



THE THATCHAM POSTMARK

THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

WINTER EDITION JANUARY 2016



The Chairman`s A.G.M. Report

Yet again another good year for the society. Both the Thursday and Monday meetings were well attended and we had some excellent speakers. Malcolm Hoskins with `Malcolm Entertains`, David Walker from Wokingham, Roger Barry and Colin Lee from Reading and Tristan Brittain with his `Rubbish`.

The A.G.M. went well with no major changes and the November Auction was very well organised by the committee especially Mike Ward who did sterling work collating all the lots and their prices, and Colin and Reg for looking after the lots as they came in.

There have been several new members coming along to the Monday meetings – do make them welcome.

Congratulations to all of the Christmas Competition winners and thank you to all that entered.

Finally a big thank you to all those members that have helped in many ways especially with organising the Westbex 16 stamp fair.

Finally the committee hope that you had a lovely Christmas and wish you all a prosperous New Year.

Thank you all. Barney Bardsley, Chairman

OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Year 50

Issue 131

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The Christmas Competition Winners with the Judge
Mike Smith

*For further information on
anything in this newsletter
please contact*

Martin Farr, Editor

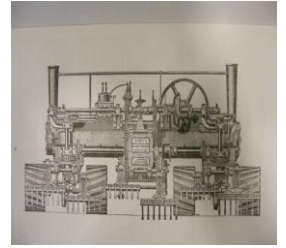
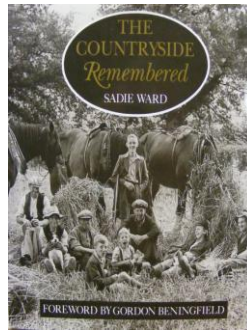
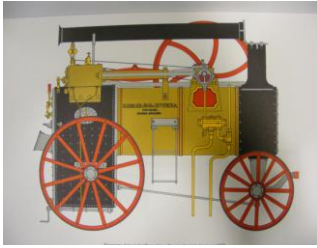
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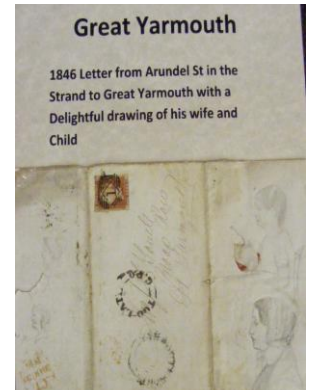
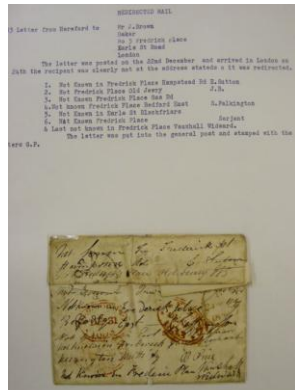
Graeme Stewart, Secretary

Tel 01635 866942

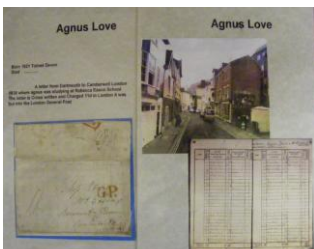
Photo Gallery



Farming and Agriculture contraptions and publications



Tristan Brittain with some of his wonderful 'Rubbish'



The Agnes Love sheet

An Art Deco tea towel

A cover for Danish issues

Art Deco cards with horses!



Mike
The Finance Wizard



Auction Night
Tony David and Barney
Auctioneer, Recorder and Scrutineer



Colin and Alan
The Sorter Outers

PAST EVENTS

Monday October 5th

The theme for this meeting was `Farming` and there were 19 members present.

Ian Keel started the afternoon showing animals, fish and farming stamps, fruit trees and `pick your own` stamps and sheets of stamps about land cultivation.

Tony Jordan was next with postcards of farming produce, information sheets on Thomas`s Improving Harrow and equipment on covers with Massey Ferguson tractors and advert covers for lots of farming equipment.

Then **Bob Paterson** showed some postcards with vague bearings on agriculture – a bullock cart towing hay, flocks of sheep and postcards about wine production.

Graeme Stewart was next with some very old items from the area. An 1845 Thatcham ploughing certificate and crop survey reports on Shaw House from 1897. Then some sheets on local items including the new plaque in the Broadway for the three Thatcham soldiers who were awarded the Victoria Cross.

Malcolm Hoskins brought a book on agricultural machines with very nice illustrations of farming equipment including one on a Darby-Savey digger of 1880 and a straw burning machine of 1900. A lovely book.

There was no mini auction at half time as **David Beddoes** was away.

Tony Hillier started off part 2 showing two sheets of Belgian agricultural stamps and a maxi sheet of a farm worker harvesting the hay that was issued by the Royal Philatelic Society of Gwent.

Then **Juliet Keel** showed lovely early, mostly foreign, 20thC postcards of `Women in Farming` showing them carrying out various lots of farming activities.

Jonathan Barman was next and he showed a lovely old book about farming and a Beekeepers association newsletter article about Bee stamps called `The Countryside Remembered`.

Then to finish off the afternoon **Dave Tanner** showed stamps of George III - `Farmer George` and stamps of various cattle breeds. Apparently George Washington was a keen agriculturalist as well. Then he showed sheets of stamps with agricultural scenes, farming implements and lots of vegetables from various countries around the world.

Thursday 15th October

Tristan Brittain was the guest speaker for today and his subject was `Rubbish`. He explained just what this title meant by saying that much of it should have been buried but was saved for some reason for which he was very grateful as there was to be found much interesting material to research and find out where it all came from.

There were letters to and from Covent Garden to several people dating from 1780 to 1869. Lots of very early letters and covers to and from so many people from 1810-1870 that he had sorted out. A letter to a Frederick Place which was not known at many locations until finally it arrived at the correct area of Kensington. The letter was franked front and back from all the `not known` places. Tristan spoke about quite an unbelievable array of letters, cards and envelopes to and from so many people!

For part 2 Tristan followed the theme with items that he had found in job lots and had sorted out and collated over many years. He showed a letter from Auschwitz from a

prisoner who escaped and survived, a 1769 Christmas letter, a letter of 1541 from the Bishop of Durham and a lovely letter from Agnes Love with a picture of the actual address from Google Earth. She was born in Totnes in Devon in 1821. The letter was sent to her in Camberwell in 1830 when she was studying at Rebecca Eason school. Then many early letters of the 17C and 18C from both ordinary and famous people including Robert Peel. Many of these letters contained quite personal and often funny details. This was a most interesting and unique evenings subject. Many thanks to Tristan for filling the gap and entertaining us all so well.

Monday 2nd November

The theme for today was `Antiques and Art Deco` - but, as usual - anything goes!

Ian Keel started with his version of antiques with several pages of stamps showing old transport and shop articles.

Then **Juliet Keel** showed cards and sheets covering rock carvings, Egyptian artifacts on cards, stamps of old furniture styles and Anglo- Saxon metal objects. Then some art deco cards of building styles and furniture and a beautiful tea-towel of the House of Penance.

Graeme Stewart was next with very old covers showing post boxes from 1852-6 and various pictures of original post boxes throughout the years and a Liverpool `special` that accepted newspapers as well, and finally some pictures of the original Thatcham station from about 1890.

Next **Bob Paterson** showed a set of maps issued in 1895 for the art deco exhibition in France and some very old antique cups and saucers, a coronation mug and a bar of Knights Castille soap from 1940.

To finish the first half **Judy Straughan** showed some art deco stamps mainly from S. America but several from Europe to include Germany, France and Austria.

Tony Hillier started the second half with Belgian stamps (of course) which showed an old art deco style basilica, a lovely Minton statue of an Endine nude made for the 1866 exhibition and a quite heavy 1796 2 pence coin which he actually had with him !

Tony Jordan was next and showed art deco covers from Austria – all very colourful and they had horses on ! A 1934 Vienna exhibition envelope and the 1933/4 Chicago art deco issues and a nice cover.

Dave Tanner showed many pages of Persian stamps that were over 100 years old. Then Persian antiques on stamps issued by Iran. Pictures of old bricks and shards and views of the old ziggurat, an old framed map of Iran and to finish, a 3000 year old brick that he spotted and `acquired` on his travels.

David Beddoes showed some covers that illustrated antique silver, clocks, ancient rock art and 2 covers that illustrated the history of writing.

Then to finish the afternoon, **Martin Farr** showed some sheets of covers and stamps all about Aboriginal art and a beautiful art deco Nordic catalogue cover that was all about Nordic myths and legends. What a great and entertaining afternoon.

The Society annual auction was held on Thursday November 19th.

There were 32 people present to include several guests – a very good turn out.

Tony Jordan was the auctioneer with assistance from **David Beddoes** as the recorder and **Barney Bardsley** as the invoice recorder.

Mike Ward dealt with all the financial matters both before and after the bidding while **Colin Bartholemew** and **Alan Cross** looked after all the lots and saw that the successful bidders got the correct lots issued to them.

576 lots were on offer and thanks must go to **Mike Ward** who co-ordinated all of them into the correct categories and then did all the printing. A tremendous time-consuming task that was very well done with a nice catalogue of lots produced.

245 lots were sold – 47.5 %, leaving 331 unsold. The total sales amount was £1,509, with the Society lots achieving £130. A very successful evening – well done to all.

Monday 7th December.

The Theme for today was `Defunct Countries and we had just 14 members present.

Ian Keel started the day showing several pages of stamps from Rhodesia – now Zimbabwe, and Nyasaland and then some states that were part of Russia. He then put up two pages of postcards from **Juliet** from East Germany, Dubrovnic (ex Yugoslavia), and Burma.

David Tanner was next and he brought sheets of stamps from the GDR as was, Danzig, - now Gdansk – Bavaria, now in the FDR, Fiume, and Croatia. \Then some nice sheets of Tanna Touva stamps from 1935-6, some early Soviet Union issues and old Zanzibar.

Tony Jordan redefined the word `defunct` for us and then showed U.N. covers, 1958 centenary issues of Russian stamps, Russian `house` stamps and some colourful U.S. sheets of stamps – some with horses on of course!

Bob Paterson showed set of Rhodesia and Nyasaland – now Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Graeme Stewart had some covers from the Boer War and the Transvaal, covers of letters to a Lady Garden from the Cape of Good Hope and a picture cover from Saigon to Newbury

Then to finish off **Mike Gurr** showed some more sets of stamps from Rhodesia and S. Rhodesia, and some sets of stamps from Nyasaland and N & S Rhodesia as was.

The Monday Christmas Quiz on `Biscuits` was set by **Martin Farr** and it was won by

Tony Hillier with a score of 14 from 20. Well done Tony who chose the tin of biscuits (what else could the prize be).

Thursday 17th December was the occasion of the Society Competitions, Christmas Social and quiz.

The guest judge for the three advanced competitions was **Mike Smith** from the Basingstoke Society while those attending judged the remaining ones.

Many, many thanks to **Juliet and Ian Keel** for providing the excellent buffet that we had – most delicious! and to **Mike Ward and Martin Farr** for the drinks – sorry about the red wine – one went to the competitions judge!

THE POSTCARD PAGE ETC

The Competition Winners

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| The Jubilee Cup | won by | Alan Cross | with Australian postage dues |
| The Reg Rhodes Shield | won by | Ian Keel | with Nobel prize winners |
| The Keith Foster Trophy | won by | Graeme Stewart | with Thatcham postmarks |
| The Frank Record Trophy | won by | Tony Jordan | with Benjamin Franklin |
| The Novices Cup | won by | Mike Smith | with Bechuanaland railways |
| The Single-sheet Salver | won by | Malcolm Hoskins | with G.B. forgeries |
| The Society Trophy | won by | Alan Cross | for the highest Jubilee Cup score |

Afterwards there was a 34 question Christmas Quiz set by **Bob Paterson** which was won by our chairman **Barney Bardsley** with a score of 24 from 34. Then the chairman presented **Juliet Keel** with a nice bunch of flowers for all her hard work with the catering.

So nice to see a good number of entries for the competitions, particularly the 14 entries for the Single sheet.



Tony Hillier won the Monday Quiz



Barney won the Social evening quiz

Defunct Horses



Tanna Touva



USEFUL WEBSITES

Tony Bray for World new issues at www.tonybray.co.uk

Royal Mail for all past and new issues at www.royalmail.com

The society website with lots of data and links at www.tdps.co.uk

Avion Thematics – one of the best organised sites at www.avionstamps.com

The Avion website now incorporates the stock listings for Phoenix International

Portsmouth stamp shop for awkward items and covers at www.portsmouthstampshop.co.uk

A.B.P.S for all the latest philatelic news, events and links at www.abps.org.uk

www.stampauctionsnetwork.co.uk for lots of info about auctions almost everywhere

Recent and Future Royal Mail Issues

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| January 7 th | Shackleton and Endurance Expedition |
| January 28 th | Duke of Edinburgh Awards – 60 th Anniversary |
| February 17 th | Royal Mail 500 – Heritage postage `Transport` |
| February 18 th | Penny Red generic sheet issue |
| March 15 th | British Humanitarians |
| March/April | New definitives - Tariff changes |
| April 5 th | William Shakespeare – 400 th anniversary of his death |
| April 21 st | H.M. the Queen`s 90th Birthday issue |
| April 25 th | ANZAC WW1 commemorative sheet |
| May 17 th | ANIMAIL (The actual title!) |

Refreshments Problems

An extra pair of hands is required at our meetings – especially the Monday meetings. Ian and Juliet cannot always guarantee to be available and Ann may not be able to come to all the meetings as well.

It really needs two persons on a Thursday and perhaps maybe just one on a Monday to prepare, present and clear up afterwards.

Would you please speak to Ian and Juliet if you can help as required.

Thank you.

Future Programme and Events

| | |
|--|---|
| Monday January 4 th | Earth, Wind and Fire |
| Thursday January 14 th | New acquisitions by members |
| Monday February 1 st | Flags |
| Thursday February 18 th | Postcards and Postal History |
| 17 th – 20 th February | Spring STAMPEX at Islington |
| Monday March 7 th | Food and Drink |
| 11 th – 12 th March | South of England Stamp Show at Farnborough |
| Thursday March 17 th | “Its who you know” with guest speaker Mel Reid |
| Saturday 19 th March | WESTBEX STAMP FAIR |
| | At the Kennet School, Thatcham, from 10am to 4 pm |
| Monday April 4 th | Malcolm Hoskins Entertains. |
| Thursday April 21 st | Anniversary Evening – see back page |

THE BACK PAGE

“Club Stamps” corner

Club Stamps are well looked after by **Dave Tanner** who will be present at most of our club meetings. There will usually be a Club Table at all stamp fairs held at the Memorial Hall.

Accessories

Dave is also the contact for the purchase of all philatelic accessories – most of which are available to be ordered at a small discount.

Stamps of the World Catalogue set (normal price - £200) – TDPS price £155 + p&p

Collect British stamps (normal price - £12.95) – TDPS price £10 + p&p

GB Concise (normal price - £30) – TDPS price £23.50 + p&p

A small percentage always goes to club funds. Give Dave a ring on 01256 780467

A Very Special Announcement

Many Congratulations to John Baron our President
who has been elected as a
Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

He is the very first member of our Thatcham Society to be
accorded this honour

Anniversary Announcements

The meeting for Thursday 21st April is the Society 50th Anniversary Social.
There will be a presentation of the Society History and a souvenir mug for
all.

On Saturday 14th May our 50th Anniversary Buffet Lunch will be held at the
Bluecoats School in Thatcham.

The guest speaker at this event will be Thomas Plant from S.A.S. Auctions

Officers of the Club

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| President | John Baron | 01933 650093 |
| Chairman | Barney Bardsley | 0777 0376 235 |
| Vice Chair | | |
| Secretary | Graeme Stewart | 01635 866942 |
| Treasurer | Mike Ward | 01635 864307 |

Committee

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Tony Jordan | 01189 302279 |
| Colin Bartholemew | 01635 865457 |

Archivist

WestBex Graeme and Martin

Publicity

Martin Farr