

# The WESSEX BULLETIN

Journal of the Wessex Philatelic Federation

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

2014/01

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**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.

Our readership is still climbing to the extent we now need to distribute in two batches. We are also including The Royal Philatelic Society London Library on our circulation to ensure that Wessex has a visibility at National Level.

**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** – Secretaries 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. **The federation can only publish that which you provide.**

**DID YOU KNOW** – the federation website carries an integrated Calendar of Events, you will find this on the Events Page. It is hoped that visitors to the region can find out what is going on and where and possibly visit clubs during their visit.



the clubs that exist around our area.

As can be seen from the picture left we had a good and interesting variety of material on show all with a very Christmas feel.

We were able to take a number of enquiries about joining clubs, selling or valuing existing or inherited collections, all have been passed to the relevant clubs for action. What the long term effect of this event is likely to be may be difficult to assess, what is important is, we need to keep on raising our presence at public events in order that the public at large realise that Philately is still a live hobby.

**Some of our visitors, see right were definitely a bit odd.**

**WESSEX at HANNA'S** thanks to some negotiating by Martin & Sally Ellam the Wessex Federation was able to have a stall at the Hanna's Christmas Fair held at Seale Haine on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2013. The stall was manned by Martin & Sally Ellam (Plymouth), Jim Wigmore (Dawlish) and David Evans (Mid – Devon) all were on hand to answer questions and take details of people interested in joining clubs as well as handing out details of what we do, where we meet and



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## INTEGRATED CLUB CALENDAR

Date	Meeting Description	Speaker	Club
12/12/2013	Members Displays, Letter "C" & Informal		Torquay & Teignbridge
13/12/2013	Trading	Viv & Evelyn Sandercock	Launceston Stamp Club
13/12/2013	"Channel Islands Occupation"	Mike Tooley	Launceston Stamp Club
16/12/2013	Buy & Sell		Sidmouth & Honiton Philatelic Society
16/12/2013	Christmas Lunch		Liskeard Stamp Club
18/12/2013	Bring & Buy		Liskeard Stamp Club
19/12/2013	Christmas Evening - Mini Auction & Committee Entertain		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
20/12/2013	Christmas Buffet & Quiz		Exeter Philatelic Society
07/01/2014	Military Covers	Jan Cowling	Dartmouth Stamp Club
08/01/2014	<b>Chairman's Evening</b> – <i>A display with a sense of expectation.</i>	David Chattock	Dawlish Stamp Club
08/01/2014	Auction - Up to 15 lots per member		Plymouth Philatelic Society
09/01/2014	Wives & Friends, 1 Sheet & Fun Auction		Torquay & Teignbridge
09/01/2014	Club Members Entertain		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
13/01/2014	The Australian Commonwealth	John Shields	Brixham Stamp Club
13/01/2014	Members - Your Choice		Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
13/01/2014	What do you collect? Bring & show examples to other members.		Bideford Stamp Club
14/01/2014	Members 10 mins. in the Spotlight		Minehead & District Stamp Club
15/01/2014	Members Displays	Roger Smallden & Gerald Smith	Exmouth Stamp Club
23/01/2014	Christian Faith	Ron Bergman	Torquay & Teignbridge
23/01/2014	Mystery Island: Philately & The Family	Pat Grimwood-Taylor	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
27/01/2014	John Dain Entertains	John Dain	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
29/01/2014	Members Postcards		Liskeard Stamp Club
04/02/2014	Sacket Cup and Perring Cup	Judge Jim Wigmore	Dartmouth Stamp Club
05/02/2014	The Committee Entertains		Plymouth Philatelic Society
05/02/2014	Quiz/Swaps	Mike Donaghue	Exmouth Stamp Club
07/02/2014	Members Displays up to 16 sheets or £1.00		Exeter Philatelic Society
07/02/2014	Orchids of the Commonwealth	Mark Humphrey	Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
10/02/2014	Switzerland at War	Wendy Lamble	Brixham Stamp Club
10/02/2014	3rd Empire & Baltic States	Phil Lyndon & Phil Densham	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
10/02/2014	A.G.M. & Bring & Buy		Bideford Stamp Club
11/02/2014	Aspects of Nigeria	Tony Nicholson	Minehead & District Stamp Club
12/02/2014	<b>AGM + "Members New Acquisitions"</b> - <i>An opportunity to finish a serious start with some fun.</i>		Dawlish Stamp Club
13/02/2014	Competition Night - Ladies & Ethel Cottey Cups		Torquay & Teignbridge
19/02/2014	Worlds First Issues	Bryan Short	Exmouth Stamp Club
20/02/2014	WETS Roadshow		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
24/02/2014	Antarctica	Jim Parsons	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
27/02/2014	Sweden	John Shields	Torquay & Teignbridge

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28/02/2014	Something completely different	Graham Eva	Liskeard Stamp Club
04/03/2014	Yugoslavia	Dave Pratley	Dartmouth Stamp Club
05/03/2014	Dave's Digital Display	David Oates	Plymouth Philatelic Society
05/03/2014	Club Auction		Exmouth Stamp Club
06/03/2014	8 Sheet Competition + Bring & Buy		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
07/03/2014	People & Places of Devon	D. Smith	Exeter Philatelic Society
10/03/2014	Visit by Torquay & Teignbridge Club		Brixham Stamp Club
10/03/2014	Visit to Brixham Club		Torquay & Teignbridge
10/03/2014	Orchids of the Commonwealth	Mark Humphrey	Bideford Stamp Club
11/03/2014	Annual Auction		Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
11/03/2014	Visit from Wells P.S.		Minehead & District Stamp Club
12/03/2014	<b>Meet the Club</b> – View the April Auction Lots		Dawlish Stamp Club
13/03/2014	Dave's Stamp Show	David Oates	Torquay & Teignbridge
19/03/2014	WETS Roadshow		Exmouth Stamp Club
20/03/2014	Club Dinner at Cedars Inn		Taw & Torridge Stamp Club
20/03/2014	Taw & Torridge Club Dinner		Bideford Stamp Club
24/03/2014	France & Colonies	David Roseveare	Mid-Devon Philatelic Society
27/03/2014	Silent Auction		Torquay & Teignbridge
28/03/2014	WW1 East Africa	Peter Chantry	Liskeard Stamp Club

## TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY

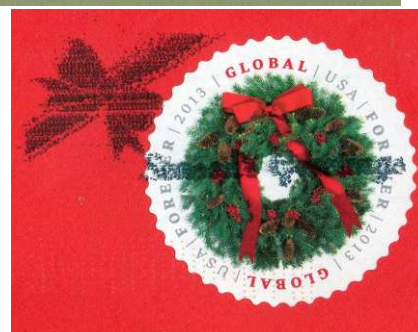


WETS member Val Robbins produced a splendid Philatelic Christmas Tree shown right and Jim Wigmore painted a Devon Winter Scene for his 2014 Christmas card.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

**AN UNUSUAL CHRISTMAS STAMP** – arrived on a card from America, something for the USA & Christmas collectors to look out for, we do not see very many round stamps. Your editor would be interested to hear of any others members may be aware of, don't forget to include scans. *(Note the inscription GLOBAL, presumably the rate for mail to destinations outside the USA.)*



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**NEW READERS** – We welcome Bill Barrel who is the first dealer to formally request inclusion on our circulation list. Bill is a jolly useful chap with his own website, just Google Bill Barrel and see what he has to offer.



incoming mail. Just ask yourself, when was it you looked in any other parts of a dealers stock, other than the country you are actually interested in. Many years ago when attending the Cornish Federation Fair at Liskeard, one of my friends aware of my interest in Cyprus drew me over to a dealer specialising in Russia to show me some postal history he had addressed to Cyprus, these items were real gems. One of the items is reproduced above and right. It can be seen that it is addressed to a well known lady Miss Michell who was the daughter of the British Representative in Limassol. The rear of postcard also shows that she was a philatelist as the text starts "This is just for the sake of your album". There was another item from the same correspondence which was acquired at the same time. Sometimes when acquiring such items we do not always know what we have got. I acquired another cover through the Cyprus Study Circle packet, the original owner like me did not know what he had and had not looked at the postmark and done his homework. The cover is reproduced below, it originated in the Chinese Province of Manchuria however the postmark actually reads MANCHOUKOU and dated 20.5.38. The reason for this is that the Japanese overran

**EXPAND YOUR COLLECTION** by Jim Wigmore – Something we are all guilty of when looking to fill our collection with stamps, postmarks, postal markings, items of postal history..., is overlooking a very important aspect relating to our country of interest. What is it, you ask, it is of course



Manchuria in 1932 and changed the name. I of course was totally unaware of these events, to me it was a rather plain cover from an odd location hence my interest.

Another friend knowledgeable in Chinese Philately asked me one day did I realise what I had "not really said I", "you have a very rare cover there and explained why, any time you wish to get rid of it I want first refusal said he". He has not got it, yet.

**Have you considered expanding your collection in this way?**

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**WESSEX SECRETARY** – Following the recent AGM of the Federation we are able to announce that Sally Ellam has taken on the Secretarial post and will now be the point of contact for matters relating to the federation. As an aid to Sally, Ed Ellsie will continue to take the minutes at meetings and once these have been approved they will be distributed by Sally. Dates of meetings, agendas etc will be organised between Sally and the Chairman and members will be advised in the usual manner.

**DAWLISH CLUB IS MOVING** – As of its AGM on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014 all meetings will be held in the Mayors Parlour, The Manor House, Dawlish. In order to publicise this move locally the club will be advertising a “Come & Meet the Club Meeting” on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and showing the Auction Lots for its April Auction. The previously advertised Pete’s Pieces will be moved into the 2014-15 Programme to be issued shortly.

**DAWLISH CLUB AUCTIONS** – Following the success of its Autumn Auction and the vast amount of material being passed to the club for sale, the club has decided to have two sales per year. **This years Spring Auction will be on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014** (viewing on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at the Manor House Dawlish) and the **Autumn Auction on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014** (Viewing at the Annual Exhibition date yet to be announced). For listings and realisations see the Dawlish club website at [www.wessexpf.org.uk/Dawlish](http://www.wessexpf.org.uk/Dawlish)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**SPRING STAMPEX 2014** -19 Feb 2014 - 22 Feb 2014 Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, London N1 0QH. (Nearest tube: The Angel on the Northern Line)

*Spring Stampex featuring the British Thematic Association and open to all classes. A qualifying event for London 2015.*

**DAWLISH SPRING AUCTION** – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at The Mayors Parlour, the Manor House Dawlish viewing from 7.00 pm, Auction starts at 7.30 pm, viewing at the same venue on 12<sup>th</sup> March from 7.30 pm. The Auction List will be available for viewing on the Dawlish website [www.wessexpf.org.uk/Dawlish](http://www.wessexpf.org.uk/Dawlish).

**ANNUAL WETS DAY** – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at the Dartmoor Lodge Hotel Ashburton 10.00 am for 10.30 am start. There will be two speakers this year BTA Speaker, Barry Stag will be showing “Parachuting” and WETS Vice Chairman Jim Wigmore will be showing “Along Lost Lines”. These are two fantastic not to be missed displays, contact the WETS Treasurer Andrew Austen email [andrewausten@lineone.net](mailto:andrewausten@lineone.net) to book a place at this event.

**14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Mike Roberts “PHILATELY WILL GET YOU NOWHERE”** (*The Pitiful & Wasted Life of a Stampaholic*) at Torquay & Teignmouth Club, St Michaels Church Hall, Chudleigh Road, Kingsteignton. This display was given to the Royal Philatelic Society London in December 2011. **This is a major display and well worth making the effort to go and see.** No booking required, just turn up in droves, plenty of room for all.

**WESSEX ROADSHOW** – The 2013 Roadshow has completed its circuit of shows. This show was without doubt one of the best we have produced to date. The Chairman and Committee of Wessex Federation would like to thank all the contributors. The material will be forwarded to the Chairman at the January 2014 Wessex Federation Meeting. The Chairman will return all items to entrants where a specific request has been made to for material to be returned. Discussions have been taking place with Somerset & Dorset regarding exchanges of Roadshow material. If you are happy for your material to be used in this way, please advise the Chairman.

If you would like to submit material for the 2015 Roadshow the Chairman would like to hear from you. You are reminded that material for the roadshow must be colour copies on 160gm card (*copies like this can be produced at Staples for around 19p per sheet*) and in a protective display mount, this ensures the items are self standing.

The next Wessex Roadshow will begin in January 2015, club secretaries wishing to book this display should contact the Wessex Federation Secretary or Chairman see details above.

**When accepting bookings for the 2015 roadshow, clubs may be requested to consider dates that will cut down speaker travel time by co-ordinating bookings into zones.**

**AFGHANISTAN** - With the Government announcing that British troops will be leaving Afghanistan during 2014, it's hard to realize that our soldiers have been fighting in this mountainous, landlocked, Asian country for almost 150 years.

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Confirmation comes with this 1880 postcard from an Army captain to his wife in London. On the rear of the card, the officer speaks of "a 22 days forced-march" to break a siege at Kandahar and relieve a siege on the garrison.

With little official mail censoring in those days he was able to write about "his army giving 20,000 Afghans a jolly good licking."

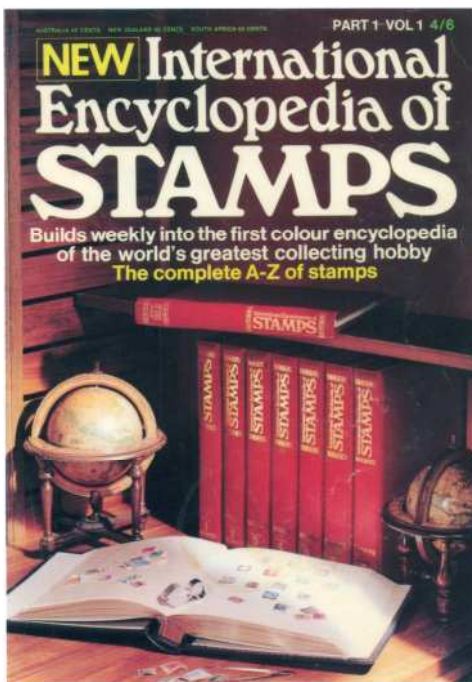
This conflict, 1878-81, is known as the Second Afghan War. The First (1838-42) came when the Britain became concerned over Ahmed Shah Abdali moving towards links with Russia and Persia and felt this meant a threat to the Indian border. Conflicts of differing degree's continued, the last in 1919 as Afghans fought both foreigners and among themselves.



There last king was deposed in 1973, republics of various strength followed and the 1988-9 government faced civil war as Islamic fighters grew in strength. As Queen Victoria appeared on letters and postcards which carried messages back to Britain, Afghanistan's first stamp — referred to as the "Afghan Tiger" — is officially dated as 1871 based on Moslem

calendar dates encircling the Tiger". *(Some of our older members may well remember being shown these stamps by the late Oliver Cumming, he used to relate how he was able to purchase them from a dealer in The Strand, London for a very small sum, since they were unaware of what they were and anyway they were all torn. Because of the method of printing and issuing, this was the norm.)*

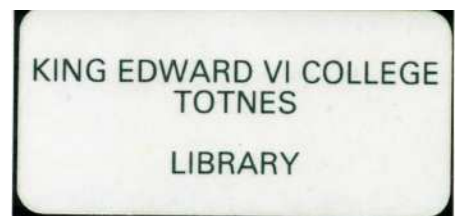
Like most modern nations Afghanistan regularly issues stamps, they even had an American philatelic agency in the 1960s. The 2001 destruction of the World Trade Centre in New York brought another war and death to Afghan civilians, it would appear than in 150 years little has changed, although philatelically it is a very interesting country.



**The International Encyclopaedia of Stamps** caught my eye at a recent auction. It was Part 1 Volume 1 costing 4/6 at the launching in 1970. On offer 40 years later, many of the 50+ weekly editions cost me a lot less, says Tony Smith. A 'bonus' came when I found most of the editions carried the 'label' below.

Was the headmaster or a member of staff trying to lure youngsters into stamp collecting?

They could learn, in particular, about history and the geography of the world. Did any Totnes College pupils try "the greatest hobby". Do they still collect, perhaps even belong to a club or society in the WESSEX area?



IPC Magazines Ltd produced the Encyclopaedia with the man in charge of British Museum's supreme collection, James Mackay as Editor in Chief and Stephen Mayer the Managing Editor. Week after week they told everything a young a young stamp collector (or would-be philatelist) needed to know. Colour on almost every page doubled the attraction! So why not tell the WESSEX Bulletin what you remember of first reading the encyclopaedia, whether you were at King Edward VI College, Totnes, or your parents bought it

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