

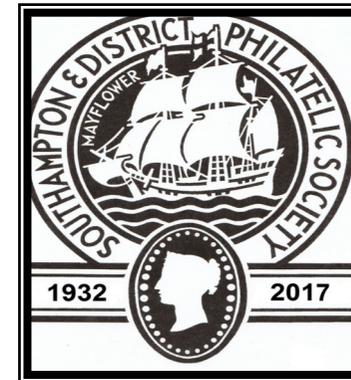


At the tea party, **Debbie** (indicated by the lightshade !) with **John Berridge** (President) and **Mike Vokes** (Convenor).



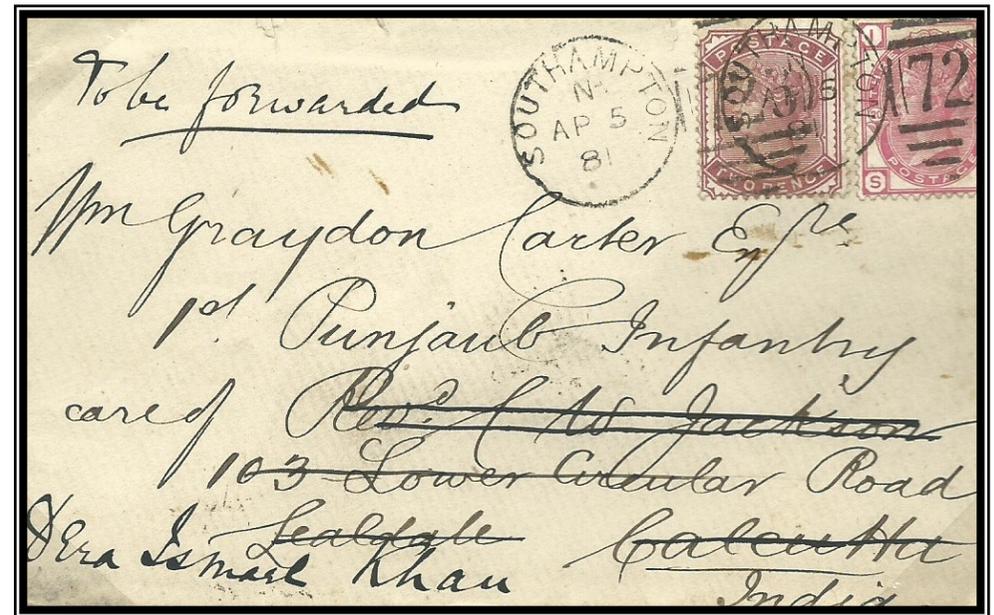
A miscellany : Pages from Peace. (Pt 2) - **Grace Davies**.

POSTMARK



Number 135

Autumn 2017



1881 - Southampton to Calcutta with postage made up of a two penny Deep Rose of 1880, and a three penny Rose (Plate 20) of 1881 arriving on the 18th May 1881.

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:

1. St Joseph's Church Hall, Bugle Street, Southampton, SO14 2AH:
evening meetings on the first and third Tuesday, 7.00 for 7.15pm.
2. Hanover Housing Association Community Room, on the corner of Winchester Road and Hillside Close, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2GL: *afternoon meetings on the second Thursday, 1.45 for 2.00pm.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

September:

- 14 Afternoon Meeting, Chandlers Ford.
- 19 Postcard Evening (Southampton Postcard Club) & Bourse

Panda Fairs

- 23 Annunciation Hall, Charminster Road, BH8 9RW

October:

- 3 Southampton at the centre of the world - Malcolm Montgomery.
- 7 Grand Auction, Pear tree Church.
- 12 Afternoon Meeting, Chandlers Ford.
- 17 15 Sheets in 5 Minutes.

November:

- 1 Presidents Evening. (85 Theme).

Panda Fairs:

- 4 United Reform Church, Fisherton Street, Salisbury.
- 5 Cosham Community Centre, Wootton Street.
- 9 Afternoon Meeting, Chandlers Ford.
- 11 Methodist Hall, St James Road, Shirley, Southampton.
- 21 17 Members x 5 sheets & Social Evening. (85 Theme).

December:

- 5 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee - John Davies.
- 14 Afternoon Meeting, Chandlers Ford.

looking for additional knowledge and insight into the stamp collecting world. He had taken over the Treasurer's role from Brian Reeder and routinely attended the winter evening meetings. His particular interest was in stamps from Thailand, where he had spent many years of his working life, and KG VI commonwealth.

He was responsible for introducing me to the afternoon meetings of the Southampton & District Philatelic Society at Chandlers Ford, and for ensuring that I subsequently did my 'duty' as a recipient of the Exchange Packet. He lived quite close to me and often would offer both to deliver and collect the Packet, especially when I was out of action on driving last year.

Nick wanted to opt out of evening driving and consequently resigned from the Winchester Stamp Society, having first inveigled me to take on the Treasurer's position. Inheriting his meticulously kept accounts presented me with a minimum of difficulty – testimony to his background in financial matters – and I believe at some time after joining the Southampton & District Philatelic Society in 2005 he served as Hon. Auditor. He was also a current and valued member of the Worthy Down Stamp Club.

Latterly, Nick was working on upgrading the presentation of his KG VI stuff and told me that he had come across quite a number of stamps which were not quite as originally purported – a hazard of the hobby we all have experienced!

We will greatly miss Nick's friendly charm and regular attendance at the afternoon meetings.

Robin Pope...

SOUTHAMPTON SOCIETY COMPETITION ENTRIES 2017...

Aerophilately: John Dorrington: New Zealand Airmail 1932 & Early Southampton Airmail 1929-37 (HW).

Open (includes social philately): Brian Hague: The Faroes Garrison in WW2 (HW) & The "Jutlandia" in the Korean War / John Berridge: The Postal History of Bulawayo.

Postal History class: Julian Jones: Cunard Packets – the Early Years 1840 to 1848.

Thematic: Eddie Mays: The Tunnel - Do you dig it? & Eddie Mays Showbiz Signatories

Picture Postcards: Steve Gerrard: The Changing face of Woolston since 1970. (My memories).

Entered for Howard Trophy at Hampex 2017.

Julian Jones...

seemed to go on for an eternity with the convenor drawing one of his own tickets for the first choice of the prizes. Some mumblings of 'fiddle' were heard from certain sections of the assembly Sincere thanks are due of course to Debbie, but there were a number of others who assisted her during the afternoon.... too many to mention by name... except for **Julian**, who cleared the floor afterwards on his hands and knees with a dust pan & brush.. what a star !

During the rest of the summer months, informal displays have been presented by a considerable number of attendees and have featured an extensive range of subjects.... including recent China, Canada officials, GB revenues and South Arabia.

The normal meetings resumed in August and the meeting on September has been proposed as a 'Ladies' afternoon.

Mike Vokes (Membership Secretary)...

BILL NUNN...

Another stalwart member of the Society – Bill Nunn - passed away in July, just a few months before his 80th birthday. He had been a member for many years, participating in the Packet, Society Auctions and attending meetings at Eastleigh and Chandlers Ford.

A keen collector of Hong Kong from QV to GVI, the Third Reich and Berlin Occupation issues, he was also well versed in the original postage stamps and reprints of Heligoland.

He spent 22 years as a Royal Marine Commando serving in the Middle and Far East, including Egypt, Malaya, Brunei and Hong Kong, as well as Cyprus and Kosovo. Bill was a kind and generous man and is sadly missed by his family and many friends.

Harry Vinecombe...

NICK HUNT...

It was very sad news to hear that Nick had died in July after a short illness.

Nick was the most charming and approachable individual imaginable. I met him when I joined the Winchester & District Stamp Society a few years ago, having more recently returned to the hobby and found myself

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE SOUTHAMPTON & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY...

President: John Berridge (02380 221925)

Chairman: Mel Bradshaw (80785785)

Secretary: Rev. Paul Arnold (01962 712282)

Packet Manager: Jack Hindson (80266431)

Treasurer: Mike Watts (02380 454131)

PRO: Eddie Mays (80402194)

Auctioneer: Mel Bradshaw (80785785)

Membership: Mike Vokes (80262551)

Competitions: Brian Hague - brian@brianhague.plus.com

Programme Secretary : Kevin Chard (01489 574834)

Postmark Editor: Steve Gerrard (80433820)

(Email : stevestamps@hotmail.co.uk)

Websites: Southampton & District P S – www.southamptondps.org.uk/

Hampshire Philatelic Federation –

www.hantsfederation.org.uk

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES SEPTEMBER 2017...

Welcome to this September issue of Postmark. Unfortunately summer is now behind us, and in some ways it was rather disappointing, but I hope you are all keen to get back to your philately as the nights draw in. Enclosed with this copy of Postmark is the catalogue for our Grand October Auction. It looks that it could be a very grand auction, with over 980 lots and an amazing number of high quality collections, including much high quality Commonwealth material. It looks as though there are some potential bargains, so make sure you are in the room to bid, or have sent a postal bid form in.

The previous Saturday, September 30th, sees the annual Hampex at

Wickham Centre. This is always a well attended event, with many dealers present. It is well worth a visit, with competition displays, a junior Hampex event and many stands of both dealers and societies, including our own. The day starts at 10.00a.m. and runs through the afternoon. There is plenty of refreshment, so come along and support this major, local philatelic event and, possibly, add to your collection.

Some time ago, I wrote about problems related to the packet. This is a major source of pleasure to many members, including some who find it difficult to get to meetings, and is a good route for selling and buying items for your collection. Unfortunately there appears to be one member who is, in effect, stealing from the club books during their circulation. This theft involves swapping unmounted mint stamps in the books with mounted mint examples, swapping high value items in the books and replacing them with lower value similar material, often from the same country and removing low value stamps from envelopes of stamps, without paying for them. As each box is passed on, members do check for unsigned items, but it is difficult to identify this kind of theft easily, unlike when an item is completely missing. We know on which circuit this is happening and we will do all we can to narrow down who is responsible. The committee will discuss this issue at its next meeting. Unfortunately, these actions mean that some vendors may cease to submit material or limit the material to lower value items. The Packet Manager is frustrated by this activity and, I know, will consider whether he should continue, because of all the problems that arise from the action of one dishonest individual. We will do our utmost to identify the individual concerned and cancel their membership of the society, but I emphasise that, if this continues, there is a danger that the packet circulation will finish.

Mel Bradshaw (Chairman)....

AUCTION NEWS SEPTEMBER 2017...

The third auction of the year took place in June, which built well on this year's earlier auctions. The total number of lots sold was only just over 45%, but this included some high value material. As a result, the hammer price again exceeded £3100. The total sale figure in 2017 is now close to £10,000, similar to that of 2016 figure.

Enclosed with Postmark is the catalogue for the exciting GRAND

World in general. **Mr Frost – Paignton** is another new member recruited by our Chairman from the auction postal fraternity. To all of these new members is offered a very warm welcome !

Very sadly, I have to report the death on 15th July of **Bill Nunn**. Bill was a member for very many years and will be greatly missed by Society members, particularly at the Chandlers Ford meetings. A full obituary appears elsewhere. On 17th July, we lost also **Nick Hunt** from Winchester. Nick was a much respected friend of all the collectors from the Winchester area and was a most regular attendee at the Chandlers Ford meetings. For a while he acted as our Society auditor. He collected British Commonwealth stamps.

The preparation, printing and distribution of *Postmark* each quarter requires a considerable amount of effort by a larger number of members than might seem apparent at a glance. The last special edition took an even greater amount of work than normal. The Society is indebted to **Steve Gerrard** and **Eddie Mays** for their particular labours. The distribution needed a different address printing method than that used normally by **Jack Hindson**, who does a fine job printing the addresses on the envelopes. For the special edition, **Eddie** helped by the printing of the address slips and the provision of the plastic covers, which unfortunately precluded the affixing of the stamps on the outside. The reaction of Royal Mail to the stamps on the posted copies being *inside* has not been reported !!! **John Berridge** always does a magnificent job printing and collating the normal *Postmark*, auction lists etc. We should also thank the **packers** and **local distributors** of our literature. The hand distributors' latest efforts saved the Society more than £120 in postage.

Thursday afternoons in Chandlers Ford...

The highlight of the summer season at the Chandlers Ford group has become the tea party in the Methodist hall, so professionally organised by **Debbie Hindson**. This year was no exception and almost 50 members and their guests sat down to a scrumptious feast of sandwiches purchased at the local branch of a well known chain store – we did rather well on the order, as there was a mix up on the boxes (which barely affected us) but resulted in a £32 rebate on the purchase price.... Debbie's friend **Janice** had prepared some of her lovely cakes – a special thank you to her. The draw

SPEAKERS CORNER...

1st August 2017... Eddie Spicer and “German Catapult Mail of the North Atlantic”.

The material shown covered the period 1929 to 1935 when NDL ships Bremen and Europa plying between Europe and New York carried aeroplane launch catapults operated by Lufthansa to fly mails to shore ahead of the ship, so gaining up to 36 hours advantage in delivery time – at a premium postal charge. The service operated in the “summer months” and carried German and US mails as well as letters from “Treaty States” aligned with the German Post Office. Also shown were covers from “concession” states such as a letter from Australia routed via the USA to a European address. Eastbound flights landed in Southampton Water and offloaded some mails to be carried to Croydon Airport to be flown on to Germany. Other mails continued to Europe on board the re-fuelled sea plane. On westbound voyages the ships picked up mails for the USA at Cherbourg including those carried by airmail feeder service from Cologne. Most of the display sheets featured two covers, one from a westbound voyage and the other from the corresponding return eastbound voyage. The quality of the cancels and cachets applied by the on-board sea post office drew favourable comments from those present. The display included a number of “difficult Treaty State” examples as well as a few “concession state” covers as well as covers flown by US Airship service and the catapult service. This display more than adequately explained an interesting era of transatlantic mail acceleration that was terminated in favour of airship service in 1936 by the “Hindenburg”.

Julian Jones...

SOUTHAMPTON & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP NEWS – AUGUST 2017...

Since my last report I am very pleased to advise members that we have accepted **four** new members into our Society. **Mr Lancashire** is a local resident, who collects GB, Guernsey and the South Atlantic territories. **Mr Airey** lives near Swansea and is a postal bidder at our auctions. **Mr Michael Robinson** is a familiar face at all our auctions, attending with **Reg Sheppard**. Michael collects GB especially and the

AUCTION to be held on Saturday, October 7th. This will be our largest auction to date and has some outstanding Commonwealth material. If you cannot get to the auction, but see lots you might like, put in a postal bid. Remember your bid will be used as though you were in the room, so if no one else bids you get the lot at the reserve price. The only extra cost is postage or delivery.

The venue for the auction is again Peartree Church Village Hall on Peartree Road. There is very good parking available around the hall. Owing to the number of lots to be sold, we will try and get the hall reading for viewing by 10.15a.m., and commence the auction as close to 12.45p.m. as possible. For those who have submitted lists of lots, please remember that I require the material by mid September. It takes quite a bit of time and space to sort and lot the material correctly.

The next auction is on Tuesday, January 23rd 2018. This will be an interesting auction, with a large number of Southampton Postal History lots. Remaining space in the auction will be filled with unsold material re-offered from previous auctions. In March, an auction will take place on March 20th. If you wish to submit new material for this auction, details should be with me by February 6th or earlier. This early date is because I will be away on holiday for much of February.

Whenever submitting or leaving lots, please make sure they are identified with **your reference number/letter** matching that on the list which you submit, with your name/address clearly shown. Some difficulty arises when vendors leave material which is not adequately identified - there are so many tins of Quality Street kiloware!!

Details of vendors' lots should be given to me at society meetings, OR posted to:

Dr Mel Bradshaw
185 Wilton Road
Upper Shirley
Southampton
Hampshire
SO15 5HY

OR by e-mail to: melvyn.bradshaw1@tesco.net

If there are any queries please ring me on 023 8078 5785 or 07973 696291.

A BISHOP'S WALTHAM FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE.



16th October 1876 illustrated letter from London to Miss Elrington at Vernon Hill, Bishop's Waltham. Ink drawing of a bearded man spying on a washer woman.



1st March 1877 illustrated letter from Miltown-Malba, Ireland to miss Elrington at Vernon Hill, Bishop's Waltham. Pen and ink design depicting an Irish Donkey facing England.

Guildhall Exhibition, achieving a large gold medal with 95 points. The display for the World Stamp Show in New York 2016 showed sections of both the Guildhall Exhibition and the Post Office Exhibition at South Kensington Museum as well as the "Genesis of the Jubilee Envelope" comprising eight frames and achieved a gold medal with 91 points. This will form the basis of the display to the Society.

John Davies is best known as Chairman of the Stamp Active Network which promotes stamp collecting to children in the UK. He has been actively involved in youth philately since 1987. He is also Secretary of Banbury Stamp Society, a Fellow and Council member of the Royal Philatelic Society, Vice-President of Great Britain Philatelic Society and a member of the National Philatelic Society and British Thematic Association.

Kevin Chard (Programme Secretary)...

**13-16 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT THE BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE,
ISLINGTON, LONDON N1.**

A Full National Exhibition and an excellent commercial show with more than 70 dealer stands and a wide range of interests in the exhibition. Highlights will be:

The Sarawak Specialist Society as lead contributor will show 150 frames, both competitive and non-competitive. This marks the 70th anniversary of the Sarawak Society.

The Hungarian Philatelic Society will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first Hungarian postage stamps with a special display in 20 frames.

The Inter-Federation Competition will take place at the same time with eight competitors, each with three frames in different classes. The following have notified the organisers of their participation: The Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies and the Yorkshire, Sussex, Kent, Surrey, **Hampshire**, Mid-Anglia and Essex Philatelic Associations and Federations.

Nigel Gooch will lead a seminar at 11.00 on Saturday 17th in the Executive Centre on the topic of '**Giving Club and Non-Competitive Displays**'. This will be free – all are welcome so why not come along?

Two of the three entries representing Hampshire are supplied by Southampton members Jones and Hague. The third is from Brian Marshall of Petersfield (and is also a Sarawak item).

Julian Jones...

displaced persons.

Early schooling was in British Army schools, followed by a North London grammar school when his father returned to civilian life. Instead of applying for university, Malcolm secured a place at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. In the thirty years that followed he served in Gibraltar, Libya, Northern Ireland, the United States, Germany and Belgium, with occasional visits home for courses, training posts and tours at the Ministry of Defence. Between 1988 and 2004 he lived in Southampton and, on retiring from the Army rectified a deficiency in his education by studying history at Southampton University.

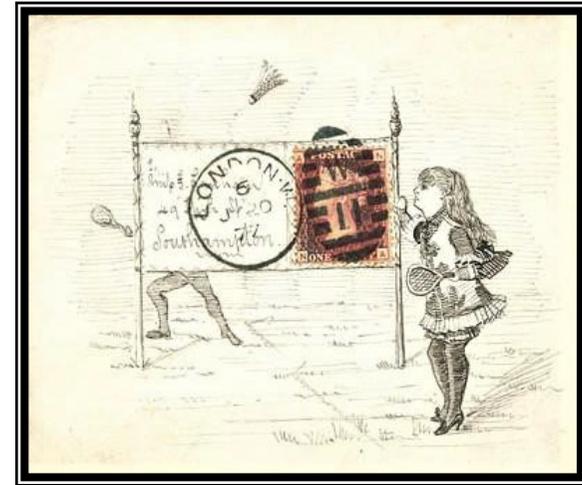
A one-time stamp collector he began to study postal history in the 1960s, mainly the postal history of the trans-Atlantic services between the United Kingdom and British North America. Recognising a lack of understanding of British postal history he began a collection of the Solent area, much helped by Bryan Hunt and Dorothy Sanderson (late Members of the SDPS) but then moved to North Wales ... he believes that his Solent collection may be the best in Snowdonia, and is very likely the only one.

Tuesday 7th November. As tradition dictates this meeting is our President's Evening a special evening for the Programme Secretary as he does not have to source a speaker. I hope I am not giving too much away by saying that we will be continuing our 85 theme and that the evening will feature some of our past Presidents.

Tuesday 5th December. John Davies will be our guest speaker on the subject of the 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee.

The display commemorates fifty years since the introduction of Uniform Penny Postage and the world's first stamp, the Penny Black, in 1890, through the major events held in that year. John's collection, now over 600 pages, was inspired by the exhibits in the Court of Honour at Stamp World London '90 and the reproductions of the 1890 postal stationery available at that Show. The collection has been built up over the past 25 years through a wide range of sources, including the acquisition of major collections formed by the late Francis Kiddle RDP, Theo Jones and Donald Turner.

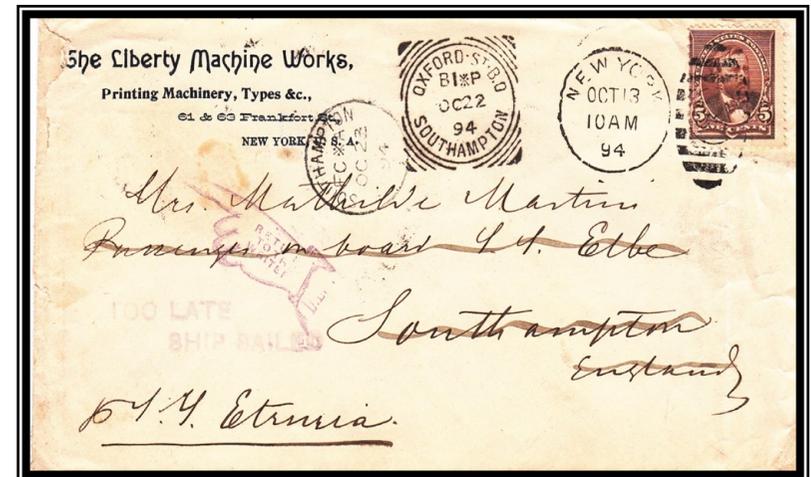
Extracts from the collection (different sections) have been shown frequently to support ABPS national exhibitions in the UK. In 2011 at Sheffield, the exhibit achieved a large gold medal with 94 points and was the first entry to achieve "Best in Show" with an entry in the Open Philately Class. Five frames were shown at the London 2015 International Exhibition (FEPA/Europhilex), relating solely to the



20th July 1877 letter from Lindon to Miss Elrington at Southampton, facing a scantily clad (for the date) young woman playing Badminton, with address and stamp incorporated into the net.

Part 2 Next Issue...
Mike Batty...

SOUTHAMPTON OXFORD STREET BRANCH OFFICE 1894...



This fine strike of 'OXFORD.S^TB.O SOUTHAMPTON' was applied to a cover mailed in New York and addressed to a person sailing from Southampton docks on the *SS Elbe*. The cover itself was endorsed to cross the North Atlantic on the *SS Etruria*.

Bryan Hunt notes that "the proof impression book shows that on 22/9/1886, a squared circle for *Oxford Street B.O. Southampton* was despatched. More than one type has been seen both with a 24mm circle but with different sized lettering". He illustrates "small lettering" in [18] 96 and "larger letters" in [19]01. Can any member add information about the coding used above the OC22 date or the importance of that post office in this period, as it appears to have been the first port of call on arrival in Southampton?

A faint purple handstamp appears to the left of the purple 'Pointing Finger' to indicate 'TOO LATE / SHIP SAILED' Can anyone confirm that this is a British rather than American instructional mark? The pointing finger 'RETURN TO THE WRITER / D.L.O' was applied in the Washington, DC, Dead Letter Office.



Subsequent handstamps show the passage of the letter: 'SOUTHAMPTON OC23 94' and on the reverse: 'SOUTHAMPTON OC24 94', 'RETURNED.LR.OFFICE LONDON OC 24 94', 'DEAD LETTER OFFICE 94 NOV 8' (Washington).

The timing mismatch was very close, and I'm surprised that the letter missed the boat! The Times tells us that the Cunard Line's *Etruria*, from New York, for Liverpool arrived at Queenstown at 4.25 am on Saturday [20th October]. The same listing indicates that North German Lloyd's *Elbe* left Southampton for New York at 8 p.m. yesterday [Sunday 21st October]. The mails for England, especially London and the South East would have normally been unloaded at Queenstown and carried via the Dublin and Cork TPO to Kingstown where they were loaded onto the ferry for Holyhead and then onto the TPO for London where they would have arrived later the same day about 12 hours after leaving Queenstown. So I am surprised that in those days the mail did not reach the Southampton Head Post Office during the Sunday – but perhaps, even then, there was no Sunday delivery. Can any member tell us more?

1 Hunt, B: Postmarks and Postal Markings of Southampton 1700-1914, the Author, March 1986

2 "Mail & Shipping Intelligence." *Times* [London, England] 22 Oct. 1894: 6. *The Times Digital Archive*. Web. 22 July 2017.

Julian Jones...

WANTED – SOCIETY P.R.O. for 2017....

Due to personal circumstances I will be unable to carry on as P.R.O. for the Society after the end of 2016. So the Committee is looking for someone to take my place.

The title P.R.O. can be interpreted in at least two ways; either as Public Relations Officer or as Press Release Officer. I suppose that I have done the job as a mix of both. When I took over my predecessor, Steve Gerrard, said it was a matter of doing as much as you wanted to and, while I feel I have done reasonably well in some areas I could have done better in others.

As it stands I have been acting as initial point of contact for members of the public who need to contact the Society, usually because they have been landed with stamp collections and don't know what to do. I suppose this year there have been half a dozen of these.

With regards to "press releases" I have been writing a short quarterly report on the Society's activities for a couple of the philatelic magazines and an even shorter report, again quarterly, for the local freebies.

Not really very arduous but very useful in keeping the Society in the public view. I am more than happy to help with the handover or chat to anyone who thinks they might be interested in having a go.

Eddie Mays (02380 402194)...

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS – FOURTH QUARTER QUARTER 2017...

Continuing our series of articles on forthcoming speakers please find below details of the speakers for the final quarter of our celebratory year:

Tuesday 3rd October. Malcolm Montgomery will be our guest and he will be displaying on the theme of 'Southampton as Centre of the World'.

Malcolm Montgomery was born in North London during the Second World War. He spent the immediate post-war years in Austria, where his father was involved in the British Army's efforts to support the efforts of