



# THE THATCHAM POSTMARK

THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

WINTER EDITION JANUARY 2015



## The Chairmans Report

Yet again another good year for the society. Both the Thursday and Monday meetings were well attended and we had some good speakers. John Tingey with his `Philatelic terms`, Tony Jordan and `1776 plus or minus a bit`, Sue Hopson with her `Free fronts`, Colin Lee from Reading with `The Faroe Islands` and Phillip Cant with his great `WW2` display.

The A.G.M. went smoothly with no problems and the November auction was well organised by the committee – thanks to Mike Ward, Colin and Reg for all the hard work organising the evening.

We have had several new members who come regularly to the meeting – do make them welcome.

Congratulations to all of the Christmas Competition winners and thanks to all those that entered. A big thank you as well to all those members that have helped in so many ways with our Stamp Fair in March and general assistance throughout the year.

Finally the committee hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and wish you a prosperous new year.

Thank you all – Barney Bardsley, Chairman.

*Year 49*

*Issue 127*

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The Christmas Competition Trophy winners with the judge  
Mike Smith

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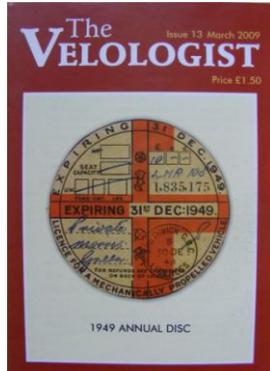
# Photo Gallery



Fire engines



Elephant Island covers



Tax disc magazine



Phillio Cant



Some of Phillips lovely WW2 `Wallpaper Issues` as he calls them



The November Auction



Pauline Badger wins the Monday quiz



Colin and Reg the sorter-outers



Juliet presents the quiz winner Bob Paterson with his prize



Flowers for our great tea ladies



The quiz second prize to Dave Tanner

**PAST EVENTS**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October** and the theme was `Transport`. There were 19 members present and 9 spoke and displayed their items.

**John Shambrook** started by showing aircraft and flying boats and covers of the first flying boat from Southampton to Canada. Then several sheets showing flying boat styles.

**Tony Hillier** showed some general transport sheets. railways, items from Stampex 1981 and two lovely covers illustrating the Joint Services Expedition to Elephant Island in the Antarctic – air mail via RAF Hercules from Lyneham to Buenos Aires and ship mail via HMS Endurance from there to Elephant Island where the mail was delivered by whirlwind helicopter to the base camp.

**Bob Paterson** showed postcards and stamps of boats and ships travelling from Falmouth in Cornwall and ferry boats on the Fal river. Then he showed several sheets showing the history of journeys to the moon plus lunar rover stamps. A nice collection.

**Mike Gurr** was next and he talked about traction engines and railways in the Isle of Man plus Australian fire engines sets on maxi cards.

**Ian Keel** showed 10 competition sheets from long ago showing transport by land, sea and air covering many transport types.

Then **Juliet Keel** showed lots of postcards of things being conveyed by horses, donkeys, goats and oxen.

At half time there was a small mini auction with 7 from 24 items being sold.

**Malcolm Hoskins** started the second half by talking about and showing many items about the social history of transport – driving authority – licences both full and provisional (he had some very early ones from 1916 – tax discs (now things of the past) – log books and highway code editions. Quite a great display.

**John Taylor** showed coil stamps depicting all sorts of transport illustrated on 3 sheets and then finally

**Dave Tanner** ended the afternoon by displaying horse-drawn vehicles and trams, trains and boats, maxi cards of the Manchester railway plus many other forms of conveyance all selected from club stamps tack(as he put it).What an interesting afternoon.

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** and Colin Searle was unable to be present but **Phillip Cant** stepped into the gap quite magnificently with his wonderful material on World War II.

Phillip said that this talk originated as a chairman`s evening at Basingstoke and consisted of `wallpaper` issues of the war issued from 1989-1995 and covered the start of the war in September 1939. He talked about the reasons for the war showing stamps of the German invasions and occupations of territories. Then on to the fall of France and Battle of Britain issues, the North Africa campaign and the entry of America into the war. Phillip then spoke about Pearl Harbour showing quite a few sheets about the Japanese attack and on to Malasia and Singapore and the war in the Pacific. Then back to Europe with the war in Russia and the battle of Stalingrad to finish off the first half.

To start off part two Phillip quoted two not so well known statements - `Truth is the first casualty of war` and `History is written by the winners`. How very true!

Then he showed more sheets about the D-day landings and beach heads, Mulberry harbour with specialist craft , tanks and airborne attacks and the destruction of the `Tirpitz`. On to the Far East with American attacks in the Pacific and Japan crumbling. Back to Europe and the freeing of POW camps, and the end of the war in Europe. Then on to the development of the atomic bomb culminating in the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Finally Phillip showed lots of sheets of wartime aircraft and combat machinery and sheets showing the world involvement in the war.

This was a very informative and interesting talk with some deep insight into what had happened and all illustrated with lovely sets of stamps and material. Thank you Phillip

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and thanks to Juliet for the notes.

Members always manage to approach the theme for the Monday meetings very creatively and today's theme of 'Literary Authors and Characters' was no exception. The topics ranged from cave paintings to Churchill. Nineteen members attended and we were delighted to welcome two new members – Nick Collins and Al Gatley.

**Bob Paterson** opened the proceedings with pages on Dean Jonathan Swift and, from his space collection, H G Wells. Then from his French stamps several dozen French authors, playwrights, philosophers and poets.

**David Beddoes** brought along aspects of writing from pre- history to modern times on stamps, mini-sheets and FDC's.

**Judy Straughan** used an FDC and a theatre programme to illustrate 'The Hound of the Baskervilles', as well as letters to her husband from the authors daughter, Dame Jean Conan Doyle. She also showed us a magnificent presentation book on Chinese poetry throughout the ages illustrated on stamps and read to us some charming short poems. Stamps of Frankenstein were shown that William Hanson, the American Philatelist described as 'the most horrendous stamp set that has ever been my misfortune to view'! (I managed to get hold of the full FDC of the issue for the Postcard Page – Ed)

At half time there was a mini-auction at which 8 lots were sold.

For the second half **Ian Keel** presented Winston Churchill on a wide variety of stamps, illustrating his Nobel Prize award. He then showed several other Nobel winners not only on stamps but with copies of their works.

Finally **Juliet Keel** showed several PHQ sets of literary characters from Enid Blyton to Charles Dickens and some vintage postcards of Dickens, Walter Scott and John Bunyan.

Not a bad afternoon with only five showing their wares.

### Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Auction Night

For the annual auction evening there were 23 members and guests present.

The auctioneer was **Dave Tanner**, the scrutineers were **Barney Bardsley** and **David Beddoes**. **Mike Ward** (who did such a lot of the organisation and paperwork) was the financial member with **Reg Rhodes** and **Colin Bartholemew** as the lot table supervisors.

There were 27 members and guests present and the results were as follows:-

378 lots on offer	106 lots were sold
Total sales of £692.95	Club percentage of £68.13

Not a bad evening – could have done with some more lots sold though.

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December

On a chilly afternoon the theme for today was British Inventions followed by some snacks and a Christmas quiz.

There were only three showing some material and **Ian Keel** started off with a few Benham covers on the opening of the Channel Tunnel, the London and Midland railway and computing. These were followed by the meridian line at Greenwich, Harrison's chronometers and the Thames barrier.

**Graeme Stewart** followed with some covers and information sheets on **Francis Bailey** who was a founder member of the Royal Astronomical Society and was born in Newbury in 1774 and is buried in Thatcham.

He also showed a cover that the society produced in 1970 for the Thatcham Folk Festival when we also put on an exhibition at the Francis Bailey school.

Finally **Martin Farr** showed 3 sheets of well-known inventors – the physicist and chemist Michael Faraday, great engineers - Brindley, who designed the Manchester ship canal - Richard Arkwright who designed spinning machinery better than the `spinning jenny` and Joseph Paxman the head gardener at Chatsworth whose `lily house` design was chosen as the model for the Crystal Palace exhibition of 1851 (Punch magazine called it by this name and it stuck). Then finally a sheet of early railway engineers Thomas Newcomen, James Watt, Matthew Boulton and Richard Trevethick

There was a mini auction where just 5 lots from 21 were sold which was followed by teas and coffee and some Christmas nibbles.

**Bob Paterson** had devised a `Sneaky Christmas Quiz` of 23 wide ranging questions. When all the answers were given the winner of the chocolates and a bottle of wine was **Pauline Badger** with 16 correct answers – well done.

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

This was the evening of the Society Competitions and Christmas Social and there were 23 present.

The three advanced level competitions were judged by Mike Smith from the Basingstoke Society while the remaining competitions were judged by those attending. The winners were as follows :-

#### The Competition Winners

The Jubilee Cup	won by	<b>Barney Bardsley</b> with `Wing Margin Issues`
The Reg Rhodes Shield	won by	<b>Martin Farr</b> with `The Mighty Atom`
The Keith Foster Trophy	won by	<b>John Tingey</b> with `1d Star Cancellations`
The Frank Record Trophy	won by	<b>Mike Gurr</b> with `Kingfishers of the World`
The Novices Cup	There were no entries for this – a pity.	
The Single-sheet Salver	won by	<b>Barney Bardsley</b> with `The Only 2/- Stamps Issued`
The Society Trophy	won by	<b>Barney Bardsley</b> for the highest Jubilee Cup score.

There was then a lovely spread of refreshments provided by **Ann Martin** and **Juliet Keel** with **Martin Farr** and **Mike Ward** providing the wine and soft drinks. It was all consumed quite avidly.

Afterwards there was a Christmas Quiz set by **Juliet** which was won by **Bob Paterson** with **Dave Tanner** in second place.

The Chairman then presented **Ann Martin** and **Juliet Keel** with lovely bouquets of flowers for all the hard work that they had put in throughout the year with refreshments for the Monday and Thursday Society meetings. Then, to end the meeting Barney wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



### 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)

### Recent and Future Royal Mail Issues

January 6 <sup>th</sup>	Alice in Wonderland
January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Smilers
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Stamp Fair at the Memorial Hall, Thatcham
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	`Post and Go` - Working Sail
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Inventive Britain
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Bridges
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Comedy Greats
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	The 175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1d Black

**Thanks to Peter Morrell – a former society member – for making the recent and substantial additions to our library as follows :-**

Stuart Rose - Royal Mail Stamps – a survey.

Jean Farrugia & Tony Gammons - Carrying British mails–5 centuries of postal transport by land, sea and air.

Devon and Cornwall – a Postal Survey 1500-1791.

Barred Numeral cancellations Vol 2 England Bedfordshire to Durham.

Barred numeral cancellations from vol 2 Devon and Cornwall extracts plus their squared circle postmarks.

Stanley F Cohen – Collecting British Squared Circle postmarks plus the No. 1 supplement.

Jean Farrugia – A Guide to Post Office Archives.

Haslam and Moreton – P.O. notices – extracted from “The London Gazette 1666-1800”.

James A Mackay – Skeleton Postmarks of England and Wales.

James A Mackey – Sub Offices Rubber Datestamps of England and Wales.

1992 S.G. Stamps of the World - Foreign Countries vol. 1 A – J and vol. 2 K – Z

Collings and Scholley-West – The care and preservation of Philatelic Material.

Whitney – Collecting British Postmarks 6<sup>th</sup> edition.

Vivien J Sussex - Introducing Postal History.

Philart Colour Guides. Mail into Europe.

Traill & Holland – The sideways Duplex cancellations of England and Wales.

Alma Lee – Introducing Thematic Collecting.

Franceska Rapkin – Guidelines for Thematic Judges and Exhibitors at Local and Federation level.

Willcocks – The Postal History of Great Britain and Ireland.

Whitney – Collecting British Postmarks – 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

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IPM catalogue of Picture Postcards and Yearbook 1985.

Muller Katalog 1984 – Switzerland and Liechtenstein

The Restoration of Stamps

SG Specialised Catalogues of GB:-

Vol 1 – QV 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Vol 2 – EVII to KGVI 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

Vol 2 – QEII Decimal issues 1<sup>st</sup> ed. Vol 3 – QEII pre-decimals 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.

Royal Mail – Inspirational book of Thoughts, Ideas and Actions.

## “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

It is with great sorrow that we have to announce the death of Richard Badger who passed away quite suddenly in early December. Our thoughts go out to Pauline and the family at this sad time.

## Future Programme and Events

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

`Honours and Awards`

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January

My favourite philatelic items and why

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Stamp Fair at the Memorial Hall, Thatcham

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Collectables other than Stamps

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Philatelic Quiz Night

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Malcolm Entertains

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Philatelic Halves – Two Members display

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March

WESTBEX 2015 Stamp and Postcard fair at the Kennet School, Thatcham. 10.00-4.00pm

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

`Green Things`

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April

`Rubbish` – A talk and display by Tristan Brittain

## Officers of the Club

<b>President</b>	John Baron	01933 650093
<b>Chairman</b>	Barney Bardsley	0777 0376 235
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Mike Gurr	01635 43398
<b>Secretary</b>	Graeme Stewart	01635 866942
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Ward	01635 864307

## Committee

Bob Paterson	01635 44848
Tony Jordan	01189 302279
Colin Bartholemew	01635 865457

<b>Archivist</b>	Julia Wilson	<b>WestBex</b>	Graeme and Martin	<b>Publicity</b>	Martin Farr
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