

# Press Release: SPRING STAMPEX 2018

The Kids Zone was busier this time on each of the days, benefitting from the event being held in half term. Free goody bags were on offer as well as the Lucky Dip, Guess the number of stamps in the Jar and other prizes. Attendance at the Autumn show had been disappointing but had clearly been affected by the terrorism in London on the Friday. The numbers at the popular free points auction, which has become a regular feature of Stampex Saturday was the highest for some time. As usual, the kids gaining points by completing activities, this time on the theme of “Transport” and they could use these points to bid in the auction. All the children taking part in the auction were entered into a free draw for a Penny Black, sponsored by Mulready Philatelics.

We were well supported by a range of volunteers and sincere appreciation to all, including Peter Barham, Alan Bretherton and Ralph Stuttard who were on the stand every day.



**Auction in progress**



**Auction Lots on display**



**Stamp Art**

There was also a daily Stamp Art Workshop, organised by Suzanne Rae of Artstamped. This again provided popular with children making cards and pictures from stamps.

There was also very encouraging feedback from visitors and stamp club organisers on the level of support from Stamp Active. Steve Pye from Runnymede School Stamp Club in Liverpool told us “I could not have done what I have without the support of Stamp Active. I have 35 children coming to the Club. They love it and I love it. The children get very excited when they get their packs from Kidstamps. Thank you for all that you do.”

Cartor Security Printing provided a “Post & Go” machine that could print on Stamp Active “poster stamps” with various standardised messages or personalised messages with or without emojis.

Children could select their own free of charge but adults could buy a single set (of 6 stamps) at £10 to raise funds for Stamp Active.



**Jack Boynton using the machine      Selections on the screen**

John Davies, Chairman of the Stamp Active Network, said “This is a tremendous initiative by Cartor to support us. We are entirely reliant on sponsorship and donations to continue our activities. This finance will go a long way towards allowing us to reprint the activity books that are so popular with the children and school stamp clubs. We are very grateful to Ian Brigham of Cartor who provided the labels and to Bob Fothergill for his technical support. Ralph Stuttard led this initiative at Spring Stampex and did a great job in meeting the needs of those who wanted to purchase sets and helped raise a very significant sum of money. Thank you.”

## **NEW FACES JOIN STAMP ACTIVE**

Peter Barham has kindly agreed to lead the activities, particularly the auction, next time as I will be committed elsewhere on the day. He already has a large stock of auction lots to prepare the listing.



**Peter Barham**

Vivienne Kemp will be undertaking a role as Schools Liaison Officer, aiming to attract some school groups during Autumn Stampex, which will be in school time. The theme in the Kids Zone will be “Britain at War”. This is a key stage 2 curriculum subject. There will be a special stamp issue for World War I in that week. We will liaise with the PR manager for the Philatelic Traders’ Society (PTS) to try to get some military personnel or veterans along to meet any school groups, as well as having other attractions on this theme.



**Vivienne Kemp**

## **PENNY BLACK DRAW**

At each Stampex, there is a free points auction on the Saturday afternoon in the Kids Zone for all the youngsters who have completed the Stamp Active activities. After the auction, there is a free prize draw for a Penny Black, sponsored by Robin Cassell of Mulready Philatelics. The winner at Spring Stampex 2018 was ZAC HAYHURST, aged 9, from Reading.



**Zac Hayhurst with Robin Cassell**

# JAR OF STAMPS COMPETITION

There was also a fun competition to guess the number of stamps in a jar, donated by The Philatelic Traders' Society. The winner of the jar this time was HOLLY WAN, aged 12, from Cheltenham.



Holly Wan with Robin Cassell

## “BRING A CHILD TO SPRING STAMPEX”

Stamp Active's aim is to encourage more parents and grandparents to bring them along to Stampex to enjoy the fun activities and see some of the attractions at the show. They receive a prize draw ticket for each child under 18 which visits the Stamp Active Kids Zone in Gallery Bay 14.

The Winners at Spring Stampex 2018 were:

**Prestige Stamp Books** donated by Royal Mail

Won by Nelson Cuesta, London

**2017 Guernsey Year Book** donated by Guernsey Post

Won by Kyron Creighton-Mook, West Sussex

**Subscription to Stamp & Coin Mart Magazine** donated by Warners Group Publications

Won by Yaw Boateng, London

**Subscription to Gibbons Stamp Monthly Magazine** donated by Stanley Gibbons

Won by Rebecca Hayhurst, Reading

**Mr Men Smilers Sheet** donated by The Philatelic Traders' Society

Won by Isabella Hagan, London



**Nelson Cuesta with Robin Cassell**  
**Winner of Royal Mail Prestige Books**



**Yaw Boateng with Robin Cassell**  
**Winner of the 12 month subscription**  
**to Stamp & Coin Mart**



**Rebecca Hayhurst with Robin Cassell**  
**Winner of the 12 month subscription**  
**to Gibbons Stamp Monthly**

*Photos courtesy of Paul Leonard*