

CROYDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH NOVEMBER 2023:

The presentation given at the November Meeting was by **Captain James Podger** who showed material related to **Welsh Postal History**.



James began collecting Welsh Postal History in 2017 but in a relatively short time he has acquired a range of material. Covers were arranged in County order and Date Order and mainly comprised pre-stamp material. The counties shown were Anglesey (earliest cover 1774), Breconshire (earliest 1743), Cardiganshire (1751), Caernarvonshire, Carmarthenshire, Flintshire (1778), Glamorganshire, Merion shire, Monmouthshire, Montgomeryshire, Pembrokeshire, and Radnorshire. Before the penny rates were introduced in 1840 counties had their own

handstamps. The cover often contained information on the distance to London which determined the cost of the postage. The ratings shown used Wilcox's book as a reference text on the issue. Mileage marks were usually shown in black but there were also examples of red marks and a yellow mark. Letters were often written by lawyers and clergymen as many common people were illiterate. From 1840 there were a few letters with Penny Red stamps. Finally, James showed several envelopes with Penny Black stamps. Most of the mail was internal to the UK but there were covers of overseas mail, for example from the West Indies.

President Pauline thanked James for his interesting display and presentation and the 16 in attendance enjoyed viewing the material and speaking with James.

JGH
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