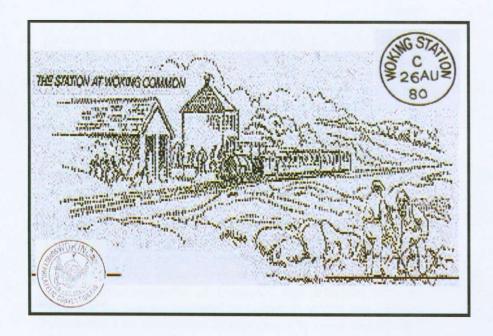
Penny Post



June 2015



Forward/ Editors Note:

Welcome to another edition of the Penny Post. My thanks must go again to Ron Trevelyan for much of the material in this issue. However, this is your magazine. If you have something to say, share or provide a report on a society evening then I would be pleased to include it in the next issue.

How fortunate are we? Although numbers maybe dwindling at most philatelic Societies, including ours, we must count ourselves fortunate that we have great depth and expertise within our membership. Our member evenings have been very popular with many varied and interesting items displayed, often filling all 10 frames available and occasionally with time limits set! Many of our members have taken their collections a step further and displayed to other Societies. Among these are David Springett, Jane Hawkins, John Lea, Michael Lockton, David Milstead, David Stotter and Some of these have even taken their Ron Trevelvan. material to national or international displays or competitions. In this issue you can read how some got on at the recent Europhilex. Several are members of other local and specialised groups. We have had several visiting societies to show us their material and managed to attracted some distinguished and highly regarded philatelists to show us their collections and areas of specialities.

We still have some influence in the Philatelic world and manage to punch probably above our weight - long may it continue!

We hear of philatelic societies amalgamating or worst still folding. 'How fortunate are we' should probably read 'How fortunate we are'.

David Griffin (email: davidgprocesseng@yahoo.co.uk)

News of Recent Meetings:

Tuesday 9 December 2014 Members: The Christmas Social

The 2014 Christmas Social reverted back to it's traditional format after the Dane Garrod extravaganza replaced it in 2013.

11 members and 6 visitors came to enjoy a glass of wine or a soft drink. The ladies looked after a tempting variety of food and nibbles generously provided by members and wives/partners.

Mick Coad efficiently provided a Quiz which tested the three teams involved and produced the usual discussion, head scratching and humour. The raffle was smoothly run by Tony Grove and Jane Hawkins who had a fine selection of prizes brought by members to entice people to buy tickets. The treasurer had something to smile about when it was announced that the raffle had raised more than £40.

We have had larger attendances in the past, but members went home feeling that the evening had been a happy occasion to get them in the mood for Christmas. Thanks are due to all those who helped make the evening a success.

Tuesday 20 January 2015 Members: The Christmas Social

On Tuesday 20 January our Members Evening featured the Colour Black. David Milstead began with War Tax and Army Official black overprints together with Edward VII funeral items and mourning covers. David Griffin continued the evening with Fifty Shades of Grey! He showed shades of the George V 8d black-on-yellow, 9d agate and 7d olive stamps. Michael Lockton then presented a splendid frame of Penny Blacks and Mulready envelopes from Exeter and Exeter

receiving houses. Ron Trevelyan completed the first half with a miscellany that included GB commemoratives, including the Black Prince, and others in black and white, together with slogan postmarks such as Blackpool! A highlight was the black edged mourning stamps for Queen Astrid of Belgium.

A photographer from the Woking Advertiser was present during these displays. More on this later in this edition.

Jane Hawkins started the second half with more slogan postmarks and black and white postcards of Woking, including Good Luck cards with black cats! John Lea showed another miscellany of stamps in black, together with airgraphs, naval honour envelopes (in black) and two examples of the PUC pound stamp on commercial covers! All in all we saw five examples of this beautiful stamp during the evening.



John Lea's £1 black on cover to Argentina.

David Springett continued with stamps in black from the USA and Canada, including one of President McKinley who was assassinated and one of President Harding who died in office, black events indeed. Paul Wheeler rounded off a memorable evening with an A to Z of stamps so black that effective cancellation was difficult, a theme also touched on by Michael with black Maltese crosses on the Penny Black.

DAS

Tuesday 3 February 2015 Members: Postage Dues of the World on Cover

When Francis Kiddle is a visiting speaker an outstanding display can be expected and his evening on postage dues was no exception. His material was truly 'of the World'.

Francis divided up his wealth of items into particular sections starting with postage dues on GB mail. This was followed by a section showing unusual postage due practices from around the world. An alphabetically arranged display of postage due examples from many countries followed and the conclusion was a collection of covers where more than one country had applied postage dues to the same envelope. Each section was clearly labelled and the reasons for receiving the postage due treatment, in some case unusual ones. Much ground was covered with the inclusion of invalid stamps, illegal stamps, return to sender dues, meter stamps incorrectly applied, the incorrect use of postage dues, postage dues used as postage stamps, illegal use of telegraph stamps and many other categories. Every item seemed to have a different story to tell.

The individual country section threw up some unusual situations such as a item of mail marked 'posted on board' a ship which was instead taken ashore and posted there.

Also a registered item was posted in an ordinary mail box. This was endorsed 'posted out of course' and attracted a second registration fee. Francis maintained that his interest in postage dues enabled him to visit stamp fairs and invariably find items to support his theme.

Michael Lockton proposed a Vote of Thanks on behalf of members for what he regarded as a fascinating display. He found the handstamps in the GB section to be of particular interest and noted that Francis had not needed to resort to the modern yellow labels. Francis was commendably brief in his talk which gave members ample time to browse and marvel at the situations which arise when mail is not sent according to rules and regulations.

RLT

Tuesday 10 February 2015 Woking Visit to Croydon P. S.

Our stalwarts Ron Trevelyan, Michael Lockton and David Stotter paid a visit to Croydon Philatelic Society. Ron showed Nyasaland, Michael showed GB Airmails and David showed postcards from Morocco. They are shown below with Paul Elliot, the President of Croydon P.S.



Tuesday 17 February 2015 Chris Board FRPSL: South Africa

Chris brought along a large selection of early postal history of the separate states of South Africa, which each had their own stamp issues before the Union was formed in 1910. The politics in southern Africa were complex and mail was a mixture which included missionary correspondence and letters which arose from the Boer War. Examples on display stretched from the 1880s and it was necessary for the origin of some mail to be identified by the postmarks where there was a confusion of stamps used. Many of the cancellations consisted of triangular postmarks and there were many examples of underpaid mail.

The second part of the display concentrated on the run up to the Union when the four states of Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal showed their enthusiasm for unification. The aim was for a union stamp to replace the separate issues previously used. There was much debate about the design of the new stamp which received a further complication when Edward VII died in May 1910. It was necessary for an engraving of George V's head to be incorporated at fairly short notice. The Union of South Africa was formed on 31 May 1910 and the new Union stamp, a 2 and a half pence blue, was issued on 4 November 1910 to celebrate the Opening of the Union Parliament. Pre-Union stamps could still be used for three years after the Union and were not demonetised until 1937. Chris was able to trace the various processes leading up to the new stamp, which is still regarded as a classic today. In 2010 the centenary of the new stamp was celebrated with a stamp issue which concentrated on the technical aspects of the original printing.

John Lea proposed a Vote of Thanks on behalf of members. He considered it a wonderful evening which had been clearly explained by the visiting speaker. The tour of postal history had brought to light many unusual items. On the Union stamp it was an interesting story how the separate states had argued and then agreed the artists proofs for its issue. He was surprised that the new stamp had received such a large print run (20 million) when only about 5 per cent of the population could write.

Members had plenty of material to digest and enjoy.

RLT

Tuesday 3 March 2015 Annual Lunch

For the second year in a row, the Annual Lunch was held at the Cafe Rouge, Woking. Terry Rippingale, despite his long journey from the Southampton area, was one of 15 who enjoyed the meal. Despite fewer members attending, a good time was had by all.

RLT

Tuesday 17 March 2015 Members: North America and the Caribbean

Tuesday 17th March was another Members' Evening and one of the most successful we have ever had. The theme was "North America and the Caribbean" (but we saw some South America too) and members filled six frames in both halves with quality material.

David Springett kicked off (most appropriately) with a fine display of US airmails on cover, starting with New York in 1917 and going coast-to-coast to San Francisco in 1924. He also showed US airships and Zeppelin visits, including a round-theworld item. Paul Wheeler followed with stamps and covers from Canada and the Caribbean islands, and Jane Hawkins showed a Woking postcard sent from Longmoor camp by a Canadian soldier in WW1 with a long and interesting message.

David Griffin presented his excellent childhood collection of US stamps that must have been the envy of his friends. David Stotter showed Tangier and Tetuan airmails to the USA and elsewhere, focussing on postage rates and usage of the various overprinted and unoverprinted high values.

Michael Lockton began the second half with honour (or green) envelopes sent by Canadian and US forces in WW1 and WW2. US troops in Europe in 1917 began by using British envelopes but soon produced their own, modelled on the British pattern. In WW2 these were blue not green.

Malcolm Bentley showed GB used abroad in the Caribbean islands, highlighting the numbered postmarks to be found on loose stamps from 1858 onwards. Jamaica started with A01 Kingston but Malcom showed a number of village cancels A27 Alexandria up to A76 Spanish Town (they go on to A83).

Ron Trevelyan presented a miscellany of stamps from the British Caribbean islands, and John Lea finished a memorable evening with a range of unusual items including: the Canadian Provinces; Wells Fargo in Mexico; Haiti to France 1859; Greenland; The 1st Newfoundland Regiment at Gallipoli; St Pierre et Miquelon covers with France Libre stamps, and unusual Turks & Caicos covers. Many thanks to all presenters.

Tuesday 7 April 2015 Members: Postcards - Pictures or Postmarks

The date of the meeting was very adjacent to the Easter Holiday, but 10 members attended and John Lea ably deputised for President David Stotter who was on a family holiday.

Unusually the number of displays was lower than on recent occasions, but those which were brought along represented a wide range of subjects.

Jane Hawkins drew on her extensive Woking post card collection to show various postmarks of Woking, including surrounding villages.

Ron Trevelyan showed examples of early post cards when the users were not allowed to write messages on the address side, as well as those post 1902 when the divided backs did provide for this. Some messages were written upside down hopefully to improve privacy. A selection of postmarks included those from GB exhibitions held at the White City in the early 20th Century and the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley 1924/25 was also shown. Some GB slogan postmarks illustrated how they were intended to inform the public about ways to help the war effort and have regard for their safety. On the picture side some post cards produced for the Japan/British Exhibition in 1910 featured Japanese gardens from a book of paintings by Ella du Cane and demonstrated delicate beauty.

John Lea brought along an absolute miscellany of post cards from all quarters of the globe. He included countries like Yemen, Palestine (including French P.O.s), Cook Islands, Turkey, Korea and German Post Offices in China. There were also WW I post cards including POW cards and an embroidered one. A fine example of the first Victorian postcard postmarked 1 October 1870 plus the celebration of its centenary in 1970 and a picture of an early pillar box completed the display.

Michael Lockton's contribution carried the theme of Exeter through it. Apart from Exeter post cards there was mail from the famous destroyer HMS Exeter which took part in the battle of the River Plate. There were also novelty cards and early picture post cards. He observed that the Post Office did not allow picture post cards through the mail until 1894.

Members had plenty to look at and discuss despite the lower number of displays. RLT $$_{\rm 9}$$

Wednesday 8 April 2015 Woking Visit to Henley & District Philatelic Society

Ron Trevelylan, John Lea Michael Lockton entertained 13 members of Henley and District Philatelic Society.

Ron showed stamps, covers, pictures and printed articles illustrating the course and features of the Zambezi River. John Lea showed Burma and its postal services and Michael Lockton showed GB 1d pinks, including various depictions of Queen Victoria by Charles Whiting, examples of the fine standards of colour printing that had been achieved by the 1830's and the William Wyon's medal, cast for Queen Victoria's coronation, which became the model for the 1840 and subsequent postage stamps.

Michael Lockton also excelled as the driver in negotiating numerous roundabouts on route!

Tuesday 21 April 2015 Early Military Mail by Richard Farman

Richard Farman treated the Society to a special display which concentrated on the Napoleonic war period from the 1790s to the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. Great Britain was under threat of invasion from Napoleon and Richard's material illustrated what measures were being taken to protect the country. His display was of museum standard.

Many examples were shown of letters and notices which related to staff matters about the militia or defence regiments which were set up all over the country and which were often beset with problems such as the lack of equipment. These regiments were usually small and augmented the regular army. Their members were not allowed to serve abroad and often found themselves keeping the peace in their locality. An unusual feature was that if a militia member was ill he could nominate a 'substitute' to replace him. Documents and letters provided a fascinating insight into this. Although Richard did include examples of mail sent through the postal system as 'free' items (officers) or with the appropriate postage paid, the most interesting part of the evening was the content of the letters and documents. He found it surprising that commerce continued to operate during this period. In France the invasion fleet was assembled at Boulogne and consisted of large

boats with flat bottoms which the French soldiers had misgivings about.

In the second part of his display Richard concentrated on Prisoners of War. There many French POW officers in England who were cultured and well educated and who were being held near the south coast. With the fear that these could be easily pressed into service by an invading army, they were moved to various locations in the centre of the country. The officers were on parole and even received a sum of money each week. Most of the other rank POWs (approximately 45,000) were stationed in Scotland. French prisoners were skilled carvers of bone and in the production of straw marquetry. British prisoners in France fared less well.

After the naval battle of Trafalgar in 1805 the French lost their sea power which completely changed the situation. The militia were gradually disbanded in the follow up period and Richard had documents to show how this was achieved. The final sheets of the display contained letters and documents relating to the Battle of Waterloo.

Michael Lockton proposed a Vote of Thanks on behalf of members noting that Richard was a leading postal historian who had brought along some remarkable material. The main interest was in the contents of the exhibits which told the inside story of events leading up to the Battle of Waterloo. Members had much to peruse in what was an important period of British history.

RLT

Tuesday 5 May 2015 The Presidents Evening

Timing is everything and it could not have been more appropriate for David Stotter's display to be based on his recently published book 'A Postcard from Tangier. A Postal and Social History of Tangier 1880 - 1958'. This is his second book on Morocco and has already been well received. The book represents 30 years of study on his part.

David brought along material relating to the large hotels in Tangier with the postal history items bearing the various hotel cachets. Some of these were in their heyday at the turn of the 19th/20th Century. The first part of the evening concentrated on the Hotels

Continental and Cecil, two of the best known ones.

The Hotel Continental was enormous and still exists, but could no longer be considered as grand as when high profile people chose to stay there. The oldest cachet was dated 1883 and much of the other material relating to the hotel, such as postcards and hotel stationery, is rare and difficult to find. Postmarks showed that mail posted in the hotel post boxes, was processed by the British, German, French and Spanish post offices.

The cachets of the Hotel Cecil, situated on the sea front, are less rare but the postal stationery and pictorial postcards were attractive.

The second part of David's tour of Tangier hotels showed material from a number of others, including the Villa de France, Cavilla and Bristol, with their cachets and postal usage. Exotic luggage labels added to the flavour of the display. With copies of his book to hand David was able to dip in to read from various passages to add weight to what was on show.

Michael Lockton proposed a Vote of Thanks on behalf of the members and described the evening as an interesting and fascinating one. He was impressed by how much scarce material was on show. David was rewarded by an audience of 18 (including 5 visitors) who took great interest in the story of Tangier and its hotels. It was the largest attendance for some time and did justice to the high quality of the display.

RIT

May 13-18 2015 London 2015 Europhilex

London 2015 Europhilex commemorating the 175th anniversary of the first postage stamps was Britain's first International-level exhibition was held at the Business Design Centre, Islington over 4 days. It was held in the 10 year gap between World level events and has been declared a great success. Contributing to this event were three members of Woking P.S. who exhibited some of the 1400 frames on display. They all did extremely well and we should be very proud of them. Michael Lockton won a Gold medal for a display on 'Exeter Postal History', David Stotter a Large Vermeil medal in the Literature Class for his recently published book 'A Postcard from Tangier; A Postal and Social

History of Tangier 1889 –1958' and a large Vermeil medal submitted on behalf of the late Derek Diamond (see separate article in this issue) also in the Literature Class for 'The 1858 Pictorial Issue of New Zealand'.



First frame of Michael's Gold winning entry at Europhilex

Tuesday 5 May 2015 WOKING AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Christ Church Centre, Woking on Tuesday 19 May 2015 with the President David Stotter and ten other members present.

Before the formal meeting began David Stotter made an announcement that Derek Diamond had passed away. Derek had been a Woking member for about three and a half years and attended some meetings, but he would be remembered for his huge efforts

on behalf of Surrey philately. The funeral would take place on 22 May. Members observed a moment's silence in Derek's memory.

- 1. Apologies for absence were received from Michael Lockton, Mick Coad and Paul Wheeler.
- 2. The minutes of the 2014 AGM (previously circulated in the June 2014 issue of 'Penny Post') were agreed as a true record and signed by the President.
- 3. Matters arising. There were no matters arising.
- 4. REPORTS. The following reports were made by Officers of the Society:

President David Stotter felt that the Society had experienced a good year, but he was content to allow other office holders to fill in the details.

Secretary Ron Trevelyan agreed with the President that the year had been a satisfactory one for the Society. Meeting attendances had held up well at around 13, despite the loss last summer of two members who had been regular attendees. With Woking celebrating its 65th Anniversary in 2014 a successful celebratory meeting was held on 21 October 2014. The attendance of 21 included 9 visitors from other local societies/organisations. There were displays from the Woking archives, as well as early Woking postcards and a selection from the Woking Postal History Collection. David Griffin also conjured up a special edition of 'Penny Post'. The refreshments, generously donated by a member, included an anniversary chocolate cake. Another highlight was an unexpected call from the Woking Advertiser newspaper offering to do a feature on the Society. From the information provided and following a visit by a photographer to a meeting a good write up resulted and one new member was recruited. Members' Evenings, as ever. were well supported with a great variety of material to support the theme. Speakers were of a high calibre who brought displays on Ethiopia, Togo, Postage Dues, South Africa and Early Military Mail. John Lea took us on a fascinating journey to

Antarctica. The Annual Lunch was held at the Cafe Rouge, Woking. Terry Rippingale, despite his long journey, was one of 15 who enjoyed the meal. Exchange visits with other societies included Woking going to Addlestone, Croydon and Henley, whilst Wimbledon is due to visit Woking in June. Member Richard Ashton, as on previous occasions, generously invited us to make use of discarded philatelic items. On this occasion it was his retirement to Cornwall and John Lea and Ron Trevelyan were able to add to the donation total by disposing of material via Ripley Stamp Club.

Treasurer Malcolm Bentley circulated the 2014/15 Accounts, commenting that the Society had kept its head above water, with finances much as they were at this time last year. This was, once again, due to donations with the actual total much higher than the estimated one. Unlike some years ago he now forecast that the financial future of the Society could be of up to ten years. He invited members to make an effort to unearth any surplus material so that it could be donated and taken to Ripley Stamp Club for sale or auction. The current membership of the Society was 35.

The accounts were examined and agreed by the Accounts Examiner David Stotter.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report and Accounts was proposed by John Lea and seconded by Jane Hawkins. John Lea thanked the Treasurer for the work he was putting in to manage the accounts.

Packet Organisers Tony Grove said that in 2014, 9 new packets were circulated, similar to the previous two years. The number of booklets, packets of covers and packets of stamps for inclusion in the packet had however dropped to 100 from 155 last year. This fact, together with little material awaiting circulation, could translate into fewer packets in 2015. In 2014 there were ten contributors, an increase on last year, but 91% of the total came from just 4 people. There was still a heavy dependence on

non-members providing booklets. Packet circulation remained at 14 members and it was to be hoped that sales were sufficiently rewarding for booklet providers to continue. Booklet making was a time consuming business and poor results did not encourage continued support.

Neville Ledsome circulated the Packet Accounts noting that not much had changed since the previous year. During the year ending 31 March 2015 nine packets had completed their circuits. The sale of stamps increased from £941 in 2013/14 to £1040 in 2014/15. Percentage sales were 8% by value which compared with 7% in 2013/14 and 10% in the 3 years prior to that. Bank balance at 31 March 2015 was £711.

Penny Post Editor David Griffin announced that the next Penny Post was being prepared for circulation in June. He made a plea for contributions from members, which could be anything they thought might be of interest to fellow members.

Competition Secretary Ron Trevelvan first referred to the Woking entry in the 2014 Mason Cup. The regular team could not provide entries for a variety of reasons, but John Lea, Ron Trevelvan and David Griffin came up with good high marks to earn Woking Society second place out of six societies. David Griffin's entry, his first attempt at this level, was much praised and won him the Derek Nathan Trophy. A Woking entry will be submitted for the 2015 Mason Cup. The domestic Single Sheet Competition received 8 entries on a wide range of subjects. The winner of the R & H Trophy was Mick Coad with 'Are we missing something'. There was Woking Society success at the recent London 2015 Europhilex Stamp Exhibition, Michael Lockton's superb postal history entry of 8 frames entitled 'Exeter Postal History' won him a gold medal. Also David Stotter's recently published book on Tangier won him a Large Vermeil in the Literature Class. A book entered on behalf of the late Derek Diamond also won a Large Vermeil.

Woking & District Philatelic Society Accounts Expenditure and Income for the period 01.04.14 to 31.03.2015

| | 2013/2014 | Estimate 2014/2015 | Actual 2014/2015 | Estimate 2015/2016 |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Income | | | | |
| Bank Interest | 0.94 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 1.00 |
| Subscriptions | 325.00 | 300.00 | 320.00 | 300.00 |
| Raffle/"Contributions" | 243.20 | 250.00 | 269.50 | 250.00 |
| Packet Proceeds | (15.07) | 50.00 | (25.52) | 50.00 |
| Donations | 269.73 | 150.00 | 323.40 | 150.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 30.68 | 25.00 | 0.00 | 25.00 |
| Total Income | 854.48 | 776.00 | 888.33 | 776.00 |
| Expenditure | | | | |
| Meeting Room hire | 696.25 | 735.00 | 672.00 | 750.00 |
| Insurance | 55.20 | 60.00 | 55.20 | 60.00 |
| Affiliation fees | 59.60 | 60.00 | 58.50 | 60.00 |
| Prizes/Cups | 20.80 | 20.00 | 4.80 | 20.00 |
| G Expenses | 86.84 | 100.00 | 149.24 | 100.00 |
| Penny Post | 0.00 | 50.00 | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 98.95 | 75.00 | 16.83 | 75.00 |
| Total Expenditure | 1.017.64 | 1.100.00 | 956.57 | 1,115.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | (163.16) | (324.00) | (68.24) | (339.00) |
| Packet Account | | | | |
| Bank balance at 31. Bank balance at 31. | | | 737.24 711.72 | |
| Negative cash flow | | | (25.52) | |
| Balance at end of period | 2012 | /2013 2013 | /2014 2014 | /2015 |
| Treasurer's account | 1.63 | 39.81 155 | 6.92 144 | 9.00 |
| Packet Account | 75 | 52.31 73 | 7.24 71 | 1.72 |
| Interest-bearing account | 2.20 | 00.00 2.20 | 0.00 2.20 | 0.00 |
| Cheque 000490 pending | | (4 | 0.00) | |
| 000491 | | (2 | (5.20) | |
| Totals | 4.5 | 92.12 4.42 | 8.96 4.36 | 0.72 |
| | | | (6 | 8.24) |

Main Accounts (Continued)

Breakdown of Membership Subscriptions received (325.00):

29@ £10.00 290.00 3@ £5.00 15.00 1@ £15.00 15.00

Examined and approved

Malcolm Bentley
Honogary Treasurer
20 May 2015

Notes

1 The Balance Sheet

Assets

| Woking Postal History Collection | £4.000.00 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance of Treasurer's account | 1.449.00 |
| Balance of Savings account | 2.200.00 |
| Balance of Packet Account | 711.72 |
| Trophies | 50.00 |
| Total Assets | 8.410.72 |

Liabilities

Outstanding cheques drawn on Packet Account Payment due to owners on books in circulation

Total Liabilities (estimate)

250.00

- 2 Cash situation as at 31st March 2015 £4.110.72 (2014 £4.321.71).
- 3 The packet results will ideally await more information later this evening. There are no bank account movements after 17th February due to illness, so that the re-duction in the balance of £25.52 is not a reliable figure. Even if it does result

- negative we should remember that we have members who pay their subscriptions solely to receive the packet and rarely come to meetings.
- Another accounts submission and another year in which we have kept our heads above water. The finances are very much as they were at this time last year. But once again we have to thank Donations. So here is an opportunity to ask you all to ferret through drawers and shelves and locate material which is surplus to your today's requirements so that it can go to Ripley for sale or auction.
- 5 Another statistic: we are 35 members.

THE PACKET ACCOUNTS 2014/2015 Account for the year ending 31 March 2015

| | | 2013/14 £ | 2014/15 £ |
|------------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| INCOME | | | |
| Sale of Stamps | | 941.94 | 1040.86 |
| Hire of Church Hall | | | 40.00 |
| | | 941.94 | 1080.86 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| Payment to book owners | cheque | 857.89 | 1032.20 |
| | By stamp | - | 13 |
| Return of books | | 6.86 | 5.21 |
| Photocopying | | 8.00 | 8.80 |
| WDPS (subscription) | | 10.00 | - |
| Stationary | | | 3.99 |
| Postage | | 1.00 | - |
| Hire of church hall | | | 40.00 |
| | | 883.75 | 1090.33 |

During the year ending 31 March 2015 nine packets completed their circuits. The percentages sales by value from these packets were as follows:

| | % | | % |
|---------|---|---------|----|
| 2013/09 | 6 | 2014/01 | 7 |
| 2014/02 | 8 | 2014/03 | 7 |
| 2014/04 | 6 | 2014/05 | 10 |
| 2014/06 | 9 | 2014/07 | 7 |
| 2014/08 | 4 | | |

Of material circulated in these nine packets amounting to £14,456, 8% by value (£1133.48) was sold. This compares with 7% in 2013/14 and 10% in each of the three preceding years.

Reconciliation with Bank Account

| IN | £ |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bank Account Paid in | 1080.86 |
| Actuals Paid in OUT | 1080.86 |
| Bank Account Paid out Hire of church hall | 1031.50 40.00 |
| | 1071.50 |
| Actuals Paid out Hire of church hall Paid from petty cash | 1032.20 40.00 18.13 |
| Bank Account | 1090.33 |
| Balance at 31.03.15 | £ 711.72 |
| Actuals | |
| Less Payments due to owners of books in circulation on 31.03.1 | 5 -252.16 |
| Plus Petty Cash | +11.62 |
| Balance at 31.03.15 | 471.18 |
| | |

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Neville Ledsome May 2015

The following were nominated to form the incoming Committee and all declared their willingness to serve;

President: J. Lea FRPSL

Vice-President: Dr D.A. Stotter FRPSL

Secretary: R.L. Trevelyan
Asst. Secretary: J. Lea FRPSL
Treasurer: M. Bentley FRPSL

Packet Organiser: A.R. Grove Penny Post Editor D. Griffin

Accounts Examiner Dr D.A. Stotter FRPSL

Committee Members: N.F. Ledsome

Mrs J. Hawkins P. Wheeler N. Burnett

Curator: Woking Postal History Collection:

M.H. Lockton FRPSL

John Lea took over the meeting as the incoming President. He said he would need support from everyone and was grateful to Vice President David Stotter for standing by to help if he could not come to all the meetings.

6. PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

Ron Trevelyan reported that details for the new programme were being worked on with the President. Planning so far entailed the booking of two Woking member speakers, Rodger Evans and Gavin Fryer. There was the prospect of obtaining 4 outside speakers. The programme would include the usual features like the Christmas Social and the Annual Lunch. A return visit from Henley Philatelic Society was being arranged. A number of subjects/themes for Members' Evenings under consideration were read out and discussed. One further possibility was added. The President thought that there was now sufficient material to form the next programme.

7. Any Other Business

Ian Bain Trophy: David Stotter presented the Trophy to John Lea for his work on behalf of the Society during the past year and during many other years. The award received acclaim from the meeting.

Visitors: John Lea said he was aware that a number of visitors had attended recent Woking meetings. He felt it was very important to make any such visitors as welcome as possible. The meeting closed at 9.18 pm.

Ron Trevelyan Hon. Secretary, May 2015

Society News

Obituaries-Derek Diamond

We are sorry to report the death of our member Derek Diamond. Derek joined the Society in 2011 and although he did not live very close to Woking he did attend our meetings from time to time. He also gave us several displays on his specialist subject New Zealand. He was treasurer and former chairman of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain and author of the medal winning 'The 1898 Pictorial Issue of New Zealand, It's design, Printing & Use.' He was also noted for his great contribution to Surrey philately.

The Society was represented at Derek's funeral by John Lea, David Stotter, Michael Lockton and Ron Trevelyan.

Mason Cup

The Surrey Philatelic Federation's annual fair and exhibition will be hosted this year by our neighbours, Addlestone P.S. at the Community Centre, Garfield Road on 4th July, from 10am to 4pm. The Mason Cup competition will be accompanied by around 20 dealers. Lets hope the Woking entries once again produce some fireworks as we usually do quite well in this competition.

Local Newspaper article

Just prior to one of our January meeting, our secretary Ron Trevelyan received a visit from a local newspaper reporter and gave an interview. At the following Tuesday meeting a photographer arrived and took some shots. These photos accompanied a very positive and informative feature article, full of information and facts covering half page in the 30th January edition of the Woking section of The Surrey Advertiser.

Its not often we get free publicity and in this instance we even gained a new member, David Cairns, as a direct result of the article. Welcome David.

Footnote: We have asked the newspaper publishers if we could include some of the photos in the Penny Post. Unfortunately they would only give permission if we paid royalties to them - so no pictures I'm afraid!

New Blog Site

Do you have an opinion on something philatelic, are interested in exchanging ideas, telling others of new finds or just want to join is a discussion on our hobby? If so Malcolm Bentley informs me that his son-in-law Vartan has started a blog. Have a look at it - http://philatelytoday.com. Anything you or your friends might want to contribute would be most welcome.

For those of you who do not know what a blog is, ask me or Malcolm.

Some Useful Internet addresses

In this issue of Penny Post I have listed some useful sites for those who are interested in North American stamps and philately

http://www.linns.com/en.html

http://stamps.org/Home (The American Philatelic Society)

http://www.y-p-a.org.uk/ascgb_home.html

http://www.virtualstampclub.com/ http://www.stephentaylor.co.uk/

http://www.uspcs.org/

https://store.usps.com/store/

http://siegelauctions.com/enc/enc.htm

http://www.philamercury.com/ http://www.usstamps.org/ http://postalmuseum.si.edu/

http://www.bnaps.org/

Programme for the 2nd half of 2015

2015

September 1

The Letter 'P' - Members

September 15

The Surrey Federation Entertains

September 16-19 September

Autumn STAMPEX Islington London

October 6

Dr Rodger Evans - Malta at War

October 20

King George VI: GB and Commonwealth - Members

October 31

Society table at West Surrey Family History Fair Woking Leisure Centre

November 3

The Olympic Games (Summer & Winter) - Members Single Sheet Competition

November 17

Ted Kemp - Turkey

December 1

Oceans or Seas of the World - Members

December 8 (NOT December 15)

Christmas Social

Visitors are always welcome