**PRESS RELEASE**



 December 2017

**STOCKHOLMIA 2019 – a progress report**

At the recent MonacoPhil 2017 exhibition, the Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) held a reception on 1 December 2017 where STOCKHOLMIA 2019 exhibition manager Jonas Hällström gave a comprehensive report on what has been achieved so far.

Preparations are forging ahead. The 1500-seat auditorium in the Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre will be used for the daily RPSL presentations at 3PM as well as for the opening ceremony. This is also the location for the rarity auction conducted by the Global Philatelic Network on Saturday 1 June 2019.

In addition to the large auditorium, there are 15 rooms for society meetings, presentations and philatelic book releases.

Hällström announced that both the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain and the Second World Cinderella Congress will take place during the exhibition period.

Other notable events include the RDP (Roll of Distinguished Philatelists) ceremony, the Congress of the AIJP (Association Internationale des Journalistes Philatéliques) and a meeting of the AEP (Académie européenne de philatélie). The International Federation of Stamp Dealer Federations (IFSDA) will also conduct its congress at STOCKHOLMIA. The Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre will undoubtedly be buzzing with philatelic activities from the day the exhibition opens at 10 AM on 29 May 2019 and until it closes at 3 PM on 2 June 2019.

The Court of Honour will be devoted to the Society’s Patron Her Majesty the Queen together with other royal collectors of which there have been quite a few over the years. This section will include items from royal collections, documents, pictures, ephemera, etc. The exhibition’s philatelic patron, Gustaf Douglas, will also display his comprehensive Golden Collection of Swedish philately in the Court of Honour.

A large section has been set aside for the STOCKHOLMIA Library managed by Wolfgang Maassen, a well-known philatelic journalist and researcher. The Library will feature a selection of RPSL publications and Crawford Medal winners from the Tomas Bjäringer philatelic library. A series of lectures of interest to philatelic writers and publishers are in the planning stage. Also on the agenda are a number of lectures on philatelic literature on a worldwide scope. It is hoped to have as many as eight book presentations each day.

Wolfgang Maassen will edit the two 300-page STOCKHOLMIA 2019 catalogues. One will be devoted to the exhibition itself. The key article by Mårten Sundberg will be a thorough description of the Society’s current everyday life or to be more precise: in 50 years’ time, when the RPSL will celebrate its 200th anniversary, a reader of Sundberg’s story should be able to fully understand how the Society was functioning 50 years ago in 2019.

The second volume was described as the Library Catalogue. Contents will include reviews of all RPSL publications and the Crawford Medal winners from the Tomas Bjäringer library as well as all the competitive literature entries in the exhibition.

Hällström also announced that it had been possible to increase the number of dealer booths and visitors to the exhibition will have a choice of 50+ dealers from all over the world.

The next STOCKHOLMIA 2019 reception will be held at Spring STAMPEX in London on 16 February 2018 at 12.00.

More information about the exhibition and other related activities can be obtained at the website: [www.stockholmia2019.se](http://www.stockholmia2019.se).

Illustrations:

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Front-Dustjacket LC-3

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