

BTA ONE FRAME COMPETITIONS 2025

Our hosts were, as usual, the Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies, at their annual Stamp and Postcard Fair at Ardingly Showground. And as always our hosts provided plentiful space, help with the frames, and publicity announcements during the day. Thanks to them for helping our day go smoothly.

This year has seen a change of rules to the competitions, with scanned entries accepted from UK as well as overseas entrants, a move which certainly helped the number of entries. Entries for display only were also invited: it's sometimes nice just to see your material on display without the stress of it being judged. This all resulted in eight competitive entries and two display items:

COMPETITIVE ENTRIES

THEMATIC PHILATELY

Jan Nyeki Polar Bear: From King of Arctic to symbol of climate change Large Gold

Polar bears have become iconic symbols of climate change with their dependence on the Arctic sea ice which is shrinking. Following a look at the natural history of the polar bear, the exhibit examines human exploration of the Arctic and how it has increasingly disrupted the bear's lifestyle, and now the whole ecosystem of the Arctic.

Salvatore Piccone The Prayer "Ave Maria" sung in the Sardinian language Large Gold

The Jesuits promoted Christianity and veneration of the Virgin Mary through prayers and hymns. Sardinia had a rural population which spoke only Sardinian, hence the adoption of this version on the Island. The exhibit told the history of the Ave Maria and illustrated the words of the song itself.

Petr Fencl Red stars on the moon Large Vermeil

The 'space race' between the USSR and the USA started in the 1950s, both countries determined to be the first to land a man on the moon. The Soviets lost the race but made rapid developments in technology.

OPEN PHILATELY

Fran Adams The Oceanographic Institute and the Museum of Monaco: the first 50 years 1910 - 1960 Gold

The first ocean institute of its kind, it was founded by Prince Albert to help protect and better understand oceanic life, environments and ecosystems. A chronological narrative told the story of Prince Albert's interest, the buildings and the Institute's research.

James Dickinson Quinine quotes in books, films and radio Vermeil

A bringing together of very disparate interests - quinine, literature and the media - to produce illustrated quotations about the drug, the world's first effective treatment for malaria.

COMPETITIVE ENTRIES

PICTURE POSTCARDS

Guresh Mehra Poona during the days of British India Large Vermeil

Poona was a colonial military base in India during the time of the British Raj, and the postcards illustrate various aspects of life in the city, from its infrastructure through to the social life of its inhabitants.

James Dickinson Royal Mail postbuses on regional postal area Vermeil postcards

From 1967 to 2012 the postbus service offered residents of rural communities an alternative to the declining bus and rail services in their areas. Usually running twice a day, passengers and mail would be picked up en route. The exhibit covered the history of the services, the routes and the vehicles used.

Guresh Mehra Banaras: The blend of history, spirituality and culture Vermeil

Banaras, also known as Varanasi, has a history going back over 3,000 years, and the exhibit highlighted some of its famous sites, particularly temples, ghats, and other spiritual places.

DISPLAY ENTRIES

Fran Adams Seven Schwabians and a forgotten rake

Grace Davies The Peace Rose



This very wide range of subjects provided interesting viewing for the regular trickle of visitors visiting the frames. A single frame - 16 pages - does not give a lot of room to tell a story. Salvatore Piccone's entry "The Prayer 'Ave Maria' sung in the Sardinian language" was the most successful in achieving a story "on a narrow theme and which is suitable due to its limited subject or limited available material to development in one frame" (FIP Guidelines). However it came a narrow second to the overall winner Jan Nyeki with "Polar Bear: from King of Arctic to a symbol of climate change" which showed a stunning range of lovely philatelic material immaculately written up. Thank you to all those who competed or displayed, we appreciate all the work you put in.

Chairman Barry Stagg presenting the BTA Cup to Jan Nyeki