

From *Germania* November 2016 The new Auction Manager introduces himself

I, Steve Palmer, am delighted to have taken over from Ray Mayes as the Society's Auction Manager. The Society owes Ray a great deal of thanks for running the auction over the past few years. As do I – I've found his help and advice invaluable and I hope to continue the work he has done. I am of course delighted to be able to help G&CPS in this way, but I have to admit to a more selfish reason – the opportunity to view large amounts of German philatelic material and learn from the vendor and buyer members of our Society. There is a wealth of material out there and many members have duplicate items, or their collecting interests have changed, so using the auction benefits them, it benefits the Society, but it also enables buyers to obtain material to improve their collections and add to their knowledge.

At the time of writing (mid-October 2016) I have about 300 items which I am processing for the next auction. I am hoping to send out the catalogue early in December, with the auction ending at the end of February. My particular favourite item so far isn't a stamp or a cover, but a rather nice Leipzig Fair doll from the 1960s.

The vast majority of buyers receive their catalogue by email, which is cheaper, more efficient and probably more reliable than by post, but the Committee is rightly committed to continuing to send the catalogue by post for those who want it that way.

The catalogue contains a number of illustrations of some of the lots. However, I will scan all the items so that they are available online to view. An email will be sent to members on how to access these and details will be in the catalogue. I hope that this will be a valuable addition to what members are able to view, leading to more sales for vendors and buyers being able to see scans of more items to help them in their decision to bid.

For those who are considering selling items for the first time I'd say, 'Do it!' What I need are the items (please send by next-day insured delivery) with a list of what they are, a couple of lines describing each lot and the reserve you wish to place on the item. It helps me if you could email me these details as I can then cut-and-paste them into the catalogue: it saves me having to type. My details are provided on the back page – the deadline for this auction is 30 November. I look forward to receiving many interesting items.

Steve Palmer