

NPS LIBRARY (NPSL) REPORT: 1998/99 SEASON

NPSL has experienced a successful year with much work accomplished and much still to do, as ever.

I am fortunate in having a fine team supporting me and wish to thank Elizabeth Graham, Michael Furnell, Ted Halliday, Peter Mellor, Dick Pratt, David Sibley, George Smith, Bill Stotten and Ted Wilson for the sterling work that they each do for the society and for the library in particular. Without this voluntary service we could not function.

Users are up on last year, which is encouraging, but work still needs to be done to get even more collectors to utilise the excellent facilities on offer. An Internet project has been started, which we hope will expose NPSL to a wider audience and an announcement in this regard will be made in due course. Adding our entire holdings to a Microsoft Access database continues apace. It is hoped that the year 2000 will see all items searchable on screen and on-line around the world, possibly even on sale as a CD-ROM, all enabling you to plan what you wish to see in advance of your actual visit.

Individuals and organisations still amaze me with their generosity. We continue to receive excellent assistance and financial support from the British Philatelic Trust; whilst many friends and members of the society have been especially kind with their donations of philatelic literature this past season. We aim for each donation to be acknowledged, so please continue to bear us in mind and “*think NPSL*” if having a clear out at home, for we endeavour not to waste anything given to us.

Pride of place this year under acquisitions must go to Argyll Etkin Limited who most generously donated their philatelic periodicals and exhibitions catalogue collections to us. Once the huge quantity has been fully sorted and amalgamated into our holdings, it will have substantially added to the status of our library. We are deeply grateful to them for entrusting this material to our care and for helping to make it available to generations of collectors to come.

My team and I look forward to serving you in the year ahead.

Glenn H. Morgan, *Honorary Librarian, NPSL*