



West of  
England  
Thematic  
Society

## Newsletter No.60 March 2018

### Society Officers

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**IN THIS ISSUE** – WETS News by eMail, Dates for your Diary, More Aphrodites Island, There was a Buzz at STAMPEX, Thematics at Torquay & Teignbridge, General Data Protection Regulations, Obituary Martin Ellam, Delivering the Mail.

**WETS NEWS by email** – If you are not yet a recipient give your name and email address to the Editor. Increases in postal charges, mean it is important to circulate as much information as possible by this means. Look at our website [www.wessexpf.org.uk](http://www.wessexpf.org.uk) for examples of the quality. Download time is very fast. **DON'T FORGET TO SAVE WHAT YOU GET.** It is suggested you create a file called WETS News to put them in.

This issue has been posted to all members to ensure everyone has an opportunity to come along to our Spring Meeting and see Mark Humphrey's display "The Production of Vanilla". Do try and get to see this display it is truly fantastic, the map to the venue is also included with the invitation.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – Spring WETS Day Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018** at Buckfastleigh Town Hall starting at 10.30 am. The Morning Speaker is Mark Humphrey – "The Production of Vanilla". In the afternoon members are asked to bring a display on the theme of "Delivering the Mail" Tea/Coffee will be available and a Buffet Lunch will be provided, cost for the day will be £8.00.

The Booking Form is included with this newsletter, members are reminded that subscriptions are now due and can be paid as part of your booking fee.

**Autumn WETS Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018** at Buckfastleigh Town Hall starting at 10.30 am. The morning meeting will commence with the AGM followed by Jim Wigmore who will speak and display on "WETS its History and Productions" in the afternoon members are asked to produce a display on the theme of "Food & Drink" Tea/Coffee will be available and a Buffet Lunch will be provided, cost for the day will be £8.00.

## MORE APHRODITES ISLAND

The story of Aphrodites Island has been chosen by RPSL South West to be part of their display to RPSL at their London meeting in April 2018. In order to meet the criteria the display has been extended by two pages to fill the frame space allocated. The display will be unique on two counts as it will be the only thematic display included and the only display on A3 width pages.

## THERE WAS A BUZZ AT STAMPEX

Our Vice Chairman Gary Green entered his "Life of the Honey Bee" into competition at Stampex and was awarded a Large Vermeil, well done Gary, who states next year he will be looking for Gold.

## THEMATICS AT TORQUAY & TEIGNBRIDGE

WETS member Jim Wigmore was invited by Torquay and Teignbridge Club to judge the Club Thematic Entries. There were three out of six entries that followed the rules and became first, second and third the rest were as is often the case eight sheets from the album. If you enter your clubs competitions please, please make an effort.

## GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

This new Act comes into force as of 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and all organisations who maintain records about their members e.g. Name, address, telephone number and email address, are compelled by law to comply with this act. The Wessex Philatelic Federation has written to all its member clubs giving notification that member clubs must comply with these regulations and passing on guidance issued by ABPS and suggesting how compliance can be achieved. WETS will record its compliance at an EGM to be held during the Spring Meeting and members will be asked to sign a Data Handling Agreement (DHA) that defines the reasons for holding data and who will be responsible for holding signed forms etc. This will occur when members pay their 2018 subscriptions, this will be a one off action. WETS will also sign a DHA with Wessex Federation to cover member names that appear on the Federation website and

on the Federations List of Speakers. Once these actions have taken place it will be illegal for any organisation to pass on information to any other party unless a DHA has been agreed by all the parties concerned. A copy of the ABPS guidelines can be viewed on the ABPS website or by request to the WETS Treasurer.



### **OBITUARY – Martin Ellam**

**21<sup>st</sup> February 1942 – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

We are very sad to have to report the death of our Chairman. Martin was that chap shown left with the smiling face and very dry sense of humour who had a passion for philately.

There was much more to the man than most of us ever realised as those who attended his funeral were to find out.

Martin apparently was not a great scholar at school and left to take up an Apprenticeship in Devonport Dockyard. Upon completion of his Apprenticeship he left to become an Engineering Officer in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service. During his time in the RFA Martin by a combination of hard work and determination rose through the ranks to retire early as a very senior officer. See the picture of Martin taken in his seafaring days.

Martin had many interests as well as philately, including Geography, Geology and Model Railways.

Martin and his wife Sally met and married at an early age and have three children, by all accounts they were a very tight and happy family who will like the rest of us miss Martin greatly.

We would like to express our sympathy to Sally and her Family on behalf of all in WETS

### **DELIVERING THE MAIL**

Don't forget a display on the subject of "Delivering the Mail" for the afternoon session of our Spring Meeting. Remember for mail to be delivered it has to be posted and transported through the mail handling system, Mail is transported by Road, Rail and Air and many other experimental systems have been used. One lively entry for the Afternoon session of our Spring Meeting has already been seen. LETS HOPE THERE ARE MANY MORE

# **THIS SPACE IS WAITING FOR A STORY FROM YOU**