The Founding of the “Philatelic Society, London” and the Progress of the Swedish Relations with The Royal Philatelic Society London

Presentation

STOCKHOLMIA KICK OFF
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London in the 1860s
Charles W. Viner (1813-1906)
Edward L. Pemberton (1844-1878)
The oldest existing philatelic Society in the world, established in 1869.
The Prince of Wales became
King George V (1865-1936)

- King 1910-1936
- 1896 HRH The Duke of York became President of the Society, an office he continued to hold until his accession to the throne as HM King George V in 1910
- In 1924 granted the Society permission to use the Royal Arms on its stationery and publications
King Edward VII (1841-1910)

• King 1901-1910
• Permission to use the prefix 'Royal' was granted by HM King Edward VII in 1906
• The Royal philatelic tradition has since been maintained
• Today the Society is honored by the Patronage of HM The Queen
• Her Majesty graciously allows a selection from “The Royal Philatelic Collection” to be displayed at the Society's opening meeting each season
The "Royal"

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

It is with the greatest gratification that we are privileged to be the medium of the very important announcement contained in the letter following, emanating from the Board of Trade:

Whitehall, 28 November, 1906.

SIR,—I am directed by the Secretary of State to acquaint you that the application of the Philatelic Society, London, for permission to use the prefix "Royal" in the name of their Society has been graciously accorded to by His Majesty, who has signified his pleasure that the Society be styled "The Royal Philatelic Society, London."

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY CUNYNGHAME.

The Honorary Secretary,
The Royal Philatelic Society, London,
10 Gracechurch Street, E.C.
41 Devonshire Place, London W1

- The Society purchased its present headquarters at 41 Devonshire Place, in 1925
- In addition to a large meeting room, there are members' and council rooms, a library, a museum
The RPSL welcomes philatelists by addressing The Royal Philatelic Society London as:

“... the home of philatelic excellence, expertise and friendship ...

"The Royal" as we are universally known, is committed to move with the times”

[Frank Walton President]

• The oldest existing philatelic Society in the world, established in 1869 as "The Philatelic Society, London"
• The home of philatelic excellence, expertise and friendship
• Over 1,400 overseas members
• Almost 900 members in the United Kingdom
• Libraries, collections and archives go back to the beginning of the postage stamp and beyond
• Meetings of two types are held from September to June on alternate Thursdays
  – the first is of a formal nature, at which one or more papers are read accompanied by displays by individual members, and usually starts at 5 p.m.
  – the second consists of a display of stamps, postal history etc. in the frames contributed by one or more members, with or without a written paper. This meeting is open from 1pm to 6 p.m.
  – Tea is served to members and their guests at all meetings
The Progress of the Swedish Relation to The Royal

- It took 24 years until the first Swedish philatelist was registered as a member in 1893
  - 1893 Axel de Reuterskiöld
  - 1907 Fredrik Wilhelm Andréen, Hilmer Djurling and Sixten Keyser. They were all three stakeholders of the Stockholm Philatelic Club (founded in 1886)
  - 57 past Fellows (34) and Members are recorded in the files

- Currently we are 78 Fellows and Members originating or residing in Sweden, which is a more than a 100% increase compared to 10 years ago
  - 22 of the Swedish Members are Fellows

- The longest current active membership is by Tomas Bjäringer
  - Member since 1971 and elected Fellow 1974

- With the appointment of Jan Berg FRSPL as the overseas representative for Sweden in 2007, the Swedish contingency of Fellows and Members were joined together as a group and addressed regional activities taking place in Sweden
The Overseas Representative

Jan Berg FRPSL
2007 in Stockholm

PRESENTATION
Swedish Fellows and Members of
The Royal Philatelic Society London
participating at the meeting at Villa Pauli on April 19, 2007
2010 in Göteborg

The Royal Philatelic Society London

PRESENTATION
Swedish Fellows and Members of
The Royal Philatelic Society London
participating at the meeting at
Hotel Eggers on April 16, 2010
2016 in Stockholm
• All in all 56 Swedish members have been elected Fellows
  – 34 past members
  – 22 active members

• The latest three to receive this recognition are
  – 2016  Kjell Nilson
  – 2016  Roland Nordberg
  – 2016  Åke Rietz

• Two Swedes have been awarded the highest honour in the power of the Council to grant, that of Honorary Life Fellowship
  – 1954  Nils Strandell
  – 2013  Tomas Bjäringer
The first kind of meeting is of a formal nature, at which one or more papers are read accompanied by a display. It usually starts at 5 p.m.

- The first Swede to present such a paper for the Society was Erik G.E. Leijonhufvud on 2 November 1911 with the title “Some Notes on the Stamps of Sweden”
- The second was Tomas Bjäringer on 20 February 1975 who gave his paper with the title “Some New Aspects on Collecting Swedish Stamps from 1855-1920”
- Co-joined with Lauson Stone from the United States of America, Tomas gave a second paper with the title “Swedish Letter Rates to Foreign Destinations 1855-1895” on 5 May 1988
- The philatelic couple Anna-Lisa and Sven Eric Beckeman gave a paper on 24 January 2002 with the title “Sweden 1855-72”
- On 24 September 2004, Robert Odenweller RDP HonFRPSL from the United States of America gave a presentation of “The Stamps and Postal History of Nineteenth Century Samoa”, for which he was co-joined by Jan Berg who displayed no less than eleven of the twelve wall frames of selected pages
- Finally Jonas Hällström presented a paper on 28 January 2010 with the title “The History of the Square-Rigged Sailing Vessels”
5 p.m. Presentation

2010
The History of the Square-Rigged Sailing Vessels
1 p.m. Display

- The second kind of meeting forms a standing display of stamps, postal history etc. in the 52 frames, with or without a written paper or handout. This meeting is open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
  - Three Swedish members have individually been able to perform such a standing display, all three during the current active period.
  - On 27 October 2011 Björn Sohrne FRPSL gave a standing display with the title “Persia – Postal History to the 1930s”.
  - On 31 October 2013 Gustaf Douglas FRPSL gave a standing display with the title “Classic Sweden”
  - On 5 June 2015 Richard Bodin FRPSL gave a display with the title “Swedish Military & Volunteers’ Mail Abroad”

- At every Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June, the yearly Society medals are awarded. The Tilleard Medal in silver is awarded for the best standing display during the relevant period. Of the three Swedes giving such a large display, two of them have been awarded the Tilleard Medal
The increased activity level among the Swedish members of The Royal was recognized by the then President of the Society; John Sacher CBE FPRSL, who invited the Swedish contingency to give a standing display at the society meeting on 5 February 2009.
1 p.m. Display

2013
Classic Sweden
1 p.m. Display

2015
Swedish Military & Volunteers’ Mail Abroad
John Alexander Tilleard (1850-1913)

- Served as Honorary Secretary from 1894 to 1913
- Contributed to the participation of two philatelist princes to the Society: Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, brother of future King Edward VII, elected honorary president in 1890, and Alfred's nephew George, Duke of York and future King George V
- In 1906, he helped the Philatelic Society, London obtain the "Royal" prefix
- The first curator of “The Royal Philatelic Collection”
- In memory of Tilleard, the Royal Philatelic Society London created the Tilleard Medal, for the best philatelic display on 41 Devonshire Place
- His name was recorded as one of the original “Fathers of Philately" on the “Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Tilleard Teaset

J.A. Tilleard from The Duke of York Decr. 1895.
Tilleard Medal

2012 Björn Sohrne
*Persia – Postal History to the 1930s*

2014 Gustaf Douglas
*Classic Sweden*
“The Philatelic Record” was an important early philatelic journal published in 36 volumes between February 1879 and 1914.

It was originally published by Pemberton, Wilson and Company of London and later by Buhl & Company when it was merged with “The Stamp News” to form “The Philatelic Record and Stamp News”, under the editorship of Edward J. Nankivell.
Edward J. Nankivell (1848-1909)

• Member of the “Institute of Journalists” in London and an avid early stamp collector. Stamp collecting was a relatively new hobby and not taken seriously at all by the people, who considered it only something to amuse children.

• Nankivell was upset by the lack of respect the public had for his beloved hobby and he wrote “Stamp Collecting as a Pastime” as a passionate plea for the acceptance of stamp collecting as a serious pastime for everyone from the Prince of Wales to ordinary school children.

• Editor of “The Philatelic Record” and “Stamp News”
The London Philatelist

• The Society has published its own journal, The London Philatelist, since January 1892
• This has a worldwide reputation and is sent free to members ten times a year, as well as to a large number of other organisations at home and overseas
• Editors:
  – Jan 1892 - Feb 1917 Marcellus Purnell Castle FOP
  – Apr 1917 - May 1937 Thomas William Hall RDP
  – Jul 1937 - Jan 1940 Henry Wood
  – Feb 1940 - Jun 1946 Alwin Larmour
  – Jul 1946 - Dec 1954 Henry Robert Holmes RDP
  – Jan 1955 - Dec 1974 Arnold Strange
  – Jan 1975 - Dec 1982 Stuart Rossiter
  – May 1983 - Jun 2001 George Ernst Barker RDP
  – Jan 2015 ... Steve Jarwis
The London Philatelist

- (1977) Bjäringer, Tomas, *Sweden 1855-72*, LP Vol. 86 p. 120-127
It is most interesting and notable that Per Gustafson who joined as late as in 2014 was published already the year after, in 2015, and the year after that was awarded The Tapling Medal as the best paper in The London Philatelist dealing with any aspect of philately.
The Expert Committee

- One of the most valued contributions to philately is made by the Expert Committee which was for a hundred years a committee of the Society, and which since 1983 has operated under the auspices of RPSL Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Society.
- Stamps and covers may be submitted to the committee who will give an opinion as to its genuineness or otherwise, and will issue a certificate accordingly.
- As part of its own reference material, the committee maintains a comprehensive collection of forgeries and fakes.
- Each member is yearly entitled to two certificates free of charge.
Marcellus Purnell Castle (1849-1917)

• British philatelist who was President of the Royal Philatelic Society London from 1913 to 1917
• First editor of “The London Philatelist”
• Castle's collecting interests were in Australian States and Europe of which areas he created large collections
• He won the highest award for his display of New South Wales at the London International Philatelic Exhibition 1890
• His name was recorded as one of the original “Fathers of Philately" on the “Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Edvard B. Evans (1846-1922)

- Member of the Philatelic Society London from 1875
- One of the original three members of the RPS Expert Committee in 1894, and helped edit and publish many of the Society's handbooks
- One of the first forty on “The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
James Ludovic Lindsay  Earl of Crawford (1847-1913)
• Crawford's philatelic interests grew out of his work in extending the Lindsay family library
• Crawford formed notable collections of the stamps of the Italian States, the United States and Great Britain
• The 26th Earl of Crawford had by the time of his death in 1913 amassed the greatest philatelic library of his time
• His name was recorded as one of the original “Fathers of Philately” on “The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Charles James Phillips (1863-1940)
Earl of Crawford (1847-1913)

- Purchased a large collection of philatelic literature (the world's largest and most complete collection of philatelic literature) formed by John K. Tiffany of St. Louis (first president of the American Philatelic Society)
- Eventually Crawford's collection was given to the Philatelic Section of the British Museum, in London
- The “Crawford Medal” was established by the Royal Philatelic Society London in Crawford's honour for distinguished contributions to philately
Crawfordmedaljen

1979 Örjan Lüning
Luftpostens historia i Norden - The history of airmail in Scandinavia

1982 Sigge Ringström
The Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World, Part I and II
Sir Edward Denny Bacon (1860-1938)

• Full-time philatelist with two main collections: Japanese stamps sold to Philipp von Ferrary and postal stationery sold to Thomas K. Tapling
• Joined the Philatelic Society, London in 1880 in which he served in every possible main post. He was elected President in 1917
• Known to help some British collectors to manage their philatelic possessions. The first one was Thomas K. Tapling
• Published in 1911 the catalogue of the Crawford Library
• Curator of the “Royal Philatelic Collection” between 1913 and 1938
• Entered the “Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Sir Edward Denny Bacon’s notebook
The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists
The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

1922 Nils Strandell
1957 Georg Menzinsky
1977 Sigge Ringström
1978 Tomas Bjäringer
1994 Börje Wallberg
2000 Gunnar Dahlvig
2003 Gustaf Johansson
2006 Bertil I. Larsson
2016 Jonas Hällström
Fathers of Philately

HRH Alfred Duke of Edinburgh
James Ludovic Lindsay
26th Earl of Crawford
Arthur de Rothschild
Daniel Cooper
J.H. Abbot
F. Breitfuss
Maitland Burnett
M.P. Castle
J.A. Dunbar-Dunbar
Philipp la Renotière von Ferrary
Douglas Garth
Gilbert Harrison
Andrew Houison
Pierre Mahe
Paul Mirabaud
E.J. Nankivell
F.A. Philbrick
R.W. Harold Row
T.K. Tapling
J.A. Tillieard
W.A.S. Westoby

Gerald 5th Duke of Leinster
Henry Ernest Newcomen
8th Earl of Kingston
William Beilby Avery
David Parkes Masson
Mount Brown
F.G. Oscar Berger-Levrault
M & G Caillebotte
H.J. Crocker
H.J. Duveen
M.P. de Figueroa
J.E. Gray
L.L.R. Hausburg
J.A. Legrand
Arthur Maury
J.B. Moens
E.L. Pemberton
Jose Marco del Pont
Gordon Smith
J.K. Tiffany
C.W. Viner
Hastings E. Wright
Sir Daniel Cooper (1821-1902)

- Founder and the first president (1869–78) of the The Philatelic Society, London
- His Australian postage stamps was sold to Ferrary in 1878 for £3,000 (the first four-figure price for a collection)
- The “Sir Daniel Cooper Lectures” sponsored by the Royal Philatelic Society are in his honour
- His name was recorded as one of the original “Fathers of Philately" on the “Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Frederick A. Philbrick (1835-1910)

- One of the founders of the "Philatelic Society, London“, its first Vice-President and was President of the Society between 1879 and 1892
- Philbrick was also an honorary member of the Fiscal Philatelic Society
- Two pseudonyms used by Philbrick in his philatelic writing were, “An Amateur“ and “Damus Petimusque Vicissim” (the motto of British Guiana)
- His name was recorded as one of the original “Fathers of Philately" on the “Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Frederick A. Philbrick (1835-1910)
Frederick A. Philbrick (1835-1910)
Thomas K. Tapling (1855-1891)

- By 1887 his collection was second only to that of Philipp von Ferrary
- Tapling joined the Philatelic Society, London in the early 1870s and became Vice-President in 1881
- The Tapling Medal in silver was created in his memory by the RPSL and first awarded in 1920
- His name was recorded as one of the original “Fathers of Philately" on “The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists” in 1921
Fathers of Swedish Philately

GÖRANSSON, John
GYBERG, Lars
NORDSTRÖM, Jacob
WENNBERG, Wilhelm August
HEGERMANN-LINDENCRONE J.F.
ARBORELIUS, Olof
LEVIN, Astley
ROSENLÖF, Gustaf
LICHTENSTEIN, Heinrich
LINDSTRÖM, Albert
OSSBAHR, Richard
LJUNGSTRÖM, Ernst
JOHANSSON, Josef
ARSENIUS, Fredrik
WULFF, John
LEIJONHUFVUD, Erik Gustaf Evert
ANDRÉÉN Fredrik Wilhelm
BERGHMAN, Israel
KJELLSTEDT L. Harald
TAMM, Claès Adolf
BENZINGER, Fredrik
PHIL, Johan Albin
WILMS, Ernst
BACKMAN, Georg Wilhelm
WENNBERG, Harry
WESTBERG, Nils

HOLMBERG, Nils Victor Bernhard
KRAEPELIEN, Oscar
LANGE, Rudolf
WIKSTRÖM, Einar
STRANDELL, Nils Wilhelm
SUNDSTEDT, Harald Josef Emmanuel
VON ROSEN, Eric
LAGERLÖF, Hans
OLOFSSON, Helge
OLOFSSON, Gustaf
KEMPE, Johan Carl
HELLMAN, Dagmar
SJÖBERG, Hugo
SAHLIN, Gösta
TILLMAN, Filip
DIEDEN, Herbert
OLSSON, Joel
HEDBERG, Lars
LARSSON, Erik Wilhelm
SCHULTZ-STEINHEIL, Herman
AHLSTRÖM, John
KIHLBLOM, Erik
RAMBERG, Johan Fredrik
CARLSTRÖM, Diego
John Göransson (1845-????)

- Who was he?
- His album from 1863 is the earliest recorded in Sweden and was auctioned at FRIMÄRKSHUSET in Nov 2016
Erik Gustaf Evert Leijonhufvud (1862-1943)

- The first Swedish philatelist of international status
- “Captain” of the Philatelic Club of the International Philatelic Exhibition in London 1912
- In 1922, being the first Swedish collector owing the 3 Skilling Banco Yellow
- His massive collection of unused Swedish stamps of the first issue has never been surpassed
Fredrik Benzinger (1868-1953)

- One of the first prominent Swedish "General Collectors" of the whole world with a focus on the rarities and covers before 1890
- Formed a marvelous collection of Sweden in 50 volumes owing one of the best collection of Sweden ever brought together
- In 1926 he was one of the founders of “Postmusei Vänner” (The Friends of the Postal Museum in Stockholm)