

Comments about this Wessex Bulletin and Copy for the next by July 30<sup>th</sup> please

# The WESSEX BULLETIN

Journal of the Wessex Philatelic Federation

Visit our website at [www.wessexpf.org.uk](http://www.wessexpf.org.uk)

2013/03

**Points of Contact – Editor** - Tony Smith email [tonysmith1938@sky.com](mailto:tonysmith1938@sky.com)  
**Secretary** – Position Vacant (*Volunteers Required*)

**IN THIS ISSUE** – Wessex Bulletin by email, Wessex Federation Website, In the News, 2013 Wessex Roadshow, ABPS News, ABPS Philatelic Lecturers & Displays, Multi-Club Meetings, Dates for Your Diary, Combined Club Meetings & Venues, Dawlish Club RE-Launch, How not to Fake an Item of Postal History, 2013 Competitions, A Clever Fraud or was it, The German Hyper Inflation Period Pt3, The Spring WETS Day, Packet News, Wanted, A Word from our Chairman.

**WESSEX BULLETIN by email** – Requests to be included on the circulation list should go to our webmaster Jim Wigmore at [wessexweb@talktalk.net](mailto:wessexweb@talktalk.net) please include your full name, club and the email address your Bulletin is to be sent to.

We are delighted to be able to report that following visits of the Wessex Roadshow to clubs we have a significant number of new readers who have signed up to receiving the “The Bulletin” by email.

**Please Note this is a totally secure process** – *Your email address will remain secure, each copy will reach you on a personal basis without disclosing your email address to the other recipients.*

**WESSEX FEDERATION WEBSITE** at [www.wessexpf.org.uk](http://www.wessexpf.org.uk) – **OUR WEBSITE IS YOUR SHOP WINDOW** – Please ensure the details about your club are fresh and up to date contact our webmaster Jim Wigmore at [wessexweb@talktalk.net](mailto:wessexweb@talktalk.net) with your current club details and programme.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR CLUB PAGES ON A REGULAR BASIS & NOTIFY ANY CHANGES REQUIRED. THANK YOU TO ALL THE CLUBS THAT ALREADY DO THIS.**

**DID YOU KNOW** – There are interesting facts and information available on the Wessex website e.g.

- The History of the Wessex Federation – Look on the opening page.
- The Federation Roll of Honour - Look on the opening page.
- Information about Stamp Fairs in your area – Look on the Events Page.
- You can find out about all the club meetings, the talks being given and by who – Look at the Integrated Calendar on the Events Page.
- You can look at **Past Issues of the Wessex Bulletin** plus some of the Articles that have appeared in some older Bulletins – Look on the Publications Page.



**IN THE NEWS** the “*Western Morning News*” and “*The Herald*” in Plymouth to be exact was Plymouth Club & WETS member Trevor Frey. The articles related to his philatelic exhibition in Stoke Library in Plymouth for two weeks. Trevor’s display was totally thematic on his subject of “Freemasonry” and was given a massive feature in both papers. It is good to see both the press and local libraries taking an interest in such topics as philately where stories are involved, lets hope it encourages people to take up the hobby and join local clubs. Trevor is pictured left surrounded by his display.

Philately at local level must be catching as WETS member Richard Wheeler has been approached by the local Museum in Barnstaple to display his “Evolution of Puppets” and to give a series of talks based on his display.

The question has to be is “Do you have a good story to tell, and are you willing to get it featured in the same way as Trevor and Richard”. We need to raise the awareness of our hobby and get collectors back into the clubs.

**2013 WESSEX ROADSHOW** – The vast volume of material that has been submitted to this years show is giving federation presenters a lot of scope to tailor the show being given to suit the needs of the prospective audience. It is being very well received in the clubs it has been shown to so far, all with rave comments along the lines of “seeing some really class material they never expected to see”. What we have been trying to show this year is the way all collectors have an enthusiasm for the hobby and how that enthusiasm manifests itself in so many different ways. If your club has not booked this

*If you have a story for the next Wessex Bulletin we want to hear it.*

*Comments about this Wessex Bulletin and Copy for the next by July 30<sup>th</sup> please*

show yet please get your booking in as quickly as possible. We need to be able to sort out the logistics of moving the display around between federation presenters. **A plea from the presenters** :- *Could we ask members who submit material for future shows to please, please, do not submit a page by page diatribe of the exhibit, it is useless to a presenter who is not familiar with your material and takes up to much of the display time. What is really required is no more than a half page introduction and overview of what is being shown, this whets the appetite of the audience and ensures that the viewers have plenty of time to view and enjoy what is being displayed.*

**ABPS HANDBOOK** – It was pointed out at the last Wessex Federation Committee Meeting that the ABPS Handbook & Directory 2012 has many errors relating to entries for clubs in the Wessex Area. Subsequent reviews of the ABPS website shows many of the same errors occur. The Wessex Federation have been in touch with ABPS to correct many of the errors, including the fact that WETS who are a full members of ABPS were not even listed. Club secretaries are advised to check both the ABPS Handbook and the ABPS Website and ensure the details for your club is correct and if not advise ABPS accordingly.

**ABPS PHILATELIC LECTURERS & DISPLAYS** – Like the previously referred to handbook, this handbook is also deficient with regard to many speakers in the South West. When the booklet was last updated many speakers were dropped, probably because they had not been made aware they needed to confirm their interest in remaining on the listing. Your club secretary will have a copy of this booklet, please check the content and if you have a display and you wish to be included in the next release ensure your details and that of your displays is passed to ABPS.

**MULTI-CLUB MEETINGS** – used to take place on a regular basis where lots of very interesting philatelic material used to be shown. I recall meetings at South Molton between Bideford, Taw & Torridge, Minehead, Tiverton and Exeter Clubs, there were also meetings held at Okehampton with Bideford, Exeter, Mid-Devon and Liskeard clubs involved. It seems to me that such meetings if they were held at week-ends could be used very effectively to promote our hobby, especially if they were advertised open meetings. Our hobby is currently closed as far as the public is concerned, they do not get enough information about what we do, and we do not make enough use of the press who are considered a closed shop. The Trevor Frey exhibition suggests this is not so, we just need to offer a good story. Why not get some week-end Multi-Club meetings going, make them open and well advertised inviting the public to come and join in. We would also need to get the press involved to ensure we get some good press coverage for the clubs involved. If you want new members this could be a good way of opening the door. **IS ANY CLUB GOING TO TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE?**

What about those **Annual Exhibitions** that were very good at raising awareness of clubs, what happened to them? Could the Multi-Club venue be used in this way with several clubs sharing a venue and costs. **If insurance of exhibits is an issue, use colour copies. Lets get some events planned, raise awareness of our hobby and get those closet collectors into our clubs.**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<b>2013</b>		
23rd May	Stamp Fair	Plymouth Guildhall, Armada Way. PL1 2ER
15th June	Stamp Fair	Victoria Methodist Church Hall Weston-S-Mare
22nd June	<a href="#">Stamp &amp; Postcard Fair</a>	St Michaels Church Hall Chudleigh Road Kingsteignton TQ12 3JU
28th June	Stamp Fair	St James Church Hall, Taunton
11th July	Stamp Fair	Plymouth Guildhall, Armada Way. PL1 2ER
12th July	Stamp Fair	Clyst St George (Exeter), Parish Hall EX3 0RE
20th July	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
12th September	Stamp Fair	Plymouth Guildhall, Armada Way. PL1 2ER
13th September	Stamp Fair	Clyst St George (Exeter), Parish Hall EX3 0RE
14th September	Stamp Fair	Exeter America Hall
18th - 21st Sept	Autumn Stampex	Islington
28th September	Stamp Fair	St James Church Hall, Taunton

*If you have a story for the next Wessex Bulletin we want to hear it.*

## COMBINED CLUB MEETINGS & VENUES

Date	Meeting Description	Speaker	Club
19/05/2013	Trading	Keith Attwood	Launceston Stamp Club
19/05/2013	A Visit with Orchids	Mark Humphrey	Launceston Stamp Club
20/05/2013	French, German & British Colonies in Africa	John Mayne	Sidmouth & Honiton Philatelic Society
23/05/2013	AGM followed by Bring & Buy		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
29/05/2013	An East African Adventure	Peter Chantry	Liskeard Stamp Club
04/06/2013	AGM & Kiloware Night		Dartmouth Stamp Club
04/06/2013	<b>Visit to Mid Devon Club – Members Displays</b>		Dawlish Stamp Club
05/06/2013	Labuan, Sarawak & North Borneo	David Parnall	Exmouth Stamp Club
06/06/2013	German Empire, Colonies, Weimar & Third Reich	John Shields	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
06/06/2013	Annual General Meeting		Plymouth Philatelic Society
07/06/2013	Evolution of Puppety	Richard Wheeler	Exeter Philatelic Society
10/06/2013	AGM and Ken Fox Memorial Trophy		Brixham Stamp Club
10/06/2013	China Part 2	Mike Watson	Bideford Stamp Club
12/06/2013	<b>Tony Key - An Evening with Tony – A lively character, but what will he show?</b>	Tony Key	Dawlish Stamp Club
13/06/2013	Visit to Taunton Stamp Club		Exeter Philatelic Society
13/06/2013	Trading & Talk	David Lethbridge	Launceston Stamp Club
17/06/2013	Australia	David Speer	Sidmouth & Honiton Philatelic Society
19/06/2013	Informal Swaps & Selling		Exmouth Stamp Club
20/06/2013	British Postal Labels & Forms	Martin Evans	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
21/06/2013	Informal		Exeter Philatelic Society
26/06/2013	AGM & Members Displays		Liskeard Stamp Club
03/07/2013	My Letter C	Colin Rogers	Exmouth Stamp Club
05/07/2013	80th Annual General Meeting		Exeter Philatelic Society
05/07/2013	Wessex Roadshow		Exeter Philatelic Society
08/07/2013	Egypt & Palestine Campaign WW1	Graham Mark	Bideford Stamp Club
10/07/2013	8 Sheet Competition (3) Classes: Postal History, Thematics, General Philately).		Dawlish Stamp Club
11/07/2013	Trading plus "The Year 1939"	Richard Wiggins	Launceston Stamp Club
15/07/2013	Poland	Clive Pryke	Sidmouth & Honiton Philatelic Society
17/07/2013	AGM & Mini Auction		Exmouth Stamp Club
31/07/2013	Wessex Roadshow	Wessex Speaker	Liskeard Stamp Club
08/08/2013	Trading	Rex Eccott	Launceston Stamp Club
08/08/2013	Newquay Entertains		Launceston Stamp Club
19/08/2013	Gibraltar	Charles Berry	Sidmouth & Honiton Philatelic Society
29/08/2013	GB Revenues	Terry Mounce	Liskeard Stamp Club
09/09/2013	Seychelles 1861-1935	Julian Luke	Bideford Stamp Club
11/09/2013	Return Visit by Mid Devon Club - Some interesting entertainment from one of our neighbours.		Dawlish Stamp Club
14/09/2013	<b>Club Re-Launch Exhibition &amp; Fair at the Strand Centre Dawlish</b>		Dawlish Stamp Club

**Dawlish Club Re-Launch** – will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September at the fully re-furbished Strand Centre Dawlish from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. The club will be showing a number of interesting exhibits with the lots for their October Auction available for viewing. Full refreshment facilities will be available and all will be welcome. If you would like to come along and do a bit of dealing, contact Jim Wigmore.

## HOW NOT TO FAKE AN ITEM OF POSTAL HISTORY by David K Smith



To a postal historian, every postal marking contributes to the “story” of an item. So the cover left appears to have an interesting “story”. Superficially, its story would appear to be: posted from Tel Aviv by airmail to Berlin in April 1937; for some reason, not sent by airmail, with the etiquette cancelled, but with a comment that the cover had been damaged by salt water; the cover was then not delivered and returned to the sender,

with postage due being charged--but not collected.

This cover was sold on eBay in January 2005 as an item of Palestine postal history. I was suspicious of it when I saw it, but intrigued enough to buy it. Before I received it from the seller, I was contacted by three other postal historians, who told me that the vendor was suspected of fabricating items of postal history by adding cachets and other markings.

The supposed “story” is a complete fabrication. This started as a straightforward cover from Tel Aviv to Berlin, which (one assumes) arrived without incident. The forger added all the extra markings.

What’s wrong? The story doesn’t hold much water, not even salt water. Most of the cachets (except for “damaged by salt water” and the two-line bilingual “return to sender” which I have not traced) are copied from illustrations in either Proud’s or Sacher’s books of the postal history of Mandate Palestine. This is particularly obvious from the rectangular marking annulling the amount of postage due. Both books have an illustration which has been copied freehand from a poor quality original. On this cover we see an accurate representation of that illustration. And, that marking is not used to annul a calculation of postage due; it annuls cancelled postage due stamps. Furthermore, it was used in Jerusalem, not Tel Aviv. The boxed explanations of why the cover is being returned have been traced from cachets used in Tel Aviv and Haifa or Jerusalem; they are invariably associated with an explanation, either in manuscript or a multiple choice cachet. No manuscript anywhere (the back of the cover is free of postal markings). And why should this cover have gone anywhere but Tel Aviv? Is that all that’s wrong with it? Not by a long way! There’s a two-line unboxed bilingual cachet “return to sender” which isn’t recorded in Palestine; if it had been used in Berlin, it would have been in French and German. And the word “Retour” would have been spelt correctly. There are none of the transit and handwritten markings that always go with items being returned. And all the handstamps are in a deep black, whereas several of these were generally found in shades of purple.

**What is missing from the cover, as well as what is there, shows that this is faked.**

*(This article draws our attention to issues we have addressed on a number of occasions, that of buying philatelic material through websites such as eBay and the need to be very knowledgeable about your subject to be able to spot the potential fraud. Thank you David for this reminder. – Ed)*

**2013 WESSEX FEDERATION COMPETITIONS** – Don’t forget to get your 2013 Competition Entries to the Competition Secretary by Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. Your club Secretary has copies of the entry forms and they are also available from the Wessex Federation website see the address above

## A CLEVER FRAUD or was it – by Jim Wigmore



Some years ago I wrote the following illustrated article for the Cyprus Circular Post the text of which follows.

*"I have a pair of covers, one is fully illustrated, and the other illustrated by showing only the stamps and the*

*postmark. It is of course the stamps that are of interest in this case. You will see that the head tablets of the stamps have been carefully removed and moved around between the stamps applied to the covers. The earliest shows a green head tablet on a 2 piastre stamp with a blue head tablet on the joined pair. The 9 piastre stamp carries a red head tablet from one of the 2 piastre stamps above. In the later cover the head tablets have been swapped between the 6 piastre and 1 piastre stamps.*

*James H. Mosey was the Principle of Kings School, and presumably a stamp collector, but who was his very clever fellow collector, or was he just a clever fraudster?*

*Both covers are to the same address, the earliest is dated 27 MAY 48 and the later 20 AUG 48 the earlier is hand written and the later typed. There is no senders name and address. ( I wonder why?) I have reason to believe there may well have been others similarly treated. It would be interesting to try and establish how many.*

*The quality of the work in removing the head tablets and moving them around between stamps is of a very high standard, with great care being taken to use the white band around the head tablet to mask any minor imperfections.*

*Careful examination suggests that the perpetrator probably made a punch and die to remove the head tablets, and used only the gum on the back of the tablet when inserting onto a cover. If the work was done by any other means it would have been almost impossible to have achieved the degree of interchange-ability, and tamper free appearance. It is a surprise that covers of this nature got through the postal system without being picked up, since in effect they are fraudulent and should have been marked postage due, tampering with the Kings Head was after all an offence. The fact they got through without being picked out by vigilant postal staff in either country is a tribute to the quality of the work of the perpetrator, I for one would like to know how it was actually done, and who did it."*

A keen eyed member of the KGV Study Circle who was delving through the archives of Waterlow & Sons noted details of samples that were prepared post WW2 and sent to various countries. These samples were all original single colour designs and Waterlow had altered them to show how they could produce the same designs in a multi-colour format. It is now realised that the stamps on the covers shown are in fact the samples sent to Cyprus. These samples were not Postally Valid and quite how they came to be actually used and sent through the post without being spotted is not known, it is thought these are the only two covers known.

Incidentally these covers came via a dealer at a Stamp Exhibition & Fair here in the South West, the dealer concerned knowing my interest in Cyprus had put these items to one side in the event I might be interested in them. **The moral here is build good relations with your local dealers, you just never know what they will come up with.**

## THE GERMAN HYPERINFLATION PERIOD – Pt 3

### The First OPD Provisional Overprints

#### First OPD Provisional Overprints.

It became obvious at this point that the Berlin State Printing Works just could not cope. The Government gave authority for eleven OPD s (Oberpostdirection = Area Postal Authority) in Breslau, Erfurt, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hannover, Konigsberg, Leipzig, Munich, Munster, Stuttgart, and Stettin to arrange for printers in their region to undertake the work on a subcontract basis. Each OPD was supplied with 2x5 and 4x5 stereo segments from which to manufacture flat and rotary plates, usually 4 frames of 100 stamps each. This is where the earlier use of stereos was an advantage in ease of transport and no damage to type faces. Overprinting took place from mid-September to early October.



Value	Ref	Value	Ref
100 Thousand Mk on 100 Mk	SG286	250 Thousand Mk on 500 Mk	SG293
250 Thousand Mk on 200 Mk	SG289	800 Thousand Mk on 200 Mk	SG296
250 Thousand Mk on 300 Mk	SG290	800 Thousand Mk on 400 Mk	SG298
250 Thousand Mk on 400 Mk	SG291	2 Million Mk on £00 Mk	SG303

At the end of September 1923 all stamps of 100 Mk and below became invalid for postage.

#### The Rosette Design 9th October to 22nd November 1923

This design put the production back into the Berlin State Printing Works and did not involve any overprinting or the use of stereos. On the face of it they do not appear to fit in with the provisional issues but in fact they were printed in much the same way. There was a flat background plate printed first and the values added at a second printing. It was only necessary to change the colour of the ink of the background plate to match the deeper shade of the new value.

The stamps were printed by both flat plate and rotary presses. For identification the rotary printings are larger than those printed by flat plate.

#### FLAT PLATE ISSUES

Value	Ref
500 Thousand Mk	SG315
1 Million Mk	SG316
4 Million Mk	SG318
5 Million Mk	SG319
10 Million Mk	SG320*
20 Million Mk	SG321*
50 Million Mk	SG323*
100 Million Mk	SG324
200 Million Mk	SG325*
500 Million Mk	SG326
1 Milliarden Mk	SG327*
2 Milliarden Mk	SG328*
5 Milliarden Mk	SG329*
10 Milliarden Mk	SG330
20 Milliarden Mk	SG331*
50 Milliarden Mk	Mi330*



#### ROTARY ISSUES

Value	Ref
1 Million Mk	SG316
2 Million Mk	SG317
4 Million Mk	SG318
5 Million Mk	SG319
20 Million Mk	SG321
30 Million Mk	SG322
200 Million Mk	SG325
1 Milliarden Mk	SG327
2 Milliarden Mk	SG328
5 Milliarden Mk	SG329
10 Milliarden Mk	SG330
20 Milliarden Mk	SG331

\* Indicates the stamps were issued rouletted.

The following stamps were also printed Flat Plate numerals on a Rotary Background.  
50 Million Mk SG323 and 500 Million Mk SG326.

**The final part of this story will appear in our next issue.**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR SIMILAR STORIES FOR PUBLICATION IN FUTURE BULLETINS.**

*Comments about this Wessex Bulletin and Copy for the next by July 30<sup>th</sup> please*

## THE SPRING WETS DAY

### PAPER, PRINTING & THEMATIC RARATIES



were the subjects of talks given to the members of the West of England Thematic Society (WETS) at their Annual WETS Day at the Dartmoor Lodge Ashburton on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Mary Claydon Chairman of WETS introduced the President of the British Thematic Association (BTA) Wendy Buckle who gave a display and talk on the subject of **Paper & Paper Making**. Wendy's display covered the period from the first writing materials, through the initial materials produced by the Chinese that could be written upon with ink type substances, through to Papyrus, Velum and Parchment and finally to the kinds of paper we would recognise today. The methodology of handmade sheets of paper were shown through to continuous reels of paper making were all covered, this included the means by which watermarks were inserted into the paper. Finally the paper manufacturing companies were shown along with many of the uses of paper through the ages. As we would expect from such a senior member of the BTA, the subject was well

researched with some rare and difficult to obtain material and very well presented.

During an interval between Wendy's two displays, one of our own members Richard Wheeler gave a display of 10 sheets of **Rare Thematic Material** he was shortly going to show at a local meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) he felt that this would clearly show RPSL there was more to philately than Postal History and Routes and Rates. Will he succeed, we wait with baited breath.



The second display and talk by Wendy Buckle was on the subject of **Printing**. It started with wood block printing by the Chinese to the start of early type face, through to metal type and hot type setting as used by newspapers. Wendy was able to show how the use of a standard set of type faces would lead to universal spelling of words and the generation of books readily available to the masses. Printing machinery was also covered starting with the early printing presses that could only print a single sheet of paper at a time through to the modern rotary presses of today that could make use of the continuous rolls of paper now available. All this led to specialist

printers and publishing companies in addition to the newspaper industry. Despite some atrocious weather all had a very interesting day. A vote of thanks to the speakers was given by Jim Wigmore WETS Vice Chairman.

**WETS Autumn Meeting & AGM at THEMATIX2013 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at Dartmoor Lodge Ashburton.** This is an opportunity to visit some philatelic dealers you would not normally see here in the South West and quite possibly find some of those rare gems you have spent years searching. It is quite surprising what you find in a thematic dealers stock, including postal history, post marks and many other items of interest to the specialist or general collector.

*If you have a story for the next Wessex Bulletin we want to hear it.*

**PACKET NEWS** – Please include a copy of the Wessex Bulletin in your circulating packet. Our suggestion of swapping packet material around to bring in fresh material to our collections seems to have found favour. Dawlish, Sidmouth & Honiton plus Taw & Torridge have tried this idea with some very good returns to all concerned. Exmouth now seem keen to try this method of bringing in new material see their advert below. If your club wishes to be included, let the editor know and we will produce an advert for you in a future Bulletin.

Do you have material you would like to submit to other clubs packets, let the editor know and we will circulate the details of what you are offering.

People collect more than just stamps, so why not include some of the other items such as Booklets, postmarks, post cards and postal history in your packets.

**WANTED – PACKET MATERIAL** by Exmouth Club, they have a healthy packet circuit that travels by hand with a 10% sales commission. They would like to introduce new material from outside the club and may be able to offer packet material in exchange. The point of contact is Barry Hampton telephone 01395 279513 or email [barryhampton37@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:barryhampton37@tiscali.co.uk)

**WANTED - AUCTION MATERIAL** – **Dawlish Stamp Club** would like material to be included in its next Auction, your list of items need to be with them by End of June 2013 and should be submitted in the form **Your Ref, Full Description and Your Reserve Price**. A copy of the Auction Rules giving the details of how lots should be prepared along with the Submission Form are available on the Dawlish Club pages of the Wessex website. Contact Jim Wigmore on 01626 864844 or email your list to [JamesWigmore@talktalk.net](mailto:JamesWigmore@talktalk.net) . If you would like a copy of the Catalogue contact Jim or view the lots online on the Dawlish Club pages of the Wessex Website.

**DO YOU HAVE A WANT?** Let the Editor know.

**A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN** - The stamp season for some clubs is ending & AGM's are coming up. Going round the clubs over time I've noticed it is usually the same few people who do all the work. Yes I can appreciate that some of our frailer members can no longer help with tasks that need dexterity & some strength but at refreshment time surely it is not fair to rely on the same person to prepare the drinks etc & then to clear up after, so missing out on viewing the display. Are there changes to your committee? It's a sign of a healthy club when jobs are shared around and not reliant on the same old few. Sometimes there is a reluctance to think about replacing a member who has been in post a long time in case of offending them but what happens when disaster strikes? If you value your club think about what can you do for it apart from paying your subscription unless of course you want to see it fold? **The more you put into a club the more you will get out of it.** The same applies to our Federation, many clubs are regular attendees at Federation Meetings and make significant contribution to the hobby we all enjoy. **Is your club regularly represented? When was the last time your club representative attended a Federation Meeting and made the views of its membership known?**

**We still need a Federation Secretary**, this is not an onerous job, but is vital to the Federation in having a point of contact especially for information being forwarded from ABPS which needs to be conveyed to member clubs and co-ordinating responses where this is required. I appreciate that we are all busy people, however this task should not take more than about an hour per week on average. **If you are prepared to undertake this job and make a real contribution to philately in this area, please let me know.**

**THIS SPACE COULD HAVE BEEN FILLED BY YOU**