



OXFORD GUILD OF PRINTERS

NEWSLETTER

March 2011

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Editorial Brian Clarke

Dear all.

Thank goodness a breath of spring is in the air, I do like this time of year, the nights are getting lighter and a sense of rebirth. Apologies for the rather late appearance of the newsletter, I have been busy opening a new studio on the Upton Park Estate adjacent to Upton House (National Trust) North Oxfordshire. If you're out visiting come and see the studio and presses. Directions can be found at www.balscotepress.com

The members who were able to make the OGP meeting in March were treated to a double bill by Master Printer Graham Moss, a two part extravaganza of knowledge and know how. Part one included a film I made with Graham about the Arab Platen Press followed by Graham's talk on E. R. Weiss. I acquired an Arab press late last summer and thought who knows about such things. Graham Moss (www.inclinepress.com) was mentioned to me, I gave him a ring and who else but Graham would offer terrific advice and then suggest coming up to Oldham and see the press in action.



Graham at the Incline Press talking to a customer

In the new year I rang again and made a date to go up. I mentioned in an email the possibility of bringing a camera and putting a small article in the newsletter. From that, Graham who also for his sins runs courses in letterpress, thought that a film would be an interesting idea, so we made the film. Then Graham suggested that we put together a project to film and document other presses, demonstrated by expert printers. The project I am happy to say has found favour with the OGP, and we are working toward making six further films many of which will feature OGP printers and their presses, so an exciting prospect in the making. The films will be available on DVD which will offset the initial cost of making the series. Extracts will also be available on the new OGP web site and on You Tube.

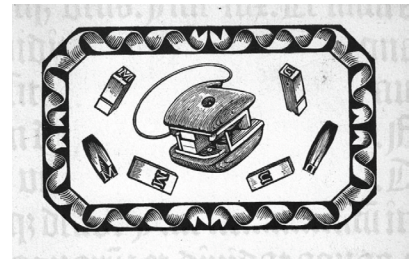
Guild meetings

Meetings are held at the Bell in Charlbury, and start at 7:30 for 8:00 p.m. The Bell serves food (as well as drink, naturally) and some members have taken to dining there before meetings. The food is recommended, and there is often a special (and very pleasing) £6.00 menu available from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Monday 4 April.

Typecasting

Talk and demonstration by
Geoff Hulett, formerly of
Stephenson Blake.



"The Kitchen table type Foundry"

Monday 2 May.

The Pen and the Quill.

Calligraphy in performance
by Paul Antonio

New OGP web site.

If you wish to be included in the members pages please send a paragraph of copy, image and your contact details and web site address.

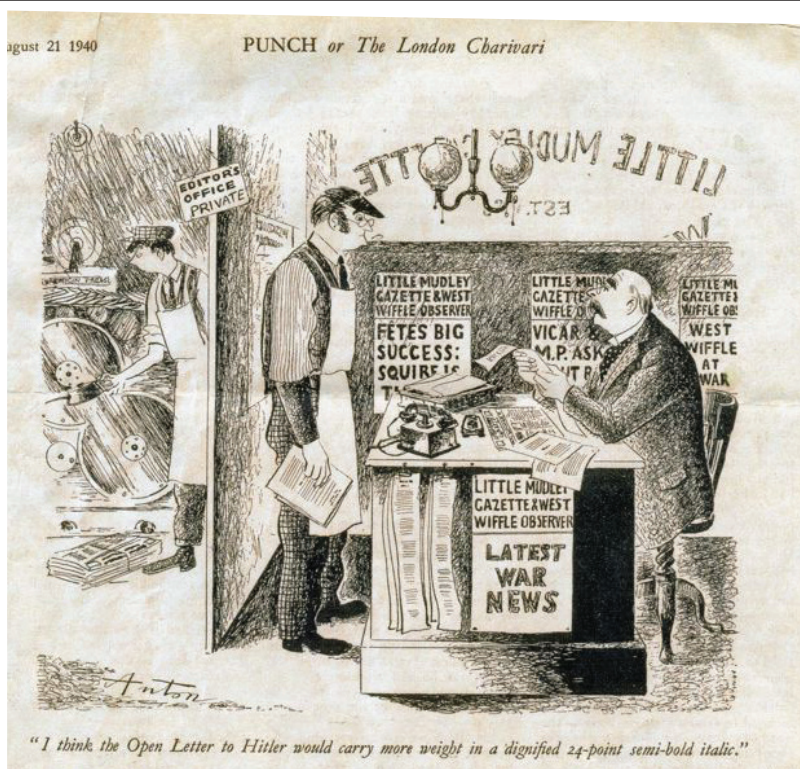
If you have a suggestion as to the content you would like to see on the new web site contact

Brian@balscotepress.com

P.T.O.

Getting back to the meeting on 3 March, we showed the film on the Arab Platern Press, to general approval, then moved on to the main feature, Graham's talk on E. R. Weiss, German artist, poet, typographer and book designer.

The well illustrated talk was full of delightful details about Weiss and his varied career including his work on Bauer ornaments. Graham's massive collection of work by Weiss (850 volumes) is testament to his passion and scholarly interest. Much of the information on Weiss is included in the book printed by Graham and written by Gerald Cinamon. Go to www.inclinepress.com for details. A big thank you again to Graham for a memorable evening.



"I think the Open Letter to Hitler would carry more weight in a dignified 24-point semi-bold italic."

The Oxford Guild of Printers is to be represented at a Wayzgoose in Chipping Campden on Saturday 7th May. The Wayzgoose will be in the Town Hall from 10am till 5pm, and is being held as part of an exiting new Literary Festival. If you would like to take part, please contact Louisa Hare.

The Workshop space at St Bride is proving quite popular and courses are being booked. It looks like it will introduce many people to the delights of letterpress as a well as generating income for the Library (very much a consideration). St Bride wants to run Open Access sessions when printers with experience can get on with their own projects. There has to be some assessment of those booking Open Access sessions and ideally also some supervision of these sessions. At the moment Helen Ingham, Ben Weiner and myself seem to be volunteering to supervise. An appeal to other OGP members to help out would be useful. Details of days and times and frequencies by discussion with volunteers.

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Small ads & wants

For Sale

Western 4C repro Proof press
hand-operated with power inking
Printing area up to 15 x 20, paper
up to 15.5 x 22, Working but
forme roller could be re-clothed.
New to Banbury Guardian c. 1961
featured in Matrix 28

Stephenson Blake model no 4 pullover
galley press, takes chase or galley (s)
up to 35" x 25" overall, paper up to
36"x 24" sheet steel stands
Reasonable offers invited
Both are in Adderbury near Banbury
For further details and advice on
transport, contact John Smith
Barn Floor, Winderton OX15 5JQ
or Phone 0758 260 2446

Galley desperately needed by
me brian@balscotepress.com

Other events



Printing Workshop and WAYGOOZE

11th & 12th June 2011

Demonstrations, talks

AMBERLEY
Museum & Heritage Centre

St Bride Library
Bride Lane, Fleet Street
London EC4Y 8EE

**Graphic Design:
History in the Making**
Friday 6 May 2011,
9.30am-6.30pm

This one-day conference will investigate the status of graphic design history today, with an emphasis on the making and using of it. It will review the state of affairs, looking at where we are, and questioning where we could go next.