

NPSL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1999/2000 SEASON

The 1999/2000 season was split into two halves. The second half of last year was spent on library matters; whilst the first half of this year involved website preparations and working on The Stamp Show 2000 literature reading area.

Running a library involves more work than many will realise and our constantly improving reputation and an active acquisitions policy is putting the team under considerable strain. It is proving difficult to catch-up with the work in-hand, let alone get ahead of things. We clearly need more help. So, even if you can only commit to undertaking a 'one-off' small project, please contact me if you feel able to spare some time for the benefit of NPSL and your fellow members.

The successful launch of the www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps website could not have happened without the generosity and support of the British Philatelic Trust. NPSL expresses its gratitude for this and its continuing help and funding of library activities. It is now possible to access an ever-increasing amount of NPSL holdings on the web, including books, monographs and periodicals. We look forward to further developing this resource over the coming months to include other aspects of our materials.

TSS2000 preparations precluded the library team from doing much more than running the day-to-day operations. At the show we managed 40 staff in an area covering 75 square metres and the stand included glazed cabinets holding the special prizes, three PCs with the UKPhilately web site, seating for 24 readers and a book sales area. The main purpose of the stand was to lend the competitive literature entries and we lent 473 books to 202 readers during the seven days of the show. We acquired over 200 additional items for the library and as we also ran the ASCAT stand on the final day this resulted in a further 60 new catalogue additions for NPSL.

Our auctioneer Mike Thomson kindly offered to prepare, lot and run a literature auction on behalf of the library, so please bid generously this afternoon as funds are in aid of NPSL and its periodical binding programme.

Finally, but most importantly, on the people front it gives me pleasure to record my thanks to the library team for their many and varied contributions to the success of NPSL. Thanks also to those individuals, firms and philatelic organisations that made donations of time, money or literature for the library. We could not exist without your kind support.

GLENN H MORGAN, Honorary Librarian, NPSL.