

**CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH SEPTEMBER 2018:**

President **Graham Harker** opened the meeting at 19.45 hours and welcomed the 13 members and one guest present. He then invited **Alan Tyler** to present his display on **Palestine**.



Until World War 1 Palestine was a part of the Ottoman Empire. British and Anzac troops opened an offensive on 31 October 1917 and on 9 December took Jerusalem. The first stamps were issued by the British Military Authorities in February 1918 for 1 piastre and 5 milliemes and were inscribed E.E.F. (Egyptian Expeditionary Force). These lasted for only a week or two and then were followed by stamps of a lighter colour and also overprints. From July 1918 onward a set of 10 stamps from 1m to 20p were printed by the Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London. Numerous errors and varieties, missing dots between E_E_ F_, inverted overprints and military cancellations were on show.

The Turkish armies in Palestine were finally defeated on 19 September 1918 and on 25 April 1920 the League of Nations granted Britain a Mandate to administer Palestine and a civil administration was set up on 1 July 1920 with a British High Commissioner in charge.

Under this British Civil Administration a new set of 11 overprinted stamps was issued, plus three with different perforations. The "Palestine" overprint was in three languages - English, Arabic and Hebrew. On display were many varieties including double overprints, overprint inverted and plate varieties. Stamps used on covers, some registered, were also shown.

In 1927, new currency, pictorial set illustrated for three religions followed with different colours, papers and varieties were much in evidence. These were used until 1948. Postage Dues were shown which were printed by the Greek Orthodox Convent, Jerusalem.

The British Mandate finished on 14 May 1948 and this was the last day of use of the British stamps. On the same day the State of Israel was proclaimed and examples were shown of their various issues including gutter pairs and Israeli stamps used in Gaza after the Six Days War in 1967.

Members viewed the displays and President Graham Harker gave the vote of thanks remarking on the quality and variety of material throughout the display. The meeting closed at 21.00 hours.

Brian Asquith/Graham Harker
Ref: CroyPhilSocNotes11.09.18.docx
12.09.2018