

The WESSEX BULLETIN

Journal of the Wessex Philatelic Federation

Visit our website at www.wessexpf.org.uk

2012/01

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IN THIS ISSUE – WESSEX BULLETIN by email, Wessex Federation Website, Message from our Chairman, Dates for your Diary, Reports from Clubs/Societies, Wessex 2011 Comp. Results, Snippet, Provenance is Everything.

WESSEX BULLETIN by email – There is a steady uptake by new readers of our Bulletin by email. It has also been encouraging to visit members clubs and seeing the latest Bulletin in colour available for members, well done all those who have helped in this way. Requests to be included should go to our webmaster Jim Wigmore at wessexweb@talktalk.net please include your full name, club and the email address for your Bulletin to be sent to.

BE FIRST WITH THE NEWS

WESSEX FEDERATION WEBSITE – we are delighted to report that Launceston Club now has a presence on the Federation website. We had a report from Plymouth Club recently to say they have a new member who had found their club via the Federation website.

OUR WEBSITE IS YOUR SHOP WINDOW – Please ensure that 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. **PLEASE CHECK YOUR CLUB DETAILS ON A REGULAR BASIS & NOTIFY ANY CHANGES REQUIRED**

Message from the Chairman - I've received a leaflet from the ABPS about the expected treatment of Speakers. Having given various talks/displays I can say my reception around the Wessex clubs has been generally good but occasionally I have wanted to strangle the odd member who will insist on talking fairly loudly when I'm speaking or does not quickly end a conversation when called to do so by the Chairman. I accept a few members have to leave early and I do appreciate it if I am warned beforehand. The success of these meetings depend on many participating members not just the usual few. I do remember when I first put my few sheets up, what a nerve wracking thought that was but my contribution was warmly received & I was quietly thanked after by several people more experienced at displaying. This encouraged me to continue. Positive feedback is essential for several of our shyer members as well as a warm welcome to new members. Let's make sure we become friendly clubs to all.

After having some problems in finding a club to host our Federation competitions it was decided to display the Wessex Competitions at the same time & venue as WETS (West of England Thematic Society) on Sat 29th Oct at Dartmoor Lodge Hotel, Ashburton, using the 16 sheet A frames. With 24 sides available and twenty four 16 sheet entries & four 8 sheet entries we were unable to show all the entries all the time so at 1.30pm 2 frames of 16 sheet were replaced with the four 8 sheet entries so all entries were on show for at least part of the time. There was a considerable number of people who came and viewed the entries, many spending quite a long time viewing their favourites. In my opinion all of the entries were of a good to very high standard and I must thank the organizers, judges and all the helpers who without their sterling work we would have had a disaster. I must particularly thank Gary Green, our competition secretary, for all his hard work over the last months.

If you feel you would like to help please contact me, Carol Turner, Tel 01643 704128 or e-mail 4carol@tiscali.co.uk . *(Watch out for more comments from our Chairman in the next issue – Ed)*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Local Events

2012		
18th February	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
17th March	Launceston Stamp Fair	
21st April	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
19th May	Redruth Stamp Fair	
21st July	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
15th September	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
27th October	Cornnex	Liskeard
17th November	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall

National Events

22-25th February 2012 Spring Stampex London.

REPORTS from CLUBS/SOCIETIES – WETS AUTUMN MEETING & THEMATIX

The Autumn Meeting of **WETS** was held at the Dartmoor Lodge Motel in conjunction with Thematix on 29th October 2011.

Everyone had a really fantastic day and judging by the number of people visiting the dealers (see right) so did they.



In addition to **WETS** members we were delighted to welcome many club members from South West Clubs as well as **BTA** members and others from outside the area. Also being shown at the venue were the competition entries from the Wessex Federation (*see details below*).

WETS displayed the John Hilsdon Memorial Trophy Entries all were 16 sheets listed as follows:- **The Cyprus Government Railway** by Jim Wigmore, **On the Square** by Trevor Frey, **Living in a Whorl** by Gillian Gray, **Now You See It Now You Don't** by David Herrity, **Grandeur with a little more Gravure** by David Roseveare, **Man and Malaria** by Carol Turner and **The Transportation of Mail** by Val Robbins. The entries were judged this year by **WETS Treasurer** Richard Wheeler who is shown right hard at work.



The John Hilsdon Memorial Trophy – John was one of the early **WETS** members from Cornwall who had a keen interest in Birds hence the Humming Bird on the trophy pictured left.

When John died in 2008 his family in conjunction with **WETS** member Lesley Marley a family friend donated this trophy to **WETS** as a perpetual memory of John and his love of both Birds and Philately.

This year the award went to David Roseveare for his entry **Grandeur with a little more Gravure**, Lesley Marley is pictured right presenting the trophy to David.



Thematix 2012 we have been given to understand that this event will take place on Saturday 27th October 2012 at the same venue, WATCH THIS SPACE FOR CONFIRMATION.

WESSEX FEDERATION COMPETITION ENTRIES & RESULTS 2011

Awards gained are shown thus :-

(G) – Gold, (SG) – Silver Gilt, (S) – Silver, (B) Bronze

- Indicates the Class Winner

TRADITIONAL PHILATELY

- 1 - G.B. The One Penny Stars Plate 62 *David Herrity (Plymouth)* # (G)
- 2 - The Maharaja Stamps of Cochin *Gary Green (Torquay & Teignbridge)* (SG)
- 3 - The German Super Inflation Years of 1921 to 1923 *Martin Ellam (Plymouth)* (SG)

POSTAL HISTORY

- 1 - Versailles: The Notre-Dame Post Office Cancellations 1847-1945 *David Roseveare (Plymouth)* (SG)
- 2 - The Spoon Experiment 1853-58 *Chris Willis (Plymouth)* (G)
- 3 - Montserrat Postal History 1890-1952 *Dennis Kenworthy (Torquay & Teignbridge)* (SG)
- 4 - Gibraltar Postal History *Dennis Kenworthy (Torquay & Teignbridge)* # (G)
- 5 - Aden Postal History *Dennis Kenworthy (Torquay & Teignbridge)* (SG)
- 6 - The Weimar Republic - Postal Stationery Inflation *Martin Ellam* (SG)

THEMATICS

- 1 - Masonic *Trevor Fray (Plymouth)* (S)
- 2 - So you want to do some mining? Here's how! 1-2-3 *Viv Sandercock (Launceston)* (S)
- 3 - The Voyages of Captain James Cook *Gillian Gray (Plymouth)* (S)
- 4 - Bee Keeping and the Life of the Honey Bee *Gary Green (Torquay & Teignbridge)* # (G)
- 5 - A Decade of Marianne Definitives *Sally Ellam (Plymouth)* (S)
- 6 - When Columbus discovered that even in Philately fame can fade *Tony Smith (Honiton & Sidmouth)* (SG)

INTRODUCTION TO THEMATICS

- 1 - Oh I Do Like To Be Beside The Seaside *Gary Green* # (G)
- 2 - A Trip into Outer Space *Gary Green* (S)
- 3 - Diamonds *Martin Ellam* (SG)
- 4 - The Mac Robertson Air Race *Terry Stevens* (S)

AEROPHILATELY

- 1 - Leipziger Messe Flugpost 1930 -1990 *Gary Green* # (SG)
- 2 - Australia Airmails 1918 -1938 *Terry Stevens* (SG)
- 3 - Routes of the Valkyries *Terry Stevens* (S)

OPEN CLASS

- 1 - From Saint-Julien to Sun-King *David Roseveare* (SG)
- 2 - The Winter Olympics 1924 - 2002 *Gary Green* (S)
- 3 - Where in the World...? *Peter Halmkin* # (G)
- 4 - History of the Moorish Occupation of Spain *Tony Elliott* (SG)
- 5 - Explorers/Navigators and their ships *Lionel Tribe* (B)
- 6 - Naval Sea Battles *Lionel Tribe* (B)

THOMPSON CUP COMPETITION

- 1st – Torquay & Teignbridge Stamp Club with 245 marks.
2nd – Plymouth Philatelic Society with 238 marks.

SNIPPET

A few years ago two covers went for auction in New York, a Mulready, dated December 1840, had a 1p black & 2p blue attached, apparently because it was over the usual 1oz weight when travelled from Liverpool to Lancaster. It realised \$12,000. **Our day's top sale thought the auctioneers!**

They couldn't believe it when a couple of hours later it was beaten by a cover from Liberia. It carried two stamps 6c & 24c the cover told how it went to New York via a Liverpool Packet ship with a February 1860 receiving mark. The cover went for \$12,650, the best price for anything in Liberia's Postal History then and possibly even today. Why? Because the two stamps used were only used in 1860?

Well done to all who took the time and trouble to prepare entries for the competitions.

A special thanks needs to be said for the Competition Secretary for gathering and collating the entries along with his team of helpers who set up and loaded the frames on the day as well as doing the same job in reverse at the end of the day – **VERY WELL DONE.**

Can we make a big effort in 2012 especially those clubs who did not have sufficient entries to get into the Thompson Cup. Entry details for the 2012 Competitions will be appearing soon, **ITS TIME TO GET TO WORK ON YOUR ENTRIES.**

PROVENANCE IS EVERYTHING

by Jim Wigmore

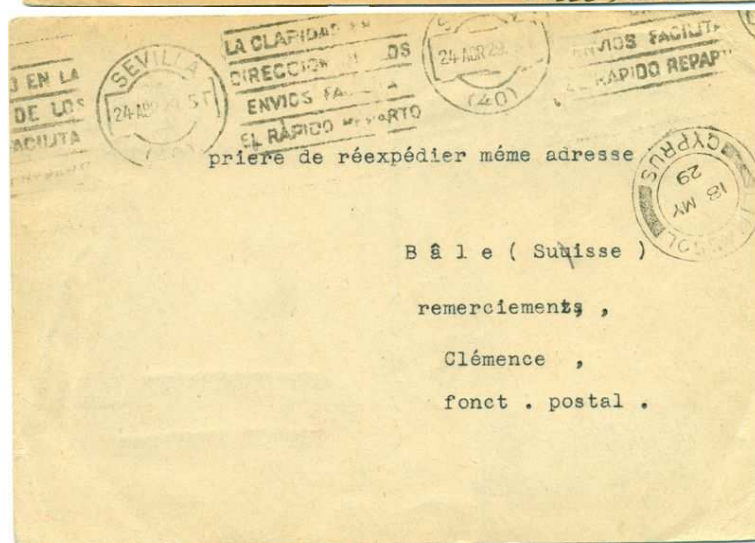
As the author of Cyprus Study Circle – Study Paper No.3 – “Air Mails 1929 -1960” I frequently get asked my opinion about items of Air Mail relating to Cyprus.

Such was the case with the Zeppelin Post Card addressed to Cyprus, both front and rear are shown. According to its sale description it is from a flight by LZ-127 “Graf Zeppelin” notated as Sieger 24A being a Mediterranean Flight from Friedrichstien to Venice via Seville where mail was dropped. The Card is described as having travelled by sea from Seville to Cyprus and returned to Basel Switzerland as undelivered mail.

The described flight did take place and there are a number of known covers from this flight, many are shown on the web. Covers from later flights by LZ-127 also appear on the web for reference

If this Post Card can be proved to be from Sieger 24A it is a very rare item, but is it right?

Let us look at some of the other mail and markings.



Note how clear the pink carriage mark is on these two covers, that on the card is very faint though it appears a correct design for the flight.



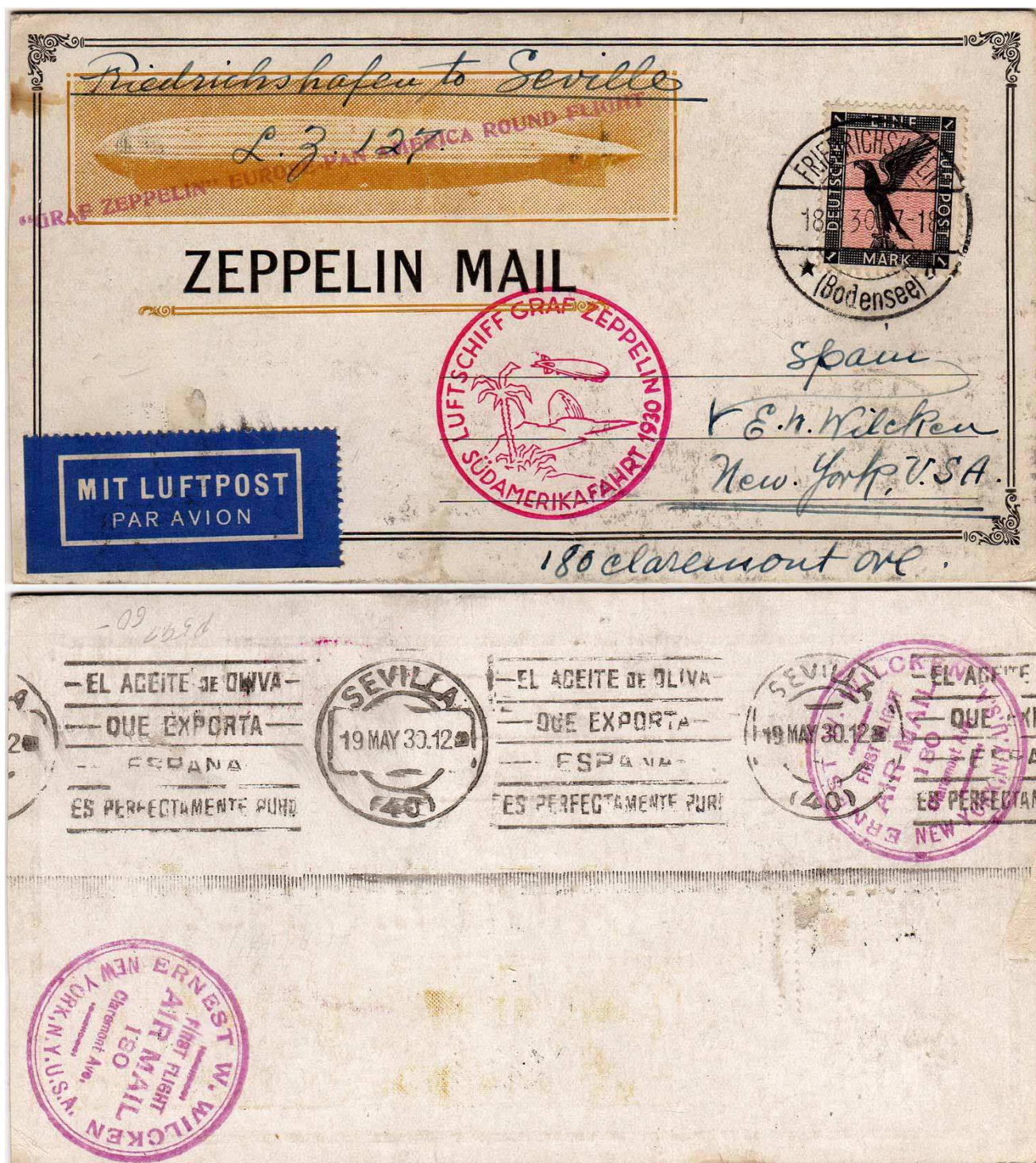
Note also the Octagonal Seville cancel on the face of the cover left as opposed to the roller cancel applied to the card above, surely items from the same flight would be treated the same and receive the same markings? The earliest use of the roller cancel so far seen and used at Seville appeared on Zeppelin Mail from the Sept 1929 Round the World Flight of LZ-127 see the



example below.

Comments about this Wessex Bulletin and Copy for the next by March 2012 please

Note also that most of the mail carried on these Zeppelin Flights are purely philatelic, hence the variety of stamps used to cover the cost of postage. The stamps on the card are of one type and one value of a design used in the 50pf stamp on the cover above.



Given the reference material viewed and the differences noted along with the fact there is a lot of fraudulent Zeppelin Mail the jury is out as to the authentication of the card relating to the original request, it needs to be expertised and the owner has been advised accordingly.

This story is an object lesson to all. When buying potentially rare items make sure you really know what you are buying and make sure you get them properly expertised prior to parting with your hard earned cash.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

If you have a story for the next Wessex Bulletin we want to hear it.