

The Royal Philatelic Society London

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PRESS RELEASE

Your Very Loving Madeline

An immense cache of correspondence from the Victorian and Edwardian era, letters and envelopes sent between and to Sir James (Joe) Drummond, The Lord Lieutenant of Carmarthenshire, and his wife Madeline, led Dane Garrod FRPSL on a journey of discovery and fascination.

Joe and Madeline's only son Jimmy died in January 1970 and the family mansion in Carmarthenshire, Edwinstford, fell into decay. But in an outbuilding was found the hoard of correspondence, which was dispersed on the philatelic market. Dane set himself the challenge of tracing items from this correspondence, creating a glimpse of life at the highest levels of British society, and recalling a true love story.

Brought together as 'Your Very Loving Madeline' – the way she ended her letters to Joe – the story was unfolded in a display given to the members of The Royal Philatelic Society London on 7 December. Giving the vote of thanks, Peter Cockburn commented that it was to Dane's 'immense credit that this extraordinary collection has been brought together, a story of love and dedication'.

In November a challenge was held in Hamilton, New Zealand among the Royal Philatelic Societies of London, New Zealand, Sydney and Victoria. The Grand Award (Grand Prix) was won by Lesley Marley with 'A Whale's Tale' in the Thematic Class. Lesley was presented with her award by Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London.

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).



Dane Garrod FRPSL giving his presentation 'Your Very Loving Madeline' to The Royal Philatelic Society London.



Lesley Marley receives her award from Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London.

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