

The Philately Group

Did you know that the value of stamps has risen faster in percentage terms over the last 10 years than most other antiques, including valuable paintings? Do you have a stamp collection lurking in your attic or garage? Never seen the light of day since your youth? Want to know if you are the proud owner of any rare and valuable stamps? Then bring your collection along to the Open Day on 27 October and let the Philately Group have a look at it. We will be happy to give you any advice we can on what the approximate value of your collection is worth and if you wish to dispose of it, which outlets to try. But remember, old postage stamps can tell you a lot more than just the relative value. They are like miniature pieces of art in themselves and they can also tell you a lot about the history and geography of countries, some of which are no longer on the map because of changes of name. Who knows, we may even re-awaken your interest in collecting again. So don't put it off, bring along your stamp books and talk to the Philately Group on the Open Day.

Family History

Do you want to find out about your ancestors? Maybe you have some names in a family bible, your parents' birth or marriage certificates or some military medals. We can show you what members of the group have discovered and give you some suggestions about how to find out more about your family. Are there skeletons in your cupboard? Between us the group have discovered shotgun weddings, deserted wives, bigamists and a few who ended their days in the workhouse. So far nobody has discovered a link to nobility but we live in hope. A well known television programme gives the impression that this subject is quick and easy! From experience we can warn you that it is not but it is very rewarding. At the open day we are also aiming to have internet access to family history websites and printing facilities available and a number of publications you can read.