



Postmark

Issue
161
Spring
2024



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EDITORS COLUMN:

by Steve Gerrard.

March 2024

sdpseditor@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you to all the contributor's and the great material they have written and included in their articles. I will soon be starting on the next issue, to do this I need your help, so please send me any articles you wish or maybe your favourite Cover or Stamp telling us why it is your favourite.

.HAMPEX24 in September could be the last one as the Chairman ,Julian Jones, is stepping down as Chairman at the AGM in 2025. If another person from the Federation does not come forward, then the Federation will have to close at the May 2025 AGM. But we have just over 12 months to find someone.

The move to the new location has appeared to have gone well with an average turnout of 20-25 members with some new members attending. We have storage for our frames in the building which is great. The Postal History Collection is stored in boxes in Jack & Debbie Hindson's garage and the Library is stored at Mike Watts (Treasurer's). The Archives are held by me , electronic copies stored on my laptop, on external hard drives and USB sticks So the big problem for us is storage but we are still looking to see if there is anywhere else in Southampton that can accommodate us along with the Library, Archive & the Postal History Collection. But for now our current location works for us as it is the meetings that take priority and the rest is at least housed and kept safe.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE REMEMBER TO INFORM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY IF YOU MOVE OR CHANGE / CANCEL YOUR E MAIL ADDRESS OR PHONE DETAILS ETC. STEVE BLUNDELL - MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

My sincere thanks go to all the following who have contributed to this issue, in alphabetical order: Blundell/Stephen, Bradshaw/Mel, Bruce/Peter, Chard/Kevin, Coe/Malcolm, Coles/Graham, Gerrard/Steve, Jones/Julian, Montgomery/Malcolm, Rick/John, Sheppard/Reg, Watts/Mike, Whittaker/Alan,

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We seem to have settled our venue and storage issues so that we are able to continue to function. We have a new home for Tuesday evening meetings at St. Paul's Church at Bursledon. There will be winners and losers in terms of travel, but the venue is much more modern, has a better kitchen and others facilities plus ample car parking.

We have found storage space for the Collection, Auction and Library. This is all off-site and so access is more limited than in the past, see notes on the Auction below and the Library elsewhere in postmark. My thanks to Debbie and Jack Hindson for giving the collection a secure new home.

The upshot of all this is that although there is now no urgency, we are still open to finding a perfect solution. Not sure that is possible on our budget, Bugle Street was cheap because of the condition of the premises. Any thoughts still welcomed.

Auction ;

We successfully ran a normal January Auction in our new venue.

Going forward there will be some changes. Storage is limited and off-site. We will therefore limit the number of bulky lots (defined as items contained in an album, stock book or small box / bag) to no more than 150 per auction. These can be held in locked cabinets at our new storage space. Very large boxes of material (glory box type) will not fit in these cabinets and will only be accepted at the owner's risk. Alternatively, such lots can be brought to the venue by the vendor on the day.

Some of the capacity will be given over to smaller items; single stamps / album pages / etc – referred to as folder lots in the past. My aim though is to not use folders going forward – they increase the bulk of storing significantly. Vendors are requested to ensure there is sufficient packaging to protect their lots, which will now be stored as 20 items in a plastic folder.

The April Auction will contain a lot of material re-offered with lower reserves – some of these reductions are substantial. So, bargains to be had for bidders

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR (Continued):

By Kevin Chard (Chairman).

February 2024

but with the downside that Society revenue will be lower than what we are used to.

Ahead of the next Tuesday evening Auction in April, we have a members-only Auction in Chandler's Ford on Saturday 23rd March – full details on the website. Pete Bruce organises these events and the material now comes from a series of estate sales.

Material for Auctions:

We are not able to simply take in material as we have in the past. Instead, we are asking vendors to submit lists, ideally in an electronic format, and we will call in material when we are able to store and list. I am anticipating that we will be looking for a normal amount of material from the July auction onwards. Please advise if items are bulky, small or album size, see notes above, normally easy enough to judge but I have been surprised in the past! Lists will be called in based on type and then on a first come first served basis.

Society Roles:

The AGM will also be held in April. If you are interested in getting involved with running the Society, now is the time to volunteer. Although I am not aware of any vacancies, there are committee members feeling the strain and I am sure we can find something to interest you and help us. Just speak to any Committee member.

A longer-term solution for the Auction (and potentially the Library) could be a member who has storage space at home – making working on Auction lists and access to the material far easier. Let me know if this is something you would be interested in.

That's all folks – I am hoping for a quieter period over the next few months!

MATERIAL FOR FUTURE AUCTIONS:

By Kevin Chard (Chairman).

February 2024

If you have any material for auction, require guidance or further information, please contact our Auction Manager Kevin Chard.

Commission is charged on sales to cover the costs involved in running the Auction. Commission for Members is 10%.

Non-members wishing to sell via our Auctions will need to become Full or Associate Members of the Society. The Associate Members fee is collected from Auction proceeds in the form of additional commission.

Currently we are unable to store material for future auctions. Instead, please send a list of items to the Auction Manager (ideally in an electronic format, see below) and we will contact you when we are able to list and accept material.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

By Stephen Blundell.

February 2024

The number of members as at 1st February 2024 stood at 160. In 2023, there were six new members. In addition to those previously reported, we welcomed Robert May whose current interests are George VI Commonwealth plus GB and Mike Toms who collects used stamps from GB, Switzerland, Germany, Liechtenstein and Poland. Sadly, we have to report the passing of long-time member, Stanley Osment. A tribute to Stanley is provided in this edition of Postmark. Every now and again, there is a request to send out Society messages. We currently have records of 131 email addresses. These are held securely and are only available to officers of the Society. If you do use an email service and have not recently received any messages, please be in contact with the membership secretary with your email details. We do our best to maintain communication with members who do not wish to use email. Unfortunately, this is less reliable and some members may be missing out.

ANNUAL SOCIETY COMPETITION: JUNE 13th. By Alan Whittaker. (Competition Secretary).

January 2024

Last year the judge marked the entries on the competition day in Bugle Street, so that when members arrived they could view the entries, and the judge could give his comments and answer questions from members.

This required spending the afternoon judging. This made it a long day, so this year we have decided to change it slightly. By having all entries delivered to me by Saturday 8th June, the judge will be able to mark the entries at home ready for the afternoon meeting in Chandlers Ford.

Any entries received after the 8th will not be judged.

Entries can be handed in at both the Chandlers Ford and Bursledon meetings in May or to my home by the 8th June.

This gives you ample time to prepare your entries. If you have any questions please contact me.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES OF AUCTIONS AND STAMP FAIRS COMING UP.

16th March - Milford-on-Sea Stamp Club Auction at the All Saints Church Hall, Green Bank Close, Milford-on-Sea, SO41 0SQ. From 12.30am.

23rd March - WESTBEX 2024. STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR at the Kennet School, Stoney Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire. RG19 4LL. 10am To 4pm. Free Admission & Parking.

16th April - Southampton & District Philatelic Society Evening Auction at Saint Paul's Church, Chamberlayne Road, Bursledon, SO31 8DT.

CHANDLER'S FORD MEETINGS:

By Peter Bruce (Convenor).

February 2024

The three meetings in December, January and February were well attended, with more than 30 coming to our Christmas meeting. The lure of the mince pie triumphs again perhaps!

For December, several people brought along Christmas-related stamp items to display including some New Zealand air mails. No prizes for guessing the owner of these!

In January we heard about 1971 strike mail, Qatar and Nyasaland, just to pick three at random from the ten displays.

At our February meeting Julian Jones brought us 1928 Katapult mail between USA and Germany, the mail being launched (catapulted) from a liner on a small seaplane, thus gaining a day in the transit of the post. Also an extensive display of the recent coded GB definitives by John Cruttenden gave us an insight into the considerable detail in the printing of these stamps. Mike Vokes showed us some of his recent Falklands acquisitions.

Thanks to all who bring along items for display. All are welcome to bring something – maybe it's your turn next!

LIBRARY UPDATE:

By Reg Sheppard (Librarian).

February 2024

As a result of the upheaval following our departure from Bugle Street the Library has been temporarily moved to a garage to which I have no access. There is still access to the library but on a very restricted basis. Therefore for the foreseeable future the membership should consider the library closed.

PACKET MANAGERS REPORT:

By Mel Bradshaw.

February 2024

The Packet Circuit has had a very good year, with an improvement on 2022 results. 24 circuit boxes were audited and paid during 2023. Sales from these boxes amounted to £11,246.95, with commission payable to the society of £1,125.04. A further £24.36 was paid to the society as the additional levy paid by non-members who submit booklets. My thanks to everyone who has contributed to this success-whether by submitting booklets or purchasing from booklets on the circuit. We are fortunate that compared with many other societies the number of members receiving the packets has grown to over 50, excluding those on the Isle of Wight.

The necessity to change our meeting venue has affected the Isle of Wight involvement. Although it is still intended that packets will regularly go to the island, this will depend on visiting the island to exchange packets or liaise with IOW members who visit the mainland on odd occasions. This will affect the time taken for some packets to be paid and possibly the frequency of boxes sent to the island.

To date 2 boxes were audited and paid in January: sales were £651, with total payment to the Society of £68. Sales from boxes currently in circulation exceed £4,700. We have approximately 300 books submitted for future circulation. Although, this sounds a lot they will probably only supply about 6 months of boxes at the normal distribution rate. Further booklets are always welcome to help maintain the stock, and hence the variety and value of individual boxes.

I have received a fresh supply of booklets from Prinz and the price has gone down!! Booklets cost 25p each, any postage will be added to the invoice if they are sent by post. Please let me know if you require any and I'll arrange delivery by the cheapest method!

An increasing number of members have been paying for their purchases by bank transfer. If you do this it is essential that the payment slips are either posted to me or scanned and emailed to melbradshaw44@gmail.com immediately. The scans need to be clear and readable when enlarged, if necessary, for printing.

PACKET MANAGERS REPORT (CONTINUED)...

By Mel Bradshaw.

February 2024

Please ensure that you sign for all stamps taken from a booklet, total this number and their value and complete the front of the booklet, transfer carefully this information to the payment slip, check your addition and send the correct amount and slip to me. Please make cheques payable to Southampton and District Philatelic Society (S.D.P.S is usually acceptable). I do have a society name stamp to use on your cheques.

One other issue has been noted by a few members - they are receiving boxes with booklets out of order - please ensure you return the booklets in the correct order from 1 to, usually, 30.

Thank you everyone for your support.

QEII DECIMAL MINT POSTAGE STAMPS.

A further supply of QEII decimal unmounted mint stamps has become available. These are offered as 100 1st stamps (current face £125) for £74 - just below 2nd class rate! These are all stamps that are valid for postal use for the foreseeable future. One batch of 100 2nd class (made up of value stamps e.g. 50p+25p) is also available on a first come, first served basis at a price of £54. Postage costs will be added if necessary. Please request by emailing, telephoning or writing to me.


Mel Bradshaw melbradshaw44@gmail.com

ZOOM REPORT: November 2023 ~ January 2024.
By Malcolm Coe (ZOOM Co-ordinator).
Malc.coe@gmail.com **February 2024**

Since the last issue of Postmark we have enjoyed two excellent Zoom events. Attendance remains very strong, often with 25-30 people participating each time, mostly SDPS members but also a few guests. We run an open doors policy so anyone may request to be put on our SDPS Guests List – just contact me at the address at the bottom of this article if you want to join the mailing list.

At the end of November we had our last Zoom presentation of 2023. This was an excellent talk by Julian Bagwell entitled “British Levant from start to finish”. He illustrated many examples of the many British stamps used in the Levant by overprinting local values for use. This service was used heavily by British business people based around Constantinople and Beirut.

private values. This was necessary as the previous rate of postage was 40 paras per oz, necessitated only stamps in multiples of 40 paras. The rate was changed in 1907, with letters over 1 oz costing 1½d per additional oz, so a greater range of values was required, although it took nearly two years for such stamps to be issued in 1909:

					
30pa. on 1½d	1pi. 10pa. on 3d	1pi. 30pa. on 4d	1pi. 30pa. on 4d	2pi. 20pa on 6d	5pi. on 1/-
					
30pa. on 1½d	1pi. 10pa. on 3d	1pi. 30pa. on 4d	1pi. 30pa. on 4d	2pi. 20pa on 6d	5pi. on 1/-

Julian Bagwell

ZOOM REPORT (continued): Nov 2023 ~ Jan 2024.
By Malcolm Coe (ZOOM Co-ordinator).
Malc.coe@gmail.com **February 2024**

Then we began the new year at the end of January with an SDPS Jamboree zoom in which 4 members of the society shared their enthusiasm for particular topics. There was a good attendance (over 20 people) and much discussion and questions afterwards. Many thanks to those of you that contributed to the event! The four speakers were:

Mike Gibbs (1955).


Great Britain
Postage dues 1955 – E2R Tudor crown watermark







Peter Wingent "Imperial airways to Belgian Congo"

The Albertville ~ Dodoma connection with Imperial Airways









ZOOM REPORT (continued): Nov 2023 - Jan 2024.
By Malcolm Coe (ZOOM Co-ordinator).
Malc.coe@gmail.com **February 2024**

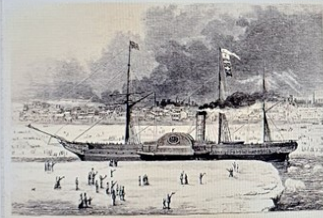
Mike Vokes "Cunard Ships".

RMS Queen Mary 1936 - 1967




Julian Jones "Transatlantic mail – Late Fees GB to USA 1840-1875"

Transatlantic mail – Late Fees
GB to USA
1840-1875



Liverpool – Halifax, NS – Boston and New York



Our next talk is February 27 when we are privileged to have the ex-President of the RPSL , Richard Stock, giving us a talk entitled 'The Development of Postal Communications in Sudan'. Richard is a world expert on Sudanese philately having written many definitive books on the topic. He

ZOOM REPORT (continued): Nov 2023 ~ Jan 2024.
By Malcolm Coe (ZOOM Co-ordinator).
Malc.coe@gmail.com **February 2024**

is also an excellent speaker.

Our library of these video talks continues to grow and provides an impressive array of accomplished speakers and their talks. This library may be watched by anyone, all you need is a web browser on almost any platform (iPad, Mac, Windows PC, Android device etc). You do not need to use Zoom. Just take a look at the list on our web site and click on the title of interest to you: <http://www.southamptondps.org.uk/avideolibrary.html>

Any comments or thoughts on the Zoom session always gladly received.

PANDA FAIRS...



Panda Fairs 2024

www.pandafairs.co.uk

2 Mar	Sat	Southampton Methodist Hall St James Road Shirley SO15 5HE
9 Mar	Sat	Fareham Holy Trinity Church, West Street PO16 0EL
23 Mar	Sat	Wimborne Allendale Centre Hanham Road BH21 1AS (10am-3pm)
20 Apr	Sat	Bournemouth St Edmund Campion Church Castle Lane West BH8 9TN
12 May	Sun	Upper Hale, Farnham, Village Hall, Wings Road GU9 0HN
22 June	Sat	Southampton Methodist Hall, St James Road, Shirley SO15 5HE
6 July	Sat	Bournemouth Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson BH10 7LH
13 Jul	Sat	Fareham Holy Trinity Church, West Street PO16 0EL
27 July	Sat	Petersfield Community Centre off Love Lane GU31 4BW
22 Sept	Sun	Upper Hale, Farnham, Village Hall, Wings Road GU9 0HN
28 Sept	Sat	Wimborne Allendale Centre Hanham Road BH21 1AS (10am-3pm)
5 Oct	Sat	Southampton Methodist Hall, St James Road, Shirley SO15 5HE
19 Oct	Sat	Bournemouth St Edmund Campion Church Castle Lane West BH8 9TN
2 Nov	Sat	Fareham Holy Trinity Church, West Street PO16 0EL
7 Dec	Sat	Bournemouth Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson BH10 7LH
29 Dec	Sun	Upper Hale, Farnham, Village Hall, Wings Road GU9 0HN

Peter Jones (Solent Stamps) 01489 – 582673 solentstamps@gmail.com

**TO SEE THE 2024 PROGRAMME & KEEP
UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS**

Visit our website www.southamptondps.org.uk

WINTER MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS.

By Steve Gerrard (Editor)...

FEBRUARY 2024

On the 6th February our speaker was Albert Jackson from the Ferndown & West Moors Philatelic & Postcard Club and gave a talk on 'Poland at War'. It was very interesting to learn how Poland continued their postal service through World War 2. Once Germany had invaded all post coming in and going out of Poland was checked by the Nazi's to make sure that they did not carry any information or documents. The Ghetto's operated a system of their own but again anything going out of the camp had to be checked by the Ghetto and then it was checked by the Nazi's again.



Photograph taken in 2020 when we were visited by the Ferndown & West Moors Philatelic & Postcard Club.

(Stock Photo).

On the 20th February The letter 'C' with 13 members in attendance and 6 members gave presentations as follow:

1. Mike Watts - Camels / 12 Parish Churches on Jursey.
2. Lorraine Simms - 3 for the price of 1. Churchill, Clowns & Clocks.
3. Steve Betteridge - Cinderella Stamps - Coronation Street.
4. Len - Camino France/Spanish pilgrimage.
5. Mel Bradshaw - Cataclysmic Eruptions Climate Change.. Christchurch NZ.
6. Mike Gibson - Caribbean Collection Coronation Cayman Islands.

SOUTHAMPTON WRAPPER...

By Steve Gerrard. (Curator)...

March 2024.



I found this wrapper on a well know Auction Website and picked it up relatively cheaply. What interested me with this wrapper, it was sent from London to Southampton. I am still working on the name and address to see if I can find out more information. The hand cancel is very poor so I have yet to work out the date but I think it could be early 19C. As I say it was posted from London and hand written in the bottom left corner is 'Secretary of state's Office'. Top right hand corner is 'On **His** Majesty's Service'. So it must have been prior to Queen Victoria (1819 To 1901) as it is 'His Majesty's Service', so it must be William IV 1830-1837 or possibly earlier.

This is going to be very interesting to try and work out when it was sent and also it appears to have the name 'William Pollock'???? Hopefully I can update the members in a few months.

DONATIONS FOR SOCIETY COLLECTION...

By Steve Gerrard (Editor)...

March 2024.



The Society has an impressive postal history collection and our President Julian Jones has donated 43 covers of Paquebot which on first glance, we do not have any of them in the collection. They range from 1968 to 1995. There is a great mix of countries from all over the world. I have selected two, one from England to the USA going via the S.S. France and the second is from Australia to the USA via the Australian Venture. Some are signed by the Master/Captain and come with some very nice stamps from Australia, Sweden,



Ireland, France, Spain & South Africa just to mention a few.

I have to go through them all to search out any duplicates but at first glance I do not think there are many that we do not have, so they will ALL be added to the Postal History Collection Spreadsheet. MY thanks to Julian for donating them for our collection and not the recycling bin as so much material does end up there. But I am always interested in looking at Southampton material for consideration to be added to the collection.

MY FAVOURITE COVER...

By Steve Gerrard (Editor).

March 2024



I think of ALL my covers that this is now my favourite one in my Germany collection.

The cover is 1939 and sent from Duisburg 1 in Germany to Holland Recorded Airmail.

SG674 To SG676 - Berlin International Moor Show.

SG679 - Hitler's 50th Birthday.

SG682 - National Labour Day.

SG683 To SG685 - Nurburgring Races.

SG687 - Brown Ribbon of Germany.

SG686 - 70th Anniversary of German Derby.

SG688 - German Art Day.

SG689 - Nuremberg Congress.

IONIAN ISLANDS STAMPS...

By Peter Bruce.

JANUARY 2024.



The Ionian Islands lie off the south west coast of Greece and comprise 7 main islands and a number of smaller islands. Probably the best known is Corfu.

In 1797 these islands were taken over by France, then under the rule of Napoleon Bonaparte. After his defeat at Waterloo the Treaty of Paris in 1815 gave sovereignty of the islands to Britain and they remained under British rule until 1864 when they were returned to Greece.

When the Penny Black was introduced in 1840 the postal system in the islands used British stamps with a Crowned Circle handstamp. Then in 1859 a set of three stamps was issued for use in the islands. A recent collection that has come to SDPS for auction has a mint set of these stamps.

The three stamps show a picture of Queen Victoria similar to that used on the Penny Black. They were printed in three colours to designate the value as no numbers were printed on the stamp. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d was printed in orange-yellow, the 1d in blue and the 2d in red. 50000 sets were printed by Perkins Bacon.

One oddity is the watermarks on the stamps. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d has no watermark, the 1d has a large outlined number 2 and the 2d has a large outlined number 1. It may be that the colours allocated for the 1d and 2d were exchanged at the last minute by the postal authorities after the printing had taken place.

The stamps are quite rare if genuinely postally used and command a high value. The mint stamps are still uncommon and both mint and used have been extensively forged.

IONIAN ISLANDS STAMPS... (Continued).

By Peter Bruce.

JANUARY 2024.



The stamps in the collection appear to be genuine. There is a very helpful website, part of Blogspot.com, which lists the various forgeries. Most of them are easy to spot, being poor quality blurred printing. Others have distorted lettering or the wrong number of holes in the belt at the bottom of the portrait.

After 1864 when the islands became part of Greece again Greek stamps were used, and these three stamps were then obsolete, although it appears that some were used even as late as 1945 if Stanley Gibbons is to be believed!

2024 PROGRAM MARCH TO MAY.

23rd March - Member's Auction Chandler's Ford.

26th March - Video Presentation - Puerto Rico - Janet & Nick Nelson.

2nd April - AGM & Queries and Recent Acquisitions.

11th April - Afternoon Meeting Chandler's Ford.

16th April - Evening Auction.

30th April - Video Presentation - Illustrated Airgraphs of WW2 -
Daphne McMillan.

7th May - Another Bloody Railway Part 3 - 1912 To August 1914.
Rosemary Phugh.

9th May - Afternoon Meeting Chandler's Ford.

21st May - Social Evening and single sheet Competition.

28th May - Video Presentation - Supermarket Philately (1) - Jean Alexander.

OLD GRAHAM'S PHILATELIC TALES No 4...

By Graham Coles.

January 2024



Cornflakes and Forgeries. Forgeries and Cornflakes. These are two words that you don't often see together, so I thought it was best to say it twice. One of the best resourced forging rings of the mid-Twentieth Century used the code word "Cornflakes" to throw a deep shadow over their activities. Now it is time to throw some light into this mysterious world.

Operation Cornflakes was masterminded by the American Office of Strategic Services, (OSS), and it involved tricking the German postal services (Deutsch Reichpost) into delivering anti-Nazi propaganda to German citizens. The operation used special aeroplanes that dropped bags of false, but properly addressed, post into the vicinity of bombed out mail trains. The ruse was that the postal service would then confuse the false post with the real post, and deliver the propaganda to German homes. Firstly, the Office of Strategic Services had to forge, and print convincing six and twelve pfennig stamps of Adolf Hitler. Together with the printed materials, they also enclosed another design, here the twelve pfennig stamp was redrawn to show his exposed skull, and the words "Deutsch Reich" were changed to "Futsches

OLD GRAHAM'S PHILATELIC TALES No 4...

By Graham Coles. (Continued).

January 2024

Reich" (meaning Collapsed Empire. This latter stamp is known as the "Death Head" stamp, and a total of 96000 were produced.

Addresses were obtained by a careful trawling of German telephone directories; in the end over 2 million names were collected. Some authorities have suggested that documents were produced in neutral Switzerland as well as in England, but I doubt this as the Swiss had no wish to offend their neighbour.

The first mission of Operation Cornflakes took place on the 5th of January or the 5th of February 1945, again sources differ on this point! A postal train bound for Linz was first bombed, and then a second wave of American P-38 fighter bombers dropped bags containing about 3800 propaganda letters on the site of the wreck. Deutsch Reichpost then obligingly picked everything up, and delivered them. The OSS had had to forge the mailbags, and postal markings to fool the Germans. Prisoners of War were bribed with better food to provide the information, and spies collected examples of the mail bags.

Most of the fake post had return addresses for legitimate businesses, like the Wiener Giro-und Kassenverein. This latter address eventually blew the operation's cover when an OSS operative writing out the addresses misspelled the name as "Cassenverein". One of the postal clerks spotted the misspelling, and it turned up on several envelopes, arousing suspicion. The envelopes were opened, and the propaganda discovered.

Some 20 loads of fake post were dropped in a total of 320 mailbags with more than 96000 pieces of propaganda in the last days of the war. Nobody is quite sure how effective this particular "black operation" was in the light of the other stresses the Germans were under. President Franklin D. Roosevelt as the ultimate boss of the OSS received copies of the stamps for his collection. This came to light when the late President's stamp collection was sold in the 1940s. Please note that they have been extensively forged by others since the Second World War.

Why was it called "Cornflakes"?, because the recipients would get their post at breakfast time!

TANKS ON STAMP CHALLENGE...

By Jon Rick.

January 2024

In the last issue of Postmark I set a challenge for any 'Tanks' shown on stamps. I had one member who supplied the following:

QUEEN ELIZABETH II 2021

3636 AC Dynamo, Sebastian Faraday's Deptford Power Station, Britain's First Large-scale Power Station, 1889

3637 The incandescent Light Bulb by Joseph Swan, Founder of the Swan Electric Light Company, 1880

1-12 Aug. Industrial Revolutions (2nd issue), Multicoloured. One centre band (2nd) or two bands (others). Perf 14.

3634	(One) Michael Faraday generates electricity using just coil wire and a magnet, 1831	1-25	1-25
3635	(1st) First transatlantic cable, communication in seconds, through 3000 miles of cable, 1858	1-75	1-75
3636	£1.70 AC Dynamo, Sebastian Faraday's Deptford Power Station, Britain's First Large-scale Power Station, 1889	3-00	3-00
3637	£2.55 The incandescent light bulb by Joseph Swan, founder of the Swan Electric Light Company, 1880	4-00	4-00
		10-00	10-00

3634-3637 were issued in £18-03 premium booklets, No. DY39.



2021 (2 Sept). British Army Vehicles. Multicoloured. Two phosphor bands. Perf 14.

4566	3638	(1st) Mk IV Tank	1-25	1-25
4567	3639	a Horiz strip of 4, Nos. 4566/4569	5-00	5-00
4568	3640	(1st) Matilda Mk II	1-25	1-25
4569	3641	(1st) Churchill AVRE Tank	1-25	1-25
4570	3642	£1.70 Scorpion Tank	2-50	2-50
4571	3643	a Horiz strip of 4, Nos. 4570/4573	10-00	10-00
4572	3644	£1.70 Chieftain Mk 5 Tank	2-50	2-50
4573	3645	£1.70 Ajax	2-50	2-50
		Set of 8	13-50	13-50
		Set of 8 Gutter Pairs	27-00	27-00
		First Day Cover (Philatelic Bureau Edinburgh)		16-00
		Presentations Pack (PO Pack No. 606) (Nos. 4566/4573 and MS4574)	23-00	23-00
		PMZ Cards (set of 13) (491)	8-25	23-00

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On the theme of tanks Not a Stamp although he did kick the tyre (stamp) before looking for a spanner!

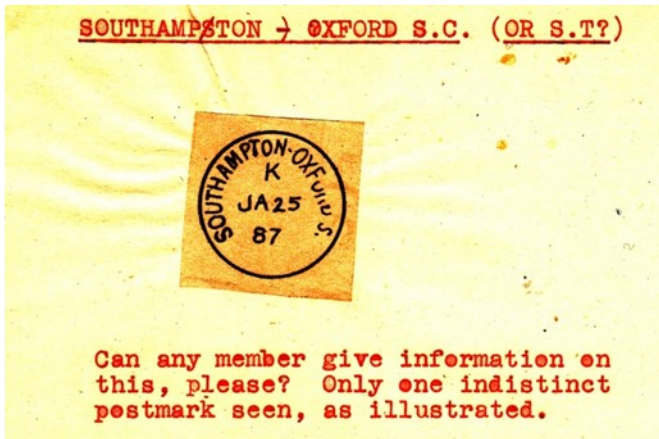
Taken at Charlie 1 Bailey bridge. A local Rat run for cars and military on Salisbury Plain.

SOUTHAMPTON ~ OXFORD 'S' (UPDATE).

By Julian Jones (President).

February 2024

At least one other example of the SOUTHAMPTON OXFORD S^I postmark exists. Dave Lewis of Southampton Society showed me an example that he only recently acquired at the Thursday afternoon meeting of Southampton DPS on 11th January 2024.



Dave's copy is on a QV postal stationery wrapper which is unused and so was probably cancelled to order. The carefully applied hand stamped mark exactly covers the ONE PENNY QV indicium and while

readable with a magnifying glass will not show well in a scan.

The "S^I" is complete with "T" underlined and raised. The code at the top is "M" and the date "SP 29 / 92".

Page 31 of *Postmarks and Postal Markings of Southampton* - by Bryan Hunt, March 1986, lists "OXFORD STREET" under SINGLE RING DATE STAMPS 1870-1914. No image is shown. Now we know of two instances.

My thanks to Dave for spotting the mark in his collection having seen the article in the adjacent illustration in the winter 2023 edition of the *Southampton DPS Postmark* magazine.

Image of the SOUTHAMPTON OXFORD ST postmark courtesy Dave Lewis of Southampton DPS and thanks to the very helpful staff at his local Public Library.

OBITUARY: Stanley Osment.

By Society Members.

January 2024

I am sad to share with you that our longstanding member and my close friend Stanley Osment has passed away.

Stanley was born in 1931 in Ware, Hertfordshire when his mother was 48. This was almost a record at the time, and it is one of the reasons, why Stanley outlived all his relatives. He had a happy childhood there before his family moved to the greater London area. While in the Capital, Stanley was impressed by the trolley buses, and in later life he painted a scene from those distant years:



Stanley became a philatelist as a schoolboy and managed to establish correspondence with the Postmaster of Pitcairn Island, as well as other exotic places. He witnessed the Blitz of London and admired King George V1.

Stanley joined the Church Army at a young age and became a Captain. He worked tirelessly in order to help those in need. He also worked with the British Forces in Austria and Germany where he learned the language fluently. He later went to Bible College and became ordained as a vicar in The Church of England.

Stanley decided on a change of career and then joined the Merchant Navy as a Catering Officer. He became a skilful Chef and worked at sea for many years, mostly on the Ocean Liners of the Shaw, Savill & Albion Line. His favourite ships were SS Ocean Monarch, SS Southern Cross and SS Northern Star. With them Stanley had the chance to be awarded shore leave in dozens of countries, but nothing surpassed the islands of French Polynesia.

OBITUARY: Stanley Osment (Continued)...

By January 2024

He spoke about the South Pacific with great enthusiasm and gathered a full stamp collection of those territories, so that he could see regularly his most beloved places.

Stanley retired in 1985 and settled in Southampton. His exceptional longevity and vitality were due to his belief that mind and body can only serve you if you regularly challenge them. Stanley used to have an Indoor Exercise Bike and numerous hobbies. He used to regularly climb the West End Hill in his 80-s. He loved mathematics and was solving equations in his free time. Almost until the end he was able to list all US Presidents and name all the States Capitals. He was able to recognise instantly many thousands of stamps, and to comment on their country, era and printing technique. Stanley was a prolific artist, and a few pubs in Southampton have one or more of his paintings. Also, he was a talented Organ Player. Stanley was deeply saddened by the suffering of children around the world and supported several charities until the very end.

The Covid Pandemic did not directly hurt Stanley but forced him to change his lifestyle to gradual detriment. He was afraid of the Virus, so between March 2020 and July 2021 he didn't venture beyond his garden. We were visiting him when the lockdown rules allowed that but only in his garden and from a safe distance. Stanley's health deteriorated seriously last Spring and he had a few spells in the General Hospital. He passed away peacefully on 11 December in the Mountbatten Hospice.

Stanley will be remembered for his original appearance, and particularly his collection of hats and the associated badges. His memory will live through his paintings and all the good deeds he completed during his long life.

(Stan re-joined the club in 2005 and was a member for 18 years from when he re-joined - Steve Gerrard (Archivist)).

HAMPEX 2024...

By Julian Jones (Chairman)...

February 2024.

HAMPEX 2024

Hampshire Philatelic Federation

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(Hotlines: 01489 582673 or 01794 514902)

**DEALERS IN STAMPS, CINDERELLAS,
THEMATICS, POSTAL HISTORY
AND POSTCARDS**

all in one large room

Saturday 21st September 2024

10.00 am - 4.30 pm

Entrance Free

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The Wickham Community Centre,

Mill Lane, Wickham, nr. Fareham, PO17 5AL

Refreshments and Free on-site Parking.

The Centre is a short walk from Wickham Market Square served by buses from Winchester and Fareham.

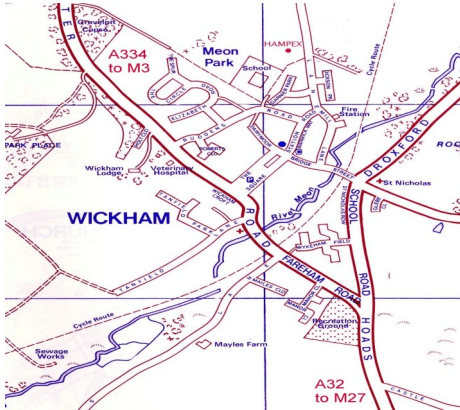
Wickham to Fareham is about three miles by road.

HPF Website www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfpfx.htm

HAMPEX 2024...

By Julian Jones (Chairman)...

February 2024.



From the North: drive via the A31 and A272 onto the A32 southbound turning right into Wickham. Drive to the Square and into Station Road and then into Mill Lane. The Wickham Centre is on the left.
From the M3: exit at J11 and follow the B3354 and A334 to the Square. **From the South West:** exit M27 at J7 and follow the A334 to Wickham

and turning right into the Square. **Proceed via Station Road to Mill Lane. The Wickham Centre is on the left.**

Dealers include

Simon Burke
Graham Coles
Tom George
Michael Gibbs
John Kinnard
Malcolm Lacey
Trevor Pateman
Bill Pipe
Graham Rice
Mike Samuels

Solent Stamps (Peter Jones)
Stephen Taylor
Thematrix (Paula Cant)
Brian Trindall
Robert Uden
Malcolm Vigar

Specialist Societies

British Society of Australian
Philatelists meeting
King George VI Collectors Society
table
Southampton DPS table

CROMWELL'S PROTECTORATE , 1635 ~ 1658... By Malcolm Montgomery (MBE)... February 2024.

It may come as no great surprise that very little mail appears to have survived from this period ... putting one's name to a letter was tantamount to signing one's death warrant, and keeping other correspondence could prove equally dangerous. Further, although the Proclamation of 1635 gave authority to Thomas Witherings to establish posts and cross-posts and an Ordinance of 1654 gave Manley a monopoly of the posts and instructions to establish a post to Portsmouth, there is no specific authority for a regular mail service between Portsmouth and Southampton at this time.

Portsmouth to Southampton, 15th August 1655.

'For the Ho'ble Commisioners sitting at Southampton; The Lord Richard Cromwell, Richard Majior Esq, Collonell Norton & John Dunche, Esq, humble present these at the Dolphin in Sothton.'

A letter in part concerning an insurrection in Wiltshire and the threat to Southampton carried privately from Major Peter Murford, Lieutenant Governor of Portsmouth, to Lord Richard Cromwell and the Commissioners at the Dolphin in Southampton. The main purpose of the letter, however, was to complain about the behaviour of two visitors to Portsmouth from Southampton who had insulted the Mayor of Portsmouth and failed to obey even the behavioural expectations that city.

The letter, addressed to Richard Major's residence was intended for the commissioners who met at the Dolphin ... that hostel is still there, but now more famous as the site of Jane Austen's eighteenth birthday party ... When I approached them, I do not believe that they had any idea of the connection with Richard Cromwell.

CROMWELL'S PROTECTORATE , 1635 ~ 1658... (Continued).

By Malcolm Montgomery (MBE)... February 2024.

1. 'A Proclamation for the settling of the Letter-Office', 31st July 1635.
2. September 1654: An Ordinance touching the Office of Postage of Letters, Inland and Foreign.', *Acts and Ordinances of the Interregnum, 1642-1660* (1911), pp. 1007-1013. This included '*...a weekly post between Dover and Portsmouth, and between Portsmouth and Salisbury...*', but sensitive information in these uncertain times would most likely be carried only by trusted messengers.
3. Richard Cromwell, 1626-1712, third son of Oliver Cromwell, second Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland, serving for just under nine months, 3rd September 1658 until 25th May 1659.

* * * * *

H.M.S. '*Princess Regis*' to London, 17th June 1665.

*"To Capt. Geo. Swanley In Goodmans fields nere Algate In his wives
absence to bee dir to her mother
or Mr. John Pack against Beare in Thames streete London"*

'Princesse regis June 17th 1665 Below ye. Shore Cwoy

My Dearest

*With these are two Bills of Exchange wch. you may desyre Mr. Pack to
reedime for you, only you must put yor. hand on theyr backside as he will
direct you. The third noate pray keepe by you for about as short as you can
gett Conuenientie to demand it, for wch. you may write to Mrs. Lowdon to
speake to him Mr Knight of Deale. And what you riteine pray put downe in yr.
booke of Brother Gefferyes ac. Iff you come bring soape as one to use it, I
want gloves wch. pray let bee thin, & big enough also. A hat band, some
linnen, or threaded sock big enough, some sugar & flowre, if you can send or
bring it; we may haply goe into Queenbrough to cleane. Goe wth. respects I
am in some hast Thine Geo. Swanley Brother Geffery desyres you write to*

CROMWELL'S PROTECTORATE , 1635 - 1658... (Continued).

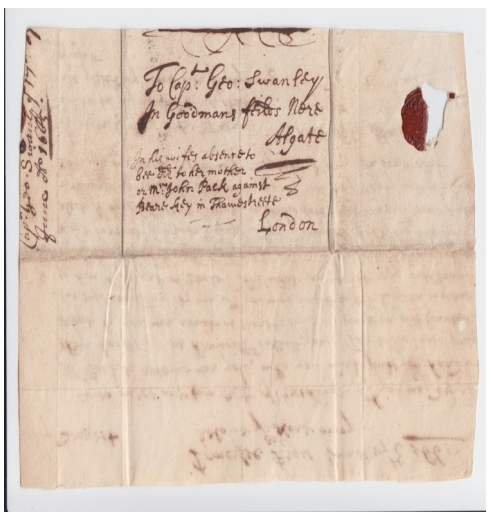
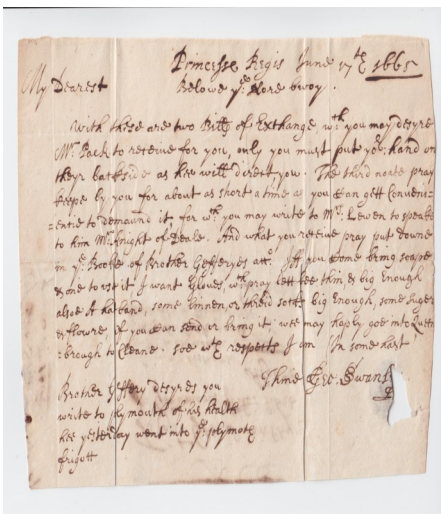
By Malcolm Montgomery (MBE)... February 2024.

Plymouth of his health here yesterday went into ye polymote frigott.'

A brief letter from Captain George Stanley, son of Captain Richard Stanley (famous for taking the surrender of Southampton in the Civil War and the capture of the Isle of Wight forts), to his wife on his return from the Battle of Lowestoft, in which his vessel paid a significant role. The ship had returned to Queensborough for cleansing. It may be no coincidence that his ship was held in that port for 'cleansing' as, in the first four months of that year, there had been a significant rise in the number of reported cases of bubonic plague (although it may be stretching the facts a little to presume that it had been recognised that his ship had been in proximity with the Dutch fleet at Lowestoft). That apart, two weeks later Captain Stanley was dead ... but I have been unable to trace the cause of his death.

* * * * *

4. 'Oxford Dictionary of English Biographies': George Swanley (also Swanly) son of Rear Admiral Richard Swanley (first marriage), supporter of the Parliamentary



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SUBMISSION DATES FOR POSTMARK

SUMMER 2024 - 15th May 2024.
AUTUMN 2024 - 15th August 2024.
WINTER 2024 - 15th November 2024.

Submissions to be received by the Editor by midnight of the 15th.