

# THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

## Newsletter

**ISSUE No. 72. SEPTEMBER 2014.**

I thought that it was time for a change in our banner headline, the previous one having been in use since April 2006. I trust that it goes some way to satisfying our membership, at least those who get around to reading it!

### CHRIS DOBLE.

I am sure that all members will have been saddened to hear of the passing of Chris a month or so ago. Since his retirement, Chris had taken up dealing full-time, and was an ever-present figure at all Federation conventions and Autumn Days. With his varied stock of postcards, stamps, postal history and collections, Chris invariably had something for everyone. In addition, Chris organised the monthly fair's in Neath and Cardiff, as well as the April and October fairs in Barry, and also attended other fairs, Portishead and Swindon being two examples.

Our sincere condolences go to his wife and family – he will be greatly missed.

### CONVENTION 2014.

All societies should have received the provisional accounts for our Convention last May, which showed a surplus of almost £420.

The most disappointing feature was, once more, a reduction in the attendance, with only 118 paying to come in, to this, the only event of its kind in Wales. Members will appreciate that our Federation in run on the proceeds from this event, and without the support of ALL affiliated clubs and their members, this downward trend could, in a few years time, see the disappearance of the Convention, in its present form, from our philatelic calendar. The dealers will only attend if it is worth their while, and that usually means more people attending and spending more money. Already a few dealers who attended last May have said that they will not be attending in 2015. Colin Lewis, who has contact with, and reserves table for the dealers, is finding it more and more difficult to persuade dealers to come to Port Talbot. It has also been commented on, that some members of the more local clubs do not attend, even if it's only for an hour or so in the morning or afternoon.

On the income side, programme adverts increased by £25 to £170, but the only raffle yielded £217, down by around £20, and the sales of donated material only brought in a very disappointing £9, down by £39.

As far as the expenditure is concerned, the printing of the programmes and publicity leaflets cost £96, judging expenses totalled £37, and the purchase of competition trophies and medals came to £76+, and other miscellaneous expenses were £142. The hire of the Princess Royal Theatre remained at £525. The cost of running the Convention this year was £877.

Our congratulations go to the annual competition winners: Thematic – **Les Ashton-Smith, (Newport)**; Postal History – **Neil Prior, (Port Talbot)**, and Aerophilately – **Rolf Scharning (Swansea)**, Rolf also winning the Dr. Mary Lennox trophy for the "Best in Show" for his entry "**Glider Mail in Germany, 1923-1930**". There was a meagre six entries in the Senior classes, and a pleasing ten junior entries. The "Primary Schools" winner was **Carys Llewellyn**, and **Rhys Evans** won the "Secondary Schools" cup.



### CONVENTION 2015.

Please note that, as previously advised, our **46<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention** will be held a week later than usual, at **The Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, Port Talbot**, on **SATURDAY, 23 MAY 2015**.

### THE WELSH POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

At the annual residential weekend at Plas Tan y Bwlch, near Porthmadog in June, it was agreed, after a democratic postal vote of all members, to change the name of the society from **The Welsh Philatelic Society**. It was felt that this more accurately reflected the collecting interests of members.

During the weekend, there was a not too serious (but eagerly contested) "Ronnie Hughes Memorial Egg Cup" competition, a live/postal auction with sales in excess of £2,000, and displays by member **Julian Tweed** and a collation of some of the displays given to the Royal Philatelic Society, London earlier in the year by WPS and other members. This was organised by **John Perry**. The guest speaker was **Colin Lewis**, who entertained members with his International award-winning collection of **Newfoundland Postal History**. There were also some dealer-members present with their stocks.

### "AUTUMN DAY" STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR.

This popular Federation event is being hosted this year by the **Newport Society**, at the **Graig Community Centre, Bassaleg, NEWPORT, NP10 8LG**, on **SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER**, from **10.00 to 4.00**, admission being **50p**. There is ample free car parking at the centre, and light refreshments will be available.

Full details and directions have been sent to all affiliated societies, there being **8 dealers** and **8 clubs** having reserved table space.

For further information, contact **John Perry** on **01633 881068**.

### CARDIFF POSTCARD FAIR.

This well-attended fair, organised by the South Wales Postcard Club, and held every April and October, will next be held on **SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER**, in the **Penylan/Roath Library and Community Centre**, from **10.00am to 3.30pm**. Light refreshments are available, and there is on-street parking in the surrounding area.

Around **20** postcard dealers usually attend, and for further information, contact the Secretary, **Trevor Brown** on **01633 412598**, and for a directional map, ring **029 20624375**.

## THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

*Working for the  
Collectors of South Wales*



### SOCIETY NIGHTS.

Sept. 23	Port Talbot	Tuesday	Gareth Thomas, "Chairman's Night".
Sept. 25	Bridgend	Thursday	Maureen Phillips Entertains.
Oct. 8	Carmarthen	Wednesday	Visit from Haverfordwest & Llanelli.
Oct. 8	Newport	Wednesday	Visit from Cardiff.
Oct. 14	Cardiff	Tuesday	Paul Clarke, Rhodesian Railway Parcel Cancellations".
Oct. 16	Swansea	Thursday	Rolf Scharning, "Chairman's Night".
Oct. 27	Barry	Monday	Visit from Newport.
Nov. 11	Cardiff	Tuesday	Visit from Barry.
Nov. 12	Carmarthen	Wednesday	Richard Hirst, "Foreign Stamp Anniversaries & Philatelic Exhibitions".
Nov. 13	Swansea	Thursday	Gareth James, "Gibraltar Government Mail".
Nov. 27	Haverfordwest	Thursday	Erene Grieve, "Chairperson's Night".
Dec. 2	Port Talbot	Tuesday	Roy Evans Entertains, "Postcard Film Show".
Dec. 10	Carmarthen	Wednesday	Duncan Weekes, "Carmarthen Postcards".

If any club has yet to send me a copy of their Programme for the 2014 – 2015 season, I shall be pleased to receive a copy, and don't forget to forward a copy to **John Perry** for inclusion on the Federation's website.

### DRAGON FAIRS.

3 September	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	<b>FREE ADMISSION TO ALL DRAGON FAIRS.</b>
4 September	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street, CF5 1JP.	
1 October	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
2 October	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street, CF5 1JP.	
5 November	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
6 November	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street, CF5 1JP.	
3 December	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
4 December	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham Street, CF5 1JP.	

For further information on these and other **Dragon Fairs**, contact **Mark Grimsley** on 0117 9623203 or 07773 566994.

### M J PROMOTIONS

The dates for these Collectors Fairs, held in the **CITY HALL, CARDIFF**, for the remainder of the year. Are:

**SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER and SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> December.**

For further information on these and other **M J Promotions**, contact **Malcolm Harrington** on 01792 416293.

### "LONDON 2015 – EUROPHILEX".

This major International Stamp Exhibition, to be held at the **Business Design Centre, Islington, LONDON, N1 0QH**, will take place from **Wednesday 13 to Saturday 16 May 2015**. For further information, visit [www.london2015.net](http://www.london2015.net).

It is anticipated that there will be **1,400 frames of competitive exhibits**, plus a **20 frame "Court of Honour"**, plus a large number of dealer's stands.



## **BIRMINGHAM STAMP AUCTIONS.**

**Barry Faulkner** runs these collectors auctions every two months on a Wednesday in the centre of **Ross on Wye**, having previously been in Worcester and Leominster. This is now probably the nearest stamp/postcard/postal history to Wales. A recent innovation has been live internet bidding. For further information, go to [www.birauctions.co.uk](http://www.birauctions.co.uk), or contact **Barry** on **01989 760529**.

## **NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM.**

After years of uncertainty, it now appears that we will have a new National Postal Museum in 2016, after the old one closed in 1998. The British Postal Museum & Archive has been awarded **£4.5m** by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This means that 95% of the required funding is now in place, and building work is expected to begin before the autumn at **Calthorpe House**, near to the current BPMA premises at Mount Pleasant. As part of the plans, "Mail Rail", the former underground railway operated by the Post Office will be refurbished and opened as a visitor attraction.

THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

36<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL "AUTUMN DAY"

# **STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR**

WILL BE HOSTED BY

**NEWPORT PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

ON

**SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

AT THE

**GRAIG COMMUNITY CENTRE, BASSALEG,  
NEWPORT, NP10 8LG**

FROM

**10.00am to 4.00pm**

**ADMISSION 50p**