

## CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:

### NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022:

At the second meeting of the 2022-23 Season **John Schofield**, a long-standing member of the Society entitled his presentation '**70 Years of Stamp Collecting**'.



John pictured with President Pauline MacBroom during the Vote of Thanks with Bob Allister in the foreground.

John began collecting stamps in 1952 as a schoolboy when he collected a variety of stamps from countries across the world. In his teens he began to specialise in **Australia** and **France** as he had more stamps of those 2 countries.

He chose some sheets from each of his collecting interests to make up his presentation.

In the first half the stamps of **Australia** were shown first with definitives, commemoratives, blocks and coil strips. There were stamps with watermarks and some without and there were a variety of papers – thick and thin – on display. This was followed by stamps of **Algeria, The Kingdom of Laos, The Council of Europe and UNESCO, and The Channel Tunnel**. The first half ended with **The Gilbert and Ellis Islands** in which examples were shown from a variety of islands, including Phoenix Island.

Following tea, coffee and biscuits as refreshments served during the break, the second half began with **Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland** which included different perforations, postage dues and overprints. Of the 3 countries used stamps of Northern Rhodesia are the most difficult to collect. This was followed by a display of **Tristan da Chuna** including photographs of the area and postcards, particularly of birds. John then showed some stamps of **Greenland** followed by 3 stamps of **Great Britain** – a Penny Black, a Twopenny Blue and a Penny Red – his only stamps of his own country, which were given to him as a present by his parents. There were then stamps of **Monaco** and **Norway** before finishing the presentation with **France** – his main collection. The material included letters such as those produced by the Royal Household, the earliest in 1571 in the reign of Henry III. There were also examples of stamps, photographs and postcards to finish.

John who ran the Stamp Shop in St Georges Walk in Central Croydon for many years before his retirement was thanked for his interesting and wide-ranging display by President Pauline MacBroom. The 17 members present greatly enjoyed John's talk and the material he had brought to illustrate his collections.

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