

# The Royal Philatelic Society London

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Recalling a chequered history**

The complex story of the relationship of Schleswig and Holstein with Denmark and Germany was recounted by Birthe King to the members of The Royal Philatelic Society London at a recent meeting.



Birthe's display and presentation was titled 'A Question of Choice – The Loss and Restoration to Denmark of North Schleswig'. It demonstrated the political changes that spanned many years, most notably the Peace of Prague in 1866 that seceded Schleswig and Holstein to Germany. However, following the First World War, with the aim of allowing the population to determine its future, a referendum was held in 1920 in both the northern and middle regions of Schleswig. In the ensuing vote, North Schleswig decided to return to Denmark, while those living in the middle area voted to stay with Germany. No vote was taken in the southern part of Schleswig as its population had already fully embraced the German language and culture.

Birthe's display included a wealth of material, not only covers but also many postcards and posters that served to make the story more poignant.

Those wishing to visit The Royal Philatelic Society London at 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, or be a guest at one of its meetings, are kindly asked to contact in advance the Administrative Office on 020 7486 1044.

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