

Journal of the Wessex Philatelic Federation

2016/04

IN THIS ISSUE – Wessex Bulletin by eMail, Wessex Federation Website, New Editor Required, Whats on and Where, Around Our Clubs, Barnstaple is the Cradle of British Surface Printed Stamps, Joseph Locke, Xmas & New Year Greetings.

WHATS ON & WHERE

Date	Meeting Description	Speaker	Club
01/02/2017	Hong Kong Treaty Ports	David Parnall	Plymouth Philatelic Society
01/02/2017	Thematics	Ed Elsey	Exmouth Stamp Club
02/02/2017	Wessex Roadshow	Wessex Speaker	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
06/02/2017	Africa	Hilary Broughton	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
07/02/2017	Sacket Cup and Perring Cup	Judge TBA	Dartmouth Stamp Club
08/02/2017	AGM & "Members New Acquisitions" - <i>An opportunity to finish a serious start with some fun, so keep those new acquisitions handy.</i>		Dawlish Stamp Club
09/02/2017	Competition Night, Ethel Cottey and John Heburn Cups		Torquay & Teignbridge SC
13/02/2017	West Meets East	Peter Lawrence	Brixham & Paignton Stamp Club
14/02/2017	Wessex Roadshow		Minehead Stamp Club
15/02/2017	Club Quiz Night	Mick Donoghue	Exmouth Stamp Club
16/02/2017	Members Evening plus Bring & Buy		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
20/02/2017	Switzerland at War	Wendy Lamble	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
23/02/2017	Mike Dimmock Entertains	Mike Dimmock	Torquay & Teignbridge SC
24/02/2017	Sports	David Richards	Liskeard Stamp Club
01/03/2017	Leipzig	Mike Dadds	Plymouth Philatelic Society
01/03/2017	Club Competition 1 or 2 shts Theme or Factual		Exmouth Stamp Club
02/03/2017	Eight Sht Comp plus Bring & Buy		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
07/03/2017	Annual Auction		Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
07/03/2017	Surprise Surprise	The Morris's	Dartmouth Stamp Club
08/03/2017	Austria Empire Period - A country new to the club.	James Hooper	Dawlish Stamp Club
09/03/2017	Silent Auction		Torquay & Teignbridge SC
13/03/2017	Visit by Torquay Club & Fun Auction		Brixham & Paignton Stamp Club
13/03/2017	Visit to Brixham Club		Torquay & Teignbridge SC
14/03/2017	WW1 Misc.	Graham Mark	Minehead Stamp Club
15/03/2017	Mandated Palestine	Dr David Smith	Exmouth Stamp Club
16/03/2017	Trinidad & Tobago	David Roberts	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
20/03/2017	Rhodesia	Terry Cowlard	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
23/03/2017	Dealers Evening	Chris Hockaday	Torquay & Teignbridge SC
29/03/2017	ABC of Commonwealth & Beyond	Des Kent	Liskeard Stamp Club
30/03/2017	Club Auction		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
04/04/2017	St Vincent & Br, Virgin Islands	John Albones	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
04/04/2017	Rose Bowl & Cobb Cup	Judge Jim Wigmore	Dartmouth Stamp Club
05/04/2017	Annual Competition Night		Plymouth Philatelic Society
05/04/2017	Club Speakers	Messrs Gregory, Norris & Smith	Exmouth Stamp Club
10/04/2017	Along Lost Lines	Jim Wigmore	Brixham & Paignton Stamp Club
11/04/2017	French African Colonies	Carlton Jones	Minehead Stamp Club
13/04/2017	Club Dinner		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
13/04/2017	Wessex Roadshow	Wessex Speaker	Torquay & Teignbridge SC

19/04/2017	Wessex Roadshow	Wessex Speaker	Exmouth Stamp Club
24/04/2017	Bob Wheeler Entertains		Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
26/04/2017	Modern New Zealand	Jim Parsons	Liskeard Stamp Club
27/04/2017	Visit by Taunton Club		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
27/04/2017	French India	Peter Webb	Torquay & Teignbridge SC

AROUND OUR CLUBS

DAWLISH STAMP CLUB – September 14th our Speaker Gary Green gave a splendid presentation with the title “The Life of the Honey Bee” a true thematic display featuring the life of the Honey Bee told using all aspects of philately plus a number of none philatelic additions.

October 12th was Auction Night, a well produced catalogue had been printed and the lots were also defined on the Federation website along with some photo's. The sale on the night was well attended with some very lively bidding ensuring some happy buyers and sellers. The club will be interested in any lots for future sales.

November 9th we were delighted to welcome Val Beekin from Newcastle Club who gave a talk on “Concorde”, some interesting and unusual material was shown mostly from the development phase and visits by “Concorde” to unusual places. Lots of fun was had trying to spot the plane on some of the stamps produced. Our thanks to Graham Rankin of Axminster Club for making the arrangements and looking after Val.

LAUNCESTON STAMP CLUB - 8th September. The Chairman introduced the evening's speaker, Terry Cowlard from Plymstock presented Rhodesian Postcards. The display extends to some 230 Cards of Rhodesia comprising Northern and Southern Rhodesia. Following the interval Terry presented the second part of his display which featured the life and times of the founder of Rhodesia, Cecil Rhodes, son of a vicar. Other postcards included those of David Livingstone, Victoria Falls and a series of 12 views of the country as it was in the 1900's, Ian Smith from the period of UDI in 1965, the great Kariba Dam in 1960, the Great Zimbabwe Ruins dating back to 15thC. and finally Zimbabwean banknotes including a \$100 trillion note then worth the price of a cup of coffee.

14th October - AGM and Autumn Auction - Minutes of the previous AGM held on 8th October 2015 were read and signed by the Chairman. The Treasurer, presented his report and confirmed the Club's financial position. The Chairman confirmed the change of venue for Club meetings to the Methodist Church Hall at Ladycross will be effective from January 2017. The current Club officers and committee members were re-elected to serve for a further year. There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

The Auction followed, with Rex Eccott acting as Auctioneer, assisted by Viv Sandercock and Mike Tooley. The club was very satisfied with the result.

10th November - The Chairman introduced the speaker, Bill Gibb, from the Huntingdonshire P.S. who is currently President of the Mid Anglia Federation and is well known and respected in philatelic circles. His presentation was a West Indies Pot Pourri drawn from his extensive collection of postal material from the former colonial Caribbean countries. On this occasion his selection focussed on Grenada, British Honduras (Belize), Anguilla and Turks & Caicos Islands with each islands' postal history being traced back to the days of the packet boat mail through to independence and the present day definitive and commemorative issues. Some of the highlights included superb examples of packet mail to Grenada dating back to 1764, the problems of decimalisation and the Gold Standard on British Honduras stamps, the Anguillan uprisings in 1967 & '69 and its secession and the postal service operated by a CIA agent and on Turks & Caicos from piracy to sea salt collection, tourism and its ongoing constitutional problems.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY – are now publishing their own Newsletter published in full colour giving details of club events past and present. What a good idea.

WEST OF ENGLAND THEMATIC SOCIETY (WETS) – held their Autumn Meeting at Buckfastleigh Town Hall on 29th October during which they held their AGM Jim Wigmore stepped down as Chairman, the new Chairman is Martin Ellam and Gary Green is Vice Chairman all other committee members remain as previously stated. There were some superb thematic displays by Gary Green, Martin Ellam, Ron Sambell and Jim Wigmore.

IF YOUR CLUB IS NOT MENTIONED THEY HAVE NOT SUBMITTED A REPORT



Barnstaple is the 'cradle' of British Surface Printed Stamps?

By Malcolm J. Givens

When Thomas De La Rue was still young, and living in Guernsey, he met Tom Greenslade, who had come to Guernsey from Bishop's Nympton. Tom had a shop, and after some while he set up a newspaper, with Thomas De La Rue. Thomas and Tom fell out soon after. (Thomas was regularly fell out with partners, all his life). Thomas Greenslade was related to the Warren family in Bishop's Nympton, north Devon. It was through Greenslade that Thomas somehow met, and eventually married Jane Warren. Thomas and Jane had six children the eldest was Warren De La Rue, without whom we would not have a raft of postage stamps!

The Barnstaple connection does not stop there. When Thomas left Guernsey for England he made contact with other printing people in the area. One was a Barnstaple printer, Samuel Cornish. By 1830, Thomas De La Rue moved to London and set up a partnership with Samuel Cornish and another Barnstaple man, (their financial partner), non-other than William Frederick Rock, still remembered in Barnstaple with Rock park!

In Hanoverian England it was common for a son to have, as one of his forenames, either his father's or grandfather's Christian name or his mother's maiden name, so that it is unsurprising that Warren De La Rue was christened 'Warren'. What is surprising is that Thomas and Jane De La Rue's second son was named 'William Frederick'. Did Jane hold a candle for Mr Rock, or was Thomas so beholden to his financial backer that the lad was christened 'William Frederick'?

Thomas fell out with both Cornish and Rock, after which he got into serious financial difficulties. His business was financially rescued by Charles Button, a wealthy chemist. Button got to know of De La Rue because he met, and saw the potential in Warren De La Rue (*see photo right*) while Warren was an evening chemistry student at the Marylebone Institute in London. Charles Button paid off most of Thomas's debts and invested in the Firm. One of his conditions was that Thomas should make Warren a partner, which he did, reluctantly. In 1845, Warren and Edwin Hill (Rowland Hill's brother) registered the patent for an envelope making machine, which helped the Firm expand stationery sales greatly. Button insisted that Warren be given more responsibility so that by 1846 Warren was in charge of all maintenance of equipment and also the chief chemist in the Firm. By 1848 Warren improved the envelope machine, allowing the gumming of the flap to be done automatically. Warren was also working on chemical experiments and as a result of some of his research into dyes for printing inks he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1850, even though he was still only 35 years old. His envelope making machine was one of the star exhibits at the Great Exhibition in 1851, and that brought the Firm's name firmly into public notice.



Through his connections with the Hill family Warren was instrumental in getting the Inland Revenue to have fiscal stamps produced by the Firm. Warren contracted Ferdinand Joubert to engrave the Queen's head for these stamps. The Inland Revenue were so satisfied that in 1855 they commissioned Joubert to re-engrave the Queen's head and contracted the new low value postage stamps to the Firm.

The production of postage stamps continued to expand, becoming the dominant source of revenue for the Firm and satisfying the Inland Revenue so much that in 1880, when Warren had become the senior partner in the Firm, they won the contract for all British postage and revenue stamps, a contract that the firm held for the rest of the century.

Without Thomas coming to Barnstaple, none of this story would have happened, and philately would be the poorer, as a result.

If you want a reference, the House that Thomas Built, by Lorna Houseman, covers much of the above, but most of it is from my own research, as I am writing a short biography of Warren De La Rue.

(We look forward to seeing the end result- Ed)



JOSEPH LOCKE by Malcolm J Givens & Jim Wigmore 2016. Commemorative plaque at Credition station.

Joseph Locke (1805-1860) was a notable English civil engineer of the 19th century, particularly associated with railway projects. Locke ranked alongside Robert Stephenson & Isambard Kingdom Brunel as one of the major pioneers of railway development. Locke was involved in the London & South Western Railway along with Robert Stevenson in particular in the Parliamentary Enquiry relating to the Gauge argument with the Great Western Railway for the section of line from Exeter to Credition. The enquiry ruled in favour of the Great Western and the line was laid as mixed gauge. Joseph Locke was the MP for Honiton from 1847,

(I feel sure the collectors interested in Railways should be able to put a very interesting story around the life a work of Joseph Locke and his contributions to the railways around the United Kingdom – Ed)

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS & CONTRIBUTORS



WESSEX PHILATELIC FEDERATION WEBSITE

Federation website www.wessexpf.org.uk

ORIGINAL AIMS & OBJECTIVE

- 1 - The Wessex Philatelic Federation will generate its own website and provide a hosting facility for every club that is a member of the Federation.
- 2 - The principal aim is to highlight the existence of philately in the South West of England, provide prospective members with the means of finding their local club, establishing a point of contact, have visibility of the club's programme and obtain the means of joining.
- 3 - The website will show the full listing of events in its area, who the Federation Committee members are and what the Federation does to support its clubs and societies.

METHODOLOGY

The main Federation pages will consist of:-

WHO WE ARE – giving a brief overview of the Federation.

WHO'S WHO – A list of the Committee members (*not individual club delegates*) with email contact address (*this information will be in hidden format to prevent spamming*). Address and telephone contact details will not be displayed on the web to protect all concerned.

CLUBS – A listing of all the clubs in the Federation with a hyperlink facility to each club's web folder (*see details below*).

EVENTS – The full Federation Calendar, plus the details of Federation Exhibitions & Competitions, the means of entry and the rules. Booked events will show details of the material to be shown and details of the dealers in attendance.

PUBLICATIONS – Details of articles that have been published by Federation members and hyperlinks to the actual articles (*subject to the agreement of the authors*).

CLUB FOLDERS

Each Federation club/society will have available a folder to house its own details. It will be able to advertise its website, as e.g. www.wessexpf.org.uk/dawlish, on all its literature.

Those clubs that have web sites can submit a CD copy of their site (in a format that is HTML compatible) to the Federation webmaster. However it would be appreciated if the information was first structured to the model below.

INTRODUCTION – A page that gives a brief description of the club and its history (*this page must be called index.htm*).

OFFICERS – A listing of the Club's Officers, including email contact address of at least one officer (*this information will be in hidden format to prevent spamming*). Address and telephone contact details will not be displayed on the web to protect all concerned.

PROGRAMME – Details of the club's meetings as published in the Club Programme.

JOINING – Details of the benefit of joining the club, plus costs, and who to contact (*email address only*). The ability to download a copy of the club application form.

EVENTS – Details of any events being run. (*This is an optional page*).

The Club Folder will have two other folders inside named as follows:

Documents – To hold such things as Club Rules, Membership Application Forms etc.

Graphics – To hold such things as Club Logos and any pictures that may be included on the clubs pages.

ACTIONS

- 1 – The Federation will secure its domain name and hosting along with setting up its website with folders for all the clubs.
- 2 – Where available, club folders will be loaded with their website details. Clubs that have websites can either supply the link details to their site or supply the site details on CD to the Federation webmaster.

3 – The Federation website will be launched as soon as possible; details for those clubs that do not currently have a web presence will be added as soon as they supply details to the Federation webmaster.

4 – The Federation webmaster will be responsible for creating and maintaining all web pages for the Federation website beyond the initial load.

5 – It will be the responsibility of all clubs to ensure the webmaster is kept fully informed with respect to their club details and programme.

THE WEBMASTER

Needs to be computer literate and to have a basic understanding of how a website is created and maintained. An understanding of web hosting is desirable and the means by which files can be uploaded and downloaded from the host package. In addition the following responsibilities will need to be undertaken.

1 - Maintaining the website and making all adjustments to ensure the website is completely up to date.

2 – Take full control of maintaining the Domain Name and the Hosting of the Website, renewals are based upon the Webmaster taking control of the Login name and password for the hosting package and providing a means by which payment can be made at the appropriate times.

3 – An understanding of the importance of “META Names”, META Titles” and META Descriptions” is important as these are the tools that drive the website towards the top of the search patterns. All can be edited and adjusted within the HTML code and reside at the start of each page.

4 – The current Website was created using MS Frontpage but could be changed to any other Website creation/maintenance tool providing the rules by which the website was created are maintained.