

Peterborough Regional Meeting

At the end of July 25 members gathered at the Westgate Centre Hall in Peterborough, where Ian McFeeters had mounted a splendid display from his collections. Members were able to examine the items before Ian gave a fascinating talk about the collections, compiled over many years. His display featured Lincolnshire views, complemented by a wide range of items from his collections, including snuff boxes and visiting card cases. Many of the latter were made from mother-of-pearl, tortoiseshell and silver.

Ian illustrated his talk with postcards and photographs to show how some views had changed over the years since they were captured on Mauchline Ware pieces, for example the piers at Skegness and Cleethorpes. In contrast, some, such as Grimsby Tower, had not changed significantly. Knowledge about changes in views could help to date the views of transfer prints on Mauchline Ware.

Ian had started collecting through his interest in trying to identify "Whatsits". From these he moved on to treen and thus to Mauchline Ware. He brought some non-Mauchline "Whatsits" to the meeting, including a piece to extract cartridge cases stuck in rifle barrels, a clipper for bamboo record needles, a cigar trimmer and a lemon slice squeezer!

John Downer, the Club Chairman, thanked Ian and his wife Doreen for their hard work in mounting the display, which had stimulated many questions taken by Ian at the end of his talk. John also thanked Christabelle and David Davey for organising the event and providing the refreshments, home-baked in Leeds.



Ian's favourite piece – a snuff box by A Thomson, Bathgate, 1848, with a view of the underside.



Some wonderful visiting card cases.



A selection of snuff boxes.



A very unusual inkwell and pen stand in the form of a cricket ball and stumps, with a transfer print of The Arcade, Bournemouth.



Ian McFeeters with his display assembled for the Peterborough meeting.