

THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Newsletter

ISSUE No. 74 APRIL 2015.

ANNUAL CONVENTION – 2015.

Our 46th Annual Convention will be with us again next month, and will be held on **SATURDAY 23rd MAY** in **THE PRINCESS ROYAL THEATRE, CIVIC CENTRE, PORT TALBOT, SA13 1PJ**, from **10.00am to 4.30pm**, admission being **50p**.

The Official Opening Ceremony will be performed by the Mayor of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Cllr. Arthur Davies at **12.00 noon**, and this will be followed by the Presentation of Awards, and the Raffle Prize Draw. Please note that the parking outside the Theatre is now chargeable, at **£3.30 for over 4 hours**, and light refreshments will be available in the hall. For those requiring something more substantial, there are a number of cafes, restaurants, and pubs within a short walk, and for more detailed information, check at the Federation Table in the hall.

To date, **14 dealers** have reserved tables, and these are, subject to any late change: **Eddie Foley** (Pontypridd); **Dave Foster** (Nottingham), **Mark Grimsley** (Westbury on Trym), **Malcolm Harrington** (Swansea), **Roy Holliss** (Chepstow), **Tony & Rosa Lawrence** (Reading), **Minster Stamps** (Lincoln), **Bill Pipe (Magpie)** (Poole), **Chris Proctor** (Winchcombe), **Brian Purcell** (Worcester), **"Dave Salter"** (Cardiff), **Phil Smith** (Saundersfoot), **Sheila & Peter Steer** (Southerndown), and **"Raflet"**. The only new dealers this year are **Sheila and Peter Steer**.

The **Convention Programme**, free on admission, contains all you need to know about the various attractions inside the hall, as well as information on the **South Wales Federation** and the affiliated societies. The **Annual Competition** entries are listed, and will be displayed on the stage. Raffle tickets will be on sale during the morning, the draw being held at around **12.30pm**.

The Annual Convention is one of only **two days** in the year (the **"Autumn Day"** being the other) when the Federation asks for the active support and physical presence of its members. **THIS MEANS YOU !!!** So please, make every effort to come along to **The Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot on SATURDAY 23rd MAY**, even if it's only for an hour or so, as the attendance was extremely disappointing last year. **Another downward trend in attendances could mean the loss of the event in its present form, the only stamp & postcard fair of its kind in Wales.**

You never know, you might find that elusive stamp, postcard or cover you've been searching years for might be lurking in one of the dealers stockbooks or boxes, just waiting for **YOU** to come along and find it.

SEE YOU THERE !!!

THE WELSH POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Welsh Postal History Society will be holding its **39th Annual Residential Weekend**, in the **Snowdonia National Park Study Centre (Plas Tan y Bwlch)** from **Thursday, 25th June to Sunday, 28th June**, a week later than usual.

The guest speaker this year will be **Dr. Eric Coulton**, who will show parts of his **Tanganyika and German East Africa** collections. The displays by members this year will be by Chairman **Dan Jones**, with **"The View from Number 1"**, on the Saturday evening. On Sunday morning, **Cedric Prys-Roberts** will entertain members with **"A Letter from America"**, to be followed by a joint display when **"The Ladies Entertain"**.

In addition to the displays, there will be a light-hearted but very keenly fought **"Egg-Cup"** competition, a live/postal auction of Welsh postcards and postal history, the societies Annual General Meeting, dealer-members tables, static displays, and late evening **"study circle"** meeting in the bar.

If any member of the societies affiliated to this Federation is interested in joining the WPHS, please contact **Neil Prior** on **01656 740520**.

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION.

The answers to the Christmas Competition in last December's "Newsletter" were, in the order required, **Bamra, Cilicia, Moheli, Obock, Katanga, Jhalawar, Fezzan, Idar, Ifni, Parma, Cauca, Tuscany, Natal, Bundi, Angra, Biafra, Saar, Obock, Perak, Jind, Ciskei, and Malacca**. The deliberate inclusion of **Obock** twice did not manage to fool those of you who entered ! The winner was **Roger Williams** of the **Cardiff** society.

BIRMINGHAM STAMP AUCTIONS.

These collectables auctions, held every other month on a **Wednesday**, are organised by **Barry Faulkner** at his premises at **Units 1 & 2, Cantelupe Court, Cantelupe Road, Ross on Wye, HR9 7AN**. The dates for the remainder of the year are **17th June, 19th August, 21st October, and 9th December**. The auctions start at **11.00am**, with viewing from **9.00am**. Whilst car parking on Cantelupe Road, in the centre of **Ross on Wye**, is time restricted, there are several **"Pay & Display"** car parks a short walk away.

Apart from the expected philatelic content, the auctions include coins and medals, banknotes, books, toys, autographs, cigarette cards, and railway and other paper ephemera. I'm sure that a 'phone call to Barry on **01989 769529** will secure a free copy of the auction catalogue, which usually contains **1000 – 1100 lots**.

A recent departure has been a **monthly Collectors Fair**, with up to **12 dealers** attending, the **2015** dates for these being **30th May, 27th June, 25th July, 29th August, 26th September, 31st October, and 21st November**.

*The Federation of
South Wales Philatelic Societies*
**WORKING FOR THE COLLECTORS
OF SOUTH WALES**

SOCIETY NIGHTS.

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 27 April | Monday | Barry | Visit from Cardiff. |
| 5 May | Tuesday | Llanelli | Keith Coles Entertains. |
| 6 May | Wednesday | Newport | "Ladies Night". |
| 11 May | Monday | Swansea | Neil Prior, President's Night". |
| 12 May | Tuesday | Cardiff | Visit from Bridgend. |
| 22 June | Monday | Barry | Brian Brandon Entertains. |

Don't forget to send me a copy of your Programme for the coming season as soon as it has been arranged, for inclusion in "Society Nights".

DRAGON COLLECTORS FAIRS.

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|-------------|-----------|---------|---|------------|
| 6 May | Wednesday | NEATH | The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL. | |
| 7 May | Thursday | CARDIFF | Methodist Church, Nottingham St, CF5 1JP. | |
| 3 June | Wednesday | NEATH | The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL. | FREE |
| 4 June | Thursday | CARDIFF | Methodist Church, Nottingham St. | ADMISSION |
| 5 August | Wednesday | NEATH | The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL. | TO ALL |
| 6 August | Thursday | CARDIFF | Methodist Church, Nottingham St. | DRAGON |
| 2 September | Wednesday | NEATH | The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL. | COLLECTORS |
| 3 September | Thursday | CARDIFF | Methodist Church, Nottingham St. | FAIRS. |
| 7 October | Wednesday | NEATH | The Old Town Hall, SA11 3LL. | |
| 8 October | Thursday | CARDIFF | Methodist Church, Nottingham St. | |

For further information on these and other Dragon Collectors Fairs, contact Trevor King on 01552 857343, or 07949 605594.

M J PROMOTIONS.

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

SATURDAY 4 JULY, SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER, and SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER.

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

CARDIFF POSTCARD FAIR.

These well-attended Postcard Fairs, organised twice a year by the Cardiff Postcard Club, will move to a new venue for the next event, to be held on Saturday 17th October. The new venue will be The St. David's Catholic Sixth Form College, Ty Gwyn Road. This is only a few hundred yards from the previous venue, the Penylan/Roath Library & Community Centre, Cardiff, CF23 5HW. There is, I understand, sufficient car parking space at the new college

There are usually around 20 postcard dealers attending, admission being £1.00. For further information, contact Trevor Brown on 01633 412598.

SUMMER STAMP & POSTCARD FAIRS.

During the coming months, there are a number of Stamp and Postcard Fairs around the country, and those of you taking holidays or long weekends might be able to visit one or more of these during your breaks. The main fairs to consider are:

“WORPEX”.

To be held on **Saturday 6 May**, from **10.00am to 4.00pm** at the **Tudor Grange Academy, Bilford Road, WORCESTER, WR3 8HN**. This is near to **Junction 6** on the **M 5** There will be **40+ dealers**, with refreshments available and free admission, free programme, and free but limited car parking. For further information, including details of a shuttle bus service, see www.worpex.com.

“EUROPHILEX, LONDON 2015”.

This International Exhibition will be held at **The Business Design Centre, Upper Street, Islington, London, N1 0QH**, from **13 – 16 May**, with **125+ dealers & postal administrations**. Doors open at **10.00am**, with a **£10.00** entry charge on the first day, with free entry on other days. In addition, there will be **1500 frames** of competitive exhibits and invited displays. For further information, see www.london2015.net.

“SWINPEX”.

Another popular one-day fair, to be held on **Saturday, 13 June**, from **10.00am to 4.30pm** at **St. Joseph’s Catholic College, Ocotal Way, Swindon, SN3 3LR**. There will be around **46 dealers** attending, with some **12 specialist societies** holding morning or afternoon meetings. Light refreshments are available and there is ample free parking. Admission is **£1.00 by Programme**.

“MIDPEX”.

This well-attended and popular event, held on alternate years, will take place on **Saturday 4 July** at the **Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Fosse Way, LEAMINGTON SPA, CV31 1XN**. Although an out of town location and difficult to find, there is ample free car parking. There are usually about **70 dealers** present, plus **40 specialist societies**. For further information, see www.midpex.wordpress.com.

YORK.

To be held at the **York Racecourse Grandstand**, on **Friday 17 and Saturday 18 July**, with free admission and ample car parking. This is probably the best fair outside London, and there are usually around **100 dealers** (plus 50 coin dealers) present. There is also the historic city of York, with its many attractions, making this a great place to spend a weekend or more, there is so much to see in the city and the surrounding countryside.

PORTISHEAD.

A popular fair for south Wales collectors, I believe that this will be held at the **Gordano Comprehensive School, Portishead** on **Saturday 15 August**, although this date has yet to be confirmed.

“AUTUMN DAY” STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR.

To date, I have not yet received confirmation that any society is prepared to host our annual autumn get-together. Both **Carmarthen** and **Llanelli** clubs have been unable to make any arrangements, and I am now waiting for **Bridgend** and/or **Barry** to contact me.

It would be a great shame if 2015 became the first year since the first event in 1979, in Cowbridge, that we will have failed to hold an “Autumn Day”.

*SEE YOU IN PORT TALBOT
ON SATURDAY, 23rd MAY*