

The Chichester and District Philatelic Society
November 2023

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August 2023 German Hyperinflation with guest speaker Mr. Robin Pizer.

By Martha Brown, with comments by various members and photo by Alan Green

Some eighteen members turned out on the Bank Holiday Monday for a splendid display and talk about German Hyperinflation by Mr. Robin Pizer from Liss.

This period occurred after World War 1. Hyperinflation was an economic disaster for the German Weimar Republic from 1920-23 and it impoverished millions of its citizens. German prices doubled, and these, in turn, escalated. In 1917 four German Marks were worth around 50p. In 1920, 64 Marks were worth the same. By 1922 some 44,800 Marks equaled 50 pence. These prices reflected in all industries, and especially in the German postal system.

Mr. Pizer's Hyperinflation display showed covers that demonstrated the price rises in the postal system. Covers emblazoned with stamps, special markings to show additional postage due, or registered covers were all part of his display. This was just the beginning of inflation and hyperinflation. By November 1923 that fifty pence was now worth 1 Billion German Marks! Some six million people were unemployed.

With the growing popularity of Adolf Hitler people were given some hope, for in 1932 he was invited by President Paul von Hindenburg to become Chancellor of Germany. The rest is history.

Heather Lawn noted the "Excellent standard in his layout." She continued to comment that the speaker "drew on the historical significance".

Christopher Dudeney felt "it was a very good effort" and included local material too.

Howard Morgan commented that "little (was mentioned) on the Hyperinflation" and there was much about Registered post, exchange controls and other specialization on this topic, but said he enjoyed the display.

Overall however, it was well received by members and was deemed a cracking good display and talk.

We'd like to thank Mr. Pizer for coming out on a Bank Holiday Monday to give his talk and display.

Mike Berry's Wife's Eaten Letters!

written by Martha Brown



Mike Berry recently related a story of how his wife's birthday post was eaten by a slimy culprit :- a snail!

One letter was chewed upon, destroying mostly all of the stamp and much of the birthday card inside. Another fifteen covers chewed like this and Mike would have been able to compile a competition display on 🐌 damage! Apparently, this partially eaten letter has been passed around at club level!

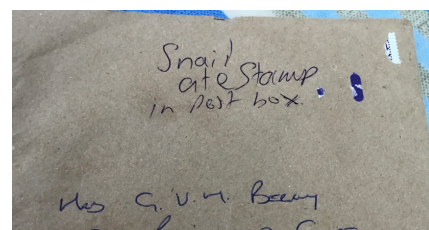
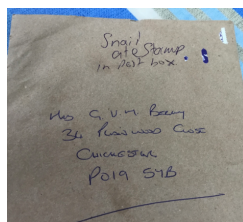
Even a letter from Sir David Attenborough was partially devoured in Australia. In Australia there are over 2500 species of snail. The one that ate his letter was a Golden -Haired Snail. How nice of us

to provide a superb micro -biome for snails, slugs and other creepy crawlers who chew through your precious letters to Grandma, birthday cards, or letters from the taxman!

If you explore the internet you will find numerous articles about slug and snail damage. Many have gone further and collect such mail specimens without the snail or slug (!) in collections under the header Damaged Mail.

Thank you to Mike and Gill, his wife, for sharing his interesting chewed cover with club members. 👍 photos show the posts ox and the envelope. The postbox is in the hamlet of Crux Easton near Newburyport, Berkshire. And as the birthday card was for his wife we'd like to say "Happy Birthday Gill!"

Photos of the Great Snail



Chew!

IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we report that member Mike Rogers recently passed away. He was a regular attendee at meetings and contributed greatly in many ways to our society. He was also a member of the Bognor Regis Philatelic Society. His collecting interest in Early Victoria GB, Penny Blacks and Reds, especially in the intricate plating studies he undertook. According to member, Christopher Dudeney, Mike "collected most of the Penny Black plates and He knew how to differentiate them."

We'd like to send our condolences to his wife and family at such a sad time. At the September competition evening President Bob Tebbitt and members stood in silence as a mark of the great respect we had for Mike.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: COMPETITION NIGHT PART II

The second competition evening for The Chichester & District Philatelic Society was held on Monday evening, 25th September. A fine turnout of members and a great many entries were the order of the evening.

The Peal (Novices Cup) was won by Neil Smith with his display about French engraver Albert Marius Hippolyte Descaris, a name that my spellcheck wishes to alter! Descaris was a gifted French engraver of stamps, with his definitive issues of Gallic cocks of 1962 being some of the most beautiful. Descaris began engraving in 1935 and continued until his death in 1985.

Second place in the Peal Cup was Frank Griffiths with his excellent layout and display design entitled 'Private Ship Letter Stamps of the Caribbean'.

Third was John Armstone with 'Sussex Cinderella's', fourth, Christopher Dudeney's 'Charles Augustus Lindbergh' with "all new material", and fifth, Russell Hill's display entitled 'Where's Chichester', with a display of covers showing cancellations of Chichester.

The Allan Postal History Cup was a Joint First place between Martha Brown and Christopher Podger.

Martha Brown displayed the numerous cancellations on cover about 'Third Reich National Stamp Collecting Day' that was a regular feature in Germany in 1930s-1944.

Christopher Podger's display of 'Cyprus Incoming Postal Stationery', with its excellent design and numerous cancellation features was also another display of history.

Postmarks tell a story of how the mail moved from place to place, or about people in different countries at different historical times. Through cancellations and postal markings, a story emerges about the transit of letters and postal cards. Any letters included in these add to the tale! This is the essence of Postal History.

Third place was Frank Griffiths 'Virgin Islands', fourth, Russell Hill 'Chichester to Selsey Tramway', fifth, John Armstone 'D-Day & the Post Office', and sixth place was Christopher Dudeney 'Ryde IOW Postmarks'. As one can see, there was quite a mixture of themes in the postal history displays for the Allan Postal History Cup.

The Birkin Modern Trophy was won by Heather Lawn with a colorful and artistically designed display entitled 'Aitutaki in the Cook Islands'. This tiny island in the South Pacific measures only 18.3 square kilometers! Heather Lawn collects thematically, and her birds of Aitutaki, including White Tern, Pacific Golden Plover, or Pomarine Jaeger were beautiful examples of bird life on this island. It was a Lovely display meriting the award of first place.

Christopher Dudeney showed 'Turkish Cyprus Posts' for second place. Quite a lot of history demonstrated through the numerous cancellations and markings.

Equal Third place in the Birkin Modern were Martha Brown, with colorful USA Federal Duck Stamps, and Russell Hill "A New Millennium" with a post year 2000 display.

Fifth and sixth places in the Birkin Modern were Christopher Podger with his colorful display of 'Turkish Cyprus Revenue Stamps', and John Armstone's cheery 'Christmas Charity Posts'.

Well done to all members who displayed and competed, and to all members for such a great attendance on the night.

October Meeting: Mr. Peter Davidson, Secretary of the Portsmouth & District Philatelic Society

Article & photos Martha Brown

We were privileged to host Mr. Peter Davidson in what was his final, and 106th philatelic presentation.

His presentation on the 23rd October was 'The Evolution of Steam'. We certainly learned much about how train rails are made, the importance of the right type of iron for making curves safer, and rail gauges. We also learned the history of Steam locomotives from 1801 up to the 1960s. Everything

was presented with picture post cards of locomotives, covers, and stamps. Many covers were special commemorative stamps and special cachet/ cancellation covers showing locomotives.

Who wouldn't be intrigued by Inventor and engineer Richard Trevithick who invented a steam boiler/ stationary engine in 1801? After that blew up, Trevithick invented a far more successful engine with a top land speed of 5 mph. This locomotive ran 15.69 km (9.75 mi) on the Merthyr Tramroad in South Wales.

Other engineers were included John Blenkinsop who patented a design for the Middleton Railway. And Father and son team, George and Robert Stephenson whose 'Puffing Billy' (1814) and 'Blucher' (1814), or 'The Rocket' (1829) were locomotives getting, as Mr. Davidson said, "we're getting bigger and better!" and we mustn't forget Isambard Kingdom Brunel either!

His second half included more 'modern' steam locomotives with names such as the Flying Scotsman, or The Mallard were all mentioned



Mr. and Mrs. Davidson

Some of Mr. Davidson's covers and cards



post



Stamp Group Coffee Mornings:

We meet at the Chichester Festival Theatre Cafe (inside the CFT) 10:30 am every other Monday - bring swaps, old stamp magazines to share, sell stamps/ covers, give away...

Or just come and have a nice social chat!

Information: 07553-543701

Dates for Coffee Group:

Monday 6 November

Monday 20 November

Monday 4 December

Monday 18 December

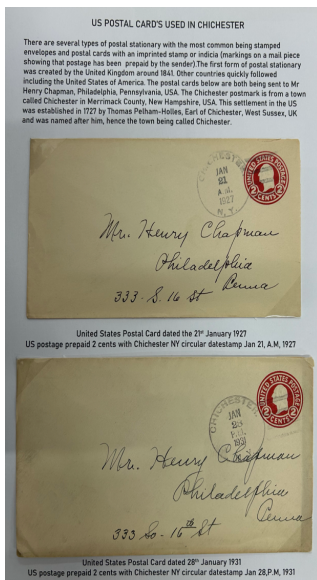
Monday 15 January

Monday 29 January tbc

Some photos of stamps and covers through the year: —



Below: Chris Dudeney's display.



An example page of Russell Hill's 'Where's Chichester?' Showing Chichester postmark and CDS.



a pair of Heather's Aitutaki stamps



Two of John Armstone's cinderellas.

