

THE PSM MAGAZINE



Silver-Bronze ESPANA '84 & AUSIPEX '84
Silver-Bronze ISRAPIL '85 & PHILTEMA '85
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Editorial

WE ARE TWENTY YEARS OLD



In March 1966 a small group of Maltese and Foreign Residents encouraged by the efforts of the late Mr. L. Frank, Dr. Albert Ganado, the late Mr. Boris Darmanin and Dr. Charles Cassar, met at the Catholic Institute Floriana where the first meeting was held. Mr. Louis Frank was elected President Dr. Albert Ganado Secretary and Mr. Boris Darmanin Treasurer.

Dr. Charles Cassar, Mgstre Dr. J. Soler, Dr. J.H. Mercieca and Mr. C.J. Whelpdale were elected Committee members.

These gentlemen were the pioneers of our Society and from this column I salute them. If it were not for their efforts our Society would not have been the strong, virile, enthusiastic Society it is today.

The first humble newsletter, in the form of a trial stencilled 18 page copy of type written script, measuring 17 × 17 cm was issued in Autumn of 1966, the Editor being an English serviceman Mr. D. Browning appointed on the 8th July 1966. Following this newsletter another stencilled 18 page type written newsletter was issued in the Spring of 1967 named as Vol. 1 No. 1.

Chevalier E. Cremona was responsible for the design which was printed in black and is still being used today, though over the years it was printed in various colours. Chevalier E. Cremona during the September 1966 meeting was elected Honorary life member of the Society a gesture which was intended to show the high regard felt for the Chevalier in Philatelic circles.

Mr. Browning unfortunately was transferred to do Service Duty in Cyprus in 1967 and contact with him has been lost. Vol. 1 No. 2 which was the first printed edition was published in the Summer of 1967 by Mr. Barrie Commons, appointed on the 12th April 1967. Mr. Commons was ably assisted by his wife and they remained in office up to the 18th April 1968. He was succeeded on the 19th April 1968 by Dr. Edwin Aquilina M.D. assisted in the Summer of 1968 by Mr. Paul A. Pace as Assistant Editor. Mr. Ivan Sant followed Dr. Aquilina as Editor on the 8th March 1973 and was responsible for issuing the Autumn 1973 Issue Vol. 4 No. 1. The years 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973 were rather turbulent years, the Society only being able to issue one issue per year. However a new lease of life was injected in the magazine by the appointment of Mr Nick Cutajar on the 24th October 1974 who again began to publish the magazine regularly, his first publication being Autumn 1974 Vol. 4 No. 2 ably assisted by Mr. S. Stanaway, who soon went back to the U.K. and was succeeded by Mr. J. Farrugia as Assistant Editor. Unfortunately because of pressure of work Mr. Nick Cutajar had to give up the Editorship in 1980 and Mr. Albert J. Tabone was appointed in his stead on 27th January 1981. In 1982 Mr. Tabone gave up the Editorship and I was appointed issuing Vol. 11 No. 3 which was really the work of Mr. Tabone. My first issue assisted by Mr. J. Farrugia was Vol. 12 No. 1 since then Mr. Farrugia because of pressure of work gave up the Assistant Editorship and I am now assisted by Mr. Vincent Mercieca. During these years the Magazine has been one of the means by which Maltese Philately was explored, and won a Bronze-Gilt Medal at VIIth Malta Philatelic Exhibition, Prag 1978, Philaseridca 1979, Norwix 1980.

Now that it has taken the role of a Research Magazine further success was registered by winning Silver-Bronze Medals at the FIP Exhibition of Espana 1984 Ausipex 1984 Isrephil 1985 and Philtema 1985.

The December 1984 Issue, was dedicated to the Centenary of the Statutory Establishment of the Malta Post Office 1885 – 1985, and it was highlighted by having four full pages of colour reproductions. This was indeed an achievement for our Society.

Today our Magazine is found in most Philatelic Libraries, and is mailed to members in the U.K., America, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, The Emerates, Australia and New Zealand.

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