

THE FEDERATION OF SOUTH WALES PHILATELIC SOCIETIES



Newsletter



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DECEMBER 2016.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2016.

In the morning session prior to the afternoon's Annual General Meeting, the eight members present were entertained by a series of mini displays of Canadian Railway Office postmarks, Monmouthshire Duplex datestamps, an auction purchase of Hungarian stamps/covers, Canadian Christmas Seals, Austria in Allied Occupation, 1935-1947, The Dell School one sheet competition entries, and the Americans in Thule, Greenland. With such diverse and interesting philatelic offerings, it is a great shame that more members don't attend these morning sessions.

After lunch, the Annual General Meeting commenced with **14 members** representing **7 affiliated societies**, with apologies having been received from **Brian Jones, Mike Bates, & Keith Coles (all Llanelli), Martin Taylor & Glyn Attley (both British Rail), June Jones (Aberystwyth), Erne Grieve (Newport), Charlie Williams (Carmarthen), and Maureen Phillips (Bridgend)**. As the Minutes of The AGM has already been distributed to all societies, this is just a precis of those minutes. The Chairman, **John Perry (Newport)**, thanked those who had helped with the organisation of the Convention and the Autumn Day, both held in Port Talbot. He congratulated those who had entered the Federation Competition. He advised members present that the ABPS had arranged its Annual Congress in Cardiff in July 2017.

The Secretary, **Neil Prior (Port Talbot)** advised that he had only been able to issue two issues of the "Newsletter" due to holidays and other commitments. He felt that the electronic distribution of the Newsletter was responsible for the 1 entry only in the Christmas Competition instead of the usual 10+, and it was agreed that **1 paper copy** would be sent to each society and each officer in future.

Treasurer **Colin Lewis (Swansea)** presented the accounts for the year, which showed an overall surplus adding that a further **£20** was the result of the sale, by auction, of philatelic material donated by various Philatelic Bureaux in previous years. **Bev. Davies (Newport)**, the Federation Youth Officer, requested that some of the donated material be made available to the Youth groups, it being agreed that they have first refusal of any such items.

Exchange Packet Organiser **Reg. Lyon (Bridgend)** advised that, in Packet 72, an expensive mint stamp had been replaced by a cheap used example, and that the vendor was now supplying a photocopy of any expensive items, adding that if any members wished to buy the item, he should contact the Packet Secretary of the society concerned. He requested that club organisers and members be more vigilant when viewing any packet.

Youth Officer **Bev. Davies (Newport)**, in her first report to the Federation, commented that there were now 7 clubs in Pembrokeshire, and 1 in Chepstow, with all clubs doing well with entries at "Stamp Active", 1 one-page entry being judged "Best in Show" at "Stampex", one 12-year old gained 1st prize at the British Youth Championships, and an 18-year old received a Bronze at New York 2016.

The following were elected to serve as Officers of the Federation for the coming year: **President - Charles Williams (Carmarthen); Chairman - John Perry (Newport); Vice-Chairman - Paul Clarke (Cardiff); Secretary - Neil Prior (Port Talbot); Treasurer - Colin Lewis (Swansea); Exchange Packet Organiser - Reg. Lyon (Bridgend), and Youth Officer - Bev. Davies (Newport).**

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016 – continued.

In his report on the 2016 Convention, **Neil Prior (Port Talbot)** confirmed that attendances had marginally increased, and that whilst some dealers were happy with their day, some would not be returning in 2017. There was a total of **seven** entries in the senior competitions and **nine** juniors. There was an increase in the income from the programme adverts, and the raffle raised **£227+**. For the first time an advert had been placed in the **South Wales Evening Post** at a cost of **£108**, adding the it cost around **£900** to run the Convention this year. Reference was made to the previous years meeting and the discussion regarding an alternative convention venue, the Chairman adding that unless here was an organisation in place to run a Convention at another venue, it was a non-starter.

Colin Lewis (Swansea) advised members present that the **48th Annual Convention** would be held on **SATURDAY 20 May** in **The Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, Port Talbot SA13 1PJ**, adding that, to date, 13 dealers had reserved table space, including 1 new dealer.

Under **Any Other Business**, the proposal from the **Newport** club that **The Federation Competition entries be provided by societies as colour copies, not as originals, with the society supplying the entries signing to confirm that the original entries are the work and property of the entrant**” was discussed, and after comments by several members, the proposal was **rejected**.

The Secretary advised that only one application had been received (from the **Newport Society**) to organise the **2017 “Autumn Day” Stamp & Postcard Fair**, and that this would be held on **SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2017** at the **Graig Community Centre, Bassaleg**, the same venue as in 2014.

THE WELSH POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Society held another successful meeting on **Saturday 12th November** in the **Selwyn Samuel Bowls Centre, LLANELLI**, when the main displays were provided by **Neil Prior** with **“A Postal History of the Swansea Valley”**, and **Charlie Williams** with a postcard display entitled **“A Walk Through Carmarthen”**. These were supported by mini-displays by several members, and Society Archivist **Prof. Cedric Prys-Roberts** gave members an update on the proposed new **Society website**.

If any member of a society within the Federation is interested in any aspect of **Welsh** philately, postal history or postcards they would surely benefit from membership, and should contact the Secretary, **Neil Prior** for further information.

GREAT BRITAIN STAMP PROGRAMME.

At present the Royal Mail’s programme of new stamp issues for **2017** is yet to be announced in the philatelic press, apart from the first issues on **17 January**, entitled **“Ancient Britain”**, consisting of four se-tenant pairs of **1st Class**, **£1.05, £1.33, and £1.52**, a total face value of **£9.08**.

As far as the **2016 Programme** was concerned, if you bought one of everything on each of the **14 new issues**, a set of **stamps, Presentation Pack, First Day Cover, Coin Cover, PHQ Cards, etc, etc**, this would have cost you **£593. 94**, and this does not include booklets, new Machins, “Smilers” sheets, and “Post & Go” labels, and any other tempters that Royal Mail can think up to part you with your hard-earned money!!

ABPS NEWS.

In **“ABPS NEWS”**, it has been announced that the popular **“MIDPEX”** exhibition and Stamp Fair, held every two years, will be held on **SATURDAY 8 JULY**, at the **Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, near Leamington Spa**.

It is proposed to hold a revived **Inter-Federation Competition** during **“Autumn Stampex”** in September 2017, provided at least **6 Federations** take part. This Federation was successful in winning this competition many years ago, when **David Gwynn, Howard Warren** and **myself** combined to put together a **64-page** entry on **“A Postal History of Swansea”**.

It was reported in the **“Winter2016”** issue that **Toby Asson, Joseph Likeman, Carys Llewellyn** (best overall exhibit), and **Sara Llewellyn** of the **Haverfordwest** junior clubs all won awards at the **British Youth Stamp Championships**.

SOCIETY NIGHTS.

16 Jan.	Monday	Swansea
25 Jan.	Wednesday	Newport
26 Jan.	Thursday	Bridgend
15 Feb.	Wednesday	Port Talbot
23 Feb.	Thursday	Bridgend
8 Mar.	Wednesday	Carmarthen
13 Mar.	Monday	Swansea
16 Mar.	Thursday	Haverfordwest

Geoff. Cooper Entertains.
"Chairman's Night", Roy Bentley.
Nigel McGaw Entertains.
Neil Prior Entertains.
Visit from Newport.
Howard Jones, "A Postal History of South West Wales".
Colin Lewis, "Canadian Railway Postmarks".
Visit from Carmarthen, Gareth James, "Falklands".



Rather a short list on this occasion, as I do not appear to have received a copy of the new season's Programme from the Barry, Bridgend, and Cardiff clubs.

OBITUARIES.

Dennis Martin.

Dennis passed away at the end of August. He had been a member of the Newport club since 1966, and was, until recently, their Treasurer.

Glyn Attley.

Glyn was a long-standing member of the British Rail society, and had acted as the Exchange Packet Secretary for a number of years.

DRAGON FAIRS.

4 January	Wednesday	NEATH	Castle Hotel, The Parade, NEATH, SA11 1RB
5 January	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St, CF5 1JP.
1 February	Wednesday	NEATH	Castle Hotel, The Parade, NEATH, SA11 1RB
2 February	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St, CF5 1JP.
1 March	Wednesday	NEATH	Castle Hotel, The Parade, NEATH, SA11 1RB.
2 March	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St, CF5 1JP.
5 April	Wednesday	NEATH	Castle Hotel, The Parade, NEATH, SA11 1RB.
6 April	Thursday	CARDIFF	Methodist Church, Nottingham St, CF5 1JP.



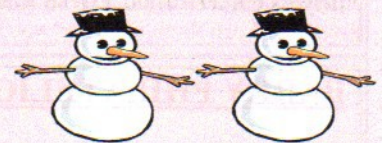
Admission to these and other Dragon Fairs is Free of Charge.

For further information on these and other Dragon Fairs, contact Trevor King on 01522 857343, or 07949 605594, or Email minsterstamps@ntlworld.com.

M J PROMOTIONS.

The dates for these Collectors Fairs in 2017, held in the City Hall, Cardiff are:

11 February, 8 April, 1 July, 7 October, and 9 December.



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

BIRMINGHAM STAMP AUCTIONS.

The only date I have at present for these auctions, held every two months at their premises at 2 Cantilupe Road, Ross on Wye, HR9 7AN is Wednesday 22 February 2017. I hope to have further dates for inclusion in the next "Newsletter".

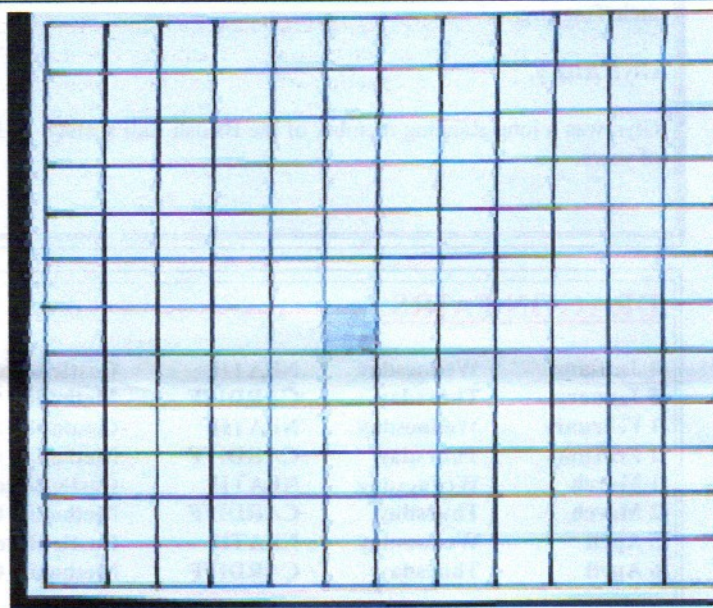
For further information, contact Barry Faulkner on 01989 769529, or 07941 287692.

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION.

This year's competition is a variation on the Crossword idea, but here the answer to the clue begins with the last letter of the previous answer, for example: stockboo(K)eny(A)ustrali(A)ntigua etc. Beginning in the top left-hand square, work your way around the box in ever-decreasing circles, using the common letter only once, finishing in the shaded square in the centre. The number of letters in the answer is also given. Best of luck!!

1. Stamps are sometimes kept in these (10).
2. A Dutch colony in South America spelt with an extra letter on their stamps (8).
3. A country with a canal (5).
4. A former French Protectorate in North Africa (7).
5. Portuguese island in the Atlantic (6).
6. An Aden Protectorate State (6).
7. A New Zealand Dependency from 1902 (4).
8. An Italian colony in Africa (7).
9. A big book for stamps (5).
10. An Indian Feudatory State, stamps 1931-1948 (5).
11. Middle East country, formerly Mesopotamia (4).
12. City in Pakistan, severe earthquake in 1935 (6).
13. Used stamps of Fiume overprinted in 1920 (4).
14. Country on the Equator in South America.
15. Many countries used special stamps for this purpose (12).
16. Former British & Australian territory, independent from 1968.
17. South American country, first stamps in 1856 (7).
18. A republic in South West Arabia (5).
19. Joined with St. Christopher (5).
20. An island off the coast of Albania, temporarily occupied by Italy (6).
21. This former Grand Duchy joined the North German Federation in 1857.
22. Their stamp catalogues are widely used (7).
23. Their London premises are in this street (6).
24. One of the Trucial States in the Persian Gulf (5).
25. Island Republic in the North Atlantic (7).
26. A Baltic seaport, formerly a Free State (6).
27. Former British West African colony, independent since 1970 (6).

Send your completed grid to **Neil Prior, 20 Heol y Sheet, North Cornelly, BRIDGEND, CF33 4EY** by **SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2017**. Remember to add your name and Society to the back of your answer. A draw for the winning entry will be made at a suitable society meeting shortly after the closing date.



SWANSEA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Swansea Society will be holding their next Spring Stamp & Postcard Fair on **SATURDAY 1 APRIL 2017** in the St. Illtyd's Church Hall, Ystrad Road, Fforestfach, Swansea, SA5 4BT, from **9.30am to 4.00pm**, admission being **50p**.

BARRY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Barry Society will be holding their next Spring Stamp & Postcard Fair on **SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2017** in the **Highlight Community Centre, Port Road (alongside Tesco's) Barry, CF62 8NX**, from **10.99am to 4.00pm**, admission being **50p**.

Wishing the members of all the Societies in South Wales a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2017.