

# THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

## Newsletter

ISSUE No. 63. SEPTEMBER 2011.

### CONVENTION 2011.

Our 42<sup>nd</sup> Convention has come and gone once again, just over three months ago. It was another successful day at The Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot. The attendance was only marginally down, by 6 from 2010's 154, and there were a number of regular attendees missing, due to holidays, illness and other commitments.

Almost all the dealers reported on a successful fair, and many have already paid deposits for 2012. Dealer Table income was £692, plus the deposits of £390 included in last years accounts. Programme adverts were £45 less than in 2010, but the sale of donated items showed an increase of £23. For the first time since 1993, the sale of the Souvenir Card showed a loss of £11, although all the serviced cards sold. Raffle ticket sales totalled £235, an increase of £14, and our thanks go to those clubs and their members that supported the Federation by selling tickets. To partially offset the surplus, £35 was spent on the purchase of some prizes, the other prizes being donated by some Philatelic Bureaux and some members. For these donations we also extend our grateful thanks. The winner of the first prize was Ken Elliott, who was very pleased to receive a bottle of whisky.

On the expenditure side, £117 was spent on the printing of the Programme, publicity leaflets and the souvenir card. The hire of the Theatre increased from £320 to £375, which is still well below the charge that should be made by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. The purchase of the competition trophies and medals came to £68, and judging expenses was £31, with other miscellaneous expenditure totalling £133. In addition, two large banners were bought at a cost of £80, and these were hung outside the theatre to advertise the event. With the wording "Stamp and Postcard Fair here Saturday", they can be made available to clubs hosting our annual "Autumn Day" fair. The total cost of running the Convention this year was around £854.

Alan Bowen (Port Talbot) and Rolf Scharning (Swansea) judged the competition entries, there being 10 senior and 6 junior entries. Our congratulations go to the winners, these being: Philatelic – Neil Jones (Newport); Thematic – Ken Reeves (Swansea); Postal History – Neil Prior (Port Talbot), and Aerophilatelic – Ken Reeves (Swansea). The Junior Primary Schools winner was Emily Davies (Newport), with Rhys Evans (Haverfordwest) receiving the Secondary Schools trophy. The winner of the Dr. Mary Lennox trophy for the best overall entry was won by Neil Prior for his Postal History entry, "Rates to Reform", displaying the effects of the introduction of the General Fourpenny Post, closely followed by the Uniform Penny Post in the period leading up to 1840. Let's see some more entries in 2012 !!

Finally, it was good to see Eric Needs, the Federation's first Chairman (1969-1971) and again between 1991 and 1994 present, if only for a short time in the afternoon.

### CONVENTION 2012 & 2013.

Please advise your members that our 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conventions will be held on SATURDAY 19 MAY 2012 and SATURDAY 18 MAY 2013 respectively, in the Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, Port Talbot, from 10.00am to 4.30pm, admission still being only 50p.

### "AUTUMN DAY" 2011.

This Federation's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Autumn Day" Stamp & Postcard Fair will be held on **SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER** at the **TAIBACH COMMUNITY CENTRE, DUKE STREET, MARGAM, PORT TALBOT SA13 1NA**, from **10.00am to 4.30pm**, and will be hosted by the **Port Talbot society**. Admission will be **50p**.

To date, **6 dealers** have reserved tables, together with **7 societies**. There is limited car parking space at the Community Centre, but plenty of on-street parking in the surrounding area. Light refreshments will be available in the hall, tea/coffee, sandwiches, pasties & sausage rolls, etc, but for those requiring something more substantial, there is a chippy and a pub/restaurant within around 100 yards.

The "Autumn Day" is always a friendly gathering with plenty of bargains to be found amongst the dealers and society tables, so **PLEASE** remind your members of the fair, and help make this another successful Federation event.

### "MIDPEX" 2011.

This very popular and well-attended Fair aimed at Specialist Societies, and held every two years, took place in July at a new venue, The Warwickshire Exhibition Centre near Leamington Spa. With over **60 dealers** present, there was something for everyone, and the members of the **40+ specialist societies**, and others, present had a very enjoyable day. The venue proved to be much larger than that used in 2009, with plenty of space between the stands to move around, although the signposting for the Exhibition Centre could have been improved.

Each specialist society, including the **Welsh Philatelic Society**, was allocated a table, two chairs, and two exhibition frames to publicise their organisation, in the hope of signing new members.

### WELSH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Society's annual residential weekend was held at the Snowdonia National Park Study Centre (Plas Tan y Bwlch) near Porthmadog in June. In addition to the Annual General Meeting, a live/postal auction of Welsh postcards and postal history was held, and there were several late evening "study circles".

The guest speaker this year was **Mike Roberts**, Chairman of the Society of Postal Historians, who entertained those present with a humorous display entitled "**Philately will get you Nowhere – the Pitiful and Wasted Life of a Chronic Stampaholic**". The other displays were given by **Roger Antell** and **Neil Prior**, with displays on "**The South Wales to Southern Ireland Post Road**" and "**A Welsh Postal History Miscellany**" respectively.

The highlight of the weekend was undoubtedly the official launch of a very well illustrated 100-page book by **Roger Antell** entitled **The Mails between South Wales and Southern Ireland – The Milford to Waterford Packet, 1600 to 1850**. Further details of the publication will be sent to all societies shortly, the book being priced at **£9.00 for members** and **£12.00 to non-members**, both prices excluding postage and packing.

The next meeting of the Society will be held in **Bangor** on **SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER**, with a meeting in south Wales on **SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER** in the **Lliedi Suite, The Selwyn Samuel Bowls Centre, LLANELLI**. Both meetings will run from **10.00am to 4.30pm**. At this meeting, **Gerald Marriner** will display a collection of **Antique Writing Implements**, whilst the other display has yet to be decided.

### PORTISHEAD STAMP FAIR.

This Fair, now reduced to a one-day event, was held in August at the **Gordano Comprehensive School, Portishead**, but appeared to be not nearly so well-attended as in past years. Some specialist societies held group meetings in separate rooms in the school, and **Portishead Stamp Auctions** had a viewing of the auction lots as a prelude to their auction held at the same venue on the following day.

**Don't forget our "AUTUMN DAY" fair on 17 SEPTEMBER at the  
Taibach Community Centre in PORT TALBOT**

### SOCIETY NIGHTS.

Sept. 20	Tuesday	Port Talbot	Ralph Evans, "Chairman's Night".
Sept. 21	Wednesday	Newport	Visit from Cardiff.
Sept. 22	Thursday	Bridgend	John Beechey Entertains.
Sept. 22	Thursday	Swansea	Geoff. Cooper, "Chairman's Night".
Sept. 26	Monday	Barry	Visit from Bridgend.
Sept. 29	Thursday	Haverfordwest	Erene Grieve, "Chairperson's Night".
Oct. 12	Wednesday	Carmarthen	Colin Lewis, "Newfoundland Postal History", with a Visit from Haverfordwest and Llanelli.
Oct. 13	Thursday	Bridgend	Visit from Cardiff.
Oct. 18	Tuesday	Cardiff	Chris Griffiths, "Queen Victoria Jubilee Issues".
Oct. 18	Tuesday	Llanelli	Brian Jones, "Registered Letters & Labels".
Oct. 20	Thursday	Haverfordwest	Stuart Miles, Haverfordwest Postcards & Photographs".
Nov. 9	Wednesday	Carmarthen	Duncan Weakes, "Carmarthen Postcards".
Nov. 14	Monday	Barry	Visit from Newport.
Nov. 15	Tuesday	Cardiff	Visit from Barry.
Nov. 15	Tuesday	Port Talbot	Alison Vincent Davies, "Shooting & Weightlifting".
Nov. 24	Thursday	Bridgend	John Kay Entertains.

A number of clubs have yet to send me a copy of their Programme for the coming season for inclusion in this column, so those of you who have yet to do so, please let me have a copy as soon as possible. Also at this time, if your club has had a change of Secretary, Treasurer, Packet Secretary or change of venue, please let me know so that I can amend the Federation Handbook.

### DRAGON FAIRS.

September 7	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall.	FREE ADMISSION TO ALL FAIRS
September 8	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street.	
October 5	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall.	
October 6	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street.	
November 2	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall.	
November 3	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street.	
December 7	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall.	
December 8	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street.	

For further information on these and other DRAGON FAIRS, contact Chris Doble on 01446 741026.

### M J PROMOTIONS.

The next dates for the remainder of the year for these Collectors Fairs, held in the CITY HALL, CARDIFF, are:

**SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER and SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER.**

For further information on these and other M J PROMOTIONS, contact Malcolm Harrington on 01792 415293.

*The Federation of South Wales Philatelic Societies*

**WORKING FOR THE COLLECTORS OF  
SOUTH WALES**

### SWANSEA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Following on from the successful Stamp and Postcard Fair held last March at the Glamorgan Arms, Pontlliw, Swansea, the society are planning on holding a similar event next year on **SATURDAY 24 MARCH 2012**, but at a different venue, the **NEW LODGE, ALEXANDRA ROAD, GORSEINON, SWANSEA, SA4 4PE**, from **10.00am to 4.30pm**, admission being **50p**. The venue is considerably larger than the Glamorgan Arms, with a larger car park and easier access for dealers.

Full details, with directions, will be sent to all societies in due course.

### GREAT BRITAIN STAMP PROGRAMME, 2012.

For those of you who can still afford to collect the new issues of this country, the Programme for 2012 promising to be just as exciting (not the right word, perhaps) and expensive (definitely the right word) as the issues this year. If you have bought one of everything available on the commemorative front, excluding new Machins, Post & Go, etc, you will have, to date, spent **over £400**. This includes a set of stamps, Presentations Packs, First Day Covers, Prestige Booklets, PHQ Cards, Coin Covers, Miniature Sheets, and anything else the Royal Mail can think of the separate you and your hard earned cash. And there are still **four issues** to come this year.

The proposed Programme for 2012, subject to late alterations and inclusions, will be:

January	Roald Dahl.
February	Kings & Queens, Series 6 – The House of Windsor.
February	Diamond Jubilee Definitives.
February	Britons of Distinction.
March	Classic Locomotives of Scotland.
March	The World of Comics.
April	A – Z of Briton, Series 2.
May	Design Classics – Fashion.
May	The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
June	Charles Dickens.
July	Olympic & Paralympic Games – Welcome.
September	Olympic & Paralympic Games – Memories.
October	World of Dinosaurs.
October	Space Science.
November	Christmas.

33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL "AUTUMN DAY"

## STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR

HOSTED BY

PORT TALBOT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

ON

SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2011

IN THE

TAIBACH COMMUNITY CENTRE

DUKE STREET, MARGAM, PORT TALBOT, SA13 1NA

FROM

10.00am to 4.30pm

ADMISSION 50p.