

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON

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PRESS RELEASE

Extensive display of Tasmania

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society London were amazed at the extensive range of material from Tasmania, as perfectly exhibited by Dr Patrick Reid FRPSL in his display given to the Society on 31 October.

The display opened with early letters from Hobart and Launceston, including one sent from Hobart to London in 1823 showing the first dated handstamp in the form of a crowned oval.

In lighter vein came the story of Tattersall's Lottery established by George Adams in the late 19th century. Despite opposition from church and state concerned about the evils of gambling, the business established itself in Tasmania. The Federal Government did its utmost to prevent mail reaching the business, which largely operated from places where men would congregate such as hairdressers and pubs. Today 'Tatts' is still very much a part of life in Australia with a Lotto game every two minutes.

The vote of thanks was given by Ben Palmer FRPSL who congratulated Patrick on the 'extensive amount of material' he had shown. These thoughts were echoed by President of the Society Richard Stock FRPSL, describing the display as 'far ranging'.

Following the display those present were able to adjourn for light refreshments to the Members' Lounge in the Society's new home at 15 Abchurch Lane in the City of London.

Those wishing to visit the Royal Philatelic Society London at 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW (a short walk from Bank Underground Station), or be a guest at one of its meetings, are asked to contact the Administrative Office (020 7486 1044).

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Richard Stock FRPSL, President of the Royal Philatelic Society London (left) thanks Dr Patrick Reid FRPSL for his outstanding display of Tasmania given to the Society.

(5 November 2019)