

Sheffield Philatelic Society

formed in 1894



NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Meetings in May

01 First Thursday Zoom at 7.30pm

Members' displays - Postage dues

14 Second Wednesday at 2.00pm

Members' displays - Transportation

28 Fourth Wednesday at 2.00pm

President's display

To Join the Thursday Zoom meetings, the access codes are as follows:
Meeting ID: 225 410 9851 Passcode: 072596

New stamp issues

8 June

Warhammer.

22 June

Windrush

Stumped by a stamp

Just one for you this month. It's not on paper, but transparent film. No value - what is it? Is it even a stamp?



Stamp fairs in the local area

1st Saturday

Huddersfield

St Thomas' Ch Hall, Manchester Rd HD1 3HU

1st Sunday

Pudsey

Civic Hall, Dawson's Corner, Pudsey, LS26 5TA

2nd Sunday

Chesterfield

Chester St Club, Ashgate Rd, Chesterfield

3rd Saturday

Hull

St James' Centre, 169 First Lane, Hull HU13 9EY

3rd Sunday

Dronfield

Coal Aston Village Hall, Coal Aston, S18 3AY

4th Saturday

Morley

St Mary's Hall, Commercial St, Leeds LS27 8HZ

4th Sunday

Doncaster

Park Social Club, Eden Grove Rd, DN3 2LS

21/22 July

York Racecourse

YO23 1EX

(Includes the YPA Convention on 22nd)

Last Saturday

Batley

Whitfield Centre, 180, Soothill Lane, WF17 6HP

2nd Saturday

Derby

Nunsfield Ho., 33 Boulton Rd, Alvaston DE24 0FD

As this list may be out of date, revisions or new info would be welcomed.

News

See overleaf for report on last month's Frank Walton Memorial display

THE FIRST FRANK WALTON MEMORIAL DISPLAY

held at Sheffield P S on 10th May 2023

We were pleased to welcome both Frank's widow, Liz, and Peter Cockburn, President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London with the first "Frank Walton Memorial Display". Frank had risen to the pinnacle of philately having signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and also an internationally respected judge.

Peter started his display with a topic, which Frank was studying - Perkins Bacon Revenue Stamps. These stamps, which were from Ceylon, did not bear the name of the country, but were engraved with "DRAWN OUT OF BUT NEGOTIATED IN THE COLONY WHERESOEVER PAYABLE". These were used for export and import bills of exchange. De La Rue then took over the production of these stamps and examples of embossed stamps, 1s 9d. and 3s 4d were shown including a die proof.

Due to the frequent sinkings of ships, these stamps were issued in sets of three to ensure that at least one would reach its destination. Ceylon wanted bright colours which didn't fade, an impossible task and Peter showed two pages of De La Rue correspondence, one of which had been written "Do not change any of the colours". This section concluded with the stamps of Edward VII.

He then displayed Telegraph Stamps including Indian stamps and Indian stamps overprinted Ceylon for this use as well as Ceylon stamps for this purpose. Normally these stamps would be torn in two, one for the sender and the other for the telegraph office. One of the most interesting items was a manuscript "Pearl Fisheries" use. He also showed complete stamps and examples of holes pierced into stamp to cancel it.

The display included many examples of unique or "two known items" along with Artists Essays, Die Proofs, Blank Die Proofs, Specimen overprints, etc.

The second half was North Borneo, now Sabah, a country where he had lived for a period of time. He started with some old maps, one dated 1683. The country was basically a tropical jungle, but the discovery of coal on Labuan, an island off North Borneo, brought the attention of the Royal Navy, who used it as a coaling station between India and the far east. The British North Borneo Co. was established to deal with the trade and a share certificate was displayed.

In 1883 there was sufficient mail to warrant producing stamps. The first stamps were printed by Blades East and Blades, comprising two values. Peter showed a partially reconstructed plate of the 2c stamp, colour trials and forgeries. The 4c and 8c values were later added and a sheet of die proofs was shown which included a 12c stamp that was never issued. He also showed the noted flaw on the \$10 1889 issue where the letter "R" looks like a "P".

The wording on the stamps changed to Postage & Revenue and an example of a die proof from the original engraving was shown along with some examples of usage.

The display concluded with the village postmarks. Many had since closed. He showed an example of Ambon, one of three known cancels.

Frank Walton Tribute: Richard Hindle spoke about Frank saying that he knew him from when he first joined the Midland Bank Society in the mid 1970s, which had many inter-society visits with Sheffield. He had seen Frank progress from there to the highest pinnacle of philately. He noted that Frank was always willing to help and was interested in your collection. Frank had helped him in attaining a large vermeil in international competitions. The only drawback was that the meetings of the Royal and Sheffield coincided, and we didn't see enough of our most illustrious member.

Richard Hindle