

# SALISBURY & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Founded 1895)



Website address [www.salisburyphilately.org.uk](http://www.salisburyphilately.org.uk)

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## Editor's Introduction

Well it is creeping up on us, I cannot believe we are nearly at the end of 2010. I have been busy with the Poppy Appeal around Salisbury. I sat for one whole week outside Waitrose, people are so very kind, I have a lady who is married to a Royal Artillery Soldier, and on her day's off from a part time job in a Post Office, she made the way by bus from Larkhill, stood at the exit door, and collected. On the day we finished she asked me if I had got the new stamps out on Remembrance. Of course I had forgotten all about them. She duly handed me a brown envelope, the contents, yes the new stamps issued by the Post Office on the National Arboretum. A place to visit.

How to get to us is on our website [www.salisburyphilately.org.uk](http://www.salisburyphilately.org.uk)

I suggest saving it as a 'favourite' makes it easy.

On the back pages are the dates of our forthcoming programme 2011.

Don't forget our Day meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 - seats fill very quickly, and if you wish to have lunch, you need to book this in advance. Food has been great. A day not too miss.

Should you wish to find out anything regarding our Club, and it has been nice to see the new members, [ which

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we have had quite a few over the last few months], or if you are a member and have a point you wish to put forward, please do not hesitate to contact me, I shall be only to pleased to help.

If I do not see you before Christmas I wish a prosperous New Year to you all, and hope to see you at our first meeting in January, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

## **STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS**

Pat Campbell our Chairman has just been awarded 'Fellowship' of the Royal Philatelic Society. Well done from us all, quite an achievement.

*Programme  
on back page*

**FABULOUS 50**  
**UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA 1910-61**

By Tony Howgrave-Graham

We wish to acknowledge the 'STAMP MAGAZINE' for permission to reprint the following.

Spanning a period of almost exactly 50 years, the Union of South Africa is one of the most fascinating collecting area of the entire Commonwealth, positively bursting with varieties, flaws, errors and oddities.

It was exactly a century ago, on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1910, that South Africa as a political entity was born. Four colonies - The Cape of Good Hope, Natal, the Orange River Colony and Transvaal - combined to create the Union of South Africa, a self-governing dominion in the British Empire.

This was a remarkable achievement when you consider that two of these states had been fighting the other two less than a decade earlier, in the bloody Boer War.

With the ruling classes divided between British and Afrikaners, a spirit of compromise was vital. While the seat of administration was Pretoria in Transvaal, for instance, the Parliament met in Cape Town. English and Dutch were joint official languages, and most visible manifestation of this was on stamps.

The Union would last for just over 50 years under British rule, producing many attractive and distinctive issues. Its unusual bilingual inscription policy and its many varieties and errors ensure there is no more appealing country to collect in the first half on the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Delayed commemorative** It had been intended to have a stamp ready to commemorate the Union in May, but King Edward VII's death on May the 6<sup>th</sup> threw a spanner in the works. The 2<sup>1/2</sup> d. depicting King George V did not appear until November 4. Its date of issue coincided with the visit of the new King's uncle, Arthur, Duke of Connaught, to open the new Parliament. This was a public holiday, but many post offices opened for a few hours so first day cancels do exist.



**Interprovincial period**

George V's preoccupation with his portrait delayed the production of the first Union definitives for almost two further years, and in the interim stamps from all of the previous colonies remained valid for use.

To be continued.....

## ASPECTS OF THE POSTAL SERVICES IN SALISBURY & DISTRICT

By Jeremy Martin

Triangular shaped envelopes are not common. The one illustrated is franked with a 1<sup>d</sup>. red date stamped by Lymington on 21 January 1871. Routed via Salisbury, it



reached Downton the next day as shown by a 20mm arrival mark.

It is also a mourning envelope.

## PROGRAMME SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Mike Moody

I am beginning to put together the programme for 2011/2012. Any suggestions for content and speakers for this programme, which will follow this year's format, will be gratefully received.

The results of the survey were discussed by the Committee. It was decided to go ahead with the idea raised by several members of short discussions, on subjects raised by members, at the beginning of Members' Evenings. However, in spite of reminders, no members produced any subjects for discussion. So it has not taken place! The other issues, which had not already been mentioned in the previous newsletter, were noted by the Committee and will be enacted if suitable in the future.

Raffles, which take place on Members Evenings, are a useful fundraiser for the Society. But at the moment only a very few members produce anything for the raffle. Items are always welcome from all members.

*Finally, as I have said now at the last two AGMs I am standing down as Programme Secretary at the end of this season. If there is not a volunteer then I will produce and print the programme for 2011/2012 but not run the programme. A volunteer is required soonest.*

## HOW DID THAT GET THERE

By Trevor Buckell

One thing that would drive me mad is if I had to keep my philatelic interest to just one small subject or one small or large for that matter country. I am sure I am no different to most other collectors in that many years ago the usual school boy's collection was the big interest of my life and then for some reason, I can't imagine what it was, from the early teens until the family had grown up all was put on a back burner. One significant thing did occur when my two sons were in their early teens they wanted to start stamp collections, so I pointed them towards collecting one country each, one collected Ascension Island and the other Gilbert & Ellice Islands, as is usual this did not last long and the albums were retired to the book case.

We now jump forward some 15 years and my oldest son who collected Ascension decided to commence collecting again and this prompted me to say alright I will start again and take up the Gilbert & Ellice collection. So this was the commencement of what is now a wide ranging collection ranging from West Africa to East Africa, France, Barbados, Egypt, Sudan, Australia and for the past ten years Imperial Airways (and other small airlines) in Africa.

The immediate question is what has Imperial Airways to do with philately? This answer is that Imperial Airways were responsible for the establishment of the mail routes of the eastern part of the African continent, the southern part and to the British influenced parts of West Africa. I would add that of course previous to this they were responsible for the commencement of mail air routes to India and eventually to Australia. So Africa owes a big thank you to Imperial Airways.

I often think that the title of my Imperial Airways collection should be 'How did that get there', and if you do find it difficult to keep asking, how, why and when, the subject would be difficult. The whole story began, as far as Africa is concerned in February of 1931 with the story expanding in leaps and bounds until Imperial Airways became B.O.A.C. at the commencement of WWII. Of course with the onset of WWII in September of 1939 many of the aircraft, especially the Empire Flying Boats together with their crews were moved to help the war effort.



Refueling at Khartoum

In 1931 and indeed for some years after the fleet of aircraft consisted of bi-planes both of land and flying boat types. These aircraft commenced their African service from Cairo and until the end of 1931 the route ended at Mwanza in Tanganyika. The land planes flew as far as Khartoum and Flying Boats followed the Nile and lakes to East Africa.



This cover was flown on the first flight to East Africa, the aircraft had intended to land at Butiaba but due to a delay with mechanical problems it did not and it was flown on to Mwanza and flown back on the first return flight from Mwanza to London.

The extent of the options available are extensive with mail both from and to all parts of the world, so researching postal rates, routes, aircraft and times can be enthralling and I would add, time consuming. It is a route I am glad that I entered and just too much to expand upon at this time.

At the end of 1931 the route was extended to Cape Town so the story goes on and on.....

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

May I please support the 'Programme secretary's' comment in his report. Many take on jobs to help out when there is a problem, and whilst someone does the job, nobody will put forward to help. I appreciate that not everyone is able to put themselves in the lime light, but we have more than enough people in our Club, who are very able to help out if not take on the position.

I, as the Editor, are always asking for items for you to read, could I please have some feed back as to whether 1.] You like the items 2.] Is there something you would like to read about. Please do tell me!!!!

PROGRAMME 2011**Dates****Meetings 2011**

12 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	Members' Evening including Postcards, Cinderellas and Ephemera (Please return competition cups).**
26 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	<b>Guest Speaker</b> - Trevor Buckell: "Imperial Airways: Africa".
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2011	Society's Annual Auction.
23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2011	Annual Competition 9 sheets (Judge John Campbell) followed by Members' favourite philatelic item and why?***
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2011	Day Meeting same format as 6 <sup>th</sup> October. Standing Display - Colin Tabcart: "Royal Naval Mails pre WW1"***
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	<b>Guest Speaker</b> - Wendy Buckle: "Thematics: The Write Stuff".
23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2011	Chairman's Choice.**
7 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Visit to Swindon Philatelic Society
13 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	<b>Guest Speaker</b> - Norman Higson: "Early English Postmarks".
27 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Visit by Swindon Philatelic Society (David Gibbon- "Mauritius")
11 <sup>th</sup> May 2011	A.G.M. followed by 16 page competition and Members' Display letters XYZ. **

**\*\*Mini-auctions and raffles on Members' nights.**

**STAMP FAIRS 2011****January**

4 <sup>th</sup>	Chippenham AGM
6 <sup>th</sup>	Swindon Auction
7 <sup>th</sup>	Thornbury Carlton Jones: Chairman's Evening
10 <sup>th</sup>	Bristol Woodlands Peter Basterfield: Bath Postal History
10 <sup>th</sup>	Wells Visit from Weston super Mare.
11 <sup>th</sup>	Warminster Member's evening: New acquisitions.
12 <sup>th</sup>	Bath Philatelic Quiz and Bourse
12 <sup>th</sup>	Salisbury Members' Evening
13 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday Bristol Members' Evening.
20 <sup>th</sup>	Swindon Robin Pizer: Rhineland Occupation
21 <sup>st</sup>	Thornbury Richard Malim: British Levant
24 <sup>th</sup>	Bristol Woodlands Richard Stupples: Barbados
24 <sup>th</sup>	Wells Richard Stupples: Barbados
25 <sup>th</sup>	Warminster Colin Baker: The Postman sold it to me
26 <sup>th</sup>	Bath Derek Barker: Sudan
26 <sup>th</sup>	Salisbury Trevor Buckell: Imperial Airways of Africa

**February**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Chippenham 9 sheet competition
9 <sup>th</sup>	February Club Auction - Scout Hut, Harnham
24 -26 <sup>th</sup>	February Philatex- Royal Horticultural Hall Victoria*
24 -26 <sup>th</sup>	February Stampex- Business Design Centre Islington*
11 <sup>th</sup>	June Swinpex

Meetings are held at the Scout Hut, Harnham

Evenings 7.15pm for 7.30pm

Daytime meetings 10.00am for 10.30am until approximately 4.00pm