

Meeting Report Sudan and its Stamps by Ian Tickell

Ian said that he started collecting through a dealer who advised him to join the Sudan study Circle and he had developed his collection since then. Sudan is the largest country in Africa covering about a million square miles with a population of two million, the north is mainly desert with an Arab population while in the fertile south it is mainly Christian, there has been a civil war since 1956 when it gained independence.

The first stamps shown were Egyptian over printed Sudan in English and Arabic from 1867 included with these were covers with large O postmarks. In 1880 a siege was laid to Khartoum and on show was a letter that had been smuggled out in the long hair of a tribesman. A set of eight Egyptian over-printed stamps with two telegraph forms from General Kitchener who was head of the relief army, next were some 48 examples of forgeries.

In 1898 Kitchener wanted to issue Sudan stamps and got one of his officers to design one in two weeks, they were sent to Del La Rue in London who produced a set of large Camel postman stamps. These were shown with a number of forgeries and some army overprints. This design was the centrepiece for several

Issues, a smaller set of stamps were issued in 1921 with a changed watermark because the Arabs did not like licking the cross on the first sets. The next stamps shown were the 1931 airmails and the 1935 50th. Anniversary issue for the death of Gordon. Due to the war the next stamps of 1940 were printed in India, in 1948 the Camel postman set were reissued and to complete the first session Ian showed the last set before independence.

The second part of the display was mainly of postal history starting with a number of airmail covers followed by some eighty plus post office postmarks missing only very few. Next were a number of stamps and covers from desert railway post offices and lastly a number of first flight and other airmail covers.

He completed the evening with a collection of later mint stamps saying he bought them for £85 and after sorting he sold of the blocks to a dealer for £200 leaving him with the stamps and a nice profit.

SOCIETY NEWS

Geoff Miller has joined the committee as acting vice chairman.

Ann Colman is now auction Secretary.

Chris Cooksey is preparing to become Competition Registrar.

A few members have not yet paid their subs for the new year please do so soon.

Meeting Report The Committee entertains.

David Church opened the evening with British revenues with items going back to 1670 most were of Queen Victoria with stamps on documents and receipts and some used stamps, then came stamps with company names and in the case of a soap maker its logo others like Birmingham Corporation were shown singly and on covers, the final part was of perfins on stamps again to prevent misuse mainly of early QE11 before metered mail became more widely used.

Next came part of Charlie Mead's collection of the halfpenny bulk rate stamps of 1870. For some time the bulk letter senders had been asking for a reduced rate for these items, the treasury steadfastly refused until the threat to take the business away. The stamps were designed at half the size of the penny stamp with 480 to the sheet with the halfpenny watermark covering three stamps. There were some 15 plates used to produce the stamps 1,2 and 3 having a very short life and the display had stamps from each plate also shown was a complete sheet and covers from various companies. The stamps were also used for newspapers. They were not valid for letters and examples of this misuse were shown with a penny surcharge.

Len Stanway completed the evening with modern material from Singapore from 2001. With most of the issues there were stamps, first day covers, miniature sheets and booklets. Sponsored issue of the care for nature were first with Ah Meng an Orang-Utan and family. A joint issue with Switzerland of flowers that included a cover with stamps of both countries. Chinese new year stamps followed although there are 12 animals in the zodiac cycle these can be increased with each of the five elements. Next up were awards from the Singapore post office for the money spent

During the year.

An early Governor of Penang instructed a Chinese artist to paint all the flora and fauna wild life, these paintings now belong to the people of Singapore and are kept in a museum, four of them are produced on miniature sheets each year.

Moving on to 2002 the sponsored nature issue was of local trees, and in a joint issue with Malaysia of birds. The Christmas stamp issue was in European, Indian, Malay and Chinese.

The World stamp championship is to be held in Singapore in 2004 and to help finance this pairs of two dollar stamps are being sponsored by big companies like McDonalds, Coca Cola and American Express. The display ended with examples of postage due labels.

Meetings to the end of the year

Monday 6

October

Auction night.

Saturday 12 "

Stamp fair at Laindon

Tuesday 21 "

Visit from Braintree PS.

**Monday 3 November Competitions Stamps,
postal history and aerop.**

Saturday 15 " Stamp fair at Laindon

Tuesday 18 " Portugal by T R G Dahi

**Mon 1 December Morocco Agencies by B S
Cook**

**Tues.16 December Festive evening and Tomex
Quiz.**

Christmas stamps were also in part one including 2002 which are a repeat of 2001 updated.

The second part opened with Royal events with the various weddings, anniversaries of the Queen and her mother including the 2002 memorial stamps. Aviation history was next including the centenary of flight this year. A large section followed covering issues of flora, fauna, feather and fishes including several set about the work of the Jersey Zoo's with endangered species around the world supplementing this section was photographs of the Battle of the flowers and the Howard Davis memorial park taken on my visits to the island. This section was completed was stamps of paintings by Jersey artists.

The final section of the evening opened with the various forms of transport. that included vintage cars, fire engines and police cars with buses through the last century. All forms of shipping including six ships that have been named HMS Jersey and the present States ships. Stamps and miniature sheets of different anniversaries were next with the battle of Jersey and many others. Stamps that did not fit into any other section completed the evening.

Jersey issues for the year

9 September Jersey Pets

**10 November Jersey Nature Wild
Orchids**

The Auction for October has only 225 lots. For recent Auctions we have had up to 400 lots so could you all look closely at your surplus material and bring our Spring Auction back to around the 400 mark.

Meeting Report . Eight pages from my collection.

On a hot sultry August evening there were ten entries for the event, this was the first time Chris Cooksey acted as registrar and he excelled in his organising, he made sure that all the members had clip boards for their marking and he was able to give a quick result. The first entry I saw was from Ann Stanway with a collection of Antarctica with stamps from Great Britain, Australia and the United States. Next was stamps of the occupation of the Channel Islands together with a number of plate flaws and some forgeries by Pat Harris, Charlie Nicholson entry was of early stamps of Montserrat followed by an unusual entry of early stamps of Persia from Len Stanway.

A study of the early stamps of the Falkland Islands together with a selection of first world war "War Tax" stamp from around the Commonwealth were from Geoff Miller.

Brenda Nye used Christmas air mail letters for her entry, a study of Antelopes from different African countries by Ann Colman.

Bill Leeds had the story of the Queens golden Coronation stamps from Britain, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and finally the definitive issues of the Isle of Man was Steve Alpe's entry.

The standard was very high the Persian stamps were full of colour, the Falkland island entry was superbly written up and the Antelope's was well designed and laid out. In third place was Pat Harris with his occupation entry second was Geoff Miller with the Falkland Isles and the clear winner was Ann Colman with her Antelopes.

Why I collect stamps

By Geoff Miller

Like most children I had an older person who started me on the road to collecting stamps. At that age the number of stamps you had and you would end up with a general assortment of low value worldwide stamps.

As you got older and discovered the other sex stamps were forgotten for some years. Later in life you may have got out your collection when you needed a hobby that kept you warm and dry and not on the golf course getting wet.

For me my schoolboy collection album disappeared during the several times of moving home, but some time later during a lunchtime walk I passed a stamp shop (where are they now) I went in and purchased an album and some stamps. This time it was GB and Commonwealth so I started to build a collection.

Years later I decided to cut down as the commonwealth was changing with countries changing their names with too frequent new issues.

I sold off my GB collection and left myself with three countries The Falkland Islands, Tristan Da Cunha and the Pitcairn Islands.

These three became my lonely islands collection and I concentrated on building these up. I joined a number of specialist study groups and I found this to be a good way to purchase items and gain more knowledge, which at times is hard to find. Recently I purchased a collection of "war tax" overprints so here we go again, catalogues out and new wants lists to start.

Editors note this is the sort of story I would like to print so if you have a similar story on any subject I would love to include in future newsletter.

Future post office issues

October 7 British Museum

November 4 Christmas.

Meeting Report

Jersey by Pat Harris

I started of with a brief history of the island and why it has loyalty to the English crown. And remarked on the set up of the island.

It is divided into twelve parishes each having a church, pub, meeting hall and a constable.

51/2% of wages go to fund the hospital and social services and 20% is deducted for all other services .A visit to a doctor is a minimum of £19. There is no car tax or MOT but a valid insurance certificate must be displayed on a car.

The display opened with two entires one from 1822 the other from 1837 next were the regional issues and the various definitive issues from 1969 to the present Sea Birds and waders this set being issued in four groups of eight each with a miniature sheet. Jersey stamps are easy to display in sections as they for the most part can be grouped together. First shown were the Europa issues and to complete the first section Youth and sport stamps.