

THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



Newsletter



ISSUE No. 73 DECEMBER 2014.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2014.

This was held on **Saturday 25 October** at the **Public Hall, Heol Las, North Cornelly**. There were **16** members present representing only **9** of the 12 affiliated societies, those not represented being **Aberystwyth University, Haverfordwest, and Pontypridd**.

The Federation Chairman, **Geoff. Cooper (Swansea)**, thanked all those members who had been involved in the organisation of the Annual Convention, and especially those members of the **Newport Society**, who had organised a very successful "Autumn Day" Stamp & Postcard Fair.

The Federation Treasurer, **Colin Lewis (Swansea)**, presented the accounts for the year, together with an additional document showing that the Federation had made a loss of around **£500** over the previous three years, although the Annual Convention had provided a surplus during this period. He added that declining attendances at the Convention was proving to be a recurring problem. Following a long discussion on various points raised, the Treasurer's Report was accepted, although it was decided that further discussion was merited by the Executive Committee.

The Exchange Packet Organiser, **Reg. Lyon (Bridgend)**, reported on two queries on **Circuit 68**, one of which involved a complete book missing from the Port Talbot box, but this had been resolved. The more serious incident occurred when some mint decimal stamp and booklet panes had been removed from the Bridgend packet, leaving only the booklet covers. This had been discovered whilst the packet was in circulation at the Cardiff club.

The following members were elected to serve as Officers of the Federation for the coming year: President, **Charlie Williams (Carmarthen)**; Chairman, **John Perry (Newport)**; Vice-Chairman, **Graham Bean (Cardiff)**; Secretary, **Neil Prior (Port Talbot)**; Treasurer, **Colin Lewis (Swansea)**; Accounts Examiner, **Charlie Williams (Carmarthen)**; Exchange Packet Organiser, **Reg. Lyon (Bridgend)**, and Youth Officer, **Erene Grieve (Haverfordwest)**.

In his **President's Address**, **Charlie Williams (Carmarthen)**, thanked the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer for all the work they had done over the past twelve months to ensure the smooth running of the Federation and our Annual Convention. He also congratulated **John Perry** and all the members, wives/partners of the **Newport** society for the work involved in the arrangements for a very successful "Autumn Day" Stamp & Postcard Fair in September.

The Secretary, **Neil Prior (Port Talbot)**, in the final report on the **2014 Convention**, commented on the declining attendance at the Convention, adding that some dealers were unhappy with their day and would not be returning in 2015. adding that if this situation were to continue, there was a danger to the event itself continuing in its present form. He added that it cost over **£870** to run the convention this year.

In his preliminary report on the 2015 Convention, **Colin Lewis (Swansea)** confirmed that this would be held on **SATURDAY 23 MAY 2015**, a week later than usual, at the **Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, Port Talbot**. Colin confirmed that he was experiencing great difficulty in getting dealers to attend our Convention, and anticipated fewer dealers would be present next year. Fewer dealers meant a reduction of income, and there was a possibility that the event would incur a loss for the first time. This would have repercussions for the Federation as a whole.

There had been no offers to host the "Autumn Day" Stamp & Postcard Fair in 2015, and after some discussion, **Carmarthen and Llanelli** agreed to investigate the possibility of a jointly run event, and the **Bridgend** society also agreed to investigate the possibility of hosting the day.

THE SWANSEA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

As a result of problems experienced with the room allocated to the society at the venue of the club's meeting place, the **Swansea Bridge Club, 22 St. James Gardens, Swansea, SA1 6DY**, it has been decided that, as from **12 January 2015**, meetings will be held on a **Monday**, instead of the traditional Thursday. This means that we can now have a larger room on the ground floor, making for easier access for some of our older members.

THE WELSH POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The society held its annual November meeting in The Selwyn Samuel Bowls Centre in Llanelli recently, when **Gerald Marriner** continued showing further aspects of his **Pembrokeshire** postal history/postcard collection in the morning. After lunch, **Neil Prior** displayed a **Welsh Postal History Miscellany**. The day was completed by a series of mini-displays by some of the members present. A very enjoyable day was had by all, it was just a shame that more members weren't present to view the many fine items on show.

GREAT BRITAIN STAMPS.

For those of you who still collect the current stamps of Great Britain, and if you bought 1 of everything available, stamps, First Day Covers, Presentation Packs, Miniature Sheets, etc., you will have spent over **£335**. Whilst this is sizeable reduction from the mammoth **£508** last year, this still does not include any new Machin definitives, "Post & Go" issues, or "Smilers" sheets, it should, perhaps, be remembered that you are unlikely to recoup more than **70 - 75%** of your outlay.

Having said that, and for those members who are still interested (and rich enough!) the Royal Mail have planned the following **14** issues for the twelve months of 2015:

6 January	Alice in Wonderland.
20 January	Smilers.
19 February	Inventive Britain.
5 March	Bridges.
1 April	Comedy Greats.
6 May	Penny Black Anniversary.
14 May	First World War, 2015.
2 June	Magna Carta.
18 June	Battle of Waterloo.
16 July	Battle of Britain.
18 August	Bees.
18 September	Rugby World Cup.
10 October	To be Confirmed.
3 November	Christmas.



ABPS NEWS.

Whilst reading through the most recent issue, it was noticeable that there were no reports of meetings for any of our **eight affiliated societies**, nor from our specialist member, **The Welsh Postal History Society**. In fact, I had to go back **4 issues** before finding an entry from the **Cardiff** club.

This is a good outlet to advertise **your** society and what you get up to during the collecting season. So, come on, show that there are stamp, postal history and postcard collectors alive and well in Wales! It's a good way of advertising your club for the price of a 2nd class stamp. The deadline for the next issue of "ABPS News" is **31 December**, followed by **31 March 2015, 31 July and 31 October**.

Information goes to **Keith Burton, 6 Old Trough Way, HARROGATE, North Yorkshire, HG1 3DE, (tel. 01423 569907)** or editor@abps.org.uk

SOCIETY NIGHTS.

12 Jan.	Monday	Barry	Colin Lewis, "Philately of the Balkans".
22 Jan.	Thursday	Bridgend	Nigel McGaw Entertains.
28 Jan.	Tuesday	Newport	Alistair MacKinnon, "Chairman's Night".
3 Feb.	Tuesday	Port Talbot	Neil Prior, "Egypt".
9 Feb.	Monday	Barry	John Waud, "Nasty Postcards".
11 Feb.	Wednesday	Carmarthen	Gareth James, "Comic Postcards".
3 Mar.	Tuesday	Cardiff	Visit from Newport.
9 Mar.	Monday	Barry	John Perry, "A Swedish Miscellany".
11 Mar.	Wednesday	Carmarthen	Dan Jones, "A Welsh Philatelic Eye-opener".
12 Mar.	Thursday	Bridgend	Visit from Barry.
12 Mar.	Thursday	Haverfordwest	Visit from Carmarthen.
26 Mar.	Thursday	Bridgend	Brian Brandon Entertains & Visit from Cardiff.
9 Apr.	Thursday	Bridgend	Visit from Newport.
14 Apr.	Tuesday	Cardiff	Joseph Iredale (Cavendish), "P.O.W. Fantasy Stamps & The Spanish-American War, 1898".
22 Apr.	Wednesday	Newport	Visit from Hereford.
27 Apr.	Monday	Barry	Visit from Cardiff.
11 May	Monday	Swansea	Neil Prior, "President's Night".
12 May	Tuesday	Cardiff	Visit from Bridgend.



DRAGON COLLECTORS FAIRS.

7 January	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	FREE ADMISSION TO ALL DRAGON COLLECTORS FAIRS.
8 January	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St.	
4 February	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
5 February	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St.	
4 March	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
5 March	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St.	
1 April	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
2 April	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St.	
6 May	Wednesday	NEATH	The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL.	
7 May	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St, CF5 1JP.	

For further information on these and other Dragon Collectors Fairs, contact Trevor King on 01522 857343 or 07949 605594.

M J PROMOTIONS.

The dates for these Collectors Fairs, held in the City Hall, Cardiff, for the remainder of 2014, and during 2015 are:

Saturday, 13 December 2014, and 7 February, 11 April, 4 July, 10 October and 12 December 2015.

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



Merry Christmas



CHRISTMAS COMPETITION.

This year's competition is a variation on the "Wordsearch" theme. Hidden in the grid are the names of 21 "dead" countries/states no longer issuing stamps. Beginning with the red letter "B" in the fifth row, follow a continuous path to find the answers. The trail passes through each and every letter **once only**, and may twist up, down, left or right, but **never diagonally**.

L	I	O	C	K	R	F	E	Z	Z	A
E	O	B	A	K	A	W	A	A	P	N
H	O	A	T	J	H	A	L	R	I	I
A	M	N	G	A	S	K	E	M	N	D
I	C	B	A	C	I	M	I	A	F	A
L	I	R	M	D	N	A	L	C	I	R
I	C	A	R	O	I	J	A	A	U	C
F	R	A	A	B	O	K	C	C	A	A
A	A	S	D	N	C	A	R	S	U	T
I	R	G	I	U	K	P	E	C	A	N
B	A	N	A	B	L	A	T	A	N	Y

When you have completed the grid, please list the countries or states you have passed through, in order, in the spaces below:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please return your completed entry to Neil Prior, 20 Heol y Sheet, North Cornelly, BRIDGEND, CF33 4EY, no later than **31 January 2015**, remembering to add your **name and society** on the reverse of your entry.

WISHING ALL OUR MEMBERS
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY
AND PROSPEROUS 2015, AND
GOOD HUNTING PHILATELICALLY.



ON BEHALF OF ALL THE
OFFICERS
OF THE FEDERATION

