

十年磨一劍—— 皇家郵學會中國年會十年歷程

THE FIRST TEN YEARS OF RPSL CHINA REGIONAL MEETINGS

過去十年，皇家郵學會已經在大江南北成功舉辦過年會，並在倫敦、烏蘭巴托和香港組織過郵學活動：

The RPSL China Regional Meetings were held in 10 different cities across China over the past decade. In addition, philatelic activities and gatherings were organised in London, Ulan Bator and Hong Kong.

2010	蘇州網師園	Wangshuyuan Garden	Suzhou
2011	南京總統府	Presidential Palace	Nanjing
2012	北京頤和園	Summer Palace	Beijing
2013	廣州黃埔軍校	Whampoa Military Academy	Guangzhou
2014	江陰要塞司令部	Jiangyin Fortress HQ	Jiangyin
2015	旅順	Commander's Residence	Port Arthur
2016	新疆烏魯木齊	Urumqi	Xinjiang
2017	杭州西湖	West Lake	Hangzhou
2018	成都少城（滿城）	Manchu City	Chengdu
2019	太倉港	Taicang Port	Taicang
2020	汕頭郵政總局	GPO	Shantou (Swatow)
2021	莆田湄洲	Meizhou	Putian, Fujian
2022	艾華集郵園地	Ava Philatelic Arena	Hong Kong
2023	孫立人故居	Sun Lijin Residence	Taipei, Taiwan
2024	綏遠將軍府	Viceroy of Suiyuan Govt Hse	Huhhot, Inner Mongolia

2004 年，王劍智會士到皇家郵學會接受塔普林獎章獎章後，與歷任會長晚宴，談到了郵學會希望在中國開展活動的願望。而在大陸和臺灣，有的老會員卻表示，由於郵學會在中國地區內沒有開展活動、語文不通、研究方向與國郵關係不大，就退會了。王劍智會士因公務繁忙，雖然回國以後和全國集郵聯劉佳維先生、江蘇馬佑璋先生、台灣何輝慶先生、香港李安娜女士交流過一些想法，但一直到了 2009 年，才開始敲定了以出版年刊《亞洲郵學家》和舉辦年會與郵學論壇為活動方式，並遵循皇家郵學會傳統，活動對公眾公開，以推廣集郵、分享研究成果。

2010 年 4 月 10 日，我們在香港組織了一次皇家郵學會晚宴，4 月 24 日，在蘇州世界文化遺產網師園舉行了皇家郵學會第一次中國年會，並出版了《亞洲郵學家》第一卷，得到了好評。在中、港、台的會員人數有較大的增加，兩位先進，也晉升了會士。

5 月倫敦郵展期間，皇家郵學會舉行了海外代表會議，會長嘉許了在中國會員的活動和組織。《亞洲郵學家》主編應邀參觀了大英圖書館郵藏部及其修復部門。

In 2004, when Danny Wong first visited the Royal to accept the Tapling Award, the question of holding Royal events in Greater China was raised during a dinner with the President and the past presidents. On the other hand, some members in mainland China and Taiwan found there were no Royal activities in the region, research subjects in the London Philatelist were irrelevant to Chinese philately and there were language barriers, and resigned. It was not until 2009 that we decided that publishing a journal on Asian philately in Chinese and English, plus an annual China Regional Meeting was probably the way forward. In accordance with the Royal tradition, the meeting should be open to the public to spread the philatelic interest and knowledge.

On 10th April 2010, we organized an informal RPSL dinner in Hong Kong, followed by the First China Regional Meeting in the World Heritage Site of *Wangshiyuan* in Suzhou on 24th April. Our journal *The Asian Philatelist* attracted very positive responses and citations. Membership has increased, and two fellows were elected.

During the Festival of Stamps in May 2010, the Royal held a meeting of overseas representatives and our activities were endorsed by the President. The editor of *The Asian Philatelist* visited the British Library Philatelic Collections as well as its restoration department.

2011 年 8 月，我們根據總會在倫敦郵展的經驗，在香港郵展設立了推廣會務的攤位，又組織了一次正式的晚宴，《亞洲郵學家》第二卷首發。11 月 16-17 日，在南京總統府舉辦了皇家郵學會第二屆中國年會，紀念辛亥革命一百周年，會前拜謁了中山陵，會後訪問了高郵古城，參觀了孟城遺址，活動十分成功，有大陸、臺灣、香港、英國、泰國、新加坡的會員、會士和嘉賓五十多人參加；並發行了《亞洲郵學家》第二卷，所以封面有香港版和南京版之分；本卷發表的研究成果被廣泛的轉載、引用。

The Royal was represented in the 1911 Republican Revolution centennial stamp exhibition in Hong Kong in August 2011 for membership promotion. Immediately following the Wuxi FIAP Exhibition, we held the Second China Regional Meeting on 16-17th November 2011 in the Presidential Palace in Nanjing. Dr Sun Yat-san was sworn into office here as the first president of the republic in 1912, and the Presidential Palace was the seat of the central government of the Republic of China before 1949, hence a fitting place to commemorate the centennial of the 1911 Republican Revolution.

For the 50-plus fellows, members and guests from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and United Kingdom, the first day was traveling down the Republican memory lane. In the fine morning of 16th November, participants paid tribute to the Dr Sun Yat-san Memorial in Nanjing, followed by a visit to the Residence of the President of the Nationalist Government (Chiang Kai-shek). The Second China Regional Meeting was held in the Grand Meeting Hall of the Presidential Palace in the afternoon. Welcome message from the President was read at the opening, followed by well-wishes from representatives of many philatelic societies. The *Asian Philatelist 2011* was published concurrent with the event. The day was toasted off in the venue hotel situated directly in front of the Presidential Palace, a happening place for the powerful politicians and warlords of the Republican era.

Afterwards, some participants (including all 14 from Taiwan) toured Gaoyou, where the best preserved ancient *yizhan* (courier station) is located. They were warmly received by the local government.

2012 年 4 月 16-18 日期間，協調組織了中國國家郵政局、全國集郵聯、郵政郵票博物館與英國皇家郵學會合作，在皇家郵學會會所內舉辦郵票展覽和中外集郵家的交流活動，並組織參訪大英圖書館郵藏部、英國郵政博物檔案館。郵政郵票博物館展出郵票與中國文化展品，與孫蔣濤先生的大龍郵集和丁勁松先生的紅印花等高水準郵集共 48 框，郵票展覽對公眾開放。中國集郵家在收藏和研究領域上的進展，得到英國同好的讚賞。

11 月 7-14 日，英國皇家郵學會候任會長金凱思攜夫人訪問北京，在京期間，會長拜會了國家郵政局、中華全國集郵聯合會、中國郵政文史中心、郵政郵票博物館等單位，回顧了當年 4 月在倫敦皇家郵學會會所舉辦中國郵票展覽以來的良好合作，金會長並分別會見了中國著名的集郵家魏鋼先生和丁勁松先生，和蒙古集郵家恩赫巴托先生。

正值“十八大”舉行的歷史時刻，英國皇家郵學會 2012 年中國年會 11 月 10 日上午在頤和園外務公所舉行，參加者包括十多位會士、會員和上百位來自中國大陸各地遠至新疆、臺灣、香港的郵壇耆英與賓客。金會長發表了主題演說，他回顧一百多年以來通過郵展、論文和

參會，反映出皇家郵學會對中國的一貫關注，其中包括第一位華人會士周今覺先生。金會長強調東西方集郵家加強交流的重要性，而皇家郵學會可以擔任此重要角色。金會長並宣佈了任命蔡正鈞先生為新增中國代表。下午進行郵學論壇和交流。為紀今日盛會，頤和園郵局特在會場設一臨時郵局。是夜，設宴於頤和園聽鸛館正殿，前臨大戲臺，有戲班助興，以清室流風餘韻，饗今日皇家嘉賓，不亦樂乎！英國皇家郵學會的中文會刊《亞洲郵學家》第三卷在年會期間首發。

11月11日，部分與會者繼續參觀中國郵政郵票博物館。中午，天津市政協副主席何榮林先生在迎賓館設宴招待金會長一行，下午，參觀天津市郵票博物館，館址在天津海關郵局，曾發售中國第一套郵票大龍郵票，並就收藏與陳列的矛盾進行了有益的探討。

In mid-April 2012, the Directorate-General of Posts, All-China Philatelic Federation and the China Postal Museum held a philatelic exhibition in cooperation with and within the premises of the Royal Philatelic Society London, assisted by the China Team. Chinese classics including Large Dragon and Red Revenue collections were displayed. The exhibition was very successful and was a very good platform for philatelists from China and Britain to make friends and exchange their views.

On 7th November, RPSL president-elect Chris King and Mrs King arrived Beijing and paid return visits to the State Post Bureau, All-China Philatelic Federation, National Postal and Stamp Museum, following up the China Stamp Exhibition in April in the premises of RPSL.

The 2012 China Regional Meeting was held in the Summer Palace of Beijing on 10th November, attended by a dozen members and fellows, plus over 100 guests from Taiwan, Hong Kong as well as different parts of mainland China as far as Xinjiang. Mr Chris King presided over the Meeting and delivered the keynote speech which traced the longstanding interest and relations it had with China. Mr King reiterated that RPSL is an ideal platform to forge closer ties between philatelists in China and the rest of the world.

It was followed by philatelic seminars in the afternoon. In the evening, guests moved to the Singing Bird Pavilion of the Summer Palace, which was the favourite theatre and dining place for Empress Dowager, where they were greeted by performances and court cuisine was waiting. A royal treat to end a fruitful day!

RPSL's Chinese journal *Asian Philatelists 2012* was published concurrent to the Regional Meeting. A temporary post office served the Regional Meeting during the day with special Summer Palace date stamps, and 2 special covers were issued on the occasion.

The next day, a smaller party made a tour to the National Postal and Stamp Museum greeted by its curator, then proceeded to the port city of Tianjin where the government hosted a stately reception to the RPSL party. In the afternoon, the party visited Tianjin Customs Post Office Museum, where the Large Dragons – the first stamps of China – were first sold.

2013 年，皇家郵學會活動頻繁，在香港、珠海、臺北、烏蘭巴托都有聚會，並在廣州黃埔軍校舉辦年會暨郵學論壇，《集郵博覽》2013 年 8 月號也發表了專輯對蒙古聚會致賀。

中秋過後，颱風“天兔”來襲，大中華各地集郵者卻不畏風雨，熱情高漲，齊集廣州黃埔軍校舊址，在 9 月 24 日在成功舉辦了英國皇家郵學會第四屆中國年會和郵學論壇。與會者在上午 9:45 時到達黃埔軍校，先向孫中山紀念碑獻花，再參觀孫中山故居（黃埔海關）和黃埔軍校，參加者興致很高，年會延至 11:00 時開始；下午 14:00 時開始郵學講演，第一部分是省港澳與東西方早期通信，第二部分是抗戰時期郵政史。與會的大陸、臺灣、香港、澳門各大郵學會代表和集郵家 70 餘人，還有十多名在校的學生代表列席。

第二天，與會的集郵家到炮臺、海戰紀念館和虎門銷煙處，瞻仰鴉片戰爭遺址。是夜，講者到廣州大學講演並與在座院校師生交流建設郵會經驗，與會者約 60 人，為兩岸大學生集郵者之間建立了直接溝通的橋樑，以培育下一代具有國際視野的集郵家，承先啟後。

年會期間，廣州黃埔少年郵局深井小學支局、魚珠小學支局提供了現場服務，贏得郵人一致讚賞。廣州日報和南方電視臺並進行了現場採訪，集郵媒體和網路也有大量跟蹤報導。

起初幾年，有的皇家郵學會會員對中國年會活動有不同想法和聲音，但通過多年持續舉辦活動，深化了郵學研究、團結了更多的郵人、擴大了皇家郵學會的影響，大家意見趨向一致。

2013 was an active year with RPSL meetings held in Hong Kong, Zhuhai, Taipei, Ulan Bator, and Regional Meeting in Whampoa Military Academy, Guangzhou. The *Philatelic Panorama* published feature articles on Mongolia in its August edition to celebrate our Mongolia meeting.

The Royal Philatelic Society London China Regional Meeting was held on 24th September 2013 in the Whampoa Military Academy in Guangzhou (Canton) barely a day after typhoon hit the city. Whampoa Military Academy produced many illustrious nationalist and communist commanders who fought in China's conflicts in the 20th century.

Some 70 philatelists from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau and mainland China, plus a dozen student collectors, braved the typhoon and attended the Meeting. This is the first time all Greater China regions were represented. Four speakers delivered presentations on early mails of China and the Sino-Japanese War postal history. RPSL's Chinese journal *Asian Philatelists* 2013 was published concurrent to the Meeting. The event was covered by local TV and newspaper. Two temporary post offices with student volunteers served the Meeting.

The next day, a smaller party toured *Boca Tigris* where opium was destroyed, and a fortress where Opium War was fought still stands. That evening, the philatelists attended a dialogue organized by student collectors from 4 local universities, and we shared our decades-long passion and experience to the next generation. The elder and the younger ones – 60 in all - were all excited! .

Although there were initial doubts and hesitation towards the China Regional Meeting, we were glad to see that after years of persistence, such worries were overcome.

2014 年 10 月 25 日，適逢臺灣光復節，是 1945 年臺灣回歸祖國的好日子，皇家郵學會在江蘇省江陰要塞司令部舉辦了第五屆中國年會和郵學論壇，上午 9:00 時許，與會者陸續到達江陰要塞司令部，參觀博物館陳列，並在臨時郵局製作紀念郵品，年會 10:30 時開始，與會的大陸、臺灣、香港集郵家約 60 人。王劍智會士報告了過去一年來《亞洲郵學家》多篇論文在《倫敦郵學家》轉載。下午 14:00 時開始郵學論壇，今年用了更多時間與會眾交流互動，取得很好的效果，並通過《集郵博覽》實現了微信首次現場即時直播，取得較大範圍的影響。

郵學演講與交流的第一部分是民信局起源。中國民信局的起源，迄無定論，倫敦大學講師蔡維屏女士以民信局為研究物件，得英國皇家郵學會資助，故年會之後有專家座談會，集各家之說，以求正本清源，首先由郵政文史中心研究員趙強作了《論民信局生成的上限》的講演，再由蔡維屏提出《民信局問題》，引來會眾爭相提問發言，並引出了陳山介紹道光年間民間遞信的帳冊，為民信局座談會作了很好的鋪墊。

第二部分是新疆郵政史。第三部分是臺灣郵政史，《臺灣》是本期《亞洲郵學家》的專輯，共有 11 篇文章，探討各時期熱點。翌日上午，部分與會的集郵家參訪江陰要塞、長江大橋，在江陰博物館瞻仰觀音舍利，又參訪了徐霞客故居。

26 日下午，與中國郵政文史中心、蘇州郵政史研究會在蘇州聯合舉辦了民信局座談會，與會者雖然只有 12 人，卻觀點交鋒激烈，各方都感到意猶未盡，其他人員暢遊了網師園和十全街。27 日上午，參觀位於山塘街的生肖郵票博物館，得到周治華會長的熱誠接待，盡興而踏上歸途。

The Royal Philatelic Society London 2014 China Regional Meeting was held on 25th October 2014 in the Yangtse Jiangyin Fortress Headquarters in Jiangsu province, followed by a workshop in neighboring Suzhou.

Some 60 philatelists from Taiwan, Hong Kong and mainland China attended the Meeting. Six speakers delivered presentations on Chinese courier mails (*minxinju*), Xinjiang and Taiwan postal history in 3 sessions, each followed by active Q&As. Asian Philatelists 2014 with Taiwan focus was published concurrent to the Meeting. The philatelic seminar was covered for the first time by *wechat* and attracted spontaneous responses off site. A temporary post office served the Regional Meeting during the day with special date stamps. The next day, a smaller party toured the Jiangyin Fortress and the birthplace of 15th century adventurer Xu Xiake, while en route to Suzhou.

A workshop on the origin of the Chinese courier posts was held in Suzhou in the afternoon of 26 October, triggered by RPSL sponsorship of a scholarly study by Tsai Weiping, attended by 12 experts in the field. There were heated debates. The debate and further researches were published in the March 2015 edition of the national philatelic journal *Philatelic Panorama*, and was also published in this journal as matter of record.

On 27th October, the RPSL party was treated by the ex-vice mayor of Suzhou, himself a keen collector of stamps with Chinese zodiac motif, to the Chinese Zodiac Stamp Museum. A lunch of fine Suzhou cuisine finished off the tour.

2015 年 1 月 29-30 日，皇家郵學會的華人會員，應邀在倫敦會所內陳列《皇華璽珞》華人華郵珍藏，是皇家百多年歷史上的第一次，見多識廣的外國同好也認為是大開眼界！陳列說明《皇華璽珞》也洛陽紙貴。5 月，《亞洲郵學家》榮獲倫敦歐洲郵展大鍍金獎，6 月，編者和作者又分別獲得皇家郵學會獎章和塔普林獎章，《亞洲郵學家》的學術地位得到國際認可。

2015 年是二戰結束、抗戰勝利 70 周年，全世界都慶賀並祝願能有持久的和平；9 月 18 日，是九一八事變日本發動對東北侵略的 84 周年，就在這特別的日子裡，在深度捲入東亞多次戰爭的旅順，皇家郵學會成功地召開了 2015 年年會。年會之前，並在大連市舉辦了郵學論壇和郵品陳列。境外的與會人員，在年會前後還參觀了甲午戰爭和日俄戰爭的遺址和關東軍的總部。

七十位來自英國、韓國、臺灣、香港和大陸的郵學家歡聚一堂，四位講者主講了韓國郵政史、大連、臺灣和大陸抗戰勝利以後的郵政史，交流熱烈，並創下多個第一：這是皇家郵學會第一次在東北舉辦的年會、第一次有來自韓國的講者、和第一次有郵品陳列，陳列的內容都和東北有關。郵學論壇並通過微信等媒體直播，引起不少興趣。同時出版的《亞洲郵學家》第六卷專題是《戰爭與和平》。

On 29-30th January 2015 the philatelic gems of Chinese members were displayed for the first time ever in the 41 Devonshire Place with big success. Even the display catalog (print run 400) ran out within short. Then in May-June, the journal *Asian Philatelist*, the editor and a contributor were recognized with important awards.

The RPSL China Regional Meeting was held in the afternoon of 18th September 2015 in the former Residence of the Commander Imperial Russian Army in Port Arthur. It was preceded by a philatelic seminar and display on 17th September in Dalian, as well as tour of the battlefields of Sino-Japanese War 1894-95 and Russo-Japanese War 1904-05 immediate before and after the Regional Meeting.

Some 70 philatelists from the United Kingdom, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and mainland China attended the Meeting. Four speakers delivered presentations on Korea postal history of Korea, Dairen, Taiwan and China during WWII. This meeting made many “firsts”: the first RPSL China Meeting in Manchuria, the first time we have speaker from Korea, also the first time we have philatelic display, with focus in Manchuria.

RPSL’s Chinese journal *Asian Philatelist* 2015 was published concurrent to the Regional Meeting, with focus on War and Peace, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the WWII Allied Victory. The event was broadcasted live on social media with spontaneous response.

2016 年盛夏，內地赤日炎炎，新疆天氣宜人，瓜果飄香；8 月 21 日，風和日麗，皇家郵學會第七屆中國年會暨郵學論壇在新疆烏魯木齊錦江國際酒店舉行。本屆年會有海內外會士、會員、會友近 70 人參加，為祝賀本次盛會，特別發行紀念封一枚，與會者並參觀了同場展出了近 40 框展品，涵蓋了新疆清代至 1950 年的郵品和錢幣。並舉辦了《新疆郵驛史》首發式，同時發行了《亞洲郵學家》第七卷。

下午的郵學論壇由蘇州郵政史研究會的副會長張曉鋼主持，何輝慶、謝偉景交流了洪憲百年和楊增新的郵政史料；臺灣邊疆郵政史專家陳文翔、新疆集郵家朱曉新、張吉昌共同交流了熱門的新疆郵路話題，並有精彩互動。賓主晚上在蘇商大酒店觀看了大型歌舞表演，領略了新疆多姿多彩的民族風情。

與會的郵友還分段走過了絲綢之路的中國部分。部分臺灣郵友在西安全國郵展期間走過了西安至蘭州一段，會前繼續遊覽了河西走廊，參觀了敦煌、吐魯番的名勝古跡。會後，另一部分的臺灣、香港和內地郵友前赴伊犁，參觀了霍爾果斯口岸、伊犁俄羅斯總領事館和客郵局舊址、和察布查爾錫伯族自治縣，並與當地的郵友進行了交流，收穫了滿滿的友誼！察布查爾郵人談到錫伯族為國守邊三百年，令人動容！

The RPSL China Regional Meeting was held on 21st August 2016 in Urumqi, Xinjiang, accompanied by a philatelic seminar and display as well as the launch of the book *Postal History of Xinjiang*. 37 frames of Xinjiang postal, numismatic materials and postal maps were on display. This is the first time that our Regional Meeting is held in a Central Asian city where Islam dominates. The focus of the philatelic seminar was around the mails routes of Xinjiang. It was well attended by nearly 70 participants from Taiwan, Hong Kong and mainland China.

The book *Postal History of Xinjiang* was an instant hit, hotly pursued by participants. All 100 copies shipped to Urumqi were gifted or sold out in a day, while within a week three-quarters of the entire print-run of 400 copies were gone.

Xinjiang is well-known for her beautiful natural scenery and ethnic flavors. Participants were treated to a colorful gala dinner by PhilaChina and everyone enjoyed the performance thoroughly. Prior to the meeting, some participants from Taiwan toured the Silk Road from Lanzhou to Urumqi via the Hexi Corridor, while others visited Kuldja and Horgos after the event was overwhelmed by the hospitality of local philatelists.

2017年10月26日，位於江蘇高郵的中國集郵家博物館開館，皇家郵學會會長發來賀信，張華東會士、劉佳維會士、王劍智會士到場致賀。

11月11日，是俄羅斯十月革命一百周年後的第一個周日，皇家郵學會中國年會於杭州西子湖畔舉行，同時並進行郵學論壇，今年《亞洲郵學家》也適時出版了俄羅斯專輯，同時也以中文出版了前會長的《中國國際空郵》專冊，引起廣泛注意。由於本地郵會組織得力，又逢秋高氣爽，從國內各地和台港澳與會的有80-90人。年會期間，傳來李安娜女士、張華東先生、劉佳維先生和施邑屏先生當選會士的喜訊。

11月12日，與中國郵政文史中心、蘇州和杭州郵會合辦了第四屆的民信局研討會，並有海內外享有盛名的民信局和僑批局郵集展出，近50框，同時並首次展出有關民信局的碑拓，與會者咸認為這是國內歷年來相關最高水準的展出。江浙是中國民信局發源地之一，在此舉辦，正得其宜。與會者認可民信局與僑批局同源，業務方式相近，日後雙方收藏者應加強交流，參加人數也從第一屆的12人上升到70多人，足以反映郵人對民信局的關注程度，並期望展出的藏品能結集出版。

會外，郵人飽覽西湖名勝，又大啖杭州名菜，煮酒敘舊，暢論其郵政歷史與成敗得失，不亦快哉！會後臺灣郵人並暢遊奉化蔣氏故里，緬懷興革！

The Chinese Philatelist Museum was opened in Gaoyou on 26 October 2017. The congratulatory message from our President was read, and 3 fellows attended the opening.

RPSL China Regional Meeting was held on 11 November, first weekend after the centennial of Russian Bolshevik Revolution, in Hangzhou by the West Lake. Russian postal history, especially the Civil War period immediate after the Revolution, was prominently featured in the philatelic seminar as well as in our journal, the Asian Philatelist. The monograph, Chinese International Airmails to 1949 by Frank Walton, which stirred a lot of interests, was translated in full and published as well. An enthusiastic audience of 80-90 came from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao as well as across mainland China, thanks to capable local organizations.

The news of Jack Zhang and Anna Lee being elected fellows reached the audience when the meeting was in session, and the news of Liu Jiawei and Shi Yiping elected fellows reached the Chinese members in the following days. Many congratulated them in person and over social media.

On 12 November, the Chinese Private Letter Office Workshop, in its forth year, in collaboration with Chinese Postal Archive and History Centre and Suzhou as well as Hangzhou organizers, was held. It was accompanied by a 46-frame specialized philatelic display completed with rubbing of the earliest known stone tablet decreeing to protect Letter Offices in Ningbo in 1844. Specialists all admired this is the display of highest-caliber ever in Chinese Letter Offices. Number of participants rose from 12 in the first workshop (2014) to over 70 in the current session, reflecting the high level of interests nationally.

The participants had an opportunity to tour around West Lake and tried the local delicacies during this event, and the Taiwan delegation of 20 toured Fenghua, the birthplace of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, afterwards.

2018 年仲夏 6 月，張華東會士、李安娜會士、劉佳維會士、王劍智會士參加了中國集郵家博物館赴英考察團，一行 16 人拜訪了皇家郵學會，進行了探索黑便士和郵票之父之旅。

深秋，銀杏將成都染成金黃；值此時節，皇家郵學會第九屆年會暨郵學論壇，於 2018 年 9 月 29 日在四川成都少城（滿城）舉辦。本屆年會下榻的金河賓館是成都將軍府原址，也是上午郵學論壇之所在。郵學論壇共有 60 多位來自臺灣、香港、新加坡和四川內外的郵友參加，講者 7 人，內容以四川與邊疆郵路為主，交流熱烈。謝德厚先生並介紹了《中國郵政國內定額匯票》一書和進行首發。

下午，年會在寬巷子舉辦，所在的小洋樓是原出川抗戰軍官所有，王劍智會士報告華人會員積極參與皇家郵學會 150 周年郵展和慶典的情況。同時出版了《亞洲郵學家》第九卷，包括四川西康專輯。華郵晚宴設于井巷子內，新朋舊友共聚一堂。

In mid-summer 2018, four fellows (Jack Zhang, Anna Lee, Liu Jiawei and Danny Wong) joined the delegation of the Chinese Philatelist Museum to the United Kingdom to re-trace the path of Rowland Hill and his postal reform. A visit to RPSL was a highlight of the trip.

Our members also participated actively in submitting research papers to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the Large Dragons, the first stamp issue of China.

Sichuan province is well-known in China for her agricultural riches, laid-back lifestyle and low cost of living. In recent decades the local philatelists have also been very active. Therefore we held our China Regional Meeting in the historic Manchu Quarters of Chengdu on 29-30 September 2018 to experience Sichuan up-close.

The main venue for the philatelic seminar, Jinhe Hotel, stands on the ground where the *yamen* of the General of Chengdu, the highest-ranking Manchu official of Sichuan province, once stood. The philatelic seminar was well attended by some 60 philatelists from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. An unprecedented seven speakers shared their research with the audience. There were lively exchanges after the speeches.

The neighborhood of the Manchu Quarters within walking distance has morphed in recent years into the Wide and Narrow Lanes, a trendy yet nostalgic tourist hotspot. The townhouse in the Narrow Lane where we conduct our Regional Meeting used to belong to an officer who went into combat against Japanese invaders and never returned. In the *Asian Philatelist 2018* published concurrent to the Meeting, there are 9 articles dedicated to Sichuan province.

為慶祝英國皇家郵學會 150 周年而舉辦的斯德哥爾摩國際郵展，在 2019 年 5 月 29 日至 6 月 2 日舉辦，中國的參展者取得很好的成績，李宏會士獲得了郵政史類別的大金獎，王劍智會士在瑞典首發的《青康藏郵驛史》一書獲得了文獻類大金獎，其郵政史郵集還斬獲了三項金獎。隨後，皇家郵學會派出代表團參加了武漢郵展，深化了和中國的交流。

金秋十月，菊黃蟹肥，2019 年 11 月 9-10 日，皇家郵學會第十屆中國年會暨海上絲路郵學論壇在長江內河名港—古城太倉隆重舉行，由太倉萬國碼頭藝術館承辦，蘇州市郵政史集郵研究會協辦。本屆參會人員約 80 余人。本次活動也得到太倉市領導政協主席邱震德的支持。

9 日上午在婁東賓館悅賓樓舉辦海上絲路郵學論壇。王劍智會士主講《東印度公司與中國》，清史專家潘振平老師點評大英圖書館主管毛巍在本期《亞洲郵學家》發表的文章《1700 年前後英國在舟山的商貿基地》，這些新發現的英文史料，對貿易點和它的通信方式，有助於我們更全面地瞭解康熙朝的東西方關係，這也可以讓國人瞭解為什麼英國人對舟山的執著。下午召開皇家郵學會第十屆中國年會，歷屆年會主辦城市的組織者一起切蛋糕，共同紀念皇家郵學會中國年會的十歲生日。

11 月 10 日上午，《皇華瓔珞.傳郵萬里》郵驛特展開幕，這是近年惟一專注於驛站郵品的展覽，難得一見的藏品，令人歎為觀止。10 日下午，來賓參觀了瀏河古鎮和現代化的太倉港區，藉以瞭解海上絲路起點的太倉港的過去和現在。太倉雙鳳少年郵局的同學，全程為會議和展覽提供現場蓋紀念戳及代收發投遞信件的服務，平添郵興！

In Stockholm, the international exhibition to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the RPSL, the book *Tibet Stamps and Postal History* was premièred and fetched a large gold award. RPSL also led a delegation to Wuhan in June 2019 to promote the London 2020 exhibition which was subsequently delayed.

The Tenth China Regional Meeting of RPSL was held on 9-10 November 2019 in Taicang, Jiangsu, near Shanghai. Taicang port was where Admiral Zhenghe set off his maritime expeditions six centuries ago to places as far as India, Arabia and East Africa. Today its port is still among the top 30 container ports in the world. The China Regional Meeting held was the first major philatelic event following the refurbishing and reopening of the heritage building Red House as exhibition venue earlier this year. The meeting was attended by some 80 fellows, members and guests.

In the philatelic seminar, the article *The English Settlement in Zhoushan c.1700-1703: An Important Chapter in Anglo-Chinese & Postal History*, contributed by Richard Scott Morel of the British Library, was introduced to the audience with commentary by a prominent historian Pan Zhenping. Together with other articles related to the British East India Company, they became the highlight of the seminar. The articles appear in the *Asian Philatelist 2019* published concurrently.

An exhibition of the Chinese Imperial Courier (*yizhan*) system opened the next day. It consisted of objects spanning more than 2000 years including whispering arrowheads for battlefield communication, passes for the imperial messengers and more. *Yizhan* and *urtoo* covers, letters, imperial orders and submissions to emperors from China, Korea, Mongolia, Indo-China and Tibet were represented. The exhibition also attracted officials, museum curators and academicians.

A light-hearted moment was shared by the attendees when a birthday cake was cut to celebrate our 10th anniversary at the end of the meeting, and tokens of appreciation were presented to individuals contributing to our success in the first decade. The two-day event was intermitted by banquets during which local delicacy of hairy-crabs in season were enjoyed. Postal service was rendered by a local Youth Post Office with commemorative cachets applied.

2020

2020 年 2 月，爲了支援武漢抗擊疫情，《亞洲郵學家》組織了郵人募捐活動，得到熱烈響應。疫情大流行期間，由於不便聚會，許多活動都改在網上舉行。皇家郵學會率先在舉辦了多次網上研討會，其中印度會友特別活躍。3 月以來，《亞洲郵學家》也在微信上舉辦了幾十次郵學講座，很受郵友歡迎。

2020 年 11 月 7 日立冬，皇家郵學會的第 11 屆年會暨郵學論壇召開，前一天，汕頭迎來了從全國各地到來的幾十位集郵愛好者，今年集郵活動減少，大家久別重逢，都分外高興。

由於疫情影響，境外的同好無法參加，台北郵人特意在郵政博物館 7 樓 702 室連線會議，時間從上午 10 點到下午 4 點半，由何輝慶教授主持，與會人員共 16 人；當天適值臺中郵學會年會，也連線互動、互相致意。還有的郵友無法親臨現場，在網上參加了年會。

郵學論壇圍繞僑批和汕頭郵政史兩大主題進行，台灣的何輝慶教授做了題爲《汕頭郵資機戳、券、臨時郵票實寄封 (1949-50)》的講演，兩岸郵人仿如同在一室無障礙交流，相互問候，互贈禮物。郵人克服了自身的技術水平不足的困難，開創了兩岸三地第一次視訊加實體的郵學交流活動！張華東會士也從倫敦轉致了皇家郵學會會長的問候。

年會期間，蔡少明先生展示了他珍藏的 32 框汕頭郵政史和僑批郵集；大家爲今年逢十的五位在場的會員會友慶生，並遙賀年紀最大的壽星台灣王忠振先生九秩華誕！晚宴後有沙友夜話（首屆沙魚湧郵史俱樂部座談會暨沙魚湧郵戳封片簡圖片展），郵友興致不淺，至夜深方散。

由於作者的熱烈支持，今年的《亞洲郵學家》原定的汕頭專輯擴充爲汕頭卷，從史前至解放，內容完備，得到好評，尤其是對汕頭 1852 年第一古封的認定，刷新了記錄。年會期間《亞洲郵學家》首次在海峽兩岸同時首發，《皇家郵學會與中國》紀念刊將於 12 月份推出，而《亞洲郵學家 2021》將於上半年發刊。

次日，部分郵人興高采烈地追隨習主席的脚步，參觀了僑批館、開埠郵局、開埠紀念館和老街，並在開埠郵局前合影，紀念大家都戴上了口罩、抗疫不忘集郵的特殊時刻！我們期待著明年摘下口罩，10 月在江蘇高郵年會再見！

The year 2020 was over-shadowed by the Covid-19 pandemic. In February, Asian Philatelist organised a successful fund-raising among philatelists to help Wuhan combat the pandemic. During the shutdown, RPSL organised many webinars while the Indian philatelists were most active. Asian Philatelist also organised weekly philatelic seminars via wechat since March with hundreds of audiences across chatgroups.

A decision to hold the meeting in Swatow on 7-8 November was made last year, before the Covid pandemic swept the philatelic world and caused cancellation and postponement of events. Swatow (Shantou in *pinyin* transliteration) is a port city in southern China opened to foreign trade in 1860, and became a Special Economic Zone in 1980. It was home to many indentured labourers immigrated to South East Asia in the 19th century. Their remittance correspondences (*qiaopi*) back home attracted interests by philatelists and historians alike.

As soon as the pandemic was brought under control in China, the organisers re-grouped and were determined to hold the meeting as scheduled, online if necessary. The interest in the meeting

was overwhelming. While the organisers imposed a limit of 50, over 60 enthusiastic participants came in from all corners of China. Our Taiwan friends could not come due to quarantine, so they participated online in two venues in Taipei and Taichung. The Taipei venue in the Postal Museum was chaired by Professor Ho Huiching FRPSL with 16 participants. The philatelic seminar was focus on *qiaopi* and Swatow postal history, including a presentation delivered from Taipei.

Together we made history by conducting this first hybrid public philatelic webinar-meeting between Mainland China and Taiwan. We all enjoyed a light moment of cutting birthday cakes for five members and guests who turned 50, 70, 80 this year, as well as Mr Wang Zhenzhong of Taiwan who reaches 90.

Contributions from local and outside authors on Swatow was so overwhelming that for the first time we had to devote the entire volume of *Asian Philatelist 2020* to a local subject, Swatow. We have received very positive initial review from local experts praising that it would become a standard reference for the postal history of Swatow. Our *Asian Philatelist RPSL sesquicentennial* edition to be issued in December is well subscribed, and our *Asian Philatelist 2021* would probably be issued in the first half of next year.

A 32-frame display of Swatow and *qiaopi* postal history was put up during the Meeting. Some of us joining the postal walking tour the next day took a masked group photo outside the original GPO Swatow (still serving the public) building – a finale for our wonderful gathering at a trying moment!

Our 2021 China Regional Meeting will be held in mid-October in Gaoyou, Jiangsu, hopefully unmasked.

部分會衆在汕頭開埠郵局前合影 In front of Swatow GPO

臺北會場 Taipei venue

與臺中郵學會連線互動 Interact with Taichung