



**Dr. Seija-Riitta Laakso, RDP – Finland**

Seija-Riitta Laakso has been visible worldwide as the editor of *The London Philatelist*, including the special editions to celebrate the 150 years of the Royal Philatelic Society London. Today she is editor of *The Posthorn*, *The Congress Book*, yearbook of American Philatelic Congress, and *Postryttaren*, yearbook of the Swedish Friends of Postmuseum.

Seija-Riitta has exhibited in five different classes: postal history, thematic, open, picture postcards and literature, receiving high awards nationally and internationally. Her doctoral thesis *Across the Oceans* academically combined 19<sup>th</sup> century maritime history and postal history.

She is also well known for her contribution to the serious collecting and study of picture postcards, opening many collectors' eyes to the possibilities of this new class. Her exhibit *Paris by Night* garnered numerous awards on both sides of the Atlantic including the Lee Medal in 2020 for the best paper presented to the RPSL. Seija-Riitta is also a qualified judge at Nordic level and an APS judge in the United States. She has served on the Thematic Commission of the FIP and has been secretary general of the Philatelic Federation of Finland