

# Sheffield Philatelic Society

formed in 1894



## NEWSLETTER

October 2023

### Meetings in October

#### **05 First Thursday Zoom, 7.30pm**

Members - recent acquisitions

#### **11 Second Wednesday, 2.00pm**

Presentation by Rodney Knight - Bulgaria

#### **27 Fourth Wednesday, 2.00pm**

members' displays - Countries beginning with letters 'O', 'P', 'R' (but not Africa)

To Join the Thursday Zoom meetings, the access codes are as follows:

Meeting ID: 225 410 9851

Passcode: 072596

### News

### National events this month

October 9 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
**National PS Zoom Display**

#### **On Line Zoom Display**

An online Zoom Display given by Jon Higgins FRPSL on the "First British Empire Colour Definitives" (Labuan and North Borneo) [...]  
Free

### Stamp fairs in the local area

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>1st Saturday</b>                             | <u>Huddersfield</u> |
| St Thomas' Ch Hall, Manchester Rd HD1 3HU       |                     |
| <b>2nd Sunday</b>                               | <u>Chesterfield</u> |
| Chester St Club, Ashgate Rd, Chesterfield       |                     |
| <b>3rd Saturday</b>                             | <u>Hull</u>         |
| St James' Centre, 169 First Lane, Hull HU13 9EY |                     |
| <b>3rd Sunday</b>                               | <u>Dronfield</u>    |
| Coal Aston Village Hall, Coal Aston, S18 3AY    |                     |
| <b>4th Sunday</b>                               | <u>Doncaster</u>    |
| Park Social Club, Eden Grove Rd, DN3 2LS        |                     |
| <b>Last Saturday</b>                            | <u>Batley</u>       |
| Whitfield Centre, 180, Soothill Lane, WF17 6HP  |                     |
| <b>2nd Saturday</b>                             | <u>Derby</u>        |
| Nunsfield Ho., 33 Boulton Rd, Alvaston DE24 0FD |                     |

(Please note that Morley is closed - apologies for including it last time)

As this list may be out of date, revisions or new info would be welcomed.

### New stamp issues

There is only one new issue for October.

19th - Harry Potter

## ROYAL MAIL PRICE INCREASE!

On 4th September, news was released that in less than a month, stamps are to cost more.

First-class stamp prices will rise by 14% for standard size letters, Royal Mail has confirmed. From Monday 2 October, the cost of a first-class stamp will be hiked to £1.25 (up 15p from £1.10).

Other stamp prices will also rise, though standard second-class stamps will remain at their current price of 75p.

### Stumped by a stamp

4 for this month. They may be easy for you. A bonus point if you can say what way is 'up' for the stamp at top right!

(If you want to send me something for 'Stumped by a Stamp', I'll be happy to use it.)



On the next page, you will see an article by Neil Ritchie, for which many thanks.

Hopefully, I will be able to include more articles, if I am given the opportunity to republish members' material sent to The Sheffield Telegraph to publicise the Society

### Your Committee

**President:** Geoff Blackwell

**Secretary:** James Grayson

**Treasurer:** James Hartley

**Auditor:** John Hunter

**Membership and Library:** Ken Rutter

**Website and Competitions:** Geoff Blackwell

**ABPS Rep:** Neil Ritchie

**Publicity & YPA:** Richard Hindle

Donald Radley

Keith Branigan

Paul Johnson

### Committee meeting notes

The Committee met on 6th September.

We confirmed the choice of James Grayson as Secretary, and thanked Richard for his work in the role.

The price of the CURC hire has been confirmed as well.

Geoff Blackwell and Neil Ritchie have successfully increased the capacity of our website, and it is up-to date and looking good.

3 more articles will be offered to The Telegraph over the next 3 months. We hope to continue this as a way to attract new members.

We will meet again on 12th December.

## An item on Ebay by Neil Ritchie

What caught my eye on Ebay at the end of January 2023 was a 1939 Charity issue miniature sheet on sale at the eye watering "buy it now" price of £6406.22.

I had to investigate further, as I had never come across this issue before (I know I live a sheltered life) and I immediately wanted to find out all the different permutations (if any) in which you could buy this issue and why this particular miniature sheet was up for sale at that staggering amount.



Well it was interesting but first the background - this charity miniature sheet depicting Valazquez paintings, Edfil 34 & 35, and was issued on the 12 Oct 1939 on behalf of the Orphans of Postal Employees. It was produced in perforate and imperforate states, face value was 1Pts 90c, the perforate was on sale at 5 Ptas and imperforate 20 Ptas. The print run for the imperforate sheet is reported to be 3000 and the perforate 17,000. The sheets were numbered and it would appear, if the print run numbers are correct, that the perforated was numbered 1 to 16999 and the imperforate 17000 to 19999, but this is only my supposition. Which may explain why the sheet above is for sale at such a huge figure - it has not been numbered. It comes with an expert's certificate but as usual there is no explanation as to how that opinion was made.

So how much do these sheets sell at and how many variates are there to buy to make a comprehensive collection?



Here are the front and rear views of a couple of miniature sheets unmounted mint (MNH) that could be bought in Jan 2023 together for a "buy it now" price of £204.40 including postage. But is this a reasonable amount? the proof of current values is always in how much collectors are willing to pay and as usual Ebay allows you to find out. From December 2022 to end of January 2023 the following were sold:

\* there were a couple sold and these are the two prices obtained. Oddly there were a number of loose perforate and imperforate stamps being offered for sale, but in my time frame there were none noted as having been sold. Were they issued as individual stamps? or did someone cut up a sheet?

State	Hinged	n° of bids	Price incl. postage
Imperf sheet	MNH	35	£88.60
Imperf sheet	MH	37 & 13*	£58.52 & £33.52*
Perf sheet	MNH	5	£24.52
Perf sheet	MH	12	£17.36
Both sheets	MNH	28	£65.42
Perf sheet used		8	£21.59
Perf sheet on cover		23	£73.50