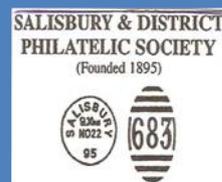


SALISBURY & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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All photographs supplied by the Editor, or otherwise stated.

Chairman's Introduction

A particularly attractive seasonal 'grill' poster to wish you all a 'Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year'. We, as you will know, have had an excellent season so far with the best attendance being Alan Wood's 'Countries I don't collect'. An interesting title and very interesting material. Regrettably we had to close the Packet Circuit but for 'contributors' then Warminster would still like your material. The point of contact for Warminster is Geoff Frost whose email is gwfrost19@gmail.com or by phone on 01985 840433. Please contact Geoff directly if interested. It was amazing how much value there

was in our packet material. The first box I sent to Warminster had a retail value of £3,000 and the second £1,000. The booklets that I returned back to contributors had an approximate retail value of £2,000. Given that most material was used and making the assumption that used material normally retails at 30% of catalogue then the catalogue value of material that we had in the circuit was £18,000!! Two things to keep you busy over the Christmas period. The last date for dropping off auction lots for our big annual action is 22nd January. Finally the excuse that you needed to write up material is the 9 Sheet Competitions on the 19th February. We have been scoring high in competitions recently with winning the Best in Show at the Wiltshire 9 Sheet Competitions and retaining the Wiltshire 16 Sheet Competition for the third year. So get writing and mounting up material!

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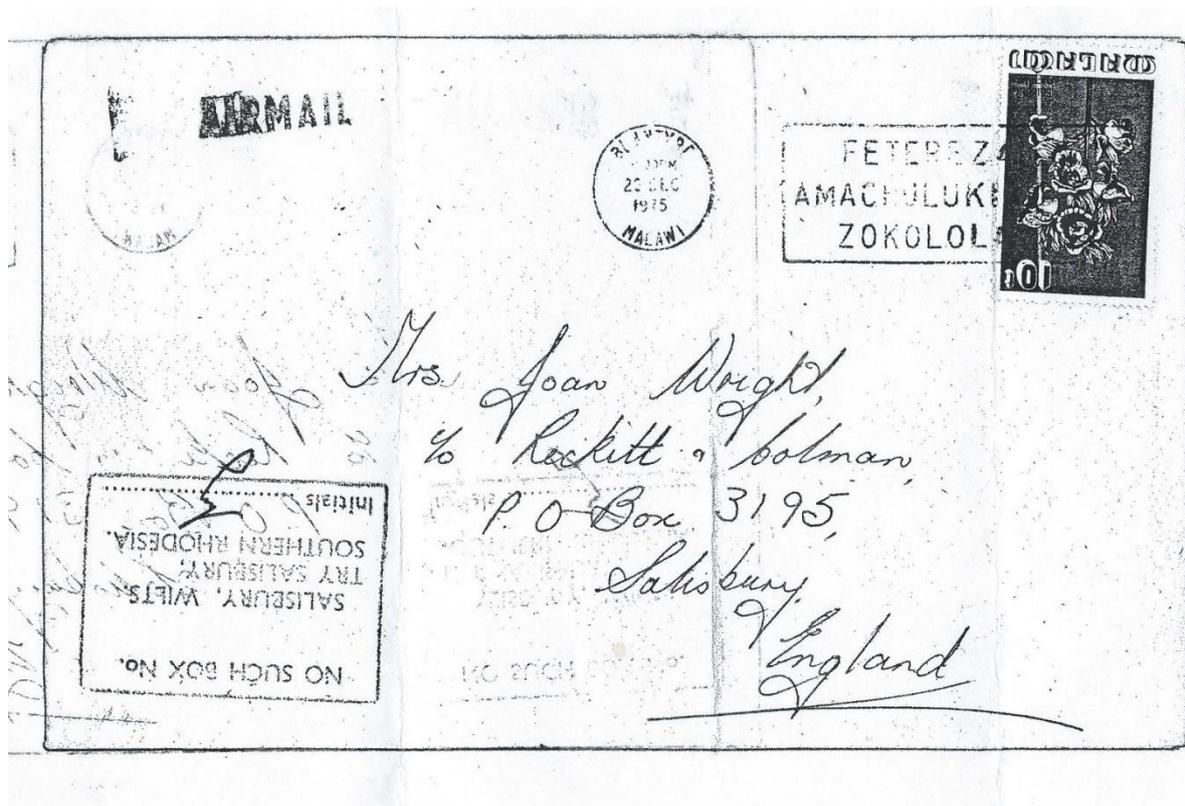
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Merry 
Christmas 

Aspects of the Postal Services in Salisbury and District

by
Jeremy Martin

Richard Stroud, a friend of mine, provided this photocopy. It is from Malawi in 1975 and the writer was corresponding with a friend in Rhodesia. Inadvertently he put 'England' in the address.



In our Salisbury the Post Office realized the error and applied the Illustrated cachet, one I had not seen before.



1894 THURSDAY ISLAND TO s'GRAVENHAGE, HOLLAND

by
David Ashby



1d. postal stationery post card written aboard the Dutch ship 'Borneo' but post marked Thursday Island "148" duplex 13 Apr. 94. Queensland 1/2d stamp for 11/2d rate

By QRM/BI INDIA Thursday Is. 21 Apr via Batavia to connect with P&O BALLAARAT at Aden or Suez to Brindisi 26 May. Mail 46 days.



Reversed reduced with s'Gravenhage' cds 29 Mei 94.

The volume of mail via Torres Strait declined rapidly due to the expansion of the railway system which enabled Adelaide to become the overseas mail port for all of eastern Australia. The mail contract lapsed in 1895 and was never renewed.

Wiltshire Federation 16 Sheet Competition

I am very pleased to announce the winner of the 16 Sheet Competition
David Ashby - "The Torres Strait Route"



IS THE HONG KONG 1946 VICTORY ISSUE THE MOST INTERESTING STAMP EVER PRODUCED?

by
Mike Moody

At the end of WW2, a stamp to commemorate the Allies victory showing The Houses of Parliament was approved by the Colonial Office for use by the Colonies.



The Omnibus issue used by the Colonies

However, because of special circumstances - described below - the Colonial Office approved and King George gave special permission for a separate issue by the Colony of Hong Kong. These stamps were designed by the Head Postmaster of Hong Kong, Edward Wynne-Jones, in 1943 while a prisoner of war of the Japanese. As he later recalled:

“As may be imagined, time hung heavily on our hands during those long years, though hope never died. In 1943 it occurred to me that it might be a good idea to have a commemorative stamp issued when Hong Kong was finally liberated, and I set about designing one.”

From his rough pencil sketch in the camp, Wynne-Jones asked a fellow internee to produce a finished drawing of it. WE Jones, who had been the chief draughtsman of the Hong Kong Public Works Department, did so using coloured crayons.



The original essay by W E Jones

After his release in 1945 he brought this artwork back to Britain and sent it to the Colonial Office for consideration. All that was changed before

printing from the original crayon drawing was that Wynne-Jones had thought the end of the occupation would be 1944 not 1945.

So the history makes it very interesting. It is also very interesting as the variety of symbols used in the final stamp - see below - convey a powerful message.



The Final Hong Kong Issue in 30c and \$1

1. The central portrait of the King with a crown above his head reasserted the power of the British Empire
2. The mystical Phoenix bird, which died in flames and was reborn, symbolised the Colony's recovery from disaster.
3. A ribbon below the bird bore the Latin word 'Resurgo' (Latin for 'arise') and the dates 1941 and 1945 recalling the period of Japanese Occupation.
4. The name of the Colony appeared in English at the top, while the Lions of England held shields that gave the name in Chinese.
5. The vertical tablets bear Chinese inscriptions which in a general sense say on the left 'China and Britain perpetually at peace' and on the right 'The phoenix revives: great good fortune'.
6. The two bats in flight on either side of the oval frame surrounding the King's head in Chinese symbolise good fortune and longevity.

There is one listed variety an extra stroke at the top left of the Chinese characters in the left hand shield of both values at position R1/2. !). The last interesting aspect about this stamp is that both values from this position are known without the variety and are very scarce. In 10 years I have only seen two stamps without it, yet it is catalogued the same as a normal stamp from anywhere else on the sheet!



The Variety

There is also a rare shade and the variety on this shade has just sold for £2,700 (needless to say my bid didn't win).

It perhaps does not score as highly in interest value for the purist because it doesn't have many shades, varieties, papers etc. But I challenge any member of the Society or any other readers of this newsletter to show a stamp more interesting to the general public and the general stamp collector and to write an article on it!

Packet Circuit

Regrettably we had to close the Packet Circuit but for 'contributors' then Warminster would still like your material. The point of contact for Warminster is Geoff Frost whose email is gwfrost19@gmail.com or by phone on 01985 840433. I have rewritten Pauls' comments for those who may have missed this, but also for those who are thinking that they would like to put in material to a packet circuit,

Please contact Geoff directly if interested.

PROGRAMME 2014

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Meetings 2014</u>
22 nd January 2014	GUEST SPEAKER - Robin Cassell - Mulreadies and caricatures
19 th February 2014	Annual Competition 9 sheets.
5th March 2014	DAY MEETING .
12 March 2014	GUEST SPEAKER - Ashley Lawrence, Palestine and Pigeon Post.
26 March 2014	Members' single frame evening
09 April 2014	GUEST SPEAKER - Margaret Morris, Observatories
23 April 2014	Annual Auction
7 May 2014	Members' evening – Transport
21 May 2014	AGM followed by 16 page competition

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MEETING PLACE

Held at the SCOUT HUT, HARNHAM.
Evenings 7.15p.m for 7.30p.m - Daytime 10.00a.m for 10.30a.m
COME AND JOIN US

Our next day meeting is on the 5th of March 2014
Morning Tea and Lunch
and
many different speakers showing their collections,
a day not to be missed.