

WASC on Facebook

Steve Garland and Paul Redhead

This .pdf is based upon a presentation made to the WASC Zoom meeting of Saturday 21st February 2026

Introduction (added post meeting)

At the meeting Steve used Powerpoint slides to describe the new WASC Facebook group, how to join it, and what it could be used for. He included an online visit to the WASC group page to explore the content put on there by current members of the group.

Because the group is private, it's not possible to view the content or add to it unless you are already a member, so we have separately made a short video which enables you to look at a sample of the content before you make a decision about whether to join the group. You can find it at <https://youtu.be/K0JodTMSC98>

A couple of issues have been raised in addition to the 'how do I join' which is explained in the pages which follow. One is about whether Facebook is safe to join, the other is about whether not joining excludes one from useful discussion.

Is Facebook safe? That depends on the privacy settings you opt for. These range from no privacy – everyone can see everything you put onto Facebook – obviously not safe – to completely private – people can't find you or see anything about you. We can recommend this short video which explains the privacy settings and how you can adjust them to suit yourself. <https://youtu.be/RQZrQdn69nA>

Will WASC members who don't join the group miss out? It's entirely up to you whether you join, and if so whether you contribute or just watch. We have agreed that any substantive discussions which take place will be reported upon via newsletters and Cameo – as is the case with our other 'channels' of communication – in-person Meetings and the Zoom sessions.



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Facebook Groups

- The purpose of a Facebook group is to **foster community, facilitate discussion, and share common interests** among members in a private or public space. Unlike Pages, groups encourage interactive, member-to-member, two-way communication, making them ideal for building close-knit communities, offering niche support, and fostering brand engagement
- Our group is Private
- Currently WASC members only
- Public can only see the group name and purpose
- Name = West Africa Study Circle (WASC)

About

WASC promotes study of the stamps and postal history of West Africa (see www.wasc.org.uk). Main areas covered are the Atlantic Islands (Ascension, St Helena, Tristan da Cunha), Cameroons, The Gambia, Gold Coast / Ghana, Nigeria and its constituent territories, Sierra Leone and Togo. Other areas include the British Postal Agencies on Madeira, Tenerife, St Vincent (Cape Verde Islands) and Fernando Po. [See less](#)

Private

Only members can see who's in the group and what they post.

Visible

Anyone can find this group.

[Learn more about this group](#)

Joining

- For those new to Facebook, there are plenty of on-line guides on how to join
- See for example www.facebook.com and various videos on www.youtube.com
- A “Complete Beginner’s Guide” video is available [here](#)

- If you are already on Facebook, simply search for “West Africa Study Circle” or WASC
- Request to join

- You will be asked 2 questions
 - Are you already a member of WASC?
 - What are your collecting interests?

Collecting Interests and Experts

Custom roles · 2

Roles that may be customised by admins.



Robert May

British Cameroons Nigeria from 1914 expert Group expert

Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge



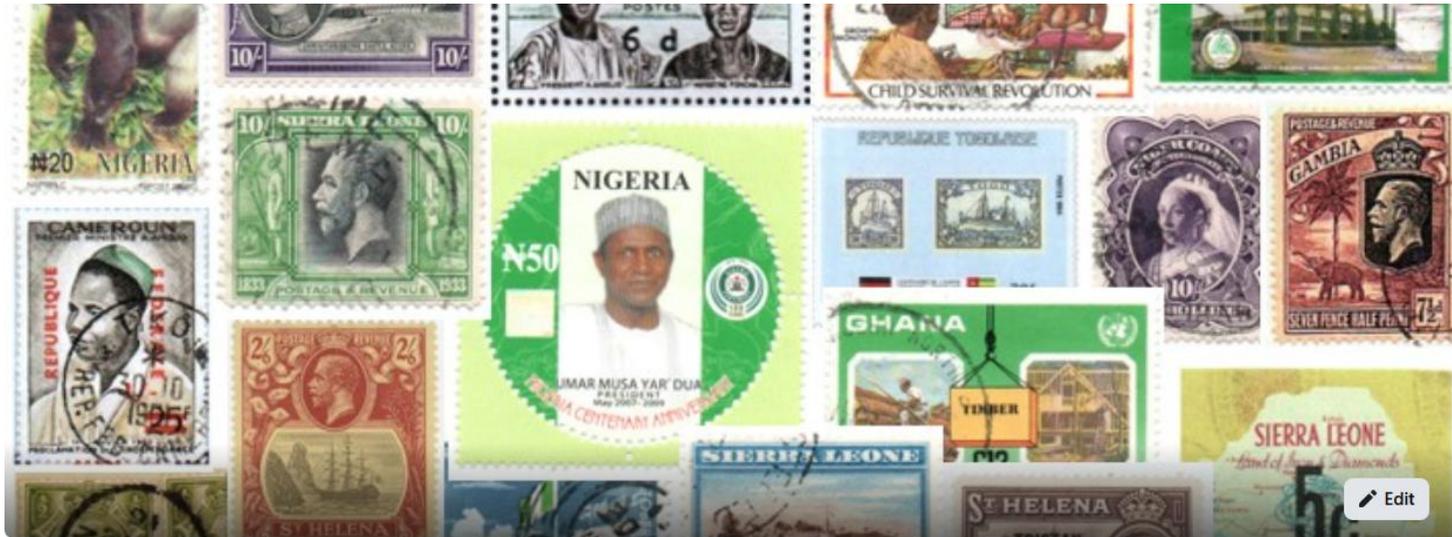
Steve Garland

Admin Pre-decimal Ascension St Helena

Cambridge

- We will set up “roles” for you based on your collecting interests
- You will receive requests to accept each role
- Once you do so, your interests will appear as tags underneath your name when you post in the group (but not elsewhere in Facebook)
- Study Editors = Group Experts

Exploring the Group ([link](#))



West Africa Study Circle (WASC)

Private group · 4 members



+ Invite

Share

Discussion Open questions Members Events Media Files



- Discussion
 - Items of Interest
 - Seeking Expert Guidance
 - Auction Details
 - Check-Ins (facilitate in-person)
- Events
 - Meeting Information
- Media
 - Photos, Videos and Albums
- Files