

The WESSEX BULLETIN

Journal of the Wessex Philatelic Federation

Visit our website at www.wessexpf.org.uk

2015/01

Points of Contact – Editor - Tony Smith email tonysmith1938@sky.com
Secretary - Sally Ellam martin.sally101@btinternet.com

IN THIS ISSUE – Wessex Bulletin by eMail, Wessex Federation Website, Dates for Your Diary, All Club Calendar, Around the Clubs, End of the War in the Crimea, Britains Railway Evolution – The Carriage & Wagon Builder. Happy New Year to all our readers.

WESSEX BULLETIN by email – Requests to be included on the circulation list should go to our webmaster Jim Wigmore at wessexweb@talktalk.net please include your full name, club and the email address your Bulletin is to be sent to.

Please Note this is a totally secure process – *Your email address will remain secure, each copy will reach you on a personal basis without disclosing your email address to the other recipients.*

A number of our new readers have sent request for copies of earlier bulletins – PLEASE NOTE THESE CAN BE FOUND AND DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEBSITE – see the Publications Page.

WESSEX FEDERATION WEBSITE at www.wessexpf.org.uk – **OUR WEBSITE IS YOUR SHOP WINDOW** – Secretaries please ensure the details about your club are fresh and up to date contact our webmaster Jim Wigmore at wessexweb@talktalk.net with your current club details and programme. **The federation can only publish that which you provide.**

It would be a real asset to clubs to report their meetings, especially the details of displays and have those reports included on their web pages. Thank you to those clubs that have submitted reports see below.

Apologies to all our members for the disruption in the availability of our website. We noticed at the end of September that our website was suddenly no longer available on the web. Attempts were made to contact our hosting service Yourhost, who do not have a telephone contact only email. All our emails went un-answered. As a direct result of this a letter was written to Yourhost with the threat of action being taken against them via the Small Claims Court. Our website was immediately restored. A full investigation by me into the cause resulted in establishing that I had overlooked a payment request for lease of our Domain Name.

To prevent such actions happening again, I have taken full responsibility with the Domain Agency Nominet, thus cutting out any third party involvement. I have also transferred the website to a different hosting provider Easyspace, who does have telephone and email support.

The above has not been an easy process and has involved some short loss of service. The result is a far more robust arrangement where any problems that may arise in the future can be speedily resolved.

Our website now appears in many more of the searches carried out due to some adjustments that have been made in the META names on many more of our website pages.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring Stampex 2015 - 18 Feb 2015 - 21 Feb 2015 Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, London N1 0QH. (Nearest tube: The Angel on the Northern Line)

Spring Stampex featuring the Great Britain Philatelic Society

5th September 2015 – DAWLISH STAMP CLUBS ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held in The Strand Centre Dawlish – more details in future Bulletins. We hope to have dealer presence, offer good catering, and be able to show the lots for the October Auction. Wessex Federation 2015 Competition Entries will be on display – More details in next Bulletin

WESSEX FEDERATION COMMITTEE MEETING DATES for 2015 - 25th April, 11th August, 26th September (to include the AGM) all clubs are entitled to send two representatives. All meetings at the URC Exeter starting at 11.00 am.

CLUB SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE – If you have events that you need to advertise make sure you draw attention to them here.

ALL CLUB CALENDAR

Date	Meeting Description	Speaker	Club
06/01/2015	Germany	Ron Burridge	Dartmouth Stamp Club
07/01/2015	Members 8 sheets Q-T		Exmouth Stamp Club
07/01/2015	Auction - Up to 15 lots per member		Plymouth Philatelic Society
08/01/2015	A Tour Around North Devon Pt2	Pat Grimwood-Taylor	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
12/01/2015	The Winter Olympics	Gary Green	Brixham Stamp Club
13/01/2015	Members 10 mins. in the Spotlight		Minehead & District Stamp Club
14/01/2015	Chairman's Evening		Dawlish Stamp Club
21/01/2015	Gems from Gerald	Gerald Smith	Exmouth Stamp Club
22/01/2015	Eight Sheet Competition plus Bring & Buy		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
28/01/2015	Members Postcards		Liskeard Stamp Club
03/02/2015	Sacket Cup and Perring Cup	Judge TBA	Dartmouth Stamp Club
04/02/2015	Quiz/Swaps	Mike Donaghue	Exmouth Stamp Club
04/02/2015	The Plymouth Post & Go issues	Derek Ashton	Plymouth Philatelic Society
05/02/2015	Philip Milton Entertains	Philip Milton	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
09/02/2015	John Entertains	John Dain	Brixham Stamp Club
10/02/2015	Wessex Roadshow		Minehead & District Stamp Club
11/02/2015	Annual General Meeting & Members recent acquisitions		Dawlish Stamp Club
18/02/2015	Members Displays	Roger Smaldon & Barbara Rogers	Exmouth Stamp Club
19/02/2015	Members Evening plus Bring & Buy		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
25/02/2015	The Worlds First Stamps	Bryon Short	Liskeard Stamp Club
03/03/2015	An Evening with Jan and Brian	Jan Cowling & Brian Harvey	Dartmouth Stamp Club
04/03/2015	Club Auction		Exmouth Stamp Club
04/03/2015	Czechoslovakia	B. Hart	Plymouth Philatelic Society
05/03/2015	Wessex Roadshow		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
09/03/2015	Visit by Torquay & Teignbridge Club & Penny Fun Auction		Brixham Stamp Club
10/03/2015	Members Night, Ephemera Plus.		Minehead & District Stamp Club
11/03/2015	Bourse + View the Spring Auction Lots		Dawlish Stamp Club
18/03/2015	Ionian Islands 1815 - Date	Richard Stroud	Exmouth Stamp Club
19/03/2015	The Occupation of the Channel Islands	Mike Tooley	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
25/03/2015	War in the Pacific	Peter Chantry	Liskeard Stamp Club

CLUB SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE – if your meetings are not being shown above, it is because you have not sent details of your future meetings to the Wessex Webmaster, contact details above.

Good programmes and good speakers do attract visitors.

It is particularly important to tell us about exhibitions and fairs, plus joint meetings being held by clubs. If all this information is displayed on the federation website it does get noticed.

AROUND THE CLUBS

DAWLISH STAMP CLUB – Held their Autumn Auction on October 8th 2014 which attracted a lot of interest by means of postal bids and room bidders from as far afield as Axminster & Sidmouth along with members from Exmouth, Torquay & Teignbridge, and the former Exeter Club. Bidding was very lively with approx 60% of over 300 lots sold. Look out for the Auction List of the next Auction in April 2015. November 12th 2014 was a Members Night when everyone had an opportunity to show of their special interest. Displays given went from the pure joy of Collecting a wide range of Philatelic Material, plating early GB stamps and collecting stamps with corner letters reflecting the collectors name, a specialised look at the Refugee Stamps of Cyprus highlighting some of the many flaws that exist in these stamps, and finally at look at Motorcycle Speedway which attracted a lot of interest.

December 10th was the clubs Christmas Social Evening which gives the members an opportunity to thank partners for their support throughout the year. A single sheet display by members on the theme of Christmas, judged by the guests was won by Sheila Wain. A fine spread was arranged by club Chairman

Dave Chattock. Dave also set a quiz for the members who were divided into teams of (4), the winning team consisted of Jim & Vicki Wigmore plus Doris Chattock. Everyone had a very pleasant evening. The club welcomes visitors at its meetings in the Mayors Parlour at The Manor House Dawlish on the second Wednesday of each month. Further details from Secretary Jim Wigmore phone 01626 864844.

LAUNCESTON STAMP CLUB In lieu of their regular monthly meeting The Club hosted the Cornish Philatelic Federation's AGM and Stamp Quiz Final on 9th October 2014 at the Eagle House Hotel. The AGM was followed by the final of the Federation Quiz, the competing Clubs from the qualifying round were: Falmouth, Newquay and St. Austell. As one of the teams of finalists were unable to attend the Quizmaster invited an ad hoc entry and three members of the Launceston Club formed a team and joined the competition. The winners St Austell were presented with the silver trophy by Quizmaster and Federation Chairman Neil Sargent. The winning team members were Martin Hopkinson, Roger Keys and Brenda Howell. Well done St Austell.

The Club held their regular monthly meeting at the Eagle House Hotel, Launceston on 13th November 2014. Jim Fisher was trader for the evening offering a range of stamps, traditional postcards and photographs of West Country scenes which attracted considerable interest.

The evening's speaker, Diane Lawer, who presented her collection of Postcard's entitled "Seaside Memories". The presentation, by means of PowerPoint & Projector, commenced with an explanation of how seaside holidays became popular with the advent of the railways making it possible for everyone to visit the traditional seaside towns. The railways were represented with posters from the "Golden Age" of steam travel including a postcard of a train steaming along the South Devon coast near Dawlish. We were then amused with a number of traditional "saucy" holiday cards enriched with some of the comments Diane had received from her previous audiences! The display continued with a study of the various aspects of the seaside town of Blackpool with its tower and donkey rides, Scarborough and local beaches including Whitsand Bay, Torquay and Paignton. There were cards of bandstands, piers and promenades and, of course, the holiday favourites - Punch & Judy. We were treated to Diane donning the outfit of a Pierrot- a clown type costume in white with black buttons.

On behalf of the Club, Chairman Jim Sowden, presented Diane with a Certificate of Appreciation and thanked her for a most interesting evening.

The Club held its regular monthly meeting at the Eagle House Hotel, Launceston on 11th December 2014. Traders for the evening were Viv and Evelyn Sandercock who were kept busy offering a wide range of stamps and covers.

This was the Chairman's Evening (Jim Sowden) who gave a presentation entitled an "Act of Union". Jim explained the reference to the Union related to the uniting of the former states, provinces and colonial territories of Australia, Canada and South Africa into individual self-governing nations within the British Empire as it was then known. The presentation took the form of annotated displays of stamps from the individual states or colonies of each of the three countries. These were generally from the Victorian era prior to union and followed by the initial issues of each Dominion. The presentation comprised some 60 sheets totalling 300 stamps in all.

Jim prefaced each country's display with a brief history of the process by which the various colonies or states effectively achieved their Union and subsequent independence:-

Australia – the Commonwealth of Australia dates from 1901 when six colonies, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania federated to form Australia. In 1907 it became a Dominion within the British Empire. In 1911 responsibility for the Northern Territory passed from South Australia to the Commonwealth government and NT was given self- government in 1978. In the 1998 Referendum the NT narrowly voted down the offer of statehood and remains a Territory rather than a State within the Australian Commonwealth.

Canada –the creation of the Dominion of Canada started in 1840 when the upper and lower colonies of British North America, Ontario and Quebec, agreed to form the colony of Canada. In 1867 Nova Scotia and New Brunswick joined the new colony under the terms of the Constitution Act. By 1873 they had been joined by Manitoba, North West Territories, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island. The Yukon Territory joined in 1898 with Saskatchewan and Alberta following in 1905 and finally Newfoundland as late as 1949. Of interest is that of the twelve original provinces only six issued their own stamps.

South Africa – the union of the colonies of South Africa came into being in 1910 following the Boer Wars when Cape Colony, Natal, Transvaal and Orange River State joined together as a Dominion of the British Empire.

On behalf of the Club, Des Kent, presented the Chairman with a Certificate of Appreciation and thanked him for a most interesting evening.

Visitors and prospective members are always welcome at meetings which will now be held at the Launceston branch of the Royal British Legion (Edymead House) on the second Thursday of each month. For further information contact Secretary, Evelyn Sandercock (01566 772846),

**WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE REPORTS FROM ALL OUR CLUBS
LET THE WORLD KNOW PHILATELY IS ALIVE IN THE S.W.**



END OF THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA

Not something that would immediately be associated with the letter shown left and below left for the reverse.

The contents enclosed were written by Master Sergeant K Dellany RM to his wife in Dublin.

The letter was written aboard "HMS Rodney" (picture shown below) and posted at Coruna Spain where the ship was taking on provisions for the onward passage back to the UK.

The content of the letter makes very interesting reading starting with

Sailing from the Crimea on 15th June 1858 and lists all the stopping points and dates, it also gives details of the troops aboard who were being transported home.



There is a fascinating story to be fully researched here, for the Military Historian or anyone interested in either the Royal Navy or Royal Marines. Watch out for this item in the next Dawlish Clubs Auction.

THE ABPS Website – A check of Wessex Club details on the ABPS website notes the following:- There are three clubs listed which no longer exist – Exeter, Kingsbridge and Tiverton. The following clubs show their correct meeting details:- Brixham (no website address), Dawlish, Minehead (no web address), Plymouth (no web address), Taw & Torridge and Torquay & Teignbridge. Launceston Club shows an incorrect meeting address and no web address. The following clubs have no details of meeting places, times of meetings or web address:- Dartmouth, Exmouth, Mid-Devon, Sidmouth.

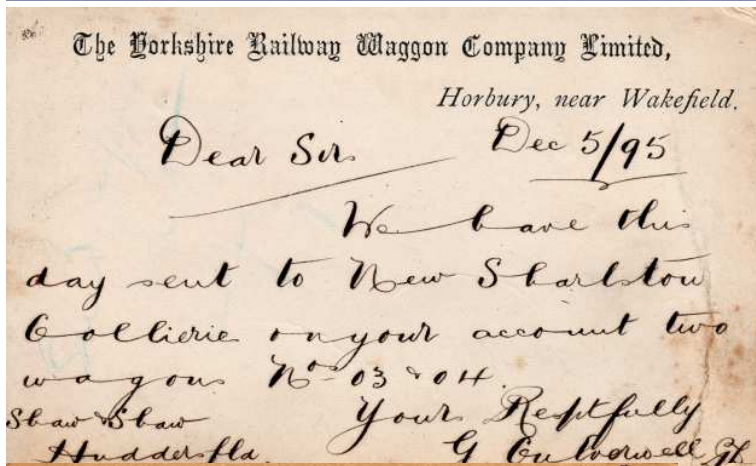
**THIS IS A KEY PART OF YOUR CLUB BEING FOUND
NO or INCORRECT DETAILS MAY MEAN
NO VISITORS & POSSIBLY NO NEW MEMBERS**

BRITAINS RAILWAY EVOLUTION *by Jim Wigmore*

THE CARRIAGE & WAGON BUILDER – Had to adapt to the needs of the new railway companies requirements, their initial work was little more than an adaptation of the horse drawn coaches and carts they had been used to. Like the railway companies they needed money to expand their business to meet the new needs, they raised share capital in the same way as the railways, the example below shows how this was done and the sort of dividends they promised. Very quickly the railway companies started to design/build their own passenger coaches. In some cases contracts were given to the independent carriage builders to build batches of railway coaches to a design defined by a railway company. All of the railway



companies used the independent wagon builders to supply their needs for railway wagons which were vast. One of the largest uses of wagons was to carry coal. The railway companies collaborated with the wagon builders to define a basic standard for railway wagons such as the height and width that buffers would be set, the type of



draw gear that would be fitted, types of wheel to be used and the size and styles of wagon that could be handled. This was known as the Railway Clearing House Standard (RCH) and millions of wagons were constructed to these standards.

We can find lots of philatelic items from the Carriage and wagon builders such as advice of new wagons being delivered such as that from the Yorkshire railway & Wagon Company.



The wagon companies were also needed to repair and maintain the wagons they had built and possibly wagons built by others. Shown is an example of the receipt of a pair of wagon wheels to be fitted with new tyres. The Carriage & Wagon Companies also advertised their abilities to overseas railway



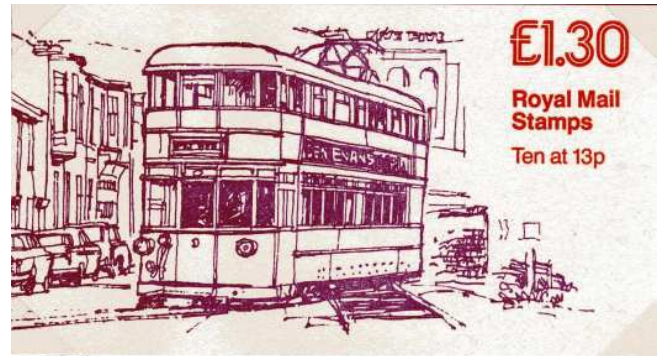
companies as can be seen from the advertising card sent by the Gloucester Carriage and Wagon Company one of the largest concerns, that like most of the other independent carriage and wagon builders, failed to adapt to the times and needs of the ever changing railway and sadly is no longer in business.

Those companies that have adapted to the railways needs are building a wide variety of vehicles to carry an ever increasing variety of specialist loads as can be seen from some of

the stamps issued around the world.



In the passenger market as far as Britain was concerned the carriage and wagon builders lived off crumbs from the tables of the railway companies. However the various tramways around the country provided a very lucrative income up to the mid 1930's when the tram started to go out of fashion. With the return of tramways there is once again a potential market although the once numerous British suppliers are now all gone.



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

