

CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY:

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH DECEMBER 2022:

At the meeting held on 13th December 2022 the guest speaker was **Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins** who entitled his display **“The East”**.

The display was made up of a mixture of material with the postal history of Ukraine from 1914, the postal history of St.Petersburg and the stamps of the USSR.

Ukraine is a republic in Eastern Europe bordered by the Russian Federation, Belarus, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova. After decades of Soviet occupation, Ukraine re-established its independence in 1991. The display gave a brief summary of the history of Ukraine from the 19th century to the present day. From 1919 Ukraine used the stamps of the Soviet Union until the end of 1991, apart from during World War II when German stamps were used as Ukraine had been occupied by Germany. The display showed overprints of Russian and German stamps. On achieving independence in 1991 initially Russian stamps were still overprinted by the main cities due to difficulties with stamp supply, but Ukrainian stamps were used from 1992.

The display showed a variety of covers depicting major events. There were examples of postal stationery, Russian prison mail, War correspondence envelopes and Russian censor covers. Ukrainian postage stamps have commemorated the defence of Ukraine by its armed forces and people, referencing key moments from the war, supporting the defence of the country and also creating propaganda directed against Russia.

The Croydon Philatelic members present enjoyed the presentation by Marcus and the material on display. President Pauline MacBroom thanked Marcus for his efforts and for his making the long journey in difficult snowy weather and presented him with a certificate to mark the occasion. As it was the last meeting before Christmas members enjoyed the “Christmas treats” with their tea/coffee at the break which had been brought in by President Pauline.

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