

The Royal Philatelic Society London

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PRESS RELEASE

A Royal treat for 'Royal' members

The new season of The Royal Philatelic Society London opened in traditional fashion with a display from The Royal Philatelic Collection, shown by gracious permission of Her Majesty The Queen.

The countries chosen this time were British Guiana and Barbados. As Michael Sefi, Keeper of The Royal Philatelic Collection, explained: 'there is very little, if anything, of postal history significance'. However, for those who enjoy looking at stamps, the Collection has much to appeal, with essays, die proofs, mint and used stamps, with examples on covers, printings and varieties.

As James Podger, giving the Vote of Thanks, remarked 'Where else could you see twelve of the first issue of British Guiana, the so-called "cotton reels", plus a further six examples on five covers.'

Somewhat less crude was the first issue of Barbados. Known as the Britannia design, the original watercolour portrait of Queen Victoria by E. H. Corbould for which was on display, it having the pencil inscription '*The Engraver with a magnifying glass (such as I have not) can finish the toenails rather more.*'

The display was arranged by Michael Sefi, assisted by Ian Greig and Rod Vousden. No fewer than 168 members and Fellows, from fourteen different countries, attended the meeting

Those wishing to visit The Royal Philatelic Society London at 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, or be a guest at one of its meetings, are asked to contact the Administrative Office (020 7486 1044).



Frank Walton, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London (left) is shown an item from The Royal Philatelic Collection by Michael Sefi.

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