



# THE THATCHAM POSTMARK



THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
WINTER EDITION JANUARY 2023

## The Chairman's Report

Well another year has passed with Westbex re-instated at last

The AGM went well at which it was decided to increase our society subs to £20, and , if you wished . £10 in January and £10 in June.

Due to the ill health of our Treasurer Mike Ward (although he is gradually getting better) it was decided to appoint Mike Smith as the new Treasurer and myself as the new Chairman. This was discussed and approved by all.

The Auction went well with a good attendance. The final income to the Society was better than last year. See page 4 for the full auction data.

We had some very good subjects for our meetings and Paul Watkins gave us a great evening on France in the World War II.

Barney Bardsley - Your New Chairman

*Year 57*

*Issue 152*

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The 2022 Society Competition Winners  
with the judge Mike Smith

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

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*or  
Graeme Stewart, Secretary  
Tel 01635 866942*

# Photo Gallery



The Financier and Scrutineer



The Recorder and Auctioneer



The Box Boys



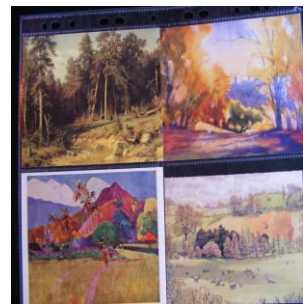
Fruit and Veg and ????



Nice Flowers



Mushrooms and Flowers



Trees and Vegetation



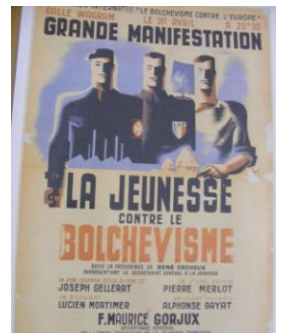
Paul Watkins



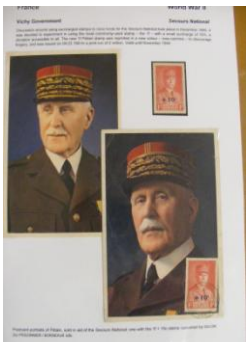
Letters from Cap D'Agde



Inmates Xmas cards



Youth vs Bolchevism



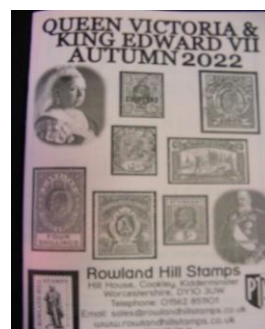
Marshall Petain



Marianne Issues



Returned parcels



Stamp Catalogue



Elizabeth & George

## PAST EVENTS

### **Monday 3rd October with Vegetation as the theme. 10 members attended**

**Juliet Keel** started the displays by showing lots of sheets of stamps all about trees and fruits on trees. Then a good collection of postcards of fruits and berries and some pear and plum paintings. Lots of tree landscape cards and one of Isaac Newtons `Apple`. Then many more cards of flowers and landscapes and cards of the 16<sup>th</sup> wild orchid conference in Vancouver. Where does Juliet get them all from?

**Ian Keel** the showed quite a few sheets of stamps all about vegetables, trees and flowers.

**Dave Tanner** then followed with data about the ` Jersey Royal` potatoes and several sheets of tomatoes and cauliflowers all on Jersey stamps. Then lots of cards with lettuces and carrots on them and vegetables from, the Faroe Islands. Then a commercial fruit preservation pack on self adhesive stamps from the UK. A nice display.

**Graeme Stewart** took over for part 2 and spoke about the November meetings data. He then showed cards of Greenham Common with trees and shrubs, The Discovery Centre trees and then trees and shrubs from around the canal region. He ended with lots of postcards of `growing things` and a nice picture of Chamberlain Farm.

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

**Bob Paterson** and **Martin Farr** met at **Graeme Stewart`s** house as he was driving us all to Southampton Society as guest speakers. Well, after driving all around the docklands area (I have never seen so many traffic lights in all my life!) we eventually found the little road where they met – Bond Lane I believe.

Martin started the evening by showing his Japanese Tokaido Road exhibit of 60 sheets. He spoke about many of them and how the road was set up by the shogun Tokugawa in 1600 AD and how all the Daimyo or Lords had to pay fealty to him each year by travelling to his new capital of Edo – now Tokyo. Martin also displayed quite a few sheets of his Chinese Myths and Legends which also went down very well.

For part two Bob displayed many sheets of the universe, the planets and everything associated with space and time. Lots of lovely pictures and stamps about the subject from many countries and Bob spoke about many of the planets and their moons of our solar system as well as other galaxies. This was also very well received by an appreciative audience. We got back very late – all dark and wet – but a good evening.

### **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Paul Watkins France in World War II 15 Members**

Paul had been collecting for many years and, during Covid, decided to co-ordinate all his French correspondence, stamps, covers and data from just before, during and after World War II. There were many sheets and letters particularly from refugees who came into France as Germany expanded into Europe. There were lots of letters and cards from and to the French Army and Navy and Paul discussed very many of them for us. Then he showed letters and cards from the British Army and many from internment centres in Vichy France and parcel receipts from internees for items sent by relatives. Then many sheets of zone passes and items referring to the armistice and letters from British and

American internees. After the war, France presented Britain with sacks of mail that had been `lost` during the war!

In part 2 Paul showed sheets of stamp issued in 1939-40 and 1940-42. Many sheets about Marshal Petain. Letters to and from the USA and to the Red Cross in Geneva, Sheets of tax stamps and many sheets all about Bolchevism in Europe. Then Liberation issues and overprints of 1944-45. Then finally a lot of French issues of Marianne de Gandon and the liberation issues. All the time Paul spoke very knowledgeably about all the shown material – what a collection. Thank you Paul for a very entertaining evening.

### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November. Royalty. There were 13 members present**

**John Shambrook** started the afternoon by showing lots of postcards of GVI and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mum, the coronation of GVI on 12.5.37, a nice GV jubilee cover and cards of GV and Queen Mary on their visit to Australia. A nice selection,

**Dave Tanner** then showed three large books all about QEII. A cover of King Faisal II, covers of Arabian rulers and their wedding stamps. Then of the 1967 crowning of the Shah and some nice anniversary stamps and a sheet of King stamps and finished with a sheets of Egyptian Royalties.

**Juliet Keel** then displayed a vast collection of British Royalty. Lots of covers and stamp sheets of royalty. Then PHQ cards of the wives of Henry VIII, Divorced, Beheaded, Died, Divorced, Beheaded, Survived. She then showed several sheets of Tudor Kings and Queens and then lots of Victorian cards and covers. What a collection, where does Juliet keep it all!

**Jim Andrew** started part 2 and he showed quite a collection of stamps of rulers from all around the world. The countries were in alphabetical order with a nice write-up for each of them about the ruler and their families.

**Malcolm Hoskins** was next and he showed many PHQ cards relating to our Royal Family from the U.K. and Commonwealth countries and showed us a lovely book all about our QEII.

**Mike Smith** then showed postcards about the Swedish Royal Families and their past generations.

**Ian Keel** displayed several large sheets of 240 stamps all about world royalty, one of which showed the young Princesses – Elizabeth and Margaret.

**Graeme Stewart** finished the afternoon by showing cards and covers of the Queen Mother and the Royal Family. What an interesting afternoon – so many Royalties!

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

### **Society Auction Night**

**17 members present**

Number of lots	335
Number of lots sold	93
Unsold lots	242
Total money taken on the night	£375.00
Total of Postal Bids	£294.20
Overall Total	£669.20

Less Cheques paid to Vendors	£602.88
Less Printing of Catalogues	£51.25
Final Total of	£15.67
Plus sales of Club stocks	£70.11
Plus temporary membership	Nil
 Total income to Society Funds	 £85.78

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Scientists and Quiz Evening with 11 present

**Bob Paterson** started the meeting with sheets all about Astronomy and its Scientists. He showed illustrated sheets of stamps and covers. Copernicus and his theory about the solar system and the sun being the centre. Then Edwin Hubble and his work with the 100 inch telescope at Mt Wilson. The rings of Saturn discovered by Huygens and Galileo who discovered Jupiter by telescope. He had to recant his theory that the earth went round the sun and his treatise of 1634 – Copernican Systems – was a direct challenge to church thought. A nice display.

**Ian Keel** was next and showed quite a few sheets about scientists involved with Chemistry and Physics including Marconi and his radio signals, Dirac and Fermi, Roentgen who discovered X-rays, Chadwick and Dalton who published his `modern atomic theory` in 1808. They were all well illustrated with their subject material

There was a quiz at half –time all about sweets for example – Wobbly infants = Jelly Babies. There was a 10 mark tie between **Ann Martin** and **Barney Bardsley** and Barney graciously let Ann win the box of chocolates. Subjects for future Monday meetings were discussed and allocated for next year to July.

**Martin Farr** started part 2 with a great 9-sheet presentation `The Mighty Atom` and all those scientists involved with its discovery and usage. It covered the early years – Dalton, Hertz and Roentgen, The particles with Kelvin, Rutherford and the Curies. Einstein and his atomic theories. The famous Solvay Conference of 1927- probably the greatest gathering of scientists ever. Then into the Atomic age with Dirac, Fermi and Carl Sagan all leading to fission, fusion and quarks and finally cosmic radiation and the Hubble telescope. Quite a great display of scientists and their discoveries.

**Graeme Stewart** was the last to display and he talked about Francis Baily the celebrated astronomer who was born in Newbury in 1774. he was a Doctor of Laws, Fellow of the Irish Academy, Founding member, Fellow and sometime President of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. He calculated the weight of the Earth, his Catalogue of the Stars and his calculations on the Force of Gravity. The dust of ages embraces such a man as this,

## THE POSTCARD PAGE (well sort of)



Lots of Princesses



The six wives of Henry VIII

Coronation of King  
Faisal of IraqThe Kings and Queens  
England

Marconi



Copernicus



Einstein et al



De Broglie et al

## USEFUL WEBSITES

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)

It is sad for us to report that a former committee member and Chairman, Ken Fisher, had passed away in October. Ken was possibly one of the original members of the society from 1966/7 and was subsequently elected onto the committee in 1975 and he became Chairman of the society from 1981-1986 when he moved away from the area. Ken always kept contact with the society and remained a member until his recent death. He was also the instigator of our regular newsletter in the 80's. Our sincere condolences and sympathy to his family, friends and colleagues.

We have also been informed, last week, of a further death of one of our members - Tony Cresswell, who used to attend our Thursday evening meetings quite regularly but more recently was unable to attend. Our condolences and sympathy to all of his family, friends and colleagues.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – The Annual Society Competitions**

Everyone came up to look at the competition displays that were presented for judging by Mike Smith from the Hampshire Federation to scrutinise, comment upon and select the winner of each category.

At half time there was the Christmas buffet with wine and soft drinks provided by Martin and the delicious food once more supplied by Juliet.

There was a Christmas quiz for all to attempt all about General Knowledge such as Who wears a Chasuble? - A Priest

The winner was the Judge with 21/30 who kindly deferred to Mike and Valerie Smith with 20/30 and they received a box of chocolates

The competition winners were as follows:-

The Jubilee Cup	won by	Barney Bardsley for his Wing Margin issues
The Reg Rhodes Shield	won by	Ian Keel for his History of Machins
The Keith Foster Trophy	won by	Nathan Gregory for Peers and Parliamentarians
The Frank Record Trophy	won by	Ian Keel for his Nobel Prize Winners
The Society Trophy	won by	Barney Bardsley for the highest marked entry

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

The Novices Cup	won by	Jeff Rogers for his Greenham Common data
The Single Sheet Salver	won by	Wilf Sentance for the Worlds First Xmas Cards

The Judge was presented with a bottle of wine and Juliet was presented with a bunch of flowers for all the hard work she and Ian have put in with the catering.

# 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

January	The Iron Maiden
February	The X-Men
March	The Flying Scotsman and Flowers
April	The Legend of Robin Hood
May	His Majesty King Charles III and Blackadder

### Future Programme and Events

Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	January	Sports
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	January	Malcolm Hoskins and Jeff Rogers entertain
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	February	Gold
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	February	Postcards and New Acquisitions by members
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	March	The Military
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	March	Francis Connolly
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	March	WESTBEX at the Kennet School, Thatcham
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	April	Coronations
Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	April	A German Miscellany with Reg Dixon

You all may be aware by now that Westbex 2023 will be the last one that Graeme and Martin will organise and oversee. The society would be very grateful for any volunteers to take over these tasks and, of course, they will be available for advice and assistance as required.

### Officers of the Club

<b>President</b>	We do not have one
<b>Chairman</b>	Barney Bardsley      07770376235
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Still vacant
<b>Secretary</b>	Graeme Stewart      01635 866942
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Smith      01189 333257

### Committee

Paul Watkins	07870 851837
Jim Andrew	01635 29739
Jeff Rogers	07740 450166

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