

Christopher M.B. King selected for 2019 Alfred F. Lichtenstein award

By Roger S. Brody

The Board of Governors is honored to announce that Christopher M.B. King of London, England, has been awarded the 2019 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award for Distinguished Service to Philately. He will receive this honor, one of the highest in philately, at the Collectors Club Awards Dinner on May 8, 2019.

Chris' service and leadership of organizational philately has been on the national and international level. Chris has served as president of the Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL). He currently chairs the RPSL Collections Committee and the Development Committee responsible for the planning of the Society's new premises at 15 Abchurch Lane in the City of London. Chris is a member of the Development Board of the Postal Museum, London, and served on the executive committee of the Association of British Philatelic Societies. In addition to being the former chair of the U.K. national exhibitions committee, Chris is an accredited FIP judge in Postal History and has served as jury secretary and jury chair in other exhibitions. As chairman of The British Philatelic Trust, he guided the creation of the Philatelic Fund to support United Kingdom exhibiting and was a delegate of the United Kingdom to the FIP Commission of Postal History.



His contributions towards the preservation of philatelic literature and the heritage of our hobby is remarkable. As chairman of The British Philatelic Trust, he guided the digitization of the Crawford Library at the British Library. Along with Frank Walton, RDP, Chris was co-initiator of The Global Philatelic Library, a project to create a consolidated listing of philatelic publications, archives and museum items held by 27 worldwide philatelic libraries, available as a free-standing search function database. He serves on the RPSL Publications Committee and the Museum Committee of the Museum of Philatelic History, as well as the Council of the Society.

As an exhibitor, Chris has garnered FIP Gold and Large Gold medals for a variety of exhibits including the postal history of the Duchy of Schleswig, Denmark in the Napoleonic Wars, Denmark and Germany during wars of 1848-1851 and 1864, and The City of Lübeck. He collects the postcards of Schleswig and the postal history of the Copenhagen Kiosk Postal Services and Telegrammes 1895-1940. In addition to numerous invited exhibits, Chris has participated in seminars and conferences on philatelic subjects and the history of philately, including the 2016 Stuart Rossiter Lecture, the 2017 Harry Sutherland Philatelic Lecture and the 2018 Stockholmia presentation at the International Philatelic Academy.

Chris was elected as a signatory to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at Ypres in 2014, and currently serves on the RDP Board of Election, and the RDP trust, having previously been the Secretary to both. In 2018, Chris was granted Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society London and the Bacon Medal.

Chris King epitomizes the qualities of a philatelist as a worthy recipient of the 2019 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Award. ☐