

THE PRIZE WINNERS

Chris King is one of the leading philatelists of his generation and has made a major contribution to just about every aspect of philately. He has been President of the Royal Philatelic Society London and has played a central role in every aspect of the recent project to move the Society to new premises in the City of London. He also oversees the Society's collections including the Museum of Philatelic History. He is a Member of the Board of Election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and has produced several Large Gold Medal exhibits as well being an international juror. He has also received many awards including the European Parliament's Medal for Philately and the Lichtenstein Award. He is an inveterate traveller and has visited and given encouragement to philatelists in many countries around the world. His approach is always innovative and stimulating and he represents the best traditions of philately as a centre of excellence and a channel for bringing people of all nations together.

Carlo Giovanardi was a member of the Italian parliament for three legislatures, Minister and Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies. He carried out an intense and fruitful promotion and support for philately in Italy, that he has continued after he left the Parliament. Founder and chairman of the "Parliamentarians' Friends of Philately Group" he conceived and promoted prestigious philately, history and postal exhibitions on different periods of Italian history at the Chamber of Deputies, at the Palazzo del Quirinale, seat of the President of the Italian Republic, and in San Marino. These exhibitions were documented through important books. Furthermore, he presented and got approved a law against the falsification of stamps no longer valid for postage, aimed at defrauding collectors. He also conducted and still carries out vigorous political campaigns drawing attention to and opposing legislative provisions harmful to philately.

Henrik Mouritsen's research concerns the history of the Danish postal service from 1 January 1875 to the UPU's Rome treaty of 1 October 1907. The entirely bilingual Danish/English publication includes all UPU regulations and rates in francs and centimes for all types of domestic and international mail during the first 32 years of UPU's existence. A comprehensive treatment of all UPU regulations for all types of mail has never been published in the philatelic literature of any country before. All statements of fact in the book are linked to original contemporaneous sources. Furthermore, it contains a detailed rarity listing of Danish domestic rates and draws also on a detailed register of the Danish postal heritage sent to foreign destinations which has been compiled since 1990. The five volumes are supplemented by a sixth volume, available only in the premium edition, which includes 73 pages of advice on how to improve a philatelic exhibit in three different classes: traditional, postal history and postal stationery.

The **Verein für Briefmarkenkunde Bensheim** (Bensheim Philatelic Society) is a strong supporter for philately in Germany. The society has organized, over the years, many exchange days with a large number of visitors. Its promotional initiatives are very well known in the region between Frankfurt and Heidelberg.

The **Associazione Filatelica Numismatica Scaligera** (Scaliger Philatelic Numismatic Association) of Verona is well known because of the bi-annual "Veronafil", now at its 134th edition, that brings together hundreds of operators and thousands of collectors from all over Italy and from several European countries. Among the many exhibitions organized by the society, the latest are "Italia 2018" and "ECTP 2019", the European Championship of Thematic Philately.

The **Zainteresowań PZF „Kolejnictwo” im. Ernesta Adama Malinowskiego** (National „Railway” Club of the Polish Philatelists Union) has a long tradition and has been functioning in Poland for 35 years. The achievements of the club include a long lasting high number of members, frequent meetings throughout the country, support to exhibitions and publishing activities.

The **Korosko filatelislèno drustvo Ravne** (Korosko Philatelic Society) has been committed to promotion of philately, aiming at the wide audience of non-philatelists. It has organized frequent, small exhibitions focused on specific themes and on new issues, and has established strong connections to local media. Another KFD distinctive characteristic is the particular attention to youth.

The **Grupo Filatélico y Numismático de Tenerife** (Philatelic and Numismatic Group of Tenerife) has a tradition of society meetings for lectures and exchange of material. Its members have been involved in the national and international philatelic life as exhibitors, members and chairmen of commissions, and organizers of successful exhibitions. This dynamic society, that has an important philatelic library and has edited several publications, has also held a large number of exhibitions.

Stamp Active Network, is the leading organisation promoting stamp collecting among young people in the UK. It aims to support all young collectors and junior club leaders throughout the UK. It is the only nationwide organisation dedicated to encouraging and developing youth philately. Its website was awarded a Large Gold Medal and “Best in Class” at Italia 2018.