

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

Please have a look at www.abps.org.uk

NEIL RITCHIE STANDING DOWN AS ABPS SECRETARY

Neil will be standing down as secretary at the next AGM as he is taking over as the webmaster for the Royal Philatelic Society London. Anyone interested in joining the ABPS team should contact the Chairman, Graham Winters.

STEVE HARRISON NOMINATED AS NEW VICE-CHAIRMAN

Steve has been co-opted to the Executive Committee and will be standing for election at the AGM as Vice-Chairman. He is also Chairman of the Midland Philatelic Federation as well as having several other roles in organized philately.



ABPS NEWS

The Winter 2018 issue has just been published and circulated to members. It can also be found on the website. The deadline for copy for the next issue is 15th January 2019. This is a good opportunity to showcase your club and share ideas with affiliated members of ABPS. It is also a good place to pick up ideas for your own club programmes and find out ways to promote your Society and attract new members. You can also apply for one free advertisement annually to publicise your Society, though space is limited, so get your application in early!

Contact editor@abps.org.uk

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

The 2019 Congress will take place as part of the programme at the STOCKHOLMIA international exhibition.

The 2020 Congress will be In Ironbridge and 2021, Harrogate (100 Years since its formation there).

Further details of the programme and application forms can be found on the website.

The 2019 AGM of ABPS will take place at York on 20th July. An increase in the affiliation fee is likely to be necessary from 2020.

ABPS FREE WEBSITES

Progress is now being made with this initiative by Neil Ritchie with trails taking place with the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. Interested parties should have a look at www.y-p-a.org.uk

Templates are available to assist Societies, linked from the ABPS website.

For more information; contact secretary@abps.org.uk

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

Dane Garrod will be approaching all specialist societies that are not affiliated to ABPS to encourage them to support the future of philately in the UK through the work of ABPS.

NATIONAL STAMP DAY

Graham Winters has said "My aim is to encourage and facilitate, through ABPS, that every Society holds a Stamp Day event as near to 6th May each year as practical. This could include putting up a display in a local Museum or Library, promoting a Design-A-Stamp or Cover competition or your own Stamp Fair. Small grants will be considered to support any local initiatives." This event was re-established in 2017 and plans are well advanced to make this a regular annual event on 6th May each year. It is hoped that Societies will play their part in featuring a key event as close as possible to that date each year and join in the fun.

If you have any ideas for a local event or would like to help, please contact the Chairman by email: j.gwinters@hotmail.co.uk

YORK STAMP FAIR

This takes place at York Racecourse on 18th (11am to 6pm) and 19th January (10am to 4pm) 2019. The national exhibition in 2019 will be held at Perth rather than York.

SPRING STAMPEX 2019

February 13th to 16th February 2019 at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London.

National exhibition for all classes. Full details and exhibitor application forms are on the website.

The deadline for receipt of entries is 12th December. For the latest information, see the ABPS website.

Remember there is now an ephemera class as a feature of the Show.

Medals for Stampex entries have been sponsored by the National Philatelic Society for entries which achieve Large Vermeil and above, exc. one frame exhibits.

One significant change is that you can put in a display on a non-competitive basis, so that you can exhibit your collection without having to go through a judging process. Have a Go, Show!

SINDELFINGEN 2019

The ABPS have been invited to participate in the 2019 Sindelfingen Exhibition from 26th to 29th October. Bill Hedley will co-ordinate this for ABPS who will be "represented and involved".

MISSING ABPS TROPHIES

A thorough review of trophies presented at national stamp exhibitions over the years has shown that a few have not been returned. If you have a Trophy in these circumstances, please contact Bill Hedley.

Email: international@abps.org.uk

ABPS SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

If you are planning a local event to promote philately and may need financial assistance, please have a look at this scheme as you may be eligible for a grant. Two further grants have been made in the last quarter.

STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK

Spring Stampex will feature the theme of "Around the World".



The new Chairman of Stamp Active is Susan Henderson.

John Davies recently stood down as Chairman but will remain actively involved as Events Manager.

Stamp Active Website wins International Award

The Stamp Active Website was awarded a Large Gold Medal and Overall Best Website at the Italia 2018 International Stamp Exhibition. This beat many other philatelic websites from around Europe and as far afield as Australia and Brazil.

The Italia 2018 Exhibition was held under the auspices of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) in Verona.

Websites were assessed on Treatment of Contents, Originality, Significance and Depth of Research, Technical Matters and Presentation. Particular consideration was given to User Interface, Search/Navigation speed and Usability, frequency of updates, overall impression of the layout/web design in terms of self-evidence of the pages and the quality of the images. The Stamp Active Website was awarded 95 points (out of 100).

Susan Henderson, Chair of Stamp Active said “This is exciting recognition of all the effort that the Stamp Active Network puts in to promoting stamp collecting to young people in the UK. It is the first time the site has been entered into a philatelic competition and the award has delighted us all.”

The website can be found at www.stampactive.co.uk



Email: stampactive@btinternet.com

EXHIBITING AND JUDGING SEMINARS

The seminars for regional, national and international judges have been well supported in Hitchin and in Falkirk. These events can be held in any part of the UK, subject to the level of interest. If you would like one of the two-day events in your region, please contact the organiser on international@abps.org.uk We believe that exhibitors at every level deserve to be given quality feedback by accredited judges, so please make sure that you have enough in your area.

Ideas for other Seminars by ABPS would be welcomed. Let us know your views please.

FEDERATION JUDGES

Alan Godfrey is undertaking a complete review of the listing of Federation Judges and contact details in co-ordination with Mike Smith who maintains the listings of judges at national level. In future, this review will be undertaken on an annual basis.

If you are a qualified Federation Judge, please drop Alan a quick email to check your listing.

Email Alan Godfrey: communications@abps.org.uk

DIRECTORY AND SPEAKERS LIST

Neil Ritchie (ABPS Secretary) will be sending out an email to all the present speakers with an email address asking them to confirm that they still wish to be on the list and that their display titles are correct.

If you would like to be included, please contact the Secretary.

All changes and additions to the current directory are shown in ABPS News, so you can keep up to date.

All changes to society officers should be notified by email to secretary@abps.org.uk

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

AWARDS

Nominations for the ABPS Award of Merit and the Congress Medal should be submitted by 1st March each year. Details on the website. Contact awards@abps.org.uk

Nominations are also invited for the CRAWFORD MEDAL, presented annual by the Royal Philatelic Society London for literature. This is open to any nominations, not just RPSL members. Details can be found on the RPSL website.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

There are changes in the law that will require philatelic societies to get express consent for any data they may hold on their members. Please look at the ABPS website for more information and draft forms.

The ABPS will update its own privacy policy on the website to take account of the changes in legislation.

If you have any queries, please contact secretary@abps.org.uk

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO GIVE YOUR COMMENTS,

please contact those mentioned above, or:

ABPS General Secretary 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G6JY E-mail: secretary@abps.org.uk

Any feedback or ideas, or if you would like to help, please contact the Chairman, Graham Winters, by email: j.gwinters@hotmail.co.uk