

BTA COMPETITIONS

South of England Stamp Fair and Sussex Convention at Ardingly 8 October 2016

Brian Sole reports

Thanks to the Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies, the BTA was able to display the entries to the 2016 BTA competitions at its Autumn Convention, held at Ardingly Showground. The competition frames were near the BTA table, which was manned by Wendy Buckle, Lesley Marley and Brian Sole throughout the day.

Once again there was only one entry to the two-frame BTA Cup competition, but Grace Davies was a worthy winner with her entry *The Dove and Olive Branch - Symbols of Hope and Peace*, judged to Large Vermeil standard.

Visitors voted for their favourite entry in the 'no rules' John Fosbery Trophy competition. Janet Nelson was the narrow winner with *1,000 years of Annoying the French*. The title was amusing and Janet showed examples of various battles in which the French had been overcome. In second place, one vote behind, was Erene Grieve's *The Written Word*. This was well thought out, describing the early handwritten letters and the different types of pen through the ages, concluding with computer printers. The remaining three entries all gained votes. Stuart Hogg's *The Horse* described the working and the sporting horse with appropriate material and a good write-up. Ron Gillard's summary of the life and works of Alphonse Mucha included beautiful examples of Mocha's artistry, mainly with stamps from Czechoslovakia. Unfortunately Roger Pascoe's entry went astray in transit and enquiries are continuing. However, he was able to show photocopies of his very colourful *Gems in the Air*, a study of dragonflies and damselflies through their anatomy, habitat and breeding cycle.

THE RESULTS

BTA CUP

Grace Davies The Dove and Olive Branch - Symbols of Hope and Peace Large Vermeil



Grace receiving the Cup from Brian.

Paris Peace Conference 1946



THE RESULTS

JOHN FOSBERY THEMATIC TROPHY

Janet Nelson	1,000 years of annoying the French	Winner
Erene Grieve	The Written Word: the Tools and the Trade	Second
Roger Pascoe	Gems in the Air: Dragonflies and Damselflies	
Ron Gillard	The Birth, the Death and the Resurrection: Summarising the Works of Alphonse Mucha	
Stuart Hogg	The Horse: our Eternal Friend	



Janet, Brian and John Fosbery Trophy



Portrait of Alphonse Mucha, designed by M. Svabinsky

The French got very annoyed when an international conference decided that the Prime Meridian should be based on Greenwich



Dragonfly Sympetrum dilatatum



'Grand Pardubice' a notoriously dangerous race



Ancient writing and modern technology