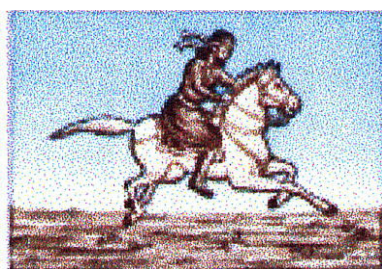


انجمن مطالعات تبرشاسی ایران

Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin No. 203 February 2017



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NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at **97 Burton Stone Lane, York** on **Saturday 6th May 2017** at 2 p.m. when the Commemorative and definitive issues of Iran 1960 to 1965 will be displayed and discussed. For venue details, please see the back page.

REMAINING MEETINGS FOR 2017

8 July 2017: At Midpex. Reza Shah Pahlavi 1935 Definitive (SG 787-800, Farahbakhsh 726-739).

2 September 2017: In Congleton. Pharos Press Printings 1902, 1903 and 1906.

2 December 2017: In London. Items from the Enschede Archives.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT – Bernard Lucas.

I am very sorry I am not now so active as I cannot attend meetings as I used to do.

As most of you know, I was diagnosed as having vasculitis in 2010 . This is a disease which affects ones immunity and bodily organs. The doctors managed to

balance it with drugs, but it has since flared up twice and I was in hospital for 3.5 weeks in October. I am now very unsteady on my feet and cannot go out on my own, but I still enjoy my philately.

I was very sad to hear that our editor, Robert Jack, could not produce a Bulletin before Christmas, due to the lack of material to publish.

It would be nice if more members would send him something to publish. It need not be a longish article, although these would of course be very welcome, but a photocopy of a cover or stamp with your explanations thereon would be acceptable and if there is any thing you do not know or are unsure about, then say so and there is a good chance that other members may be able to help you. Remember, if you show a cover, then show both sides, unless one side is completely blank. Big white spaces can be cut away where necessary to save space. We have several members in the American Chapter who can read Farsi and I am sure they will help with translations into English (or even American).

Because I can no longer go to meetings and show my sheets, I do not now see any point in trying to write up my unmounted covers. Instead, I have put together some lots for sale at the meeting in York at Robert Jack's house. My niece Helen and her husband Ian come to see me once a week and do my shopping and the household chores that I cannot do myself. I have asked Ian if he will deliver the lots to Robert's house for the meeting and he has agreed to do this.

I have given the Stanley Gibbons and the Persiphila catalogue numbers in my descriptions of the lots. For those of you who do not know, the Persiphila catalogues are extremely good and are prepared by our member, Mehrdad Sadri. They give a great deal of information, including illustrations of the better flaws found on the stamps and also details of the forgeries. Some of the stamps are also priced used on cover or documents, which include the barnameh (parcel post) forms. As most good books published these days, they may appear a bit expensive, but the information therein is excellent and well worth the price.

It would be nice if Mehrdad could let the editor have a list of the catalogues he could provide, with their cost prices and details of how the non-American Chapter members can pay for them. His email address is—

Persi@Persi.com

The items I will be sending to York are 41 lots of stamps and 125 lots of covers individually priced, plus 81 covers at £1 each.

These are not items which I did not want to include in my collection, so you will find plenty of good items available.

I am hoping that this will tempt more of you to make the effort to attend at the York meeting and I would advise you to get there early, as there are plenty of lots to examine and "first come, first served". Remember to bring your chequebook !

IRAN PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 3 September 2016 at 2pm at Altair, Off Woodland Avenue, Congleton.

Mr N R N Gooch was in the chair and Messrs D Davies, R Jack, J Stone and D Tanner were in attendance. Apologies were received from Mr B Lucas.

As a novelty Robert Jack showed apparently imperforate between copies of the two chahis value from the 1930 Coronation set. The chairman showed two covers welcoming Iranian frigates to Norfolk USA and a German card marking the Shah's visit to Berlin in June 1967.

As a new acquisition the chairman showed a cover dated August 2011 bearing both the Iranian and Pakistani stamps from the joint issue celebrating the 3rd Meeting of the ECO Postal Authorities.

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2016 were approved by the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

The editor of the bulletin made an appeal for articles for the Bulletin.

The chairman introduced a discussion regarding meetings for 2017 in the light of future non-availability of a free meeting room in London. After discussion it was decided to arrange four meetings during the year on 6 May, 8 July, 2 September and 2 December. The meeting on 6 May would be hosted by Robert Jack at his home in York, on 8 July we would meet at Midpex, the meeting on 2 September would be held by David Davies at his house in Congleton. The final meeting would be held at 41 Devonshire Place, the premises of the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Subjects for the meetings were discussed and the following programme determined:

6 May 2017: Commemorative and definitive issues of Iran 1960 to 1965.

8 July 2017: Reza Shah Pahlavi 1935 Definitive (SG 787-800, Farahbakhsh 726-739).

2 September 2017: Pharos Press Printings 1902, 1903 and 1906.

2 December 2016: Items from the Enschede Archives.

All members present contributed to a display of "Postmarks of Interest" with a selection of postal history as well as loose stamps..

The chairman closed the meeting at about 5-00pm and thanked David Davies for his hospitality and the members for their attendance. He advised that the next meeting would be held on 3 December 2016 in London with the subject – Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi 1942-1945 Definitives.



The apparently vertically imperf between stamps mentioned in the Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 3 December 2016 at 2pm at Congress House, 23/28 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS.

Mr N R N Gooch was in the chair and members Messrs S Dann, D Davies, R Jack, J Stone and D Tanner were in attendance.

Apologies were received from Mr B Lucas.

The chairman extended a very warm welcome to our new member, Steve Dann, who had become aware of the study circle's existence after attending a local meeting in Maidstone where the chairman had been the guest speaker.

As a novelty the chairman exhibited a commemorative page produced by UNICEF showing a miniature picture of home life and the 25c stamp issued by the United Nations showing the flag of Iran.

As new acquisitions the chairman showed a cover dated 3 December 1939 from Djoulfa-Isfahan to France which had been forwarded to Sidi-Bei-Abbes in Algeria and endorsed "Engagé à la Legion Etrangere" but then returned to sender arriving back in Djoulfa-Isfahan on 20 February 1940.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2016 were approved by the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

The editor of the bulletin indicated that he still had room for further articles and would welcome further contributions.

David Davies advised that he had not received a reply from the organisers of Midpex regarding the hire of a table and meeting room for the circle on 8 July 2017. [The chairman subsequently contacted Stephen Harrison and reserved a table and meeting room for £40.]

From their collections members contributed stamps plus postcards and covers showing usages of the 1942-1945 definitive issue of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi.

Following the displays the members enjoyed mince pies and red wine.

The chairman closed the meeting at about 4-30pm and thanked the members for their attendance. He indicated that the next meeting would be held on 6 May 2017 in York to consider the stamp issues of Iran 1961 to 1965.

THE 1928-1929 AIR MAIL ISSUES by Bernard Lucas.

For the past few months I have been going through the 1928-1929 air mail issues.

These issues were overprinted on fiscal stamps. I deduced that the basic small size fiscal stamps (1 chahi to 2 krans) were printed from plates of 100 (10 x 10) and Mehrdad Sadri has kindly confirmed this from the complete sheets he has of these. However, he does not have anything of the larger stamps (3 krans to 30 krans) bigger than blocks of 4, but he thinks they may also have been in plates of 100.

The overprints are of four lines – (1) Poste aeriene in Farsi, (2) a picture of an aeroplane, (3) Poste aeriene and (4) the value in figures and Ch. or Krs. as applicable. The overprint (1), (2) and (3) is common to all the values and the value (4) was inserted separately and its position in relation to (3) can vary slightly.

As the regular varieties of the overprints (1), (2) and (3) can be found on both sizes of the fiscal stamps, it is obvious that a plate of 100 could not be used, but instead a forme made up from 100 separate clichés would be used, so that the different size stamps could be overprinted.

Mehrdad Sadri received an email query about a broken “ten” in the top right corner and he confirmed that this was on row 6 column 1. I found that I had 4 copies of this variety, but did not know the position on the sheet.

Assuming that the basic fiscal stamps were printed from plates of 100, then any flaws of the overprint should be identified with constant flaws on the fiscal stamps, but I found that I had several examples of an overprint flaw which appeared to be on different basic fiscal stamps for some values. As the overprint clichés were loose, they could have been taken down from the forme, for example for cleaning, and replaced in a different order.

I have found a great many of what appear to be constant varieties of the basic fiscal stamps, but most of these are very small. However, I have illustrated some of the larger flaws, as follows, with the number of copies I have shown in brackets.

1 Chahi

1. A large break at the bottom, left of centre. I think row 1, no.4 (5).
2. A large break to the left side of the “chahi” panel at the top left corner. I think row 8, No.2 (5).

2 Chahis

3. Damage to the top frame near the top left corner. I think row 10, no.1 (9).
4. Damage to the top right corner. I think row 7, no.4 (6).

10 Chahis

5. A line up from the ray to the right of the lion. This seems to be in several different positions. (28).

2 Krans

6. Damage to the top border over the top left corner. On Type A. I think row 10, no.8 (4).
- 7-8. Types A and B. These appear to be in varied positions. In Type B there is a vertical orange line at the left of the bottom Farsi panel. This line is not present in

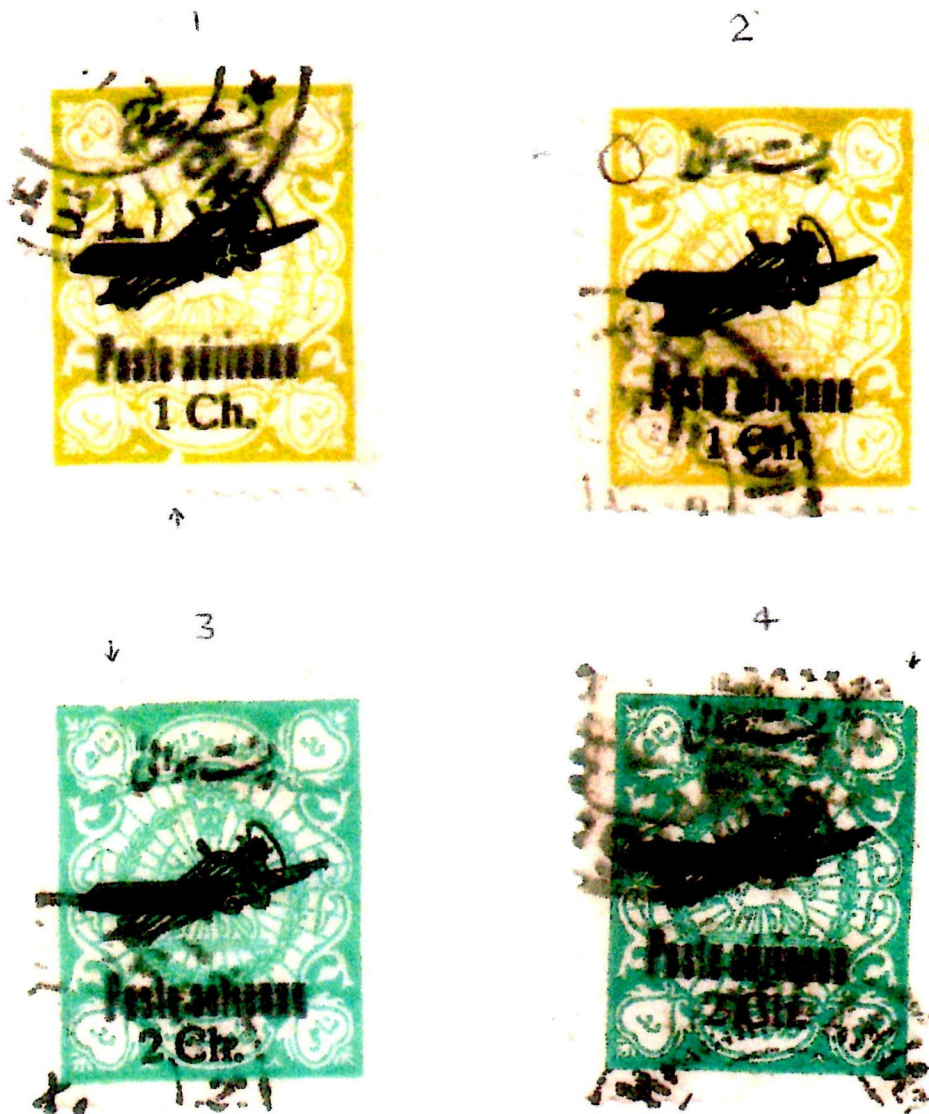
Type A. The ornament at the bottom right corner is similar to the ones in the other three corners in Type A., whereas it is malformed in Type B.

3 Krans

9. The “r.” of “Kr.” Is dropped. I have a copy and Mehrdad Sadri illustrated his copy on page 4125 of the Bulletin, so this makes 2 copies seen.

I also illustrate two pages from my collection showing perforation varieties, some of which are not in the Persiphila catalogue.

I hope this short article, together with the illustrations of other varieties shown in the excellent Persiphila catalogue, will enable members to search their own collections and find the interesting varieties.



5



6



9



dropped "r." of Kr.

7



↑ A ↑

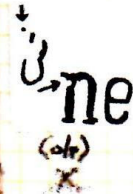
8



B

PERSIA
1928-1929 airmails
Perforation varieties

Imparf.



Horizontally imperf.



Double vertical perf.



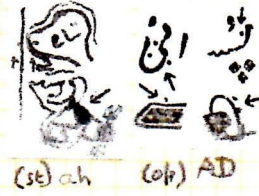
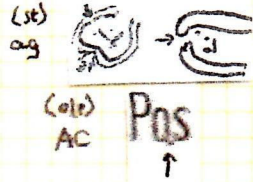
Double horizontal perf.



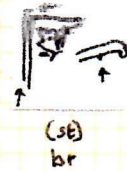
PERSIA

1928-1929 air stamps
Perforation varieties

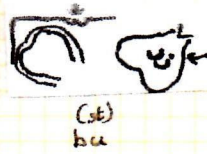
Vertically imperf



9

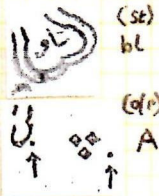


10



1

2



2



POSTAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN RUSSIA AND PERSIA¹

Translated by Howard L. Weinert

Postal communication with neighboring states is a way to facilitate trade and industry. Scarcely a century has passed since Persia abandoned her Chinese insularity and Europeans started to easily and safely travel there. Europeans now have ambassadors in Teheran and consuls in all the principal commercial cities. Large European trading firms have appeared in Tavriz, Resht, and Teheran. Persian silk is exchanged for European manufactured goods.

In spite of the gigantic advances in commerce, sending money and letters is difficult. The reason is that Persia does not have a well-regulated postal administration, and is thus deprived of direct communication with other countries. Consequently, the European consuls – Russian, French, English, Belgian, Turkish etc. – each have their own courier service for delivering mail. Mail is dispatched whenever it is convenient for the official duties of the consul rather than at scheduled times, so merchants have to wait for the consul to dispatch the courier in order to send their own mail and money.

In countries like Persia couriers are often robbed and the merchants lose both letters and money. No one is held responsible for the loss because the couriers are not civil servants. The Persian government remains indifferent since they have no contract with the couriers.

After the Poti-Tiflis Railway opened², courier traffic from Tavriz to Erzerum and Trebizond almost completely ceased and the field was left to Russian postal agents. Take the Russian consul in Tavriz, for example. The merchants entrust their letters and gold to the consulate and the consul sends them to Dzhulfa³ where they enter the Russian postal system. Until last year, merchants had to pay 3 krans (90 kopecks) per lot to send a letter, and 1 kran (30 kopecks) upon receipt of a letter. Now they pay 45 kopecks per lot to send a letter and 30 kopecks to receive one. It costs 15 kopecks to receive one issue of a newspaper – a terrible price.

Every state should have within its borders a postal administration under the supervision of the government and responsible for the loss of insured items. This is not the case in Persia. Why doesn't Persia follow the example of other countries and eliminate the existing patriarchal postal system, build post roads, and conclude a postal treaty with Russia? Regular postal communication between these two countries will enhance their trade relations and benefit Russian shipping and the Poti-Tiflis Railway.

¹ *Tiflissk/j Vlstnik* = (*Tiflis Herald*), No. 103, 4 October 1873.

² The railway opened on 1 October 1872.

³ Before a Russian postal establishment opened in Dzhulfa in 1864, mail was taken to Nakhichevan.

A 1926 POSTAL STATIONERY CARD VARIETY, by Fred Rashid (from the Discussion Group)

I have found recently a sample of 1926 9 ch overprint on 12 ch Ahmad Shah postcard which seems like a double overprint. I had bought a collection of these cards in early 1979. One overprint seems to be slightly slanted forward and not as dark as the main overprint. Has anyone else seen this type of variety and are they listed anywhere?



Enlargement of the stamp imprint

POSTAGE STAMPS USED AS REVENUES, by Bernard Lucas

I have recently found the illustrated pair of 5 kran of the 1897 postage stamps used on piece with a red rectangular cancel. I did not know what this represented and thought that because of the high value (10 kran) it could be from a barnameh or a fiscal document. I sent a copy of it by email to Behruz Nassre and asked him if he could kindly translate the Persian on the cancel and inform me if he thought it was postal or fiscal use. He informed me that the cancel read “adieh Khomseh” meaning “Khomseh Justice”, which is another name for Zandjan and thought that it had been used on a Ministry of Justice fiscal document.



RUSTRANSIT MAIL by Bernard Lucas.

I have come across the illustrated two sheets, which show fairly ordinary covers, but with a colourful sticker on them. This is in diamond form and depicts scenes of a camel train. In the green diamond in the centre is inscribed “HENDELSMARKE) and “RUSTRANSIT” with the equivalent in Russian and Persian. The outer edges of the label have the inscription “MOSKAU, BERLIN, HAMBURG, TEHERAN, RESCHT, PEHLEVI, TAURIS, MESCHED, BARFORUSCH”, which presumably were the places covered for the transit of goods by this presumably Russian company.

Fig 1. Is a registered letter from (RESCHT) No.1. 6-XI.27 with a handstamped registration cachet R 5054 RESCHT to BERLIN N W 17.II.27. 7.

The weight would have been 20 to 40 grams, with the foreign letter rate to 20 grams of 15 chahis plus 9 chahis for the extra 20 grams. The registration rate was 15 chahis., giving a total postage of 1 kran 19 chahis. 1/95 (1 kran 95 dinars) = 1 kran 19 chahis is in manuscript at the left centre. The postage stamps used are 3 x 13 chahis of the Regne de Pahlavi 1926 issue. The diamond label has been used to seal the envelope.

Fig.2. is also a registered letter, which appears to have weighed 70 grams, according to the Persian manuscript 70 at the right centre and went from (MECHED) No.1. 17.XI.27, with the handstamped registration cachet R 5948, to BERLIN N W - 2.12.27. 12-1N (nachtmittag = morning).

The foreign letter rate was 15 chahis for 20 grams plus 3 x 9 chahis for the extra three 20 grams steps, with the registration rate of 15 chahis, a total of 2 kran 17 chahis. 2/10 (2 kran 10 dinars) = 2kran 2 chahis is in manuscript and is just the letter rate.. Also in manuscript in Persian is :-

1/80 (1kran 80 dinars) = 4 x 9 chahis = 1 kran 16 chahis.
30 (30 dinars) = 6 chahis = 15 chahis minus 9 chahis.
75 (75 dinars) = 15 chahis registration fee.

The postage stamps used are 2 x 1 kr of the Regne de Pahlavi 1926 issue and 2 chais and 15 chahis of the 1926 issue.

A diamond label has been used to seal the envelope, plus another label cut in half.

Fig. 1

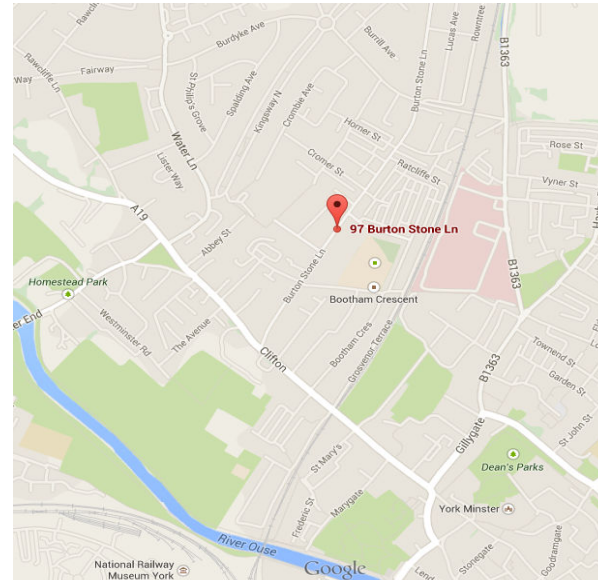
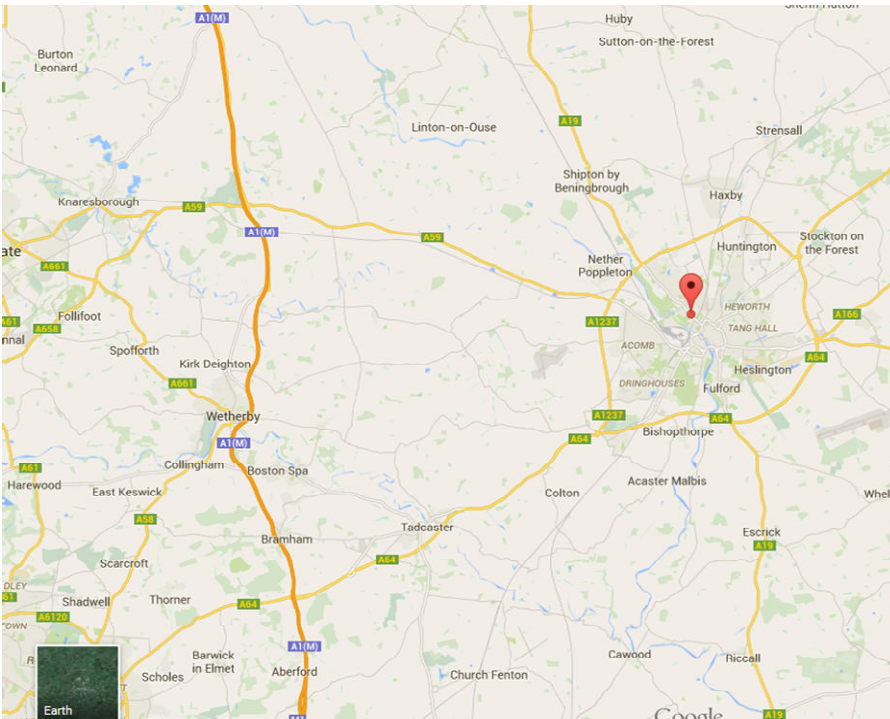


Fig. 2

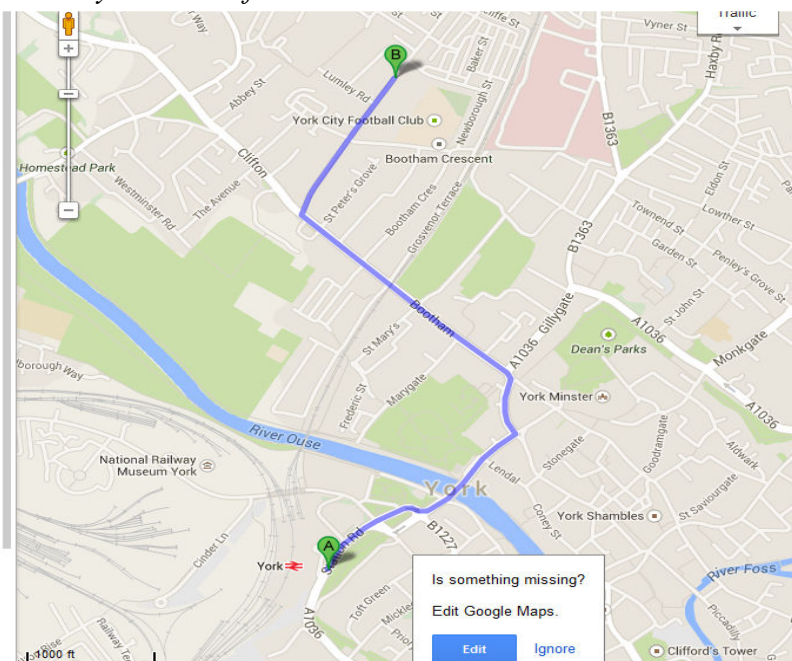


DIRECTIONS FOR THE 6TH MAY MEETING

By road. Burton Stone Lane is just north of the city centre. Please be aware that the city centre contains pedestrian streets and one-way systems. For this reason it is much better to avoid it and use the York Northern Ring Road (A1237) to approach from the North. Coming into York along the A19 from this direction, you will see a large red-brick church on the left and Burton Stone Lane is almost immediately on the right (the Burton Stone pub is on the corner). For SatNavs, the postcode is YO30 6BZ. I am afraid you will need magnifying glasses for the maps!



By train and foot/bus/taxi.



The number 19 bus runs from near the station to Burton Stone Lane: turn left out of the station and cross the first road you come to. The bus stop is (RM) and the number 19 heads in the direction of Skelton (ask for Lumley Road/Burton Stone Lane)

Alternatively, it is a short taxi ride from the station. For further details, contact the Editor–

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