

CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NOTES OF THE MEETING 09.06.2015:

Vice President Alan Holverson opened the meeting at 19.45 hours and welcomed the 19 members present. He invited **Ted Kemp** to give his presentation on **Turkey**.



In 1840 the Ottoman Postal Services were established with seals being used to authenticate letters and mail. In 1863 the first postage stamps were printed and several issues were produced. In 1876, due to a shortage of stamps, stamps were bisected but this resulted in many forgeries. In 1897 a special set of stamps was produced for use by the troops in wartime. During World War 1 due to a shortage of stamps old stocks of stamps were used with a series of special over-prints.

In 1923 with the establishment of the Turkish Republic new stamps were produced. The display showed a variety of issues including letters, airmail stamps and commemoratives. Between 1923 to 1958 charity stamps – Red Crescent stamps – were shown and between 1929 and 1958 child protection stamps by the Child Protection Society.

The display featured a section on the stamps of Kemal Atatürk who was the first President of the Republic from 1923 to 1938 who did much to transform Turkey from a feudal to a modern state. His achievements included reformation of the law, universal free education, emancipation of women, introduction of a new alphabet and the Gregorian calendar.

The display was beautifully written up and enjoyed by the members of Croydon Philatelic Society. Following a vote of thanks by Brian Asquith, Vice President Alan closed the meeting at 21.45 hours.