

Yorkshire Philatelic Association



YPA NEWS

April 2006

OFFICERS OF THE YPA: 2005-2006

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The YPA Handbook

Secretaries are reminded that it is expected that the YPA Handbook will be available for reference at all meetings.

Alwyn Peel has completed a full revision of the Handbook and plans to make it available for distribution at the next YPA Delegates meeting, April 29.

Please notify the Secretary and / or the Editor of any changes.

Speakers list:

No changes at this time.

If you wish to be added to the speakers list please notify the Secretary and / or the Editor.

Competition Judging

As a result of attendance at two recent Judging Seminars, organised by John Sussex, the following were successful and are now eligible to judge at Society and Federation level. Their names have been added to the list of Judges in the YPA Handbook:

Mr B. Burns (Middlesbrough PS) Tel: 01642 710636

Mrs J. Bygate (York PS) Tel: 01423 358954

Mr J. Colton (Rotherham Stamp & Postcard Club and Sheffield PS)
Tel: 01709 838682

Mr R. Dearnley (Huddersfield PS) Tel: 01484 641020

Mr. D. Foster (Middlesbrough PS) Tel: 01642 592161

Mr J. Hartley (Sheffield PS) Tel: 0114 2304155

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Mrs Y. Wheatley (Bradford PS and Leeds PS) Tel: 0113 2601978

Mr R. Wheatley (Bradford PS and Leeds PS) Tel: 0113 2601978

What's on

June 17	YPA Convention, Hull (see pages 10-14)
June 24 – 25	Thematica, London
July 6 – 9	Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, Renfrew (see page 16)
July 21 – 22	York Stamp Fair, Racecourse
Sept 20 – 24	Autumn STAMPEX, Islington, London
Oct 26 – 28	PHILATEX, London
Nov 17 – 18	Leeds Stamp Fair, Pudsey (see page 15)

Editorial

This is a different issue of *YPA News* in that it has been put together by two editors rather than one! This will be my final editorial as I leave the office of YPA Editor, having served in that role since 1992. Fourteen years is a lengthy stint and changing home circumstances now make more demands on my time so it is with pleasure that I welcome my successor, Greg Spring of the Sheffield Society. Greg is the editor of the *Sheffield Philatelist* and I am sure that his experience and computer knowledge will bring fresh ideas to the production of *YPA News*. I would like to express my thanks to those who have contributed articles, news items and photographs during the past fourteen years and I would urge them, and others, to give Greg their full support in the future. An editor's role is not to write the magazine but to edit and he is thus reliant upon contributors. I wish him every success and look forward to reading future issues and hopefully being a contributor too.

Alwyn Peel

Alwyn has been a pillar of the YPA, keeping its members informed and entertained for 14 years and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his grand efforts. I hope that in time I will be able to prove my worth as I assume this interesting and challenging role. I wish him all the best in the future and hope that he will still contribute his knowledge and expertise to the YPA and to its *News*.

Since this is a very packed issue of the *News* I won't waste any more space describing it but rather wish you enjoyment in reading the quality contributions of our fellows, and I hope to see you all at Hull on 17th June (see pages 10 to 14).

Greg Spring

ARE YOU CONNECTED?

By John A Edwards FRPSL

For those collectors who already have Internet access, the YPA now has it's own web site which gives information about YPA activities including the Annual Convention, a list of affiliated societies with contacts, details of past competition winners, a list of collectors on the *Roll of Distinguished Yorkshire Philatelists* and links to other useful web sites. You can access the site at:

<http://mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/ypa>

The world of philately is populated mainly by the older generations (of which I'm one). It is not surprising, therefore, that we have failed to embrace modern technology, especially the Internet. Maybe if my job before I retired had not required me to develop computer skills I would still be using a pen to write this article instead of using word processing software on a computer.

I did a quick straw poll and discovered that less than half of stamp collectors use a computer and less than a quarter are connected to the Internet. Perhaps this is not surprising given the reluctance of the older generations to change and accept *new-fangled* ideas. But having taken the plunge into IT (Information Technology) I now wonder how I could manage without it.

There are many advantages in using computers and having access to the Internet. A whole new world of knowledge is on the Internet – and it's mainly free apart from the cost of running your computer software to connect to the Internet. You can buy stamps on-line, contact collectors with similar interests, research difficult philatelic problems and keep up to date with the latest issues of your favourite countries.

What other information do you need? You can get the latest weather forecast, financial and investment advice, all the sporting results, gardening tips, TV programmes, find a plumber, check out the latest property prices, film reviews, all the latest political scandals, and get

ideas for birthday, wedding and anniversary presents, ... and anything else you can think of.

And then there are emails (electronic mailings). This is a much cheaper and faster way of communicating than using the ordinary postal system. You can send anything over the email system from your tax return to your latest holiday pictures.

How do you get started? Most public libraries now have computers available, and staff ready to explain the first steps in computing. Or there are computer courses for beginners being run at most adult education colleges. As with any journey the first step is the most difficult. Why not take it today?

MORLEY STAMP FAIR

Last Saturday of each month
St. Mary's in-the-Wood United Reform Church
Commercial Street
MORLEY

Enquiries: Kevin Johnson 01909 – 562927 or 0780 8665472
The YPA thank Kevin Johnson for his support

The Introduction of Decimal Currency into Great Britain.

By T. R. Peacock



The 15th February 2006 was the 35th anniversary of the introduction of decimal currency into Great Britain. This is therefore a fitting time to look back to the planning and implementation of *D-day* (also known as *Decimal Day* and *Decimalization Day*) by both the Royal Mint and the Royal Mail.

On the 19th December 1961, the Chancellor of the Exchequer appointed a *Committee of Inquiry on Decimal Currency* and between 19th January 1962 and the 16th July 1963 37 meetings were held. Among the many recommendations were the following:

1. To introduce decimal currency based on 100 cents to the pound sterling. £1-cent- $\frac{1}{2}$ (see note below);
2. To replace seven sterling coins ($\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, and 2/6) with six cent coins ($\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20). The One Pound and ten shilling notes to remain.
3. That *D-day* should take place during the month of February.
4. That all Government Departments and the Post Office should change over completely on *D-day* .

Note: Logically, in a decimal system, there is no place for a vulgar fraction $\frac{1}{2}$. The committee, however, considered that a $\frac{1}{2}$ was required and would be acceptable, understood, and easier to read, i.e. 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ rather than 0.625. Thus a £1-cent- $\frac{1}{2}$ system.

In 1967 and 1969, Parliament passed two *Decimal Currency Acts*, of which the following decisions were taken:

1. That decimal currency should be introduced on the 15th February 1971;
2. That the system to be adopted should be known as Pound Sterling-New Pence-£1.NP with 100 new pence to the pound;
3. The new currency to be ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 New Pence coins;
4. That gradually all existing coinage should be withdrawn with the exception of the pound note and demonetized;
5. That a *Decimal Currency Board* should be set up "to furnish information and advice about the new currency and coinage". This was done under the chairmanship of Lord Fiske, who issued a 22-page booklet, *Your Guide to Decimal Currency*, to every household in the country;
6. That the banks should be closed for four days before *D-day*, Thursday 11th to Sunday 14th February inclusive;
7. That all Post Offices should be closed on Saturday and Sunday 13th-14th February 1971.

The Royal Mint began to implement the changeover with the circulation of the 5 and 10 copper-nickel New Pence coins in 1968, and on the 1st July 1969 the ½d ceased to be legal tender. On the 14th October 1969, the 50 copper-nickel New Pence coin was circulated. This was to replace the 10/- note, which was gradually withdrawn and ceased to be legal tender on the 21st November 1970. On the 31st December 1969, the 2/6 (half crown) ceased to be legal tender.

Note: The 1d and 3d bit remained legal tender until 31st August 1971 and the Sixpence until 30th June 1980. However, the Shilling (1/-) and Florin (2/-) remained in circulation as they equated in size and value to the 5 and 10 New Pence coins respectively. They were withdrawn in 1990 (1/-) and 1992 (2/-) when the 5 and 10 New Pence coins were reissued in a smaller size. The ½, 1, and 2 bronze New Pence coins were issued on *D-day*, 15th

February 1971. The last decimal coin to enter circulation was the 20 copper-nickel New Pence coin during 1982. The One Pound note remained in circulation until 1983 when it was replaced with the One Pound nickel-brass coin.

The Royal Mail began to implement the change to decimalisation on the 17th June 1970 with the issue of three high value 10p, 20p, 50p stamps to replace the 2/6, 5/- and 10/- stamps. The £1 stamp remained as first issued on the 5th March 1969. The size and design of these stamps (The Machin Head) remained the same as the previous issue. On the above date, four *To Pay* (which replaced the words *Postage Due*) stamps were issued (10p, 20p, 50p, and £1).

Note: The Royal Mail only used the letter *p* to denote the value.

On *D-day*, twelve low value Machin Head stamps were issued. Again the same size and format as the previous sterling low values was used. They were ½p, 1p, 1½p, 2p, 2½p, 3p, 3½p, 4p, 5p, 6p, 7½p, 9p, and were for the following postal rates:

- ½p make up value;
- 1p certificate of posting, make up value;
- 1½p overseas printed paper up to 2 ounces, make up value;
- 2p overseas postcard rate, make up value;
- 2½p 2nd class inland letter up to 4 ounces;
- 3p 1st class inland letter up to 4 ounces;
- 3½p overseas airmail up to 4 ounces;
- 4p overseas surface mail foreign rate up to 1 ounce;
- 5p 1st class inland letter 4-6 ounces;
- 6p overseas surface mail foreign rate up to 1-2 ounces;
- 7½p 2nd class inland letter 4-12 ounces;
- 9p 1st class inland letter 6-10 ounces;

A 10p booklet (with London's first pillar box, 1855, on the front cover) was available consisting of one pane of four stamps ½p x 2p vertically se-tenant and one pane of four stamps 1p x 1½p vertically se-tenant for use on 1st and 2nd class mail.

At the same time, six newly designed *To Pay* stamps (½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 5p) were issued. From mid-February onwards a wide range of postal stationery (envelopes, postcards, letter cards, registration envelopes and air mail sheets) became available.

On the 7th July 1971, the four stamp issuing regions of Great Britain: Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales each issued four stamps (2½p, 3p, 5p, 7½p) in the Machin design with the addition in the top left-hand corner of the region's emblem, respectively:

- three armoured legs;
- white six-pointed star with coloured hand below a crown;
- a lion rampant; and
- a dragon.

Dual use of sterling and decimal stamps was permitted until 29th February 1972, after which date all pre-decimal stamps became invalid.

The one big problem facing the country on *D-day* was a strike by the postal workers which had begun on the 20th January and ended on the 8th March 1971. But that's another story.

Bibliography

1. Committee of Inquiry on Decimal Currency.
2. Acts of Parliament 1967 and 1969.
3. Various articles in stamp collection 1970-1971.
4. Whittaker's Almanac 2003.

Yorkshire Philatelic Association Convention 2006

Saturday, 17th June 2006, 10.00 to 16.30

Admission is FREE



The *Yorkshire Philatelic Association Convention* will be hosted this year by the *Hull and District Philatelic Society* to mark the 110th year of its foundation.

The Convention is sponsored by *Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions* and will be officially opened at 10.30 by James Grist, one of the founders of the company. For further company information see www.grosvenorauctions.com

Early Days

(taken from the Hull and District Philatelic Society web site:
<http://beehive.thisishull.co.uk/default.asp?WCI=SiteHome&ID=1402>)

Hull and District Philatelic Society was formed on Tuesday, 31st March 1896 by 8 enthusiastic collectors at the Grosvenor Hotel, Carr Lane, Hull. Mr. E.W. Drewry was appointed president. Monthly meetings were held at the Grosvenor Hotel. There was usually a display of one country or group of countries, contributed to by those attending with their own albums. Sometimes, the meeting consisted of just swapping and talking.

In January 1919 the Society organised an exhibition of stamps issued during the recent war at the *Hull Museum*. War stamps and New Europe became popular subjects at this time but other countries were still shown and in November 1921 a fine collection of West Indies was shown by Mr. H.M. Carmichael. The Lord Mayor of Hull (Councillor G.F. Wokes) was President in 1921-22 and times were bad, membership and attendance were both falling. Severe frosts were blamed in the early part of 1923 and the two November meetings did not take place due to lack of numbers. Things improved in the next 2-3 years and in 1926, Mr. A.E. Trout of South Cave gave a lecture on *Early English Postal History*. He was a

pioneer in the study of postal history and his records are still studied. He and his brother were prominent members for the next 20 years. E.A. Parsons, our other leading postal historian, did not join the Society until January 1946. His great study was of the local post offices and branch offices in Hull, many of which he photographed before they were finally demolished in post-war reconstruction. The other newcomer who made his mark in 1926 was Richard Tice of Driffield who joined in October 1925, and in March 1926 exhibited a fine collection of post-war Russian stamps. He came from Driffield to find only 5 members present. Writing to the Society he said, "Now then Hull Philatelic Society! Buck up this coming winter and see that you ENTICE me to all your meetings." Things did pick up at this point.



The present Hull and District Philatelic Society Committee:
Front row: Daphne McMillan; Robert McMillan (Secretary); Frank Foster; Mick Mitchell; Malcolm Stockhill; **Back row:** Les Goodens; Gunnar Jessen (Treasurer); Geoff Goodens; John Sussex; Barry Clark (President).

This year's convention boasts the following features:

Stamp Fair

There will be an extensive Stamp Fair held in the hall at *Staff House* (see the next page for venue details), with over 20 well known dealers attending.

Exhibitions

There will be an exhibition featuring part of the collection belonging to the *Royal Philatelic Society, London*. Members of the *Hull and District Philatelic Society* will stage an exhibition showing some of the postal history of Kingston-upon-Hull and areas of interest collected by members. Entries submitted to the *Yorkshire Philatelic Association* competitions will also be on view, highlighting the winning entries in each class.

Regional Meeting of the R.P.S.,L.

There will be a regional meeting of the *Royal Philatelic Society, London* from 11.00 to 12.30. Members are invited to bring material to display. Please contact John Sussex if you intend to bring something.

YPA Annual General Meeting and Prize giving

The Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Philatelic Association will take place at 14.30. This will be opened by James Grist. Mr. Grist will also present awards to the Winners of the YPA Competitions after the conclusion of the meeting. Signing of the *Roll of Distinguished Yorkshire Philatelists* will take place after this.

Refreshments

There will be drinks and light refreshments available in *Staff House*. Opposite the University there is the *Old Grey Mare Public House* serving good meals. *The West Bull*, is about one mile down the road, does an excellent carvery.

How to Get There

The Convention will be held at:

Staff House,
The University of Hull,
Cottingham Road,
Hull

Staff House is located in the area marked ***The University of Hull Campus***, seen in the upper right corner of the map facing.

Car Parking

There will be extensive car parking with disabled bays very close to *Staff House*. Parking will be free. There will be an area reserved for dealers, close to the hall.

For information on car parking at the University ring the Hull campus on 01482 465318

Directions to Hull University can also be found at the very helpful web site:

http://www.hull.ac.uk/05/aboutus/get_here/index.html

there is also a document with detailed travel instructions to get you to Staff House at:

<http://www.hull.ac.uk/05/aboutus/howtofindus/campusplan.pdf>

but be warned this is a 2.55 Mb download, so it isn't for the non-Broadband Internet user!!

Further details or information please contact:

Robert McMillan, Secretary, 46 New Village Road, Cottingham, East Yorks, HU16 4NA

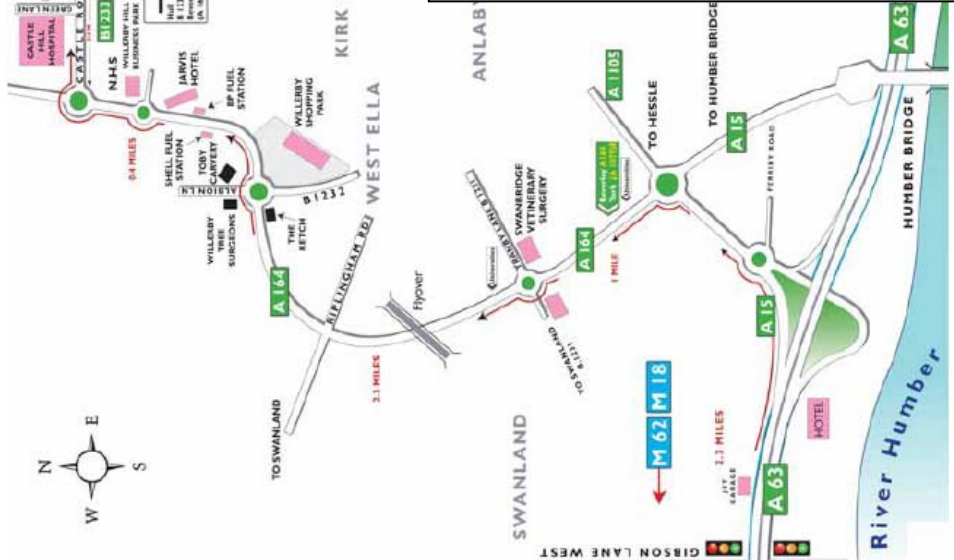
Telephone: 01482 840836

email: hullphilsoc@mcmillan.karoo.co.uk



Directions via M62 and A63

- Travelling along the A63 you will come to a set of traffic lights, Gibson Lane West is on your Left and a fuel station is on your Right.
- Continue along the A63 for 2.3 miles and take the A15 Humber Bridge exit. At first roundabout go straight on. At second roundabout turn Left onto the A164 - there is a sign saying Universities.
- At next roundabout and go straight on.
- After 2.3 miles the next roundabout will appear. Go straight on. There is a fuel station either side and a Jarvis Hotel on the Right.
- At next mini roundabout go straight on.
- At the next roundabout turn Right onto Castle Road following signs for Castle Hill Hospital.
- Drive to the end of Castle Road, passing hospital on the Left. At the bottom turn Left at the mini roundabouts onto South Street
- At the next two roundabouts go straight on. Priory Road is on your Right.
- At the next roundabout turn Right into Hull Road. Bear Left remaining on Hull Road (B1233). At the next roundabout go straight on.
- You are now on Cottingham Road. The University and main entrance is approx 0.25 miles on your Left.



Map taken from The University of Hull Campus Map, Copyright Ranger Design 2003.



Leeds Philatelic Society
Leeds Philatelic Society

ANNUAL STAMP FAIR

PUDSEY CIVIC HALL

Dawson's Corner, junction of Ring Road (A6120)
And Leeds-Bradford Road (A647)

Friday 17 November 2006

11am to 6pm

Saturday 18 November 2006

10am to 4.30pm

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<http://mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/leedsstamps>

88th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain
Normandy Hotel, Renfrew
6th to 9th July, 2006



Each year the ABPS organises *The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain*. Barring interruptions due to war, they have been held annually since 1909. The congress is an opportunity to meet with fellow collectors for a relaxing few days in pleasant surroundings. The events include discussions, displays and visits, plus the ever-enjoyable *Congress Banquet*. This year the congress is hosted by *The Caledonian Philatelic Society*.

Each year the *ABPS Awards Committee* considers nominations, made by Officers of a federation, association or society affiliated to the ABPS, and makes the following awards during the congress:

The Congress Medal - This is presented to just **one** person each year at the congress, together with a distinctive lapel pin. It is in recognition of dedication to the hobby over many years. The award is not for philatelic excellence, but for voluntary endeavours particularly at national level;

Award of Merit - This certificate is given for voluntary service to British philately at regional, specialist and local society level. Candidates must be members of an organisation affiliated to the ABPS. Not more than 15 awards are made each year.

Roll of Distinguished Philatelists - Those who have achieved international recognition for their outstanding studies and research in the philatelic sphere, demonstrated through their own collections and in their writings, are invited to sign the Roll.

There is something above for everyone. So come on Yorkshire, **YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU**, and your efforts won't go unnoticed! Nomination forms can be found at www.ukphilately.org.uk.

The YPA Diamond Jubilee: 60 Years of Association in the Three Ridings.

By Greg Spring

Next year is the Diamond Jubilee of the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. As part of the celebrations for this event I would like to put together an account of the history of the Association, and of the various societies that created it and which have kept it going over the last 60 years.

On the page opposite is a list of all the societies that have made up the YPA, both now and in the past. The names in bold are those which currently exist, along with the years in which they were formed. The societies highlighted in grey are those for which I have some sort of written history, mainly from articles in the *YPA News*. The others have now ceased to exist and I have no information on them whatsoever.

I would be grateful if all of you out there could help me piece together information about any of these societies, particularly if a written history exists. Ultimately it would be good to have records of:

- A date of formation;
- Who formed them;
- Any information on the membership (particularly appreciations and photographs of personalities and Distinguished Yorkshire Philatelists);
- Any background information and photographs of exhibitions, competitions, and prizes (local, national and international);
- Any newsletters they may have produced; and
- When they changed names or became extinct, if they did.

Material can be passed to me using the contact details below (please do not send any original materials at this stage):

Greg Spring, 25 Kirkstall Road, Sheffield, S11 8XJ

Tel: 07710 854567

email: g.m.spring@asch.co.uk

Year Formed	Society
1880	Leeds
1894	Sheffield
1896	Hull
1938	Wakefield
1940	Harrogate
1944	Barnsley
1946	Bridlington
1969	Redcar (& Cleveland)

Beverley & District	Doncaster
Bradford	Hope Valley
Chesterfield	Ilkley
Grimsby & District	Keighley
Halifax	Leeds Junior
Helvetia (Northern Group)	Midland Bank (Sheffield)
Huddersfield	Morley Junior
Middlesbrough	Northallerton
Morley	Norton & Malton
Rotherham	Otley
Rotherham Stamp & Post Card	Polish P.S. of Bradford
Scarborough	Pontefract Junior (no senior?)
Scunthorpe	Pudsey
Stockton	Rockware Philatelic & Post Card (Doncaster)
York	Roses Caribbean
Australian Specialist Society	1958 - Scandinavian Society Of Hull
Denby Dale	Wombwell High School Stamp Club

Lincoln Philatelic Society was also once affiliated to the YPA, as was Hope Valley. I would be very interested to hear of any other groups from outside of Yorkshire which were affiliated with us in the past.

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Tel: (01482) 226755

email: hullstampshop@hullstampshop.karoo.co.uk