

THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Newsletter

ISSUE No. 75 SEPTEMBER 2015.

CONVENTION 2015.

All societies should have received the provisional accounts relating to our annual convention last May, which showed a surplus of **£414**.

Again, the most disappointing feature was the slight reduction in attendance, with **115** paying at the door to come in to what is the only event of its kind in Wales. Fortunately, most of the dealers said that they had a successful day, although some were not so forthcoming, and are unlikely to return next year, this including a dealer who has been coming for at least 10 years. On a good note, there were three late dealers, in addition to those printed in the programme, taking the total up to 17. Of these three, one has already paid a deposit for 2016.

Dealer-adverts in the Convention Programme provided **£165**, with sales of donated material from some Philatelic Bureaux a disappointing **£12.61**. Raffle ticket sales this year totalled **£239.25**, including **£57.00** sold at the admission table. I would like to thank those clubs who supported the Federation by selling tickets to their members, with over **£51** being added to the funds of the participating clubs. Once again, some prizes were "bought in", some being supplied by a few Philatelic Bureaux, and some were donated by members. On the expenditure side of the accounts, in total, it cost around **£850** to run the Convention this year.

It should be remembered that any surplus from the Convention contributes greatly to the running of the Federation as a whole, and without the **FULL** support of all affiliated societies and their members, this will have an on-going effect on the Federation as a whole. One experienced and respected member of one society was overheard to comment at a meeting of his club "I haven't bothered to go for many years". The individual societies contributions to the Federation raffle were:

Barry	20.00
Bridgend	11.25
Br. Rail	8.00
Cardiff	15.00
Carmarthen	26.25
Haverfordwest	20.00
Llanelli	5.25
Newport	11.25
Pontypridd	11.25
Port Talbot	24.00
Swansea	30.00
Convention Day	57.00
	£239.25

In the Annual Competition, our thanks go to **Geoff. Cooper and Colin Lewis** for judging the entries, with **8 senior and a very disappointing 4 junior entries**. The individual winners were: **Philatelic – David Toft (Swansea); Thematic – Les Ashton-Smith (Newport); Postal History – John Perry (Newport); Aerophilately – Rolf Scharning (Swansea); Junior Thematic (Primary Schools) – Carys Llewellyn (Haverfordwest), and Junior Thematic (Secondary Schools) – Rhys Evans (Haverfordwest)**. The winner of the Dr. Mary Lennox trophy for the best overall entry was **John Perry** with his entry of "Finland – The Postal Services During the Second World War". There were no Great Britain entries again the year, **more effort required in 2016, please**.

CONVENTION 2016.

Please make a note in your diary, and advise any stamp, postcard and postal history collectors you know, that our **47th Annual Convention** will be held on **SATURDAY, 21 MAY 2016** in the **Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, PORT TALBOT SA13 1PJ**, from **10.00am to 4.30pm**, admission being **50p**.

FEDERATION "AUTUMN DAY" STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR.

This year, our **38th Annual "Autumn Day" Stamp & Postcard Fair** is being hosted by the **BARRY** society, and will be held on **SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER** in the **ST. RICHARD GWYNNCATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, ARGAE LANE, BARRY, CF63 1BL**, from **10.00am to 4.00pm**, with admission being **£1.00**. As usual at this event, there will be a mix of dealers and society tables, with the chance of picking up a bargain or three. For further information, contact the Secretary of the **Barry** society, **Noel Jenkinson**, on **01446 412616**, or njenkinson1@gmail.com

THE WELSH POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The newly named **Welsh Postal History Society**, founded in 1969 as the **Welsh Philatelic Society**, will be holding its annual South Wales meeting on **SATURDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2015** in the **Selwyn Samuel Bowls Centre, Parc Crescent, LLANELLI, SA15 3AE**, from **10.00am to 4.30pm**. There will be a nominal **£5.00 Registration Fee**, to cover morning and afternoon tea/coffee & biscuits, and light refreshments will be available lunchtime at a small charge. It is anticipated that 1 or 2 dealers-members will be present with their stocks. The Programme for the day will be:

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| 10.00 – 10.30 | Arrival, tea/coffee & Biscuits, & dealers. |
| 10.30 – 11.15 | Cedric Prys-Roberts , "A Letter to America". |
| 11.15 – 12.00 | Colin Lewis , "Transported Down Under". |
| 12.00 – 12.45 | Mini-displays by members (Up to 18 sheets) |
| 12.45 – 2.00 | Lunch |
| 2.00 – 3.15 | Neil Prior , "Swansea Town sub-post offices". |
| 3.15 – 4.00 | Mini Displays by members (Up to 18 sheets).. |
| 4.00 – 4.30 | Tea/coffee & biscuits & depart. |

For further information, contact **Neil Prior** on **01656 740520**.

BRISTOL POSTCARD FAIR.

This annual postcard fair, organised by the **Bristol Postcard Club**, is moving to a new venue next month, **GORDANO SCHOOL, St. Mary's Road, PORTISHEAD, BS20 7QR**, on **SATURDAY, 31 OCTOBER**, from **10.00am to 4.00pm**. Over **40 dealers** are scheduled to attend, but no charge for entry is noted on the publicity leaflet I have received, so be prepared to pay a nominal sum if you go. Those of you familiar with **Portishead Stamp Auctions** will be aware that this is the same venue, and will know that there is easy access from **Junction 19** on the **M5**. For further information contact **Michael** on **0117 9665071**.

CARDIFF POSTCARD FAIR.

This well-attended Postcard Fair, held every April and October, is also moving to a new venue, the **St. David's Catholic 6th Form College, Ty Gwyn Road, CARDIFF, CF23 5JB**, and the date for the next fair will be **SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER**. The new venue is only a few hundred yards from the previous venue, the **Penylan/Roath Library & Community Centre**. I understand that there is sufficient car parking space at the College, something that was lacking at the Library.

There are usually around **20 postcard dealers** attending, admission being **£1.00**, and for further information, contact **Richard Phillips** on **02920 693040**.

SOCIETY NIGHTS.

Sept. 23	Port Talbot	Wednesday	Gareth Thomas, "Chairman's Night".
Sept. 28	Swansea	Monday	Rolf Scharning, "Chairman's Night".
Sept. 30	Newport	Wednesday	Visit from Cardiff.
Oct. 14	Carmarthen	Wednesday	Visit from Haverfordwest and Llanelli.
Oct. 14	Newport	Wednesday	Mike Breward, "Helicopters".
Oct. 20	Llanelli	Tuesday	Brian Jones, "Australian Mini-Sheets".
Oct. 22	Bridgend	Thursday	Visit from Cardiff.
Nov. 9	Swansea	Monday	Colin Lewis, "Montenegro".
Nov. 11	Newport	Wednesday	Visit from Bridgend.
Nov. 11	Carmarthen	Wednesday	Richard Hirst, "Postal History of the United Kingdom".
Dec. 2	Port Talbot	Wednesday	Neil Prior Entertains.
Dec. 9	Carmarthen	Wednesday	Gareth James, "Gibraltar Incoming Mail".

If your club has yet to send me a copy of your Programme for the coming season, I shall be pleased to receive a copy as soon as possible, and don't forget to forward a copy to **John Perry** for inclusion on the Federation's website.

Looking at the above list, it would appear that was the most popular evening for our societies to meet, but a check of the Federation Handbook shows that **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** each have **3** clubs meeting on those evenings, some being alternate weeks, some 2nd & 4th weeks, some 1st & 3rd, with **British Rail, Carmarthen and Pontypridd** getting together once a month.

DRAGON FAIRS.

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

For further information on these and other **Dragon Fairs**, contact **Trevor King** on 01552 857343, or 07949 605594, or contact by email on minsterstamps@ntlworld.com.

BIRMINGHAM STAMP AUCTIONS.

The next two collectors auctions, held every other month on a **Wednesday**, will be on **21st October** and **9th December**, and are organised by **Barry Faulkner** at his premises at **Units 1 & 2 Cantelupe Court, Cantelupe Road, Ross on Wye, HR9 7AN**. Viewing is from **9.00am**, with the auction starting at **11.00am**. Apart from the philatelic aspect, the sales include autographs, cigarette cards, toys, and railway and other paper ephemera. The auction can also be viewed, and bids made online by registering with www.the-saleroom.com. For further information, contact **Barry** by 'phone on **01989 769529**, or **07941 287692**, or email at barryfaulkner1@btopenworld.com.

Whilst car parking on Cantelupe Road, in the centre of the town, is time restricted, there are several "pay and display" car parks a short walk away.

M J PROMOTIONS.

The remaining dates for this year for these Collectors Fairs, held in the **City Hall, Cardiff**, are:

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER and SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER.

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

THE BRITISH POSTAL MUSEUM & ARCHIVE.

Plans for the new Postal Museum due to open in central London in **2016** continue, and the **BPMA** intends to open up **Mail Rail**, (The Post Office Underground Railway), which ran between 1927 and 2003 underground between **Whitechapel and Paddington**, carrying mailbags between the various sorting offices. This was the first driverless, electrified railway in the world.

The BPMA has been exploring the use of cutting-edge technology to enhance the visitor experience, and to find out further information on the plans to open Mail Rail, and other aspects of **The Postal Museum**, visit www.postalmuseum.org.

On a similar theme, another site to be opened to the public through an initiative called "**Hidden Spaces**" is an underground railway under **Birmingham City Centre**, which was used between the 1970's and 1990's to carry parcels on electric carriages between the sorting office and New Street Station.

DIARY DATES.

Just a few dates that you might wish to enter into your diary for future reference:

16 – 19 September 2015	"Autumn Stampex", The Business Design Centre, Islington, LONDON, N1 0QH.
24 October	Federation Annual General Meeting, Public Hall, North Cornelly, BRIDGEND.
17 – 20 February 2016	"Spring Stampex", The Business Design Centre, Islington, LONDON, N1 0QH.
14 – 17 September 2016	"Autumn Stampex", The Business Design Centre, Islington, LONDON, N10QH.

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Working for the Collectors of South Wales