



INTERNET PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Established 23 February 2002

Newsletter April 2020

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Stamp Selling Tip of the Month

This is a case of “making it up as you go along”. This is Trinidad & Tobago 1944, SGD22, ScJ5. CV in SG is £140, in Scott (2014) \$110.



It's a nice stamp, and obviously scarce. However, the seller, a well-known major player, has it for sale on Hipstamp for the odd amount of US\$551.25.

The seller's description, “undercatalogued used, as it saw very little use”, may well be true, but picking a number and listing it at five times catalogue is hardly doing the trade any favours in such difficult times.

Editorial

What a strange, confusing, and worrying time we're living in. COVID-19 has affected each and every one of us, and is a pandemic on a scale that we've never faced before.

I've been very impressed by the quantity and quality of the emails and notifications received from our dealers and suppliers regarding their handling of the virus in a philatelic context.

I've been quite touched by the closing lines of many of them, such as “stay safe”, “good luck to you and your family”, “stay calm”, stay connected to each other” and so on.

I'm a glass-half-full type of person, and I don't think I'm being overly hopeful in believing that something positive may come when this is all over.

Perhaps, just perhaps, we might start caring about each other a little more? Perhaps we might take more time to check on others to make sure that they're doing OK? Perhaps we'll be more compassionate to people doing it harder than us? Perhaps business won't be so cut-throat?

As horrible as this obnoxious virus is, maybe we, as a species, can be better when it's gone. Perhaps.

Take care, stay safe, and tell your loved ones that you do, in fact, love them!

Cheers
Dave Sheridan

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AGM Report 2020

I'm delighted to report that almost 50% of the Membership voted at the AGM held on 26 March, which was quite a remarkable level of involvement! Thank you to all who took the time to participate. Here are the voting results in summary:

Agenda #	Item Topic -- Motions to Vote as follows:	Outcome
2	Accept minutes of 2019 meeting	Accepted
3	Accept Annual Report and Directors Statements	Accepted
4.1.1	for the re-election of Alan Devine as Chairman	Re-elected
4.1.2	for the re-election of Michael Dodd as General Secretary	Re-elected
4.1.3	for the re-election of Tony Tripi as Treasurer and Membership Secretary	Re-elected
4.1.4	for the re-election of Ken Sanford as Director USA and APS Liaison Officer	Re-elected
4.2.1	for Peter de Jong as Director Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA)	Elected
4.2.2	for Jim Holbrook as Director USA	Elected
4.2.3	for the election of Russ Romei as Webmaster an administrative non Board position	Elected
4.3.1	Approve 2020 Business Plan appoint Advertising & Marketing Director role	Approved
4.3.2	Approve 2020 Business Plan approve \$2435 for promotional activities – social media	Approved
4.3.3	Approve 2020 Business Plan approve \$2000 for promotional activities – exhibitions	Approved
4.3.4	Approve 2020 Business Plan appoint a Director UK	Approved
4.3.5	Approve 2020 Business plan approve \$1000 for web site redevelopment	Approved
4.4.2	For the election of Jon Griffiths as Director UK	Elected
4.5.1	for Jim Holbrook as Confidential List Officer (not a Board Position)	Elected
4.5.2	for Jim Holbrook as Auditor	Elected



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AGM Report 2020.....cont'd

Agenda #	Item Topic -- Motions to Vote as follows:	Outcome
5.2	Amend Constitution Clause 4.1 delete joining fee to be 33% of annual fee	Motion Carried
5.3	Amend Constitution Clause 4.2 Annual membership is to be paid by 1 st March	Motion Carried
5.4	2020 joining fee to be USD \$25, plus annual membership fee of USD \$25	Motion Carried
5.5	2020 membership renewal fee to be USD \$25	Approved
5.6	Amend Constitution Clause 10.5 Chairman's casting Vote	Approved
5.7	To remove last two paragraphs from Constitution Clause 11	Motion Carried
5.8	Amend Constitution Clause 11 Regional Representative	Motion Carried
5.9	Amend Constitution Clause 18.2 new Directors to be introduced into their new positions	Motion Carried
5.10	Amend Constitution add New Clause 19. Services	Motion Carried
5.11	Approve 2020 Budget	Approved

The Board would like to thank all voting members for the overwhelmingly positive support for the initiatives put to the membership.

2020 should be a very interesting year.





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New Member Welcome

Muhammed Waseem—Pakistan



My name is Muhammad Waseem and I am from the city of Lahore, Pakistan.

I am a stamp collector in general who prefers to collect on certain topics, but I do have some articles to offer for sale and many (but not all of them) are already on the online marketplace delcampe.net where I have a store by the name of "farain".

I was introduced to IPDA by Peter de Jong, and I joined this platform as well by setting up an account and my business is "Philately & stamps".

Although I am not a full time or professional seller, I do have a lot of information on Pakistan stamps and have helped many of the foreign collectors with some articles and also history/information.

Asterix The Gaul



Alberto Uderzo, co-creator of Asterix the Gaul, passed away aged 92 on 25 March. His creation has appeared on many stamps. Here's a few to enjoy.





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The Delcampe Column



For 10 years, the Graine de Vie (literally "Seed of life") association has been actively involved in the reforestation of Madagascar. Behind this project, the notary Frédéric Debouche. Touched by this meaningful initiative for the survival of our planet, Delcampe SRL decided to donate 10,000 trees to Graine de Vie through Delcampe's charity project recently launched on the occasion of the company's 20th anniversary.



Preserving the environment for future generations is something very important at Delcampe. That was why the company chose to launch an online magazine in 2016 instead of publishing it in paper version and offering all its services via the Internet. "We try not to print and have opted for a long time for selective sorting within the company, but these actions only reduce our ecological footprint. By planting these 10,000 trees, we are taking it one step further. It's essential for saving the planet. Initiatives such as Graine de Vie let us make a contribution. We are very happy to be able to be part of it." explains Sébastien Delcampe.



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The Delcampe Column.....cont'd

Since 2009, Graine de Vie has planted some 20 million trees. "We will exceed 30 million this year" explains Frédéric Debouche. "More and more companies and people are becoming aware of the environmental cause. When we launched Graine de Vie, that was our primary goal. But very quickly, we realized that raising awareness is good, but without proposing concrete actions, we don't go very far. We then started planting trees in Madagascar in agreement with the local population and thanks to donations from individuals and companies like Delcampe. The projects are concrete and will continue to grow. We have planned to plant trees in other African countries, always in agreement with the authorities and the population.



Delcampe.net is the greatest marketplace for collectors. Founded in 2000, Delcampe offers collectors the opportunity to buy or sell collectible items. Stamps, coins, postcards... Every day, a community of more than 1.2 million collectors can buy more than 150,000 collectables which are offered for sale on www.delcampe.net.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, Delcampe has decided to mark the occasion by planning several important actions. In order to contribute to a better future, Delcampe initiates these actions by supporting the association Graine de Vie, seduced by its ambitious project. For more information about Graine de vie, visit www.grainedevie.org.



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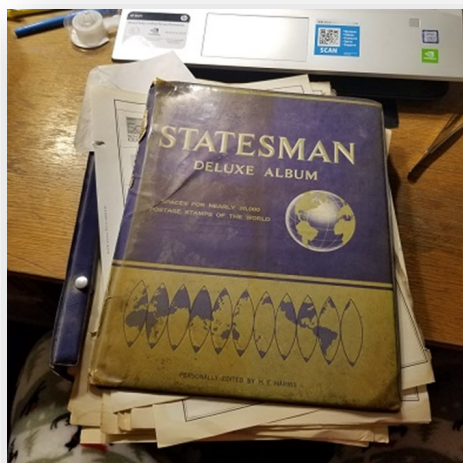
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Look What I Found in an Old Statesman Album!

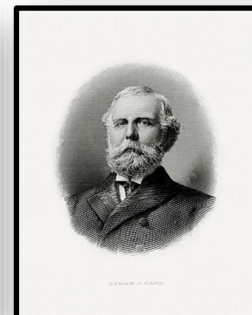
On a recent garage sale Saturday morning trip, the wife calls me. 'I found a stamp album. You want it?'

Any stamp collector/seller worth his/her tongs will always reply with, 'of course'. After 25 years of stamps you know the album will be filled with very common US stamps from the 40's printed by the millions. It happens, all the time, but there might be one gem in that album that makes it all worth it. The wife paid US\$5.00 and I couldn't wait to get my hands on it. It's an old Statesmen album with dirty, grungy pages. Heck even the cover of this album gave me the willies!



Page after page of common stamp, a few envelopes with torn corner stamps inside and then I stumbled upon this one red stamp. The color got my attention right off and then the amount of the stamp; \$1.10? What stamp is this?

The eyes were the first thing that grabbed my attention. That piercing look of L.J. Gage, American financier, is almost as if he is trying to tell me something. Maybe, save my



money for taxes. A revenue stamp, as this one is, is not used for postage. It was used to pay tax/taxes on a transaction; stocks, bonds or legal documents.

Collectable? Yes. Valuable? Heck yeah, the wife bought it for me!

CV\$3.00 used. Heck I still have another thousand stamps to go through. I only need to find \$2.00 more in value and I am money ahead.

Scott# R668, United states, 1954 year, used, Documentary stamp



Have a great week and yes we are OK here in Arizona.....

Lee Coen #251



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Newsletters From Members



It is with a heavy heart and great disappointment that we must announce the deferral of Ace Stamp Auction Number 27 until the 25th & 26th July 2020. Following our email only last weekend, we were confident in going ahead right up until last night when the decision was taken by the Cannington Horticultural and Recreation Society to cancel all activities with immediate effect, thus totally beyond our control. You can also link to an online version with images at <https://acestampauctions.com/lots.php?auction=27>



We welcome you to visit our newly designed and updated website at PSAG, Inc. Due to the latest required quarantine worldwide, we invite United States collectors and or dealers not only to visit our site, but to take advantage of our Corona Virus discount of free USPS return (signature required) shipping on all orders of 5 or more through the month of April 2020. Our current processing of PSAG Certs is the best in the industry with as little as 3 weeks for most orders. All new customers will receive a \$35 discount on 2 or more certificates, and all IPDA Members will receive an ongoing 15% discount.



Part-time stamp dealer with: Yugoslavia and ex-Yu, Czechoslovakia and ex-CSSR.

Over 35 years in philately. Managing three blog pages: <http://balkanstamp.blogspot.com>

<http://serbiastamp.blogspot.com> <http://stampmusthave.blogspot.com>



Partenophil has been operating on the national and international market for over twenty years. Gennaro Todisco, the owner, is always present at the most important national and international stamp fairs. Thanks to our careful research and the offers of suppliers spread all over the world, we are able to supply the greatest philatelic rarities at the best market prices. We periodically publish auction catalogs and at net prices. For those wish-

ing to receive you can contact us info@partenophil.com



Hereby the link to our latest newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/corinphila.nl/nieuwe-datum-veiling-en-2702841>
In summary: Due to the measures of the Dutch government to combat the Corona virus, the Corinphila Netherlands April auction is postponed to 11-13 June 2020. Our office remains open to handle bids, image requests and philatelic questions. Our auction catalogue with more than 15,000 high quality images is available on www.corinphila.nl



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We are making a monthly "Revue de l'Espace". Variable number of pages from 16 to 24, plus an order form, A5 finished format brochure. The main goal is to show the new stamps and covers about the space history and events, we try to be as complete as possible. Link to download SpaceRevue from 2003 to

today : <http://www.espacelollini.com/intro/space-revueUS.php>



There seems to be so much more going on in the world today – isn't it a relief to immerse yourself in Philately? I know it is for me, and as you know I haven't collected since the age of 18 when I joined the philatelic trade, but imagine the joy of handling so many rare stamps and learning more each day ... it's a real tonic, even more so as mind-travelling the world is less fraught, philately is mentally stimulating, and fortunately nobody has found a way to make us pay for that yet!

See <https://www.upastampauctions.co.uk/contents/en-uk/about.html>



We are closed but offers go on, for example postage free for philately until 15 April. Take advantage of the gift!

<https://www.vaccari.it/mailling/4840978.html>



We hope you and your family are in good health in this extraordinary time of crisis. The restriction of social contacts, which is necessary to slow down this pandemic, will certainly bring changes in your lives. Perhaps you will use this slowing-down to focus more on your passion for collecting again.

<https://archive.newsletter2go.com/?n2g=5kfe9js3-v565b6g0-6i2>



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Postal History

Costa Rica Stamps: Official Cover Sent To Mauritania In 1919

By Alfonso Molina—estampillascr (reproduced with permission)

There are moments in philatelic life where an amazing and unique item arrives. This happened to me yesterday when I went to the post office to get an envelope containing this awesome official cover sent to Mauritania in 1919.



Yes, an official cover sent to Mauritania in 1919!



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Postal History

Costa Rica Stamps: Official Cover Sent To Mauritania In 1919.....cont'd

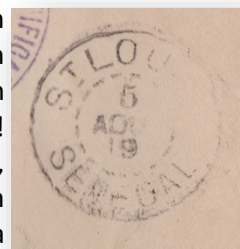
What was the route this cover travelled to get to its destination?

This is an official cover, in this case from the Departamento de Paquetes Postales. It departed San Jose on June 9th 1919. Its destination was Kaiffa, located in the South of Mauritania (French civil territory from 1904 to 1920 when it was declared a French colony), located in Northeast part of Africa.



Just to have an idea on how rare this destination is, the latest census performed in Mauritania in 2013, showed that Kaiffa had 45,000 inhabitants. So imagine in 1919 -almost 100 years ago- the number of inhabitants was way smaller.

According to this covers cancellations, it was in transit for almost two months. It departed San Jose on June 9th and there were no other cancels until it arrived in Senegal on August 5th! According to my investigation, even after 1904, when France recognised its separation from Senegal, all correspondence sent to Mauritania had to go through Senegal first.



What caught my attention is that this cover doesn't have a received cancel at Mauritania. What comes to my mind is that when it arrived in Senegal, the post office workers knew the person this letter was sent to, knew in advance he was no longer in Mauritania and forwarded the cover to his new location. This saved the cover some time. The new destination was Fougères, Haute Saône, France. A town located near the borders with Germany and Switzerland.

The cover arrived in Paris on August 21st and finally found its destination on August 22nd in Fougères, after almost two months and a half in transit.



Another interesting thing about this cover is that the overprint on the first stamp is thicker than the others. It seems like a hint of a double overprint.





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Philately Around the World - G is for Gibraltar

Gibraltar is a British overseas territory, also known as a Crown Colony. It is a narrow peninsula near the Southern extremity of Spain located at the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea overlooking the Strait of Gibraltar.

From Stanley Gibbons we can read that Spanish stamps could be used in Gibraltar from 1850.



SG Z13 Gibraltar 1/- Green
(1856)
G Cancellation type 1

From July 1856 until December 1875 all mail to Spain required postage to be prepaid by Spanish stamps and these issues were supplied by the Gibraltar postal authorities acting as a Spanish Postal Agent.

Stamps of Great Britain were issued for use in Gibraltar from September 1857 and used until the end of 1885. These Great Britain Victoria stamps can be identified by the cancels which containing the numeral A26 or the letter G in oval bars.

When the Gibraltar Legislature decided to print and issue its own stamps the Bermuda design was chosen - seven values were printed and overprinted Gibraltar.



GB QV Used abroad SG Z27 -
plate 20 A26 Gibraltar



The stamps were printed in sheets of 240 - four panes of sixty each, in ten horizontal rows of six. The stamps were printed from one plate for each value and it was numbered "1" uncoloured on a disc within a coloured circle and printed photogravure by De La Rue.

The paper used for this special printing from Bermuda's plates was machine-made with a Crown above "CA" watermark and with a comb machine 14 perforation.

During the period 1886 through to 1898 there were some interesting changes to the issues used. The five stamps below are used for example.

The Bermuda overprints were in the contemporary currency of pence and shillings, then in late 1886 Gibraltar issued their own stamps, as Gibraltar, also in pence and shillings.



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Philately Around the World - G is for Gibraltar cont'd

By 1889 these were being overprinted in Spanish currency and valid until they were repurchased by the Post Office. In 1889 another issue was released in Spanish currency. However, the depreciation in the Spanish currency due to the result of the Spanish-American War caused the Government to revert to English currency in 1898. The colour shades are generally accepted to be different.



SG1 1886



SG8 1886



SG15 1889



SG22 1889



SG39 1898



One stamp missing from most Gibraltar collections is the 1889 Spanish currency issue with value omitted (No Value) Error. It is the 10c Carmine value recorded as SG 23b and currently listed by Stanley Gibbons at £7000, although I am tempted to suggest it would fetch far more at auction.

Between 1903 and 1950 a variety of definitive and commemorative stamps were issued for the reigns of King Edward VII, George V and George VI including the common 1918 War Tax overprints we see from most British Commonwealth countries. No stamps were issued by Gibraltar for King Edward VIII.

The 1903, 1904 and 1906 issues command some rather high prices and can be a very interesting era to collect given the various papers, shades, and watermarks.

In 1921 a new issue was put on sale in the same designs as the preceding issue but in different colours and watermarked Multiple Script CA. The 1d, 3d, 6d. and 2s. were also issued in different colours during this period, and both ordinary and chalky papers were used.



SG 98 plate 2



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Philately Around the World - G is for Gibraltar cont'd

The first "commemorative" pictorial Gibraltar stamp was the George V 1931 issue showing the Rock of Gibraltar. In 4 values of 1d scarlet, 1½d red-brown, 2d pale grey and 3d blue. This is always a set to double check because there are two printings, one perf 14 and the other perf 13½ x 14 which has a significantly higher catalogue value.

One point I think worth noting here for sellers (and buyers) is that when listing this issue one really does have to recognized quality in the listing description. There is so much rubbish listed, let's be up front about this. So many with poor colour, with terrible centering, with pulled perfs. I know this applies to all stamps we list but from my research for this piece I was rather shocked at the terrible quality that exists for this issue.



The usual commemoratives, as found for most British Commonwealth countries, were issued by Gibraltar including the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue, the 1937, Coronation issue, the Victory (1946), Royal Silver Wedding (1948) and the Universal Postal Union (1949) issues.



The beautifully designed and engraved 1938 George VI issue is a pleasure to collect, and one that includes many shades, perforation differences and watermark varieties. Again, an issue where study is required before listing for sale because getting the watermark wrong, for example, could be a costly mistake. The 3d Europa Point stamp SG 125b with perf 13 is listed by SG at £4.50 in mint unhinged condition, whereas the perf 14 copy is listed at £130 and if you have the missing A in the CA watermark that is listed at £2000. Not a listing mistake you want to make!



In 1953 the Queen Elizabeth definitive issue, using some of the same scenes found on the George VI issue was released. Another lovely issue and with just a few varieties for the specialist or for dealers to look for before listing for sale.

It would not be too much of an exaggeration to say that since about the mid 1960s the stamps of Gibraltar have basically been commemoratives with the usual definitive issues and as the years passed they were issued more for the thematic collector and revenue raising, one might say, than for postal needs, much as is now found across postal authorities worldwide.



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Philately Around the World - G is for Gibraltar cont'd

In 1965 there were two issues, the ITU Centenary issue with two stamps and the International Co-operation Year issue, also with 2 stamps. How things have changed; in 2015, there were 49 stamps excluding miniature sheets. This is the world over I suspect.

But I cannot finish without mentioning one issue from 2019, rather stunning. The 50th Anniversary of Concorde issue from April of that year. Surely just for the thematic collector, as I have yet to work out what Gibraltar had to do with Concorde!, even the Gibraltar Post website has no reference to why this issue other than a 50th anniversary.



The post in Gibraltar is currently run by the Royal Gibraltar Post Office which in 2005 was granted the title of "Royal" by Her Majesty the Queen. Gibraltar is now the only Commonwealth or British Overseas Territory outside the United Kingdom that bears this distinction. The Gibraltar Post Office is now known as the Royal Gibraltar Post Office.

Gibraltar stamps can be bought direct from Gibraltar Post or from WOPA+ Stamps and Coins, the ecommerce platform for collectibles. The IPDA has two members from WOPA+, namely Glendon Martinez and Stefano Blanca Scialuga both from Gibraltar.



By Michael Dodd



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Membership Numbers Down

Due to a number of unpaid subscriptions for 2020, membership numbers have reduced by around 20 members in the last few months. Whilst the geographic spread is pleasing to see (26 countries), it's disappointing to see members not renewing.

Don't forget that the referral program is in place. Perhaps you could encourage a colleague to join us?

Argentina	2
Australia	17
Belgium	1
Brazil	1
Canada	9
Croatia	2
France	3
Germany	4
Gibraltar	2
Hong Kong	1
Hungary	1
India	1
Indonesia	1
Israel	1
Italy	3
Latvia	1
Malta	1
Mexico	1
Netherlands	8
New Zealand	1
Pakistan	1
Philippines	2
South Africa	3
Spain	3
UK	19
USA	35
Total Paid Membership	124



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A Couple of Great Magazine Offers

Stamp Magazine (UK)

With the current restrictions, at Stamp Magazine, we understand that it may not be as easy as normal to pick up your copy of the magazine in the shops... so let us deliver it straight to you! (UK addresses only)

You'll get 3 issues delivered to your door (the postage is free!), and if you're not happy, then there's no obligation to continue, simply cancel before you receive your third issue and we won't charge you any more than £1.

If you do decide to continue, then you'll get a great saving on the shop price as a thank you for sticking with us.

And why not try one of our other magazines whilst you're at it?... there's no better time to try a new hobby for just £1.

So, go on, treat yourself! www.stampmagazine.co.uk

Stamp Collector (UK)

The team behind Stamp Collector and the allaboutstamps.co.uk website have launched the 'Keeping you collecting' campaign, giving collectors info and inspiration to work on their collections during the lock-down, and giving traders the chance to let collectors know they are open for business.

At times like these, discussing our hobbies may seem trivial – our safety takes priority – but spending time on our collections could be a welcome distraction. Now could be the time to write up that collection, work through your check-lists, and organise your albums like you've always meant to.

The campaign includes:

FREE ISSUE FOR ALL: the May issue of Stamp Collector will be available to download FREE (on sale from 10 April).

THREE ISSUES FREE TO YOUR HOME: have Stamp Collector magazine delivered direct to your home and receive your first 3 issues FREE. Click [here](#) for details...

NEW 'KEEPING YOU COLLECTING' EMAIL – featuring opinion, updates, collecting websites, tips and giving traders the chance to promote their websites. Sign up now to receive the emails.

NEW PODCAST – the 'All About Stamps' podcast is coming! Free to all, the podcast will feature interviews, tips and stamp guides.



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Exhibition News London 2020 Cancelled

Many shows have been cancelled worldwide, but I think this release from the PTS explains the situation perfectly.

The London 2020 International has been postponed from May 2020 to February 2022 due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

With a risk that, without a postponement solution, London 2020 would face bankruptcy, putting cancellation refunds to our 110+ members at risk, the PTS Council has been working closely with the London 2020 Organising Committee over the last few days to provide recommendations and options to help the Organising Committee's decision on whether to cancel or postpone the event. The success of this International not only affects those PTS members who are stand holders but a bankruptcy position would have a ripple effect throughout the trade, the exhibitors (many of whom are our customers), the reputation of stamp shows and the hobby in general. Affecting all of our PTS members is also the reputation and financial security that Stampex provides the society. Unfortunately, many people still think of the London 2020 International as a PTS or Stampex event so our brand reputations are somewhat linked.

As the May show can not go ahead, the preferred option for the London 2020 team was that the International replace the Spring 2021 Stampex but unfortunately the BDC could not accommodate the needs of the International during this period (the need for more days, more space). Another option was for the International to take place outside of a Stampex window (for example, April 2021) but as the Stampex dates for Spring 2021 and Autumn 2021 are already booked, we would be back in the position of three shows within 7 months which would be damaging to Stampex, and indirectly to the PTS. The available BDC dates in 2021 were also limited due to many exhibitions having to reschedule their 2020 shows. So, the next best alternative was February 2022. The PTS Council voted in favour of cancelling Spring 2022 Stampex to release the space for London 2020 should they want it, giving the London 2020 team a possible solution on what to do and how to do it based on many other consultations they were having with other key stakeholders. For your information, lower priority for the London 2020 team right now but still important, based on representing our members' best interests and our experience of running Stampex, we also made a number of other recommendations to the team regarding communications, marketing, risk management, cash flow management etc. Again, the decision as to what to do with this information is for the London 2020 Organising Committee to make.

We want to be very clear that the decision by the PTS Council to release the Stampex Spring 2022 slot is NOT an indication of a move towards a 'one Stampex a year' strategy. It is an exceptional scenario in this most unprecedented time. In 2021, we have committed to running two shows. We remind everyone that the one Stampex this year, in 2020, was a decision made because the International was due to take place in May and we did not feel that the hobby and trade could sustain three shows within a 7 month time period. We will assess how many shows we will run in 2023 nearer the time as our hobby and trade continues to adapt. Not having a Spring 2022 show does present the PTS with a need to adapt some activity which we will start to look at later this year.



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Exhibition News London 2020 Cancelled.....cont'd

We understand many of you will have questions about the London 2020 International date change and we ask that you continue to direct these questions to the event organisers via your Booth Liaison, Mike Kentzer (boothliaison@london2020.co)

We have had a number of queries about taking stands at Autumn Stampex 2020 and we expect demand for stands to increase now that the May 2020 has been officially postponed. As a gesture of goodwill in this difficult time, the PTS Council has committed to reopening the price freeze on stands for Autumn 2020. This means that you will get your Autumn 2019 price if you take the same stand. Please contact Megan (megan@thepts.net) if you would like more information. An up to date floor plan will be available soon. The Autumn Stampex show will go ahead as planned but we will of course continue to monitor government advice over the coming months. We are also accelerating a couple of new projects aimed at promoting our PTS members during this time of economic and social disruption.

Finally, the PTS Handbook which is in development, will still be distributed in May despite the London2020 show being postponed. We are delighted that Gibbons Stamp Monthly have agreed to distribute our Handbook to their 8,000 UK subscribers and retail outlets. We will also share the Handbook far and wide online around the world. More on this soon.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the PTS Council for all of their time and expertise over the last few days. There have been over 100 hours of calls, emails, videos, FaceTimes and Skype/Zoom calls. The London2020 show is not a PTS show so we are not the decision makers but for now, we believe we have done everything in our power to best represent our members, the society and the trade in general. We are ready to do more if we need to.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns or ideas, please do drop me a line at chairman@thepts.net and I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can. Whilst I appreciate many of our members do not use Facebook, the PTS Members Only Group is also alive and kicking with many members now contributing and providing comments real time to PTS activity. Thank you to everyone who is helping to build our online community.

Stay well, stay safe.



INTERNET PHILATELIC DEALERS ASSOCIATION

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The Back Page - Thinking Out Loud

Congratulations to our member Vaccari, for this very topical image, roughly translated as “with philately, the coronavirus goes away!” As we know, Italy has been badly hit by the virus, so it’s nice to see this from an Italian company.



The Last Word

I fear that I may be the last person to hear about this site, but I’ve already snapped up some bargains listed by people with “fat fingers”!

Fatfingers.com searches Ebay for spelling mistakes and typos that make items invisible in searches. Type in a search phrase and it searches for misspellings. Highly recommended!

