the membership and should be supported. He is also heavily involved as the British Commissioner for London 2010.

Other events are detailed in your programme for 2009.

Simon, our Publicity Officer, has been putting a lot of effort into producing good publicity for the BTA and a full outline of the Members Services (page 27). Read it and make use of the many facilities available.

Please also try to introduce younger members into the enjoyment of collecting thematics with the need to tell a story.


I was looking forward to exhibiting at the American Topical Association Stamp Show at Dayton, Ohio, in June. Unfortunately a number of factors have prevailed to make my attendance out of the question. I am very disappointed. I was endeavouring to make a closer link between the BTA and the ATA. I have however written an article in their *Topical Time* magazine which is featured on their front cover for the Jan/Feb 2009 issue.

I had submitted my application together with frame fees and all was arranged. I obtained forms from British Customs and Excise and made enquiries to the American Customs who required a valuation of the exhibit and an official acceptance from the Exhibition organisers. I was advised by another collector to just put it in my case and not mention it!

However I didn't get further than this as a little medical problem intervened. Making enquiries re travel insurance I found that I would not be fully covered for America. With the costs of medical attention in the USA (and despite the fact that I feel fine), I wouldn't chance it. Re insurance of the exhibit, I was quoted a heavy excess, because it was America. No extra charge for exhibiting in Europe but America – sharp intake of breath! At this stage, and quite rightly, my wife intervened. Additionally there is a certain problem with exchange rates as you may have heard. Goodness knows what the value of the pound will be in June, let alone what it is now! The cost of visiting has virtually doubled over a couple of months.

The Organisers asked if I would send my exhibit through a carrier. After years of putting it together, I would not consider that unless it was with a British Commissioner. As I have already paid frame fees, I have offered however to have it photocopied, numbered and placed in protectors. This would not be in competition, but for display only. I have done this for a touring exhibit in the West Country and no-one queried that it was a photocopy. This arrangement has been accepted.

I was to have taken an exhibit for John Hayward, and I understand that he will now send a copy of his exhibit to display as well. So even if we are not there we will have a presence.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming months. . 

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S PAGE

## Peter Denly

Ordinary members	220
Family members	17
Junior members	5
Society members	15
Overseas members	19
Overseas Society members	1
Honorary members	4

Total number of members 281  
(At 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009)

Subscription renewal has gone well this year with very few resignations (mostly due to age unfortunately) and several new members which is very encouraging, especially as a number are downloading the form from the web site. Just over 100 subscriptions are still to come in and I have included a reminder with this magazine for those that are outstanding. If recently sent please ignore the reminder. Posting reminders would eat up the best part of £40 with the current cost of postage, so please do respond and help to save our income.

A number of members have replied to our request and have asked to have their names included on the BTA register of persons who are prepared to give philatelic displays to societies, for which we are most grateful. This will allow the Association to give a positive response to enquiries in the future. If you have never given a display, and feel that your collection is worthy of exposure to your fellows, try volunteering to do an hour for your local club one evening and see how it goes. It is surprising what pleasure comes from pointing out all those little treasures and not only where they came from, but how they enhance your display.

### **New Members joining since the December 2008 issue**

Mr. R. Akers	Stoke Bruerne
Mr. H. Edvardsen	Fredrikstad, Norway
Mr. S. Hall	Workington
Mr. I. Hobbs	Barnstaple
Mr. P. MacInnes	Culloden
Mr. S. Schardong	Portro Alegre, Brazil
Mr. J. Wigmore	Dawlish
Mr. C. Yardley	Holt, ACT Australia

### **Deaths advised since the December 2008 issue**

Nil

# PUBLICITY OFFICER'S PAGE

**Simon Moorcroft**

May I begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year. Hopefully your collections are giving you some cause for cheer, a precious commodity given the ever worsening economic news. We can take heart from the fact that the hobby appears to be flourishing, with stamps becoming a popular investment as a result of the current uncertainties in world stock markets and the banking industry.

Our first event of the year takes place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at Emsworth, Hampshire. The event is previewed on page 30. It will be an excellent and enjoyable day and the thematic workshop should be informative for all thematic collectors, particularly new collectors. Please feel free to bring guests, although if you intend to go please inform John Hayward in advance (01276 29246). Details are also available on the website [www.brit-thematic-assoc.com](http://www.brit-thematic-assoc.com). The following meeting will be a joint BTA/Postal Stationary Society meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June at Swinpex, see page 30.

The dates for ThematiX, the dealer-only show which replaces the trade element of Thematica, have been confirmed as the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June. The event will be staged at the Harlequins Rugby Ground, Twickenham. The Friends of Thematica competitions will be staged at Midpex on 11<sup>th</sup> July, where our AGM will also be held. Please make a note of these dates in your diary.

Progress is being made on the international front with planning for a number of major exhibitions progressing apace. Eurothema will be held in Roskilde, Denmark between 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November. The BTA Committee has selected a strong team to represent Great Britain. Hopefully they will be very successful. In addition, London 2010 approaches ever faster. The date for the submission of entry forms has now passed and 14 of you have decided to apply. The show, by all accounts, will not disappoint. The BTA will be holding a meeting at the event and will have a table throughout the exhibition.

On a slightly different note, there has been concern for some time about how few members use the services which the BTA provides. One problem that has been highlighted is that many members don't know what we provide or how they can access the services. Consequently I, along with Richard Wheeler and John Hayward, have produced a detailed list of the services which we provide including descriptions of the benefits they bring and how to access them. Please see page 27. These services are provided for your benefit and can be of valuable assistance to collectors of all themes, at whatever level. Please do make use of them!

I hope the next few months are philatelically rewarding! ☺

*President's Page continued from page 4*

May I close by drawing members' attention to a couple of items which appear elsewhere in this edition of *Themescene*. Firstly, the article on Social Philately where the BTA would like to hear its membership's views on whether or not we should formally embrace this area of collecting. Secondly, the Thematic Workshop at Emsworth on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009. Do come along to this event. We shall be running another Thematic Workshop in the North West in September or October 2009, details of which will be published on our website as soon as the venue has been finalised as well as in June 2009 *Themescene*. Meanwhile, enjoy your collecting. ☺

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

*From:* Professor Charles Oppenheim

Ian Paton's article "The wire that fenced the west" in *Themescene* December 2008 provided a fascinating account of the development of barbed wire in the USA. If anyone wishes to do research in this intriguing subject, I strongly recommend a book not mentioned by Mr. Paton in his bibliography, namely *Early United States Barbed Wire Patents* by the aptly named Jesse James, published in 1966. Though now out of print, the British Library in London has a copy available for reference.

*From:* Mrs Joyce Boyer

I read with interest Barry Floyd's report on WIPA08; yes I was there, and noted his comments on the number of GB entries. I understand that WIPA was heavily oversubscribed and that just over one third of the GB entries were accepted.

I wonder if the lack of entries was because of the format of the frames, 3 rows of 4 instead of the 4 x 4 we are used to and overall 84 pages instead of 80. With my airmail entry this meant adding a further four pages to the Harrogate exhibit. There is also a problem in that the position of pages change - that good item in the centre of frame 2, say page 22 or 23, ends up at the bottom of the frame. Trying to fit in the extra pages but avoiding having a new section starting in the wrong place was not easy. If my entry is accepted for London 2010 I will have to remove these extra pages so another re-organisation of pages will be needed.

Although there were less classes at PRAGA 2008 the previous week this could also have reduced the number of people entering WIPA especially for the classes shown there.

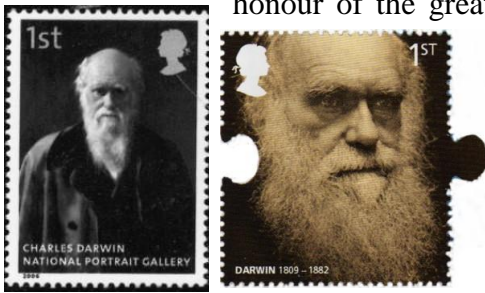
## Advertisement for Thames Themes



# CHARLES DARWIN: AN ANNIVERSARY ESSAY

*Barry Floyd gives a philatelic perspective to the great man*

The year 2009 marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Charles Robert Darwin (Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1809) and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of his seminal work *On The Origin of Species* (Nov 24<sup>th</sup> 1859). Celebratory events worldwide are taking place in honour of the great scientist. New issues of commemorative stamps are also planned.



There are a huge number of online resources and innumerable publications about Charles Darwin and evolutionary theory. A small selection of books was sampled by the present writer, and are shown in endnotes and further references at the conclusion to this essay. The intention is to offer a literary and philatelic focus upon the life and times of this

outstanding scholar.

Darwin stands as “a towering figure in the history of science, who changed the direction of modern thought by establishing the basis of evolutionary biology. [His] letters offer a fascinating window into his daily experience, the scientific observations, personal concerns and friendships, affording a unique glimpse of Darwin as both naturalist and family man.” (1).

Charles probably began writing letters at an early age. Born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, the fifth child of a successful provincial physician and his cultured family, he attended Shrewsbury School as a boarder at the age of nine, although Dr Butler’s great school was hardly more than a mile away from the family front door. Little notes to his beloved father would have been written from time to time.

At 16 Charles left school. “I was for my age neither high nor low in it; and I believe that I was considered by all my masters and by my Father as a very ordinary boy, rather below the common standard in intellect.” (2). His father decided to take him away from school at an earlier age than usual and to send him to join his older brother, Erasmus, at Edinburgh University.

Charles’ letter writing was now to become more substantive and frequent. Henceforth, written communications with family, friends, academic colleagues and a wide group of correspondents were to become a major feature of the young man’s links with society at large.

His stay in Scotland, where he commenced studying medicine, was to be short-lived. Any interest he may have had in a medical career evaporated when he witnessed, and fled from, two badly performed operations, without chloroform. He also found lectures as distasteful as the practical demonstrations. “After having spent two sessions in Edinburgh, my father perceived or he heard from my sisters, that I did not like the thought of being a physician, so he proposed that I should become a clergyman.”

The decision made, Charles entered Christ’s College, Cambridge University early in 1828, aged 19. There he met his second cousin William Darwin Fox, who introduced him to entomology. An interest in natural history, which had in fact begun in Edinburgh, was now to develop. He was expected to be familiar with *Natural Theology*, one of the most influential books of the age, but his exposure to religious studies was heavily diluted through an active social life, horse riding, convivial eating and drinking, and card playing. It appears that

Charles was no more enamoured of becoming a clergyman than he had been of becoming a doctor.

Early in his university career, Charles made the acquaintance of the Rev. John Henslow, the Professor of Botany, who saw something exceptional in the young man. It was a case of hero worship on Darwin's part. Personal tuition enabled Charles to score well in his final examinations. In addition to promoting a keen interest in botany, Prof. Henslow also encouraged him to study geology.

Meanwhile Charles embarked on a personal reading programme, in the course of which he reviewed two works that would profoundly influence the course of his life, filling him with an ambition to make his own contribution to scientific knowledge. He was greatly excited by the seven volumes of *Personal Narrative*, an account by the great German explorer and geographer Alexander Von Humboldt of his travels over five years in South America. The second inspirational work was by an astronomer John Herschel *Preliminary Discourse on the Study of Natural Philosophy*.

After graduating with a B.A. degree, in 1831, and preparing for a geological excursion to Wales in the summer, Charles wrote to Henslow on July 11<sup>th</sup>

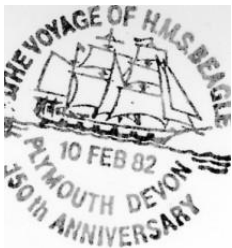
"My dear Sir ... I suspect the first expedition I take, clinometer & hammer in hand, will send me back very little wiser & good deal more puzzled than when I started -- As yet I have only indulged in hypotheses: but they are such powerful ones, that I suppose, if they were put into action but for one day, the world would come to an end.... Yours ever most sincerely, Chas. Darwin".

It was Prof. Henslow who recommended Darwin for the post of naturalist and companion to Captain Robert Fitzroy, on an Admiralty survey of the coastlines of South America. Charles was naturally thrilled at the prospect but his father raised objections, only to be overcome when Uncle Joseph Wedgewood supported his nephew's venture. Charles wrote to his father:

"My dear father, I am afraid I am going to make you again very uncomfortable. But on consideration, I think you will excuse me once again stating my opinions on the offer of the Voyage -- My excuse & reason is the different way all the Wedgewoods view the subject from what you & my sisters do. I must again state I cannot think it would unfit me hereafter for a steady life - I do hope this letter will not give you much uneasiness - I send it by the Car [Carriage] tomorrow morning if you make up your mind directly will you send me an answer on the following day, by the same means. Believe me my dear Father, Your affectionate son, Charles Darwin."

Paternal approval was a great relief to Charles. From his early childhood days, in fact, when he had read another boy's copy of *The Wonders of the World*, he had wanted to travel to faraway places. "Now he was being offered a chance to emulate his hero Humboldt, combining exotic travel with scientific discovery. If it was a choice between a country parsonage and a round-the-world trip as a naturalist, there was no contest." (3)

### **The Voyage of H.M.S. Beagle (1831 -36)**



A special cancellation from Plymouth, Devon, the departure port for the *Beagle* expedition, was created to mark the voyage's 150th anniversary. The expedition to the New World was originally scheduled to spend a year or two charting the coastal waters of South America. In the event, the *Beagle* was gone for almost five years and circumnavigated the world. Four of those years were spent on the east and west coasts of South America. Charles was able to leave the vessel for extended periods on the

mainland, there to carry out geological, botanical and zoological surveys. Returning home westwards, across the Pacific and Indian oceans, he was able to observe the natural history of

different continents and islands, accumulating on the way an impressive selection of living organisms and fossils. His enthusiastic collection of specimens was to match those of his august predecessor, Sir Joseph Banks, who had accompanied Captain James Cook on a global expedition some 65 years earlier. Aboard the *Beagle* was a 1773 copy of Cook's first voyage and Darwin's diary contains several references to the achievements of the great mariner. Over the course of five years, Charles Darwin wrote very many letters home, to Prof. Henslow and other Cambridge scholars, to his family and to friends. In an early letter to his father, sent via a homeward bound vessel from Bahia, Brazil, Charles wrote of his impressions of Cape Verde:

“Nobody but a person fond of Nat. History, can imagine the pleasure of strolling under Cocoa nuts in a thicket of Bananas & Coffee plants, & endless numbers of wild flowers....this island has given me so much instruction and delight...I find my collections are increasing wonderfully.”

From Argentina, mid-1832, Charles sent letters to Henslow, referring to the Tropics as “the magic line” of all Naturalists, and declaring further that “the delight of sitting on a decaying trunk amidst the quiet gloom of the forest is unspeakable and never to be forgotten.”

Before doubling Cape Horn, *H.M.S. Beagle* twice visited the Falkland Islands. These remote British possessions, together with several other countries touched upon during the epic voyage, issued commemorative stamps to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the expedition. The Falklands stamps offer a head-and-shoulders image of Darwin in mid-life, 5p; an illustration of a microscope such as Darwin used for studying rock, plant and animal specimens, 17p; a Falkland Island's wolf, 25p; and a view of *H.M.S. Beagle*, 34p.



From the west coast of South America, in April 1835, Charles wrote to his older sister Susan:

“I returned a week ago from my excursion across the Andes ... Since leaving England I have never made so successful a journey ... it is something more than enjoyment: I cannot express the delight which I felt at such a famous winding up of all my geology in S. America - I literally could hardly sleep at night for thinking over my days work -- the scenery was so new and majestic ... I am getting ready my last Cargo of Specimens to send to England; this last trip has added half a mule's load; for without plenty of proof I do not expect a word of what I have written about to be believed.”

In September and October 1835 the expedition ventured from volcanic island to island in the Galapagos Archipelago, located in the Pacific Ocean, 600 miles west of Ecuador. Darwin was



intrigued to observe how land animals and plants had, in isolation, developed into new species. The significance of these changes only became clear to the scientist after he had returned home and begun formulating his theory of natural selection or ‘the survival of the fittest.’

Two Galapagos stamps feature a map of the islands, S/1.80c, and a giant tortoise, S/4. 20c.

To mark the centenary year of Darwin's death (1982), Royal Mail issued four stamps, created by David Gentleman, one of Britain's leading designers, shown here on a First Day Cover. With Charles' elderly face in the background, and signature above, giant short- and long-

necked tortoises are shown, 15½p (the word ‘Galapagos’ means tortoise), also land and marine iguanas, 19½p, and differently beaked finches 26p. The high value 29p stamp depicts prehistoric skulls, observed elsewhere in South America.



A Millennium series stamp (1999), one of four of the ‘Scientists’ Tale,’ marked Darwin’s theory of evolution with a large ground finch perched on a fossilized skeleton, 26p.

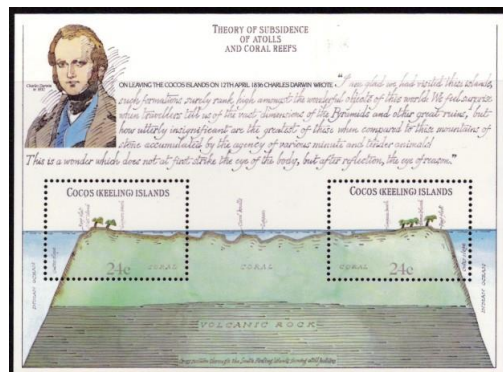


Sailing westwards across the Pacific, the *Beagle* had short stopovers in Tahiti, New Zealand and Australia (November 1835 - March 1836). While not visited by Darwin, the island state of Nauru commemorated the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the voyage with an issue of two stamps. A profile of the

luxuriously bearded Charles - in old age - is viewing a contemporary microscope as used by the scientist.

Eventually, the *Beagle* reached the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in the Indian Ocean. It was here that Charles’ research, linking geological and biological phenomena, laid the foundations for all modern theories on the formation of coral reefs.

The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the voyage was marked by three stamps and a miniature sheet. The 24c stamp shows two species of coral: *Pachyseris speciosa* and *Heliofungia actiniformis*. The 45c stamp pictures Darwin at the age of 44 and the coral *Pavona cactus*. The 60c issue features H.M.S. *Beagle* and the coral *Lobophyllia hemprichii*. The M.S., entitled ‘Theory of Subsidence of Atolls and Coral Reefs’, contains two 24c stamps showing cross-sections of West Island and Home Island.



Leaving the Cocos, the *Beagle* set off on a 3,000 mile non-stop journey across the Indian Ocean. Captain Fitzroy, Darwin and crew would not have viewed a series of islands known today as the British Indian Ocean Territory; however this has not deterred B.I.O.T from recently issuing four attractive stamps commemorating the 125<sup>th</sup>

anniversary of the death of Charles Darwin. Two 54p stamps feature H.M.S. *Beagle* and Darwin against a tropical shoreline. Two 90p stamps have underwater scenes of turtles and a flourishing coral reef.

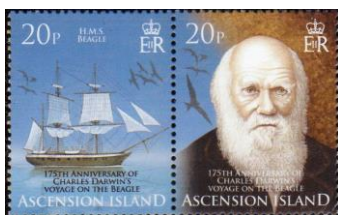
The next landing was at Mauritius, where more commemorative stamps on the occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Darwin's voyage were issued in 1982. The 25c issue depicts a bowler-hatted and smocked Charles, as he might appear back home in the grounds of Down House; the R 2.00 stamp illustrates a telescope such as Darwin would have used to observe landscapes and distant objects; the R.2.50 stamp features the young scientist experiencing an elephant ride; the high-value R10.00 issue shows H.M.S. *Beagle* careened for repairs.



After Capetown, on the last leg of the journey home via the Atlantic, there were visits in July 1836 to the British-ruled islands of St. Helena and Ascension. 'The Voyage of Darwin' is commemorated by four stamps from the South Atlantic isle. The 7p issue shows Charles at the age of 31 (the 1840 image is from a chalk and water-colour drawing of the young scientist by George Richmond). The 14p stamp illustrates Darwin's geological hammer which he would have wielded enthusiastically in order to obtain his numerous rock specimens. It is set against the backdrop of precipitous Flagstaff Hill on St. Helena. The 25p stamp depicts common and ring-necked pheasants; while the 29p issue shows the *Beagle* lying offshore from the steep and rugged coastline of the island.



The *Beagle* captain Robert Fitzroy and his vessel appear on another St. Helena stamp, issued four years later, in 1886. It was one of a series of 13 stamps honouring maritime explorers; it included six other British sailors. Proceeding northwards, Ascension Island has marked Darwin's visit with several philatelic issues. Shown here is an attractive pair of stamps commemorating the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Darwin's voyage on the *Beagle*.



### The Return Home

Charles's letter writing continued unabated once he was back in England. After reaching Shrewsbury and the excitement of a fond reunion with his father and sisters, he found time - in those days before the telephone and mobile phones - to pen a few lines to his old tutor: "My dear Henslow, I do long to see you; you have been the kindest friend to me that ever man possessed. I can write no more, for I am giddy with joy and confusion..."

To his uncle Josiah Wedgwood, whose influence had swung the argument on that fateful day five years earlier, Charles wrote:

“My head is quite confused with so much delight, but I cannot allow my sisters to tell you first how happy I am to see all my dear friends again. I am obliged to return in three or four days to London when the *Beagle* will be paid off, and then I shall pay Shrewsbury a longer visit. I am most anxious once again to see Maer [the Wedgwood residence] and all its inhabitants. I hope in person to thank you, as being my First Lord of the Admiralty. I am so very happy I hardly know what I am writing”.

### **Post - Excursion Research & Publications**

The years following Darwin's return home were devoted to writing up the results of the *Beagle's* expedition. After a short stay back in Cambridge, Charles involved himself in the scientific life of London. In 1837 he presented 80 preserved mammals and 450 stuffed birds to the Zoological Society. After delivering a paper on South American geomorphology to the Geological Society, he was elected to its Council.

His first book, *Journal of Researches*, set a standard for travel books for many years. It was followed by three volumes on the geology of the voyage and, later, by a series of nineteen monographs covering the zoology of the excursion. While preparing these studies for publication, Darwin was to reflect on his observations and discoveries, trying to make sense of all that he had seen. Questions began to form in his mind. “They were questions as exciting as they were unsettling; but they were questions he was careful to keep to himself. As the specialists began to pronounce on his specimens, these questions became more insistent.” (4) He spent the summer of 1837 in a fever of speculation. At the age of 28 Darwin was gathering his thoughts on the subject of species and their origins: “proudly, secretly, [he] claimed his intellectual inheritance.” In the years ahead his hypotheses and theories were to come together to form the most profound contribution to science in the mid-nineteenth century: *The Origin of Species by means of natural selection, or the preservation of favoured races in the struggle for life*.

Regrettably, Charles' hectic scientific activity led to a deterioration in health. His doctors - including his father - urged him to give up writing entirely for a while and to get out of town. Fortunately he was able to recover from these early bouts of gastro-intestinal sickness and to resume his scholarly endeavours. By 1846 Charles had published over 25 scientific papers and had been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. “the prodigious quantities of work produced during these years was achieved despite several periods of an illness that was to plague Darwin for most of his life. None of his many physicians ever found the cause and no treatment provided more than temporary alleviation.” (5). A modern diagnosis might have identified an ulcerated gut, diverticulitis, or a gall-bladder problem.

Charles led a financially-secure life, thanks to generous support from his successful physician father, who had made shrewd investments in shares, stocks, trusts and real estate. This allowed his increasingly famous son to contemplate marriage, after somewhat amusingly addressing himself to the arguments for and against the state of matrimony. In the event he proposed to his childhood friend and cousin, Emma Wedgwood, daughter of his ever-supportive Uncle Jos. Later in life, Darwin was to follow his father's financial prowess with substantial and lucrative investments of his own.

Charles and Emma were to have a long and successful marriage, which resulted in ten children, seven of whom survived to adult life. For a frequently ailing father, this may be accounted a further success on the part of our by-now distinguished scientist.

They lived at first in London and then moved to the quiet village of Downe in Kent, near enough to the attractions of the metropolis but a world way from its problems. They also acquired more room for their growing family and servants. The old vicarage, renamed Down House, was to receive visits from many famous scholars of the day, among them his mentor Prof. Henslow; another botanist Joseph Hooker; his entomologist cousin the Rev. William



Fox; the geologist Charles Lyell, and Thomas Huxley, a talented anatomist (nicknamed ‘Darwin’s bulldog’ for his committed defence of the older man’s theory). When well, Charles was able to attend meetings of the Royal Society, the Linnaean Society, the Royal Geographical Society and other academic institutions in nearby London. It was in Down House that the majority of Darwin’s books and papers

were written.

Continuing his systematic enquiries, Darwin read - originally for amusement - a book which was to have a significant influence on his work: *Essay on the Principle of Population* by Thomas Malthus, an economic and sociologist.

“...being well prepared to appreciate the struggle for existence which everywhere goes on from long-continued observation of the habits of animals and plants, it at once struck me that under these circumstances favourable variations would tend to be preserved and unfavourable ones to be destroyed. The result of this would be the formation of a new species. Here then I had at last got a theory by which to work” (6). ☐

### Endnotes

- (1) Burkhardt, F., Ed.(1998) *Charles Darwin’s Letters. A Selection 1825 - 1859* (Cambridge Univ. Press) preface.
- (2) Kinley, J., Ed. (1974) *Charles Darwin and T.H. Huxley. Autobiographies.* (O.U.P.), p. 12.
- (3) Aydon, C. (2008) *A Brief Guide to Charles Darwin. His Life and Times* (Constable & Robinson), p. 41.
- (4) Ibid., p.119.
- (5) *Charles Darwin’s Letters...* p. xxii.
- (6) *Charles Darwin..... Autobiographies,* p. 71.

*To be completed in June 2009 Themescene*

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# HERBERT KAPPLER: A STORY OF A NAZI CRIME

*Rabbi Zaiden traces the history of a War Crimes prisoner*

One of the areas which I collect is stamps and postal history dealing with the Holocaust. I recently acquired a 1963 cover from former SS Col and Gestapo Chief in Rome, Herbert Kappler, sentenced to life imprisonment by the War Crimes Tribunal and held at Gaeta, Italy.

The allies had discussed the idea of punishing war criminals in 1943 when USA President Franklin D Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin signed the Moscow Declaration. In it they promised to hold military leaders, political officials, industrialists and financiers responsible for any atrocities that they had committed during World War II. There were a series of trials between 1945 and 1949; the most famous were the Nuremberg Trials.



On the cover is typed *Posta di Prigionieri di Guerra Kriegsgefangenenpost* (Prisoner of War Post). There is a cachet *RECLUSORIO MILITARE — GAETA COMANDO* (which I believe is the military commander of the prison.) and then his signature. There is also the Postmark of *GAETA LATINA* dated 3.8.63.

Herbert Kappler was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1907 in Stuttgart, Germany and was an *SS-Obersturmbannführer* of Nazi Germany. Kappler was posted to Rome in 1939 as head of the *Sicherheitsdienst* and throughout

the war years he cooperated closely with the Fascist police. Following the Armistice between Italy and the Allied Forces on 8<sup>th</sup> September 1943 he acquired considerable power as German forces took control of the Italian capital.

*Reverse:*

Kappler, Reclusorio Militare, Gaeta (Latina)

He helped to organize the rescue of Benito Mussolini by SS commandos.

He planned and executed the deportation of about ten thousand Jews of Rome after the extortion of their gold. During the night of 15<sup>th</sup> October 1943 the *Aktion* started and 1259 Jews were arrested. On October 18<sup>th</sup>, 1007 were sent to Auschwitz; only about 10 came back alive. In early 1944 he was made head of the Gestapo in Rome.

On the afternoon of 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1944, Italian partisans killed 33 Germans with a bomb on Via Rasella in Rome. Hitler was furious, demanding that the entire neighbourhood be destroyed and the population sent to labour camps. After some negotiations, Field Marshall

Kesselring ordered that ten Italians be killed for each German. Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Kappler drew up the list of “death candidates.” During the night of 23-24 March 1944, Kappler, assisted by Roman police Chief Pietro Caruso, placed the names of 335 men on the list of death (five more than the order has demanded), including 75 Jews. One of the questions posed is why the fate of 75 Jews scheduled to be deported to Auschwitz ended at Fosse Ardeatine with their Christian neighbours? The victims were already incarcerated at the SS headquarters on Via Tasso and at the notorious Regina Coeli prison; none had participated in the Via Rasella attack.

On the afternoon of 24<sup>th</sup> March 1944 trucks drove the men to the Fosse Ardeatine, a network of tufa caves off the Appia Antica, where the victims were shot in the back of the head. The youngest, Duilio Cibeï, a carpenter’s apprentice was 15; the oldest Mos Di Consiglio, 74, was one of six men of the Di Consiglio family massacred. The list of victims was held and checked by Erick Priebke who executed two men himself. At the end of the task, the entrance to the caves was dynamited. When the city was liberated in June, the Allies were conducted to the site and the gruesome process of recovering and identifying the bodies was undertaken by Professor Attilio Ascarelli of the University of Rome.

Arrested by British forces in 1944, Kappler was turned over to Italian authorities in 1947 and the following year was tried by an Italian military tribunal and sentenced to life imprisonment in the military prison of Gaeta. Terminally ill with cancer he was moved to a prison hospital in Rome in 1976. Appeals to release him were denied by the Italian government.

His wife, Anneliese Kappler, a nurse who had carried on a lengthy correspondence with Kappler before marrying him in a prison wedding in 1972, had become a frequent and familiar visitor. Because of Kappler’s deteriorating condition and her nursing skills, she had been allowed almost unlimited access to him. On a prison visit in August 1977, she carried him out in a large suitcase - he weighed less than 48 kg (105 pounds) - to West Germany, assisted by apparently unwitting carabinieri.

The Italians unsuccessfully demanded that he be returned. West Germany did not prosecute him for his crimes, reportedly due to ill health. Kappler died in 1978 at home in Soltau, aged 70.

Kappler featured in various films and plays. In the 1973 film *Massacre in Rome* Kappler was portrayed by Richard Burton. In the 1983 TV movie *The Scarlet and the Black* Kappler was portrayed by Christopher Plummer. The BBC Radio 4 play *The Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican* dramatised his post-war friendship with Monsignor Hugh O’Flaherty (a Vatican priest who had reputedly been targeted for assassination) together with his attempts to seek asylum in the Vatican. Under O’Flaherty’s influence Kappler became a Catholic. ☐

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*Time magazine* 1978 coverage of escape.

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The Simon Wiesenthal Centre

Nuremberg Trials

Encyclopaedia Judaica

*This article is dedicated to Brian Sole, in thanks for all the help and support he has shown the author over the years.*

# NEW ISSUES

*The stamps below are reproduced with the kind assistance of the CASCO Philatelic Services*



Collectors of the astronomy theme are in for rich pickings this year since that will be the subject of the 2009 Europa stamp issue. This was agreed following a request from the International Astronomical Union's Commission for the History of Astronomy, which will in 2009 be celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Galileo's first telescopic observatory, and which the United Nations has declared International Year of Astronomy. Jersey Post issued four stamps on 10<sup>th</sup> February. Put together as a block the centrepiece becomes the planet Jupiter and its

four satellites Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto, which were discovered by Galileo. Also featured are the constellations Ursa Major, Cassiopeia, Boötes, Corona Borealis, Cygnus, Pegasus, Perseus and Orion. Embossing has been used in order to give the stamps a "twinkling star" effect.

# CENTENARY+1 OF THE TUNGUSKA (CENTRAL SIBERIA) FIREBALL

*Owen R. Green investigates an astronomical mystery*

**A**t precisely 0014 hours GMT on June 30 2008 the centenary of arguably the least understood astronomical event of the 20th century will be marked. At 7.14 am local time on the morning of June 30 1908, a bright pillar of fire travelling from south-southeast to north-northwest was seen in the sky of the Central Siberian Plateau near the Stony Tunguska River. At an estimated height of between 5 to 10 kilometres above the ground an airborne explosion of an object estimated to be the size of a 15-story building occurred. The epicentre was situated at latitude  $60^{\circ} 55''$  N, longitude  $101^{\circ} 57''$  E (1).

The energy of the blast has been estimated at between 10 to 20 megatons (explosive energy is measured in kilotons or megatons. 1 kiloton = 1,000 tonnes and 1 megaton = 1 million tonnes of high explosive TNT. The energy released from the Hiroshima atomic bomb was equivalent to 15 kilotons, while the Russians tested the largest hydrogen bomb ever: 58 megatons. When the 21 fragments of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 crashed into Jupiter during July 1994 the explosive energy released was equivalent to 40 million megatons Ref. 1), creating a shockwave that levelled  $2150 \text{ km}^2$  (approximately  $800 \text{ miles}^2$ ) of the Siberian taiga, of which about  $200 \text{ km}^2$  had been burnt uniformly and continuously by a heat wave (trees in forest fires are usually burnt only on the lower part of their trunks). Bright lights in the sky were evident over 700 km away, while dust or icy clouds in the stratosphere caused bright nights seen in parts of Europe including the UK, and Asia, which lasted for many nights.

The first scientist to study the effects of Tunguska event and visit the site was Leonid Alekseyevich Kulik (31.08.1883 to 14.04.1942). Kulik led four scientific expeditions to the site between 1927 and 1939. A planned fifth expedition in 1940 was cancelled because of the outbreak of the Second World War (the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union), and while serving as a volunteer with the Moscow Peoples Militia Kulik was wounded and captured by the advancing German Army in October 1941. He was held in the town of Spas-Demensk, approximately 300 km southwest of Moscow, and while working as a nurse in a prisoner-of-war hospital contracted typhus and died on 14 April 1942. He is buried in a local cemetery, in a grave marked by a simple memorial erected by the Russian Academy of Sciences in 1960. The scientific reports from Kulik's early expeditions were the first to reach the scientific community in the west, and the coincidence of the date of the event, the vivid sunsets reported by both the Edinburgh and Royal Observatory at Greenwich, and six microbarograph readings from different locations within the UK was realised.

To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tunguska fireball the Soviet Union issued a 40 kopeck stamp on August 12 1958. The multicoloured stamp (SG 2231) was designed by A. Zavyalov, and illustrates the fireball exploding over the Siberian forest on the left-hand side, with a lilac sepia toned portrait of the first Tunguska researcher Kulik on the right. The portrait is taken from an official photograph in the collection of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Printing was by the lithograph technique (2).

The stamp was issued during the post-Stalinist era when the Soviet Union was regularly depicting anniversaries of both local and international cultural and scientific personalities. The USSR was the first country to publish a stamp (designer Ye. Gundobin, SG 2001) with a portrait of the Scottish poet Robert Burns on 27 August 1956, marking the 160<sup>th</sup> year of his death, and on February 5 1959 produced a stamp (designer N. Kruglov, SG 2306) with a

portrait of the British naturalist Charles Darwin commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> year of his birth. Both of these stamps were printed using the photogravure method (2)



**Figure 1.** Issued in 1958 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the fall of the Tunguska fireball over the Siberian Taiga. Stamp details: issue description: 40k, multicoloured, sepia-claret, L. Kulik, meteorist; perforations: 12:12.5; print run: 1000; catalogue numbers: Michel: 2109; Scott: 2088; Stanley Gibbons: 2231.

The lack of an impact crater under the epicentre, and recovery of any large meteorite fragments has continually puzzled researchers of the event. Microscopic particles enriched in iridium (a metal of rare natural occurrence on earth) of extra-terrestrial origin have been discovered near the site of the explosion and in ice-cores from the Antarctica (3).

Although there have been over 100 published theories attempting to explain the Tunguska event (1, 4, 5), a comet that disintegrated in the atmosphere, and a stony asteroid exploding in mid-air are the two considered most likely by scientists. The gaseous comet theory dates from 1934, and has been expanded upon from a gaseous cloud hypothesis to the dirty snowball model proposed by the American astronomer Fred Whipple during the late 1950s. However, in recent years the meteorite theory has regained scientific favour with the understanding that the object might have been a stony meteorite as opposed to one of iron-nickel composition, disintegrating upon explosion several kilometres above the ground, and generating the shockwave that flattened the Siberian forest.

Supercomputer 3-D modelling by Mark Boslough of the Sandia National Laboratory in New Mexico (6) demonstrates that the explosion began 12 km above the surface, and that the shockwave from the midair explosion generated hurricane force winds 15.5 seconds later.

The unsettling thought: objects of this size are predicted to strike planet earth every few centuries. ☐

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# USING THE COMPUTER TO WRITE UP DISPLAYS OR A COLLECTION

*Jim Wigmore offers some advice for those unsure of the capabilities of Word*

**F**or many years the Computer has been available to write up either our displays or collections but few are proficient in this task. The aim of this article is to help overcome this issue and give all who have access to a computer enough information to be an able user and make the best possible use of this very useful tool.

This process is for users who have MS Word installed on their computers. The following assumes a basic knowledge of the computer and familiarity with its accessories such as the mouse.

In starting such a task careful preparation is the key.

## **Plan the work and work to the plan**

If you are writing up a display keep all the pages in the same folder. If you are writing up a collection you may wish to divide the collection into defined groups of pages and hold in separate folders.

## **Your First Task**

Define where you are going to place your finished work.

The suggested holding space is in the area called **My Documents** in a folder called **Write Ups**, you may even wish to create other folders within Write Ups for specific works. To create the folder Write Ups, select the START button in the bottom left-hand area of your screen, then My Documents in the menu shown, then create a new folder using the on-screen instructions. A new folder will appear with the name highlighted: delete the name and enter the name Write Ups, with the mouse left click away from the new folder, your new folder should remain with the name you have just given it. To add additional folders within Write Ups, follow the above procedure until you have all the folders you are going to need.

## **Task Two**

Create a blank page with all the key features you will use throughout.

With your mouse select the START button in the lower left-hand area of the screen and from the menu offered select MS Word. A blank document will be showing. This needs to be prepared for your use.

You will need to ensure you have certain toolbars available for use: go to the View button (*near the top LH corner of the screen*) and in the drop down menu select Toolbars. Ensure the following toolbars are ticked, STANDARD, FORMATTING, DRAWING and REVIEWING.

Select the View button again and select Print Layout if this is not the current default.

Select the View button again and select Header/Footer, close the displayed box. Your displayed page will now show the areas at the top and bottom of the page where the header and footer would appear.

Select the File button (*near the top LH corner of the screen*), select Page Layout and you will see this has three options: Margins, Paper and Layout. Select Margins and set the Top, Bottom, Left and Right margins to the smallest size your printer can work with, probably in the order of ½ inch or 12 mm depending upon the grid your computer is set to. Select Paper and select A4 or the size of paper you intend to work with.

If the Office Outline box is showing down the RH side of your screen, close it by left clicking with your mouse on the X in the top right corner to close it. Your page will now occupy the full screen width and will appear as it will be printed.

The final part of this task is to set the text you will be using. In the top toolbar you will see a box defining the text, with the size box to the right; to the left is another box defining the text format being used. Set format box to Normal (*using the on-screen down arrow*) and then scroll down with the mouse and select Normal, Set the text box to the type of text you will be using e.g. Arial, Times New Roman, etc. using the same principle, set the size of text to a nominal value e.g. 10 point.

You have now created your Basic Page. This page should be saved to your Write Ups folder as follows: select the File button, select Save As, direct the page you are saving to My Documents/Write Ups and save as file name "basicpage"

You now have a basic page that contains all your settings and font you intend to use throughout your write ups, this page can be selected and used many times in the creation of your subsequent write ups for display or your collection.

### **Actually Writing Up a Page**

In order to get the most from the computer and obtain both an eye catching and effective way of displaying your philatelic material or telling your story, you will need to master a few key skills.

These skills can be summarised as:-

Page Layout.

Inserting Shapes.

Inserting Graphics.

Inserting Text.

Saving your Work.

Each is a relatively simple task once the rudimentary skills are appreciated and an understanding has been gained into what can be achieved.

### **Page Layout**

The most important task of all is to plan what you wish to include on a page and to understand how it can be placed and moved around to get the layout and effect you wish to create. Remember nearly all is possible, providing what you are trying to get on the page is not larger than the page itself. Understanding the following techniques will help in this process.

### **Inserting Shapes**

Every stamp, cover, or piece of postal history has a shape; those shapes are squares, rectangles, circles or triangular. We can position shapes on our page to both accept our item and enhance its appearance on the page while at the same time matching the shape size to our item. In order to do this we need to become familiar with the AutoShapes toolbar which should be positioned at the lower edge of your screen (*providing you have carried out task 2 successfully*).

To insert a shape on the page, select in the page with your mouse, then click on the desired shape on the AutoShape toolbar and insert it on the page. The page will display a box with the title "Create your drawing here", **DO NOT INSERT YOUR SHAPE IN THIS AREA**, insert the shape away from this area, otherwise your shape will be locked and unable to be adjusted and moved around the page later.

Click on the Shape you have inserted and Right Click; from the Drop Down menu select Format Auto Shape. You will now have a box displayed that will allow you to set the properties of the shape.





Select the Layout tab and select the Square shape; select the Advanced setting and confirm the Square setting is still selected, if not re-select, click OK.

Select the Size tab, measure your item and set the height and width dimensions to your required size (*for borders you may need to add 2mm*).

Select the Colors & Lines tab; at the Style box set the line style to solid and the width you wish to use (*suggest 4pt*), now select Color from the menu and select the colour you wish to use (*25% Grey is an effective and neutral setting*).

You can now select your shape and move it around the page and position it at will.

If you are using further examples of the same shape, select the shape with the mouse, then select the Edit button top left on the screen and from the drop down menu select Copy. Select back in the page, then once again select the Edit button and from the menu select Paste. A copy of your shape will be inserted for you to pick up and position on the page. This process can be repeated as many times as you like until you have all the copies you require. You can also draw lines such as that shown below; don't forget to change the properties.

### Inserting Graphics

The ability to incorporate a scanned image is very useful and can be carried out as follows. You need to know where your scanned image is being held on your computer and its file name.

Click on the page and then click the Insert button on the top toolbar and select Picture on the drop down menu, select From File on the second drop down menu. Navigate to the folder where your image is held and select it, then click on the Insert button.



Select the picture using right click and select Format Picture. Select the Layout tab and select the Square shape, select the Advanced setting and confirm the Square setting is still selected, if not re-select, click OK. You will now be able to move your picture around the page and alter the size by selecting one corner and adjusting the size to your requirements.

### Inserting Text

The ability to insert text and control its appearance and where it is placed is perhaps one of the most difficult of all to master, but once mastered becomes very simple. There are two ways in which text can be inserted: directly onto the page or using text boxes.

Directly onto the page would be used for Page Titles and introduction text. Start at the top of the page and insert the text you require, move any graphics or pictures into this area and the text will auto wrap around (providing you have set the parameters according to the rules above).

As most of the text will be associated with either the graphic boxes or shapes, the use of Text Boxes will be more efficient and easier to control and manage.

This is some text inserted so you can see what it looks like justified left only.

This is more text that has been justified left and right, it looks better.

To insert a text box go to the AutoShapes menu and select the text box symbol. Right click on the text box and select Format Text Box from the drop down menu. Select the Layout tab and select the "In line with text"

This is some text inserted so you can see what it looks like justified left only.

This is more text that has been justified left and right, it looks better.

**Note – NO BOX**

symbol; select the Advanced setting and select the Square setting, click OK. You will now have a box like that shown above left. Select Format Text Box this time, select Colors & Lines go to Color and select No Line, select OK and the box will appear as that above right.

It is still in a text box and you can still move around the page like all the other images. One more trick to learn is text justification. To justify text highlight the text you wish to justify and then select one of the options in the top menu bar, left, centre or justified left and right. The use of font size, colour and weight are also useful tools to master. Font can be changed in size by highlighting and then adjusting the size using the font size down arrow, while highlighted, font can be made **bold** by selecting the **BOLD Button** next to the font size box and colour can be altered by selecting the down arrow next to the large **A** at the top RH of the menu bar.

You may for instance wish to draw attention to your *research by using a different colour or italics*. Note how this information immediately stands out.

### **Save your Work**

Care should be taken when saving your work, as you will be working initially with your “basicpage”, you will need to save your new page with a different name. You will need to select a naming policy that will allow you to keep your pages in the correct sequence and make finding them again simple. If you have set up the folders as suggested at the beginning the naming of pages can be as “Page001, Page002, etc.”, DO NOT MAKE THE MISTAKE OF STARTING AT 1, 2, 3 etc., if your total number of pages exceeds 10 your pages will be stored based upon the first digit and they will be stored out of sequence.

To store your new page select the File button and select Save As in the drop down menu, define the file you wish the page to be stored in and alter the file name to your new page title, then press OK.

### **Summary**

The above skills need to be worked through several times; experiment as you go, you will become more confident with each success. It is important to be disciplined in your planning and work, diligence pays dividends. I have learnt through experimentation, you can start your learning process based upon the knowledge I am now passing on.

I am aware that others may adopt other principles even using a spreadsheet such as MS Excel. If you can get good results using simple tools such as MS Word why complicate the situation. I am a firm believer in the KISS principle (*Keep It Simple Stupid*). Advanced users may already be familiar with many of the points identified, there are however many more skills that can be added. I feel sure that once you have mastered the above, your own lateral thinking will allow you to work out some of the other things that can be achieved.

**GOOD LUCK IN PRODUCING YOUR WRITE UPS –  
MAY THEY CONTINUE TO IMPROVE**

# MEMBERS SERVICES

*These are Here for YOU!!*

**M**embership of the BTA brings many benefits. In addition to the wide variety of events and meetings held each year, a number of useful services are provided to all members, including the young. Details of these services are set out below, and contact details are given on page 2.

## **A Comprehensive Thematic Library**

The BTA retains a comprehensive library containing a wide selection of books, pamphlets, monographs and articles relating to a wide range of thematic exhibits. The librarian is able to provide members with a full listing, which is up-dated regularly and printed in *Themescene* magazine. On application items may be borrowed or where appropriate photo-copied for reference purposes. Contact the Librarian.

## **American Topical Association**

The BTA is affiliated to the ATA with the result that it is able to provide access to the ATA's comprehensive listings and publications relating to thematic collecting. The subject lists may be viewed on the BTA website [www.brit-thematic-assoc.com](http://www.brit-thematic-assoc.com) and BTA members may purchase copies at a special rate through the appropriate representative. Contact Ronald Hyams.

## **Contact with Other Members**

From our database records, the Membership Secretary is able to arrange for members with similar collecting interests to contact each other. This is a valuable asset allowing an exchange of ideas, material and advice. Contact the Membership Secretary.

## **Advice for Collectors and Exhibitors**

Thematic exhibiting, whilst rewarding, can be taxing, especially in the early stages. Amongst its membership the BTA has a number of very experienced exhibitors and thematic judges. They are always happy to offer help and advice about entering thematic competitions and preparing exhibits, at all levels. Contact John Hayward.

## **Events and Meetings**

A varied programme of events, meetings and workshops is organised each year, with details published in advance in the printed Programme, *Themescene* and on the website. Meetings are held around the country, sometimes at major stamp exhibitions. Frequently, speakers are invited to provide displays made up from their own collections. Of special value are the workshops designed to benefit members at all stages of collecting including those wishing to go on to competitive exhibiting.

## **The Themescene Magazine**

As you are aware, *Themescene*, our quarterly publication, is a specialist thematic magazine. Not only does it provide a useful source of information on the activities of the BTA and what is happening in the wider hobby, it also features superb articles on a whole range of thematic subjects. If you feel you would like to contribute to this well produced magazine, please contact the Editor who is always keen to receive articles, especially from new contributors.

These services are provided for you!

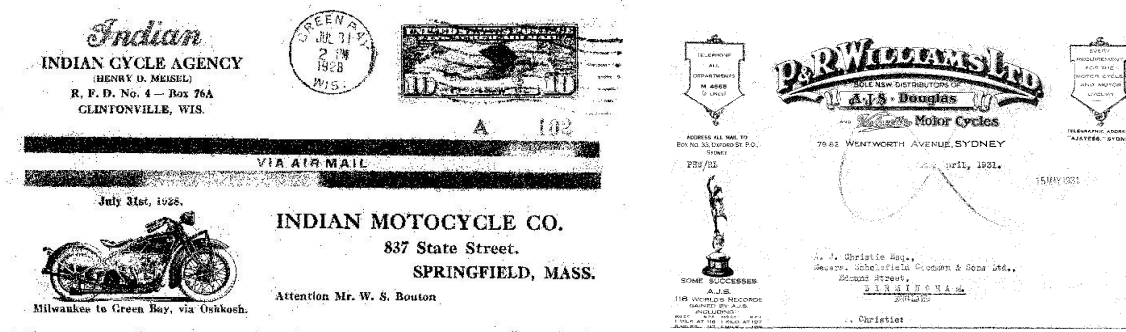
Please make use of them!! ☰

# SOCIAL PHILATELY

*The BTA Committee seeks its members views on whether the BTA should adopt responsibility for Social Philately. John Hayward outlines the case*

**B**ack in 2000 and 2001 your Committee gave serious consideration to adopting social philately as one of its responsibilities. At the 2001 AGM it was decided to wait and see how this then new branch of philately developed before reaching any definite conclusions as to what the BTA should do. In recent months your Committee has once again been considering, with the growth in social philately, whether it might now be the time to take social philately on board as well as thematic philately. There are various factors that either favour or do not favour the BTA adopting social philately. So the object of this article is to set out all the factors of which the BTA is aware, both pro and con, with a view to sounding out our members and encouraging them through letters to *Themescene* or to Committee members, through conversations with Committee members, and/or via debate at our next AGM, on whether or not the BTA should formally adopt social philately as part of its responsibilities.

Hopefully a definition of social philately will assist to start with. Social philately represents a study of the development of social systems and products derived from the operation of postal systems. It aims to present an historical story or illustrate the relevance or impact of the postal system within society. It embraces material which can be included in other classes of philately as well as non-philatelic items which are directly related to the operations and products of a postal system, either as post office equipment or as material developed by commerce to use or reflect post office services and products. So, you can tell the story of the development of a town or country by not just using stamps, but also by letters, envelopes and documents (see below items which relate to the development of the Motor-Cycle Industry).



Social philately has grown considerably in the last 10 years and its recognition has been borne out increasingly with displays within many philatelic societies and via competitions at local, national and international level. At international level it has been accepted that the Postal History Class should be sub-divided into three; one sub-class of which includes social philately under "Historical, social and special studies" in recognition of its growth – "social historical philately" as it is generally known. This includes exhibits which examine postal history in the broader sense and the interaction of commerce and society with the postal systems. The Open Class also includes social philately. The Fosbery Trophy competition at Thematica is a good example of this. These moves suggest that this growing element of philately needs a proper roof over its head at national level. So, should the BTA provide that roof?

Members may well ask why the BTA should adopt social philately, as many of us already include social material in our thematic collections, e.g. postcards, privately illustrated envelopes, ephemera etc. After all you can collect anything you like on your own theme. This is perfectly true, but if you enter a thematic competition then rules come into play and they only allow material which has been produced by Post Offices worldwide, and therefore certain social material cannot be exhibited except in a social philately or a postal history exhibit. It is in this formal area of social philately that no particular philatelic body in the UK holds sway. There is not, for instance, a British Social Philatelic Society, like there is a Postal History Society, or a Postal Stationery Society or even the British Thematic Association, representing their spheres of philately. So, should there be one; and because the BTA's members collect social material, why should not the BTA represent social philately in the UK? After all, the BTA represents thematic philately, the next closest thing to social philately. So, should the BTA extend itself and fill this present gap in UK philately?

Members should note that one of the BTA's affiliated societies, the West of England Thematic Society (WETS), has recently taken social philately on board. This move was generated by its own members frequently asking questions about the non-philatelic material they collected on their theme not being acceptable under the rules, which paradoxically it is, because there are no rules about what you can collect thematically. Rules only apply if you are exhibiting. WETS see this move as an attraction for recruiting new members. They have even dedicated one of their meetings next year to social philately. As mentioned at our AGM last June the BTA feels that embracing social philately would attract social collectors. It could mitigate the falling numbers of current members and provide a more effective way of attracting non-collectors. Should we not present the BTA as a Society for both thematic and social philately?

It may be that any decision by the BTA to adopt social philately should be deferred once again to wait and see how social philately develops further at national and international levels. The drawback to such a decision though would be if in the meantime a national representative society/body was established to look after the interests of social philately and its collectors. The opportunity would then be lost.

If the BTA were to take social philately on board then its title might need to be changed and its Constitution need to be amended, as this clearly states under "Aims & Objects" that the BTA is "to promote, encourage and assist the study and development of thematic philately...", also "to encourage the formation of new specialist thematic Societies..." and "to organise from time to time thematic exhibitions and meetings". Such amendments could only be effected at our AGM or at an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.

What do you, our members, think? Your views on all these aspects would be greatly appreciated, so your Committee would like feedback through the columns of *Themescene* or via correspondence and conversations with Committee Members. The Committee looks forward to hearing from as many of you as possible so we can debate the matter at our AGM in July. ☐

# BTA NEWS

## **MEMBERS' MEETING & THEMATIC WORKSHOP 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2009**

Waterside United Reformed Church Hall, Bath Road, Emsworth, Hants PO10 7EP (a location map may be found on the BTA website).

Members are reminded of the Thematic Workshop being run by the BTA and Hampshire Philatelic Federation on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009 at the above venue, details of which are on our website and appeared in *Themescene* December 2008 at page 152. The meeting starts at 1030am with members displays of 12 sheets from their latest acquisitions and includes a guest speaker, David Hunter, with a Thematic Miscellany, and a workshop on starting and building a thematic collection.

Make sure you come along to a most enjoyable day and let John Hayward know beforehand that you are coming (Tel 01276 29246 or email at [ssasman@btinternet.com](mailto:ssasman@btinternet.com)).

## **MEMBERS' MEETING SWINPEX 13th JUNE 2009**

St Joseph's Roman Catholic College, Ocotol Way, Swindon SW3 SLR.

The BTA will be holding a joint Members' Meeting with the Postal Stationery Society at the above venue on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 2pm. The meeting will afford BTA members the opportunity to display pages from their thematic collections showing postal stationery from all over the world. Members of the Postal Stationery Society will likewise be displaying worldwide postal stationery with a thematic content.

All members are welcome to attend this meeting and please bring with you 12 pages of thematic postal stationery and be prepared to talk on them for around 2 minutes. This gives members an opportunity to display the many forms of postal stationery including all those wonderful illustrations and advertisements. The Stamp Fair is worth attending too!

DO YOU KNOW SOMEBODY

*INTERESTED IN THEMATIC COLLECTING?*

*WOULD THEY LIKE TO JOIN A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO KNOW ABOUT  
THEMATIC COLLECTING? IF SO, WHY NOT TELL THEM ABOUT THE...*

BRITISH THEMATIC ASSOCIATION?

# HERE AND THERE

## NORTH EAST PHILATELIC WEEKEND

The 33<sup>rd</sup> North East Philatelic Weekend will be held at the Swallow Hotel, Gateshead, from 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May; this year hosted in the Ravensworth Suite, a better conference facility than previous years. Total cost of the Weekend is £170, with a deposit of £25 per person. This includes Sunday lunch and all leisure facilities. There is no additional cost for single rooms. A set dinner menu will be organised for Friday and Saturday, but special dietary needs will be catered for. A finger buffet will be held on the Saturday lunchtime.

Non-collectors may wish to visit the Millennium Bridge, the Baltic Gallery of Contemporary Art or, for some serious retail therapy, the Metro Centre.

### Programme

#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

1845	Dinner	
2015	Jean Osborne	Medicinal plants

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

0915	Geoff Reynolds	Zeppelins
	Coffee	
1100	Peter Pugh	On the Edge of the Empire (The Treaty Port System of China)
1600	Tea	
1630	Weekenders	Shotgun Philately – these interest me*
1845	Pre-banquet drinks	
1915	Banquet, with Mayor of Gateshead	
2200	Raffle	

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May

0915	Stephen Holder	Syria and Lebanon
	Coffee	
1115	John Sussex	Fun in the Isle of Man



\* Guests are invited to bring up to 10 pages from their own collection and say a few words about them.

Booking forms and further details about the weekend can be obtained from:

Miss Val Beeken, 162 Canterbury Road, Newton Hall Estate, Durham, DH1 5XT. Telephone 0191-3851931

# **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, 35 – 50*

*Rathbone Place, London, W1T 1HQ*



# GROUP NEWS

## ALBA STAMP GROUP



There was a good attendance of 21 members for the last meeting of the year. It was a members' afternoon and 12 displayed sheets on our topic: "E is for ...". We had, for example, Education (Scottish schools), Edinburgh (unusual philatelic items), Lord Elgin, Exhibitions (Glasgow 2000), Engineering (Scottish bridges).

## MASONIC PHILATELIC CLUB

At the AGM held at the Masonic Home, Oadby on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008 the members present heard that the Club finances and membership numbers remain in a healthy condition. As a result, our quarterly magazine, which receives praise from members and outsiders for its interesting contents and layout, is to be improved even further with the addition of a coloured centrespread.

The next interim meetings will be held at Colchester on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2009, (1.00pm-4.00pm) and Oadby on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009 (11.00am – 3.00pm). The date for the 2009 AGM is Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> October (11.00am-3.00pm) again at the Masonic Home, Oadby. Prospective members (who must be Freemasons of a Constitution recognised by the UGL of England) should visit the website, [www.masonicphilatelicclub.org.uk](http://www.masonicphilatelicclub.org.uk) or contact Maurice Beazley, 216 West Dyke Road, Redcar, N. Yorks, TS10 4JS [mandmb@ntlworld.com](mailto:mandmb@ntlworld.com)

## Advertisement for C. G. I. Services

# GROUP MEMBERS

## Alba Stamp Group

Stanley Brown, 14 Buchan Drive, Perth, PH1 1NQ. Tel: 01738 628818

## Bicycle Stamps Club

Mr. Tony Teideman, PO Box 90, Baulkham Hills, NSW 1755, Australia.

Web: <http://www.members.tripod.com/~bicyclestamps/>

## Bird Stamp Society

Mr Graham Horsman, 23a East Main Street, Blackburn, West Lothian, EH47 7QR

Tel: 01291 625412. Web: <http://www.bird-stamps.org/bss.htm>

## Captain Cook Society

Mr Alwyn Peel, 13 Cowdry Close, Thornhill, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire,

WF12 0LW. Tel: 01924505724. Web: <http://www.captaincooksociety.com/ccsu1.htm>

## Concorde Study Circle

Mr Brian Asquith, Alandale, Radcliffe Gardens, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey,  
SM5 4PQ. Tel: 020 6643 3926

## Glasgow Thematic Society

Miss Margaret M H Lyth, 26 Gardenside Street, Uddingston, Glasgow, G71 7BY,

Tel: 01698 812536

## Guild of St. Gabriel

Rev. David Hague, 15 Northcote Road, Croydon, CR0 2HX.

Tel: 020 8664 9850.

## Masonic Philatelic Club

Mr. M. H. Beazley, 216 West Dyke Road, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 4JS.

Tel: 01642 472133. Web: <http://www.masonicphilatelicclub.org.uk/>

## Medical Philately Study Group

Dr Stuart Menzies, 32 King Edward Road, Tynemouth, North Shields. Tyne & Wear.  
NE30 2RP.

## North East England Thematic Group

Mr. D. Graham, 6 Autumn Close, Washington Village, Tyne & Wear, NE38 7JZ

Tel: 0191 417 5351

## Scout and Guide Stamp Club

Mr. Graham Osborne, 3 Camberry Close, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 3AG.

Tel: 01256 328831. Web: <http://www.sgsc.org.uk/index.shtml>

## Ship Stamp Society

Mr. Tommy Broadley, 10 Heyes Drive, Lymm, Cheshire, WA13 0PB.

Tel: 01925 75 8435. Web: [http://www.chez.com/philateliemarine/phil\\_mar\\_e/SSS.htm](http://www.chez.com/philateliemarine/phil_mar_e/SSS.htm)

## West of England Thematic Society

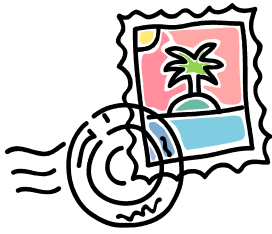
Gary Green, 3 Arch Cottages, Gestridge Road, Kingsteignton, Devon TQ12 3HA.

Tel: 01626 336603. Web: <http://www.wessexpf.org.uk/WETS/>

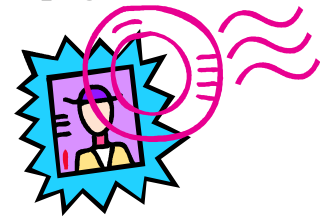
# Just4kids

(Themescene Juniors)

(Adult readers - please photocopy these two pages  
and pass them on to a youngster)



## COLLECTING A - Z!



What's your favourite theme?

Why not have a go at collecting it in alphabetic order?

Collecting themes on stamps using alphabetic (A – Z) order can be great fun. All you have to do is think of your favourite theme, and see if you can find one stamp for each letter. Here are a few ideas

### BIRDS

find a stamp showing an Albatross, a Blackbird, a Chaffinch etc.



### DOGS

such as Alsatian, Bichon-Frise, Corgi etc.



### FAMOUS PEOPLE

This is a good one to choose, as there are lots of stamps available with famous people on, and you can choose either their first name or their surname.



### SPORTS

such as Athletics, Bowling, Cricket etc.

### COUNTRIES

such as Australia, Belgium, Canada etc.



### FLOWERS

such as Anemone, Bluebell, Carnation etc.

It's great fun, especially with the letters near the end of the alphabet, so it is the sort of collection that could take you many months to complete – even years!

You could even have several alphabet collections going at the same time.

(Continued on next page)



## Are you a member of Junior Raflet?

This is another junior stamp club you could join, and you will receive a magazine with a junior collector's section inside. In every issue, the Junior Raflet section deals with a different letter of the alphabet and all the stamp collecting things beginning with that letter. If you are interested in joining, contact;  
***Junior Raflet, 38 Glenview Drive, Falkirk, Stirlingshire FK1 5JU***

### ??????? QUIZ ???????

**HAVE A GO AT THIS QUIZ,  
THERE'S A GREAT PRIZE FOR THE JUNIOR WINNER!**  
(address to send the answers is at the bottom of the page)

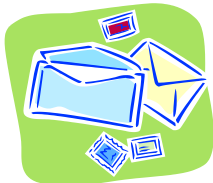
1. *A bird beginning with O*
2. *A dog beginning with L*
3. *A famous person beginning with E*
4. *A sport beginning with F*
5. *A country beginning with G*
6. *A flower beginning with D*



### JOKE TIME

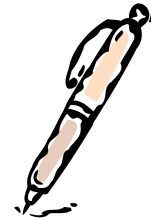
**Did you hear about the dog who ate garlic?  
His bark was worse than his bite!!**

***TRY THIS GREAT STAMP WEBSITE***  
(Check with your parent first)  
**[www.planetstamp.co.uk](http://www.planetstamp.co.uk)**



### ***WRITE TO US!***

***Send all your jokes, poems, drawings and letters to;  
Just4Kids, c/o The Editor, Themescene,  
87 Victoria Road, Bournemouth, BH1 4RS***



**A PRIZE WILL BE SENT TO EVERYONE WHO WRITES TO US**

# LIBRARY LISTING

**P**lease send the librarian a stamped and self addressed envelope when requesting a list of articles on the topic(s) of your choice. N.B. Copies cost 10p each plus adequate return postage.

The Librarian recommends you phone him asking how best to proceed and say if you prefer to make your own copies.

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. 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 s.a.e. to the librarian.

## Books

Medical                      Wilson, T. Health & Medicine on Stamps [to 1997]

## Articles

No.

Copies

Topic / Title

### Animals

- |   |   |                            |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Kangaroo stamps will keep you hopping       | Scott Stamp Monthly 9/2006 |
| 2 | Lera, T. Bat Operas [Musical Bats]          | Topical Times 8/07         |
| 2 | Oliver, R. The Rhinoceros, Unicorn of Fable | ThemNews 10/2006           |

### Architecture

- |   |  |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|
| 2 | Lowe, M. Swiss Architectural Monuments | Stamp Magazine 2/1979  |
| 4 | Yandell, L. Romanesque Architecture    | Gabriel Feb-April 2007 |

### Art

- |   |  |                            |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| 1 | Tauber, L. Cezanne: card players and bathers<br>Where East Meets West [Japanese Art] | Scott Stamp Monthly 3/2007 |
| 2 | K. F. C. Graphic Art on Japanese Stamps  | Philatelic Magazine 9/1980 |
| 3 | Dawes, L. Graphic Art on Japanese Stamps   | Stamp Magazine 8/1973      |

### Aviation

- |   |                                    |                       |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 | Farrar, W. Aviation Workhorses     | Topical Times 8/2007  |
| 5 | Gelms, G. World War One Aviation   | Topical Times 10/2007 |
| 3 | Gelms, G. Aviation in World War II | Topical Times 2/2007  |

### Banking

- |   |                             |                       |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 | Brown. T. A Banking Account | Stamp Magazine 4/1973 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|

### Battleships

- |   |                         |                          |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5 | Harm, R. The Battleship | ThemNews 10/2005; 6/2006 |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|

	<b>Bicycles</b>	
5	Norby, T.	The Story about the Terms SPIFS & PERFIN Bicycle Stamps 8/06
1	Reijbroek, P.	Perfins and bicycles Bicycle Stamps 8/06
	<b>Birds</b>	
2	Carstens, C.	Owls ThemNews 6/2007
3	Burrows, G.	Vultures: Critically Endangered ThemNews 6/2006
3	Burrows, G.	Penguins (Spheniscidae) ThemNews 4/2006
3	Lanspeary, P.	Flightless Birds on Stamps Gibbons S.Monthly 2/2005
3	Lanspeary, P.	Birds of the Mediterranean Stamp Magazine 5/1977
3	Lanspeary, P.	Strange Birds Stamp & Coin Mart 10/1989
3	Lanspeary, P.	Feeding the Birds Gibbons S. Monthly 10/2007
	Taylor, R.	Penguins of the Artic Gibbons S. Monthly 3/07
	<b>Bridges</b>	
5	Breckon, R.	Australia's 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge Stamps Gibbons Stamp Monthly
	<b>Castles</b>	
2		Castles of San Marino Gabriel 4/2007
	<b>Charity stamps</b>	
3	Klug, J.	Pacific area stamps raise money for charity Scott Stamp Monthly 10/2006
	<b>Chocolate</b>	
2	Rose, A.	More Than A Treat ThemNews 10/2007
	<b>Cinema</b>	
1	Moor, C.	Centenary of Cinema Stamps were a N Z First Gibbons Stamp Monthly 3/2007 Indian Thematic Society 12/2007
3	Shimla, J.	Sachin Deb Burman (composer) 12/2007
	<b>Coins and Banknotes</b>	
8	Adcock, R.	Coins and Medals on Stamps Stamp Lover 4/1985, 10/1985
	<b>Communication and Writing</b>	
2	Wheatsone, C.	Cyber Heroes of the Past ThemNews 12/2006
3	Vegter, W.	Cyber Heroes of the Past: Siemens ThemNews 12/2006
2	Vegter, W.	Cyber Heroes of the Past: Baudot ThemNews 6/2007 The Art of Writing: A Monk's Job Gabriel 4/2007
	<b>Cricket</b>	
3	De Kierk, A.	The Ashes Cricket Series ThemNews 6/2007
2	Whittle, C.	World Cup Cricket ThemNews 4/2007
4	Jennings, P.	The Cricket World Cup 2007 Gibbons S. Monthly 4/2007
2	Mackay, J.	It Isn't Cricket Gibbons S. Monthly 5/2007
	<b>Dance</b>	
2	De Luca, V.	Tarantella Folk Dance Topical Times 2/2007

	<b>Defences</b>	
2	The Great Wall of China	ThemNews 6/2007
2	De Luca, V. Black Walls of Diyarbakir	Topical Times 8/2007
	<b>Dogs</b>	
1	Irish Guide Dogs	Medi Theme 8/2006
	<b>Engineering</b>	
2	Mackay, J. Colossus of roads [Thomas Telford]	Stamp Magazine 9/2007
	<b>Evolution</b>	
3	Whittle, C. Of Man, Apes & The Beagle	ThemNews 2/2007
2	The First Toolmakers	Philatelic Magazine 2/1982
	<b>Fashion</b>	
2	Baird, J. Famed Former Fashions	Topical Times 2/2007
	<b>Fishes</b>	
2	Whittle, C. White Death [Sharks]	ThemNews 10/2007
3	Whittle, C. Old Fourlegs' - coelacanth	ThemNews 10/2007
	<b>Flowers and Plants</b>	
1	Poinsettias enhance your holiday collection	Scott Stamp Monthly 12/2005
2	Saundry, R. Slipper Orchids	Stamp Lover 12/96
3	Wilson, T. Plant Essences	Stamp & Coin Mart 6/1992
	<b>Freemasonry</b>	
1	Masonic Astronauts	Masonic Phil. Club 2006
	<b>Glass</b>	
5	Finlay, W. Stained Glass on Stamps	Stamp Magazine 6/1973
	<b>History</b>	
3	De Luca, V. Spartacus: Revolt of the Gladiators	Topical Times 6/2007
2	Doherty, J. The Siege of Mafeking	Stamp Magazine 1/1973
	<b>Insects and Butterflies</b>	
1	Kachan, V. Butterflies of Nabokov	Topical Times 12/2005
2	Whittle, C. Insects	ThemNews 8/2007
	<b>Kites</b>	
3	Soper, B. Colourful kites soar on Asian stamps	Scott Stamp Monthly 5/2006
	<b>Lifeboats</b>	
3	Foy, K. A Life Saving Legacy [The work of the RNLI]	Gibbons Stamp Monthly 4/2007
	<b>Literature</b>	
3	Piyaseela, M. The Literature of Sri Lanka	Philatelic Magazine 7/1980
3	Dugdale, J. Entertaining Children (English Literature)	Topical Times 6/2007
2	Dugdale, J. Tragedies of Shakespeare [part 3]	Topical Times 10/2007
	<b>Medals</b>	
8	Adcock, R. Coins and Medals on Stamps	Stamp Lover 4/1985, 10/1985
	<b>Medicine and Nursing</b>	
3	Gordon, B. Collecting a Medical Theme	Stamp Collecting 4/1982

2	Leonard, A.	Blindness and Philately	Philatelic Magazine 8/1979
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