



CUMANN SIGHNEACHAIR NA hÉIREANN  
THE IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
FOUNDED 1901

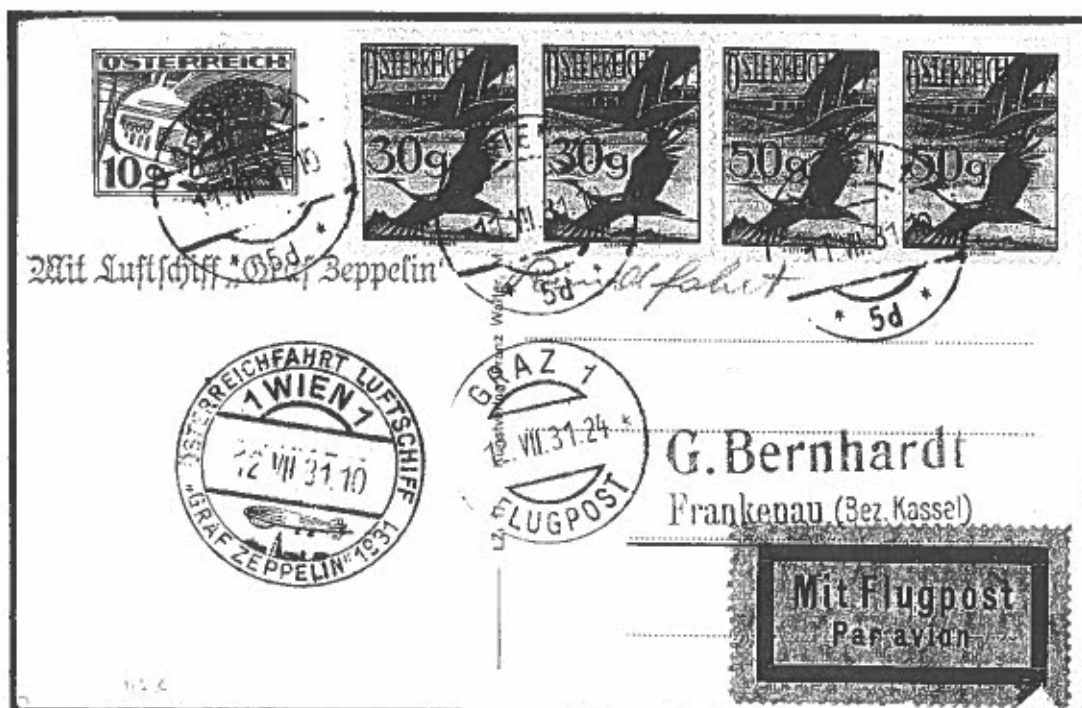
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## i.p.s. news

THE JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

In this issue : News, Displays, Annual General Meeting Officer Reports,  
Article : Literary London Part 6.



11 July 1931 postcard for Graf Zeppelin flight Vienna to Graz.  
From the display of 9 January.

Dear Member

Herewith the first journal of 2014. No new members have been elected so far this year but, two bereavements have occurred. Some interesting displays have already been seen and the Society had a very successful Annual General Meeting. At this stage in the year we are looking forward to our participation in the International Stamp Exhibition in Paris, where Ireland will be represented by a team of 6 entrants. For Ireland history will be made at this event, as it is the first time we have an Aerophilately entry accepted. We wish the Irish team and our Commissioner Mrs Heloise Mitchell well.

## News

### Membership Changes

No new members have been elected since the issue of the last journal.

### Bereavements

In the same period the death occurred of Jim Kelly a long time member and Seamus Kearns a former Chairman and Judge at Stampa and one time member of the Society.

### Post Office Museum

A further set of 4 cards relating to Post Boxes has been issued by the Museum.

### Salon du Timbres Paris

An International Stamp Exhibition in conjunction with the French National Exhibition will be held at Parc Floral, Paris from 14 to 22 June. Ireland has six accepted entries and our Commissioner for the exhibition is Mrs Heloise Mitchell. The team comprises : Mr John Lennon, Mr Gerry Byrne (both first time), Mrs Heloise Mitchell, Mr John Fitzsimons, Mr Des Quail and Mr Frank Mc Donald. We will advise of the outcome later in the year.

### Displays

#### Austria in the 1930s

9 January

This display was given by Frank Mc Donald and covered the period 1930 to 1938. Included in the display was 1930 Anti T.B Fund set, 5 November 1930 Vienna Acceptance for 1931 Dornier DO X Flight from Friedrichshafen to USA, 1931 Rotarian Congress set used on small pieces, 1933 Robert Kronfeld Glider Flight card, Winter Relief Fund set, cover usage and varieties, 1935 Wollersdorf Concentration Camp mail, Airmail set and cover usage, Kaiser Franz Joseph Exhibition cards, 1935 and 1936 Winter Relief Fund sets, 1935 Welfare Funds set, 1936 Publicity card for Berlin Olympic Games, 1937 First Flight cover Linz to Salzburg, 1938 propaganda card for "Day of Greater Germany" on 9 April as well as Zeppelin Flight covers and cards.

This display was also given by Frank Mc Donald and covered the period 1969 to 1980. Included in the display was 1969 50 Anniv ILO set and fdc, Tjorn Bridges set, fdc and commercial useage, 1970 Nature Conservation Year set and fdc, Sweden Within the Arctic Circle fdc, Christmas Birds booklet pane, 1971 50 Anniv Swedish Women's Suffrage set and fdc, "The Mail Coach" issue and special Post Museum canc on card, 1972 Sportswomen booklet pane, Tourism in South East Sweden set, fdc and Post Office publicity card, Swedish Mail Planes set and Post Office publicity card, 1973 "Save Our Animals" booklet, King Gustav VI Adolf Memorial Issue, 1975 Archaeological Discoveries set in vertical coil pairs and booklet, 1977 Wild Berries set and booklet, 1978 Travels of Carl Linne (Botanist) set and booklet, 1979 Tourism Gota Canal booklet.

## Ancient Egypt

6 February

This display was given by Brian O' Connell and was listed as "Personal Choice". It showed the history of this ancient kingdom through stamps, photographs etc from 2,000 BC to the Persian Invasion in 543 BC. Included was 1975 Tourist City value, 1987 Post Day, 1949 16th Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Cairo min sheet, 1974 Inauguration of Solar Boat Museum, 1991 Egyptian Stamp Exhibition min sheet, 50th Anniv FAO, 1993 Post Day - Statues of Pharoahs, 1995 Post Day set of 3, 1972 50th Anniv of Discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb, 1967 Post Day 10m value (Anubis), 1967 UNESCO, 1965 20th Anniv United Nations min sheet, 1964 UNESCO Campaign for the Preservation of the Nubian Monuments min sheet. Photographs of Pyramids, Sphink, Temples etc also featured.

## Poland Part 2

20 February

This display was given by Pat Carey and covered the years 1961 to 1969. Included in the display was 1961 Shipbuilding Industry set, Insects set, 1962 International Ski Championships set, Famous Poles (2nd issue) set, Polish Protected Plants set, Malaria Eradication set and min sheet, 1963 Dogs set, 13th European Mens Basketball Championships, Polish Horse-breeding set, 1964 Olympic Games, Tokyo set, Domestic Cats setd, Birds set, 1965 Prehistoric Animals set, Orchids set, Horse-drawn Carriages in Lancut Museum, 1966 World Cup Football Championships, Woodland Birds set, 1967 Protected Plants, Exotic Fishes set, Butterflies set, Famous Paintings set, 1968 11th World Gliding Championships, 1969 500th Birth Anniv of Copernicus (1st issue).

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in Ely House on Thursday 6 March. It was chaired by the Society President Mr. Robert Moore and was well attended. The Officer Reports were presented to the meeting and adopted by the membership present.

The major spending requirements for 2014 were outlined in detail to the meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer's and Packet Secretary's Reports are re-produced here for your information.

The following Officer and Committee elections were made for 2014 :

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Vice-President | Mr. Gerry Byrne     |
| Hon. Secretary | Mr. Frank Mc Donald |

Two ordinary Committee vacancies were filled by Heloise Mitchell and Mary Carroll. Mr. Brian Warren was re-appointed as Hon. Auditor.

Mr. Michael Murphy stood down as Packet Secretary having notified the Committee of his wish to retire from this position. No candidate to fill the vacancy was forthcoming at the Annual General Meeting and this position was accordingly left vacant. The packet has for the moment therefore been suspended.

Following upon the elections at the Annual General Meeting the Committee for 2014 is :

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| President                  | Mr. Robert Moore      |
| Vice-President             | Mr. Gerry Byrne       |
| Hon. Secretary / Treasurer | Mr. Frank Mc Donald   |
| Hon. Bourse Secretary      | Mr. Mike Burrington   |
| Hon. Librarian             | Mrs. Terry O'Hara     |
| Hon. Auditor               | Mr. Brian Warren      |
| Committee Members          | Mr. Pat Carey         |
|                            | Mr. Bob Cruickshank   |
|                            | Mrs. Heloise Mitchell |
|                            | Ms Mary Carroll       |

On the matter of the Fixing of the Subscription Rate for 2014 the Treasurer informed the meeting that he was not recommending any increase and was therefore leaving the rates at the current levels of €15 City and €7.50 Country. This was accepted by the meeting and adopted.

A total of 21 meetings of the Society have taken place since the last Annual General Meeting. This is the same number of meetings as in the previous period. All of these meetings took place in Ely House.

Average attendance at meetings since the last Annual General Meeting was 20 the same as that in the previous period.

Since the last Annual General Meeting a total of 3 new members were elected - 1 City and 2 Country. During the same period there were two bereavements - Paul Appleby, a former Vice-President and Larry Ryan.

### Programme

The annual programme took time to complete unlike the previous one. It was only completed by some members volunteering two or more displays. No new displays were forthcoming for the current programme.

If, in the future the situation pertains whereby, the membership as a whole who regularly or semi-regularly attend meetings, rather than the usual displayer base is not prepared to volunteer displays for the programme then, some solutions will have to be looked at and considered. These could include later returns after the summer and Christmas breaks, 5 sheet members choice nights or, an increase in the number of catalogued bourse sales by reducing the number of lots offered in each sale.

We were treated to some interesting nights during the year to date. These included U.S. Presidents, Pan Am Flights 1946/47, Irish Military Mail, Irish Rail to 1922, Letterboxes of Ireland, Ancient Egypt.

### Society Social Evening

The annual Society Social Evening took place in Ely House on Thursday 14 November. It took the format of previous years and was well attended. This was the second such evening when all the Society trophies and medals were presented in an Awards Dinner setting.

The Society, as in previous years provided the dinner drinks and an after dinner social drink, the cost being €240 down from €262 the previous year. The Society will continue in future years to in some way fund part of the expenditure on that night, finances permitting.

### Society Competitions

The annual Society competitions attracted a total of 4 entries all in the Dobbs Competition. In 2012 a total of 6 were received and 5 in 2011. The following awards were made :

|                  |                                                                                                                           |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Heloise Mitchell | : F.E. Dixon Cup and medal for The 1/2d O'Clery Postally Used.                                                            |
| Brian Harmon     | : W.Kane Shield and medal for Iron and Steel, A New Age of Bridge Construction                                            |
| Brian Warren     | : Stafford-Johnson Cup and medal and Dobbs Memorial Trophy and medal for Birds of Ireland Definitives - The Euro Booklets |

No entries were received in the Society Cup Competition.

The Open Class Competition was again held in 2013 a short time after the Annual Competitions. A total of 7 entries were received of 9 sheets each compared to 4 in 2012, 7 in 2011 and 2010, 8 in 2009, 3 in 2008, 9 in both 2007 and 2006 and 5 in 2005. The winner was Des Norton with Postal Reform 1840. He was awarded the Open Class Trophy and Plaque for 2013.

The award of the Charles Griffith Memorial Trophy and medal for 2013 was made to John Fitzsimons for his display The Art Stamps of France shown before the Society on 13 June, and reported on in the June issue of "IPS NEWS".

### Stampa

In 2013 members of the Society were successful at Stampa and the following awards were gained :

Vermeil Medals : Brian Warren along with the Joseph E. Foley Memorial Medal and Irish Security Stamp Printing Trophy.

Heloise Mitchell along with the F.E. Dixon Shield.

Silver Medals : John Greer, Norman Finnie, John Fitzsimons.

Brian Harmon along with Charles O'Neill and Michael Giffney Trophies.

Bronze Medals : Gerry Byrne, Brian O'Connell

Cert of Participation : Frank Mc Allister

In addition Heloise Mitchell was awarded the FAI Prize and Brian Warren the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland Medal both for long service to Irish Philately.

### International Exhibitions

The Society was represented At "Australia 2013" in Melbourne in May. This exhibition was held to mark the centenary of the First Australian Postage Stamps - "The Kangaroo and Map" issue. The following awards were gained :

Silver Medal : John Fitzsimons for Mozart from Prodigy to Genius

Large Silver Medal : Heloise Mitchell for The Coach is Coming, Clear the Way.

Vermeil Medal : Frank Mc Donald for Discovering West London.

### Finances

Collected subscriptions in 2013 were again down on the 2012 figure due to members not attending meetins. The collected arrears of €60 was up on the 2012 figure of €38 and 2011 figure of €30. The three catalogued bourse sales in 2013 produced commission of €352 to the Society from sales of €4,323 up €64 on the 2012 figure. The commission from the third sale was split between the Society and Dublin Stamp Society.

The main expenses in 2013 were in respect of Public Liability Insurance, which, at €369 was the same as in 2012. The rent bill over the year 2013 was at €1,320 the same as that for 2012 as the rent remained at €60 per meeting.

The cost of printing the annual programme at €46 was down on the 2012 figure due to it been done in-house. Bank charges at €19 were up €4 on the 2012 figure.

In 2012 the Society lost its sponsorship in respect of medals and trophies and related engraving costs. However no invoice for this was submitted for payment until late 2013. In the 2012 accounts an inclusion of a creditor in the sum of €263 was made to cover the cost, which, was based on the last time such an invoice was received for payment. The eventual cost was €369.

We continued however, in 2013 to receive sponsorship in respect of Printing IPS NEWS, Auction Lists and the related postage, Provision of Auction Refreshments. This sponsorship fund also allowed for the printing and issue of the Library List in 2013. The amount of this sponsorship in 2013 was €657 up from the 2012 figure of €595.

There were no new books purchased for the library in 2013.

These were some of the main financial matters during the year in terms of Income, Expenditure and Account movements.

I now wish to outline some of the main financial outlays for the year 2014. The renewal of the Public Liability Insurance should be the same as 2013 at €369 but, it is prudent to budget for an unforeseen increase. The annual rent bill should be slightly less than 2013 due to no meeting on 17 April (Holy Thursday) assuming the present charge of €60 per meeting pertains. However, we should provide for an increase in 2014.

The FPSI Levy in 2014 will be €47 and we should be able to keep the programme printing cost down in 2014 if as in 2013 it is printed in-house.

#### Dobbs Memorial Trophy

As part of my oral outline of spending requirements in 2013 at the last Annual General Meeting I stated that some refurbishment work was required on this trophy. In 2013 some work was carried out on this, the Society's premiere trophy. This included the repair of, and, rejoining of one of the handles to the trophy which had been broken for many years. The cost of this work is not yet known as we await the 2013 invoice for trophies and medals of which this forms part. In 2014 further work to provide a new naming base will be undertaken in regards to this trophy, the cost of which is at this time unknown.

#### Society Bourse

The Society Bourse, the first of the Society's additional revenue bases produced commission in 2013 of €331, up from €301 in 2012, €250 in 2011 and €293 in 2010. Society bourse donations at €25 in 2013 were up on the 2012 figure of €14. The figures for 2011 and 2010 were €20 and €27 respectively. The bourse is a useful source of additional revenue and its success is due to the work put in by Mike Burrington and, to him goes our thanks for the work he does. It should be noted that the total commission received in 2013 between the bourse and the auctions as well as bourse donations at €708 up from €603 in 2012 contributed in excess of 50% of the rent bill in 2013.

## Society Packet

The Society Packet produced commission to the Society in 2013 of €48 and insurance receipts of €9.60. There were losses over the year totalling €5.32. No packet loss was reported for the year. In view of the poor performance of the packet, the lack of contributors supplying material and the retirement of the Packet Secretary, the packet will now cease to exist. Our thanks go to Michael Murphy for his work in relation to the packet over many years.

## Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Ireland

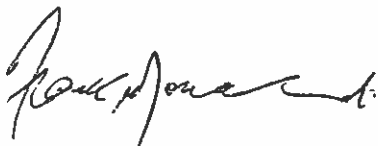
The Irish Philatelic Society nominated Mr. Mike Burrington to sign the Roll in 2013. However, our nomination was not accepted by the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland. The last Society signatory of the Roll was Mrs Heloise Mitchell in 2012.

## Committee Meetings

2 Committee Meetings have been held since the last Annual General Meeting. These dealt with the nomination papers in respect of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Ireland, the change in respect of the Open Class Competition to require entrants to submit the title of entries at the meeting prior to the competition, the reduction in Joint IPS /DSS Bourses from two to one each year and the audited accounts of the Society in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

## Conclusions

In light of the financial outturns for 2013, which were disappointing, the Society successful showings at both "Australia 2013" and Stampa I commend this report and statement to the meeting.



Frank Mc Donald

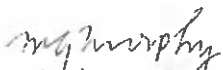
Hon. Secretary / Treasurer

## I.P.S. Packet 2013 – Financial Report

Total sales for the packet during the year amounted to €480.13 (2012: €543). I would like to thank all those who supported the packet over the years and those who supplied material. I regret this is the final year for the packet.

The Society will benefit to the extent of €52.29 (2012: €53.72) from packet sales. This includes €9.60 (2012: €10.86) for the Insurance Fund

| I.P.S. Packet – 2013 | €       | €      |
|----------------------|---------|--------|
| Sales                | 480-13  |        |
| Commission           | (48-01) | 48-01  |
| Insurance            | (9-60)  | 9-60   |
| Losses               |         | (5-32) |
|                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>  |
| Payable to Vendors   | 422-52  |        |
| Payable to Society   |         | 52-29  |
|                      | <hr/>   | <hr/>  |

  
Michael Murphy 13 February 2014

Literary London - Part 6  
Covent Garden and Holborn

When the ten-year old Charles Dickens arrived in London with his family from Chatham in 1822, it was Covent Garden that he wanted to visit first. Dickens's enthusiasm had been fuelled by the books he had read at home in Chatham, among them George Colman's verses on Covent Garden.

Dickens also remembered the earthier description of the market in one of his favourite novels, Tobias Smollett's *The Expedition of Humphry Clinker*. In his first book, "Sketches by Boz" published in 1836 when he was 24, he describes the street life of Seven Dials. As he approached the end of his career 30 years later, Dickens was still drawing inspiration from Covent Garden. In the last novel he completed "Our Mutual Friend", Mr Venus, the collector of Anatomical specimens, was based on a taxidermist named Willis whose shop Dickens had visited in St. Andrew's Street, near Seven Dials.

In his 1985 novel "Hawksmoor", Peter Ackroyd's eponymous detective lives alone in a flat near Seven Dials. If Seven Dials was the disreputable nexus of Covent Garden, the area around the Piazza was its fashionable centre, where the great scenes of its literary heyday were played out. One of the more endearing of these took place on 9 May 1662, when Samuel Pepys watched London's first ever Punch and Judy show, under the portico of St Paul's Church. The same portico provides the rainswept opening scene of Shaw's "Pygmalion, with pedestrians sheltering from the rain.

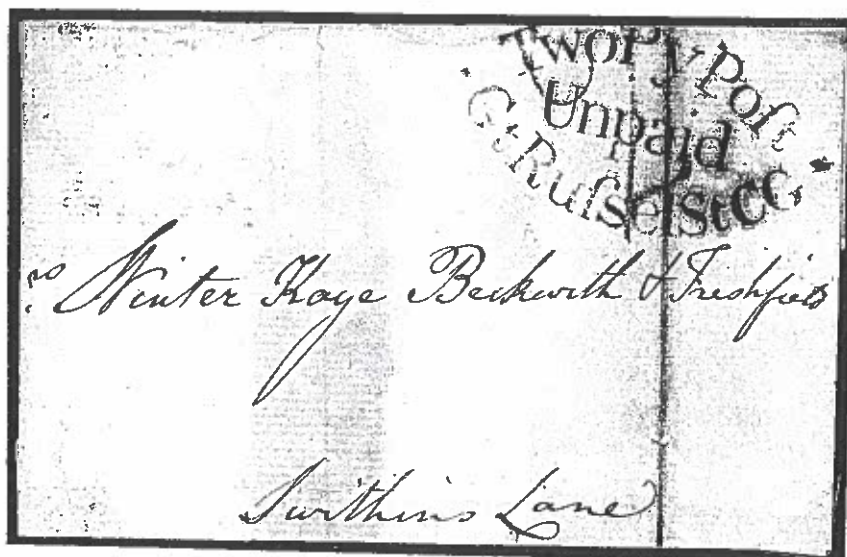


Attempting to keep some semblance of order in and around Covent Garden were the famous Bow Street magistrates, one of whom was the novelist Henry Fielding. It was Fielding who, in 1750 established the rudimentary police force known as the Bow Street Runners. Though famously incorruptible, Fielding was no prude : the bawdiness of his novel "Tom Jones" (1749) earned the wrath of Dr. Johnson



The original courthouse from which Fielding used to dispense justice, at 4 Bow Street, was pulled down in the 1880s. The present-day Bow Street Magistrates's Court, which replaced it is roughly opposite. In April 1895, Oscar Wilde was brought there to be committed for trial after being arrested at the Cadogan Hotel in Chelsea. In 2,000 the Conservative party peer Lord Jeffrey Archer was tried there.

In the 17th and 18th centuries the area boasted a number of coffee houses. These included one of London's most famous coffee houses, Wills, opened about 1660 by Mr William Unwin at No.1 Bow Street. Its patrons included the poet and dramatist John Dryden, and the elderly satirist Samuel Butler. Button's in Russell Street, was another coffee house in this area whose patrons included Oliver Goldsmith and Henry Fielding.



In the winter of 1810 Samuel Taylor Coleridge spent several weeks at the Hudson Hotel at 43 King Street after being sent down from Oxford. In 1821= Thomas De Quincey was living at 36 Tavistock Street while writing his autobiographical "Confessions of an English Opium Eater". In "The Years" (1937) Virginia Woolf describes the awkward juxtaposition between Opera House patrons and the porters and stallholders in Covent Garden market.

Holborn is named after the Holebourne, a tributary of the river Fleet. Holborn is sandwiched between Theobald's Road and the eastern section of the Strand. The area dominates Dickens's greatest novel "Bleak House", starting from its arresting opening, with London in 'implicable November weather', and 'as much mud in the streets as if the waters had but recently retired from the face of the earth, and it would not be wonderful to meet a Megalosaurus, forty feet long or so, waddling like an elephantine lizard up Holborn Hill'.

No 58 Lincoln's Inn Fields was the home of Dickens closest friend 'the Lincolnian mammoth' John Forster. It was here that Dickens read his Christmas story 'The Chimes' to a group of friends and reduced several of them to tears. The discovery that he possessed mesmerizing powers as a storyteller encouraged Dickens to embark on the public readings which dominated his final years.

Lincoln's Inn itself was one of the four Inns of Court built piecemeal between the late fifteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Among the workers was a young bricklayer, later a playwright, Ben Jonson. Among the lawyers who have lived and practiced in Lincoln's Inn over the centuries were Thomas More, John Donne, H Rider Haggard and John Galsworthy.

The 'Old Curiosity Shop' at 13 Portsmouth Street on the south-west corner of Lincoln's Inn Fields, has long claimed to be the inspiration for Dickens's 1841 novel. Whether or not it formed the model for Little Nell's establishment, it is probable that Dickens at least knew the place. Built in 1567, it is believed to be the oldest shop in London.

Dickens moved into chambers at Furnival's Inn and began 'The Pickwick Papers' there. The surrounding streets, courts and alleys continued to feature in his work long after he moved away. Hatton Garden is the scene of Mr Fongs police court in 'Oliver Twist', Bleeding Heart Yard is the hunting ground of Pancks, the snorting, hair-tugging rent collector in 'Little Dorrit', and Furnival Street (formerly Castle Street) is where David Copperfield's old school friend Tommy Traddles has lodgings. Furnival's Inn itself was demolished in 1897 to make way for the vast terracotta-coloured Prudential Assurance building which dominates Holborn between Brooke Street and Leather Lane. There is a small bust of Dickens, under glass, at the far end of the main courtyard.



Gray's Inn lies between High Holborn and Theobald's Road. Like the other Inns of Court, it traditionally sponsored new drama. Shakespeare's 'The Comedy of Errors' had its first performance in the hall in 1594.

Frank Mc Donald