

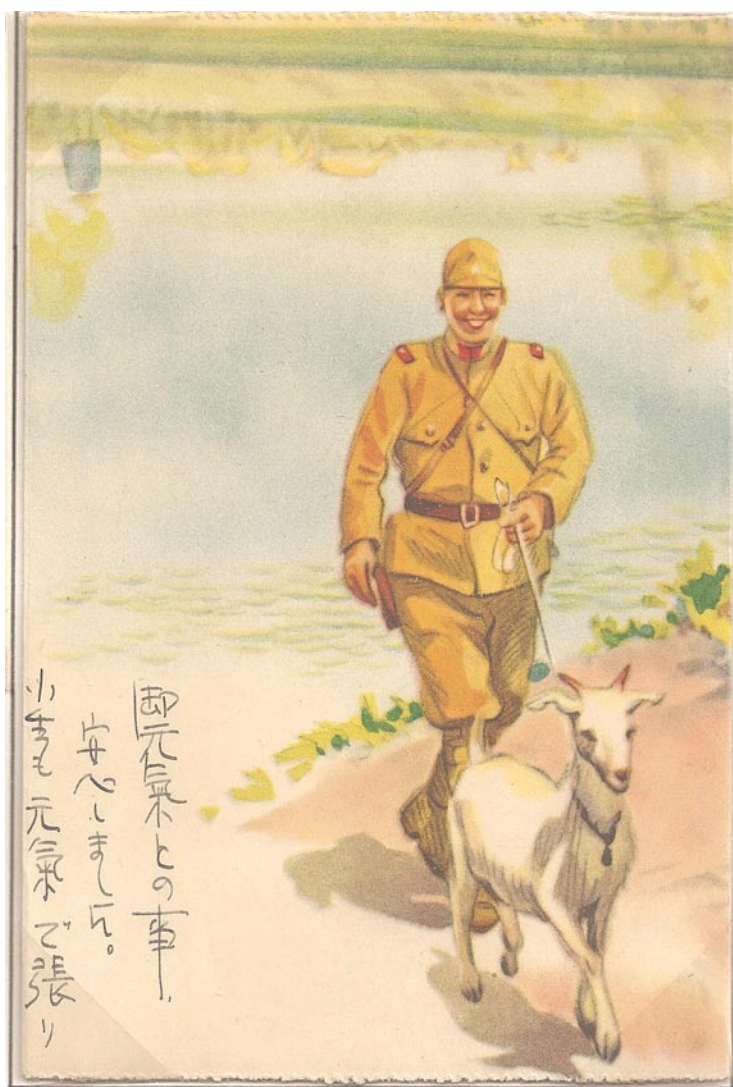
Salisbury & District Philatelic Society Meeting 14th October 2009

Guest Speaker Francis Kiddle Hon. Fellow RPSL.

By Patrick Campbell

We were pleased to welcome Francis Kiddle and I was particularly happy to introduce him to the Society. Francis is a person who continues to be involved in philately at the highest of levels but is very happy to help all. I speak from personal experience. On entering the competitive side of our hobby Francis and Alan Huggins were more than prepared to give freely of their advice and time in helping me on my way in what initially I found a rather daunting prospect.

The presentation was in two parts opening with a thematic display titled “The Goat - an Appreciation”. What was particularly significant was the thought and searching that goes into forming a thematic display and I am sure that I reflect members’ surprise as to how much is involved.



An official Japanese letter-sheet from World War 11

The goat, commonly known as the "Poor Man's Cow", is a very efficient provider and is equally at home in lush lands or on barren mountains. Goats are certainly productive. They are renowned, or even lampooned, for their fertility, and they supply a full range of useful products. Many people, who live on marginal land (be it mountain, plateau, island or desert), would be unable to survive without goats, and that is why there are more than 520 million domesticated goats worldwide. The display is an 84 page exhibit and demonstrates what philatelic material is available to illustrate such a theme, explains some of the facts about goats, in particular their characteristics and how they differ from sheep.

In the second half Francis showed us a collection of Tasmanian Revenues, which again was very thought provoking. On seeing such collections one is left with the thought that an awful lot of research, hunting and effort goes into their making but aren't we lucky to have found something so absorbing?



Francis Kiddle displaying 'Tasmanian Revenues'.