



Association of Essex Philatelic Societies

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PRESS RELEASE

Centenary Of Organised Philately In Essex and East London

January 2010 was the centenary of the formation of the South Essex Philatelic Society, the first recorded club for stamp collectors in Essex and East London. It had a spectacular rise, hosting a display by King George V, the "philatelist king", at a major exhibition in Walthamstow in 1911. This was the first time that the King, an active member of the Royal Philatelic Society London and later the first signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists had displayed at an exhibition. Sadly, the society's life was brief, as little is heard of it after 1912 and it is believed to have been a victim of the Great War.

It is fitting that the theme of the nation-wide "Festival of Stamps London 2010", in which Essex will participate by a major exhibition at Charter Hall in Colchester on 5 June 2010, should be the Centenary of the accession to the throne of King George V.

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

The Association of Essex Philatelic Societies was formed in 1944 to enable liaison between societies in Essex and thus promote the hobby of stamp collecting and the study of postal history throughout the county. It is subsequently expanded to include societies in East London, eastern Hertfordshire and southern Suffolk. It currently supports some 25 societies. Two Stamp Days are held each year, the proceeds from which go to support the hobby at local and federation level.

"StampEssex - Festival of Stamps 2010" is an exhibition and fair to be held at Charter Hall, Colchester LeisureWorld from 10am to 4.30pm on 5 June 2010 in support of Festival of Stamps London 2010.

Festival of Stamps London 2010 is a nationwide programme of events, whose Patron is Her Majesty the Queen, organised by the Association of British Philatelic Societies and the British Postal Museum and Archive, to promote the hobby of philately and draw attention to the educational and social benefits of collecting stamps and postal history and to encourage participation in the many philatelic societies around the country. It includes exhibitions throughout the year at many places of interest, a major international exhibition in May in London and regional exhibitions and dealer fairs around the country from March to October.

The Association of British Philatelic Societies is the national body that supports local and national societies and promotes the hobby at national level. It also represents the United Kingdom at international level.

The British Postal Museum and Archive was formed by the merger of the National Postal Museum collection with the Post Office Archives, and is the repository for all Royal Mail and Post Office records. It makes these available to researchers from its

Records centre at Clerkenwell and is providing financial and publicity support to the ABPS Festival of Stamps 2010 programme of federation-led stamp days around the country throughout 2010.

“Serving Philatelists and Postal Historians in Essex”

Member of the Association of British Philatelic Societies - Non-Profit-Making.

www.aeps.org.uk

Next AEPS Event: 5 June 2010 (see above).