

EXECUTIVE BULLETIN September 2016

Please circulate to any philatelic friends to show just how much the ABPS is doing to promote philately across the UK. Thank you.

REST IN PEACE

The world has lost some key figures in UK philately recently. These have included Francis Kiddle, Philip Mackey, Paul Gaywood, Tom Poynton and David Stirrups. All made an invaluable contribution to ABPS and to philately in general. We will miss them greatly.

NEW ABPS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Barry Stagg will become Membership Secretary, replacing Alan Godfrey.

Alan Godfrey will become Communications Director, replacing Chris Oliver.

George Henshelwood will become Database Manager, including the Directory and Handbook, replacing Rev John Walden.

Our thanks to everyone for their efforts on behalf of ABPS.

MORE HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED

At the moment there are some big gaps in the ABPS team. We urgently need a Vice-Chairman and an Advertising Manager.

“One volunteer is worth ten times more than a pressed man!”

If you can help ABPS in any way please contact: **chair@abps.org.uk**
John Baron will also be standing down as Chairman from the AGM in 2017, so are you the one to support and shape the future of philately in the UK?

BECOME A FRIEND OR PATRON OF UK PHILATELY

Even if you cannot help by doing some work, you can support the future of philately in the UK by making an annual financial contribution. Become a “Friend” with a donation of £25 or a “Patron” with £60 pa.

It is worth remembering that in other countries the fees for the national association are much more helpful to supporting the organisation of philately. For instance, in Denmark, collectors make a personal contribution equivalent to £65 each year, resulting in an annual budget of £208,000. It is a similar situation in many other European countries. Denmark is half our size yet we have to manage on less than £40k!

To become a Friend or Patron contact: membership@abps.org.uk or call 01789765385.

ABPS INTER- FEDERATION COMPETITION at Autumn Stampex 2017

It is proposed to hold an inter federation competition at Autumn Stampex 2017. In order to see what level of interest there might be, federations are asked to send an *expression of interest* to Deborah Gooch at exhibiting@abps.org.uk, by 31st December 2016. We need at

least six federations to make this viable, and we have widened the scope of the completion to include more classes than in previous years.

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain took place at The Belfry Hotel, Cambourne, near Cambridge from 21st to 24th July 2016. The philatelic theme of the event was “Islands”. It proved very successful with a very friendly atmosphere, quality hotel and excellent displays.

Some of the highlights included presentations by three of the RDPs and the best display was won by Hugh Osborne, receiving the Stanley Gibbons Cup. Website is www.gbcongress.uk

2017 Congress will be held in Jury’s Inn, Cardiff, from 27th to 30th July.

ABPS AGM

Some highlights:

Neil Ritchie, our new Secretary, was elected a Director of ABPS.

Rev John Walden and Susan Oliver resigned as Directors.

Neil Ritchie gave a comprehensive report on his role including an update on the development of the website. Web Action Group is continuing under the chairmanship of Neil Ritchie., advised by Maurice Buxton as webmaster and Keith Burton, Newsletter Editor.

The possibility of philatelic training courses is under discussion. Widening membership of philatelic societies by promoting well being was highlighted by Neil as an opportunity. His presentation stimulated various feedback on the role of TV and social media as well as organizations like U3A.

Membership statistics have shown a decline in Society UK membership of 8.6% in the last twelve months.

Chris King gave a full report on the Exhibitions Committee activities (see update elsewhere in the Bulletin). UK is ranked in the top 3 in the world in terms of exhibitors.

Commitment to support London 2020 to a total of £37,500.

Susan Oliver was created Hon. Vice President as recognition of her contribution to ABPS as past Chair of the Awards Committee.

John Baron to retire after Congress 2017 in Cardiff, so ABPS has twelve months to find a successor.

ABPS Awards were presented to Jean Osborne (Congress Medal) and Awards of Merit to Rosemary Atkins, Eric Keefe, John Perry and Tony Shaw.

Verbal reports were also given by John Davies (Youth & PR), Keith Burton (ABPS News), Chris Oliver (Communications), Dane Garrod (Specialist Societies) and John Dickenson (Federations).

The Small Grants Committee has not received any applications this year.

65 Specialist Societies are currently supporting ABPS but 62 have yet to show their support!

Issues raised by attendees:

The level of errors and updating of the handbook was raised as a concern. Corrections are being printed in ABPS News. Updates to the website will take longer as it may require consent from individuals. The expectation is that the information will be available from the website in future.

Preston PS shared its success, having gone into local primary schools, are now being invited back. This has stimulated interest in the Society from their grandparents.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

Development work is now underway on a new website. Our key requirements are that it will be accessible and up to date. If you have any content or suggestions for improvement, please pass details by email to: mauricebuxton@gmail.com

ABPS DIRECTORY AND SPEAKERS LIST

This has now been released but, inevitably, as soon as these things are published, some information will be out of date. All changes and additions will be shown in ABPS News, so you can keep yours up to date.

All changes should be notified by email to editor@abps.org.uk

Additional copies will be available at £10 inc. P&P from Chris Oliver.

Please contact Chris by email communications@abps.org.uk

Please note unaffiliated societies do not appear in detail in the Directory or the website.

AUTUMN STAMPEX 2016 takes place from 14th to 17th September 2016 at the Business Design Centre, Islington. London. Stampex is a full national exhibition with all classes.

Entry forms for all the Stampex national competitions are now on the ABPS website.

Help is required to man the Information Stand at every Stampex which is run in association with the National Philatelic Society and Stamp & Coin Mart. Please contact Chris Oliver by email if you are willing to give an hour (or two) to support ABPS at the Show.

communications@abps.org.uk

STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK

Stamp Active Network will again be at Autumn Stampex with youth activities and a free children's auction (2pm Saturday). The theme of the event will be **"ANIMALS"**. A new activity book will be available at the Show on this theme called "All Creatures Great and Small". This has been supported by The RPSL Philatelic Fund and Oxford Stamp Society as well as Dealer Patrons.

There is the continuing initiative to “Bring a Child to Stampex” to encourage the next generation of collectors with a free draw if you take a youngster (U18) to the youth stand during the Show, so start planning your visit now. Prizes include an 1840 Penny Black.

Their website is www.stampactive.co.uk

ABPS continues to support the hosting and maintenance of the site in 2016 for the benefit of the future development of our great hobby.

Individuals can support Stamp Active by becoming a “Friend of Stamp Active” with an annual payment of £20. For more information contact John Davies.

Starter Packs are still available to new organisers of junior or school stamp clubs free of charge, sponsored by Stanley Gibbons. Stamp Active is looking for individuals to help in the running of its youth programmes. Can you help?

Email: davies1890@btinternet.com

EXHIBITION AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Please see <http://www.abps.org.uk/Exhibiting/index.xalter> where material can be downloaded and events are updated.

Forthcoming UK exhibitions

Spring Stampex 15th to 18th February 2017: Full National on the theme of the former Ottoman Empire including North Africa, Egypt and Balkan States, plus Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Trans-Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Gulf States. Plus Iran. FEPA Recognition

Autumn Stampex 12th - 16th September 2017: Full National: Lead Society Sarawak Specialist Society has agreed take to 150 frames, both competitive and non-competitive.

International Exhibitions

Finlandia 2017 24th to 28th May 2017: <https://finlandia2017.fi>

UK Commissioner Bill Hedley ewlhedley@yahoo.co.uk

BANDUNG 2017 3rd–7th August 2017

Trans Studio Convention Center, Bandung, INDONESIA

IK Commissioner Jon Aitchison britishlocals@aol.com

NORDIA 2017 October 27, 2017 - Sunday, October 29, 2017 FEPA Recognition

Danish Philatelic Federation invites all friends of Nordic philately to Vejle!

PRAGA 2018 Wednesday, August 15, 2018 - Saturday, August 18, 2018 FIP and FEPA event

London 2020 2nd May to 9th May 2020: Chairman Frank Walton

Chief Executive David Alford

Future seminars

September: How to win a Gold Medal. Chris King

Beginning with Federation and ending at International. Covers Intro, exhibit choice and structure, presentation, treatment, research

Chris Harman on Revenue Philately Spring 2017.

Congress and RDP Ceremonies

2017: Cardiff. Confirmed 27th to 30th July 2017

2018: Durham. Congress and RDP Ceremony confirmed.

2019: Decision pending. RDP Ceremony at Stockholm confirmed.

2020: London. RDP ceremony at the same time as the London 2020 exhibition.

2021: Harrogate. The centenary of the first signing of the Roll.

Federations

David Alford maintains and updates register of Federation jurors. We would be grateful if

Federations would help David maintain his records.

The committee would be grateful if any queries or comments relating to the above were addressed by email to exhibiting@abps.org.uk

OUR USUAL RELINDERS ...

UPDATES FOR THE ABPS HANDBOOK & DIRECTORY

Please provide feedback and updates to editor@abps.org.uk

Please note that information about societies non-affiliated to the ABPS no longer appear in the directory although names of societies are listed in pages at the end. Society 'details' are also being dropped from the website unless clubs are affiliated. The details are 'hidden' but can be reinstated instantly when they become affiliated.

THE ABPS RANGE OF INFORMATION LEAFLETS

They are:

What the ABPS does for you.

What is stamp collecting?

Stamps Fact Sheet.

What is Postal History?

What is Thematic Collecting?

The Visiting Speaker.

ABPS Awards Scheme.

What is Postal Stationery?

A Model Constitution & Rules for Philatelic Societies

What is Open Philately?

Organising a Society Conference Weekend.

What is Traditional Collecting?

The ABPS Philatelic Congress of Great Britain (currently being re-printed)

Copies can be obtained by sending a SAE to the Secretary (address below) or downloaded from the website. Any feedback on communications and ABPS publications should be sent to Chris Oliver. Email: communications@abps.org.uk

New leaflets are in preparation for Cinderella Collecting, Society Auctions and Postcard Collecting.

Information has now been collated on recommended venues/hotels for seminars and conferences. For more information contact Dane Garrod. Email: sslo@abpd.org.uk

ABPS NEWS

The new issue of ABPS News is circulated in September. It will be a massive 60 pages and will include updates to the Handbook and Directory. Our editor is Keith Burton.

Please remember to send in your reports to him prior to the copy deadlines. They should be sent by e-mail to: editor@abps.org.uk and typed in a clear format or posted to him. He needs more photos too!

The closing date for copy for the next issue is 15th October 2016.

Submissions requested of 75 to 200 words with interesting photographs in Word, JPEG etc please.

WEBMASTER

Maurice Buxton is the webmaster for the ABPS site.

Updates should be sent to him by email: mauricebuxton@gmail.com

You will find lots of information about Clubs around the country and their activities. Please take a look, check your local societies and tell us of any errors (including the meeting place and postcode). You will also find PDF copies of recent philatelic seminars.

A reduced resolution copy of the ABPS Bulletin is available on the ABPS website.

The Annual Accounts can now also be found on the website.

Advertising can now be taken on the ABPS website from dealers and affiliated societies.

Our site is: www.abps.org.uk

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

Information has been collated by Dane Garrod regarding suggestions for Specialist Society meetings and events.

This includes a list of hotel venues recommended by Societies for events and conferences.

If you can help, please contact: sslo@abps.org.uk

ABPS EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

Frames are available for hire from ABPS at fixed costs including erection and dismantling (which can be subsidised by The Philatelic Fund on application). These are only available to affiliated members of ABPS. See the web site for full information on costs and procedures.

National guidelines on Judging can be found on the ABPS website. A powerpoint presentation is now also available under the Exhibition tab.

Federation Competition Rules have been re-drafted and can be obtained from Chris King.

Please contact him if you would like an event in your area. Email: events@abps.org.uk

COMMUNICATIONS TO FEDERATIONS

Members of the Executive Committee are willing to attend Federation and other regional events by invitation to talk about the role of ABPS. If you would like to know more about ABPS and its activities, please contact John Baron. Contact: chair@abps.org.uk

NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR ABPS AWARDS

If you know of anyone who deserves recognition for their support of our hobby, why not recommend them for this award. Details can be found on the ABPS website or contact Yvonne Wheatley for more information. Nominations for the Congress Medal and Awards of Merit must be sent to Yvonne by 1st March each year. Email: awards@abps.org.uk

MORE HELP IS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you can help ABPS in any way please contact: chair@abps.org.uk

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP OF ABPS

Without the support of clubs and societies and your personal involvement through ABPS, many of the UK's major events would not happen if the ABPS was not there to engage with all our volunteers. Thank you.

Please remember that although the Speakers List, Handbook and Directory, Leaflets, ABPS Awards and ABPS News are all tangible support for our members much activity also takes place in the background to facilitate and support national and regional events such as Congress, competitive exhibitions, Midpex etc., all on a voluntary basis. Without the encouragement of our affiliated members, these might disappear completely. ABPS is also supporting the long term development of the hobby through the Stamp Active Network.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO GIVE YOUR COMMENTS, please contact those mentioned above, or:

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E-mail: secretary@abps.org.uk

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