

The Royal Philatelic Society London

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PRESS RELEASE

The remarkable City of Lübeck

It was the opportunity for the President, Chris King, to entertain the members of The Royal Philatelic Society on 24 April, when he presented his display ‘The Posts in the City of Lübeck before 1868’. The initial reaction of many present was to ask ‘Where is Lübeck?’.

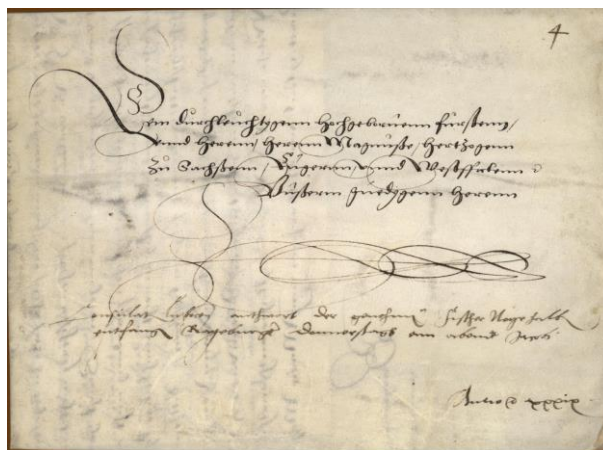
Chris quickly enlightened his audience by explaining that Lübeck was an independent city state, and a founder member of the Hanseatic League, a merchant trading association. Its location in northern Germany, with its port at the mouth of the river Trave, provided strong commercial ties with Europe and Scandinavia.

To this end the city was host to many postal services, the principal ones being the City Post, the Royal Danish Post, the Thurn and Taxis Postal Service, the Imperial French Post, and the Royal Post of Great Britain and Hanover. Items sent by each of the postal services were included in the display. The earliest shown was a letter sent on 23 July 1539 from the Burgermeister and Council of Lübeck to Magnus I of Saxe-Lauenberg concerning disputed fishing rights.

The display ended at the creation of the North German Confederation on 1 January 1868.



Chris King (left) with Frank Walton.



Letter sent from Lübeck on 23 July 1539.

The vote of thanks was given by Senior Vice-President, Frank Walton, who praised the quality of both the material and the presentation. 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 asked to contact in advance the Administrative Office on 020 7486 1044.

(28 April 2014)