

## Society Magazine



**Small Printer, the magazine of the Society, is printed and distributed free to all members each month.**

Contents include articles and letters written by members, commercial news, Branch reports and minutes of Society meetings. Contributions from members are encouraged, whether of a technical nature or otherwise. Classified advertisements submitted by members are inserted without charge. Display advertising is also available. Together with the magazine, members also receive 'the bundle', which may include items such as examples of members' work, notification of Branch Open Days, and other items of interest. All members are encouraged to produce items for inclusion in the bundle and there is no charge for this unless the item contains advertising. Co-operative publications are occasionally produced either by Branches or informally by a number of members working together.

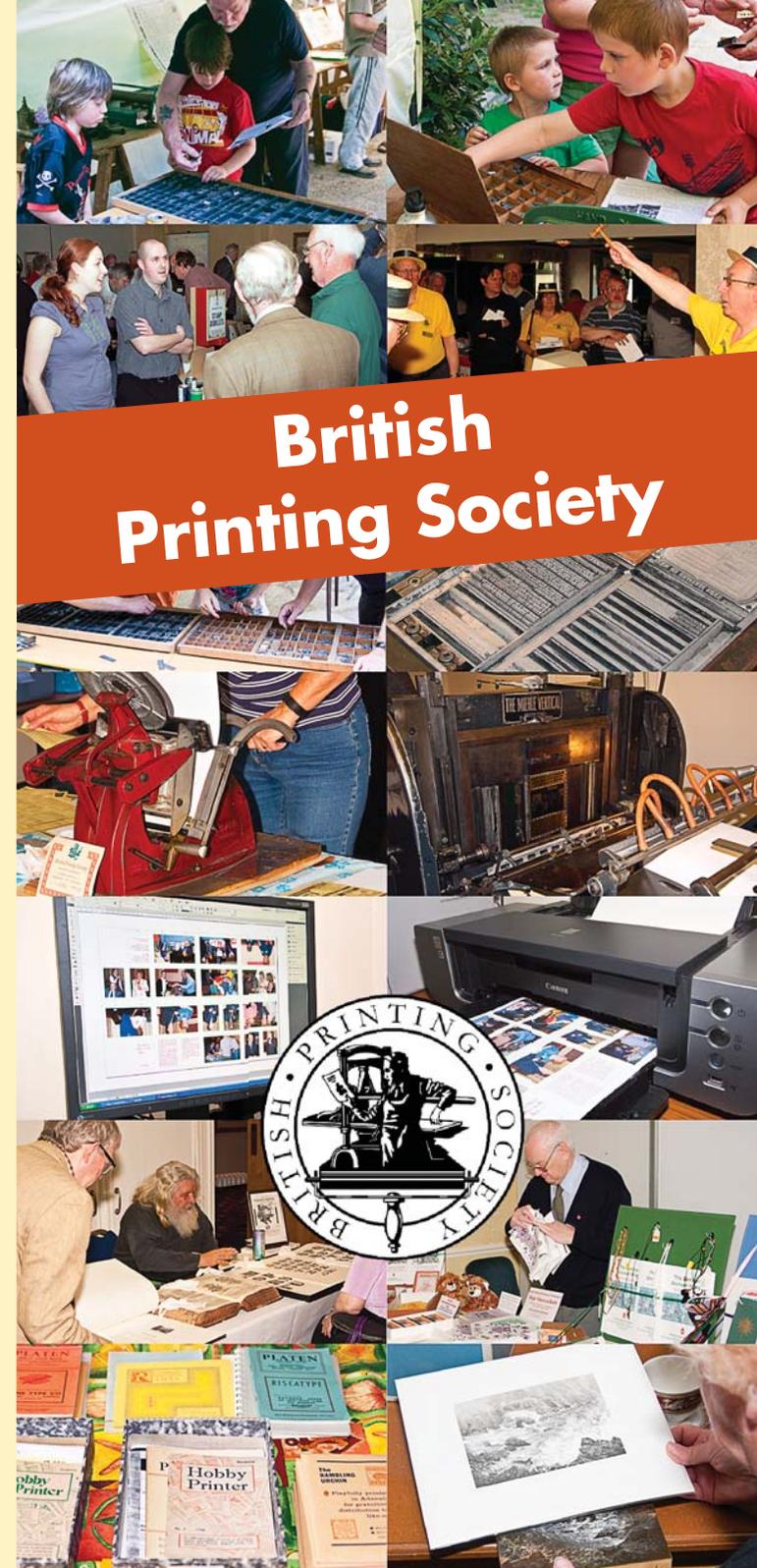
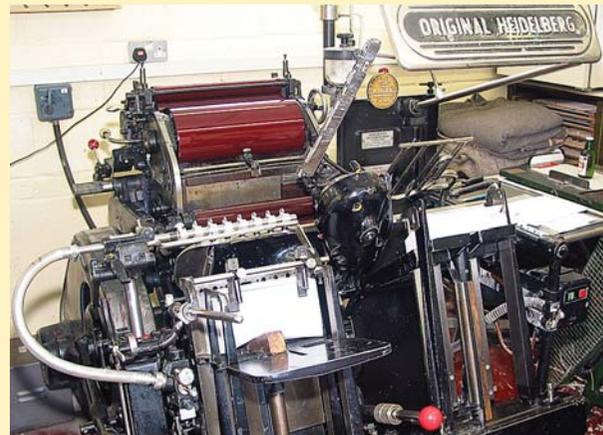


## Membership Details

**The Society is open to all who have an interest in printing, whether on an amateur or professional level. Administrative affairs of the Society are managed by the Executive Council.**

The Society has no paid employees, and all officers give their time voluntarily. It owns no premises, and all meetings are held either in members' homes or in venues hired for the occasion. Full membership may be taken out by an individual or by two persons living at the same address. An annual Membership List, published as soon as possible after the A.G.M., shows the name, membership number and other details of all members, and gives contact details for the Officers of the Society. For more membership details and information go to our website at [www.bpsnet.org.uk](http://www.bpsnet.org.uk) where you can join online or download an application form to return by post.

[www.bpsnet.org.uk](http://www.bpsnet.org.uk)



## British Printing Society



## The Society

**The Society was founded by William Brace in 1944 and was known as the *Amateur Printers' Association*. In 1948 it was renamed the *International Small Printers' Association*, and this name was retained until 1965 when the present title of the *British Printing Society* was adopted.**

William Brace envisaged an organisation that would enable anyone with an interest in printing to exchange views and experiences, pass on hints and tips, and generally promote a spirit of craftsmanship and friendliness. It was his intention that it should be seen as a 'Society of Friends'.

Today the membership is mainly from the UK with the addition of some international members. The Society's many activities show that the ideals of William Brace have not been forgotten.

A Convention is held annually during the second quarter of the year; this represents the highlight of the year's

activities, with the programme and location varying each year, and is usually hosted and organised by one of the Branches. Traditionally this takes place over a weekend, starting on Friday afternoon and finishing on Sunday after lunch. The main events are the Annual General Meeting of the Society, at which elections are held for officers of the Executive Council, which is responsible for the overall running of the Society, and the Annual Dinner on Saturday evening with awards and presentations. The Publishing Group A.G.M. is also held during the weekend. Other Convention events may include a bring and buy sale, an auction, and various trade stands. There are generally several talks and demonstrations and plenty of opportunity to meet other members, as well as exhibitions of members' and private press printing.

A Publishing Group was formed within the Society in 1958. This was started because the membership was becoming so large that not all those who wished to publish items for distribution were able to produce the number of copies required. Publications of the Group, which are circulated to its members, have included limited editions of good private press quality, magazines for churches and schools, small literary magazines, booklets, leaflets and cards. Membership of the Group,

for which a small supplementary subscription charge is made to cover the cost of the mailings, is restricted to those with a genuine interest in its purpose.

The formation of local Branches of the Society is actively encouraged and there are already many of these, distributed throughout the UK. Additionally 2011 has seen the formation of an Overseas Branch for all offshore members, which functions via electronic communications and a regular printed newsletter. Each Branch is independently run by its members, who must first be members of the Society. All Branches are run subject to the Society's Rules. Many Branches hold an annual Open Day, at which all Society members and friends may meet to exchange equipment and ideas. Membership of a local Branch provides an excellent opportunity to meet others with similar interests.

*The images below are from the Essex Branch Colchester Convention, 2013 © Liz Nelson MBE, all other images taken at Conventions and Branch meetings © Ron Rookes.*

[www.bpsnet.org.uk](http://www.bpsnet.org.uk)

