



West of
England
Thematic
Society

Newsletter No.59 November 2017

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IN THIS ISSUE – WETS News by eMail, Dates for your Diary, 2017 WETS Spring Meeting, 2017 WETS Autumn Meeting, 2018 WETS Roadshow, Re-Cycling, Do you have a Complete Set Of WETS News, Minutes of the 2017 WETS AGM, Aphrodites Island Causes a Stir, Seasons Greetings.

WETS NEWS by email – If you are not yet a recipient give your name and email address to the Editor. Increases in postal charges, mean it is important to circulate as much information as possible by this means. Look at our website www.wessexpf.org.uk/WETS for examples of the quality. Download time is very fast. **DON'T FORGET TO SAVE WHAT YOU GET.** It is suggested you create a file called WETS News to put them in.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – **Spring WETS Day Saturday 28th April 2018** at Buckfastleigh Town Hall starting at 10.30 am. The Morning Speaker is Mark Humphrey – “The Production of Vanilla”. In the afternoon members are asked to bring a display on the theme of “Delivering the Mail” Tea/Coffee will be available and a Buffet Lunch will be provided, cost for the day will be £8.00.

Autumn WETS Meeting 3rd November 2018 at Buckfastleigh Town Hall starting at 10.30 am. The morning meeting will commence with the AGM followed by Jim Wigmore who will speak and display on “WETS its History and Productions” in the afternoon members are asked to produce a display on the theme of “Food & Drink” Tea/Coffee will be available and a Buffet Lunch will be provided, cost for the day will be £8.00.



2017 WETS SPRING MEETING – There was a good attendance of WETS members and guests at this meeting held in Buckfastleigh Town Hall on Saturday 29th April and there was a real “Buzz in the Air” when WETS member Gary Green gave a presentation on “The Life of the Honey Bee”.

Everyone was enthralled as we learnt that man had been a bee keeper since more that 10.000BC, the various types of hive that had been used and the relationship of the various types of Bee to the Queen Bee. We learnt that the Queen Bee laid 1000s of eggs and she was able to select the type of bee that would be created from each egg she laid, We were surprised to learn that the worker bee only lived for

approximately 25-35 days and for the first third of its life it was a cleaner in the hive, in the second phase of its life it was a defender of the hive and in the final third of its live it was a forager bringing nectar and pollen back to the hive for the creation of honey and feeding the next brood of bees. The various threats to



the hive were explained, how honey was collected by man and what products were created from both the honey and the wax used to contain the honey in the hive. The worldwide distribution of bees was also well illustrated along with the various types of bee to be found worldwide. This was a very comprehensive display much appreciated by all.



After Gary's display guests were given a superb Buffet Lunch thanks to some hard work by Sally and Martin Ellam.

Following Lunch attendee's put up their offerings based on the theme of Flight, 10 displays were shown as follows :-

"Travel Through the Air", "Airlines Around the World", "British Owls", "Flights of Fantasy", "A Day in the Fresh Air", "Orchids in Flight", "Balloon Post", "Up Up and Away", "Aspects of Flight" and "Flight".

Some thoughts were given regarding the date and content of the Autumn Meeting and we await

with baited breath notification from Chairman Martin Ellam regarding the meeting.

2017 WETS AUTUMN MEETING was held at Buckfastleigh Town Hall on Saturday 28th October. The morning session started with the AGM see the minutes later in this News Letter. This was followed by David Roseveare showing his from Grandeur to Gravure the story of Pierre Bequet the French Stamp Designer and Engraver who David had been very friendly with over many years. David showed lots of examples of Pierre's work including many essays all signed by Pierre. Part of David's display was a 90 sheet exhibit that had been shown at National Level including being displayed at Paris by special invitation. This was a truly amazing Thematic Collection and display by one of our very knowledgeable thematic collectors. Some pictures are included of David and his display.



A superb Buffet Lunch was produced by Martin & Sally Ellam much enjoyed by all who attended. The picture of the table of food gives you a good idea of the extent of the Buffet. Tea Coffee and Biscuits were available to all from arrival until departure.

Lunch was followed by member displays based on the theme "The Clothes we Wear". It is always an amazement to see how everyone tackles these set themes and this was no exception we saw six very different and very interesting displays, some of which will almost certainly appear in next years WETS Roadshow.

2018 WETS ROADSHOW – Carol Turner would very much like to have more material to

include in this show. Colour copies to Carol please if you have an item to be included.

RE-CYCLING – During the WETS Day one person said to me does all the material in your display come from your own resources. I responded YES, because the question had triggered the idea I am now writing about. The ability to colour copy gives us the means of recording what we have produced for any display produced to meet a defined theme. When we produce a display for such a theme we should always produce it as if it were a competitive entry, that way we have something for either our next club competition to put into a Federation Competition. Once the display has served its purpose, colour copy it and then use the material for future themes. Given the idea we can re-cycle in this way it may be a good idea to mount any stamps on a backing card to facilitate easy transfer between displays without damaging the stamps.

DO YOU HAVE A COMPLETE SET OF WETS NEWS? – did you know that there are WETS News Letters from issue 09 to 59 containing a vast amount of interesting ideas and information. There is now a complete index by subject for WETS News and we have available a Memory Stick with every WETS news produced to date complete with an interactive Index by Subject. If you would like a copy of one of these Memory Sticks the charge is £10 this includes the cost of the memory stick and postage and packing – send your request complete with payment and your name and address to Jim Wigmore. This will be demonstrated at the Spring WETS Day.

MINUTES - WETS 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Buckfastleigh Town Hall Buckfastleigh on Saturday 28th October 2017

Apologies - none received.

Minutes of the previous AGM. - Minutes were distributed by Email (with agenda and order form),

Matters arising – none.

Correspondence - Due to communication by Email there was no correspondence

Chairman's Report - The chairman said that it had been a very good year for WETS with a good attendance at the spring meeting. he thanked Gary Green for his stimulating talk and Vicki, Sally and Andrew for setting up the buffet, providing tea, coffee, biscuits and the scrumptious chocolate fridge cake.

The chairman had attended three Wessex management meetings and the spring meeting. He hoped we could rattle through the AGM before David Roseveare gave his talk. followed by the buffet and members displays.

Next year he has pencilled in Saturday 28th April for the spring meeting with speaker Mark Humphrey on 'Orchids or Vanilla' and Saturday 3rd November for the AGM Jim Wigmore giving 'A History of WETS'. The chairman said that for medical reasons he would be standing down at the next AGM. Finally he thanked the committee for their support over the last year.

Secretaries Report - Requests for the Roadshow 2018 are beginning to appear. I have regularly received copies of Themescene and ABPS news, which have been distributed at various club nights. Finally I wish to give 12 months notice of my resignation at the next AGM due to family commitments.

Treasurers Report - The treasurer reported another good year after going through the audited income and expenditure account line by line. he confirmed a profit of £35.66 over the year bringing the balance to £1052.98. Subs to remain at last year's rate. The account was accepted unanimously after proposal by Jim Wigmore seconded by Gary Green.

Newsletter Editors Report - There was little to report as no articles had been received. The editor asked for material for the next newsletter, no matter how short about thematics.

Election of Officers - The committee was re-elected en bloc by a show of hands.

AOB - The themes for 2018 were decided. Spring meeting "delivering the mail" and autumn meeting "food and drink".

Next meetings - Spring meeting Saturday 28th April 2018. speaker Mark Humphrey.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.37am.

Signed..... Date.....

The day continued with David Roseveare presenting his superb Gravure to Grandeur then members displays on the subject of "The Clothes We Wear" and general discussions on the items seen etc.

Sally Ellam

APHRODITES ISLAND CAUSES A STIR

Member Jim Wigmore made a very surprising exhibit at the recent meeting of the Cyprus Study Circle (CSC) when he showed "Aphrodites Island" a Thematic Introduction to his Cyprus Independent Display. This item has been collapsed from 30 A4 sheets to 10 A3 sheets all arranged and written up as any good thematic item should be.

It was something that CSC had never really thought about and they had never seen any material written up on A3 sheets and were quite unaware that it was something legal. See the Secretaries report below.

Finally, Jim Wigmore showed '8,000 Years of Cyprus History' arranged on A3 sheets with strict adherence to the rules for thematic exhibiting. An eye-opener for some of us as to the wide variety of material that may be included and how to draw the judges' attention to the rarities!

Jim has subsequently received requests from CSC Members to provide copies of our Competition Rules, they seem keen to make use of larger sheets and make better displays with their wide items.



It's almost that time again.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

**We hope to see all our Members at our Spring Meeting
Do come along and join in the fun.**