



THE THATCHAM POSTMARK



THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AUTUMN EDITION OCTOBER 2023

The Chairmans Report

The Society has had its usual mix of meetings this year.

There were visiting speakers from the Petersfield and Henley societies as well as a superb display of German Miscellany by Reg Dixon who also issued us with data sheets all about how to organise and display sheets for competitions.

Our own subjects for display have been wide and varied, and in most cases, very well supported with excellent and interesting sheets being shown as well as several full displays by society members.

Westbex was well organised with over 85 visitors to the fair and dealers very pleased as a result. Several local societies wished to find out how we organised the event and they were contacted by the Westbex committee.

Barney Bardsley - Chairman

Year 57

Issue 155

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Barney Bardsley The Monday Cup Winner

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anything in this newsletter
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or

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Photo Gallery



National flags



Malcolm and his codes and licenses



Juliet with her badges



Brian and his Mugs



Barney and his coins



Concertina Man Brian



John and his Chocolate Cards



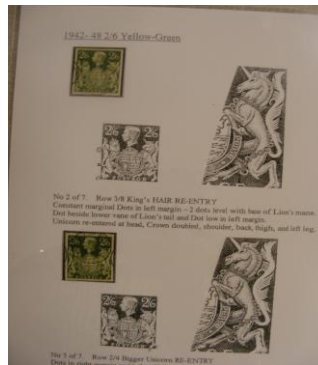
Jim with his Flags



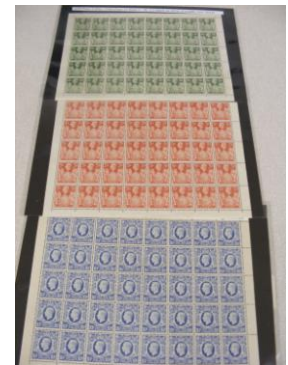
10/- half sheet



Hew Granland



2/6d designs



3 x 40 sheets



Robin Pizer



Went all over and and back again



Censored mail



Opened and resealed !

PAST EVENTS

Monday 3rd July The Monday Cup Competition, Quiz and `Holidays`

There were 12 members present

There were just 6 entries for the competition and Martin issues all the voting slips. The marking was 5 points for first, 3 for second and 1 for third. The results were as follows-

Entry 1	33 points
Entry 2	13 points
Entries 2 and 10	12 points

The winner was our Chairman, Barney Barnsley with Early Newbury Postmarks

Second was Martin Farr with Chinese Legends

Third was John Mills with Gold Coast Cancellations

Joint third was Juliet Keel with Flowers and Birds of the USA

Barney was presented with the The Jerry Wilson Memorial Trophy by our secretary Graeme.

A 20 question quiz was issued to everyone – all about Find The Towns – for example – Heavyweight Toilet – Luton !!!!! The winner was Mike Smith with 15 correct and he was presented with a bottle of wine as the prize.

Thursday 20th July “What I collect other than stamps”

This meeting turned out to be interesting with eight members showing and displaying. **Malcolm Hoskins** started by showing his collection of Highway Codes from 1933 to date – 29 editions in all, and also some codes in Welsh, cyclist codes, a Police drivers manual, driving licenses from various countries, petrol coupons and ration books. All very nice.

Juliet Keel showed many badges she had obtained from her various activities and as well as from the St Johns Ambulance. British Legion and the Red Cross

Jim Andrew showed many small flags of countries he had visited, USA states European as well as full sized flags from around the world, many from European states.

Brian May then showed a collection of Advertising Mugs – British Rail, Penguin Books, Tetley Tea Folk, Bertie Basset and several others as well.

To start the second half, **Brian Bibby** showed a few examples of his Concertina Collection. He explained about the reeds and how concertinas were pitched to give the sounds of Clarinets and Mouth Organs. Brian is also involved in repair and renovation of concertinas and he entertained us with a short musical interlude played on one of them.

Barnie then displayed his collection of British coins – Pennies, farthings from 1860-1956 halfpennies 1902-67 silver and bronze threepences, sixpences 1902-1966 and shillings, English and Scottish 1866-1966 and a selection of half-crowns 1941-51. Wow!

John Mills was next and showed his extensive series of advertising postcards showing views of Paris (125 of them) related to chocolate produced by `Chocolade Menier`. John said that the company was founded in 1816 as a pharmaceutical company in Paris when

it was used as a medicinal product. The company was acquired in 1971 by Rowntree Mackintosh Confectionery. What a great collection.

The evening finished with **Mike Smith** briefly showing some of his collection of Cacti and explaining their origins.

So sad to tell you that **Ian keel** passed away gently on Wednesday 12th July aged 89. Ian was a regular at our society meetings along with his wife Juliet who supplied us with the refreshments at our meetings and social events. Ian had been an active member of the society since the early 90`s and was a regular contributor of many subjects to our meetings and an active member of the packet circuit. Ian was a keen Machin collector and entered competitions both locally and nationally and gained a variety of awards as well as entering our December competition evenings when he often won several of our trophies. His contribution and assistance at our meetings and events will be greatly missed. Our sincere condolences and sympathy to Juliet, his family, friends and colleagues.

His funeral was at Wootton Bassett on July 26th and three of our members attended.

There was no Monday meeting in August as normal

Seen in a local periodical – “We used to drive on the left of the road – Now we just drive on what is left of the road !”

Thursday 17th August Visit from The Petersfield Society. 17 members present

Hew Granland started the meeting by showing his collection of GeorgeVI HighValues. Being asked, he said that Hew is the northern version of Hugh). He has been collecting these for some time now and the prices have just rocketed. A very nice layout of all his material with some great full and half sheets of the high values with lots of information regarding the design and layout of the stamps. He spoke about the letters and cards with the high values and explained about the designs, block printing of full and half sheets of 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1 issues and showed several sheets all about the errors and re-entries, particularly on the issues of the 2/6d yellow-green stamps. Hew ended by showing and explaining about overseas deliveries and air mails with the high value stamps on them,
A very interesting and nicely displayed collection.

After the tea break **Robin Pizer** started the second half with his talk and display on German Exchange Controls from 1918 – 1923. Robin has been collecting this material for many years now and has acquired a great display and all in documentary sequences. After the war ended people would take their letters to the post office to be examined and checked for security and contents as valuables were going out of the country without permission. There were pages of statistical forms and export forms and letters that were to be returned to sender due to censorship and the import of forbidden items such as foreign stamps.

There were many examples of the statistics as to how much money could be sent out of Germany with examples of letters and documents that had failed the system. Then several items regarding import and export licenses, the labels provided and the checks that were carried out.

This was a very informative, well documented and laid out exhibition with all of the items in time sequence as they were imposed. Robin was a fine speaker and explained everything, indicating the relevant display items to emphasise the subjects.

Thank you Robin.

Monday 4th of August “Creepy Crawlies” . There were just 11 members present.

Mike Smith started the afternoon and he spoke about the climate of Botswana and of all the insect types that constantly preyed upon you, whether outside or inside. He said he was often smothered with butterflies and flying ants in their millions attracted by any type of lighting. He told of the frogs that clustered at the base the trees to feed on the flying insects that fell off. He ended by telling us about the Mopane moths that, at times, just everything in sight.

Juliet Keel was next and she spoke about her recent visit to Canada with the insects at high and low altitudes. As they walked in the woods disturbing all the foliage let out thousand of insects of all kinds and everyone got bitten literally all over! (and on the bottom too she said). She showed sheets of butterflies and insects from all over Africa.

Dave Tanner ended the displays by telling us about caravanning in the heat and getting bitten by so many midges. Then about Iranian termite nests where they all fly off in clouds when they mature and bore into all the wooden items they can find causing much damage. He then showed some sheets of insects and spiders from America.

Thursday 21st September The Society Annual General Meeting

The Chairmans report.

Our membership stands at 36, including four life members. We sadly lost two of our long serving members. Reg Rhodes and Ian Keel were both stalwart members and contributed in no small way to the success and continuation of the society. Both will be missed.

We did however get two new members- John Mills and Malcolm Record. We welcome them both and are particularly pleased that Malcolm has rejoined after several years absence. He was a member in the very early days, perhaps even a founder member, as certainly his father, Frank, was instrumental in starting the society in 1966and donated our first competition trophy which is still competed for today.

The committee has been reviewing the venues for our meetings as the hire of the halls is a significant expenditure. At present we intend to remain at the Memorial Hall for our Thursday evening meetings and the Bluecoats School for the Monday afternoons.

Thursday meetings have an average attendance of 14 and 9 for the Mondays.

I would like to thank all the committee members for all their work along with all those
continued on next page

THE POSTCARD PAGE (well sort of)

**Mike Smith Monday
Quiz Winner**



Butterflies



Bhotswana Insects



More Butterflies



Insects and Spiders



Pond Life



The A.G.M. Top Table

who help set up the meeting halls and provide refreshments. Martin along with many other tasks, continues to edit the newsletter and is part of the Westbex team. Although, like most societies, our numbers are dwindling we have a fairly constant attendance at meeting and we hope that the subjects are what you would like to see and we always welcome suggestions. Thank you all. Barney Bardsley.

The treasurer, Mike Smith, then spoke about the society finances and referred to his issued data sheet. The increase in membership fees has reduces the deficit for this year to £250 and so no increase in subscription is recommended for this year. We are aiming to reduce our future Admin costs by increasing the use of digital mail, thus reducing our printing and postage costs.

To finalise the meeting it was recorded that John Mills had been elected as a committee member.

At that point the A.G.M. was declared over.

There followed an auction of philatelic material by three members and each of them was quite successful in selling some lots to the members present.

We then had wine and nibbles for all and each member was given a quiz sheet by Martin all about Towns - Set fire to the meadow = Burnley

The quiz was won by John Mills with 15 correct answers and he was presented with a nice box of chocolates.

And then we went home.

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

October – Harry Potter

November – Christmas 2023

Future Programme and Events

Monday	4 th September	Creepy-Crawlies
Thursday	21 st September	The AGM and Social Evening
Monday	2 nd October	Around the Mediteranean
Thursday	19 th October	Paul Watkins Entertains
Monday	6 th November	Wagons
Thursday	16 th November	Annual Auction
Monday	4 th December	Social, Quiz and exhibitions
Thursday	21 st December	Xmas Social Evening, Competitions and Quiz

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	John Mills	
Treasurer	Mike Smith	01189 333257	Jim Andrews	01635 297390

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