

PISC Information Leaflet



The Pacific Islands Study Circle (PISC) is an international philatelic society whose members study the stamps and the postal history of the islands of the Pacific Ocean.

Our philatelic studies range from the earliest philatelic times to the present day, and include military campaigns, censorship, postage dues, meter marks, postcards, sea-mails, and airmails throughout the region.

The Pacific Islands Study Circle (PISC) is affiliated to the Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) and the American Philatelic Society (APS).

Pacifica Journal

Our award-winning quarterly journal, *Pacifica*, has been published since 1962.

Issued in A4 size format with colour illustrations, our magazine covers a wide range of articles contributed by members, news items about our area and activities, as well as sections reviewing recent publications and auctions.

All back issues of *Pacifica* from 1962 to 2006 are available on one searchable and printable CD for £10.



Website

Our well-used website – <http://www.pisc.org.uk> – is kept fresh and up-to-date with news on members, publications, meetings and auctions. Each member has a username and password to allow full access into members' only areas, such as the forum to discuss issues and the 'marketplace' – a shop window in which members can sell material to other members, with neither listing fees nor commission.

Meetings

The study circle meets regularly in the UK; other informal meetings may also be held elsewhere during the year. Members are encouraged to display at some meetings, whilst others are presentations given by named members. PISC held a joint meeting with the King George VI Collectors Society in 2016.

PISC organises weekend residential conferences, with the most recent one at Hitchin, UK in 2016. Another is being planned for 2018.

PISC held its AGM at MIDPEX in July 2017. PISC will take part in a joint meeting with the Kiribati and Tuvalu Philatelic Society at the Union Jack Club, near Waterloo, London, on 14th October 2017. PISC members have been invited to a Malay Study Group meeting on 11th November 2017.

In November 2018, PISC members will display the Pacific at the prestigious Royal Philatelic Society, London. All members are invited to contribute to this wonderful opportunity to display.



Group Leaders

There are over 20 designated Group Leaders of Pacific territories who can offer expert advice to member's inquiries.

Auctions

Auctions are held to allow members the opportunity to buy and sell specialised material at low commission rates. PISC recently has been auctioning collections of deceased members, as their spouses/beneficiaries have thought it best for such items to be offered directly to PISC members. Recent auctions include materials from Peter Rodda and the late Tony Eastgate.

Publications

One of the most active areas of our society is the publication of philatelic literature, ranging from reference handbooks to research monographs on specialised topics. PISC facilitates and disseminates the production of high-quality publications in printed and digital formats and at discounted prices to members. Several of the society's recent publications have received high awards at national and international competitions.

Recent books include:

Fiji Postal History – Postage Meters, Registration Labels, Machine Cancellations, by John Dear (2015). £21 members/£25 non-members.

The Picture Postcards of Fiji, by John Dear (3rd edition, 2015). £25/£30.

Collecting Easter Island – Stamps and Postal History, by Steve Pendleton & David Maddock (2014). £25/£30 non-members.

Norfolk Island Cancellations and Postal Markings, by David Murray-Brown (3rd edition, 2012). £12/£14.50

Order from: Colin Hinchcliffe, Empire Books, 12 Queen's Staith Mews, York, YO1 6HH; booksales@pisc.org.uk

Postage and packaging costs will be added.

For a full list of PISC publications, see: www.pisc.org.uk/pisc-publications.html

Membership

The Study Circle is run by collectors for collectors. PISC has over 280 members, almost half in the UK and over half in the rest of Europe, North America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific Region. Dealers are most welcome to join if they belong to a trade association.

The annual subscription starts on 1st January and includes four printed issues of *Pacifica* sent by mail. The rate is £16 for UK and other European residents and £20 for those living elsewhere. These rates also entitle members to download the digital version of *Pacifica* from our website. Members joining during the year will be sent the relevant back issues of *Pacifica*.

**For those who only require the digital version of *Pacifica*
the annual subscription is just £7.50.**

A membership form can be downloaded from the website – www.pisc.org.uk – and sent to: John Ray, 24 Woodvale Avenue, South Norwood, London, SE25 4AE, UK; e-mail: secretary@pisc.org.uk

PISC would love for you to join us!

Information correct as at July 2017

