



Third Reich Study Group

The largest and most active study group of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society (UK)

News Sheet 197

Group Leader: Tony Hickey

March 2025

Correction

The dates for the 2025 TRSG meetings at the Civil Service Club, London, are as follows:

19th April, 26th July and 18th October (all Saturdays)

Some of the dates printed in NS 196 were incorrect. Further details can be found on the G&CPS website.

EDITORIAL

An introduction from the editor, Carl Buck

Page 2

NEWS

Pertinent announcements, past, present and future

Page 3

COVER STORY I

Wilhelm Brückner. By Carl Buck

Page 4

COVER STORY II

The Völkischer Beobachter. By Philip Townsend

Page 5

COVER STORY III

An interesting Ukrainian letter. By Tony Quinn

Page 6

FEATURE ARTICLES

The Volksstrum and Party Formation stamps of Germany, 1945 - New Evidence, Part 2. By Peter Bradford

Pages 7-13

Ferdinand Barlog (an incomplete directory). By Carl Buck

Pages 14-17

Luftwaffe Ace Hans Trautloft. An Unlikely Caricaturist & Postcard Artist of WWII. By Keith Lillywhite

Pages 18-19

Also in this edition: *Did you know?* Page 20, *Literature* Page 21-22, *Ephemera* Page 22, *The Vaults* Page 23

Research Links Page 24, *Membership and the G&CPS* Page 25

Published by the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society

For membership and enquiries please visit www.germanphilately.org

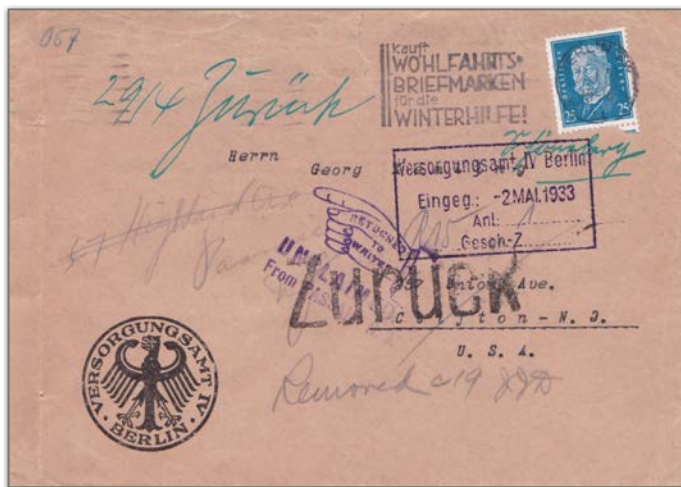


From the Editor

Firstly, let me thank all those that have given positive feedback for NS 196... and as always, please feel free to contact me regarding the content of current, past or future issues. The news sheet requires your support and I thank you in advance for your time and effort in continuing to make the TRSG an important and successful section of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society.

For some reason I began thinking of the time scale we study, I think in main due to a cover I recently acquired. As part of the TRSG it appears sensible to state we collect and research items from the 1933-1945 period. This is a catch-all that simplifies the conversation when introducing the subject to friends and colleagues.

I'm reminded, however, that the Third Reich followed the Weimar Republic in terms of a linear historical categorisation. The cover below is an example of this. A Republic at dusk and a Reich at dawn...



The envelope was sealed and a postage stamp applied on **24th January 1933** (3 - 4 p.m.) and posted to Georg Kemling (?) at 257 Union Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey, U.S.A., from the 'Versorgungsamt IV, Berlin' (Pension Office IV, situated on General-Pape-Straße, Berlin-Schöneberg). The envelope arrives at the post office in Clifton, N.J. on **3rd February 1933** (2 p.m.). The addressee cannot be located and the alternative address of 57 Highland Avenue in Passiac is written on the cover. On the **4th February 1933** the envelope is hand stamped by the Passiac post office and sent out for delivery. Once again the recipient cannot be located and the Highland Avenue address is struck through. The envelope is returned to the Passiac post office waiting to be claimed. Possibly on or about the **19th February 1933** (?). The Passiac post office hand-stamp the envelope with 'Returned to sender, unclaimed from Passiac N.J.' above a hand-script annotation stating, 'Removed - 19 [initials?]'. At some point about the **29th April 1933** the envelope is hand-stamped with 'Zurück'. Written in green ink are the words '29/4 Zurück' (and another word in green ink that hasn't been translated). On the **2nd May 1933** the envelope is returned to the sender, Pension Office IV, in Berlin-Schönberg. Upon receipt the envelope is hand-stamp with a receipt acknowledgement.

What are your thoughts? Some texts have the Third Reich period starting with Hindenburg's appointment of Adolf Hitler as Chancellor on the 30th January 1933. Though to me one Reich can only start when the previous incarnation has finished. This would be on the 23rd March 1933 following the establishment of the Enabling Act of 1933 and the end of the Weimar Republic.

As members of the TRSG when does your collection start? Most likely, like the cover above, it spans the era's. The first postage stamps of the new era appear in April of 1933... with the propaganda starting in 1919 and the German Workers Party (DAP).

A pedantic argument or one that matters? Tell me....

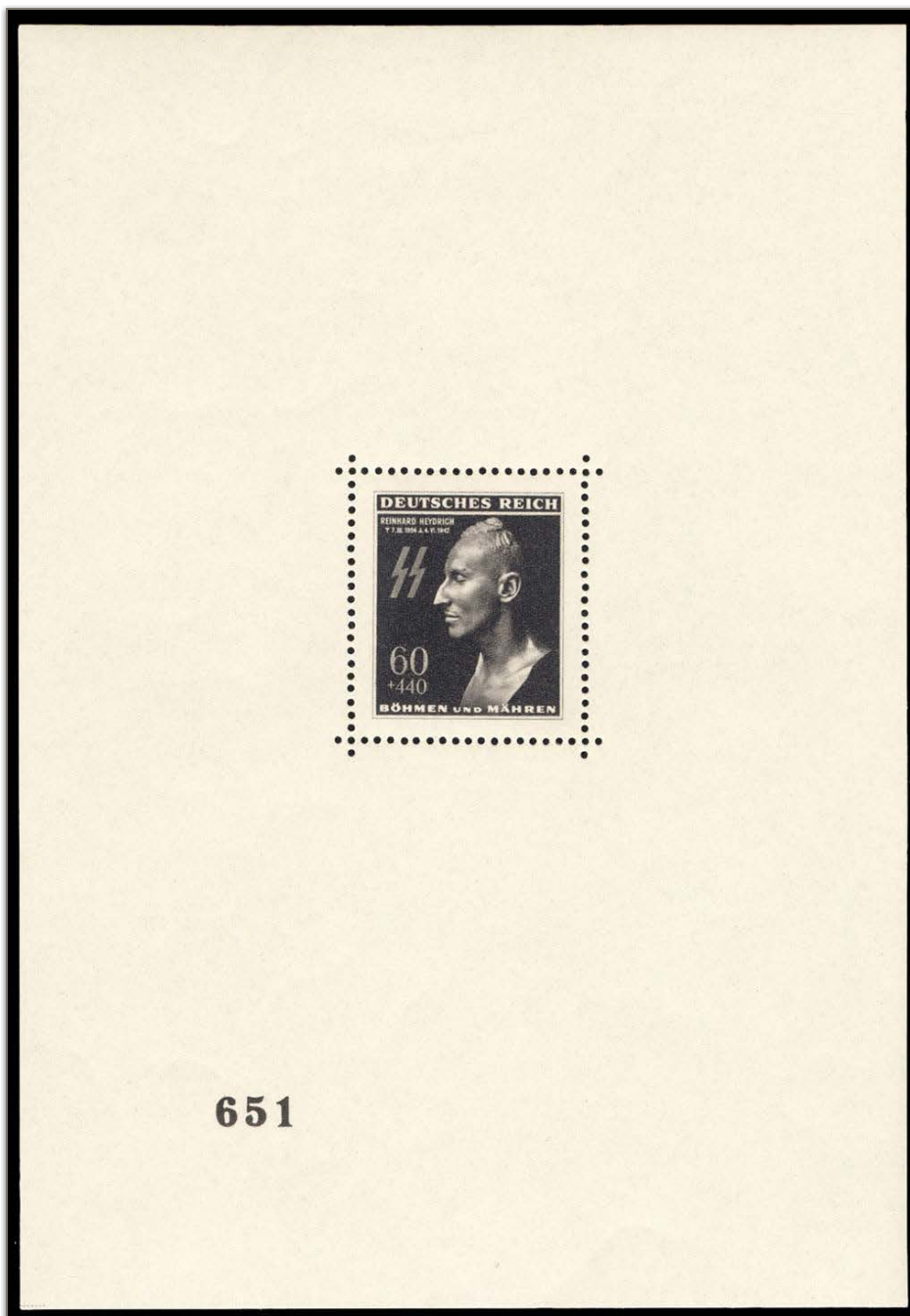
Enjoy NS 197! And thank you once again for your support.

Carl Buck



News

I note reading the latest *Stamp Magazine* (March 2005) here in the UK (www.stampmagazine.co.uk) that Cherrystone auctioneers have sold a Heydrich Block produced in Bohemia & Moravia to commemorate the 1st Anniversary of Reinhardt Heydrich's death. The Block was catalogued as, '1943 Reinhardt Heydrich 60+440pf black souvenir sheet, 101x148.5mm, numbered "651" at bottom, l.h., without the usual gum creases, fresh and v.f., signed Mahr, with his 1979 certificate. Only 1,000 of these souvenir sheets were printed. Of those, 500 were given out to Nazi Party and military dignitaries, remainder being destroyed. As many of the recipients and their possessions perished during the closing stages of the war, less than 100 "Heydrich blocks" survive, most with significant defects.' The Block realised \$14,000.



There are a number of references to this Block within previous issues of the TRSG news sheet, most notably in **NS 82 p.11**, dating from 1995. The original article by M. Daulard (being translated by the great John Rawlings) reveals the Block in its various guises. At the time of NS 82 going to print, the lowest block number surviving was 5, with a perfect Block '8' having an auction estimate DM 22,000 (1990) and a proof example (without number) estimated at DM 30,000 (1990). The article also illustrates examples of forged Blocks.

If you have any announcements that should be seen as 'newsworthy'
then please send your article to carl.buck01@btinternet.com



Cover Story I

Wilhelm Brückner *By Carl Buck*



The correspondence reads: *'Some S.A. members who were under your command from as long ago as 1929 on 'Germany Day' in Nuremberg, take the opportunity to wish you a speedy recovery and all the best'.*

Akin to the *Cover Story* found previously in NS 196 (p.4), we once again discover a postcard that reveals a greater story. In this case not about the cover artist Sigmar von Suchodolski (1875-1935), nor this time about the signatories to the message (unknown at this moment), it is to whom the postcard is sent, Wilhelm Brückner, at this time a patient in Traunstein hospital.

In late 1922 Brückner joined the Nazi Party and in 1923 became leader of the Munich SA Regiment, and taking part in the Beer Hall Putsch for which he was subsequently sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment.

The message on this postcard refers to his accident on the 15th August 1933.

Whilst driving behind Hitler's car, he lost control of his vehicle and crashed. He suffered a broken leg, fractured skull and an injury to an eye. Luckily the driver of the car following was that of the physician, Karl Brandt. Brandt drove Brückner to the hospital in Traunstein, where he operated on his skull and removed one of his badly injured eyes. Brandt remained by Brückner's bedside until his condition improved. It was through this action that Brandt later became Hitler's escort doctor...

Brückner was appointed Chief Adjutant to Hitler on 20th February 1934, and retained that role until being dismissed on 18th October 1940, subsequently continuing his career as an army officer.

Little is written of Brückner, although it is clear that as one of Hitler's adjutants he no doubt had some influence, if not, then at least a sympathetic ear.



Note to researchers: Further 'get well' messages to Brückner are available from Carl Buck upon request.



Cover Story II

The Völkischer Beobachter By Philip Townsend



A big thank you to Philip for contributing this piece which I've added to the 'Cover Story' section... it's certainly a 'hidden gem'.

Philip contacted the TRSG stating: 'One of my trophies from a recent Strand fair £1 box was the attached. I bought it without looking at any detail, just because I didn't have a 3Mk single franking on a NN card. Only the next day, when writing my loot up for my collection catalogue, did I realise the significance of what I'd bought — an early invoice for subscription to the Nazi newspaper, the Voelkischer Beobachter including a print-out of one of Hitler's speeches.'

I for one am quite jealous! I also observe that to the reverse is the hand-stamp 'Carl H. Lange' who is noted as a stamp and notgeld dealer. It appears to have been in his possession at some point or other...Ed.

Please note that two of Philip's books are available via the G&CPS:

German Censorship of International Mail during World War II
Foreign Workers and Their Mail in Wartime Germany 1939-1945



Völkischer Beobachter advertising label and cover from 1944.

'The Völkischer Beobachter (Völkisch Observer) was the newspaper of the Nazi Party (NSDAP) from 25th December 1920. It first appeared weekly, then daily from 8th February 1923. For twenty-four years it formed part of the official public face of the Nazi Party until its last edition at the end of April 1945. The paper was banned and ceased publication between November 1923, after Adolf Hitler's arrest for leading the unsuccessful Beer Hall Putsch in Munich, and February 1925, the approximate date of the relaunching of the Party.' (Wikipedia)



Cover Story III

An interesting letter from the Ukraine
By Tony Quinn

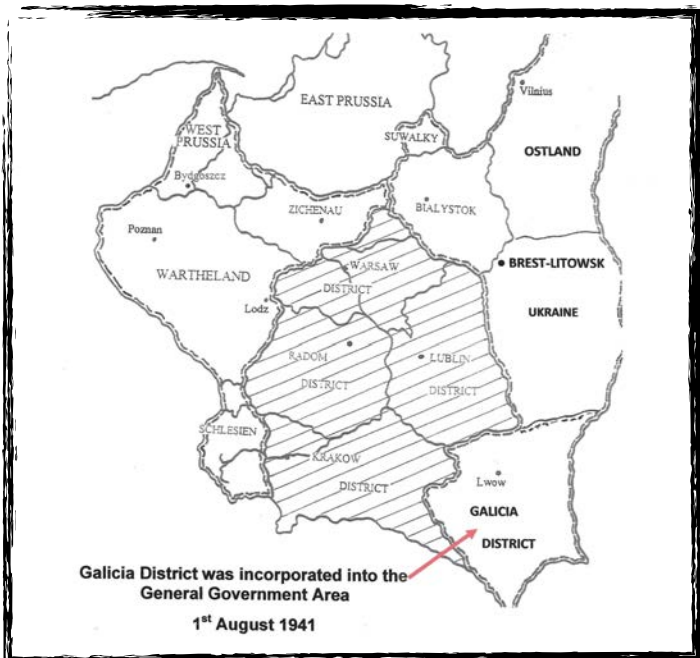


Ilse Mock
 General Commissioner's Main Department IV
 Brest-Litovsk 23.1.1942

As you have probably heard from Mrs Steinberg, I have not been in the Reich since November 16th, I am working in the civil administration in Russia. And for you it is the other way round. Yes, so many things change in life that you cannot predict and it is also good that you do not know. I really like my current field of work. There are of course many hardships here in Brest, but I did not go to the East voluntarily with illusions. It is very dangerous.

There are still gangs of partisans living in the forests here from whom you are never safe and you have to expect attacks at any time. In addition there are always attempts by Russians, Poles, etc. to return to Russia, but they are immediately stopped. I am assigned to the road construction department here, this is a completely new field for me. The camaraderie between all of us here is very good, although there are of course exceptions. Everyone stands up for each other. That's probably how it was with you too and I think that's very nice. Mrs. Steinberg told me your address and I sat down and wrote you a few words. Hopefully she will be pleased! Was the injury you received during the campaign really bad? I would also be delighted to hear from you here in Russia and remain with warm regards

Yours Ilse Mock



Ilse Mock sent this letter on the 23rd January 1942 through the “Deutsche Dienstpost Ukraine” secure service to Alfred Schmidt in Munich. The cover bears a 12pfgr Hitler Head definitive over printed “UKRAINE” in black. It appears from her text that Alfred had been injured in the Operation Barbarossa Campaign.

Ilse Mock was working for the Reichskommissariat Ukraine (RKU), an organisation established on the 20th August 1941, which was the civilian governing body during the German occupation for the majority of occupied Ukraine. This also included adjacent areas of the Belarus, Russia and pre-war Poland. It was governed from Berlin by the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories headed by Alfred Rosenberg. The area was overrun by the Red Army in August 1944.

Thank you Tony! Ed.



The Volkssturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945
New Evidence
By Peter Bradford

PART TWO

S.A. & S.S. Party Formations



*Sturmabteilung – Storm Division
 An SA man with torch and the SA Insignia*

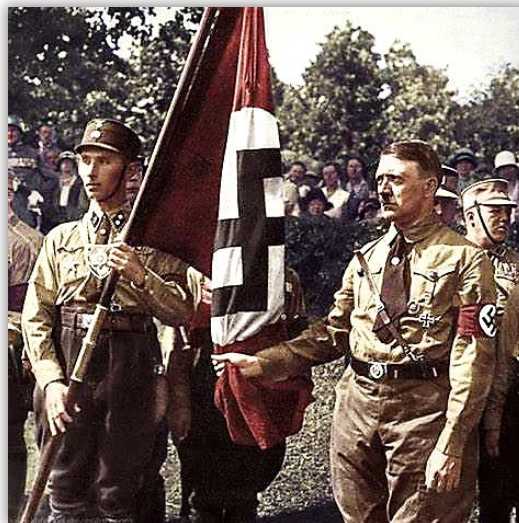
*L & R:
 Photo essays*



*Schutzstaffel – Protection Squadron
 An S.S. Trooper and Blood Flag Standard Bearer*

Some interesting new information has come to light regarding the design and delivery of the SA/SS stamps to Passau Bavaria and Berlin.

The SS stamp in particular has been listed in catalogues as a SS trooper and a member of the Hitler Youth. However enlarging the image it is now clear that the Hitler youth figure is in fact a man with a moustache, Jacob Grimminger. He was the Standard Bearer for the Nazi's prestigious symbol, the blood flag.



Jacob Grimminger was one of the earliest members of the Nazi Party and of the S.A. On the 8th of November 1923 he took part in the Munich Beer Hall Putsch alongside Hitler. His loyalty was rewarded and he soon rose quickly within the S.A. then S.S. reaching the rank of Standard Leader. Hitler appointed Grimminger as flag bearer for the Blutfahne, Blood Flag, a blood stained flag retrieved from the November 1923 Putsch.



The Volkssturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945



*Above: At the foot the page depicting of the SS trooper can be seen the artists name, Eric Meerwald, his honorary **SS** Rank of Scharführer and place of work.*

Passau Bavaria

From the Bavarian Postal archives is found a statement by the then Post Master Markus Lippl of Passau.

He states: At the beginning of April, postal traffic became increasingly chaotic. The wagon load of parcels onto the unloading track of the post office caused ever greater difficulties. On the 18th of April, the biggest bombing raid on Passau took place in the middle of the day.

After the attack, ten good wagons with large and small parcels were found on the sidings. Under constant threat from aeroplanes and great physical exertion, all the wagons were unloaded and the consignments stored in the post office.

After this attack, postal traffic on the railways towards Regensburg came to a complete standstill. From Austria, however, large four-axle railway mail wagons loaded with hundreds of mail bags rolled towards Passau. The appeal of the Passau post office to stop these senseless transports was not heeded.

The entire postal service at Passau was then relocated to the cathedral post office because it was no longer possible to work properly at the post office in the railway station.

The cathedral post office still housed a temporary storage facility of the Munich postal directorate. In addition to numerous valuable items such as leather armchairs from the president's office a stock of postage stamps totalling six million marks was also stored.

This is the only place where this postage stamp stock of 6 million marks is mentioned. An official of the post office bundled the available registered items and valuable letters and hid six mailbags and 20 valuable parcels into a dark corner in the coal cellar of the post office.

It was about 11 o'clock in the morning on the 2nd of May when American soldiers entered the post office. The looting began mostly by DPS in the wake of the American troops. large-scale looting began in the morning hours of the 3rd of May. American soldiers cut open the mailbags and threw the contents at the looters. By midday the scene was over.

Further reports say that the stamps reached Munich from Passau but were handed over to the American authorities and were destroyed, except the one's which were taken as souvenirs.



The Volkssturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945

Berlin consignment

From Wolfgang Jakubek book, THEMA 3. REICH I found an interesting letter from a Hildegard Mann dated the 11th of April 1945; an Interpreter at a German Air Force base near Milan. She states that she was on a transport plane from Vienna to Berlin via Milan. Onboard the flight were sealed boxes weighing up to 25kg which had come from Vienna and contained postage stamps for the Post Ministry in Berlin. Her comment; *“Imagine, we transported stamps to Berlin in April. My boss was frantic!”*



Arado 232 A-10 transport plane

I have checked with the Military Archives in Freiburg and they confirm that such flights by the said transport plane, an Arado 232 A-10 did occur between Vienna, Milan and Berlin. These flights out of Vienna ended on the 2nd of April so it is conceivable that cargo from Vienna destined for Berlin was in Milan at that time.

It is not clear from this letter that the boxes contained part of the Party Formation stamps, whether these stamps were on the flight or were sent by another route is will never be known, however one thing is clear is that the stamps were in Berlin mid to late April 1945 and dispatched to the centres for collector's stamps.



As you will see from this part presentation card from Berlin the final colour draft was approved with a date, the 10th of February. It also implies that the two other stamps which have been removed; NSKK & NSFK were also approved. We now have a firm date the 10th of February and a closing date the 29th of March (The closing date is when government offices within Vienna closed). Between these dates printing and distribution occurred for the SA/SS stamps, but not the NSKK/NSFK. (See Part One; Volkssturm colour card, it is the same signature as the above.) **Note.** To members who are not familiar with the presentation cards produced by Vienna; I have added at the end of this Part Two a brief summary of their purpose.



The Volkssturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945

Regarding the sale of the SA/SS stamps in Berlin; It is to be noted that both stamps were not sold over the counter. The confusion surrounding the stamps being available for the general public can now be explained.

They were only available for subscribers who were able to pick up their order from designated collection centres, W66 Mauer strasse and W8 Franzosische strasse.

It has been known for some time that philatelic dealers in Berlin regularly placed orders for new stamps from the government philatelic bureau.

It was on or about the 19th of April that three dealers, Hermann Amberger, Georg Spielhagen and Alfred Bruckner were informed by telephone that if they wanted their subscribed sets, the SA/SS, they were ready for collection.

Whilst there they were informed by the postal official, who they all knew, that because of the Soviet artillery assault which had begun on the morning of the 20th of April the counter service was closed.

In April the Berlin post offices still functioned, albeit with a limited service, deliveries were still being met where possible and a limited counter service was available for other services, however no letter receipts were accepted.

Interestingly a research after the war was done by two stamp dealers, Doctor Marquardt and Jurgen Peterson regarding the validity of the stamps supposedly being used postally.

Both had conducted interviews with nearly 300 stamp dealers in the Berlin area to find out if any had brought the stamps over the counters at any of the Berlin post offices, the result was a resounding no.

Jurgen Peterson also interviewed postmen and postal managers with the same result.





The Volkssturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945



Post war SA/SS Stock

Attached to the Soviet Armies entering Austria were special units tasked in identifying specialist industrial equipment which was to be dismantled and shipped back to the Soviet Union. High on the list was the Vienna Printing Works with its machines, chemicals and technology.

Surprisingly the bulk of the items not looted by the Soviets was the printing matter. Large stocks of stamps were left untouched, though some of these were looted by Viennese opportunists.

In the early 1960s the Vienna Printing Office still held in storage a large quantity of Third Reich stamps.

The stamps were not for sale as they belonged to the legal successor of the third Reich; namely the Federal Republic of Germany.

A dispute as to the ownership went on for years between the Austrian Government and the West German Government, Austria arguing that the then Third Reich owes the Vienna State Printing Works a considerable amount for orders completed for services rendered.

The Austrian authorities would only release the stamps if an invoice, plus interest was paid in full to the Vienna State Printing Office. The outcome of the dispute unclear, however in the late 1960s a large quantity of third Reich material flooded the philatelic market.



The Volkssturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945

Presentation Cards from Vienna.

Soon the Auction House, Schieger will be auctioning presentation cards produced in the pre-production department at the State Printing Office Vienna in 1945. These cards are extremely rare and have fetched high prices

I would like to explain in laymens terms what the cards were for and how they were produced.

A single sheet of stamps was produced and individual stamps were mounted onto a presentation card and sent to the Ministry of Post in Berlin for approval. This was also the case for the colours shades required for approval.





The Volksturm and Party Formation stamps of Germany 1945



Single issues were also sent to the Ministry of Propaganda for their archive and were also given as gifts for high ranking officials within the Party. Each of the four stamps were presented on a large size card with the embossed seal of the Government Printing Office Vienna, Staatsdruckerei Wein below the stamps.

The colour, red was chosen by the minister in Berlin. Vienna was instructed to produce appropriate colour drafts for viewing, these were duly done and five different shades were sent out.

The pre-production division printed all four stamps as single prints in five different shades. All four stamps on each colour shade were mounted on one presentation card.

Five different shades of red required five cards. The cards were numbered at the bottom using Roman numerals from I (1-4) II (5-8) III (9-12) IV (13-16) V (17-20).

In addition all proofs were numbered in Arabic numerals, 1-20.

The corresponding numbers are shown below each colour proof.

It is know that six presentation cards of each shade of red were produced in the pre-production department, half of these were sent to the ministry in Berlin and the remainder stayed in Vienna for their archives.

PART THREE WILL CONTINUE IN NEWS SHEET 198



Ferdinand Barlog
(an incomplete directory)
By Carl Buck

The cartoon works of Ferdinand Barlog have made many appearances in the TRSG news sheets. Most recently in **NS 188 (March 2022 pp.10-11)** in the excellent article by Keith Lillywhite. The humorous postcards provide a comic insight into a fantasy world of the Wehrmacht's raw recruits, with the hopes and dreams played out in pen and ink. Collectors of the cards will also note how many of these are sent from barracks. So if you collect feldpost hand-stamps, these Barlog cards may be a rich vein of source material.

Note: There are 78 such 'lager tagesstempel' listed in the *Michel Feldpost Handbook 1937-1945* (pp.69-71).



Below you will find most of the postcards available in the Barlog series. If you have images not listed here please let us know! There are very few, if any, definitive lists on the subject. TRSG membership input would be most helpful!

Notes on the cataloging: Each postcard was allotted a reference number (**Bestell-Nr**). So far these include numbers with the prefix 145, 146, 147, 148, and 149, 850, 870, 871, 872, 873, and 874. Reprints appear to have the '8' reference number. Alternative imprint icons and text also differentiate the series. Therefore collectors may have the same Barlog cartoon with a variety of imprint designs beneath the correspondence panel. Lots to collect if you want to!



The postcards shown below have the 'Bestell' number indicated beneath the image.



1456



1462



1463



1467/8720



1468/8709



1469/8710



Ferdinand Barlog (an incomplete directory)



1470, 8721



1471



1473/ 8706



1475



1476/ 8712



1477



1479/ 8718



1480/8705



1481/8715



1482/8708



1487



1488/8711



1489/8713



1490



1490G/8717



Ferdinand Barlog (an incomplete directory)



1491/8500/8700



1494/8703



1496/8723



8701



8702



8704



8707



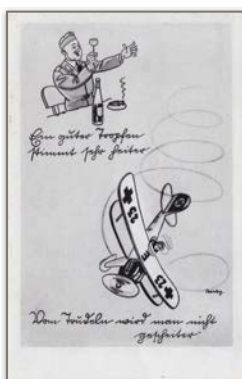
8716?/8746



8719



8726



8731



8740



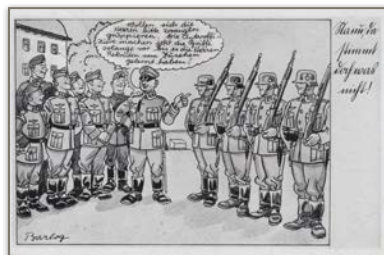
8743



Ferdinand Barlog (an incomplete directory)



8744



8745

Are there other Barlog cartoons in your collection (or with alternative text or series number). It would be great to complete this 'incomplete directory'.



And finally an anomaly... a lesser seen colour postcard from Barlog. However, without imprint details or 'Bestell' number. Does anyone else have such cards in their collection?



Alle Rechte vorbehalten • Grundsberg-Verlag Föllmer & Esser G.m.b.H., Berlin W 15
Ausführung: Druckerei der Berliner Börsen-Zeitung, Berlin W 8

Further reading.... 'Zeichnungen von Barlog' book of cartoons (210 x 180mm). c.1937
Containing 12 cartoons in the 'Wehrmacht' series, many of which feature as postcards.



Hannes Trautloft.

An Unlikely Caricaturist & Postcard Artist of WWII.

By Keith Lillywhite



Otto Hans "Hannes" Trautloft (3rd March 1912 – 12th January 1995) was a German Luftwaffe military aviator during the Spanish Civil War and World War II, and a General in the post-war German Air Force. As a fighter ace, he is credited with 58 enemy aircraft shot down, including 5 in Spain, 8 on the Western Front and 45 on the Eastern Front of World War II. He was highly decorated holding Spanish Cross in Gold with Swords and the Iron Cross 2nd & 1st Class, Knights Cross of the Iron Cross and the German Cross in Gold.

Trautloft volunteered for military service in the Reichsheer of the Weimar Republic in 1931 and was accepted for flight training with the Deutsche Verkehrsfliegerschule, a covert military-training organization, and at the Lipetsk fighter-pilot school. Following flight training, he served with Jagdgeschwader 134 "Horst Wessel" (JG 134—134th Fighter Wing) and was one of the first German volunteers to fight in the Spanish Civil War. The volunteers travelling in secrecy onboard the SS Usaramo, a passenger ship of the Woermann-Linie from Hamburg to Cádiz on 31 July 1936.

The Usaramo also transported equipment and weapons, including six disassembled and boxed Heinkel He 51 biplane fighter aircraft.

From August to December 1936, he claimed five aerial victories. For his service in Spain he was awarded the Spanish Cross in Gold with Swords. By mid-November, the fighter force had increased and the Jagdgruppe 88 was created.

In December, Versuchsjagdstaffel 88 (VJ/88), an experimental fighter squadron for testing new aircraft under operational conditions was created at Tablada. Trautloft was chosen as one of the pilots to test the then new Messerschmitt Bf 109. Trautloft had this aircraft personalized with the "Green Heart" of Thuringia. He wrote several recommendations on how to improve the design and combat operations of the Bf 109.

On 2 March 1937, Trautloft left Spain and returned to Germany and in 1940 published a Diary of his time with the Condor Legion.

With the combat experience gained in Spain Trautloft was destined to take part in the Battle of France, Battle of Britain, Balkans Campaign, Operation Barbarossa and the Eastern Front in which time he had command of a number of squadrons and Wings in the Luftwaffe.

In late 1944, a rumour crossed Trautloft's desk that a large number of Allied airmen were being held at Buchenwald Concentration Camp. Trautloft decided to visit the camp and see for himself under the pretence of inspecting aerial bomb damage near the camp. Trautloft was about to leave the camp when captured US Airman Bernard Scharf called out to him in fluent German from behind a fence. The SS guards tried to intervene but Trautloft pointed out that he out-ranked them and made them stand back. Scharf explained that he was one of more than 160 allied airmen imprisoned at the camp and begged Trautloft to rescue him and the other airman. Disturbed by the event, Trautloft returned to Berlin and began the process to have the airmen transferred out of Buchenwald. Seven days before their scheduled execution, the airmen were taken by train by the Luftwaffe to Stalag Luft II.



Hannes Trautloft.
An Unlikely Caricaturist & Postcard Artist of WWII.



To support himself and his wife following the end of the war Trautloft, who had previously produced many caricatures on the subject of aviation in the late thirties (which were turned into postcards it would seem for sale in the Luftwaffe Barracks); created the two costumed children "Toni and Vroni" which became popular, appearing on postcards, maps and as dolls marketed by the Schildkröt company.

Trautloft's humorous postcard designs had a whimsical feel to them being executed in watercolour unlike the majority of Barlog's postcards which were in black and white with a high degree of draughtsmanship.



In 1957 Trautloft joined the new German Air Force of West Germany serving as deputy Inspector of the Air Force and commander of Luftwaffengruppe Süd (Air Force Group South), Trautloft retired in 1970 holding the rank of lieutenant general. ...

Hannes Trautloft died on 12 January 1995 in Bad Wiessee.



Did you know?

Of course you did...

The iconography of the 3rd Reich could be described as recognisably abhorrent, whilst for others it's the rallying point for a cause. The significance of the individual meaning is lost on many but equally important to those that study the minutia of the people and organisations that represented Germany from 1933 to 1945. So here is a quick 'did you know....'

Many of the items within your postage history collection will display (either printed or with a hand-stamp) an eagle (adler), incorporating a wreathed swastika clutched in its claws.

The first example, Figure 1, is the '**Parteiadler**', in use from 1933 to 1945. This depiction has the eagle's head turned to the left and signifying the **Nazi Party**.



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

Figure 2, depicts an example of the '**Reichsadler**', in use from 1935 to 1945. This depiction has the eagle's head turned to the right and signifying **Nazi Germany**.

As an aside... the eagle depicted on the Great Seal of the United States also has its head turned to the right. This faces the talon that holds the olive branch of peace. In it's left talon it holds the arrows of war.

The use of this iconography on German stamp designs of this period is few and far between. Nothing in 1933, then in 1934 we have the Imperial eagle clutching the swastika on Mi.545, promoting the Saar Plebiscite (this eagle, in various designs was used officially from 1919 to 1935), further in 1935, Mi.586/7 depict the Parteiadler on a Nuremberg Party Rally commemorative, whilst in 1937 Mi.649 (Block 10) is from the miniature sheet for the 'Brown Ribbon of Germany' horse race, issued with a red Reichsadler overprint. Two final issues belong in this survey, the 1943 Mi.863 commemorating the 20th anniversary of the march to the Feldherrn Hall in Munich (with a Parteiadler) and the 1944 Mi.887 commemorating Hitler's 55th birthday (with a Reichsadler).

Note: The official party stamps of 1938 (Mi.144-154), and 1942 (Mi.155-165), have not been included here. Ed.



Mi.545



Mi.586/7



Mi.649/ Block 10



Mi.863



Mi.887

WANTED: MORE 'DID YOU KNOW?'
ARTICLES.

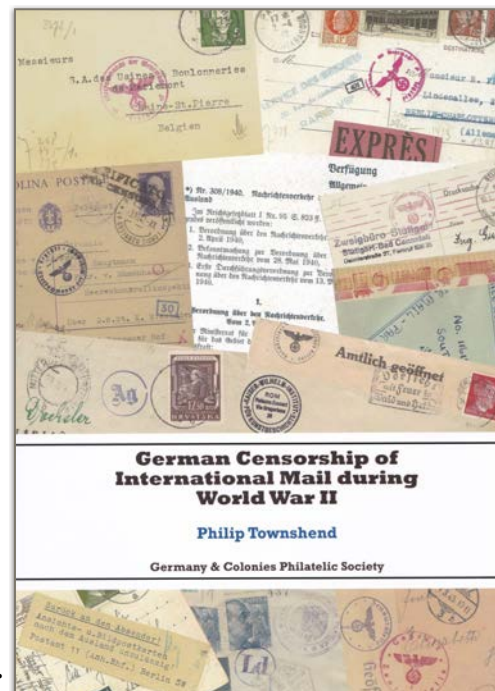
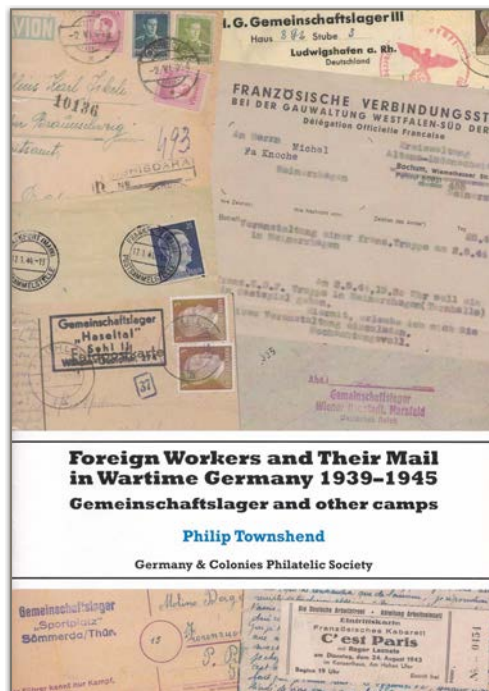
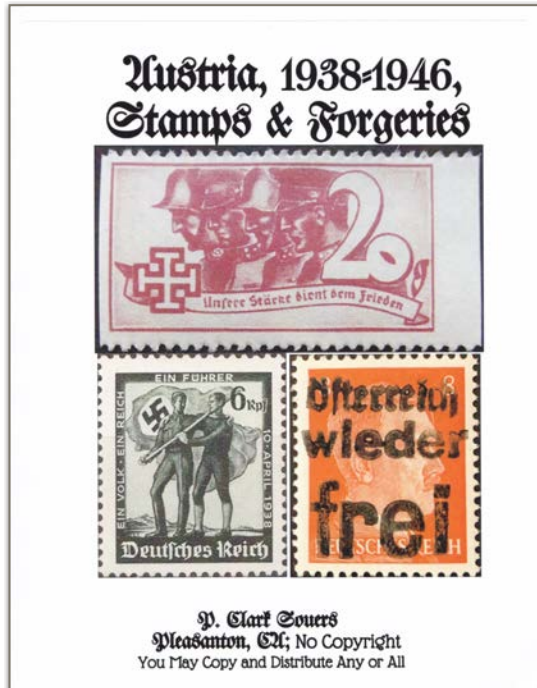


Literature

‘... and these are the books we read...’

We would like to know which books you use to assist in taking your collection that one step further when it comes to research and knowledge. Please send a scan of the cover with a brief description and print details.

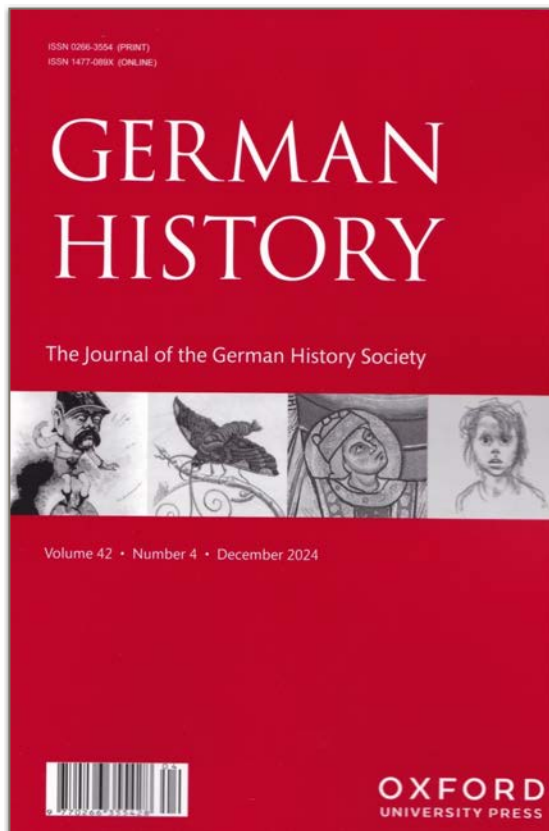
Disclaimer: First-hand knowledge means you have seen it; ‘second-hand knowledge’ means it has been told to you.



- A.** Austria. Stamps & Forgeries 1938-1946. P. Clark Souers. Private print. Will need to search the internet to purchase.
- B.** Germany. The Year after Hitler. P. Clark Souers. Private print. Will need to search the internet to purchase.
- C.** Foreign Workers... Philip Townsend. G&CPS (2019). See the G&CPS web site.
- D.** German Censorship... Philip Townsend. G&CPS (2021). See the G&CPS web site.



 Literature



For those who enjoy reading on all aspects of Germany history then please be aware of this excellent journal published by the German History Society (GHS). Regarding the journal, the GHS describes it thus:

‘German History is renowned for its extensive range, covering all periods of German history and all German-speaking areas. Every issue contains referred articles and book reviews on various aspects of the German-speaking world, as well as news items and conference reports. It is an essential journal for German historians and of major value for all non-specialists interested in the field’.

The current edition (Vol. 42, Dec. 2024) has a couple of articles that may be of interest to TRSG members, *‘German Intelligence during the Second World War: The Canary Islands as a Case Study’* by Marta García Cabrera, and *‘Strange Bedfellows: US Occupation Officials and German Catholic Organisations’* by Stephanie Makin, as well as a book review of *‘Dreaming of Auschwitz: The Concentration Camp in the Prisoners’ Dreams’* by Wojciech Owczarski.

If you’re interested in finding out more please visit:

www.germanhistorysociety.org



 Ephemera

Those pieces of paper that you shoehorn into enhancing your collection. What are they and why?
For example....



Actual size:
190 x 37mm

Like many of my fellow TRSG members I have a certain amount of material that emanates from the *Kraft durch Freude* (KdF) movement. The ticket illustrated above was purchased for my collection in the hope that a date and event could be discovered, researched and ultimately added to a piece of philatelic material or postcard etc. As of today I am at a lose to discover the reason for it’s issue. Can anyone help? A side note regarding the sign of the times... *‘Regreßansprüche bei Fliegeralarm bestehen nach Beginn d. Vorstellung nicht’* - ‘There is no right of compensation in the event of an air raid alarm after the start of the performance’. **Ed.**

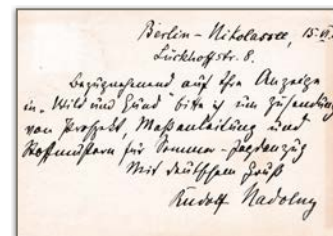
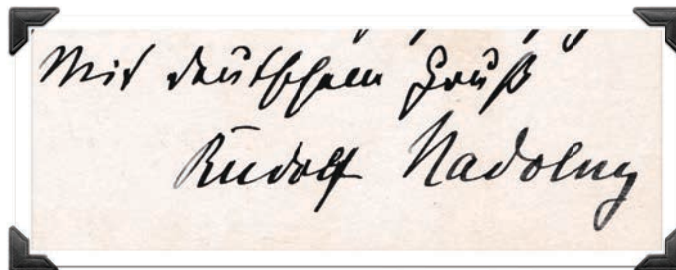
See page 20 of NS 196 for details of an excellent book on the KdF by Shelley Baronowski



The Vaults

What has gone before

A section for replies and complimentary articles based on the contents of previous news sheets.



The Cover Story article from **NS196 p.4**, prompted me to look for other such ‘diamonds in the rough’. The plain postcard above was one of a number being sold (as I recall it was quite inexpensive), all addressed to E.A. Müller of Kirchheim-Teck 24 (address incomplete?), and each being the reply to an invitation.

This particular card bears the signature of Rudolf Nadolny and is dated 15th June 1936. Quite a lucky find if you are interested in collecting autographs as this one is relatively hard to find. Nadolny forged a career in the diplomatic services of Germany, eventually falling out of favour in the mid-1930’s. However, it’s his participation in World War One that takes on a more sinister characteristic.

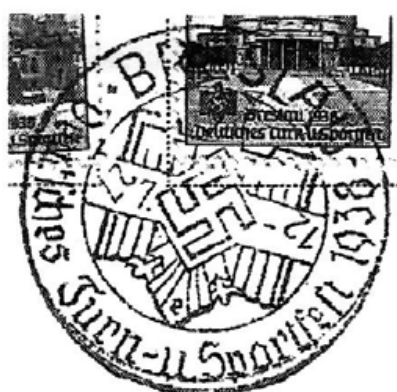
‘During the First World War, Nadolny led a political section of the German General Staff, the so-called *Sektion Politik Berlin des Generalstabs*. The group was responsible for acts of sabotage by using explosives and biological warfare. In 1915, Nadolny shipped cultures of anthrax and glanders, a horse disease that is also deadly to humans, to the German embassy in Romania to use them to target animals traded with the Russian Empire. The operation lasted until August 1916. Bacteria used by Nadolny were prepared in Berlin, and from there, Nadolny sent out the biological agents to Spain, the United States, Argentina and Romania. It was Nadolny who sent the infamous Anton Dilger to the still-neutral United States, where Dilger engaged in one of the first acts of state sponsored bioterrorism in the 20th century.’ (Wikipedia)

During the period we study Nadolny was German ambassador to Turkey (1924-1933), head of the German delegation at the World Disarmament Conference in Geneva (1932-1933), German ambassador to the Soviet Union (1933-1934), serving at the High Command of the Wehrmacht and alongside the staff of Admiral Canaris during World War Two. He died in 1953. **Ed.**



The Vaults

The answer to **Enq. 2/2025 (NS196, p.18)** was in plain sight *if* I had noticed an article from NS149 from June 2012! This concerned the Breslau Games of 1938 and the use of a ‘defective’ hand-stamp with day date irregularities. Suffice to say, there are other discrepancies (shown below). For more information see NS149... There is value in the back issues beyond all you can imagine!





Research Links

‘... and these are the websites we use...’

We hope you find this feature useful and please remember to send in any suggestions that will help your fellow collectors.

In this issue we highlight two translation websites, Google Translate and DeepL. Personally I use DeepL, however, I am sure that our membership has found something better!

As a non-German speaker/reader the challenge is always to get a translation correct. This is made more difficult when one considers the nuances and colloquial phrases employed, especially when translating feldpost or personal correspondence. Ideally we should all learn the language!



translate.google.co.uk



deepl.com

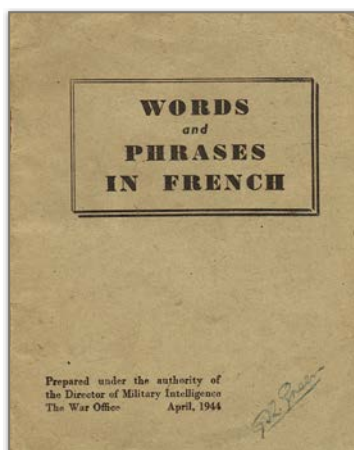
And talking of translations, here are three books that were for contemporary usage, published between 1943-1945.

Possibly more interesting for the phrasing rather than their use for modern translations.

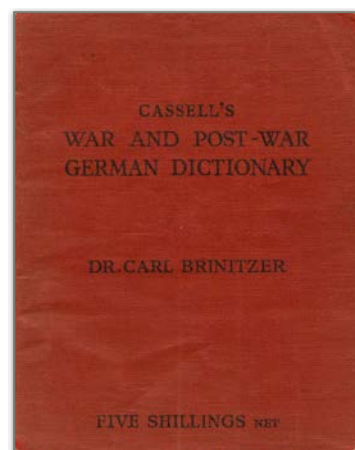
The Dr. Carl Brinitzer dictionary contains interesting information on Germany organisations.



A.



B.



C.

- A. *'GERMAN PHRASE BOOK, November 30, 1943'*. Restricted issue (TM 30-606), War Department, Washington.
- B. *'WORDS and PHRASES IN FRENCH'*. Prepared under the authority of the Director of Military Intelligence, The War Office, April 1944. British issue.
- C. *'CASSELL'S WAR AND POST WAR GERMAN DICTIONARY'* by Dr. Carl Brinitzer. 1945. The introduction reads, *'This dictionary is designed for today and for tomorrow; for the Allied Armies advancing into Germany, for the administrative officers and technicians accompanying the armies, and for the use of future historians, who, sitting at their peaceful desks, will be trying to comprehend an age which will always be incomprehensible.'*

For those of you who are members of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society (and why wouldn't you be?), remember there is a library... See *Germania* for details.



Membership

The TRSG welcomes all of its Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society members to their meetings in 2025

Three meetings will be held at the The Civil Service club, 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HJ

The meetings are held on Saturdays and start at 12 noon with an informal lunch and bourse (when required), with displays from 13:00 - 16:00

The meetings will be held on the following dates:

19th April 2025

26th July 2025

18th October 2025

If you have any questions regarding the meetings or wish to participate with a display then please contact Tony Hickey at hickey_anthony@hotmail.com

This News Sheet is sent to over 170 addresses globally.

If you no longer require the News Sheet or wish to add a name and address to the emailing list then please contact Carl Buck at carl.buck01@btinternet.com



The G&CPS

The Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society welcomes new members.

The Society is open to all age groups and currently has a memberships spanning most continents of the world. Major areas of interest to current members include Pre-Philately, the German States, the period between 1871 -1918, the Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, the Allied Occupation, the Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic, Colonies & Foreign, Private Posts, and Revenues etc...

Benefits of membership include an Exchange Packet (UK only), a Lending Library (UK only), a Postal Auction, discount on publications and philatelic accessories. There is also a Members Forum (on the website).

The Society also holds Regional meetings, Study Group Meetings and an AGM weekend

The Society's journal '*Germania*' is published quarterly and contains over 60 full colour pages of expert articles on various aspects of German philately and Postal History.

JOIN TODAY

For membership details please visit www.germanphilately.org and click 'JOIN' on the red toolbar

