



Summer Seminar 2018

A Comprehensive Postal History of Great Britain (1510 – 1850)



A 4-Day Course Presented by *Doug McGill & Tom Slemons*

Monday, June 25 – Thursday, June 28, 2018

Immerse yourself in Great Britain's pre-stamp period and travel through history exploring its evolution from the King's Post to the postal reform movement that led to the world's first postal stationery and postage stamps.

Course Description:

Did you know that the Great Britain postal system was the basis for all other postal systems throughout the world and the reason why we have standard postage rates today?

Examine the planning, development, and implementation of all aspects of Great Britain's early postal system during this four-day course. While studying the pre-stamp period, you will be introduced to the post office structure, how and where the mail was handled in reception, sorting, routing and delivery, and how the postage rates were established. Several specific topics to be addressed include: postal markings, post towns, receiving houses, rate calculations, Penny Post, the Mulready, and the Penny Black (and much more).

The stories behind postal reform as well as the tales describing the introduction of postal stationery and the first postage stamps are sure to captivate all in attendance. Don't miss this opportunity to delve deeply into Great Britain's postal history!

Intended Audience (who should attend): Anyone with interest in GB postal history, stamps and stationery

Participants will need to bring:

- Covers to discuss and/or identify (optional)
- A laptop or tablet (optional)



Meet the Instructors

Doug McGill

Ever since retiring from the Royal Air Force, philately has been part and parcel of Doug's life. Some 25 years ago he started his business in the UK specializing in Line-Engraved material – My Penny Blacks – bringing it to the States with him when he came to marry his childhood sweetheart, Dawn. Since relocating to the U.S., he has built up an award-winning collection and exhibit of Anglo-French Moveable Box material, giving presentations on it on both sides of the Atlantic. A long-serving member of the APS, he has been an active director of the GBCC, and is a member of both the Collectors Club of San Francisco and the Collectors Club of Southern California. In the UK he is a member of the RPSL, the GBPS, and a proud founding member of the Mulready Group.

Tom Slemons



Tom began collecting stamps at age 5 and started focusing on Great Britain postal history in 1974. He has given talks at APS shows in the United States; for the Royal Philatelic Society London; the Great Britain Philatelic Society; in Germany; and for philatelic groups in the United States and England, all related to GB postal history. Slemons is the sole contributor for the Mulready sections of the *Stanley Gibbons Queen Victoria Specialised Catalogue*.

In May, 2017, he completed his first book, *Suffolk Postal History and Postal Markings*, and expects to have his second book published in early 2019. Slemons is the author of over thirty articles, many of which have been published internationally. He is also an active exhibitor and has won a number of gold medals, including a Reserve Grand and Grand Award; all related to some facet of Great Britain postal history. Slemons is a life member of the American Philatelic Society, a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London, immediate past president of the Great Britain Collectors Club, and also holds memberships with the Great Britain Philatelic Society, the Society of Postal Historians, and the Postal History Society.