

*Affiliated
Society*


*The Journal
of the
Stamp Box Collectors Society*




Newsletter 7 Spring 1988

Editorial

We have now reached number 7 of our society's journal and once again I am pleased to be able to offer our members a varied selection of items pertaining to our hobby.

The main article in this issue, for which I have to thank  who very kindly allowed me to publish it, is about the Alice in Wonderland stamp case. I make no apologies for publishing this article, as I think it is very interesting besides being very erudite and a credit to Mr. Davis for the research that was entailed in writing it. It dates approximately from the period when stamp boxes & cases were becoming very popular and so must be very relevant to our collecting habits.

Also in this issue is our latest balance sheet. As you can see, we are solvent, just, so the reason for the sharp rise in subs is evident. Once again I wish to remind members, that any enquiries concerning our financial affairs should be addressed to , our hon. treasurer, whose address, along with those of the rest of your committee, can be found further along the journal.

***** You will of course, have the Phillips catalogue dated mid-December and I do hope you were lucky if you placed bids. At the time of writing I have no knowledge of the results of the auction, but if things go to plan, you should have the list of prices realised further along in the journal. I also hope, that all members received the catalogue, as in the same envelope was the form for returning your subscription to our society. Should by some unlucky fluke, any member who has not had the catalogue, will they please write in for one, as the subs were due last October and early receipt would be appreciated. As is usual, due to the human habit of forgetfulness where payment has to be made, I am keeping up the habit of sending the journal to members who are tardy in paying, and being charitable in assuming their lack of response is due to forgetfulness and not a desire to leave the society. I regret to say, that any member not sending in their subs after receipt of this journal will be assumed to have resigned from the society and no more correspondence to that member will be entered into.

***** I hope that members find the listing of markets & auction houses in the U.K. helpful. I would be very interested, and will print, any additions to that list, remembering please, to enquire before travelling any distance to any of these venues, as I cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information printed.

Report of our last meeting

On Sept 26th last, our society held its second meeting of the year at the usual venue, The Royal Horticultural Hall, London. About 20-24 members turned up and as there was no formal display at this meeting, members were free to show, and talk about, some of the fine items from their own collections.

Proceedings were formally opened by your Hon. President and after the usual pleasantries, both he and the Hon. Sec. invited members to comment on the running of the society and also asked for their views on the new look journal. But despite some pressure from the 'board' there was no word of criticism levelled at the committee. In fact, the only criticism was whether the Hon. Editor (me) could enlarge the journal. It was pointed out to the members, that unless members kept up a stream of letters & articles to the Hon. Ed., there was no way the journal could be extended. In fact, quite the contrary was the point made, that should the members not continue their contacts with the committee, there was no way the journal could be produced! After all, members want to hear what other members have to say about the items we collect, and not listen repeatedly to what the committee have to say on the subject.

The meeting then turned swiftly to the job in hand, the display & discussion of members own collectables.

There were many fine items on display and a detailed report follows from our Hon. Vice-President, who was perforce unable to be punctual due to the British Rail losing some of its staff and so poor old [redacted] was about 1 1/2hrs late getting into Victoria.

You will see in another part of the journal, details of our next meeting and may I take this opportunity to beg, cajole and plead with our members to come to this meeting, I can assure them that they will find their visit worthwhile.

At the commencement of the main part of the meeting, several members mentioned a problem which most of our members will encounter from time to time, namely, the cleaning and preservation of the stamp boxes.

Some of our members prefer to leave old boxes in the exact condition they bought them, believing that any kind of restoration leads to a fall in the value of the box. But some members prefer to restore their boxes, especially the painted boxes, to a pristine condition. This often means being a dab hand at the old oil paints! One method of cleaning such boxes, however, was to wipe off the grime with baby oil and any special woods or metal boxes must be cleaned according to manufacturer's instructions on the bottles.

There were several excellent displays this time, commencing with silver boxes from [redacted]. [redacted]'s boxes are never ordinary and ranged from a miniature wheelbarrow; pig with a pen-wipe, cigar box combined; lamp, inkwell and magnifier; coal scuttle; gardening trough; American mail bag; a Louis-style bureau with two inkwells and a stamp compartment; a knife-box, inkwell and nib-drawer and by far the most original - a box in use in a hotel about 1880. This last item had a modern base, glass top with a stamp dispenser inside. With the insertion of a coin, a stamp popped out from a dispenser inside the box.

[redacted]'s display came next and included the Windsor booklet which started his collection off; a box inlaid with enamel, laquer and ivory; Tonbridge ware; Mauchlin and Festival of Britain 1951 boxes. There was one made out of ebony wood with stamps in it; a petit-point sampler stamp case; a brass one with scales and a leather-based silver topped Edward VII. What is so interesting, is that many members had never seen some of the items displayed outside of othermembers' collections.

[redacted] also showed some fine and fascinating boxes. There were hand-carved boxes with compartments; Swiss and Norwegian boxes; a silver vestas and stamp box; boxes with pencils, toothpicks and/or cigar picks (!); a celluloid masquering as tortoiseshell case; an American pocket stamp case with calendar 1904 with wax-leaves to prevent its sticking (Bermondsey London) a brass and green enamel box; a stamp box with dampener and small sponge - hallmarked silver; a brass box with three classical (Roman-type) heads; stamps and wafers box, with circular wax to prevent sticking and three long compartments; a six stamp purse; a sliding tray with brass and leather and an 1890 sampler from Laura to Emmie.

Members will note that we all had a splendid meeting with lots of "goodies" to view and - pour encourager les autres! So with renewed heart and interest, off we all go to scour the market places and hopefully, find many more boxes to display at our next meeting. Roll on Spring 1988!

Our hon.sec.informs me,that some of our members,returning the form with their subs, assumed that the phrase in brackets on the form(NO CHEQUES PLEASE,COST OF CLEARING ABSORBS SUBS.)referred to them.Apologies...this phrase refers to our OVERSEAS MEMBERS ONLY.

***** A report on our last meeting at the British Philatelic Exhibition at the Royal Horticulture Hall will be found on another page.

Two days later, on the evening of Monday 28th October, our society was invited to give a display to the Brighton & Hove Philatelic Society. As a society, we are very dispersed and it is not easy to get members together, so in this instant, I was delighted not to be left on my own, as [redacted] from [redacted] very kindly volunteered to accompany me. As he had quite a way to come and go, I thought it very generous of him.

The display began by my showing a selection from my own collection and in very general terms showed how most of the materials known to man have been used in the manufacture of stamp boxes and cases. The interest shown was quite good, but the evening really took off when [redacted] who did the second half of the display, showed his Tunbridge Ware.

As some of the members who have seen it are aware, [redacted] is an expert in that field and his accompanying talk was comprehensive and entertaining as well as being very erudite. He went into the meticulous methods used to manufacture Tunbridge Ware, and it was quite obvious that the audience, numbering about 30, were entranced. In fact, when the Chairman invited the audience to inspect the displays and ask questions, it was [redacted] display they crowded around and I was left with those who could not get round [redacted] table!

It is usual at Philatelic displays, for the specialist displays to be ignored in favour of the general displays, but it was the reverse that evening. [redacted] Tunbridge Ware items received very close inspection indeed and at times he was hard pushed to answer all the questions that were thrown at him, his knowledge of his subject is very deep and it was all of 30 minutes before the Chairman called the meeting to order and proposed a vote of thanks. This was seconded in very glowing terms by another official of the society, and although we had to make our way home, and in [redacted] case quite a way, we left in very good spirits with an evening well spent.

Unfortunately, we picked up no new members, but it is obvious, that our collectables are very interesting to other collectors and I strongly urge members who have the opportunity to give a display if you can. Please let me know if and when you do. [redacted] gave a display during the summer to another society and if I get a detailed report, I will let you know.

***** I should like to take this opportunity whilst on the subject of Tunbridge Ware, to bring to the attention of members a book on the subject. Modestly priced around £1.25 and published by.....Shire Publications Ltd, Cromwell House, Church St., Princes Risborough, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP17 9AJ UK. This book, entitled Tunbridge Ware by Margaret A.V. Gill is a must for those interested in the subject. Not only does it give an extremely comprehensive explanation of the different methods, items, etc. of this lovely subject, but the authoress gives a list of further reading to those interested in pursuing the subject further. Of importance to our members, is the fact that she lists quite a number of places around the country, as diverse as Worthing and Birmingham, where displays can be seen. I can recommend it as being good value for money.

***** It occured to me recently, that many of our members had not received a copy of the rules governing our society. It is also possible, that quite a few of our members no longer have their original copies. The dearth of letters to your officers, and the lack of articles to your editor (me) might also be explained by the fact that many of you do not have the addresses you require to contact us.

To rectify these and any other omissions not mentioned, you will find in this copy of our journal the necessary information to rectify the above shortcomings. Let us therefore, be hearing from you.....please!

***** Early in October, a letter in the 'Times' from the chairman of the British Hallmarking Council was published. I thought it would be of interest to our members, in view of the insidious appearance on the market of productions of many of the collectibles that are enjoying a comeback at the moment, to bring it to their attention.

In his letter, the chairman protests about the low level of fines imposed for infringements of the Hallmarking Act and mentions two recent cases. It appears that certain articles (not defined), claiming to be gold, but made of base metal, are being hallmarked and sold as 9 carat gold. He goes on to describe the constituents of genuine marketable articles. As gold and silver are soft metals, he says, they are always alloyed with copper and other base metals in order to make them more amenable to manufacture and wear. Consequently, it is easy for criminals to perpetrate a fraud and ask for closer inspection by the authorities to stop this practice of making articles from baser metals and giving them a qualifying hallmark.

A few days later, a correspondent from ~~V///~~, indignantly asked why, if the chairman was so concerned about the fraud in hallmarked articles, he, the chairman, did not deplore the practice of the misuse of the term 'gold' to describe jewellery containing only 37.5% (9 carat) of the metal. He maintains, that the term 'gold' should be used only to describe articles the contents of which should be 75% (18 carat) or more of gold. With regard to silver, the metal we collectors of stamp boxes and cases are probably more familiar with, he goes on to say, that by law, silverware must contain at least 92.5% of the metal and further, just for the record, platinum must contain a minimum of 95%. I thought members, who were not readers of the 'Times', would be interested in the above. Will keep you all informed of any further developments.

***** I should like to draw the attention of members once again to a subject I have raised before. The subject of letters and articles for the Journal. It was quite obvious at our last meeting in London, that members enjoyed receiving the Journal and the only complaint noted, was that there should be more of it! I fully agree with that complaint. I would dearly love to send out a Journal twice the size, but without letters and articles from members there is no way the Journal can be extended. Members at the meeting, were very specific in the sort of articles they wanted, such as how to tell different woods, one from the other; the care of different materials and other subjects all relevant to our hobby. Well folks, there must be a wealth of talent out there. There must be at least one person who is an expert in the care of wood etc. (our Hon. Sec. recently told us how to care for silver) amongst us; there must be little dodges that members, through experience, have discovered, so how about letting us all into the secret?

***** Strangely enough, I was asked about a 'Wants' column. Members appear to have forgotten that right from the beginning I told them that the Journal was open at all times to members 'Wants & Sales'. There were only two provisos. One, no dealer would be allowed to advertise individual items, as dealers are invited to 'buy' space for a modest sum to help the society's finances. And two, no member of your committee would be involved in any transaction. The routine is as follows. Please tell me what you have for sale, or want, this will be published in the next copy of the Journal. Permission must be given to your editor to pass on your names & addresses. When both parties have been put in touch with each other, what happens after that can be no responsibility of the society. PLEASE DO NOT SEND US ANY GOODS.

***** Appeal to dealers, both active and otherwise. Please remember that among our members we have quite a few to whom an increase in subs would be a problem. Even having said that, they are potential customers, so how about helping the society by inserting a few lines of advertising? This will allow the society to balance its books and keep the subs down to as low a figure as possible. My address is elsewhere in the Journal, so don't all rush!

IN THE BOX

Regretfully, the members of our society are increasingly taking the view, that I, [REDACTED], has the magic ability to produce a journal from nothing. I have performed all sorts of tricks, none of which has aroused the slightest comment. In fact, if it were not for the fact, that at the last count, 84 of you chose to send in your subs., I would in all honesty believe you had all left the committee and my good self in disgust. Any form of correspondence is urgently required. I can understand dealer members being too busy earning their daily crust to participate actively in the workings of any society, although it is obvious to the readers of this journal that some of our dealer members are very active indeed in a vicarious way. However, I am puzzled why I do not hear from the rank and file members, the eyes and ears of the society. After all, everyone has a tale to tell about some of the pieces acquired. The chat is non-stop at our bi-annual meetings, but unless I had a tape recorder, there is no way I can remember the torrent of yarns, opinions and advice that gushes out when our members meet face to face. So how about it folks? Someone out there is busting to know something you do and all it takes to pass it on, is a 13p stamp on an envelope to me. Now that all the committee members have their particulars in another part of the journal, there is no excuse for not writing.

The biggest shock through the post recently, was a letter from the chairman of the committee organising Stampex, who in one fell swoop upped the hire of our room by 50%, the result of which is commented on in another part of the journal.

***** I had a quiet grin at a letter I had from a gentleman from [REDACTED]. He does not give his age, but after telling me about the prints of stamp boxes he encloses, rounds off by saying he was too old to join a society now. In view of the fact that I am now in my 73rd year, I must assume by the tone of his letter that he is an octogenarian at least. The prints he sent were of two stamp boxes, one gold and one silver. It is unlikely they will photocopy, but if they do, we will try and fit them into the journal.

As expected, they have photocopied very poorly, but they will give members an idea of what they look like. Fig.1 is hallmarked 1905, probably Birmingham. Fig.2 is 18 carat gold, hallmarked Birmingham 1903

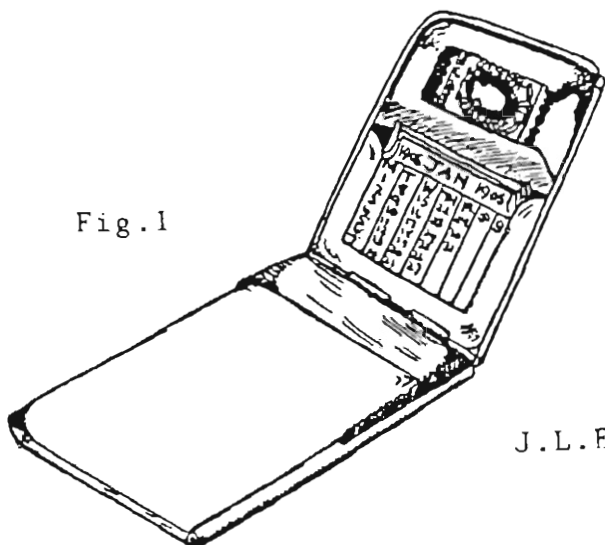


Fig.1

J.L.E.H.

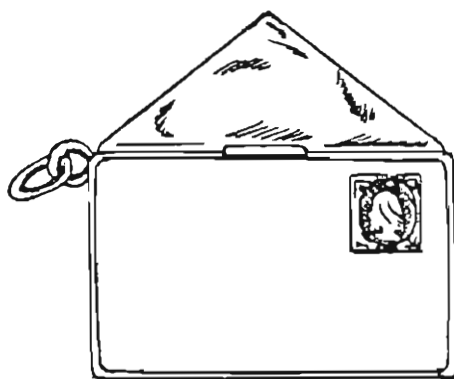


Fig.2

J.L.E.H.

I really must describe the gold one (Fig.2). I can't guess the size, but it is envelope shaped, the 'address' side is of a white substance, with the 'stamp' in the top right corner in the shape of a white cameo on a green background edged with gold. The flap of the envelope is in gold, with the gold continuing all around the edge of the envelope, the whole is finished with a gold loop for hanging; I suppose, therefore, that it was meant for a watch chain or something similar, but whatever it was meant for, it really looks superb. The other one Fig.1 the silver one, is photographed open and so is difficult to describe, but the inside has an Ed.VII stamp and what appears to be, under a glass, a 1905 calendar. Lovely.

***** The next item for "In the Box", is a rather interesting letter I had from the Times. After I read a piece about antique markets in one of the Saturday editions that usually carry items such as these for week-enders, and being of a polite nature, I wrote and asked them if they minded if I quoted from their article for our little journal. I thought their reply was so interesting that a) I decided that you should all have a look and b) I would do an article on markets & fairs myself, which you will find in the journal.

Dear [REDACTED],

With reference to your letter of the 7th August.

Would you please send us the extracts that you wish to reproduce from the article "From Junk to Jewels" by Stephen Long which appeared in The Times on 1st August 1987. We would also like to know the circulation of your Society's journal and if it is just published in the U.K.

When we have this information we will research the copyright and if it proves to be ours, assess the fee as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Syndication Department.



1212



1219



1213



28 Oct.1987

Dear ,

I have recently been given a copy of G.S.M. for February 1986 which lists your name as contact for a Stamp Box Collectors Society.

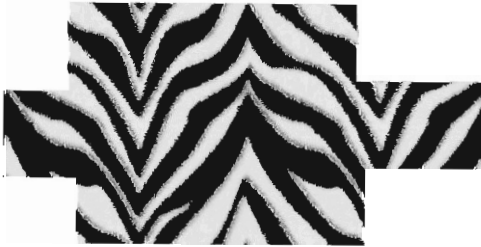
I am therefor writing to you for updated information. I would appreciate a reply giving details etc.

It may interest you to know that for several years I have been asking around the antique trade here and all I get are shakes of the head and most ask me for details. This I have been unable to give as only recently have I found my first - a wooden one which must have been outside for some time from it's condition.

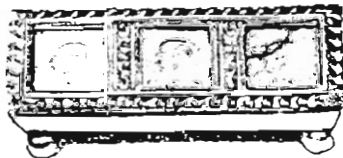
No stamp dealers know of them I'm sure or would attempt to handle them if they did; though I believe some do in the U.K.

As I collect Scottish Postal History perhaps my interest in the stamp boxes can be seen as an extention?

Many thanks in anticipation of your reply



***** Our tentacles are reaching into all sorts of out of the way places. Here is a letter I had from a gentleman from the Great Outback. I am awaiting a reply with interest, but as it took him a year to write in the first place, I will more than likely have to wait that long for a reply.



Members are invited to attend the next meeting of our society, which will be held in the Floral Room 'B' of The Royal Horticultural Hall, London, on Sat. March 5th, 1988 from 10-30 to 1.00p.m.

John Downer of Hampshire, will give a display of Mauchlin Ware, with emphasis on stamp boxes.

This will be a display not to be missed, so we are looking forward to meeting members old & new.

We buy & sell

STAMPS, COVERS & COLLECTIONS

of the World.

HEALEY & WISE

P.O.Box 7, TADWORTH SURREY

Established 1885.

Prices realised for the Phillips Auction held on Dec.10th.1987. Only items relevant to our society are quoted & all prices are subject to confirmation.

Lot 152...£100	Lot 153...£100	Lot 154...£100	Lot 156..£55
" 159...£250	" 160...£75	" 163...£62	" 165..£38
" 169...£36	" 170...£72	" 173...£310	" 175..£32
" 177...£60	" 178...£78	" 179...£36	" 181..£85
" 183...£130	" 189...£32	" 190...£20	" 192..£62
" 193...£50	" 194...£78	" 197...£45	" 198..£68
" 200...£50	" 201...£22	" 205...£55	" 206..£55
" 208...£50	" 217...£34	" 219...£50	" 222..£26.

THE WONDERFUL CASE OF ALICE

GERALD DAVIS

IF Victoria Anne Alexander has not earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's youngest personality to influence philatelic research, I shall give up drinking the stuff.

It happened in this way. Her parents, those intrepid philatelic journalists, well known as authors of "Heads and Tails" were celebrating the year of their child with her issue on, surprisingly enough, 4th July 1979. They were therefore far too preoccupied to locate all the pictures (and conversations) for their feature of that week, so they asked me if I would loan them an example of "The Wonderland Postage-Stamp-Case" invented by Lewis Carroll. This was illustrated in *STAMP COLLECTING* 2nd August 1979.

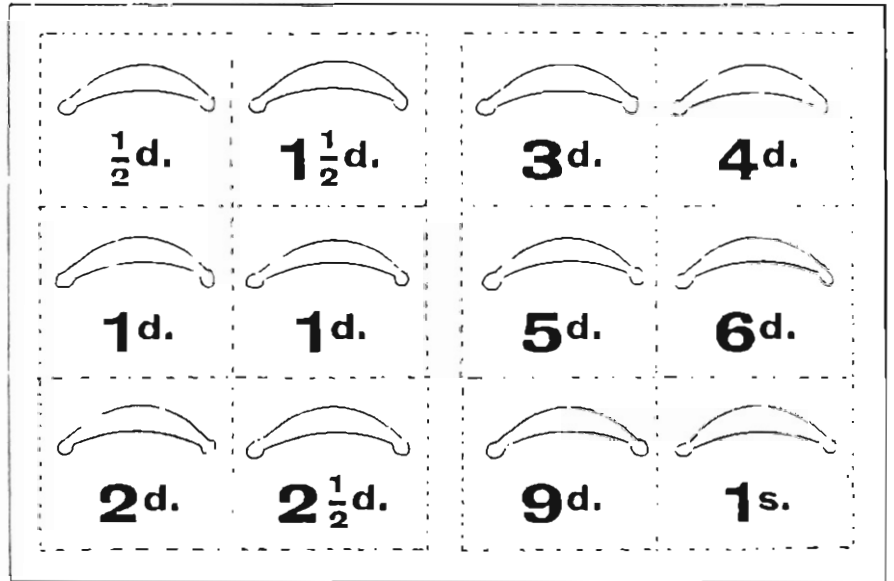
In a letter to the Editor of 15th September 1979 Mr. Norman P. Biddle of Guildford said that he did not think that the illustration could possibly be of the "original Postage-Stamp case . . . published by Lewis Carroll". Mr. Biddle provided an illustration from the *Collector's Book of Children's Books* and he pointed out that the type face was different from mine which he explained, could not have been earlier than 1902. Since mine was inscribed MDCCCLXXXIX (or 1889 now that we have gone metric)

we had a situation very akin to the mad tea party. ". . . perhaps," said the Hatter: "but you could keep it [the time] to half past one as long as you liked."

Subsequently Jean Alexander and I laid our cards on the table, together with envelopes and stamp cases. We had three between us which looked at first glance

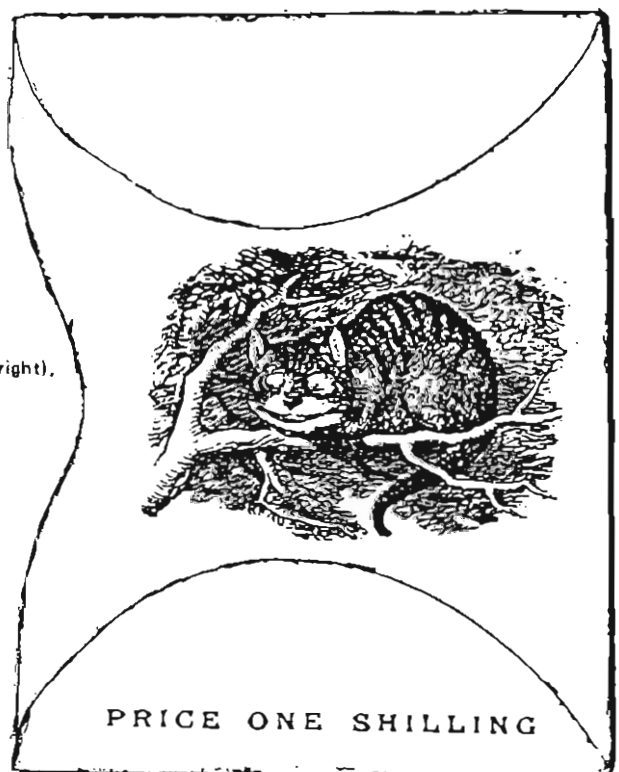
identical. We met in a room frequented exclusively by collectors. Almost every second person as they passed us said, "Oh, a Lewis Carroll Stamp Case, I have one of those." There seemed to be so many people who had one in a space of

(Continued on page 1143)



Above: Fig. 1. The stamp holder (actual size 146 x 97mm).

Fig. 3 (left) and Fig. 4 (right), both shown actual size.



THE WONDERFUL CASE OF ALICE

(Continued from page 1141)

about twelve minutes that we wondered whether we had in fact got anything which would throw light on the matter. We also had three copies of the little booklet and suddenly Jean noticed that her copy was dated on the cover "1890" - "... which certainly was not there before ...", because she had been looking at my copy which had "first published 1890" on the inside.

"Curiouser and curiouser," cried Jean (she was so much surprised, that for the moment she quite forgot how to speak good English . . . or even Scottish). It seemed we had a problem on our hands and the only thing one can do with a mystery is to solve it.

Lewis Carroll wrote:

"'Necessity is the mother of invention'; and it was the constant worry of never having ready to hand, when one wanted it, a postage stamp of the right value for a letter or parcel, which drove me to invent my 'Wonderland Postage-Stamp Case', which contains twelve pockets, marked for stamps of various values and two coloured Pictorial Surprises from 'Alice in Wonderland'. It is accompanied with a small book 'Eight or Nine Wise Words About Letter Writing'."

This appeared in *The Lady* on 7th April 1892 under "SYZYGIES - Things to think about - for all Writers of Letters". It was an advertisement for the items it describes, since the *Diaries*¹ confirm that the Wonderland Postage Stamp Case was invented precisely on 29th October 1888 and it is known that the publication of the booklet "... *Wise Words* ..." was over a year later.

The stamp case itself is in two parts. A stamp holder and an outer case. The holder containing twelve stamp size pockets is formed of two sheets of paper (one with "half moon" shaped cuts) sewn together [Fig. 1]. The horizontal lines of stitching are 30mm between each row. This holder is folded down the centre so that there are six pockets each side. Two of them are labelled "1d" because the ten pence stamp of the so-called "Jubilee" set was not issued until 24th February 1890, and the penny value was used more frequently than the others.

It has been suggested that the holder was the prototype of the familiar article we all now know as a stock book but I doubt it, because I have a folding pocket chess set stitched on the same principle with pockets exactly the same size, made of paper covered in celluloid which was

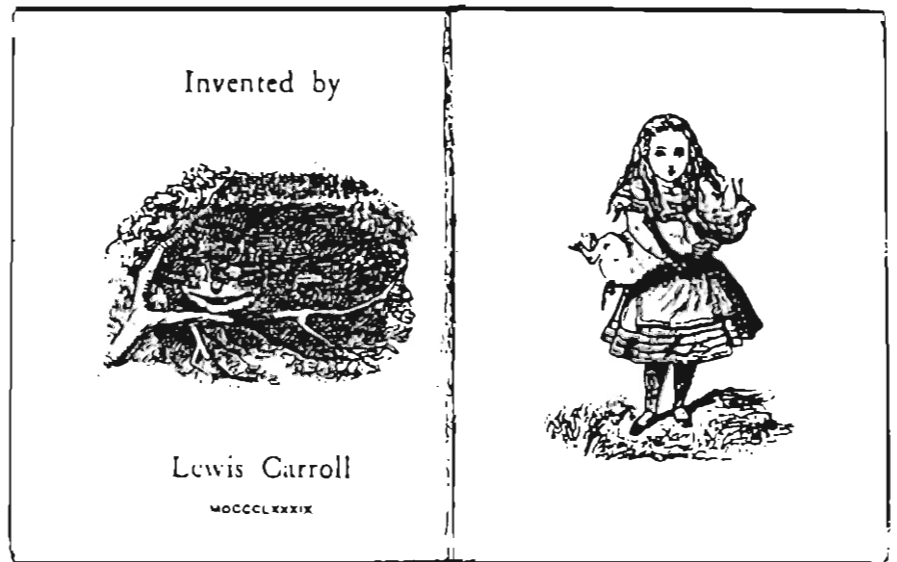
almost certainly made before 1887.

When the holder is closed it shows a picture of Alice holding the pig [Fig. 2]. It should now be slid, fold first, to protect the stamps, into the outer case made of linen-backed paper with, on the front², a picture of Alice holding the baby [Fig. 3]. On turning the outer case over, there is on the reverse, the Cheshire Cat [Fig. 4] and on withdrawing the holder only the Cat's grin can be seen [Fig. 5]. The apparent quick changes were what Lewis Carroll called his "Two Coloured Pictorial Surprises". Tame as this may seem to us it was in character with the inventor's whimsical personality. Only Alice holding the baby is new; the other three illustrations appear in the book *Alice in Wonderland*.

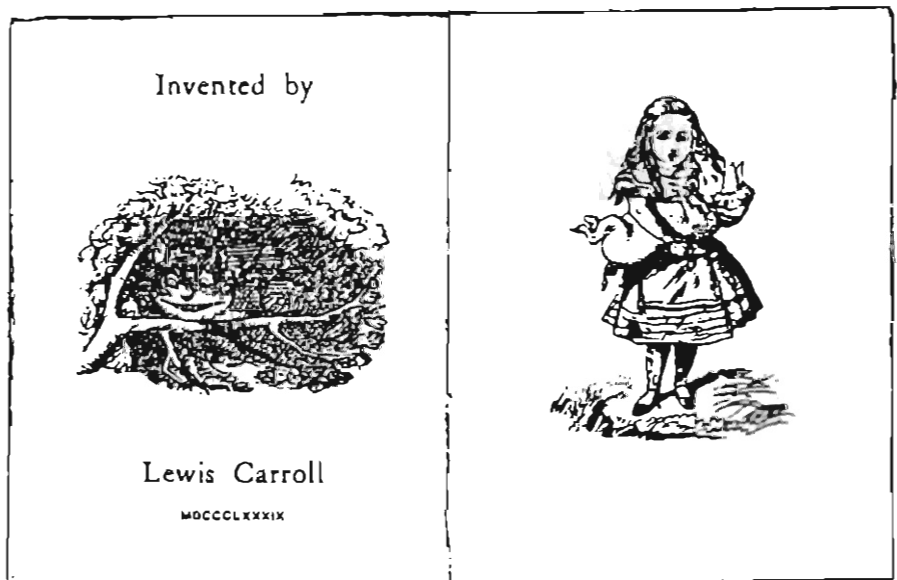
The *Wise Words* are connected with and are in some sense an advertisement for the Wonderland Postage-Stamp Case: copies of the *Wise Words* as a booklet were given without the Stamp Case when there was occasion but sometimes the two items were circulated in a pink envelope containing both. Unfortunately in some descriptions the outer case is called an envelope - which causes confusion.

The Stamp Case (both parts) is the oldest of the three items. There is a presentation copy dated March 1890 in the Parrish Collection.³ The earliest known presentation of the *Wise Words* was 18th June 1890. The Envelope, which could not have been made until it was decided to combine the Stamp Case with the booklet, makes up the set of three, of which the earliest known presentation was 31st July 1890 (the Kern Copy).

(Continued on page 1145)



Above: Fig. 5 (left) and Fig. 2 (right). Below: Fig. 6 (each actual size overall 155 x 98mm).



THE WONDERFUL CASE OF ALICE

Fig. 7. 3rd Edition Stamp Holder (actual size overall 145 x 97mm).

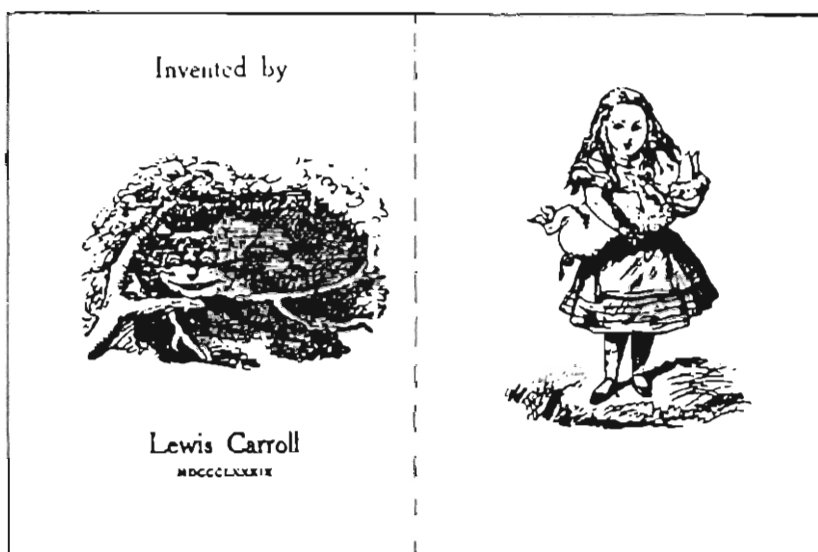
(Continued from page 1143)

It appears from the *Diaries* that on 2nd July 1890 Messrs Emberlin "began the sale after receiving 75 Stamp Cases 150 *Wise Words* and 950 Envelopes". These numbers are themselves curious. Such a round figure as 150 *Wise Words* does not include the presentation copy of a fortnight earlier and similarly the number of Stamp Cases cannot include that presented in March of the same year. Surely the author would have kept a copy or two at least for himself by this date. One might wonder why so many Envelopes were printed with only so few Stamp Cases, the popularity of which could not then have been anticipated. It is possible that a standard existing envelope was available and it was simpler to run off the whole batch while at the press.

Bibliophiles who talk of "editions" and "impressions" (of printed type) use a different yardstick from philatelists. The latter have for long made up their own rules and vocabulary, much of which is illogical yet has found acceptance over years of use within the world of stamps. Thus some authorities on the works of Lewis Carroll who can classify exactly the booklet *Wise Words* and the *Envelope* by the type differences find it hard to regard an item reproduced by photolithography such as the Stamp Case, which exhibits very minor differences, with the same significance as do stamp collectors, who lack a precise terminology.

The Lewis Carroll Handbook by S. H. Williams and Falconer Madon, edited by Roger Lancelyn Green in 1962, described and listed various editions and reprints of all four items [i.e. Stamp Holder, Outer Case, Booklet and Envelope]. The whole matter had become complicated as some items had become separated and some "sets" are known made up from various sources. When Denis Crutch revised the *Handbook* in the 1979 Edition he succeeded in eliminating errors and ambiguities and added much new material in the entire book (340 pp.). However, he was not able to deal with the Stamp Case in as much minute detail as philatelists would wish, partly because it was far too minor an item within the major work and partly because of the differences between printed versions and photolithographic reprints. In the following list I have adopted the terminology of Mr. Crutch with his descriptions where they apply and have called subsequent findings "issues" to distinguish them from the "editions" in the 1979 version of the *Handbook*. Readers should be

STAMP COLLECTING 12th June, 1980



aware that almost any item from the early editions are of the greatest rarity and many things offered for sale described as "... in the original envelope..." may not be contemporary.

THE STAMP CASE

The Stamp Holder (Fig. 2 and Fig. 5) This is the First Edition in the Parrish Catalogue⁴ reproduced by courtesy of the Princeton University Library. It is opened out flat and in spite of a ridge caused by the fold it is worth noting the relative positions of the illustrations. An horizontal line drawn across the top edge of the tree would almost cut Alice directly in the mouth. A similar line across the lower edge of the tree would cut Alice squarely on the shins.

Second Edition (Fig. 6) This is reproduced by the courtesy of the Curator of the Bodleian Library. The upper horizontal line through the outer edge of the tree would pass through Alice well below the chin while the lower line almost coincides with the straps on her shoes.

Third Edition (Fig. 7) This is the one most frequently seen. The date is in Roman letters [not sans serif] as the previous two editions and the lines of type measure approximately 23.5mm and 26mm respectively whilst on both earlier editions the same lines measure roughly 27.5mm and 31.5mm respectively. The horizontal lines of stitching are now 28.5mm between each row and before any reader complains that stitching can vary I should explain that the measurements refer to the printed guide lines with which the stitching should coincide.

The Outer Case [Reverse] **FIRST EDITION** (Fig. 4) This is in the Parrish

Collection reproduced here by courtesy of the Princeton University Library. In the Parrish Catalogue this side is described as the "front" but as the face of any cover which shows flaps is called the reverse the writer believes that to call it the "back" will be more widely understood in future. The only wording is "PRICE ONE SHILLING".

[Obverse] (Fig. 3)

SECOND EDITION [Reverse] (Fig. 8) This now has the publisher's name and address above the cat and "(POST-FREE 13d.)" below the price. This is reproduced here by the courtesy of the Bodleian Library and has been dated as 1891 [Ref 247928g.4].

[Obverse] (Fig. 9) This is virtually identical to Fig. 3.

THIRD EDITION [Reverse] (Fig. 10) This now has the "(POST FREE 13d)" above the price. That illustrated here is reproduced by the courtesy of the Curator of the Bodleian Library and has been dated as "c. 1910".

[Obverse] has the "W" of "Wonderland" as two Linked "V"s and was the tell-tale characteristic which attracted Mr. Biddle's notice in September 1979.

FOURTH ISSUE [Reverse] (Fig. 11) Reproduced here by courtesy of Mr. Ian Crane. Substantially the same as the Third Edition but the figures "4" and "13d" are from a different type face.

FIFTH ISSUE [Reverse and Obverse] This is a photographic reprint and is therefore identical to the Third Edition. From a collector's point of view only a set of the four items is a complete entity and unless this is accompanied by a copy of

(Continued on page 1147)

THE WONDERFUL CASE OF ALICE

(Continued from page 1145)

the *Wise Words* of the Fifth Edition or earlier it should be seen for what it is.

The Booklet

EIGHT OR NINE/WISE WORDS/ABOUT/ LETTER WRITING//BY//LEWIS CARROLL//

Emberlin and Son, 4 Magdalen Street, Oxford: 1890: (98mm x 75mm) pp. 40 not counting the covers. CONTENTS: p. 1 title, within double lines intersecting at the corners, 1-2 forming the front cover: 2, "Oxford: Printed by George Sheppard"; 3, the contents, in 5 sections: 5-33, the *Wise Words*: 35-40, Macmillan's advertisements of Lewis Carroll's works,

with two notes about discount, &c., and two Cautions to Readers: 40, "Sheppard, Printer Oxford": A stitched pamphlet.

FIRST EDITION As described above.

SECOND EDITION (on the title) with date 1890, otherwise almost as First Edition, except that in p. 3 the contents are only 4 sections, p. 4 has an advertisement of the Stamp Case, and the text ends on p. 34; on p. 35 is "[Turn over]", and on pp. 36-41 advertisements &c.

THIRD EDITION (on the title) with date 1891.

As second edition except that on p. 2 Sheppard adds his address, "1, Walton Crescent".

FOURTH EDITION (on the title) with date 1891. As Third Edition.

FIFTH EDITION (on the title) with date 1897. As Third Edition.

Subsequently there were various issues, which were all reprints from the First Edition (with the contents in five sections) accompanied by a Stamp Case which is described as a Fourth Issue and in an Envelope also described as a Fourth Issue (in which the second line of description ends: "Pictorial"). These may be classified as:

1. dated "1890", but having advertisements referring to works published later, e.g. *Feeding the Mind* (1907);
2. dated 1908, with the joint imprint of Simpkin, Marshall; and
3. undated, and "probably issued about 1910 to 1915".

All these reprints have "First published 1890" or some such wording on the reverse of the title page, which has of course added to the confusion.

These reprints can be distinguished from the First and Second Editions (which have "1890" on the cover) because the words "Letter-Writing" measure approximately 39mm long whereas in the earlier editions the same words are 32mm. There are various other minor differences in lettering.

The Envelope FIRST EDITION (Fig. 12)

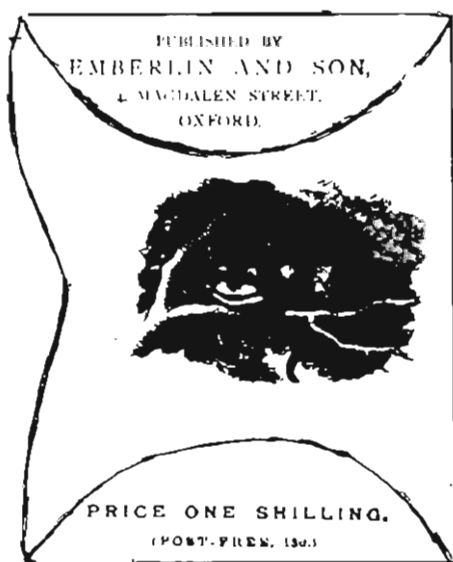
This is in the Guildford Museum and is reproduced by the courtesy of the owner Mr. Philip Dodgson Jaques (a great-nephew of Lewis Carroll) the flap is on the long side and carries the publisher's name and address.

SECOND EDITION has the format of the text the opposite way so that the words "POSTAGE STAMP CASE" now measure approximately 58mm. In the description the second line ends "PIC-". The prices are now for 1 copy, 2-3, 4, 5-15 and every subsequent 15.

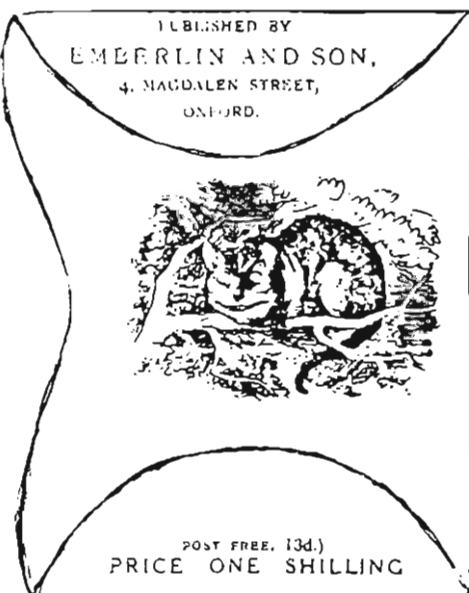
THIRD EDITION Similar in format to the Second. In the description the second line ends in "Pictorial" and the prices are now for 1-4 copies, 8, 15 and every subsequent 15. There is an illustration of it in the Parrish Catalogue and the upper and lower frame lines are 89mm apart. There is a photolithographic reprint which is identical except that the frame lines are approximately 85mm apart. The widths are the same in both cases. These are usually the envelopes beloved of philatelic auctioneers when they use a phrase such as "... the original envelope ...".

Messrs Emberlin were still selling these reprints which were "probably issued about 1910 to 1915" in 1944 at the original price of a shilling. A search had been made a year or so earlier at the request of Roger Lancelyn Green and a number were found in the cellar, some with envelopes and some without.

(Continued on page 1149)



Above: Fig. 8 (left) and Fig. 9 (right). Below: Fig. 10 (left) and Fig. 11 (right). All actual size 80 x 106mm.



THE WONDERFUL CASE OF ALICE

Fig. 12, and bottom, title page of reprint, (left) and title page in Guildford Museum.

(Continued from page 1147)

In *The Stamp Collector's Bulletin* of Jan/Feb 1948 the well known stamp dealer and philatelic writer F. Hugh Valloucy advertised that he had bought up remaining stocks and offered the complete stamp case, booklet and envelope for 2/9 or 5/3 for two. He mentioned two versions of the booklet one dated "1890" and the other "First printed 1890".

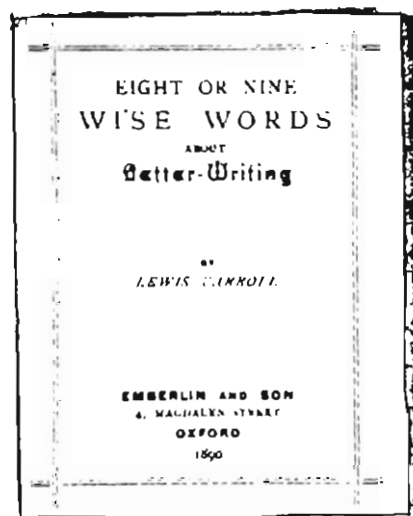
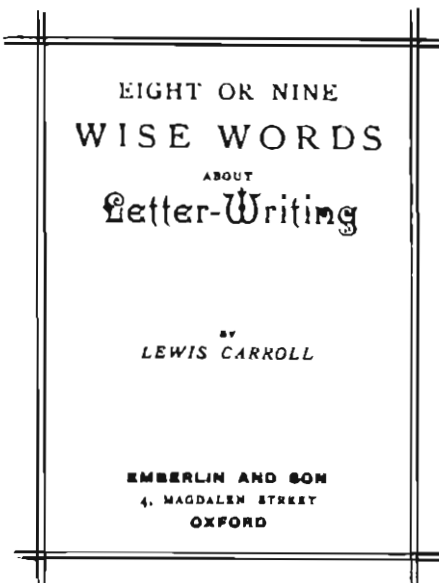
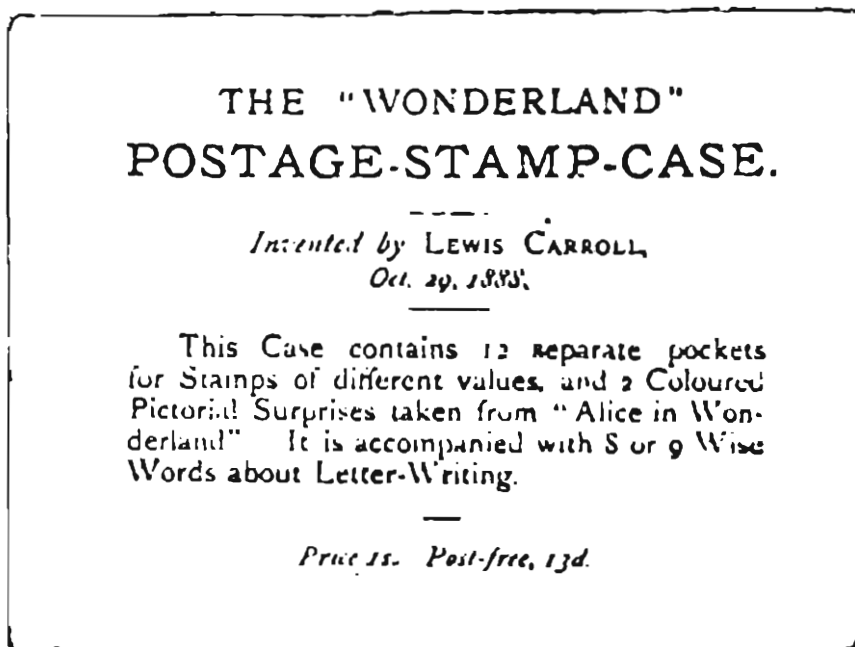
Two years later in 1950 Mr. R. L. Green went to Emberlins new shop in the Turl and he was offered two for £5 but there is no record which these were.

And to think that all these stamp cases and booklets and envelopes and cats and grins were only one of the results of that famous "Golden Afternoon" when the Reverend Dodgson took the three little Liddell girls on that memorable boating trip. And when do you suppose that was? It was the 4th July - one hundred and eighteen years ago to the day.

"So Victoria Anne's birthday was Alice's anniversary" said Jean.

"Well it IS curious I agree,
and sounds perhaps like fibbs;
But still it's true as true can be

..."
L.C. 1869



¹ *The Diaries of Lewis Carroll*. Edited by Roger Lancelyn Green. 2 vols. Cassell & Co. 1953.

² See note after "Outer Case".

³ The most comprehensive collection of the works of Lewis Carroll now in the Library of Princeton University.

⁴ There is *A List of the Writings of Lewis Carroll* collected by M. L. Parrish known as the Parrish Catalogue of which 66 copies were privately printed. One is in the British Library.

The writer would like to acknowledge the help he has received from Mr. Philip Dodgson Jacques (a great nephew of Lewis Carroll), Mr. Denis Crutch, Editor of "Lewis Carroll Handbook", the staffs of the Guildford Museum, The Victoria and Albert Museum, Princeton University and the Bodleian Library as well as encouragement from Dr. Jean Alexander.

**You need
THE BRITISH
PHILATELIC FEDERATION
needs you**



Details from the Secretary,
British Philatelic Federation Ltd.
1 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HE

Markets & Fairs

Recently, I picked up a second hand book about the markets of London, and although I was disappointed when I examined it, it nevertheless started a chain of thought that has led to this article. The book was a study of the history, and present day arrangements, of the produce markets of London. It made fascinating reading, but as I had bought the book in anticipation of discovering fresh sources of supply for my collection, I was a little put out when I saw that fish, meat, veg, etc., were the subjects of the book.

Nevertheless, as I have said, it started a chain of thought.

It occurred to me, that our members move around, they go on holiday, our overseas members sometimes come to visit, so it makes sense to establish a list of places, fairs, markets etc, etc., that could be useful to members in their continual search for items to add to their collections: you will therefore find in this article a variety of places where we can search (rummage?) for stamp boxes, cases & etc.

It goes without saying, that the information given here can be very transient. For example, I have listed the Covent Garden Monday antique market, but no one knows if this will continue. I therefore urge all members to use the information here as a guide only and to make full enquiries before travelling any distance, as with the best will in the world, there is no way this information can be correct all the time, or brought up to date. You will notice that most of the events listed here are for the S.East of the U.K. As I live in this particular portion of the British rabbit warren, that is inevitable, so I am looking forward to members outside the S.East of the U.K. to write and let me know what goes on in their neck of the woods.

Where I have precise information, such as telephone numbers, they are given and where I have information of permanent sites, they are given, but I must insist once again, please confirm all of the following information if you intend acting on it.

List of Markets & Fairs & relevant information pertaining to:

Covent Garden Antique Market
Every Monday
Tel. 01-240 7405

Ardingly Antique Market.
Held in Spring & Autumn. Over 600 stalls. Always advertised in the press.

Norwich Antique & Collectors Fair.
Open Mon - Sat.
Tel. 0603-612582

Auctions by the leading London Auction Houses. Most of whom run monthly stamp auctions:

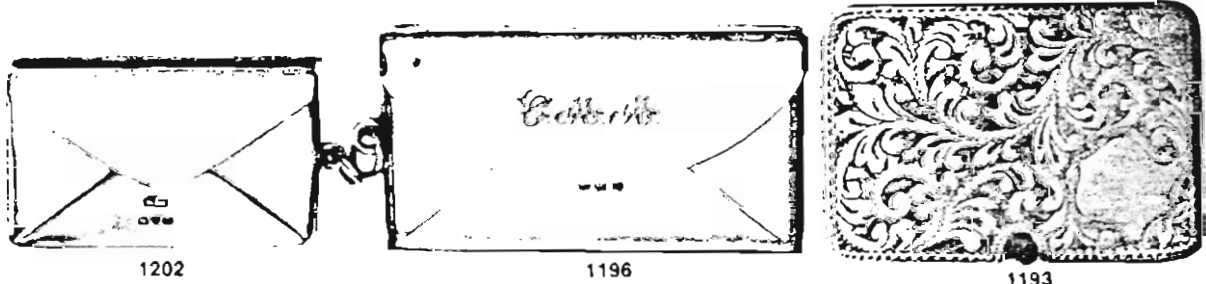
Wandsworth Civic Centre
Monthly.
Tel. 01-659 8215

Phillips. Tel. 01-629 6602
Harmers. Tel. 01-629 0218

The Times Antique & Collectables
Monthly - adverts appear on a Wed.
For information:- Trade 01-481 1920
Private 01-481 4000

Robert Bailey Antiques Fairs
Held in Harrogate* W.London* Humberside
Tel. 01-550 5435

cont./



International Antiques & Coll. Fair
Bi-annually(?) Newark & Notts
Showground Newark. Tel. 0636 702376

Glennies Auctions of Fine Art,
Antique & Coll. items.
Tel; 0603 633558

Bognor Civic Centre
Monthly Fair.

Brighton 'Flea' Market
Sun am & Sat am. The 1st at the
station car park, the 2nd in town.

Brighton Race Course
Monthly Antique Fair
Tel. 0903 752961

Brighton Centre
Usually monthly
Tel. 0293 782020

Haywards Heath Coll. Precinct
March to Setember

Winter Gardens Eastbourne
Tel. Eastbourne 21333

Portsmouth Monthly Sat. Market
Tel. Havant 478149

Annual Chelsea Antiques Fair
Details always in National press

Fareham Antiques Centre
Tel. 0252 724475

Ron Emmott Fairs on the S.Coast
(Can recommend the Southampton Fairs,
try not to miss them)
Tel. 0703 474862 & 0243 788596

Camden Antiques Markets
Every Thursday
Tel. 01-351 5353

Brenda Lay arranges some good fairs
Tel. 07982 2447

Bond St - Mount St
Permanent shops. Top market goods

Camden Passage
Permanent shops. Best day Wednesday

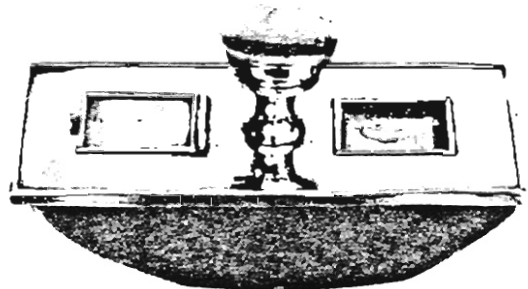
Greenwich Market
Sat & Sun all year round
(From experience, take wellies if wet).

Most towns of any size have their
regular furniture auctions & their
antique shops, some more junk than
others, but one man's junk is another
man's buy of the year!
All the 'Fairs', summer, Xmas, thanks-
giving, etc, etc., put on by the myriad
charities that exist are a fruitful
source of things for our collections.

List of Magazines on the market:

Antiques Monthly
Antiques Dealers & Collector Monthly
Antique Dealer U.S. (A monthly import
Book & Mag Coll.) Monthly
Collectors Fayre. Monthly
Collectors Gazette. Monthly
Collectors World. Monthly
Doll & Toy World. Bi-monthly
Models & Collectors Quarterly

Above are listed all the magazines
aimed at collectors available from any
newsagent, probably only to order but I
have listed them all, as some of these
mags carry adverts useful to us.



Brighton Lanes

This is a local for me so I can write with authority. Very touristy, but very attractive. Not only antiques, smashing veg. restaurant, can recommend. Also very attractive shops, fashion, jewellery etc. & if you don't mind risking your neck in crossing to the sea front, the shingle beach can be quite a haven of rest.

Portobello Road

Permanent shops, but all the 'fun of the fair' on a Sat. Try getting some English food! Even the local copper could not steer me to a cuppa & a cheese sandwich. Never know what you can find there.

There are the usual mouse runs, but can only speak from hearsay. Shakespeare country & the Cotswolds are full of antique shops, but as they are geared to the once almighty dollar, on my odd trip through, found the prices way over my head.

Chester, once again from experience, is a lovely town with shops to match. If the pocket can stretch to it, the Grosvenor Hotel cannot be beaten for food & service. Plenty of craft & antique shops, pricey, but you can find the odd thing that really does emanate from the ancient Welsh farmhouses to which Chester is a gateway.

Almost forgot another local!

Petworth

I don't know how many antique shops are there now, but if you look on the map, you will see how it neatly sits astride the main country roads. In the summer, the traffic is non-stop through the town and most of the local pubs vie with each other over price & service. Have found one or two nice pieces there. For the children, Paddington Bear lives there, in an excellent small restaurant.

And for my grand finale, there is a local town even closer to me - ARUNDEL. There is a permanent cluster of shops & antique stalls, with extra markets on Saturday. There is a monthly visiting antique fair held at the Norfolk Hotel and although a decent cuppa is hard to find, can recommend the assorted coffee houses, & the Norfolk Hotel itself for some excellent nosh. When you get fed up with the hunt, there is always the river to sit by, the bird park to quietly ramble in, and a visit to the riverside cafe (in the summer of course) is mandatory, as the chairs & tables are on the river bank & a very nice sit-down it is too. Try Belinda's for coffee & snacks, smashing!

Wimbourne Weekly Market

Big day, Friday. A glorified flea market as regards to antiques, but if no bargains are found, then you have the pick of local produce to choose from. (You could always go over the Minster if at a loose end, this is well worth a visit, even if it is only for the tea & snacks, the warders of the Minster produce for the leg weary public.)

Salisbury has a good weekly market. One or two very good book stalls and once again, plenty of local produce for sale.

To recap. Please make some phone calls before visiting any of the above and if you have any favourite hunting grounds that you are not afraid of other members knowing about, please let me know for inclusion in the journal.

STAMP BOX COLLECTORS SOCIETY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1987

INCOME

Subscriptions		283
Advertising		105
Donation		72
Bank Deposit Interest		10
		<u>470</u>

EXPENDITURE

Journal Costs	254	
Printing, Postage and Stationery	90	
Meeting Costs	52	
BPF Subscription	10	
Bank Charges	3	
		<u>409</u>

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE

61

BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 1987

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash at Bank		
Current Account		5
Deposit Account		157
		<u>162</u>

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Creditors		43
		<u>43</u>
		119

Represented by:

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		
Balance at 1st October 1986		58
And Excess of Income over Expenditure		61
		<u>119</u>

Proposed Rules and Regulations for the Stamp Box Collectors Society

1. The Society shall be called the 'Stamp Box Collectors Society'
2. The object of the Society is to promote the collecting, study and research into all forms of stamp boxes, cases and allied items.
3. Membership will be open to anyone, residing in any country, who undertakes to abide by the rules of the Society, act in a proper manner in their dealings with fellow members and dealers, and pay their annual subscriptions.
4. Any member, at any time, is free to resign from the Society, without giving the Officers a reason, as long as at least one month's notice is given to the Hon. Secretary.
5. Any member, who in the considered opinion of another member, or any Officer of the Society, who acts in such a manner as to bring discredit on the Society will be asked to resign and to forfeit the current subscription. They can appeal against their expulsion to the Officers of the Society, but in the event of them still being unsatisfied, they may raise the matter or any complaint arising from it, to a quorum of the Members whose review must be given full weight by the Officers. In the unlikely event that the matter is still unresolved, the Member will have the right, at the Society's expense, to arrange a postal vote by the Members of the Society.
6. Subscriptions will be fixed annually by the Hon. Treasurer after full consultations with the Officers, and any Member may at any time question the amount requested, but this request must be accompanied with a precise financial statement as to the reason for its opposition.
7. Management of the Society will reside in the care of the elected President and Secretary, who will present themselves for election annually and not later than eighteen months after their previous election. It is taken for granted that the position of Hon. Treasurer will not be available for election, as this position of trust has to be accepted by a Member capable and willing to undertake the overseeing of the Society's funds.
8. The Hon. Secretary will be responsible for keeping all the records of the Society, including minutes of the meetings. He will keep membership lists up to date and be responsible for liaising with trade bodies, and other matters to further the interests of the Society.
9. The Treasurer will be responsible for all the monies collected and disbursed and be prepared to present an annual Balance Sheet showing the financial state of the Society. In addition, should any Member at any time wish to challenge any aspect of the Society's finances, the Treasurer on request, and within a period of no later than 28 days, prepare an interim report.
10. The President will preside over any meetings that may be arranged, and be responsible for the general running and tone of the Society. He will be personally responsible for the conduct of his Officers and will have the power to arrange a vote of the Members on any matter that appears to cast reflections on any Member, or on the Society itself.
11. Security. No Member, other than Officers of the Society, will be given details of other Members names, addresses or telephone numbers, unless expressly given written permission to do so. Any Member acting unilaterally in this matter, or any misdemeaner arising from such action, will not be the responsibility of the Society or its Officers. Following on that, the Society will not be responsible if members choose to send to other members valuable items which might subsequently be lost. It must be clearly understood that the Officers of the Society will be as security conscious as is possible but they cannot be responsible for members who do not take elementary precautions with their collections.
12. All subscriptions and any monies due to, or from the Society, shall be paid annually by the 1st October.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Hon. President

Hon. Vice Pres.

Hon. Secretary

Hon. Treasurer





Stamp Boxes and Balances

often feature in our auctions. When there are a reasonable quantity of lots, we arrange to send catalogues to members of the Stamp Box Collectors Society.



*If you are contemplating selling stamp boxes or related items,
please contact Simon Green or David Boyd at*

Phillips
Blenstock House, 7 Blenheim Street,
New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS

Telephone: 01-629 1877