



THE THATCHAM POSTMARK

THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SUMMER EDITION JULY 2023



The Chairmans Report

What an interesting quarter we have had. Reg Dixon, an international exhibiter , gave a splendid talk on his German Miscellany followed by a very informed talk on Philatelic Exhibiting and he related it to his display. He then gave everyone a copy of his exhibiting data sheets which was very nice of him.

Our theme for April was Coronations and how appropriate that the Coronation of Charles III was held on May 6th..

We have had some very interesting themes for this quarter and they have been well supported by our members displays and talks. We also had a visit from the Henley Society for the Thursday meeting in June which was very well presented and attended.

All in all a very good and interesting quarter from the society

Barney Bardsley - Chairman

Year 58

Issue 154

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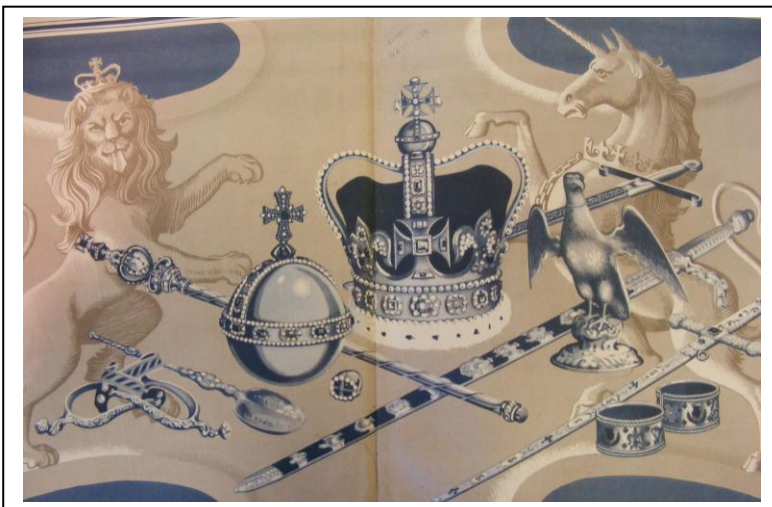
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Coronation Regalia

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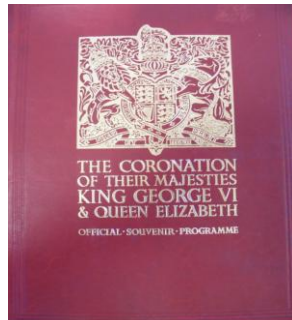
Graeme Stewart, Secretary

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Photo Gallery



Thatcham Souvenir Coronation Issue



An Official Souvenir Programme



King Faisal Coronation 2/5/1953



Map of the Route and Road Closures



Coronation Regalia



A 1936 Coronation Issue Died, Acceded and Absconded



Occupation of Lorraine picture cards



Traditional African Costumes and Occupations



Countryside Occupations



Girls in Costumes



Arctic Seals



Typical Arctic Houses



Golden Postboxes



PAST EVENTS

Monday 3rd April

Coronations, There were 11 members present

Graeme Stewart started the proceedings by showing coronation covers and brochures. Then a nice cover of the Royal visit to New Zealand and a copy of the 1963 Coronation Souvenir booklet and a recipe for a Coronation Cheese Sandwich. He finished by showing us a great Thatcham booklet of the Coronation with a lovely cover on it.

Dave Tanner was next and he showed sheets of GB and Commonwealth Coronation issues, a 1915 Iran set and some Iran `error` issues of October 1967 and ended with the Iraq set of the Coronation of King Faisal of 1953.

Malcolm Hoskins showed us some lovely Books and Booklets about the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.. There was no talk, just come and have a look. Very nice though.

Nathan Gregory was last to display and he showed us lots of 1953 Coronation Issues from all around the Commonwealth that were issued in 1953 and several nice sheets all about the Coronation of George VI in 1937.

There were no more speakers and so we all came and had a look at all the display items.

Thursday 20th April A German Miscellany with Rex Dixon and 20 members

Rex put up a great range of covers, letters and miscellany. He started with quite a few sheets about Hitler, his birthplace (he was born in Austria on 20th April 1889) and showed several pictures of his birth house. Then some nice postal stationery cards about Lorraine and German postal issues from 1900 to 1950 with many well-laid out sheets of various issues, values types and variations of all types. Hitler came to power in 1933 and changed all the stamp styles and prices and these were shown on quite a few sheets of all the regions and the changes of currency types involved. Rex spoke about the Berlin issues and showed a great sequence of Berlin issues and also the stamps from the British and American zones.

For part 2 **Rex** showed and spoke about many sheets of letters and cards of recovery and protection conditions – No addresses written, no stamps put on or fallen off, wrong data included, lots of return to sender examples and quite a few re-directed covers and cards. and Postage dues. Then, to end the session he displayed a great selection of German lighthouses (Leuchturme). – some lovely sheets of lighthouses and lots of cards and covers from around Germany with lighthouse stamps and some nice regional mini sheets. Rex spoke very knowledgeably throughout the sessions and he said that what we saw was just a small part of his German collections that he had been acquiring for many years. It was a very good evenings entertainment.

Monday 1st May “Traditions” There were just 7 members present

Jim Andrew was the first up and he said that he just loved Christmas and so hence the items that he showed. Lots of sheets of well laid out stamps and information. Xmas stamps from the USA and New Zealand. Wonderful Spanish Xmas stamps on 2 sheets, and several sheets of traditional costumes from Greece as well and finally several sheets of Polish costumes also. Very nicely laid out.

Mike Smith was next and his subject was African traditions that looked so good on stamps – traditional houses and their methods of construction, Lots of stamps of traditional costumes and girls attire and paintings and musical instruments. Then sheets of traditional lifestyles in rural communities such as water supplies and methods of capture. Mike finished with stamps all about ores, metals and grinding and smelting and out of the blue, some pictures of medicinal plants. A very nice display.

Juliet Keel started part two and showed sheets of worldwide traditional costumes with lots of pictures and postcards. Some lovely large A2 sheets of people in local costumes followed by sheets of world stamps about pantomimes, circuses, Punch and Judy, and Valentines day issues and finished with sheets all about highland games and the Eisteddfods in Wales. What a great selection of subjects – where does she get it all from!

Graeme Stewart finished part 2 for us by showing a brilliant collection of stamps and data from the Antarctic and Ross Island. His daughter lives in Christchurch, South Island, New Zealand and has been to the Antarctic several times. Several sheets on Scott and Shackleton, and several wonderful 1st day covers from Ross Island that showed aircraft, flora and fauna and great pictures of Antarctic seals. It was a great display of the region.

Thursday 18th May A Nordic Connection and Scandinavia – Members displays

Mike Smith started the afternoon by displaying a good sequence of covers and stamps from all over Scandinavia and including Iceland, the Faroes and Greenland as well. There was a sheet of items from each of the countries and he spoke quite well about each country and its display and how and when he had acquired the stamps. A nice display.

Jim Andrew was next up and he displayed many sheets of philately from one of his favourite countries – Denmark. Lots of envelopes and covers showing pictures of maritime activities, Christmas labels and covers. Then several sheets of items from Finland and also tourist sheets from the Arctic Circle. A very nice display with each sheet of data well explained as to how he acquired the items.

Colin West was next and he had focussed on Denmark as for his items. There were sheets of nice postal stationery with nice postmarks on the envelopes. He showed some very old postcards with nice stamps on them interesting messages on the reverse. Then he showed and spoke about a good selection of Russian/German WW1 letters and cards from prisoners of war from Russian officers held captive in German POW camps that were sent to relatives via Copenhagen. A very interesting display of material and well explained.

Malcolm Hoskins started part 2 by showing a good collection of FDC's from Norway and Lichtenstein and covers and cards from Austria. As he said – no speak just come and see.

Martin Farr was next and he showed some lovely Swedish sheets of poetry illustrated by John Bauer and issued in 1982. The first was about Leap the elk and princess Cotton grass and the second was about the Ring and the Changeling. Then a wonderful triple sheet of Nordic myths and legends all about light and darkness with all the stamps inside. Very nice indeed.

Graeme Stewart was next and he showed a nice collection of cards and letters posted to Newbury from various Nordic locations between 1934 and 5 particularly one from Kvikne Hotel in Norway in 1937 to Chieveley

We had a new member among our 13 this evening who now lives in Thatcham having moved up from the south. and societies there. His name is **John Mills** and he brought a nice collection of Norwegian `Cocoa and Chocolate` on stamps. Then cards of plant and animals of the region and some more envelopes from several chocolate companies. A very nice display – thank you John .

On the 19th of May The funeral of **Reginald William Alfred Rhodes**, well remembered as Reg, took place at the Thatcham Crematorium. Our society was very well represented as 18 of our club members were there for the afternoon service which was by way of a civil service with much remembrance of Reg by the family and celebrant during which his favourite music – April Showers sung by Al Jolson – was played. After the service everyone departed for Alice Bye Court for an excellent buffet.

Monday June 5th All about Buildings

Jim Andrew started the session by showing a nice collection of sheets of world stamps of monasteries, Churches and Cathedrals from S Africa, Spain and the UK. then some nice. mini sheets of contemporary buildings from all over. All well described and displayed.

Juliet Keel was next and showed us some fantastic postcards of National Trust properties and Royal residences. Then hotels around Morecambe, Structures and hotels from Leningrad and Moscow from when they visited there, and a lovely set of two cards – inside and outside of a completely wooden church. A great collection.

Mike Smith was next and he spoke about and showed Zimbabwe ruins from the 9th to 15th centuries – built of stone and now in ruins. The structure was 11m high and 200m long with a high tower. Mike spoke about the local traditions of the time within the site of 1800 acres. He finished with some sheets of Bhotswana houses.

Malcolm Hoskins then followed and `no talk` but just displayed lots of postcards from the USA all about the Post Offices therein. Some really nice pictures of these buildings, some quite old with several from New York for the trans-Atlantic postage for the UK. A very nice display.

Dave Tanner started part 2 with lots of pictures of famous buildings and churches in America. Then pictures of the twisted church tower and Rochefort Abbey. Then a wooden church from Scandinavia plus some large structures from Iran including a large mosque. Nice pictures

Graeme Stewart was last and he showed pictures of The Ross Island dependency structures with the issued stamps and the Scott Base camp in the arctic. The local Thatcham buildings - the Station, Thatcham House, Local schools, Thatched cottages, Structures in the Broadway and St Mary`s Church. A very circuitous trip around Thatcham!

Thursday 15th June A Visit from The Henley Society Just 12 members present on a hot evening

Anne Stammers started the evening by presenting a great range of sheets all about Gold and Jewels. She talked about how she had collected all the beautiful pictures, mini sheets and cards all about the goldfields of mainly South Africa, The intro sheets were all about the formation of the universe and how that had influenced the formation of the planets and their rocks and minerals. Then she showed and spoke about many sheets of exploring for gold and lovely pictures, cards and stamps all about the mining for it and also for precious gems and jewels and the places where they could all be found these days. Anne finished by speaking about hallmarking and the reasons why it started.. The final lovely picture was of several connected Faberge golden eggs. A very interesting presentation and well described.

Thank you Anne.

Bob Clements was the next speaker and his subject was The History of Public Services in the U.K. He said that letters and cards had been delivered since the earliest times starting with the Romans. They had a system by 50BC mostly for the military using couriers on horseback with relay point set up to forward the verbal messages and info. By the 9th century it was in chaos with the church sending about 1,000 letters each year. Merchants and bankers sent couriers and the Royal Mail evolved in this period but no public services.

Royal posts 1481-1660. courier networks of sorts established by Edward IV. Formalised by Sir Brian Tuke, Appointed by HenryVIII as Master of Posts but a very limited service London to Dover and eventually to Scotland and the West.

In 1635 Charles I opened a Royal Post. Very expensive – depended on distance sent. Letters often opened and read often on purpose.

In 1661 Henry Bishop appointed General Postmaster and he used Handstamps to make `Bishop Marks` By 1700 a system of Postboys was established with `next day` delivery within towns and cities.

In 1839 Rowland Hill introduced a uniform postal rate set at 4d (2d in London) which was reduced to 1d on 10 Jan 1840 if prepaid . Customers took their letters to a local post office or point, paid the cost and had their letters franked to show payment. Sir Roland introduced the use of pre-paid `adhesive labels` that we now refer to as stamps and these were shown by Bob on some lovely sheets of the earliest ones - !d Blacks, 2d Blues, 1d Reds and their variations.

A greatly informative talk and some lovely stamps on display. Thank you Bob

THE POSTCARD

PAGE (well sort of)



Funeral of Reg Rhodes

Nordic Legends

POW Mail

Chocolate Stamps

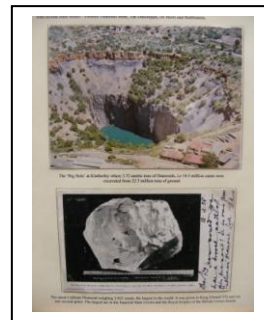


Industrial Archaeology

Russian large buildings

Thatched Thatcham

A Danish letter sent all over the world !



A Wooden Church inside and out

Kvikne Hotel to Chieveley

The Kimberly Gold Mine

Bob Clements and his Early Stamps



Anne Stammers and the Universal beginnings of the elements

Mulready Caricatures (A3 Size !)

Gold Mines of the World

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

USEFUL WEBSITES

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

New Issues

June	Warhammer and Windrush – 75 years
July	River Wildlife
August	Terry Pratchett`s Discworld
September	Dame Shirley Bassey
October	Harry Potter
November	Christmas Issues

Future Programme and Events

Monday 3 rd July	The Monday Cup Competition, Quiz and `Holidays`
Thursday 20 th July	What I collect other than stamps
Thursday 17 th August	Visit from the Petersfield Society
Monday 4 th September	Creepy Crawlies
Thursday 21 st September	A.G.M. and Social Evening, Quiz and Mini Auction

Officers of the Club

Committee

President

Chairman Barney Bardsley 07770 376235 Jeff Rogers 07740 450166

Vice Chair Still vacant Paul Watkins 07870 851837

Secretary Graeme Stewart 01635 866942

Treasurer Mike Smith 01189 333257 Jim Andrews 01635 297390

Archivist Still Need One **WestBex** Graeme, Martin and Ann **Publicity** Martin Farr