

# THEMESCENE

December 2012

*In this issue we:*



*Delve into the military archives*

**Military history of New Zealand**

*With Chris Yardley*

*Admire Japanese pictorial postal stationery*

**Japanese Echo and other cards**

*With Jean Alexander*



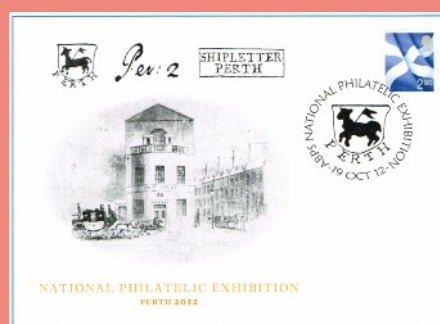
Fig 2 Waterfalls shown on an ECHO card

*Enjoy ourselves at Oxford*

**BTA Weekend**

*Travel to Perth*

**BTA meeting at Perth**



**BRITISH THEMATIC ASSOCIATION**

**Volume 29, No.4. Whole Number 109**

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# THEMESCENE

Vol.29, No.4, Whole Number 109

DECEMBER 2012

## THEMESCENE

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# EDITORIAL

Wendy Buckle

We have a packed issue full of reports on various BTA activities. The Committee is working hard to promote both the Association and thematic collecting, and you will find details of all of this throughout the issue. For some time the BTA web site has carried a list of members willing to give society displays. The initiative has really taken off (Membership Secretary page 125) and local societies have now booked 44 meetings featuring BTA members. Do add your name if you can. Please note also in the Membership Page changes to our subscription renewal form to make it easier to put people in contact with one another. We continue to run meetings whenever possible, and a report on Perth is on page 147. And as a major new initiative the very first BTA Weekend was held in October and is reported on page 142.

Your enclosed Programme for the year has future meetings listed; in particular do try and get to our next London meeting on 20th April. Sadly the Friends of Thematica has ceased operation, but the BTA have agreed to take over the competitions (see BTA News page 146). The Sussex Federation has kindly agreed to host them at Ardingly, West Sussex, on 12th October. They will be run exactly as before. The next issue of *Themescene* will carry full details and application forms.

And it's not only meetings. The BTA is delighted to publish a new booklet by Margaret Morris *Introduction to Thematic Collecting* (page 149). We have already had very positive responses to it, so do consider ordering your copy. We are also actively investigating started a regular auction for members. But we need to know how well it is likely to be supported. Please see the Chairman's Page (123) for details of how to register your interest.

As members of the BTA we all collect thematics, and some of us also exhibit. The Committee of the BTA are very clear that we want to represent all our members, from those who enjoy putting a few pages of stamps together to those who send their entries overseas for international exhibitions. It is important that *Themescene* reflects this, so from now on there will be one new regular column called "Exhibiting Pages" (152). Not a great change in practice, since we have always covered this, but for those readers for whom it isn't relevant it makes it obvious which bits to skip! And to make sure it is balanced with the non-competitive side, from the next issue there will be a new series called "How I Started Collecting".

I am please to welcome two new contributors to *Themescene*. Chris Yardley (page 128) lives in Australia and on retirement has started writing for the philatelic press. Many of you will know Jean Alexander (page 139) from her talks and displays given all over the country. And I have to apologise to Jean and her husband who in September *Themescene* (AGM Minutes) were listed as "Jean and Alexander Crawford". It should have read "Jean and Crawford Alexander".

*Themescene* publication deadlines next year will be:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Copy by</u>
March	1st February
June	3rd May
September	2nd August
December	1st November

Please do send me your ideas and contributions. \*\*

# CHAIRMAN'S PAGE

**John Hayward**

Some of you may have been wondering why my Chairman's Page in the September issue of *Themescene* was somewhat shorter than usual. Well, unfortunately it had to be curtailed at very short notice because I was going to congratulate Brian Sole, our



Patron and Honorary Life Member, on his marriage to Penny Polly at the beginning of August. Totally unexpectedly three days before the wedding Penny was taken ill and had to undergo brain surgery so the wedding had to be postponed at the eleventh hour and my Chairman's Page curtailed. Well, I am pleased to say that everything is now fine. Penny's operation was successful and she has recovered full health, so much so that the wedding took place on 13th October 2012. It was a very happy event with Brian Asquith, one of the BTA's long standing members, doing the honours as best man. The Committee

Members contributed personally to a present of Dartington Glass to Brian and Penny. May I now on behalf of all the membership wish Brian and Penny our heartiest congratulations and hopes for a long and happy future together.

With this issue of *Themescene* you will receive the BTA's printed programme for 2013. I would draw your attention to three events we are organising next year. Firstly, there will be a Members' Meeting all day on Saturday 20th April 2013 at the Royal Philatelic Society London. Full details of the meeting will be published on the website and in March 2013 *Themescene*, but there will be a guest speaker, displays by members and an opportunity for members to buy and sell their own material and browse through lots of thematic material the BTA has for sale. All members are welcome to attend, so make a note in your diaries now. Secondly, we will be running a table at the very popular biennial Midpex event on Saturday 6th July 2013. And thirdly, the BTA will be hosting the Fosbery Trophy after an interval of several years, together with the BTA Cup at the Sussex Federation's Autumn Convention on Saturday 12th October 2013 at Ardingly, West Sussex. More details of these events will appear in *Themescene* next year.

One suggestion made at our AGM in June for the benefit of members was that the BTA should consider running an auction again. The Committee has considered this meanwhile, and particularly the manpower needed to run an auction, whether it was wholly postal or online. We have decided to test the water initially to see if there is sufficient demand amongst the membership for an auction. So, if you have something to sell, and it does not necessarily have to be thematic, can you please in the first instance by 31st January 2013 let Jim Etherington have a description of the items, which should have a minimum value of £2.00. Jim's postal & email addresses are on the inside page of this issue of *Themescene*. We should then be able to decide whether it is worthwhile going ahead with an auction.

*(Continued on next page)*

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Wendy Buckle

I have had a very busy time recently on behalf of the BTA. In early October I was one of the participants of the first-ever BTA Weekend, held at Oxford (page 142). It was an enormous success, and the debate on the last day was not if, but when, we hold the next one. We have decided at least for the time being to hold it bi-annually, if only to give our Secretary a bit of a break from organising! A comfortable hotel, good food and eager participants made the whole thing tremendously enjoyable. Thanks are due to everyone who took part, but most especially Secretary Anne Stammers who had worked tirelessly for a long time before and then during the event to make sure it all went smoothly.

Two weeks later Anne and I were up in Perth to attend the ABPS event Perth 2012 and to run a BTA meeting at the event. We were made very welcome by everybody up there, enjoyed the exhibition and the meeting, and found time to do a bit of exploration of the stunning Perthshire countryside.

Earlier in the year I spent a lot of time working with Past President Margaret Morris, digitising her latest publication *Introduction to Thematic Collecting*. Since I only did the techie bits and claim no authorial content I don't think it would be boastful of me to praise it! You will find the full details on page 149. Although an 'introduction' it is packed with helpful advice for existing thematic collectors, written in a very accessible way. I do urge you to consider buying a copy. And for those people who do not have a computer I will be happy to send a print copy, regrettably at a greater charge to cover print costs and heavier postage. Thanks to Jonas Hällström it has already been advertised internationally, and orders are coming in.



I can hardly believe Christmas is nearly upon us. Actually, as I write this, it's not. It's early November and we've only just got over firework night; not that that has stopped all the shops already being decked out in decorations. But you will be reading it in December so may I take the opportunity of wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a successful thematic new year. \*\*

## Chairman's Page. *Continued from previous page*

When I was purchasing some thematic items recently from Delcampe's auction website I came across another excellent thematic website that I would recommend to members interested in collecting thematic postmarks. This is an outfit called MARCOTEM who are based in Spain. Their website may be found at [www.issuu.com/alfa21](http://www.issuu.com/alfa21). They sell modern thematic postmarks mainly from Europe and the USA priced in Euros which can be paid for by transfer from a Paypal or Moneybookers/Skrill account. On looking at their website you will notice straightaway that they have an illustrated catalogue for numerous themes and although they are in Spanish they are relatively easy to understand. I noticed there was Agriculture, Bridges, Castles, Geology, Birds, Christmas, Minerals, Olympic Games, Railways and many many more themes. I have been well pleased with the postmarks I have bought from them to date. Have a look and see what you think. Enjoy your collecting. \*\*

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S PAGE

**Peter Denly**

Ordinary members	180	
Family members	14	
Junior members	2	
Society members	13	
Overseas members	16	
Overseas Society members	2	
Honorary members	4	
<b>Total number of members</b>	<b>231</b>	(At 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2012)

## **New Members joining since the September 2012 issue**

Mr J.A. Keller    London                      Mr. S. Linchevsky    Sevastopol, Ukraine  
Mrs. J. Reeve    Oxford

## **Deaths advised since the September 2012 issue**

Mr. J. Miller            Holme on Swale  
Dr. A. Almond        Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot

**W**e take pleasure in welcoming three new members to the Association and hope they will be able to make use of the facilities that are provided. Our new member Mr. Linchevsky is keen to make contact with fellow members who share his collecting interest, which I am now progressing.

I am frequently approached to put members in touch with each other to share their collecting interests, but currently no contact details are released until permission is obtained from those concerned. Should any member wish to participate in this way, it would help in the future to have prior permission recorded on our data base. To this end, on this year's subscription renewal form a tick box has been included to allow the Membership Secretary to record your agreement, should you so wish.

The initiative to provide speakers to societies is gathering pace and we are now able to offer a choice of 23 speakers on thematic subjects. So far 44 societies have requested speakers which will help widen the appeal of Thematics generally and provide an opportunity to recruit new members to this Association. On a personal note, I have found that distributing the plan of a thematic display before beginning the talk helps the audience to follow the structure of the theme and acts as a 'road map' when eventually viewing the material. From comments after a display this appears to be much appreciated.

**I take this opportunity to remind members**, that when making changes to addresses whether postal or email, please be sure to inform the Membership Secretary, which will ensure your copy of *Themescene* is delivered correctly.    \*\*

# PUBLICITY OFFICER'S PAGE

**Simon Moorcroft**

**W**hen you get to read this Christmas will be fast approaching and presents will have been brought and family gatherings planned. As I sit and write this, thoughts of the festive season still seem a long time away!

This issue features heavily the BTA Weekend in Oxford in early October. As you will read, it was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all who attended. Anne Stammers did absolutely sterling work in ensuring all the arrangements were organised impeccably and everyone knew what was happening and when. The hotel, I thought, was excellent and very good value. It was a very large hotel though, with some in the BTA party having to set out early in the morning to ensure they reached breakfast on time!

What the weekend showed was that one can both socialise and relax and still appreciate and discuss philately. The fact most people stayed at the hotel meant that there was never any need to rush displays or discussions, with no one concerned about having to leave on time. In addition, the close proximity of the hotel to Oxford provided much interest to those less predisposed to philatelic discussion! It is certainly an event I believe the BTA will hold again and hopefully we will see its popularity amongst members grow.



*Delegates at the Weekend*

I was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting in Perth due to other commitments but from what I understand it went well. The show overall attracted a very large number of people, some of whom travelled a very long way to attend. The programme for next year again will prove of great interest for you all and I hope you will be able to attend many of our events and support the BTA. A great deal of time is put into the programme to ensure that it is as interesting and diverse as possible.

May I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas. ❄️



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The views expressed in these letters may not necessarily be those of the Editorial Board.*

## **CAN THIS BE USED?**

[In the last issue we carried a letter from Jim Etherington asking whether a Mulready wrapper could be used in a competition entry about World War II. The question was whether the illustration was relevant because of the time gap between the item and the subject it was being used to illustrate].

*From:* Barry Stagg

I believe you should use the Mulready. The history of letter writing by all in British society can clearly be traced back to the introduction of the penny post. With increasing literacy rates amongst the lower (and middle) classes in Victorian times the penny post was an affordable way of keeping in touch. True, at first the middle classes took to the penny post but it spread across all levels of British society very quickly. The penny post went hand in hand with increasing literacy rates across the country during Victorian times but quite clearly the letter as we know it today 'started' in May 1840. As Mulready was in at the beginning of mass letter writing it clearly has a place in any thematic collection looking at mail between two British people.

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# MILITARY HISTORY ON THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND: DEVELOPING THE ANZAC TRADITION

*Chris Yardley*

*“Postage stamps are a very political, territorially grounded and yet overlooked part of visual culture”. (Raento P and Brunn S D, 2005).*

## **Introduction**

**T**he postage stamp is a fiscal device. It prepays a mail delivery service and in its current form has been around for more than 170 years. For almost a century or so the image on the stamp made a fiscal statement – the portrait of the monarch, the state emblem or a map. And so it was with the earliest New Zealand issues.

The early mould was broken, however, when New Zealand experimented with using the back of everyday Queen Victoria stamps for commercial advertisements in 1895. Three years later a set of definitive stamps showed facets of the country and its fauna. One stamp was very different. That stamp, issued in 1900, honoured the NZ Boer War Contingent. The image is symbolically very rich showing the NZ flag and two horsemen answering ‘The Empires’ Call’. In the background are shown a military camp below a mountain and a cavalry formation. Front centre is a phoenix-like female arising from a pool whilst blowing on a bugle (?) Add the country name, value and the words ‘postage and revenue’ and we have a busy stamp within graphic borders, as shown below.

[New Zealand catalogue quoted throughout is *Campbell Paterson's Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps*]



*1900 : Boer War Contingent cat # E4*

These days this stamp would be recognised as a ‘commemorative’ stamp. It sends a unique message about a time and a place. Most of the stamps that follow within this essay commemorate a person, a time and a place, recording what the establishment wanted to publicise on the date of issue. This is a record of military history. The target is the general public, those who come into contact with the stamp, as the sender or recipient of mail, those handling the mail and the collector of postage stamps.

When World War I started, the New Zealand Post Office over-printed a number of ½d stamps bearing a picture of King George V with the words 'War Stamp' either to get support for or to raise money to pay some of the costs of fighting the war. A number of other countries have had similar issues.



1915 : King George V  
War stamp. Cat K14



1920 : Victory issue set  
of seven stamps.  
Cat S9-S15



1936 : ANZAC. The landing on the  
Gallipoli Peninsular, 25 April 1915  
of the Australian and New Zealand  
Army Corps. Cat S19a and S19b



1946 : Peace issue. Cat S39-S49. Includes:  
3d : RNZAF badge and airplanes.  
4d : New Zealand Army badge and a North Africa  
scene and a home farm.

5d : Navy badge and HMNZS Achilles and Merchant Vessel Dominion Monarch.  
Achilles was one of three naval vessels who fought the Battle of the River Plate  
which culminated in the sinking of the pocket battleship Graf Spee. HMNZS  
Achilles is also shown on commemorative stamps of 1985



1958 : 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Tasman  
Flight. Cat S75.

Captain Charles Kingsford Smith MC, AFC  
(1897-1935), the World War I air-ace who  
continued his exploits after the war.  
Joint issue with Australia.



1965 : *The 50th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing* showing ANZAC Cove. The 5d stamp includes a *Flanders poppy* additionally honouring New Zealand participation on the Western Front. Cat S94-S95



1965 : *Death of Sir Winston Churchill*. Campbell Paterson catalogue # S97. Joint issue with Australia



1968 : *Armed Services*. The 23rd anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. The images reflect NZ participation in the wars of the 20th century. Cat S109-S111



1984 : *New Zealand Army history*. Cat S313-S316.

24c : *South Africa 1901, Boer War*. The image represents a column of Mounted Rifles in the Transvaal. Interestingly preference was given to volunteers who could provide their own horse and equipment

40c : *France 1917, The 'Great War'* (WWI 1914-1918). In two and a half years the fighting on the Western Front cost NZ 13,250 men who died of their wounds and 35,000 wounded.

58c : *North Africa 1942*, (WWII 1939-1945). Under the command of Major-General Freyberg VC the 2nd NZ Expeditionary Force fought in North Africa, (see also the 1990 celebration of General Freyberg). The tank shown is the US (General Stuart) Light Tank M3.

70c : *Korea and South East Asia 1950-1972*, celebrates New Zealand contributions to the wars in Korea, Malaya, Malaysia and Vietnam. The gun shown is a 25 pounder



1985 : *Royal New Zealand Navy*. Cat S326-S329.

25c : *HMNZS Philomel* was involved in action at the Cape (1892), Zanzibar (1896), West Africa (1897) and South Africa 1900-1901 as a Royal Navy vessel. In 1914 she became a RNZ Navy ship and was part of the force that captured Western Samoa.

45c : *HMNZS Achilles* had previously been shown on the 1946 *Peace issue*.

60c : *HMNZS Rotoiti* served in the Korea campaign.

75c : *HMNZS Canterbury* participated in the 1982 Falkland Islands War



1987 : *50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal New Zealand Air Force*. Cat S357-S360.

40c : Avro 626, first delivered to the Air Force in 1935 and withdrawn in 1943.

70c : The American designed P40 Kittyhawk in service 1942-1944.

80c : The Short Brothers Sunderland flying boat in use from 1945 to 1967.

85c : McDonnell Douglas Skyhawk was first delivered to RNZAF in 1956.



1990 : *The Achievers*, one stamp from set of 6 *Lieutenant-General Bernard Freyberg, 1st Baron Freyberg VC, GCMG, KCB, KBE, DSO and three bars (1889-1963), seventh Governor-General of New Zealand*. Cat SH29.

The tank shown is the US (General Grant) Medium Tank M3



1995 : *Famous New Zealanders*, one stamp from the set of six. *Captain Charles Upham, VC and bar (1908-1994)*. Cat S519.

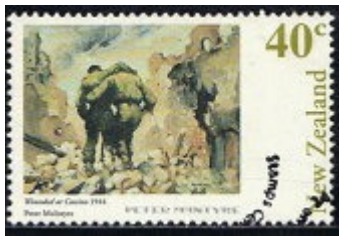
Captain Upham has also been honoured with stamp issues in 2008 and 2011.



1998 : *Memorial statues* – joint issue with Turkey, set of two stamps. Cat S606-S607.

40c : *'With great respect to the Mehmetçik'*, Gallipoli.

\$1.20 : *National War Memorial*, Wellington



1998 : *New Zealand Art*.  
 The work of Peter McIntyre OBE (1910-1995),  
 New Zealand's official war artist during World  
 War II. One from a set of four works.  
 40c : 'Wounded at Cassino' 1944. Cat S622



2003 : *Armed Forces uniforms* – first 10 from the set of 20. Cat S823 - S832.

Top line / left to right :

Forest Ranger 1860's. Napier Naval Artillery 1890's. Mounted Rifles, South Africa 1900-1910. Amuri Mounted Rifles 1900-1910. Petty Officer 1914-1918.

Second line / left to right :

Infantry, France 1916-1918. Staff Officer, France 1918. Engineer 1939-1945. Matron, RNZN hospital 1940's. WAAC, Egypt 1942



Previous page:

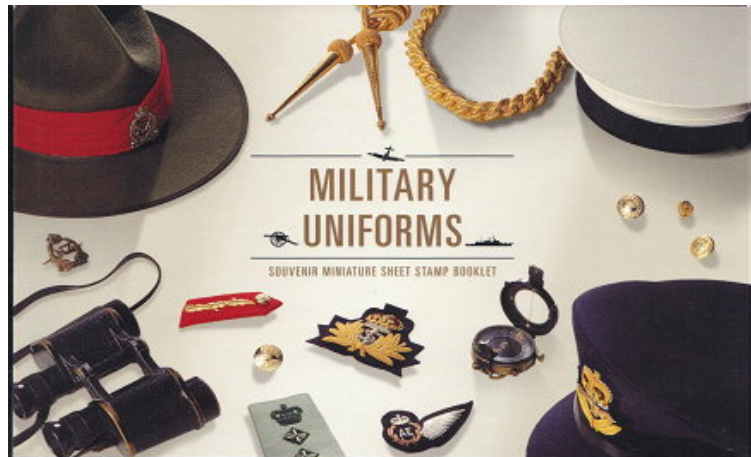
2003 : *Armed Forces uniforms* – second 10 from the set of 20. Cat S833 - S842.  
Top line / left to right :  
*Bomber pilot, Europe – 1940's. Fighter pilot, Pacific – 1943. WAAF driver – 1943. Gunner, Korea – 1950-1953. Petty Officer – 1950's.*  
Second line / left to right :  
*SAS, Malaysia – 1955-1957. Canberra pilot – 1960. Infantry, Vietnam – 1960's. UN Peacekeeper, East Timor – 2000. Peace Monitor, Bougainville – 2001.*



2003 : *Armed Forces uniforms – Mounted rifles, South Africa – 2 x enlarged detail.*  
Cat S825.

For all twenty stamps the uniform image is shown on the front, and on the back of the stamp a description of the uniform and the additional artifacts. Far be it for me to say but I do find these designs fussy as they perhaps include too much detail?

The cover of the souvenir miniature sheet booklet that included all of the military uniforms with additional information. As these booklets were sold over the post office counter for more than the face value of the stamps it has not been accorded a catalogue number



2005 : Miniature sheet printed for the *Pacific Explorer 2005 World Stamp Expo*, held in Sydney, containing two stamps, examples from the *150 Years of New Zealand Stamps (Series I and Series II.*  
Cat S940 and S 945).

Note also that the sheet records the celebration of the *90th anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings* to explain the background image, and shows the NZ flag.



2005 : The 9d value stamp from the *Peace* issue of 1946 and the 5d ANZAC Cove stamp of 1965 are reproduced on another stamp in the sets of five *150 Years of New Zealand Stamps Series II and Series III* respectively. Cat S944 and S948.

Interestingly both these stamps are included in a subsequent issue of the New Zealand Post '*Best of 2005*' reprinting



2006 : The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hawke's Bay earthquake of 1931.

The event was remembered through the issue of 20 photographs of the day. The *HMS Veronica* of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy had just tied up in Napier's inner harbour, in Port Ahuriri, when the earthquake hit. Captain Morgan at first thought there had been an explosion on board, but then saw the wharf twisting, and beyond it houses and other buildings crumpling to the ground. Attempts to rescue the trapped and injured began almost at once. The local people were helped by sailors from the *HMS Veronica*. Images of the ship and the rescue efforts of the sailors are recorded. A further image shows a soldier inspecting the devastation. Cat S986, S987 and S990. The set of stamps was also issued in a souvenir miniature sheet booklet



A miniature sheet of stamps and prestige booklet was also issued celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> anniv. of the end of WW1. Stamp pages include the original photograph of the scene minus the 'poppy' plus a page containing all six stamps. \$2.50 Vietnam commem. stamp was also included in a subsequent issue of New Zealand Post '*Best of 2008*' reprinting.

2008 : *ANZAC I – stories of nationhood.*

Each stamp of the set of six includes the red image of a Flanders poppy and the words '*lest we forget*' the 30,000 New Zealanders who lost their lives in world wars.

Cat S1068-S1073.

50c : Dawn parade, 2007

50c : New Zealand soldiers landing at Gallipoli, 25 April 1915

\$1.00 : New Zealand soldiers at the Western Front, 1916-1918

\$1.50 : Chalk Kiwi, Sling Camp, England, 1919

\$2.00 : Maori Battalion performing the haka, Egypt, 1941

\$2.50 : New Zealand soldiers in Vietnam, 1965-1971





The cover of the souvenir miniature sheet (prestige) booklet containing the original photographs used as the stamp image



2008 : "U" is for Upham  
 Captain Charles Upham, VC and bar  
 (1908-1994) from the 26 stamp issue  
 entitled the *A to Z of New Zealand*.  
 Cat 1105a

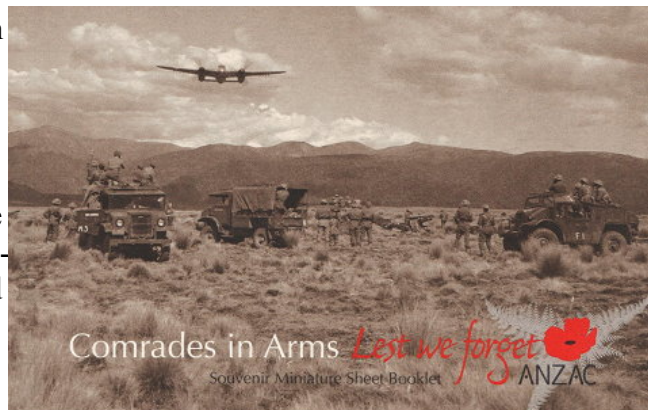


2009 : *ANZAC II – comrades in arms.*

Each stamp of the set of six again includes the red image of a Flanders poppy and a greater emphasis upon the words 'lest we forget' than the first series.  
 Cat S1137-S1142.

- 50c : Funeral procession of the Unknown Warrior, 2004
- 50c : New Zealand (Maori) Pioneer Battalion WWI
- \$1.00 : No. 75 (NZ) Squadron RAF WWII
- \$1.50 : HMS Achilles WWII
- \$2.00 : Kayforce, Korea
- \$2.50 : ANZAC Battalion, Vietnam

The cover of the souvenir miniature sheet (prestige) booklet containing complementary photographs to those used as the stamp image.





- 2009 : *ANZAC III – remembrance*. Each stamp of the set of six again includes the red image of a Flanders poppy and the title of the set ‘remembrance’. Cat S1190-S1195.
- 50c : ANZAC Day
  - 50c : Gallipoli veterans marching ANZAC Day 1958
  - \$1.00 : Posthumous VC award ceremony for Te Moana-Nui-A-Kiwa, Ngarima, 1943
  - \$1.50 : Nurses lay a wreath in Cairo Cemetery ANZAC Day 1940
  - \$2.30 : ANZAC War Memorial, Port Said, Egypt 1932
  - \$2.80 : Sangro War Cemetery, Italy 2004



Cover of the souvenir miniature sheet (prestige) booklet containing the original photographs used as the stamp image.

NZ Post have used the 1915 King George V *WAR STAMP* and three of the 2009 *remembrance* stamps, a London Bridge back-drop to induce buyers of this miniature sheet at the London 2010 International Stamp Exhibition





The miniature sheet of 26 stamps *Victoria Cross - The New Zealand Story*.

WNS cat NZ018-039.11.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> NZ recipient, Bill Henry Apiata, awarded the VC in 2004 for valour in Afganistan chose not to have his image on a stamp. He is represented by the picture of his medal.



2011 : *Victoria Cross - The New Zealand Story - John Gildroy Grant*.

One of the set of 22.

WNS catalogue # NZ030.11.



Illustration from the NZ Post book *Victoria Cross : The New Zealand story*. This 108 page book provides a wealth of information about the NZ VC holder and the circumstances of the award.

The 21 holders' portraits are included, which are fiscally valid for use, as miniature sheets such as this shown. Each includes a summary of the VC citation.

## Conclusion

In the title I suggested that NZ Post had used postage stamps to develop the ANZAC tradition. But has it? The actual acronym ANZAC has not been over-used. The word ANZAC is used on the 1936 set of two and ANZAC Cove in 1965 and 2005. But it has been as late as 2008 and 2009 when the three series of ANZAC commemoratives use this as the main theme. The NZ Post emphasis has been on military history rather than ANZAC. But looking through the stamps in chronological order, as I have done, what is obvious is the refinement of design and the background research behind every issue which NZ post publish in their Annual Yearbooks, and in the case of the VC issue publish a book to enhance the story.

Is the establishment in this case providing a mirror of the world or offering a path to their public for further research? \*\*

# NEW ISSUES

The stamps below are reproduced with the kind assistance of Harry Allan,  
P O Box 5, Poole, Dorset, BH12 9GF



# JAPANESE ECHO CARDS AND OTHERS

*Jean Alexander introduces an attractive source of thematic material*

## Introduction

This article is a brief introduction to the Japanese pictorial postal cards and is written to stimulate thematic collectors to correct and extend their listing and information or just to include a few of the cards in their theme.

## ECHO Postal Cards

The name “ECHO” is derived from the Japanese for picture : “EH”, and “KO” from the first part of the word “KO-KUKO” which means advertisement. The name was chosen in a competition by the Japanese Ministry of Posts & Telecommunications for the first issue in June 1981. The idea of ECHO meaning the advertisement echoes around spreading the message.

The postcards sold by the Japanese Post Office contained a commercial advertisement at the bottom and sold for 5 yen less than the nominal postcard cost of 40 yen. The cost to the advertiser was 9 yen giving the Post Office a profit of 4 yen towards the postal costs. Initially it was thought the cards would be of little interest and did not allow in production for the vast interest shown by the philatelic collectors. In some cases the cards were issued nationally in numbers of several million up to 10 million for each advert. In other cases they were issued in Prefectures (1) in numbers of only a fraction of a million.

In 1983 a new innovation was the addition of writing lines on about 1/3 of the issue.



Specially imprinted stamps used on Echo cards



Fig 2 Waterfalls shown on an ECHO card

Waterfalls shown on Echo cards

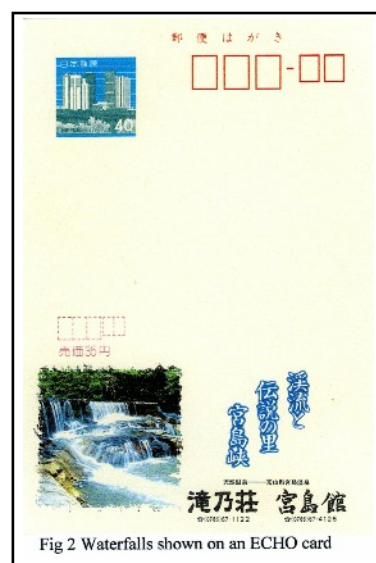


Fig 2 Waterfalls shown on an ECHO card

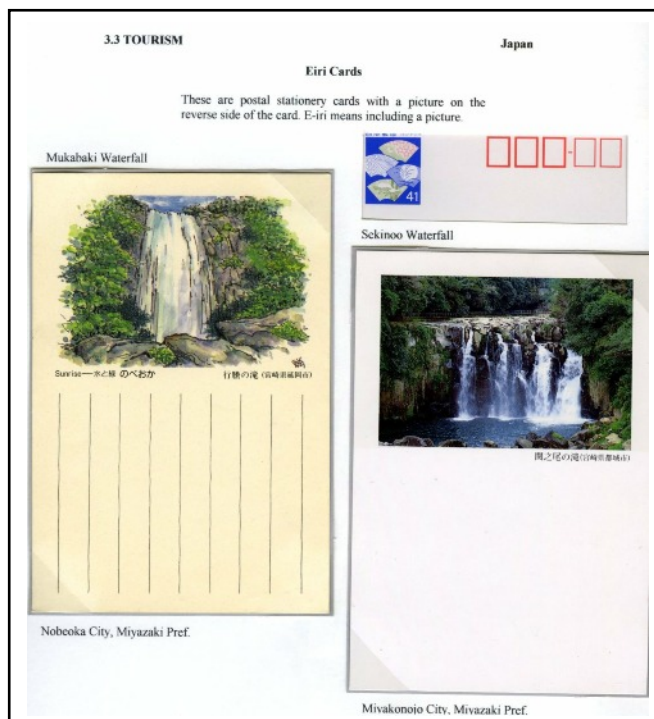
## E-iri Cards

These are postal stationery cards with a picture on the reverse side, named from E-iri meaning picture. Like the ECHO cards some of the cards had writing lines on the picture side as shown.



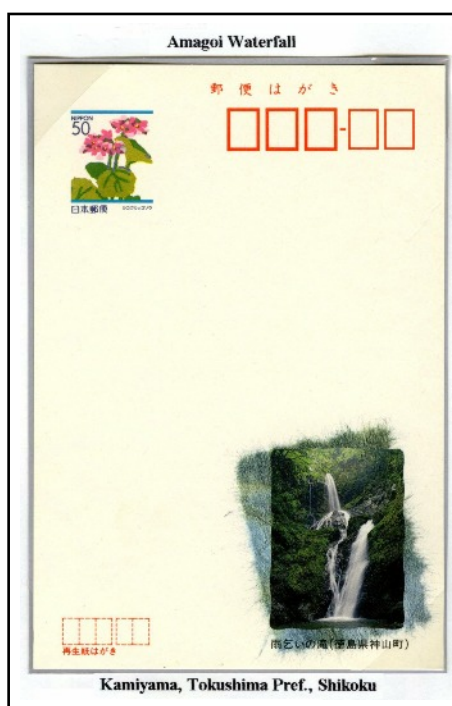
Imprint stamps on E-iri cards

Waterfalls on E-iri cards, with or without lines



## Furusato Cards

These are postal stationery cards with an official local design at the foot of the cards. Furusato means "Hometown" in Japanese (2)

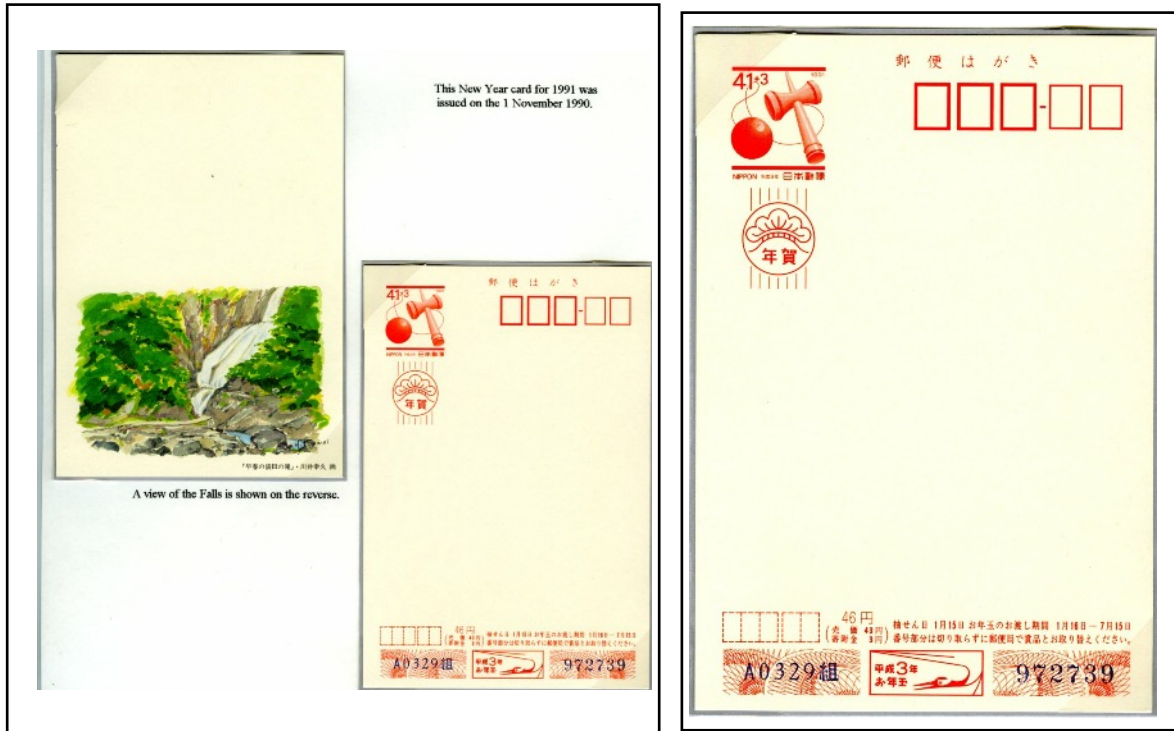


Imprint stamps and Furusato card



## New Year Cards

The New Year Greetings cards were first issued in 1949. After the success of the ECHO cards in 1981 it was suggested pictorial advertising could also be added to some of the New Year Greetings cards. To the best of my knowledge this never happened but at a later stage a picture was added to the reverse side of the card.



New Year greeting card with enlargement of reverse

Other Japanese cards issued are in the following series -  
Summer Cards; Blue Bird Cards; Heart Mail and Season's Greetings Postal Cards.

For further information on the cards and other series the catalogue *Sakura Catalog of Japanese Stamps* (3) is useful but it is in Japanese. \*\*

## References

1. Bozarth, T. W. *United Postal Stationery Society Journal* No. 210, Vol 23 (5) 1981.
2. <http://www.pagowirenl.com/stamps/inf-furusato1.asp>
3. Japan Philatelic Society Foundation *Catalog of Japanese Stamps*, Pub: Mejiro, Tokyo

# BTA WEEKEND AT OXFORD

## 5 - 7 October 2012

The weekend kicked off most sociably with Pimms served at our first get-together and members' displays. After an excellent dinner, Past Chairman Richard Wheeler really got everyone in the mood to enjoy themselves with his display "Evolution of Puppetry". In only 60 sheets he couldn't do justice to his full story, but he showed parts from each section: When man first walked the earth, The art of the puppet, Eastern heritage, Middle Ages onwards, New trends and styles, Puppetry to the present day. Puppetry is an ancient form of theatre from the earliest days of pre-history. Did you know that when you put a mask on your face and act, you are "losing face"?

To see more details of the story look at Richard's article in *Themescene* June 2010. It was a wonderful display, but I suspect for most of us it will be remembered for the conjuring tricks and delightful puppets which he introduced at various points in the story. Richard got hooked on puppets as a young child; his father made him a puppet theatre and he soon started performing, adding card tricks and conjuring tricks to his repertoire, both of which he entertained us with during his talk. By now it was obvious to everyone that we were seeing a professional at work. Among his television work was as a puppeteer on *Telegoons* (see [www.telegoons.org](http://www.telegoons.org)) and he showed us a ghost rod puppet from the show. He also introduced us to Mr. Punch, a Belgian puppet 200 years old, a Jumping Jack and a Wayang puppet from Indonesia.

Many specialist stamp societies have weekends away, but I bet none of them are as entertaining as our first speaker.



Saturday morning all delegates were up bright and early to assemble ready for Ron Backhouse's display based on his award winning exhibit, "Anyone for Tennis". From the beginning everyone was aware that they would be in for a treat, especially with Ron's very entertaining and humorous style of presentation – he did not disappoint.

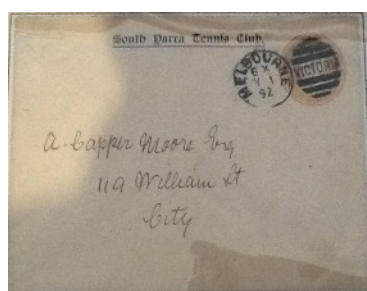


Ron began talking about the origins of tennis, devised by monks in the 1300's. Subsequently it was taken up by the nobility and eventually moved out of doors on to lawn and the name "Lawn Tennis" was adopted. Ron then explained the game as it is today and how, notwithstanding some adjustments, it differs very little from the game of earlier times. The origins of the scoring system are actually a mystery, although it is generally thought that it is based on the quarter hours of a clock.

As tennis grew in popularity philatelic interest began to be stimulated. The first slogan cancellation to relate directly to tennis appeared in Canada in 1926. Although the first tennis stamp was only issued in 1934, advertising in stamp booklets for tennis or tennis-related products or services began earlier in 1914. In 1925, the first pictorial postmark which specifically mentioned tennis was used. Ron's example shows it cancelling a set of eight Hungarian charity stamps issued in aid of the Hungarian Sports Association..



Ron spoke about one aspect of tennis that has changed radically – court attire. The trend for years up to the present day has been to combine fashion with practicality. Original attire, of ladies in dresses and suits for gentlemen, has given way to special footwear, shorts or sports skirts and polo shirts. Ron showed a ration card for footwear, a rare item and indicative of the problems tennis players faced during WW2.



The increasing popularity of the game led to clubs, tournaments and regulatory bodies being established. Material from the best known tennis organisations, such as the Lawn Tennis Association and the All England Club Wimbledon, the most famous Grand Slam tournament anywhere in the world, was illustrated. He also showed a lovely privately produced stationery envelope, issued by the South Yarra Tennis Club, Melbourne which was formed in 1884 and by 1938 had grown and was given the prefix "Royal". Ron explained that although it was a private stationery envelope, the Australian Post Office applied an embossed stamp, thus making the envelope official and valid for postal use.

The final section concerned how tennis has become big business. Sponsorship deals, product placement agreements, advertising fees, player's fees etc all add up to a worldwide business worth hundreds of millions of pounds. Ron reflected on whether the early tennis players would have imagined the money that today's top players and stars can earn!



Early afternoon offered a choice of sightseeing or delving into thematic dealer 'Thames Themes' stock. It was a beautiful warm afternoon, and some took the opportunity to stroll into Oxford along the Thames towpath from the hotel. Others determinedly hunted for bargains (see left). We all reconvened at 1800 for a glass of champagne and a Question and Answer session. After dinner our brains were taxed by a devilish non-philatelic "guess the phrase" quiz, based on pictures on stamps, followed by a raffle offering some excellent

prizes. Finally that evening the bar became the destination of choice, with some staying there later than others!

Sunday saw two quite serious displays. Grace Davies started the morning with “Pages From Peace”. Like many people, her interest in the subject – coming from a pacifist family – pre-dated her collection. The collection started almost by accident when she started helping her son establish a stamp collection, but she soon realised what a varied subject could be made from ‘Peace’. The end of war was covered from early material relating to the Boer War; and the Peace Movement was traced from The Treaty of Versailles, through the League of Nations to the United Nations. Other aspects included the Peace Rose, symbols of peace such as the dove and olive branch, and ‘peace’ place names such as La Paz, Pax, and Tiananmen Square: Gate of Heavenly Peace.



The display ended with the Nobel Peace Prize, which like her Peace Rose has expanded into a full collection of its own. We all know Alfred Nobel made money from armaments, but did you know most of his wealth came from patents? Like all really keen collectors Grace does her research, and her final item was a personal letter written to her by John Hume, joint winner with David Trimble of the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict in Northern Ireland.

After coffee Peter Weir showed “Liquid of Life – Blood, from an ancient myth to a modern medicine”. Another speaker with a professional interest in the subject, Peter’s medical knowledge helped him explore many of the scientific aspects of the blood. He showed us how the study of haematology was helped by development of the microscope, explained inventions such as the ECG, the discovery and importance of DNA, the treatments for heart disease, and major diseases of the blood such as AIDS, Anaemia, and haemophilia. His observation that war makes for medical advances was illustrated by the development of blood transfusion services following World War I, with donor centres set up in the 1920s, further work during the Spanish Civil War, and the Army Blood Supply Depot set up in 1939. This was a serious display, but enlivened by some very clever philatelic ploys to illustrate his theme, including graphite lines on the backs of stamps to illustrate early heart valves made of graphite, and Penny Black positional letters to illustrate the structure of DNA. And after such a convivial weekend we were all gratified to be told that red wine is beneficial to the heart.



Invited displays are only ever part of a meeting, and most people who attended were happy to bring along one-frame displays of their own material. Over three days we saw

Jean Alexander	Echo cards featuring waterfalls
Jean Alexander	Supermarket philately
Jean Alexander	The bombers will get through
Crawford Alexander	Flying Boats
Crawford Alexander	Argentine Navy
Ron Backhouse	Anyone for more tennis
Mike Blackman	Umbrellas
Wendy Buckle	Gutenberg
Wendy Buckle	Writing materials
Jim Etherington	Recent acquisitions on "1940: a desperate year for Britain"
Jim Etherington	Italy enters the war
John Hayward	Delivery of mail by motor cycle
Lesley Marley	Japanese Echo cards
Simon Moorcroft	Churchill
Charles Oppenheim	Chess
Charles Oppenheim	Patents
Ian Reed	Music
Barry Stagg	All the way up and all the way down: parachuting
Anne Stammers	The geology of precious minerals
Anne Stammers	A child's guide to nature
Richard Wheeler	Art of puppetry on postcards
Gregory Wynn	Esperanto

*[Many apologies if your display is not listed. I seem to be missing some of my notes. Editor].*



The weekend finished with a quick round-up of participants' views on how it had all gone. Very, very successful was the verdict. So watch this space for the dates of the next one, and try and come if you can - you will enjoy it. \*\*

# BTA NEWS

## **BTA MEETING 20th APRIL 2013**

There will be an all-day meeting at the Royal Philatelic Society London on 20th April. It will feature a guest speaker, members' displays and bring and buy. Watch the web site for further details.

## **FOSBERY TROPHY AND BTA CUP**

The British Thematic Association is taking back under its wing the running of the Fosbery Trophy on the winding up of the Friends of Thematica. This is the annual Trophy, founded by the late John Fosbery almost 20 years ago, awarded for an Open Philately exhibit of 16 pages with no competitive rules and judged by the Public. The entries will be shown at the Sussex Federation's Autumn Convention at Ardingly, West Sussex, on 12 October 2013. The BTA Cup (32 sheets judged to national level) will also be competed for. Application forms for both will be issued with next year's *Themescene*.

### **CHRISTIAN WAPLER: 55<sup>TH</sup> AUCTION FOR THEMATIC PHILATELY, TOPICS, HISTORY & POSTAL HISTORY, DEC. 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2013**

My next regular auction is my 55<sup>th</sup> thematic & postal history sale in December 2013. I offer over 5000 single lots, mainly covers, postmarks, postal stationary and historical documents of high quality and superb variety. The catalogue index lists over 500 different branches and sections. Among many others you will find the following sections: A large airmail section (over 35 detailed sub-sections like air-pioneers, catapult mail, first flights of all kind, balloon, glider, Zeppelin mail & Zeppelin memorabilia, air fieldpost of WWI and WWII and many others), art & artist (incl. comics, famous painters etc.) automobile & traffic (over 35 sections from auto-pioneers to accident prevention), archaeology (pre-history to Romans, about 8 sections), astronomy, Christian topics (from popes, saints & passion plays, Bible, Christian festivals to Martin Luther.), European & German history (all together over 50 sub-sections), fire & fire brigades, photo, film & cinema, geography incl. Columbus, Humboldt, seafarer, discoverer etc., porcelain, children & school (incl. toys, teddys, geology & mining (gold, silver, minerals), Judaica, railways (incl. subway, tram, rail jubilees, special runs, mountain rails etc.), bicycle, mathematic & computers, music (over 25 sub-sections including composers, festivals, instruments, dance, opera & musical etc. The catalogue contains all abbreviations in English, French and German. About 90% of the offered material is illustrated on my photoplates. You can order the printed catalogue against a fee of 15.- € (Europe) or 20.- € (overseas). Some days after my printed catalogues is edited you will find the complete catalogue online under: [www.wapler-katalog.de](http://www.wapler-katalog.de)

All additional information, dates and samples you will find on my website under: [www.wapler-themaphil.de](http://www.wapler-themaphil.de)

**Christian Wapler, Postfach 30 37 69, D - 10 726 Berlin (Germany)**

## BTA MEETING AT PERTH 20 10 2012

Eleven members attended the meeting, and all except one displayed, producing a varied and entertaining morning. Maureen Mathieson collects “Nifty Needles” and showed the Bayeux Tapestry (actually an embroidery, not a tapestry): the story of the Norman invasion of England told from the French perspective. Commissioned by Bishop Odo it is nearly 70 metres long by half a metre wide, plus a 7 metre piece which is lost. A replica, now in Reading Museum, was produced in Scotland in 1885-1886.

Bill McKinley, a member of the Cloud Appreciation Society, gave a delightful display on the beauty of clouds. Rather charmingly, they are classified into large, medium and small, so no technical language to cope with. This was a lovely way to appreciate the whole of a stamp design featuring a view, and not just the central feature.

Ian Hamilton’s cleverly titled “A Handful of Cinders” showed a whole range of cinderella material connected to the railway, including promotional and patriotic labels, wartime services, and items illustrating railway terms.

Norman Hudson shared one aspect of his various topical collections on Czechoslovakia: the Tatra Mountains. The High Tatras have 30 mountains over 8,000km with stunning scenery including lakes and waterfalls. Wildlife includes the chamois. Such striking imagery has led to many firms adopting the name “Tatra” as a trade name.

Stanley Brown is an indefatigable promoter of Scottish philately, and he and Ken Norris have produced many booklets on geographic and thematic aspects of the country, illustrating relevant stamps, postmarks, meters and publicity material. Stanley showed pages from a few of these, including Aberdeen, Dunoon, The Borders, and Christianity in Scotland.

Margaret Armstrong, a collector of ‘Flowers’ showed these from one rather unexpected source. Every year since 1973 (including 2012, despite the awful political situation) Tishreen Park in Damascus has hosted an Internal Flower Show. 70 countries, largely from Europe and Asia (but not the UK) attend. This is commemorated by an annual stamp issue of very attractive (if not always botanically precise) stamps.

Malcolm Hawkins kindly brought along several of his subjects, but unfortunately there was only time to display one of them, on Trolley Buses. He showed stamps from various countries around the world, and he has travelled round the UK photographing what remains of the trolley bus services. Each page was illustrated by a precise hand drawing of a trolley bus.

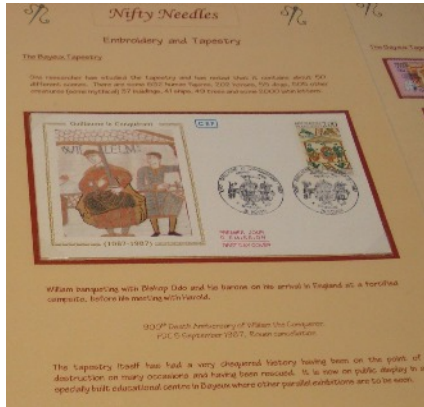
Margaret Morris joined the meeting hot-foot from the judges debriefing, and found time to show us four pages featuring the GB 1990 Astronomy issue. Each stamp was enlarged and broken down into its component parts, a very effective way of drawing attention to the amount of detail in each design.



BTA Committee members Wendy Buckle and Anne Stammers finished the displays. Anne showed the geology section of her “Rocks to Riches” collection, and Wendy showed the origins of papermaking. Stanley Brown proposed a vote of thanks to Anne and Wendy for making the trip north. \*\*

# PICTURES FROM PERTH

*(Apologies that lack of space means not all displays are featured here)*

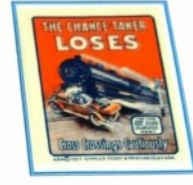


Bayeaux Tapestry

United States of America



Careful crossing campaigns

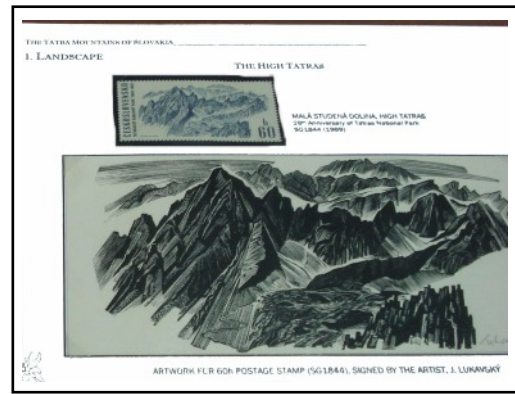


June 1st - Sept. 30th 1927  
American Railway Association

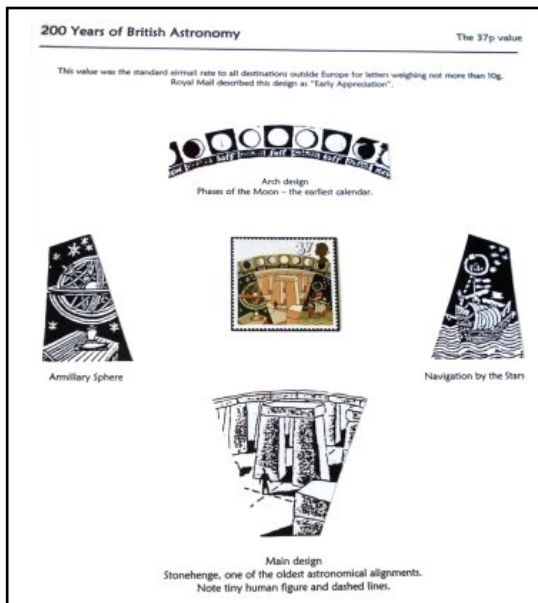
A handful of cinders



Postage stamps of Edinburgh



Tatra Mountains



Damascus International Flower Show

British Astronomy



# NEW BTA PUBLICATION

## Introduction to Thematic Collecting

Written by: Margaret Morris

Published by: British Thematic Association

This 32 page CD-ROM covers the essentials of thematic collecting.

Chapter headings are:

Introduction  
What is Thematic Collecting?  
Choosing the Theme  
Assembling the Material  
Assembling the Information  
Getting it all Together  
Displays and Competitions  
Some Final Thoughts  
Suggested Further Reading  
Contact Addresses  
And Lastly – Meet the Experts!



It is written for the collector rather than the exhibitor, and does not require any prior thematic knowledge from the reader.

If you are thinking about starting a thematic collection, or have an existing collection which you want to develop, this will give you ideas and guidance.

### Format

pdf format on a CD-ROM, size 5,400 KB

### Distribution

Available from:

Mrs W. Buckle, 87 Victoria Road, Bournemouth, BH1 4RS, UK

Email: [wendybuckle@btinternet.com](mailto:wendybuckle@btinternet.com)

Price inc. postage and packing: UK £2.50; Europe £3.50 (€4.50)

Rest of the World £4.50 (\$7.00)

Payable by:

Cheques drawn on a UK bank, made payable to British Thematic Association;

or via PayPal at the above email;

or via Bank Transfer: please contact Wendy Buckle for details.

Hard copy. If UK buyers would prefer a printed copy please send a cheque for £4.00 to Wendy Buckle.

# HERE AND THERE

## DISPLAY AT ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY 23 MARCH 2013

BTA member Jean Alexander will be displaying Pictorial Postal Stationery of the World as depicted by items showing waterfalls to RPSL on 23 March at 1100am.

This covers all types of postal stationery from the normal postcards & envelopes to reply paid postcards, registered envelopes, letter sheets & letter cards, and telegraph forms. It also shows the main era of postal stationery to be the late 19th and early 20th century, but this is beginning to be overtaken at times by the more recent issues.

Any BTA members who would like to come would be most welcome.

## YOUNGSTERS WENT WILD

Lots of keen and enthusiastic youngsters came along to Prestwick in Scotland last month to the Stamp and Postcard Festival for a free 'Amazing Asia' workshop. Sandie Robb, from the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (who owns Edinburgh Zoo) led the junior workshop, and brought along skulls, skins and teeth from different Asian animals for the children to handle and identify. She explained how to identify animal skulls by looking at the type of teeth - meat eaters have sharp canines and slicing molars at the back; plant eaters have no canines and grinding molars; snakes have flexible jaws; and she also had available a whale vertebrae the circumference of a side plate, and the skull of a panda skull who is a carnivore who has chosen to eat bamboo. Sandie was extremely thorough and she spent a great deal of time with each child. And although the workshops were intended for children, she was listened to most attentively by youngsters and adults alike.

After handling the skulls and teeth, the children got a chance to find animal stamps and mount them onto labels to make into a stamp scrap book, and then assemble a cut-out panda motif to decorate it. Younger children got the chance to choose cut-out card animal shapes and find a wildlife stamp to match the shape. There was a tombola and displays of junior stamp collections, and the leaders ensured that every youngster went home with a goodie bag prize of interesting stamps, postcards and stickers, to encourage them to continue with their new interest.



A large effort had been put into the publicity of the junior event in local media and schools by members of the Ayrshire Philatelic Society, and this paid off tremendously, with over 50 children attending (significant increase on last year's two!), along with their parents, most of whom had never been to a Stamp and Postcard event before. One girl and her mother stayed for over four hours! A good time was had by all. ✨



# GROUP NEWS

## ASTRO SPACE STAMP SOCIETY



Free public access to all copies of the Astro Space Stamp Society's journal *Orbit* since 1988 is available on the society's website. This includes around 3,500 pages of astrophilatelic articles.

Currently, issues #1-7 (1988-90) and #72-94 (2007- 12) are available as PDF downloads with most illustrations in full colour along with a comprehensive searchable index. Within the next few months all past copies will be added to the website. The most recent issues will only be available

digitally to members.

Members will continue to receive *Orbit* in paper format.

For full details of how to join and how to access the downloads see the Society website [www.astrospacestampssociety.com](http://www.astrospacestampssociety.com)

## GUILD OF ST. GABRIEL



Members' meetings

16 February 2013    Palestinian Authority    Rev. David Hague

16 March 2013    Annual General Meeting

There will also be Guild meetings on 20th April, 18th May and 15th June 2013

*Themescene* is always pleased to publish news from Group members. Just email a few lines to the Editor

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

April 20th 2013

Members' Meeting

Royal Philatelic Society, London

Put the date in your diaries now!

# EXHIBITING PAGES

## COMPETITION ENTRIES PERTH 2012

The Pictorial Classes at Perth provided some attractive and entertaining displays. All the thematic frames (15) were sponsored by the Glasgow Thematic Society. ABPS proposed a Scandinavian theme to the exhibition, giving several topics not often seen in the UK.

All of these entries were interesting to read, shining a light on subjects about which I knew little or nothing. However two of them have to get 'mentioned in dispatches' for their use of humour in telling the story. *A good walk spoiled* told the history of golf by giving each page heading a quotation: enthusiastic, critical or despairing, golfers seem to suffer more than most sportsmen. *Viking Time* created a spoof newspaper reporting on the daily life of the Vikings. Domestic news covered rock graffiti and grave robbery, International news reported breathlessly on new discoveries in America. Business pages covered shipbuilding and commerce. And like any good broadsheet we had Religion, Culture, Sports and Vacation pages. Brilliant. Both of these deservedly won Large Gold. Full results can be found at <http://perth2012.homestead.com/PerthPalmares.pdf>

## THEMATIC

David Hogarth

Philatelically climbing Mount Everest

From the first British expedition of 1924 to the almost tourist trips of today

Tore Lindberg

Wind and Water Mills

The different types of mills, how they work, what they produce, and their place in art and literature

Torgny Svensson

Bears and those who believe themselves to be bears

Real bears – the ursidae – include polar, black, brown and giant panda. "Half bears" – the procyonidae – include raccoon and coati. Koalas aren't bears at all. And don't forget Rupert, Winnie the Pooh, and Paddington.

David Stirrups

Cartophilatelic Propaganda

Maps on stamps have often been used for propaganda, to make claims about disputes territories or borders. There are many historical examples, such as the Greater German Reich, plus those currently in the news including Greek and Turkish Cyprus, the Falkland Islands, and Palestine.

Barry Stagg

Arrows through time

From ancient hunting to modern Olympic sport, showing the materials used, types of bows and arrows, how and where to shoot and military archery.

Brian Dow

The Hurtigruten in the 21st century

The Norwegian Coastal Express, which ran a daily service between Bergen and Kirkenes.

## OPEN

Alan Totten                      Stav Churches  
Norwegian wooden churches, of which only 28 remain

Alex Walker                      The Schleswig-Holstein Question  
This notoriously complicated issue, covering the dispute from 1840 to 1920, was explained by use of stamps, covers, military medals and newspapers.

Alan Godfrey                      Angel delight  
A study of the 1988 GB Christmas issue, showing stamps, PHQ cards, Post Office grille posters, booklets, aerogrammes and more.

David Hogarth                      Spanish Refugee Mail in France 1939 - 1942  
The postal arrangements for Spanish refugees in France with examples of mail from internment camps and other locations.

Graham Winters                      A good walk spoiled  
A story of golf based around quotations.

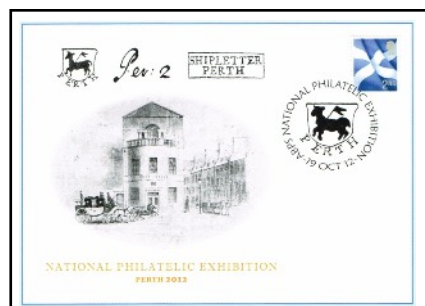
Gunnar Dahlvig                      Viking Time  
Viking life as portrayed in their daily newspaper.

Richard Beith                      The Czechoslovak Army-in-Exile in Great Britain: 1940 onwards  
The Czechoslovak (Armoured) Brigade in Britain from 1940. With covers, letters, and ephemera.

Alex Walker                      A Counterblast to Tobacco  
Trade in and revenue from tobacco, advertising, and health concerns.

Malcolm Hawkins                      Reach for the Sky  
The story of Douglas Bader

Malcolm Hawkins                      The Queen's Seedsmen  
Postal and non-postal material relating to suppliers



## POSTCARDS

Alan Totten                      Norwegian military postcards  
The three types of cards used to communicate with soldiers, reservists and units.

Allan Phil                         The German Empire at sea  
The Imperial German Navy and maritime history development from 1871 to 1919

Per Bunnstad                     Sweden and the 1920 Olympics  
Events before, during and after the Games

Patricia Adams                  The Great Fire of Aalesund, Norway, 23rd January 1904  
Views of the town before, during and after its devastating fire

Margaret Morris                 Greenland Life  
Early 20th century history of the Inuit

Barry Stagg                       The life cycle of a parachute  
From its dormant state to fully open, from floating in the air to its deflated state on the ground.



Dewar Centre

Three Alba Stamp Group members take a break while attending Perth. Left to right: Stanley Brown (Secretary), Member Bob McSherry, Stuart McKenzie (Editor Scottish Stamp News).



**THE FOURTH GENERATION OF THEMATIC PHILATELY.**  
**Talk given by Jonas Hällström at Perth 2012**

The “four generations” of thematic philately are:

1. Start of thematics in the 1920s.
2. First collections displayed in the 1950s
3. By the 1970s collections had expanded beyond just stamps.
- 3.5 First thematic exhibits to reach Gold and Large Gold at International level, by including more philatelic knowledge
4. Damien Läge's exhibit “Australian Birdlife”

Based on his own gold medal winning exhibits Jonas explained the principles to be borne in mind when putting an exhibit together. Marking:

<u>Marking</u>		<u>Relates to</u>
Treatment	35%	Concept
<i>The title must describe the content</i>		
Knowledge, Personal Study & Research	30%	Material
<i>Selection of material must be based on philatelic and thematic quality, and fully consistent with the subject chosen. It must contain the fullest range of relevant material.</i>		
Condition and Rarity	30%	Material
Presentation	5%	Approach
<i>Must be simple, tasteful and well balanced. It must add information to that provided by the material</i>		

Everything is based on material:

Stamps: the topic matters, not the age; covers/markings on covers; pictorial postmarks; machine markings; slogan markings; booklets: covers and contents; postal stationery: imprint, views and advertising; telegrams. Collecting the material and treating it according to the thematic concept is the key factor for success in thematic exhibiting.

The Plan

This must explain the title. Use headings and sub-headings and be clear how the information on the page relates to these headings.

Presentation

Requires clarity of display, text and overall aesthetic balance of exhibit. Although only awarded five points it is integral to the whole thing. Use of A3 sheets is useful for larger items and enables you to be more creative in layout. But be careful: an A3 page full of only small items looks poor.

Innovation

A new criteria introduced in 2000. Awarded five points within the ‘Treatment’ section. This can be shown by the introduction of a new theme; new aspects of an established theme; new approaches to a known theme; or new application of material.

Finally: remember – material affects everything. ✱✱



## OBITUARY: JOHN MILLER (1926 - 2012)

John's early work was as a regular soldier, finishing as a Warrant Officer, and on leaving the army he and his wife Betty bought a hotel in Morecombe; their popularity can be gauged from the number of visitors who returned year after year. When they finally decided to retire they moved to Lancaster and devoted their time to philately.

John was a founder member of the BTA, and from the start (1984) took on the printing of *Themescene*, while Betty undertook the distribution. This was a job they did jointly until 2006, and were both committee members for all this time, travelling to London for BTA committee meetings and for the summer event Thematica. In 1990 John took over as BTA Librarian, and promptly organised the collection in files and folders so that he could quickly respond to members' requests for articles. He did this job until 2002, sending a six page listing of additions to the Library for every issue of *Themescene*. In recognition of their service to the BTA John and Betty were awarded the Certificate of Life Membership in 2006. Brian Sole, Patron and then President of the BTA, went up to Lancaster to present the certificates.

However the BTA was only one part of their work for philately. John had sporting interests while still in the army, and in retirement he and Betty joined The Society of Olympic Collectors, which like the BTA was formed in 1984. And as with the BTA he took over as printer and distributor of their magazine *Torch Bearer*. Betty meanwhile became the Secretary of the SOC. Not only did they regularly travel to London for Committee meetings, on several occasions they travelled to meetings of Olympic Collectors at the Headquarters of the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne.

John had many general collecting interests and had acquired a first class G.B. collection. He started a general collection of the Olympic Games, and quickly realising that this was too wide a subject, he concentrated on the 1964 Tokyo Summer Games. This involved much hard work in translating the postmarks; subsequently he acquired what was probably the finest collection of this subject in the UK.

As well as all this John printed the magazine for the North Western Federation of Philatelic Societies, and regularly volunteered at the International Exhibitions in London. In recognition of all of this in 1999 John and Betty were jointly presented with the ABPS Award of Merit.



# JUST4KIDS

By Lise Whittle

*(Adult members - please photocopy these pages and pass them on to a youngster you know, and perhaps include some stamps to help them.*

*When you photocopy this, please enlarge each page to A4 size (enlarge to 141%).*

*Thank you*



## WALT DISNEY and MICKEY MOUSE

Did you know that Walt Disney's full name was Walter Elias Disney? He was born on 5th December 1901 and died on 15th December 1966. And here are some more interesting facts about his name - the surname 'Disney' came from his ancestor Robert d'Isigny, who in 1066 travelled from a town called Isigny-sur-Mer in Normandy in France over to England with William the Conqueror. Robert D'Isigny settled in England with his family and they changed their surname



from d'Isigny to Disney as they felt it sounded more English. The name of the village where they settled is now called Norton Disney (in Lincolnshire).

Some of Walt Disney's ancestors moved from England to Ireland, and also to America, where Walt Disney was born in Chicago, Illinois. After school, he studied art in Kansas City, and became a cartoonist. Walt was a man who was always looking for a challenge, and he and his brother Roy set up their own studio making short animated cartoon films. In 1927 he created a cartoon character called Oswald the Lucky Rabbit (you can watch it on a computer on the link below)

<http://uk.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?p=film+of+Oswald+the+Lucky+Rabbit>



Oswald wasn't as popular as Walt Disney had hoped, so in 1928 he developed a new character to replace him, which was based on his pet mouse. He created the world's favourite cartoon character, Mickey Mouse. Mickey was a cheerful and mischievous mouse. At the time, America was in a world recession known as the Great Depression, and Walt Disney's cute little Mickey Mouse character managed to cheer everyone up, he was very popular.

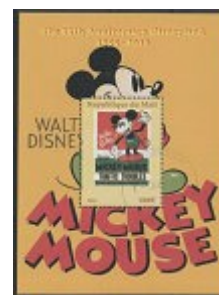
In 1928 Walt Disney made the first Mickey Mouse film with sound, which was a black and white film called 'Steamboat Willie'. The first colour Mickey Mouse film in Technicolour was 'The Band Concert' (1935) and included Donald Duck. In the film, Mickey is conducting an orchestra performing classical music called 'The William Tell Overture', but then Donald Duck appears and Donald takes out his flute and distracts the band into playing another tune called 'Turkey in the Straw', much to Mickey's annoyance (you can



watch this film too on this link) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IErXg5kBXGg>

Mickey had a girlfriend called Minnie Mouse, and gradually Walt Disney created other friends for him – Horace Horsecollar (1929), Mickey's pet dog Pluto (1930), and his friends Goofy (1932) and Donald Duck (1934). Mickey and his friends appeared in short films, then longer length feature films such as 'Mickey's Christmas Carol', and also on television. He appeared as a comic strip in a newspaper, and then had his own comic and fan club. Mickey appears on many computer games (try [www.channeldisneygames.com](http://www.channeldisneygames.com)) and a

video game called 'Epic Mickey'. Mickey is as popular today as he was when he was first created 84 years ago.

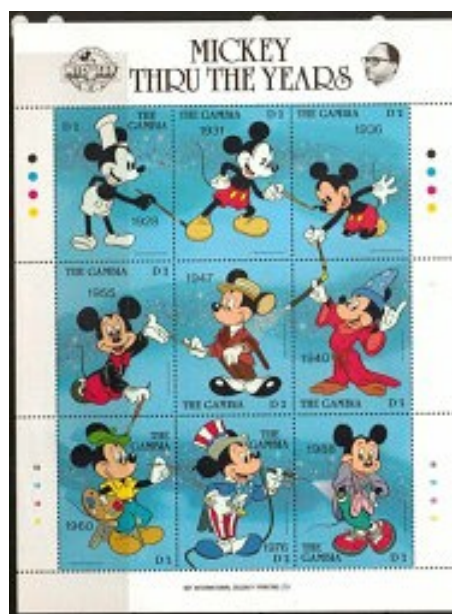


*Republic of Mali 2010, 55th Anniv. Disneyland 1955 – 2010*

Mickey is celebrated on many postage stamps all over the world. As his 85th Anniversary approaches, look out for many new Mickey Mouse stamps.



*Redonda Miniature sheet Redonda 1981*



*Gambia 1989 'Mickey Thru The Years' 60th birthday of Mickey Mouse sheet of nine stamps showing cartoons of Mickey from 1928, 1931, 1936, 1940, 1947, 1955, 1960, 1976, and 1988*



*Sierra Leone 1997 Mickey Mouse characters Christmas stamps*

**WRITE TO US;** Send your jokes, poems, drawings and letters with your name and address to; Just4Kids, c/o The Editor, Themescene, 87 Victoria Road, Bournemouth. BH1 4RS.

***A PRIZE WILL BE SENT TO EVERY JUNIOR WHO WRITES IN!***



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		<b>Churches</b>	
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3	Winchester, J.	Reims Cathedral Angelic Smile	Stamp Magazine 7/2011
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		<b>Exhibitions</b>	
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		<b>Letter boxes</b>	
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3	Ball, S.	A Victorian superstar	British Philatelic Bulletin 6/2012
6	Dugdale, J.	Russian Literature: Publish and be damned!	Stamp Magazine 7/2011
		<b>Medals and Decorations</b>	
4	Greunen, E.	Portuguese Orders	ThemNews 5 and 8/2011
		<b>Medicine</b>	
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2	Dunlop, J.	Medicinal Leeches	Meditheme 8/2011
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## BRITISH THEMATIC ASSOCIATION PROGRAMME 2013

- February 20th - 23rd      Spring Stampex  
Specialist Exhibition Cinderella and Revenue (no meeting)
- April 20th                      Members' Meeting  
Royal Philatelic Society London,  
41 Devonshire Place,  
London, WIG 6JY.  
Speaker Stuart Henderson; Members displays; Bring & Buy
- May 2nd - 4th                ECTP 2013  
European Championship for Thematic Philately.  
Essen, Germany.  
International competitions and stamp fair (no meeting)  
[www.ectp.de/home-englisch.htm](http://www.ectp.de/home-englisch.htm)
- June 8th                      BTA Annual General Meeting at Swinpex  
St Joseph's Roman Catholic College,  
Ocotal Way, Swindon, SN3 3LR.  
AGM and display by ABPS Chairman John Baron
- July 6th                      Midpex  
Warwickshire Exhibition Centre,  
The Fosse, Fosse Way, Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire, CV31 1XN.  
BTA Table (no meeting)  
<http://midpex.co.uk/>
- July 12th - 13th            Thematix 13  
King George Field Indoor Bowls Club  
Jubilee Way, Chessington,  
Surrey, KT9 1TR  
BTA Table; specialist thematic dealers (no meeting)
- September 18th - 21st    Autumn Stampex  
Business Design Centre,  
52 Upper Street,  
Islington, London, N1 0QH  
Full National Exhibition all classes (no meeting)
- October 12th                Fosbery Trophy and BTA Cup  
South of England Stamp Fair & Sussex Convention  
South of England Centre, Ardingly Showground,  
Ardingly, West Sussex, RH17 6TL.  
Competition entries (no meeting)  
[www.sussexphilately.org.uk/South\\_of\\_England\\_Stamp\\_Fair.php](http://www.sussexphilately.org.uk/South_of_England_Stamp_Fair.php)