

Obituaries

It is with sadness that I start this newsletter with the death of John Church a founder member of the society he had served as our treasurer for thirty years and was involve with the AEPS and received an Award of Merit for the BPF. In the same week end the wife of Brian Marsh died after a long illness.

Meeting Report Ladies Night

The ladies night proved to be a great success With no less than eight of our ladies taking part. Kings and Queens of England started off by May Colvill with Ann Colman showing the last definitives of the old Republic of South Africa and continued with the animal definitives and other issues of South Africa. Vivien Hollaway was next with all types of monkeys from Chimpanzees to Gorillas

Jenny Perry started the second session with signed covers divided into four groups sport amongst others was Eddie the Eagle personalities had the two Ronnie's, Spike Milligan and Vera Lynn famous people included Margaret Thatcher, Ray Jenkins and Patrick Moore in her odds section was Nick Berry

Miniature Christmas sheets from the Commonwealth were Brenda Nye's presentation. each had a stamp as part of its theme Ivy Church had two parts to her show in the first part she had Birds from around the world that included Cranes, Falcons, Eagles, Pigeons and Penguins in the second part she had memorabilia such as signed photographs of the Beverly sisters, Henry Hall and Val Donigan with a letter and photo. From Norman Wisdom.

For the final part of the evening Ann Stanway showed Antarctica in stamps, covers and post cards, items from the Australian and American Artic Territories, a 1963 issue of stamps

And a lovely cover showing different times of a summers day. in five stamps a cover with the inscription "Byrd snow carrier reached the South Pole" with some postcards showing one of the Glaziers. Maggie Thompson completed the evening with triangles used for local post , first were from Sweden in `1889 then there were stamps from various towns in Germany. The Romney, Hythe and Dimchurch railway letter fee stamps followed by a number of sheets from Lundy island. Strike post labels, bisects from Herm island, Guernsey and Poland on covers came next a series of stamps and sheets from Rattlesnake island in the USA, with items from Chesucock in Maine Bow Wow post and Rocket mail from Colorado. This was a great evening with many thanks to all the Ladies that took part.

Guernsey Stamps for the next quarter
30 January Island Games
HMS Guernsey
Alderney Migrating Birds part 2
10 April New Postal Headquarters
Memories of WW11
Alderney Coronation miniature sheet
Telephone 01481 716486

The little red book cont—

I opened the first little catalogue dated 1897 a slim volume of less than 200 pages and began to read the contents. The text began with an introduction followed by General notes and a section called Foreign money after which came Technical notes these chapters were set out in English, French, German and Spanish occupying some forty pages or a quarter of the book. The introduction continued with the description of a monthly Journal edited by a Major E B Evans published on the first of each month for a subscription of 2/- per annum or 5/- for three years. It contained early information on new issues articles by leading Philatelists

Cont-and many other interesting subjects all in from 50 to 72 pages a barging in 1897.

Next I began to examine the catalogue itself which had appeared in the years up to 1896 and found that a mint Penny Black could be purchased from Gibbons from 7/6 to 15/- depending on the plate. A British Guiana 4 cent one of the worlds rarest stamps priced at just £25 used and a Cape 4d triangle from the locally printed wood plate was available for just £8 look at your part I to see how they have increased in a century.

The last twenty pages were filled with advertisements for all manor of accessories. There followed advertisements for hand books like the stamps of South Australia, Shanghai St. Vincent and Barbados all priced between 4/6 and 10/6 each.

Another book entitled Album Weeds by Rev. R B Earee about how to ensure that you did not get forgeries in your collection, while another volume by Gilbert Lockyer on the subject of the Mulready envelope and its caricatures at just 6/- . Finally the last page of this enchanting little little volume announced the forthcoming London philatelic Exhibition of 1897 whose Patrons included members of the Royal Family, a couple of Dukes and the Postmaster General who was also the Earl Marshall.

Note Arthur has included a number of photocopies of these articles that I will include latter.

Our meetings for the next three months

Monday 6 January Display by Bill Trower with Phun & Phrolics

Saturday 16 January Stamp Fair

Tuesday 21 January Film night

Monday 3 February Competitions Thematics, Cinderella & Modern Material

Tuesday 18 February Visit from Sidcup PS

Monday 3 March Auction night

Tuesday 18 March Visit from Hullbridge P S

NOTE Stamp Fairs are held in the Community Centre Aston Road Laindon.

Please note that Auction lotting sheets must be in by the first meeting in January the lots themselves by 18 February but could in sooner.

Meeting Report Visit from Shoebury-ness P S.

No less than eight members came to show us items from their collections. Bob Simkin opened the evening with early stamps of East Africa , for German east Africa there were overprinted German stamps and a selection of "Yacht "key types from 1847 for Tanganyika etc. and British South Africa company stamps for Rhodesia with overprints for Nyasaland, Edward VII and George V stamps from the Seychelles A selection of the double head stamps of the British South Africa Company for Rhodesia together with some "Admiral" and "Field Marshal" with the 1922 Mandated issue of Tanganyika completed Bobs show. Paul Williams then gave us a study of the "Downey head stamps of George V of Great Britain that included coil stamps, different perforations. A series of control singles blocks and part sheets and some of the white dot flaws.

Mary Bryant started the second part with the year 1935 with sheets of stamps from European countries including Red Cross stamps from Belgium Hungary, Denmark with Hitler stamps of Germany with photographs of the Graf Spay. The Silver Jubilee of George V in stamps and covers with an omnibus album. Some advertising label and birthday cards her display ended with the lying in state of George V who died later in that year. John Basco chose the horn of Africa for his contribution with stamps of Ethiopia, Eritria and Somaia with Italian occupation and British reoccupation stamps and covers Ann Croft finished off the second section with T is for Trunks as she collects Elephants her display was of "Trunks"

*Trunks in trunks, Elephants tails and swimming
With a family and baby Elephants and tree
trunks.*

John Cawlan led into the last part of the evening with the Boar War a small selection of stamps followed by letter to and from Great Britain also with letters to the Boars from Holland and Germany, a letter from Greece to a prison of war in Ceylon with a photograph of a ship caring POW'S away from Africa. There were siege letters from Maferking and Lady-smith using overprinted stamps. A series of cartoon cards from both sides with messages written around the characters. Next were items of money printed for use in siege towns with a letter of condolence from Lord Roberts to King Edward VII at Osborne on the death of his mother Queen Victoria. Items of interest completed the display were two South African campaign medals one with two bars the other with five, a tin box that had held chocolate a present from the Queen, an Australian soldiers bible and a collection of match box labels. Joyce Pauls topic was Sharks from around the world on stamps postcards and photographs. Her husband completed the evening with a series of covers from around the world celebrating various anniversaries of the Red Cross together with one from the Red Crescent. All together a brilliant evening

Royal Mail issues to end of march

January 14 Birds of prey

February 4 Occasions

**“ 25 Secret of Life-DNA and
the Genome**

March 25 Fun Fruit and Vegetables.

Telephone number of the Bureau

08457 641 641

Meeting Report Competition night.

Our Autumn competition evening was well supported some from member entering for the first time. The Judges from Witham were David Sibley and Dave Armatage.

In the stamps section Ann Colman chose Hobbies with stamps of Dolls and Teddy Bears, Drawing and painting and Pottery using stamps from European countries and Great Britain Geoff Miller whose shift pattern means we do not see him very often had war tax overprinted stamps from the first world war by a number of Commonwealth Countries that included a double entry on a stamp of Ceylon. Len Stanway used a series of stamps from Malaya issued in July under the title Islands and beaches with singles and multiples including blocks and covers. Charlie Mead used Fiji government franks on covers used between various departments A selection of Queen Elizabeth stamps from Aden

That included dated reprints and errors were from Chris. Cooksey. The life and times of Charles Dickens using stamps, covers, postcards and photographs were Dennis Sales entry.

Charlie Mead was the winner of this section. Postal History had a some very different entries The first I looked at was from Len Stanway about the town of Richmond Yorkshire it started with an entire dated 1780 and other entires with town and mileage marks and an early Catterick round cancel, with other pre. 1840 items and coming up to date a number of covers with Richmond cancels on Queen Elizabeth stamps. Chris Cooksey used the town of Petsworth/Storington with entires from London in 1820 a letter to Horsham on 4 October 1820 and various pre postage stamp items with mileage and Town marks together with a number of labels and postcards. A series of OHMS cov-

And for me the best entry of the evening was the One Penny Post from Ian Tickell an entire from Rochford to Hornchurch on 24 March 1814 and other pre 1840 items. A Penny Black with a cover dated 9 June 1840 with a Maltese cross cancel. A Mulready letter dated 1 December 1840 with a number of other Queen Victoria covers with 1d stamps

There were four entries in the Aerophilately section Early Swiss airmails came from Denis Sales the earliest from a 1924 letter to Hungary with letters to other countries up to 1963 all with the very attractive Swiss air mail stamps. Triangular airmail labels from many European Countries came from Maggie Thompson, Chris Cooksey had various airmail covers from Southern Rhodesia showing the change in postal rates from early George V through to Elizabeth II and the last entry was from Len Stanway with airmails from the Straits Settlements from between 1931 to 1941 with a first flight cover to Honolulu on 10 May 1940 a little before the occupation of the area by Japan Chris Cooksey came out as winner of this section.

Well done to all those who entered.....

Geof Stewart would like to know if any one has information about Post boxes if you Have could contact him on 01268 754839 he would be pleased with any help you can give.

Meeting Report Aspects of Rhodesia by Chris Cooksey.

Chris is not only a member of ours but is Also a member of the Rhodesian Study Circle. He had the use of six frames taking 12 sheets each and he filled them three times each one with a different Aspect. He started off by saying that his Grandmother had a friend living in Rhodesia and the stamps from the letters started his collection. He outlined the postal history from the first stamps issued in 1890 by the

British South Africa Company and carried through to the last issue of Rhodesia. A number of sheets from the archives of Waterlows told of the story of inspections of sheets of stamps in the wrong colours he explained that they were to be made up into sample books to be taken to prospective customers the next frame had the 1940 definitive issue of Geotge VI .Air mail postal rates were on covers in the next frame the first rate was 10d in 1934 this went down to 9d and was further reduced until in 1937 it was only 1 1/2d, on the out break of war in 1939 the rate went up to 1/3d until the service was suspended in 1940 and all overseas mail went by sea. The Royal air Force had some bases in the country each having different courses with a sub post office and covers were shown from each of them, these were followed by a series of military letter sheets that included a couple that had had there watermarks X-Rayed a few civilian sheets were shown but these were not allowed until 1944.

The second session started with the Double Head issue that Chris had been able to plate the stamps by the area around the Queen s head there were also flawed stamps and a variety of perforations. Another section was of postmarks on covers from mines each one having its own name that ranged from Wives and girlfriends to Kilroy was hear and Nil desperandom.

Rhodesia had the worst number of people killed in road accidents than any where else in the world and the next frame showed various slogans used to try to reduce these figures.

Chris then told the story of buying a box of Rhodesian stamps as a young man it contained a great number of the 1/2d British South Africa Company overprints with the help of a full sheet he was able to plate the position on the sheet of many of the stamps and some forty of them were on show. Next up were the complete issues of Northern Rhodesia. Revenue stamps on certificates were shown various for mines to prospect and for inspection all of them being very expensive all had George V stamps still being used in 1948

A 1948 certificate cost £17 50 while one in 1940 was £ 71 00 a death certificate also had revenue stamps but also had to have the details of the spouse and any children. Also shown were a big game licence and a contract of service that had to be taken out for all workers. The next frame was of stamps issued by the Smith Government after declaring UDI. The first joint Rhodesia and Nyasaland followed including booklet stamps. The large Arms of 1897 issued by the British South Africa company was in the next frame that also had the variations of perforations.

Railways were next with covers that had been overprinted with each stations name. Traveling post office details were next these were mainly from Royal tours, and the Trains issue of 1992. Postal Stationary included lettercards of Cape of Good Hope being overprinted with Mashonaland and cards of Mashonaland and later issues printed with Rhodesia.

This has been a long report with some items missed out but I make an apology these of you who did not attend were the losers. Chris must be congratulated not only for a great evening but also for his frame per topic that must have taken some time to prepare.

Isle of Man issues tomarch2003 14 February Post Office Vehicles

Tele. 01624 698434

Subscriptions Very few of the members have not yet paid their subs would you please make sure yours are paid.

Meeting Report Christmas by Jean Taylor.

Before Jean started her display Len Stanway presented Trophies and certificates to members who were highly placed in the Autumn competitions, Maggie Thompson, Dennis Sales, Ian Tickell and Chris Cooksey the last two receiving Trophies.

And I was given the cup as member of the year Thank you all.

Jean opened her display with showing pre stamp(1840) items including an entire from 1832, the first Christmas cards came out in 1833 and on display were a number of very beautiful early cards from that time, including a decorated fan that members of the household received from Queen Victoria these were followed by some cards sent from abroad. Next in this section were a number of cards sent from various post offices to colleagues in other postal centres. The Oratorio's by Bach and Handel accompanied the Christmas story. A sheet of stamps headed Germany was next and I asked Jean why there were no German stamps she told me that all the stamps shown were about a German carol that translates to "O Christmas Tree" a section on Charles Dickens and his writings about Christmas completed the first session.

The second part of the evening began with a number of sheets of stamps all showing the Christmas star in various forms they covered most countries that issue Christmas stamps.

A Number of airmail letter forms with Christmas themes were next, some sheets of stamps with a carol story followed such as In the bleak mid winter, Silent night Holy night and While Shepard's watched their flocks at night. More sheet came from states of Central Africa with samples of oils of Frankincense and Myrrh were on the table and the session finished with a number of Stained glass Windows on stamps.

In the final part of her display Jean stamps and covers featured Christmas Crackers, the new year, twelfth night and items from Walt Disney fairy tales and Christmas stories and the last of the display was of Pantomime especially Cinderella that was first performed in Drury Lane in January 1804 and there are some 350 different versions of the story recorded.

Notes from your Secretary.

Apart from one incident this has been a very good year we have welcomed some new members, attendance at stamp fairs are improving, member coming to meeting is encouraging and the auction is going from strength to strength except that at the last auction the most expensive lots disappeared before it could be offered we had to pay the vendor and that blew a hole in our commission so if any one should offer you 5 Edward VII high value Indian definitives please let me know.

The latest Data Protection act is giving us some concern is means that we cannot keep your information i.e. Name and address on retrievable discs without your permission at present three people have this information me the Treasurer and the editor of the newsletter who needs it to send you information and auction list if you are not at the meeting when they are published, if you are concerned about this please contact me.

I have enjoyed my years in office and getting to know more of you personally if any of you want to get it touch with me on 07899 822881 may I wish you all a happy Christmas and a healthy and wealthy new year.

Jersey Post office issues to March 2003

**21 January Aviation History V111
6 stamps of 20th century
planes .**

1 February Chinese new year m/sheet.

11 March Europa Poster Art

Phil Bereau telephone 01534 516320

Editors notes

In the new year I will start to tell the story of the Royal National Lifeboat Institute as written by John Pettit who has an interest in this subject. I will continue with stories from Arthur Hobbs (when I can master my Scanner). The newsletter is for you if you have any comments or if you have items for sale or want or even stories to tell these can all be done free of charge my telephone number is on page one.

May I add my wishes to all of you for a happy time and a healthy new year.

You could fill in this space.

