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COLLECTOR
Handbook 2022

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Dear Collector,

When we launched our PTS Collector Handbook two years ago, we wanted it to celebrate everything in philately, offering readers up to the minute news and trends from around the globe. Interestingly, the very first issue was meant for London 2020 – now London 2022 – and two years later, here we are on our third edition launching it at the show!

The 2022 edition is packed with some brilliant pieces from our members, including Shields Stamps and The Postal Museum. We also have special reports from The Digital Philatelist, who offers up his thoughts on Crypto Stamps, and Exploring Stamps, who chats about the 5 lessons he has learned from starting #philately. We also have our Ones to Watch celebrating those in philately under 40. You will find QR codes on pages, directing you to online content, YouTube videos to watch and more.

Here at the Philatelic Traders' Society, we have had a wonderful start to the year, with so many in-person events back in the diary, including the London 2022 International Stamp Exhibition, where the PTS and Stampex are present taking a Stand (31). We are also looking forward to our own show, Stampex in the autumn – so mark that in your diary: 28th September – 1st October at the Business Design Centre, London.

As ever, we are committed to ensuring collectors can buy and sell safely. This can be seen through our partnership with

eBay, which allows you to see which eBay sellers are PTS members and therefore, which sellers follow our strict code of conduct. You may also have seen content from our #lookforthesield campaign across social media, and our online PTS Member Directory offers reviews so you can see what other people have said about the philatelic traders listed. You can even add a thumbs up yourself to your favourite dealer or auction house! We are seeing a significant increase in philatelic professionals applying for PTS Membership, which is testament to the exceptional benefits we offer as a society. All member applications go through an extensive vetting and approvals process so when you see a new PTS Member Shield pop up, you can be assured that they are a professional you can trust.

To celebrate the Handbook's success, and to give back to the philatelic community, we are giving our third edition Handbook away for free – at the London2022 show, via Gibbons Stamp Monthly and at Stampex 2022. We are also making it available online. We hope you enjoy it and as ever, please do share your thoughts with us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and YouTube @ptsandstampex and don't forget to sign up to the Stampex Newsletter for regular updates from our team:

www.stampexinternational.com/sign-up

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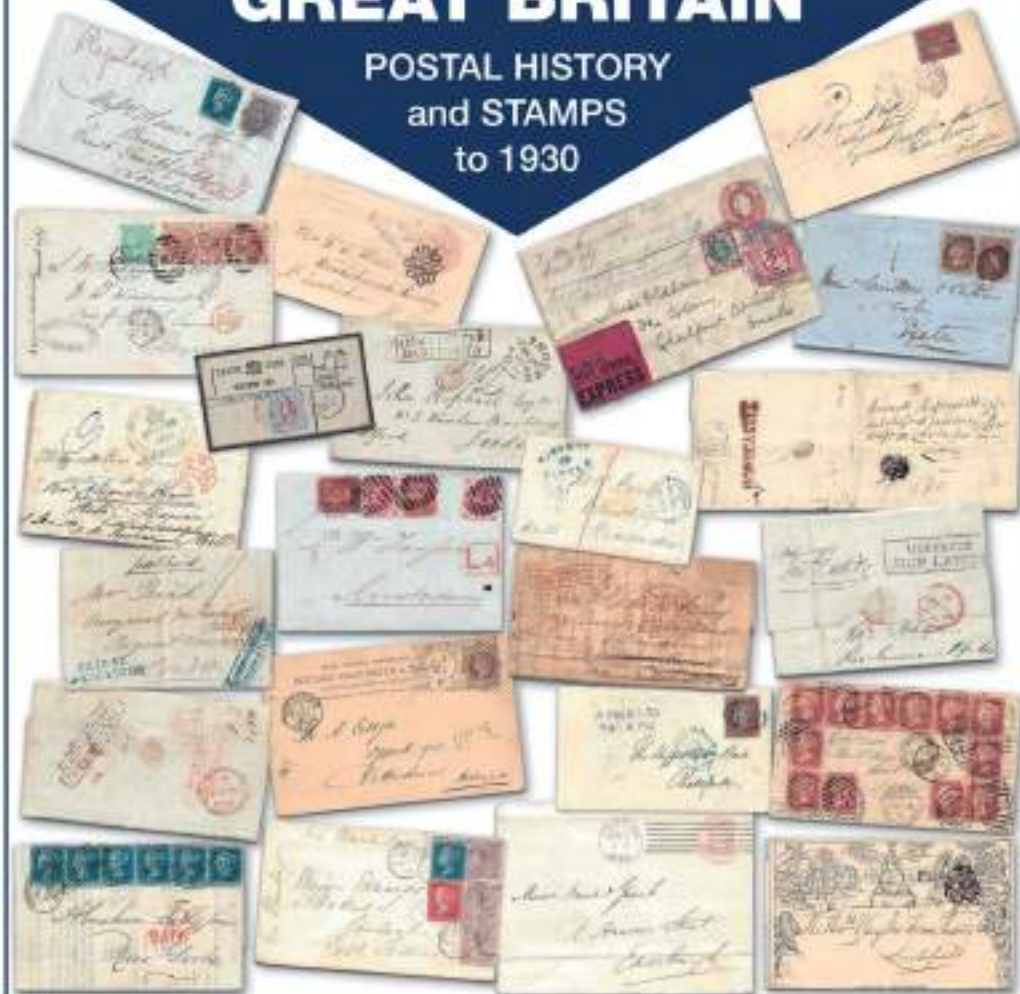
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THE PHILATELIC TRADERS' SOCIETY

COLLECTOR *Handbook* 2022

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WHY CHOOSE A PTS Member?

#lookfortheshield



*In a market filled with many pitfalls,
it's good to know who you can rely on...*

Members of The Philatelic Traders' Society have all applied and been referenced prior to joining the society. They then have to abide by a strict code of ethics, which means you can be confident when buying or selling stamps.

The society was founded in 1929 by a group of established dealers who wished to find a society which would act for, and on behalf of its members, for the greater good of philately. This society would not only protect its members, but it would also protect the hobby, ensuring that customers could shop in confidence. Our society doesn't just cover dealers. Nowadays we have expanded and our 300 plus global members include auction houses, magazines, insurance companies and more.

We pride ourselves on the work we do, and our members proudly display the shield, a mark of integrity. A full list of members can be found in the back of this handbook, and further details about each member can be found online at:

WWW.THEPTS.NET

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Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Set of 6 stamps:
Issue date 04.02.22



Quartet: Heart of the Forest

Set of 4 stamps: issued over 4 dates during 2022
Issue date for 1st stamp 09.02.22



Guernsey Post has issued its own stamps since 1969 and during this time we have produced many unusual and innovative designs. Many of these issues feature wildlife, local breeds and flora from the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

We occasionally produce more unusual items for collectors - if you are looking for something different, then look no further! For a list of our collectables and stamp issues why not browse our website, go online today!

Guernsey: Postcrossing

Set of 3 stamps:
Issue date 10.06.21



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Celebrating the life of Prince Philip

Set of 4 stamps:
Issue date 01.09.21



www.guernseystamps.com



Look for the Shield on eBay



The Philatelic Traders' Society is delighted to announce that we have partnered with eBay UK to help highlight trustworthy eBay sellers in the Stamps Category. The initiative means collectors will be able to clearly see the PTS Shield against listings from PTS members so that prior to purchasing, you can buy with the knowledge that the seller has been vetted thoroughly.

We have some of the world's leading brands as members including top eBay sellers NobleSpirit, 1st4stamps1840, Ross Shiells Ltd and Jerwood Philatelics.

You can find a list of all PTS eBay sellers at
www.thepts.net/ptsebaymembers

Want to see over 140,000 items already listed by PTS Members on eBay and filter out other sellers? Check out and bookmark this bespoke eBay link:

www.ebay.co.uk/e/special-events/pts



If you are interested in joining the PTS to be part of our journey with eBay, please contact us info@thepts.net or apply online at

www.thepts.net/benefits

CELEBRATING THE PTS AWARDS 2021



Conversations with Philatelists described the PTS Awards as the Academy Awards of the philatelic world. The awards were originally launched to help inspire people and to celebrate the amazing work businesses, members and individuals are doing.

2021 saw the launch of the People's Choice Award where we invited individuals to vote online. Over 3000 individuals voted for their favourites in each of the categories.

Ambassador of the Year **SUZANNE RAE**



Judge Jack Zhang commented 'As a chairwoman of PTS, she promotes PTS and elevates it to a higher level. She has also used her own business brand

to expand and create a new type of philatelic Business which promotes the hobby to the non-philatelic friends around the world. She has built up the brand of PTS at a larger scale, especially during the pandemic period.'

Runners Up
SEBASTIAN DELCAMPE CEO OF DELCAMPE
& CHARLES EPTING, HR HARMER


 **People's Choice Award**
SEBASTIAN DELCAMPE, CEO, DELCAMPE.

Legacy Champion of the Year **GRAHAM BECK,** **EXPLORING STAMPS.**



Judge James Gavin comments 'Exploring Stamps continues to be a force in reaching multi-generational collectors and has inspired countless younger collectors to approach the hobby with new enthusiasm and vigor.'

Runners Up
LAWRENCE FISHER & PHILATELOVELY

 **People's Choice Award**
GRAHAM BECK, EXPLORING STAMPS

PTS Contributor of the Year **SPINK**



Judge Sandie Robb comments
'Funding is so important and for this well known auctioneer to sponsor Stampex for the next 5 years shows its support to the PTS professional image.'

Runners Up
EMPIRE PHILATELIST & DELCAMPE



Judge James Gavin comments on Delcampe 'Delcampe's Digital Zone was an innovative way to connect the traditional and modern collectors through an innovative approach.'

Judge Jack Zhang comments on Stanley Gibbons 'There is no doubt that Graham is the right recipient for this creative Award. It was his idea that SG bought the world's most famous Stamp and created the concept of 'fractional ownership' of the British Guiana 1c magenta, which greatly promoted the hobby to a new level and attracted many non-philatelists to embrace this hobby. I think his fractional ownership is the top philatelic piece of news this year.'

Runners Up
MUSEUM OF PHILATELY & THE POSTAL MUSEUM



Creative Concept of the Year

This award has joint winners.

**DELCAMPE AND
STANLEY GIBBONS.**



If you didn't see the awards you can watch the ceremony by scanning the QR code below.



Top Societies You Should Know About

We asked our social media followers which philatelic societies they were members of. Here were their replies.



GREAT BRITISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

www.gbps.org.uk

Founded in 1955, the society boasts over 800 members globally that have a passion for Great British philately.



NEW YORK COLLECTORS CLUB

www.collectorsclub.org

Founded in 1896, the collectors club brings together people who want to study, enjoy and further the hobby.



BRITISH SOCIETY OF RUSSIAN PHILATELIC

www.bsrp.org

Founded in 1936, the society was originally the Russian Study Circle. Originally it sort to draw together collectors in Great Britain of Russian material.



The Royal Philatelic Society London

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON

www.rpsl.org.uk

With the Queen as its patron, the RPSL is one of the most iconic clubs.



BRITISH THEMATIC ASSOCIATION

BRITISH THEMATIC ASSOCIATION

www.britishthematic.org.uk

A friendly society for those who collect themes.



AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

www.americantopical.org

The worlds biggest society for those individuals who collect topics. The society was founded in 1949 and has members in 43 countries world wide.



NATIONAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

www.ukphilately.org.uk

Is one of the largest general stamp societies, it was founded in 1899 and hosts regular zoom meetings.



PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANBERRA

www.canberrastamps.org

Celebrates it 90 year anniversary in 2022. It is a very active society with regular events and meetings

No matter what you collect you can absolutely find a club you can attend to meet other collectors. In the UK most societies can be found on the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk



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ONES TO WATCH #Philately Under 40

This is the third year we have asked our PTS Members who they think is making waves within the philatelic trade, the 'Ones to Watch'. In an industry renowned for its aging demographic it is wonderful to see so many people join the trade because they are passionate about the hobby.

2020 ONES TO WATCH



Constance Dennis,
Managing Director,
Grosvenor.



Nicholas Challinor Halford,
Business Manager,
Harmers of London



Victoria Lajer,
Managing Director,
Stanley Gibbons



Joshua Barber,
Specialist and Auctioneer,
Spink & Son Ltd



James Leigh,
Director
John Curtin Ltd



Sadie Medhurst,
Auctions Manager
Mayfair Philatelic Auctions



Richard & Simon Walker,
1st4Stamps

2021 ONES TO WATCH



James Gavin,
The Digital Philatelist



Michael Cortese,
NobleSpirit



Charles Epting,
HR Harmer GPN



Ricky Verra,
David Feldman



Andrew Tittle,
Robert Siegel



Amy Smith,
Tony Lester

2022 ONES TO WATCH

Anna Spring, Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd, Age: 25

What Philately Means to Me:

Philately allows me to be immersed in events in history that might otherwise be forgotten. I can pick up a letter from the 18th century and learn what it was like to ask the Lord of the Manor for more land, or read a Red Cross message from the 1940s informing the recipient of the whereabouts and safety (or otherwise) of their lost family member. Philately allows me to walk alongside people in a way I never would have imagined and for a short while become part of their lives.



Iain Murphy, Spink & Son Ltd, Age: 34



What Philately Means To You?

Philately to me is the excitement of hunting down and adding something special to your collection, whether buying at Auction or finding that elusive item at a Stamp Show. Philately is also very sociable with a real sense of community. With so many knowledgeable philatelists with stories to tell, there is never a dull moment.

George James, Stanley Gibbons, Age: 32

What Philately Means To You?

Everything I love about history, culture, and art, tied up perfectly with the challenge of finding rarities. There's so much satisfaction in finding the right home for a great stamp, whether it's for my own collection or somebody else. I'm grateful every day that my family bought me a starter pack in Christmas 1996!



Oscar Young, Stanley Gibbons, Age: 25



What philately means to me:

Philately is not just the primordial act of hunting down stamps and preserving it within the confines of an album. Philately is a vehicle for the telling of stories from an age which has gone; they are little artefacts of a time that has passed, embodying the ideals, politics, arts and cultures of their respective nations. The stories that come from these stamps whether they be a common halfpenny's

to a great rarity such as the British Guiana 1ct black on magenta, the journey a letter made, the postmark, or the life and history of the letter's addressee! These avenues offer the collector endless possibilities for research and discovery, regardless of one's budget we can all discover and become enriched by the stories we find and tell through philately.

If you think there is someone else who deserves a mention please do have your say and tell us via social media [#onestowatch](#) or email: isobel@thepts.net

TIPS ON INSURING YOUR COLLECTIBLES

You've put hours and hours of time into your collection but you haven't insured it. Here are our top tips:

1. HOME INSURANCE.

Check out your home insurance to see if it might cover your collectibles. Some insurance does & some doesn't. High value pieces might require their own insurance.



2. STORAGE.

Take a moment to review safe places to store your collection, whether that is at home or in a secure location for instance a bank safe box or at a society safe. Some of these places might also require separate insurance.

3. DOCUMENT YOUR COLLECTION.

It's important to know what is in your collection and what isn't. Make sure you have a list including date purchased and amount. This will be required for any claims and maybe to secure the insurance itself.



4. FIND OUT THE VALUE.

If you have inherited your collection you might not have a clear insight into how much the collection is worth. Seek to have it appraised professionally. Some of our dealers offer this service and you can find our directory on thepts.net.

5. FIND AN INSURER.

There are so many great philatelic insurers it is finding one that will work for you. We have several insurers who are PTS Members and who can be found on our PTS directory listing.



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53rd AUCTION

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Philately, Banknotes & Coins

54th AUCTION

11 OCTOBER 2022

Banknotes & Coins

17 - 21 OCTOBER 2022

Philately



ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

Please contact us and we
will be pleased to assist you!



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C.G.



THE DYNAMICALLY VIBRANT MODERN

Philatelist

by James Gavin



The COVID pandemic has been like a Renaissance period for philately, where new and returning collectors have turned to our hobby during trying

times. However, those returning have been met with out-dated, traditional philatelic organisations that, over the decades, have been either unwilling or unable to adapt to the modern world. Against modern standards, these organisations have been perceived as 'old men's clubs,' likened to the romantic notions of an era of horse drawn buggies, alienating the rest of the world who are now driving Teslas.

Long before COVID hit, alienated collectors took the future of philately into their own hands, building their own online presence using highly engaging multimedia and social media technologies. New and returning collectors searching Google during COVID found vibrant, new, multi-demographic communities.

Modern collectors now engage online where they can join or even create their own tribe. This



has resulted in a dramatic shift in collecting habits, engagement styles and methods of interaction. YouTube, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook are now the four main

staple platforms for our hobby. Social Media influencers such as Graham Beck of Exploring Stamps, has over

23,000 subscribers on YouTube. This subscribership is nearly on par with the entire membership of the American Philatelic Society. Even new entrants such as Canadian Lisa Berthin,



of StampCat Stamps, has attracted over 500 subscribers in mere months. Then you have UK's Richard Philatelist who leads Instagram followers with #xtremephilately (photographing stamps against their primary design location). The traditional stamp club has now been replaced by social media accounts. In 2020, after working on the



Rhodesian Study Circle's social media platforms since 2013, I decided to start my own website specifically designed to support the modern collector -

www.TheDigitalPhilatelist.com

My website lists over 7,000 philatelic social media accounts and showcases the newest collectors and collecting trends, linking countries, themes and topics. My site provides a unique 'one-stop-shop' for the modern world of stamp collecting and philately.



What is a

PHILATELIC Forum ?

Here is our take on forums. What they are, the online etiquette you need to know about and how much fun they can be. As well as our favourite ones.

A forum is a place you can go and chat to others about different topics. You can either post a comment, question or discussion topic and people will reply, therefore creating a thread or you can join someone else's post and add to their tread.

You can comment anonymously or you can create a pseudonym for yourself. Many forums allow you to add a picture of yourself or an avatar. If you have a question or need specific information about something then a forum is a wonderful place to start.

We love the internet but like anything there rules you should follow. Here are our top tips on forum etiquette.

1. Most forums have their own rules. Ensure you have read them before you start. Many forums will stop you from chatting/ commenting if you break the rules.

2. When commenting stick with the topic in hand. If you want to start a new conversation, why not start a new thread.

3. Be respectful. Remember that behind every avatar is a human being. They are reading all your comments.

4. Don't post business information. A forum isn't really a space to promote your business. If someone else promotes or mentions this for you, that is fine, but otherwise it is a no go. We would also recommend not posting personal information.

OUR FAVOURITE PHILATELIC FORUMS:

STAMP BOARDS

www.stampboards.com

STAMP COMMUNITY

www.stampcommunity.org

THE STAMP FORUM

thestampforum.boards.net

HIPSTAMP FORUM

www.hipstamp.com/forums/categories

STAMP MAGAZINE FORUM

www.stampmagazine.co.uk/forums



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MY TOP 5 LEARNINGS FROM #PHILATELY

by *Graham Beck,*
Exploring Stamps

In August of 2020, I introduced a new format to the 'Exploring Stamps' YouTube channel called #philately. My hope was to engage with the growing online philatelic community, but would anyone out there like the concept? Or would my current audience reject the change? After 24 episodes and over 250 thousand views, I cannot be more pleased with the outcome of the show. I have had an incredible time learning about my audience and the hobby in each and every episode, here are my top five learnings from the show:

1. Philately is a lot more current than I thought.

From the illegal stamps of the Chagos Islands, to the selling of the world's most expensive stamp and the new NFT craze, postage stamps are in the news. The short time that the #philately show has been produced, we have seen some hot and current topics that my audience has been eager to discuss.

2. Local philately is exciting.

My audience continues to send me some amazing mail from all over the world, many of the viewers are excited to share local philatelic discoveries with me. From stamps featuring their hometown, to postcards and postal history that tell unique stories about their street and

school. When looking into my own local philately, I was blown away to discover that my local mall is located on the site of where the first overnight airmail flight took place. I'm now eager to explore locally for more postal discoveries.

3. Philatelic entertainment through video has a lot more potential.

Not everything about philately has to be about learning. Several of my viewers that are more advanced in the hobby have expressed a love for the entertainment aspects of the show, making the content appeal to all levels within philately.

4. The demographics are changing.

Since #philately has explored the intersections of postage stamps with Postcrossing, fantasy stamps, mail art and more, my viewer demographics have changed. The show has enjoyed an audience shift in gender and age that is far more balanced than I anticipated.

5. The community is eager to connect.

Philatelists want to share, discuss, debate, and just chat. There is an appetite for an online connection that has given #philately the energy that it has. The show has had engaging interviews, thousands of comments from around the world, and hundreds of letters sent in. Philately is a lot more social than I imagined.

Watch Exploring Stamps #philately here:



CRYPTO STAMPS

by James Gavin

The Digital Philatelist

FOR MODERN STAMP COLLECTORS



There is no doubt that crypto currency is here to stay. It has disrupted the world's financial community who are now racing to embrace this new world. Philately is not immune. Österreichische Post AG was the first postal authority to issue crypto stamps in 2019. They have been followed by Croatia, Marshall Islands, Gibraltar, United Nations, United States and the latest, Switzerland and Emirates. The list continues to grow as the popularity grows.

A Crypto Stamp is a digital image of a stamp (an NFT), recorded in an online accounts ledger (called a blockchain), and backed by a digital currency (crypto currency). Ethereum is the most popular blockchain used for crypto stamps with its currency called Ether. Ether is stored in a digital wallet (just like you would store your normal cash in a wallet) which is used to buy and sell. Collectors buy a physically stamp which has a unique code attached to the stamp. Once

scanned, the owner will receive an NFT of the stamp. The digital copy received can be varied. There is usually up to five variables that can be obtained, with each assigned a scarcity factor. The less issued, the higher value the crypto stamp can achieve. This is where collecting comes in to play and has attracted not only modern stamp collectors but also a new NFT collector market.

Crypto Stamps can be traded or sold, and the Ether converted to normal

currency. Each time someone obtains or sells a Crypto Stamp, their details are recorded on the blockchain. Imagine a Penny Black where every owner and seller was recorded in a ledger so you know the full journey of the stamp? This is the role of the blockchain.

The USPS partnered with Casemail to produce the first e-postage NFT. The entire journey of the item sent through the postal service is recorded on the blockchain. The service is currently only available to legal firms and Government mail. The USPS also released NFTs for their Day of the Dead release through the platform

Crypto Stamps are not limited to those released by postal authorities either. Anyone can release Crypto Stamps through platforms like OpenSea. Simply create a digital image, upload it to the Opensea platform to create an NFT, and start selling. Sales are made in crypto currency which can be converted into normal currency. Self-created crypto stamps should be treated as the equivalent of cinderellas.

But is any of this philately? There has been much discussion in the online community. While it is easy to dismiss the digital collectibles market when



called Veve. Veve only deals with officially licensed NFTs. These are not technically crypto stamps but more digital collectible art. However, they sold out in less than a second. The most common of the four stamps, released for USD\$6, is now selling for \$139USD, the scarcest selling for just under USD\$1000. Many NFT collectors purchasing this offer declared themselves to be starting to a stamp collection, suggesting a new demand should the USPS release more through the platform, and a new type of stamp collector.

comparing it to traditional stamp collecting, we are now in an era where we need to stop comparing and start embracing new branches of our hobby. In defining the future, my belief is that those crypto stamp issued by postal authorities are a legitimate form of philately and will be important part of the hobby's future. I have no doubt that forward thinking organisations, such as PTS and STAMPEX, will see trading platforms attend future shows, selling crypto stamps in real time, to a brand new audience.

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Stamp restoring WHAT IS IT

The Stamp Restorer is a private conservation studio, specialising in the conservation of philatelic material.

Philatelic Conservation, or its far better understood misnomer of 'stamp restoration', is the interventive action carried out on collections with the aim of stabilising their condition and preventing further deterioration.

The overriding ethical principles of the Conservation profession, as outlined in The Institute of Conservation's (ICON) Code of Conduct; are that all treatments should be detectable, reversible, and must not conceal the original nature of the object. In doing so, our work extends the life of an object, whilst maintaining its integrity and authenticity as best possible.

In theory the conservation of philatelic items should be as popularly and proactively undertaken as the conservation of paper-based artworks. Both collection-types are inordinately valuable, both in monetary terms and in cultural context. However 'conservation' is a widely misunderstood term in philately. Philatelists banter around the word conservation, with the terms 'alteration', 'manipulation' and thus conservation becomes synonymous with 'tampering', and the implication of forgery. I explained in my article for Fakes Forgeries Experts Journal (No.18, 05/2015, pp.27-31), that Conservation is not manipulation with forgerous intent. It is simply the cleaning and repair of damaged items.

Conservators are a highly trained bunch, Masters degrees, extensive internships and years of work experience are almost always a pre-requisite to securing a job.

Over a 10 year span, I worked at The Ashmolean, The Smithsonian National Postal Museum and then the British Library, before setting up The Stamp Restorer in 2018. I now have a private conservation studio in Macroom, Ireland, where I carry out work sent to me by clients from all over the world. I have worked on Post Office clerk plate proofs, revenue essays, stamp-blocks, certificates, patents and countless philatelic covers.

Most conservation treatments follow the pattern of: Visual examination, documentation, remedial treatment and preventative care. The most common treatments I am asked to carry out at The Stamp Restorer are tear repairs, infills (of missing areas) and of course stain reduction. The dreaded foxing: The smite of aesthetic beauty on so many postal history covers. Thus, my best advert has been that I can reduce foxing to a point where it is not noticeable, and most often not visible. I use safe, non-toxic methods, and apply them locally to the stained areas, to limit risk to other media on the covers (most often water-soluble inks).

One of my favourite treatments has to be the one carried out on this New Zealand 1897 'Registered Acknowledgement of Receipt Cover from Auckland to York, England. The item was surface cleaned, the staining reduced via chelation, deacidification and finally it was rehoused in a Melinex © pocket.

At The Stamp Restorer items are skilfully conserved; resulting in aesthetic improvement. This is very different to the items being 'corrected', 'geturkt' or 'ameliore.' It is important



to note that the repairs carried out are not noticeable from afar, but are always recognisable up-close, so as not deceive the viewer. I believe it is paramount that philatelists begin to re-evaluate the benefits of conservation and no longer associate it with 'manipulation'. I see boxes and boxes of mouldy items, damp and rotting from poor storage environments. Stamps stained and inks faded from plasticised PVC albums. Essays and proofs torn apart from poor-handling. Priceless covers besmirched by foxing. These items need treatment if they are to survive. Ethical, technical and professional treatment without fraudulent stimulus. That is what I do at The Stamp Restorer. Please see my website and instagram page for more examples of work I have completed.

www.thestamprestorer.com



1897 New Zealand Cover During Treatment
Recto 2021



1897 New Zealand Cover During Treatment
Verso 2021



1897 New Zealand Cover Before Treatment
Recto 2021



1897 New Zealand Cover After Treatment
Recto 2021



1897 New Zealand Cover Before Treatment
Verso 2021



1897 New Zealand Cover After Treatment
Verso 2021



WHO WAS THE GREATEST INVENTOR OF ALL TIME?



by *Tony Shields,*
Shields Stamps and Coins

It is a question that is often discussed, and there are many inventors who came up with world changing ideas but their names are unknown to us. We don't know the name of the person or persons who invented the wheel, or those who made the first paper or first melted iron into a useful form.

There is no doubt that Leonardo da Vinci, Albert Einstein, Alexander Graham Bell, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Edison and Robert Stevenson were prolific inventors of many useful products. In modern times there is Bill Gates and others who lead the IT revolution. One man in particular is missing from this list, who I would place above all of them, and that is Sir Rowland Hill.

Hill's incredible postal reforms, and his great idea of the sender pre-paying for their mail to be delivered by affixing and canceling a receipt to prove the postage had been paid, changed society forever. It broke the shackles which prevented people from communicating with others. No longer did race, religion, class, wealth, intelligence, age, gender, or anything else prevent anybody from writing to anyone else on the planet.

They now only needed the recipient's address and to prepay the postage. Post Offices finally started to trade at a profit around the globe and services were greatly improved in speed and security as a result. For many people the post was now faster, cheaper, and safer than anytime in history. Post Offices and post boxes proliferated to the most far flung parts of the country, and in due course, the world. Mail could now be posted far more conveniently without having to travel long distances to a major town.

Royal Mail contracts were a boon to the railways and greatly increased their prosperity, encouraging more lines to be built and enabling more passengers to take advantage of the expanding network. The burgeoning Post Office business fueled the economy and provided employment to huge numbers of people. Competing rail companies and shipping lines employed new technology to be the safest and fastest when tendering for the lucrative mail contracts. Eventually the same thing happened with airmail. These were all Industrial Revolution spin offs which were a direct result of Sir Rowland Hill's invention and reforms.

There are many other ways in which postage stamps changed the world. Politicians started



using the mail to contact potential voters, urging their support at the ballot box. In due course this was further extended to improve our democratic rights by enabling voters to lodge a postal vote when they couldn't attend a voting booth. These postal votes have often determined the successful candidate, and previously people could not vote at a different place or time, so their vote could not be lodged. The Postal Vote has re-enfranchised them.

Stamps also led to an explosion of knowledge as pamphlets, newspapers, books and ideas were now able to be disseminated around the world to anybody. Guttenberg invented the printing press but it was used mostly by religious orders and universities and it's benefits only experienced by a very small number of people. The postage stamp enabled newspapers and other printed matter to be subsidized. It also had dramatic commercial ramifications. People could now do their banking by mail. Advertisers could promote their wares through mail order catalogues, and many stamp dealers

continue to do that to this day. Many large companies such as Readers Digest, survived entirely on mail order, and companies began to trade in mailing lists. Modern day data lists are an extension of this idea.

Stamp collectors and dealers have Hill to thank for our wonderful hobby and business. Postcard collecting would not have existed without him, and most collectors of coins, banknotes, and other smaller items, have him to thank for enabling them to source items from around the world for their collections, and have them shipped. Pen friend groups sprang up as another result of his reforms, which effectively helped to shrink our world. His ideas provided so many long term benefits to humanity, and I do not believe that anybody has come up with a more far reaching invention and idea.

Regardless of the internet, postage stamps will never die, and their everyday use will continue. Post Offices still use philatelic revenue to subsidize the cost of other mail. Governments and businesses still see a propaganda or advertising value in the subject matter of stamps. People love using personalized stamps to celebrate special events such as Engagement Parties and Weddings. Some businesses see that letters, using postage stamps, are a novelty these days, making them more attractive to advertisers than emailing more spam to your junk box. Any mail I receive with a stamp on it is always opened before any other mail with a meter on it. By the way, if you ever wanted to contact Kim Il Jun in North Korea, (and doesn't everyone) there is no internet there so you would have to write.

Likewise if I wanted to write to most national leaders, I am sure their home country would deliver my letter even if I did not know the correct address. I would be amazed if a letter addressed to President Joe Biden, USA, did not reach the White House and get opened by his secretariat. On the other hand there is no way you could email him without knowing the precise address including underscores. Sir Rowland Hill's idea of prepaid postage, is still delivering.



QUICK START

'Creating a PowerPoint Presentation'

If you love stamp collecting, then you might have thought about exhibiting. Currently, collectors use a range of tools including Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Here is our 'quick start' guide to creating a PowerPoint presentation.

Top Tip: You don't need to buy Microsoft Office to be able to use PowerPoint. All the Microsoft tools are available for free online. You just need to have an account. Like Google docs you can also share a link with others and they can edit and see your document as well.

CREATING A PRESENTATION

1. Open PowerPoint online or on your desktop.
2. To create a new presentation.
 - a. Select 'New' – its on the left hand side
 - b. Then select the style, so click 'blank presentation'

Top Tip: Microsoft has lots of tips and advice. You can find the 'Help' button on the navigation banner. Click here, ask a question of your own or find frequently asked questions.

ADD A SLIDE

1. To add another slide to your presentation click on the 'Home' button and then select 'new Slide'
2. Here you can select the type of layout you want to add into your presentation
3. You can add slides as you work through your presentation

ADD TEXT

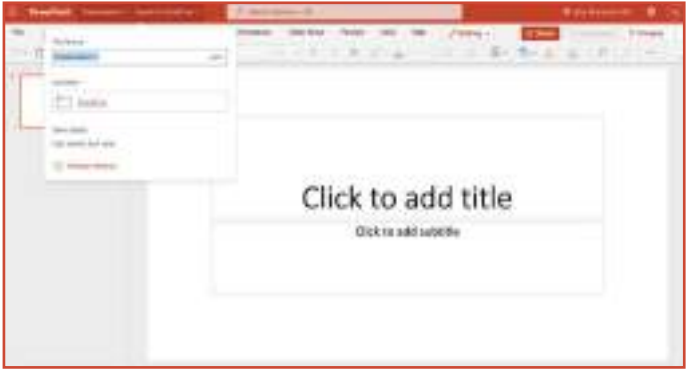
1. You can add more text and picture boxes by heading to 'insert' found in the navigation bar
2. Then selecting either image or text
3. To add text into a text box. Simply click on the text box with your cursor and type. You can make changes to the size and style of font by clicking on the Home button.

ADD AN IMAGE

1. To add an image. Click on insert tab and then add image
2. Browse for the image on your computer, highlight and press insert

Top Tip: If you are lucky enough to have the desktop version, you can set a slide master and set a text font size and image size for all your slides so they all have the same format





CHANGING FILE NAME.

Online your work is automatically saved.

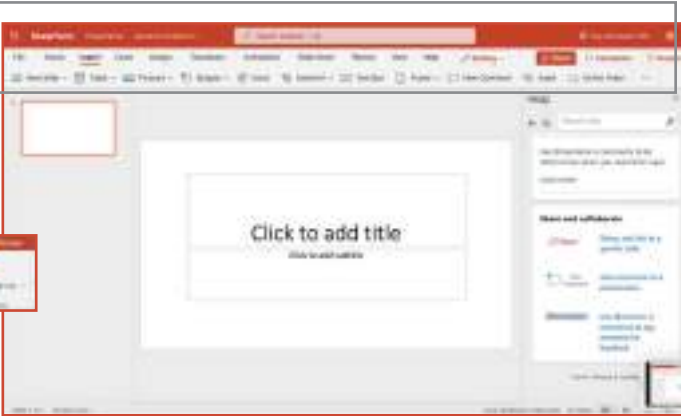
Change the file name by clicking on the arrow next to 'presentation 1'.

Rename the file to whatever your exhibit is about

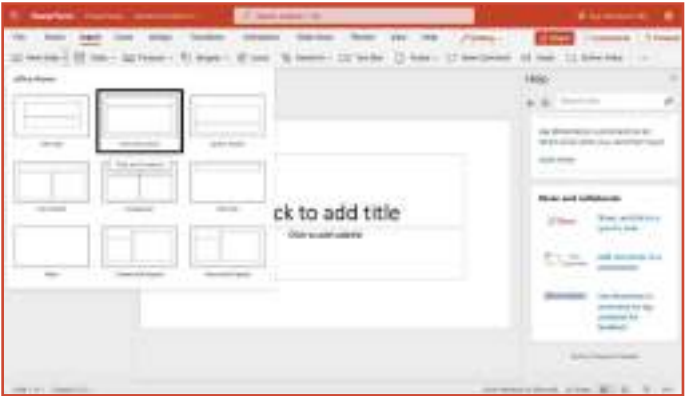
THE NAVIGATION BAR.



Has all the elements to help you get around. File, Home, Insert, Draw



SELECT NEW LAYOUT OR SLIDE.



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MARY AND GEORGE

GEORGE, I WAS WONDERING WHAT THE MOST VALUABLE STAMP IN THE WORLD IS?



AH, WELL THAT'LL BE THE BRITISH
GUIANA 1 CENT MAGENTA.

OH. SO DEFINITELY NOT THE
PENNY BLACK THEN?

NO, DEFINITELY NOT. WHY? ARE YOU
INTERESTED IN COLLECTING??

HA. NO. I'M IN THE PUB DOING THE QUIZ
AND THAT QUESTION CAME UP. THANKS GEORGE.



OH... WELL COULD I JOIN YOUR TEAM
NEXT WEEK?... CRAIG?... ARE YOU STILL THERE?...

click & pick on

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Aste Bolaffi
Postiljonen
Mark Bloxham
David Feldman
Cherrystone
Stanley Gibbons
Grosvenor
Soler Ilach



www.philasearch.com

THE TOP 10 REASONS TO VISIT



The Postal Museum

The Postal Museum tells the story of postal communication and its impact on a global society. At the museum and online we bring five centuries of extraordinary communications history to life, as seen through the eyes of the iconic postal service. On a visit, you can experience interactive permanent and temporary exhibitions, join special events and learning activities, use modern research facilities and take an immersive ride on Mail Rail, London's secret Post Office underground railway.

1 See a priceless sheet of the world's first stamps, the Penny Black – one of just a few sheets left in the world, all held by The Postal Museum



2



Get close to the sculpture of Queen Elizabeth II used to produce the iconic image of the monarch replicated more than 220 billion times on stamps

3

Spot the five-wheeled bicycle invented by the Victorians to cope with a huge increase in post

4

Write a message and watch it disappear through a pneumatic tube, to be received by a stranger at the other side of the museum

5

Admire the grand Bristol-to-London Mail Coach from the 1800s



6

Race against the clock to sort the mail on a moving replica of a real-life Travelling Post Office

7

See some of the original rolling stock from the railway that powered mail underneath London for over 80 years

8

During your Mail Rail ride, hear the stories of the engineers who kept the line running 22 hours a day

9

Try your hand at keeping the network running through interactive displays

10

Take a closer look at the remains of a Victorian pneumatic rail car, an 1860s predecessor to Mail Rail used for transporting people and post



All images © The Postal Museum

THE POSTAL MUSEUM

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Visit www.postalmuseum.org for more information and opening hours as well as to book a visit to our research facilities

STAMPS WITH HOLES!

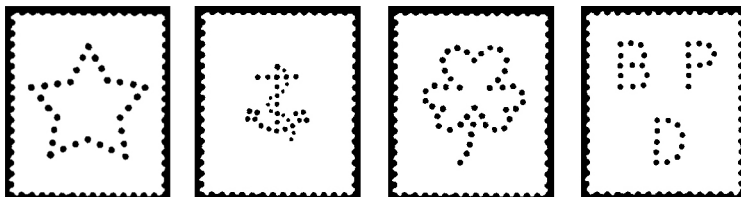
The small punched holes which you can find in some postage stamps, in the shape of letters or patterns, were to show the stamp was owned by a certain company or organisation.

The holes were to try and stop people stealing the stamps from the organisation. Only the organisation should be able to use the stamps. No one else should use them or exchange them for cash.

These holes are called perfins. The name perfin comes from PERForated INitials.

There are many different perfins. In the UK, they were used on stamps from 1868. They are not used today and most companies stopped using them in the 1960's.

Some of the images you may see on the back of postage stamps.



Images -Copyright © by The Perfin Society of Great Britain

MORE ABOUT PERFINS

When looking through old stamps, you might find some with tiny holes in them. They can be difficult to see but hold them up to the light or place them against a dark background. The holes will form letters or designs and the stamps are called perfins. The perfin will, of course, appear backwards on the back of the stamp. This is a stamp of King George V. The perfin is HMV and dates from around the 1930's.

HMV stands for His Master's Voice, the Gramophone Company which later became the HMV music store.

The stamps were just normal postage stamps but a company would purchase a special hole punch machine made with their design and punch through the stamps. This mark made sure the stamp belonged to them.



The hole punch machine (perforating machine) was first designed by Joseph Sloper. He invented the machine to be used on bank cheques, railway tickets and other paper items.

From 1868, perfin machines for postage stamps were produced.

Stamp collecting can be a great way to learn about many different subjects.

Stamps with holes in them are really interesting because they have another level of history.

If you like investigating, you might like collecting perfins.

Further information: The Perfin Society of Great Britain - www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc

**EXPLORING
STAMPS**

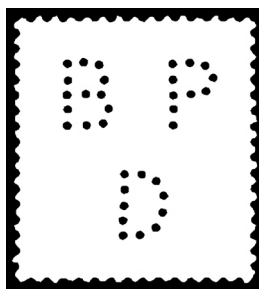
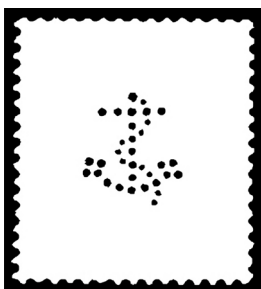
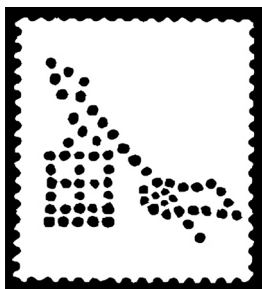
Perfins video on @ExploringStamps YouTube channel



www.youtube.com/exploringstamps

MATCH THE PERFINS

Usually a company or organisation would use the letters in their company name or the design in their logo for their perfin. Look at the designs or initials on the perfins below. Try to match the correct perfin to the company from the list provided.

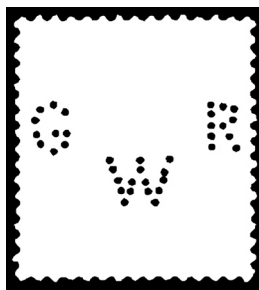
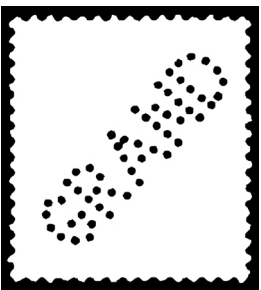
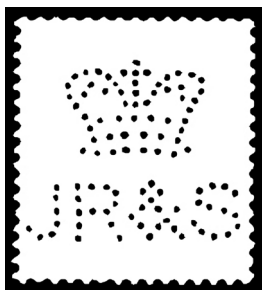


.....

.....

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.....

.....

The Grand Hotel, London

The Boots Pure Drug Company (known as Boots the Chemist today)

Great Western Railway Company

Clark & Co. Cotton Manufacturers, Anchor Thread Works

Crown Tube Works -James Russell & Sons Ltd

Salsbury & Sons Ltd, Lamp Manufacturers

KIDS PAGES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH StampIT

With thanks to Sandi Robb

www.scottishphilately.co.uk/moodle

Take part in a challenge to win your very own perfin stamp.
Entry details can be found on the website.

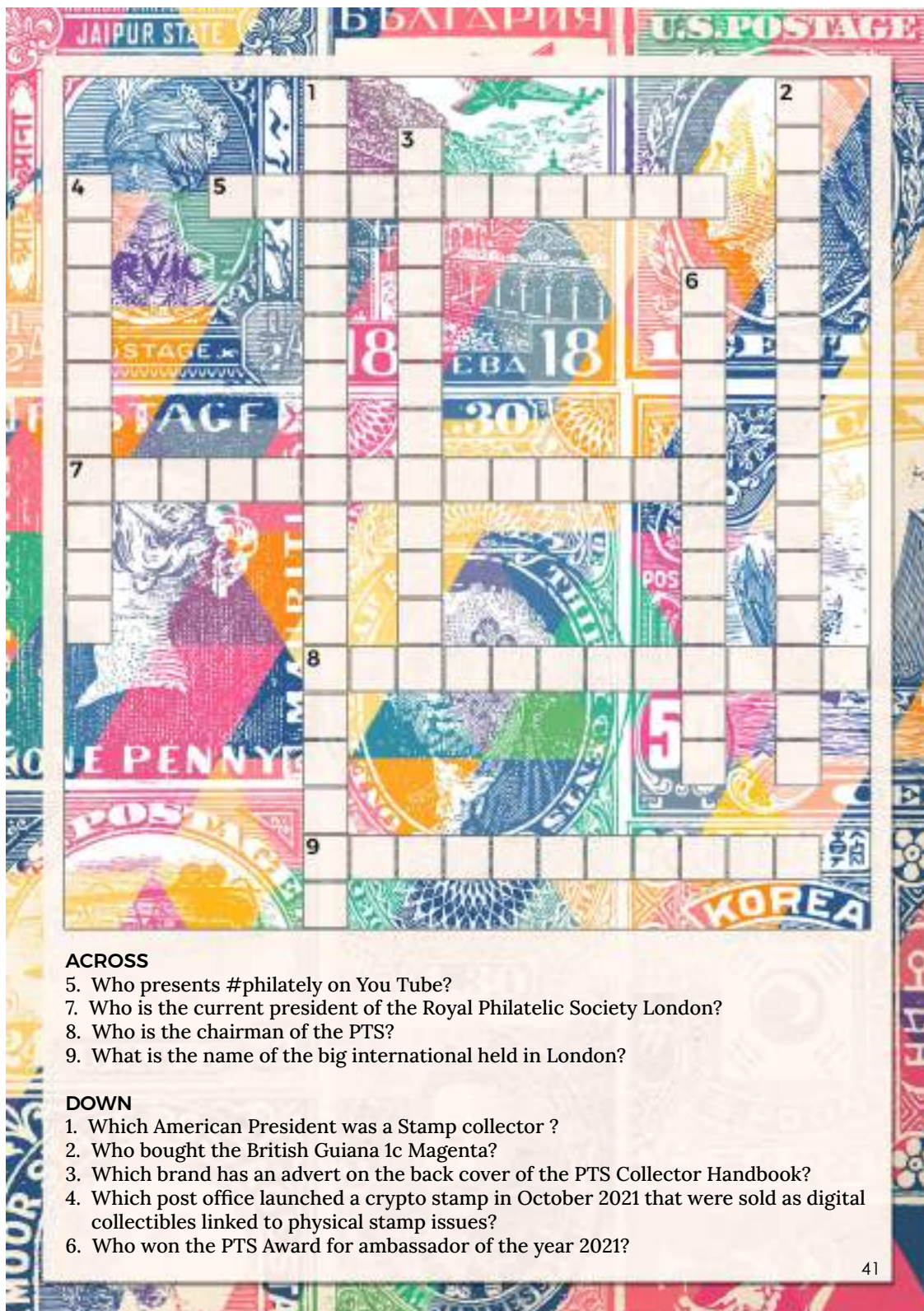


Wordsearch



S I I T A R E P S O O T Z Y E Y
F P H I L A T E L I S T G N F B
R J Y T E I C O S N E R V H W B
D X X F D F M I S R O E R A P O
M E K D I O Y P R T L I T U S H
A P C W E V R O E O A E T T P Y
G M A I N N R O P R R M N C T D
E A L L G I R E T M F E P I U O
N T B D R H X O A H C O L S B A
T S Y I A C F R Y E Y A R C O A
A O N N V A K Y N A U E O A A N
B F N G E M L O W Q L V M O T P
I X E Z D W C R N I E M L D L E
D V P Q P E N N Y R E D A A N L
I C R O T C E L L O C T T I D K
A P B O K N I P S S T E Y Z L W

- AUCTION
- MACHIN
- SOCIETY
- COLLECTOR
- MAGENTA
- SPERATI
- COVER
- ONE CENT
- SPINK
- DOROTHY
- PENNY BLACK
- STAMPEX
- ENGRAVED
- PENNY RED
- STAMPS
- ENVELOPE
- PHILATELIST
- WATERMARK
- ERROR
- PLATE
- WILDING
- HOBBY
- QUALITY
- IMPERFORATE
- ROYAL MAIL



ACROSS

- 5. Who presents #philately on You Tube?
- 7. Who is the current president of the Royal Philatelic Society London?
- 8. Who is the chairman of the PTS?
- 9. What is the name of the big international held in London?

DOWN

- 1. Which American President was a Stamp collector ?
- 2. Who bought the British Guiana 1c Magenta?
- 3. Which brand has an advert on the back cover of the PTS Collector Handbook?
- 4. Which post office launched a crypto stamp in October 2021 that were sold as digital collectibles linked to physical stamp issues?
- 6. Who won the PTS Award for ambassador of the year 2021?

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POSITION FINDER

PTS GUIDE INTRODUCTION

The Philatelic Traders' Society was formed in 1929, it was created for the greater good of philately and to support those passionate about the hobby. Our reputation for honesty, integrity and professionalism spans the globe and the PTS shield is instantly recognised by collectors.

Collectors who spot a philatelic business using the shield instantly know that they can be trusted as they have agreed to abide by the PTS's strict code of conduct. The PTS Shield gives you confidence when buying or selling stamps.

Information regarding The Philatelic Traders' Society, the code of conduct and activity can be found on the website www.thepts.net. In this Handbook, you'll find a snap shot of information about our members. Our full directory listing is available online. We also have our gold members; these businesses pay more for their membership as a way of supporting the society even more in everything we do for the trade and the hobby.

As well as a great selection of approved global dealers, the PTS also offers expertising. The PTS expertising committee offer a rapid and cost effective expertising service for stamps of Great Britain, which will give you an expert written opinion on the items genuineness and condition. For more information please do head to the website.

[Our listing is run A-Z.](#)



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