

The WESSEX BULLETIN

Journal of the Wessex Philatelic Federation

Visit our website at www.wessexpf.org.uk

2012/03

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Secretary – Position Vacant (*Volunteers Required*)

IN THIS ISSUE – WESSEX BULLETIN by email, Wessex Federation Website, Wessex Federation Competition Entries 2012, Dates for your Diary, Torquay & Teignbridge Stamp Club, Thematix, How the Wheel Turns, Versailles, Business Promotion Through Stamp Sales, Post Unified Germany Perhaps, Do you wish to be a Federation Judge, Wessex Speaker List Update. Obituary David Chamberlaine, Request, Sales & Wants.

WESSEX BULLETIN by email – There is a steady uptake by new readers of our Bulletin by email. It has also been encouraging to visit member clubs and see 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 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.*

BE FIRST WITH THE NEWS

WESSEX 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**

WESSEX FEDERATION COMPETITION ENTRIES 2012 – Members should be

in possession of entry forms for the 2012 Wessex Federation Competitions, ***the forms are also available on the federation website.*** We hope that experienced exhibitors as well as those who have yet to have a go, will put entries into this years competitions. The entries will be shown at the **Dawlish Stamp Clubs – Exhibition and Fair** to be held at **The Strand Centre, Dawlish on Saturday 8th September** from 1000 hrs to 1600 hrs. A copy of the poster is attached to this newsletter. This information will also appear on the federation website www.wessexpf.org.uk .

It would be a great delight to see some co-ordinated entries from clubs to bring more competition in the inter club Thompson Cup. Lets us not forget the new competitions for Thematic Beginners and the Open Class.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2012		
19th May	Redruth Stamp Fair	
21st July	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
23 rd June	Stamp & Postcard Fair	St Michaels Hall Kingsteignton
8th September	Wessex Federation Competitions & Fair	The Strand Centre, Dawlish
15th September	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
27th October	Cornnex	Liskeard
17th November	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall

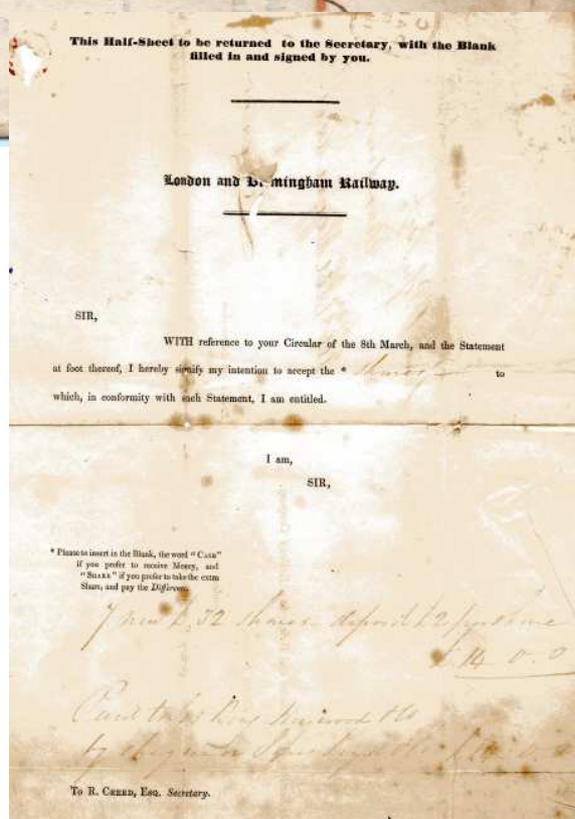
Comments about this Wessex Bulletin and Copy for the next by June 2012 please

Torquay & Teignbridge Stamp Club will be holding their Annual Stamp & Postcard Fair at St Michaels Church Hall Chudleigh Road Kingsteignton TQ12 3JU on Saturday 23rd June 2012 from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. There is Free Parking and Refreshments plus 8 dealers, entry fee 30 pence. More information about this event can be obtained on 01626 360081.

THEMATIX – Dartmoor Lodge Hotel on Saturday 27th October 2012 from 10 am. with a number of dealers present – we have been requested to point out that these dealers can fill the needs of ALL collectors, if you have a specific requirement just ask, their stock may be held by subject but they can still find the item you are looking for. There is some excellent catering on site. This is an excellent opportunity to visit some really first class dealers that you would normally only find at major events. Leaflet attached.



HOW THE WHEEL TURNS – An interesting recent acquisition was a turned Penny Black Cover originally addressed to Lancaster. It had been correctly pre-paid as denoted by the red hand applied stamp with 6 MAR 1841 date in the top right of the entire. The entire was then forwarded to an address in Manchester and a Penny Black (Plate 7) was applied to cover the additional journey. The contents show a receipt for purchase of shares in the London & Birmingham Railway. The London & Birmingham Railway was formed in 1837 and absorbed to become part of the London & North Western Railway in 1847, it was Britain's first mainline railway. Its planned termination points were Euston in London to Curzon Street Birmingham although at the time of opening it ran from Camden to Birmingham. The interesting aspect of this cover is that the planned route for High Speed 2 is from Euston London to Curzon Street Birmingham.

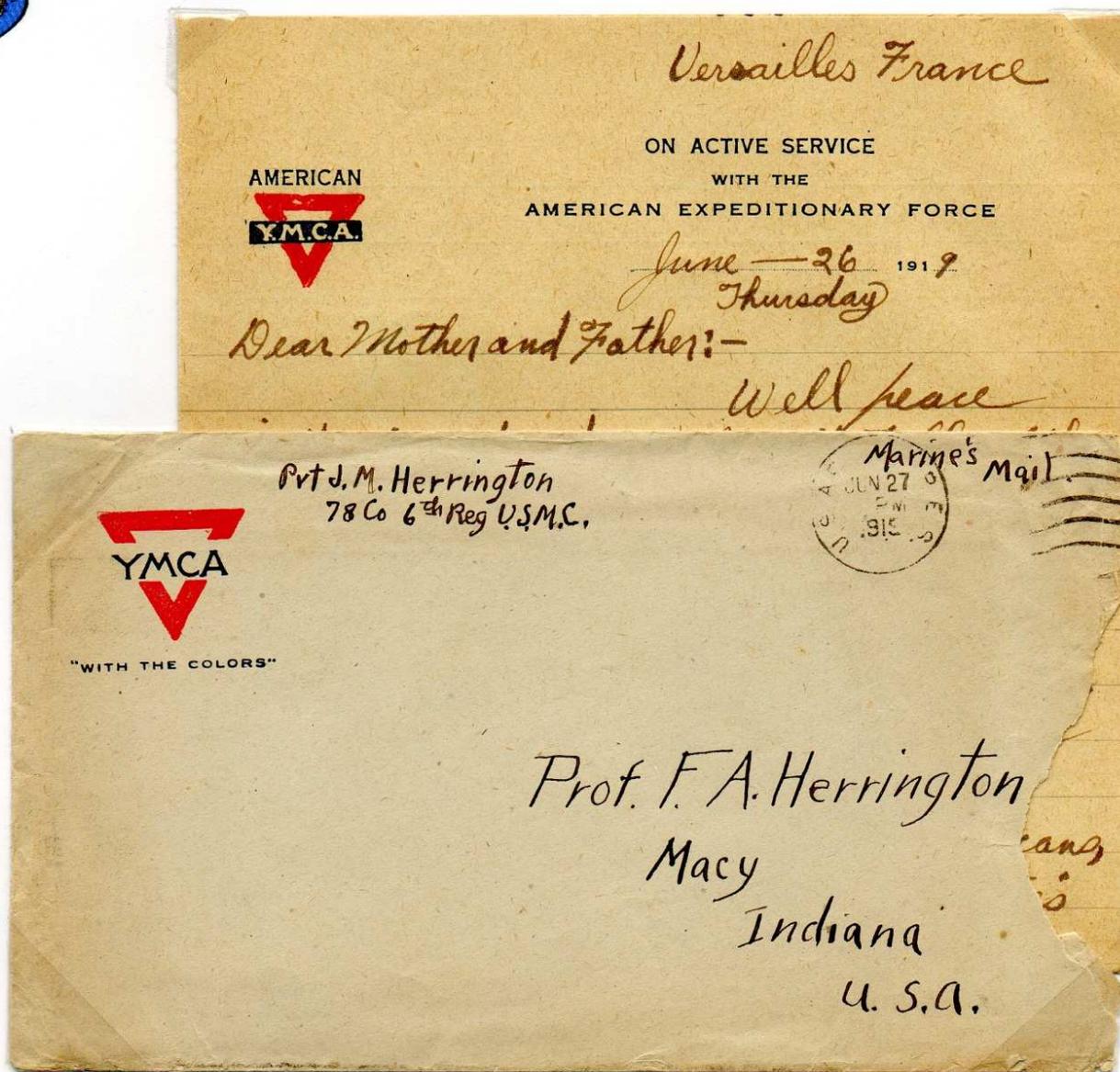


GOT AN INTERESTING ITEM ? – Why not write a small piece for the Bulletin.

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



VERSAILLES.



This original WWI United States Marine Corps letter was written at Versailles, France, two days before the peace treaty was signed in June of 1919. The man who wrote it served in the 6th Marine Regiment, and was stationed at Versailles at the time of the Peace Conference and treaty signing. Pvt. J.M. Herrington had arrived in France in October 1918, shortly before the Armistice, and had since served in the A.E.F. occupation forces in both France & Germany. He wrote this letter while the world anxiously awaited news that the peace had been signed. (There was widespread fear at the time that Germany would refuse to accept the peace terms & and that hostilities would resume.)

The letter includes the following:

"Well, peace isn't signed yet, so I can't tell of the celebration this time, although I think Paris will 'go wild' when it is, because they are so sick of waiting, and most of them want the Americans out too"

Elsewhere in the letter Herrington writes that he hopes that he will be home by August, but he's not counting on it. He writes that he's going to "make arrangements with Pershing" so that he can be home by his mother's birthday.

An excellent letter, written at a time and place of considerable historical importance.

David Roseveare writes.... The featured WW1 United States Marine Corps letter was written at Versailles, France, two days before the peace treaty was signed on the 28th

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June 1919. It was written by Private J.M. Herrington who was serving in the 6th Marine Regiment and was addressed to his parents living in the town of Macy in Indiana. The envelope marked "Marine's Mail" with the postmark dated June 27th had been roughly opened at the side but its contents are intact. The letter includes the following, "Well, peace isn't signed yet, so I can't tell of the celebration this time, although I think Paris will go wild when it is, because they are so sick of waiting, and most of them want the Americans out too". Private Herrington was fortunate; he served in one of the only two regiments to receive three citations for their bravery in Europe. Other units of the American forces suffered from indiscipline, especially those that included coloured or native Indian soldiers. They tended to fight among themselves and frequently upset the local populace. Another detail from the letter, he was "going to make arrangements with Pershing" to go home for his mother's birthday. General Pershing was the commander-in-chief of the American forces and there is a road named after him at Versailles. This item, which I acquired from the U.S.A., was described as "an excellent letter, written at a time and place of considerable historical importance".



Business Promotion through Stamp Sales

Oil Giant Esso knew the value of advertising and made use of Royal Mail Stamp Books to promote its products selling booklets with its own advertising via their various outlets. These booklets urged motorists to look for oil, tyres, petrol and everything else the motorists wanted.



The use of philatelic products for advertising is not by any means new. The Post Office has done this from the earliest days of Stamp Booklets, with many philatelic dealers making use of the space offered along with Insurance Companies etc.



Another major Company to use stamps to promote its products was Readers Digest who produced a number of cards carrying strips of stamps unique to their promotions.

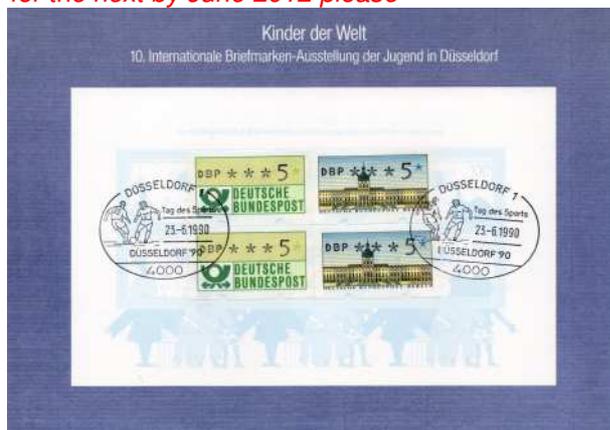


WE NEED YOUR ILLUSTRATED STORIES FOR FUTURE ISSUES

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

POST UNIFIED GERMANY PERHAPS?

"How do I get old friends back into stamps and not thematics" a friend asked me recently, writes Tony Smith. I knew how to get them aboard ships, mounting horses or even striding on a red carpet with film stars, i.e. my way of collecting. When the pal persisted wanting a country to bring his friends back into "proper philately" I knew his next response would be when I suggested Germany!



Realising the majority of WESSEX members are in the 70+ age group I assumed thought of Hitler or even Kaiser Bill would bring a loud "No". Then I found an ally from Axminster Club. "The German Empire, the Third Reich, the victorious four-power occupation and even the "cold war" days before unification begins". Too deep and too expensive was the response. But start at 1990 and there's so much to get back into. Listed are some of the things that could tempt

you into collecting this period of Germany.

- Good quality printing with well produced engravings or photos.
- Occasional printing errors to make life interesting:
- Single stamp issues and short sets, not as expensive as the UK.
- Many different topics plus different shapes and sizes to mount a page artistically.
- Colourful pre-printed cards First Day Covers and envelopes. Mostly well done.
- Not many definitives (*with president's head*) but often one single stamp added to any series each year.
- Occasional mini-sheets and special cancels.



Above are some typical examples of the stamps issued. Prior to unification DDR began honouring its "Famous Women". Thirteen had appeared prior to unity and the series has been continued since. Women who are still living are not featured so Angela Merkel Germany's first female Chancellor may have to wait awhile. Perhaps she will settle for the stamp featuring the Euro introduced in 2002 something she fought very hard to secure. If this grabs you there's a UK-based Germany and Colonies Society who have four meetings a year in Taunton. The Deutsche Post fought tooth and nail to stop the introduction of "private posts". **Will Royal Mail be as strong in resisting a not yet declared enemy?**

DO YOU WISH TO BE A FEDERATION JUDGE – There will be a Seminar on Exhibiting and Judging on 23/24th November 2012 in Sherborne Dorset. For full details of the event and booking details contact Carol Turner on 01643 704128 or see the Federation website. The event is open to both Wessex & Somerset & Dorset members, there will only be 20 places, so book early if you are interested.

THE WESSEX SPEAKER LIST NEEDS UPDATING – please find attached a copy of the form to add your details if you would like to be a federation speaker.

OBITUARY; DAVID CHAMBERLAINE

It is with deepest regret that we report the death of David who after a long illness passed away peacefully on Friday, 4th May 2012 at the age of 74. His devoted wife June was with him in the ambulance while son Mark followed in a car.

David's 2008 ABPS Award of Merit C.V. fittingly described him as "a quiet, self effacing family man and former Colour Sergeant, Royal Marines Band Service" which as all who knew him will know is exactly how he would have wanted to be remembered.

He cast a giant shadow throughout the Philatelic world. Joining Plymouth Philatelic Society in 1965, he was twice Chairman, auctioneer and designer of the artwork for both the Mayflower 1970 Exhibition and the 1976 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held in Plymouth Guildhall. After joining the Wessex Philatelic Federation Committee in 1975 he twice served as Chairman before becoming its Hon. Secretary in 2004. He was a founder member of the Devon Society of Postal Historians in 1984 and also the Devon Postal Markings Group in 1995. He joined the Swipex Committee in 1998 becoming its Chairman in 2000. When the first Provincial ABPS National Philatelic Exhibition was held at Torquay in 2006 a good Secretary was needed and who else could perform such an important role but David. A phenomenal record of service to Wessex regional philately unlikely to ever be equalled.

Even though following his retirement from military service David was employed for many years by British Telecom he never forgot his grass roots, remaining staunchly proud of the Royal Marines Band Service.

In all of this David was ably supported by wife June to whom we extend our deepest sympathies. He will be a great loss to all who knew him.

REQUEST – The Federation badly needs a Secretary to take on the role previously occupied by David Chamberlaine. Carol Turner is badly in need of some help. In addition the Federation needs a Vice Chairman. **If you feel you could help please contact Carol Turner as soon as possible.**

SALES & WANTS

GERMANY, POLAND & SWEDEN from 1800s – 2009 – Anyone interested in used stamps from any of these countries may be interested in contacting Stan Czaczka on 01582 661305 with their wants lists. Prices we understand are around 16% of Gibbons Catalogue values.

DAWLISH STAMP CLUB AUCTION – The club is looking for lots which must be notified to the club by the end of June 2012. Copies of the Submission Form for lots and the Rules are available of the Dawlish Pages of the Federation website. The catalogue will be available by end of August 2012 and the lots will be available for viewing at the **Dawlish Stamp Clubs – Exhibition and Fair** to be held at **The Strand Centre, Dawlish** on **Saturday 8th September** and also online.

THIS SPACE COULD HAVE BEEN USED BY YOU