



# THE THATCHAM POSTMARK



THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
WINTER EDITION JANUARY 2019

## The Chairmans Report

Once again a very good year for our society. Both the Monday and Thursday meetings have been well attended and we have had some very good speakers:- Richard Stupples and `Barbados`, `Neil Hatton and Malcolm Hoskins `Entertain`, Tristan Brittain and Co. with `Rubbish` as well as Sue Hopson and `The Seychelles`.

The AGM went well with no new changes but the November auction did not do that well, nevertheless it made a reasonable profit for the club funds.

The box circuit, organised by Neil Hatton, is doing fine and we welcome Mike Smith, who acts as our auctioneer, as a new committee member.

Many thanks to all those members that have helped out in so many ways – teas and coffees throughout the year, Christmas buffets, tables and chairs at our meetings and especially for assistance at Westbex 18.

Finally the committee hope that you had a very good Christmas and wish you all a happy and prosperous new year

Barney Bardsley, Chairman

Year 52

Issue 143

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The competition winners with the judge  
John Heyward

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

*Martin Farr, Editor*

*Tel 01635 866437*

*or*

*Graeme Stewart, Secretary*

*Tel 01635 866942*

# Photo Gallery



The 'Checker-Outers'



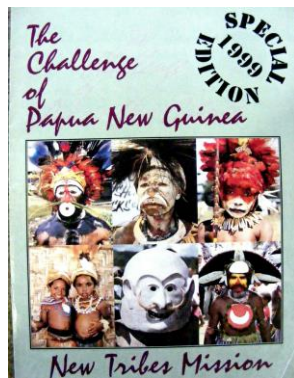
The Auction 'Top Table'



'A Dream of Red Mansions'



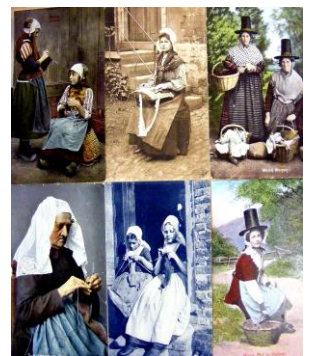
Japanese Cartoons



Papua Face Painting



A large Vancouver tree



Welsh Ladies Attire



The Thattham Memorial 1929



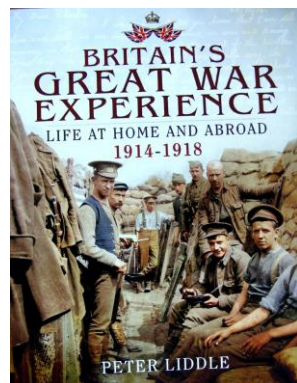
Solomon Island GIV issues



French's Garden Centre now Wyevale.



A Remembrance Cross



A great read



Memorial Renovations



'And It Still Does'

## PAST EVENTS

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October - `Around the Pacific` and there were 17 members present.**

**Bob Paterson** started the afternoon with a display of modern Japan issues from 1970 onwards. It included sport and national treasures and everything but the modern cartoon rubbish! The display also showed myths and legends, modern art and wildlife issues.

**Neil Hatton** showed stamps and postcards from Fiji and the Solomon Islands including early issues from 1907, canoe issues and a George VI full set on a large envelope from the Solomons. Very nice.

**Martin Farr** showed a set of sheets about the travels of Matsuo Basho all around the island of Honshu in 1672. He was the one that re-invented the Haiku poem of 17 syllables and the 5-7-5 format such as:-  
 Fleas and lice did bite  
 and I heard a horse pass water  
 near my bed at night.

**Graeme Stewart** was next and he showed some cards of Grimsbury Castle at Hermitage. Then letters from Oregon on the west coast of USA to Thatcham. A PC from Kobi in Japan to Thatcham, a picture card from Taiwan and a Canadian Pacific Railway advertising card.

There was an auction at half time and 20 lots from 22 were sold – pretty good.

**Alan Cross** started the second half with Papua and New Guinea postage dues - pre-decimal issue sheets up to the 1960`s. Then lots of sheets of flora and fauna and general ephemera and some postcards as well.

**Andrew Gore** showed us 13 album pages of Papua and New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu of both English and French currencies, Fiji – canoes and maps at 180 degrees. Then Tonga `Tin Can Island` stamps until 1965-70 and finished with 2 sheets of Pitcairn Island issues. A nice collection and very pictorial,

**Juliet Keel** showed us postcards from Br. Colombia and Canada - a large tree in Vancouver. Then cards from Christchurch in New Zealand and pictures of the Bay of Islands taken by her grandfather (been there – it is fantastic). Then, to finish off, picture cards of Maori folk, Mitford and Queenstown. All rather nice.

**Martin Farr** finished off the afternoon with some of his Chinese legends sheets – `A Dream of Red Mansions`. Written in the 15C it tells the story of two families and their friends and reveals their personal lives and how eventually Jia Baoyu and his enamorata Lin Daiyu overcome all barriers and finally find happiness. It is a wonderful story and has been published world wide.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October - The Annual Society Auction.**

Viewing started at 6.30pm but there were not many people there and only 17 for the main auction itself which commenced at 8pm.

There were 429 lots on offer with Mike Smith as the auctioneer, Mike Ward as the financier, David Beddoes recording the sequences with Neil Hatton issuing bidding sheets.

157 lots were sold, (35.7%). There were not that many postal bids but a reasonable number from the floor. The auction realised the sum of £912.72 and the society share of this was £ 59.00. Vendors 10% was £90, Alan Cross donated some lots to the club funds which made £17 for us, thank you Alan, giving the club an income of £165. Not too bad but it could have been a lot more.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November. The theme for today was `Costumes, Theatre and the Cinema. There were 17 members present.**

**Neil Hatton** was first up and he showed FDC`s of cinema tickets and sheets of comedians and pantomime artists plus some `Punch and Judy` show cards. Then lots of costumes and styles from all over – German courting couples, (lots of drivel as Neil said), and Dutch clogs and costume cards. All quite nice and different.

**John Shambrook** was next and he showed some Shakespeare issues all with Stratford-on-Avon cancels. Then some Egyptian robes, cards of musical artists and Czech costumes. He finished with issues of the 1937 Royal Family in their Coronation robes.

**Juliet Keel** showed us lots of her black and white postcards of 6 cards per sheet. They covered changes in headgear and Russian and Greek costumes from about 1908. Then Welsh and Irish ladies with wonderful hats on. Several more cards of hats and caps and cards of the fishwives of Newhaven. Juliet finished off by showing us examples from her large collection of costumed dolls. Quite lovely they were too.

**Dave Tanner** showed us sheets of French stamps showing costumes through the ages. Then sheets of Kenyan and Mongolian costumes and some from Greece. Spain issued a large set of `area` costumes and he showed just a few of them followed by Hungarian lace issues and traditional Chinese series of cards. He finished by showing American and Canadian artists, performers and film stars. A nice display.

There was a mini-auction at half time and 8 lots from 19 were sold.

**Bob Paterson** started part 2 by showing sheets from the Ryukyu Islands (now part of Japan). National Dance issues with traditional costumes. Local dancers and two sets of stamps of costumes, plays and theatre issues.

**Martin Farr** was next and he showed the full set of sheets of The Japanese Philatelic Week issues showing traditional Japanese costumes that started in 1948 with the `Beauty looking Back` issue with one stamp per year. They went to se-tenant pairs in 1975 and ended in 1995 with the `Beauties` and `Brent Geese` miniatures. He finished with several sheets about the Kabuki theatre in Tokyo. All rather nice to see.

**Graeme Stewart** finished off the afternoon with Spanish costumes sheets and old pictures of French`s garden centre (now Wyvale) showing lots of early gardening costume styles. He finished off with some WW cards and covers including Thatcham`s three VC`s, several of the war memorial and picture cards of the Broadway.

Quite an interesting afternoon with lots of illustrative material on show.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November. The theme for today was World War I – Remembrance and Armistice.**

To set the evening off **Nathan Gregory** had put up a large multi-sheet display all about the Thatcham War Memorial that was unveiled in 1920 in the Broadway and several large sheets of the 1914-18 Thatcham military heroes. The last set were of the 2018 memorial renovation and the addition of two new plaques to the memorial showing 2 Royal Navy and 7 Army personnel. Nathan then displayed several lovely sheets of RAF personnel who were decorated for their valour. What a great display.

**Graeme Stewart** had put up lots of sheets about WWI and he spoke about the many war memorials that he had visited and included several sheets about the Tilehurst

display of the centenary of the end of WWI. He then showed Royal Mail stamps of the war and sheets about the battle sites – The Somme, Verdun, Paschendale and Jutland and ended with data about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Westminster Abbey.

We welcomed a new member – **Paul Watkins** – and he showed us sheets of WWI mail between France and the UK sent by military persons. The French had to pay 25 centimes for their letters to UK but to France was free. Tommies had free post for their mail and Paul showed sheets of Royal Naval Air Service letters and some French Red Cross stamps and covers that were used in 1914. A nice display.

**Juliet Keel** was next and she showed sheets of stamps and postcards from WWI, Red Cross mail sheets and Belgian Red Cross followed by data sheets on the Ambulance drivers and nurses. Then WWI postcards from officers and soldiers. “Horrors of War” cards and dreams of a soldier for his family at home. Nice set of cards.

**Martin Farr** showed 2 very early editions of the Picture Post magazine, both from 1938. One was a ‘Peace in our Time’ cover with Stanley Baldwin while the other showed a cover poster from WWI - ‘Your Country Needs You’. Both were much looked at.

**Bob Paterson** then showed postcards from WWI of American cruisers and ships in Falmouth harbour. Then Q-ships decoy cards followed by cards of the dedication of the Falmouth War Memorial with 212 names listed. Finally he showed sheets about Falmouth and Cornwall during the war.

To end the evening, **Graeme** continued by showing maps of the front and bibles that were issued to the soldiers followed by a selection of picture cards sent during the war and many sent to our local area from Rouen (where does he find them all?). Then several sheets from 1919 about the war regions in France and several propaganda cards and ones to and from the P.O.W. camp at Newbury Racecourse.

**Monday 3rd December - My Favourite Three Sheets – 13 members present.**

**John Shambrook** several French aviation cards and Bleriot’s flying machine of 1913 and a nice Airship postcard of the “Ville de Paris” airship.

**Martin Farr** showed sheets of “Filial Piety” from China. Stories of young men who would do anything for their parents including crying over their shoots to make them grow.

**Malcolm Hoskins** then showed some lovely 1913 Zeppelin covers and a great air mail cover from 1930 with loads of stamps on it.

**Graeme Stewart** showed Emperor Penguins from Ross Island and a sheet showing many varieties of penguins from 2014 and finished with a nice sheet of penguins of Antarctica.

**Bob Paterson** showed us his stamp sets of the Cayman Islands issues of GV, GVI all showing island scenes and the QEII issues of 1962-69.

We had tea and coffee and mince pies at half time – some of the pies were baked by Bob and sold for charity. Then there was a quiz organised by Ann Martin, clues about tree varieties, which was won by Martin with 15 from 20. He got the Quality Street prize!!!!

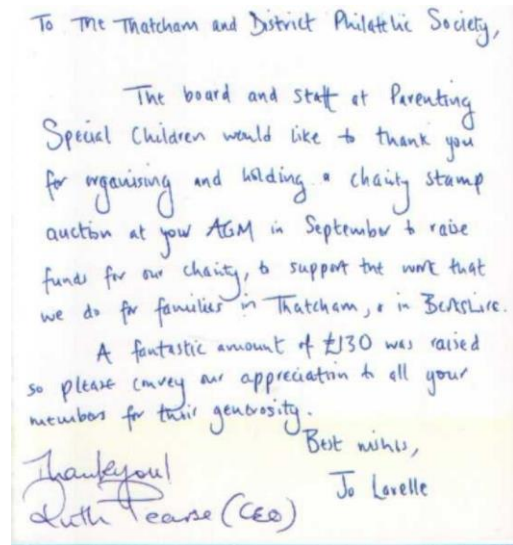
**Juliet Keel** started part 2 with some nice sheets all about scouting and the activities they undertake such as crafts, cooking, adventure, music and team work. Nice stamps.

**Ian Keel** brought a nice set of three sheets of his Machin collection – definitives all with phosphor bands.

**THE POSTCARD PAGE (well sort of)**

great sheets of the railways of Africa and Botswana (first train in 1897) and some lovely little sheets about the trains and routes they took and take now.

**Malcolm Hoskins** then showed a great set of playing cards all with early aircraft on them. Then **Graeme** finished off the afternoon showing red post boxes (what else) a lovely golden design that they forgot to leave an opening on and the well known 'Penfold' box that still has a few around. That was all for the afternoon.



A card and thank you note from the Parenting Special Children organisation



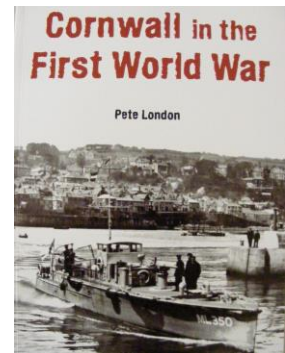
Card of 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Flying Corps



Cards to and from loved ones



War time Nurses and humour



A nice informative illustrated book



Antarctic penguins



Botswana Railway system



Scouting activities



A fantastic Air Mail cover carried by Zeppelin

### USEFUL WEBSITES

Tony Bray for World new issues at [www.tonybray.co.uk](http://www.tonybray.co.uk)

Royal Mail for all past and new issues at [www.royalmail.com](http://www.royalmail.com)

The society website with lots of data and links at [www.tdps.co.uk](http://www.tdps.co.uk)

Avion Thematics – one of the best organised sites at [www.avionstamps.com](http://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](http://www.portsmouthstampshop.co.uk)

A.B.P.S for all the latest philatelic news, events and links at [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk)

### **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Annual Society Competitions with guest judge John Heywood from Camberley, Christmas Social Evening and Quiz.**

Everyone came up to have a look at the competition displays that were presented for the judge, John Heywood, to scrutinise, comment upon and select the winners of each category.

Bob Paterson auctioned stamps on behalf of Amyloidosis Research. £39 was raised for which he was very grateful.

At half time there was the Christmas buffet with the wine and soft drinks provided by Martin Farr and the delicious food once again supplied by Juliet and Ian Keel. Thank you both.

There was a Christmas Quiz for all to partake in - 25 cryptic clues to find the names of flowers. It was quite a difficult one (eg Foggy Romance – Love in a Mist) and the winner was Maureen Heywood, the judge`s wife, with a score of 16 out of 25. She was presented with a bottle of wine.

In the absence of our chairman, the judge John Heywood gave his comments about the competitions that he had to judge and then read out the winners who were as follows:-

The Jubilee Cup                      won by                      Francis Connolly

The Reg Rhodes Shield    won by                      John Tingey

The Keith Foster Trophy    won by                      Nathan Gregory

The Frank Record Trophy won by                      Dave Tanner

The Society Trophy              won by                      Francis Connolly

Members present voted on the two remaining competitions. The results were-

The Novices Cup                      There were no entries for this trophy

The Single Sheet Salver    won by                      Nathan Gregory

The judge, John Heyward, was presented with a bottle of wine for his expertise and Juliet was presented with a bunch of flowers for all her hard work preparing the buffet food with Ian.

What would we do without them both

# 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

### New Issues

April	Birds of Prey
May	British Engineering
May	Queen Victoria Bicentenary
June	D-Day
July	Curious Customs
August	Forests
September	Royal Navy Ships

### Future Programme and Events

Monday	7 <sup>th</sup> January	“Malcolm Hoskins Entertains”
Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> January	“Postcards”
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup> February	“Valentine”
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> February	“New Acquisitions”
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup> March	To be arranged as yet
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> March	“1890 1d Postage” a talk by John Davis
Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>WESTBEX 19</b> at the Kennet School, Thatcham
Monday	1 <sup>st</sup> April	“April Fool” – anything goes!

### Officers of the Club

<b>President</b>	John Baron	01933 650092
<b>Chairman</b>	Barney Bardsley	0777 0376 235
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Still vacant	
<b>Secretary</b>	Graeme Stewart	01635 866942
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Ward	01635 864307

### Committee

Colin Bartholemew	01635 865457
Neil Hatton	01635 280639
Mike Smith	01189 333257

<b>Archivist</b> Still Need One	<b>WestBex</b> Graeme, Martin and Ann	<b>Publicity</b> Martin Farr
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