

**Company Number: 3326534**

**Association of British Philatelic Societies**

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 15.00

The Royal Philatelic Society of London 41 Devonshire Place

Present: Chairman: John Baron

Directors: Nigel Gooch, Chris King, Alan Godfrey,  
Susan Oliver, John Walden

Representatives from 33 Affiliated Societies and Observers from 5  
Federations as listed in Appendix A.

Apologies: Maurice Buxton, John Davies, Dane Garrod, Paul Gaywood,  
John Woodson

The meeting stood for a minute's silence in memory of Francis Kiddle and to  
acknowledge his tremendous contribution to the hobby both in this country and  
overseas.

- i. Minutes of the 2014 AGM having been circulated were taken as read.
- ii. Matters Arising: There were no matters arising
- iii. Adoption of the Accounts: As these had been approved at Leeds, signed  
off and submitted to Companies House, there was no discussion needed.  
The accounts were adopted; proposed Bradford (Richard Wheatley),  
seconded Bromley & Beckenham (Michael Dobbs)
- iv. Executive Chairman's Report on 2014: presented by the Chairman, John  
Baron – see Appendix B
- v. Election of Directors: The Secretary, Willie King, has resigned because of  
the illness of his wife. The other Directors had expressed their willingness  
to continue to serve. There being no other nominations the remaining  
Directors were elected en bloc: proposed West London (Chris Oliver),  
seconded Bromley & Beckenham (Michael Dobbs)
- vi. Membership Report: Alan Godfrey presented his report based on the  
situation up to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Overall this showed that membership  
subscriptions had fallen by approximately £720. There were four fewer  
member societies compared with 2014. The full report is in Appendix D
- vii. Company Secretary and Treasurer's Report: Nigel Gooch reported that  
the falling numbers necessitated a small increase in subscriptions. This  
had been agreed at a recent Committee Meeting. Society membership fee  
would rise from £1.10 to £1.25 per person, Friend from £20 to £25, Patron  
from £50 to £60 from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016. The report was received: proposed  
Chairman John Baron, seconded Scandinavian Society (Susan Oliver)
- viii. Chair of Communications: Chris Oliver reported that the new Handbook  
and Directory was going through the final stages of proofreading. Work  
continued on new or replacement leaflets for the various elements of  
philately. The report was received: proposed Vice Chairman (The  
Reverend John Walden), seconded Harrogate (Keith Burton). A report on  
ABPS News was read by the Editor – see Appendix E

- ix. Chair of International and Exhibitions: presented by Chris King. After expressing his regret at the death of Francis Kiddle and commenting on his contribution to British and International Philately, Chris presented his report. – see Appendix F. The report was received: proposed Chairman John Baron, seconded West London (Chris Oliver).
- x. Chair of Awards: Susan Oliver reported that she had stood down in this capacity and been replaced by Yvonne Wheatley. Yvonne was also taking over the running of the Small Grants Aid Scheme, replacing Peter O’Keefe. Susan and Peter were thanked by all for their work over the years of their respective tenures.
- xi. Chairman of Congress: Gerald Marriner reported that Graham Winters had joined the Committee. The dates and details of the Cambridge 2016 Congress are on the ABPS website and further details would be forthcoming soon. The Signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and the Congress Banquets were expected to take place in two of the Cambridge Colleges. Arrangements had begun for the 2017 Congress in Cardiff.
- xii. Any other matters:
  - a. John Baron reported that he had received a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Certificate congratulating ABPS for extraordinary contributions to FEPA
  - b. There was much discussion over the availability of ABPS frames for federation or society use. The difficulty and expense of making them available from a central source was noted. It was agreed that frames would be made available outside London if suitable storage facilities were found by a federation or group of federations and these were deemed appropriate by ABPS
  - c. The meeting considered a letter from Leamington & Warwick. The points raised were
    - i. ABPS committing to make it possible for affiliated societies to play a full part in the ABPS AGM by publishing full minutes within 2 months of the AGM, publishing reports in good time in advance of the AGM and clarifying the method for submitting proxy questions to the AGM
    - ii. Given falling subscriptions and rising expenses what action did ABPS propose?
    - iii. Can ABPS explain what it is doing to make effective use of its website?

The responses were: ABPS is aware of the difficulties of communication and intends to work with federations and societies to improve this. Sending notifications of the availability of reports and other information is dependent on having up-to-date email addresses. The changes to the website will include making reports and minutes available at the earliest opportunity. The changes in subscription and other fees will improve the financial situation. It is important to note that members of the Executive and other officers are entitled to claim

expenses for their travel on approved ABPS business and those who do make every effort to minimise their costs and claims.

## **Appendices**

A:

Basildon Philatelic Society  
Bishop's Stortford & District Philatelic Society  
Bradford & District Philatelic Society  
British Thematic Association  
Bromley & Beckenham Philatelic Society  
Cambridge Philatelic Society  
Channel Islands Specialists Society  
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain  
Fleet & North Hants Philatelic Society  
Forces Postal History Society  
Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society  
Harrogate Philatelic Society  
Henley & District Philatelic Society  
Hullbridge Philatelic Society  
Iran Philatelic Study Circle  
Kingston Upon Thames & District Philatelic Society  
Leeds Philatelic Society  
Lytham St Annes Philatelic Society  
Midland (GB) Postal History Society  
Mid-Sussex Philatelic Society  
National Philatelic Society of GB  
Rayleigh & District Philatelic Society  
Redditch Philatelic Society  
Royal Tunbridge Wells Philatelic Society  
Scandinavia Philatelic Society  
Sevenoaks & District Philatelic Society  
Solihull Philatelic Society  
South African Collectors' Society  
Southampton & District Philatelic Society  
Thatcham & District Philatelic Society  
The Royal Philatelic Society of London  
West London Philatelic Society  
Witham Philatelic Society

Association of Essex Philatelic Societies  
Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies  
Hampshire Philatelic Federation  
Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies  
Yorkshire Philatelic Association

B:

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON YEAR TO 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2015**

I am pleased to be able to welcome you all to this year's AGM at the Royal. My only regret is that I was not with you personally at Leeds but trust that you have already enjoyed the displays and the RDP ceremony.

My main concern this year has been my health and after undergoing radiotherapy it was a blow to find that I have excess fluid on the brain. All this can be sorted but for the next two months I will be a charge on the NHS. This absence has coincided with Paul Gaywood chemotherapy, Willie King's wife's illness and John Walden's illness.

My hopes of being able to travel the country obviously failed although I have been able to attend Mid Anglia, Thames Valley, North West, Middlesex and Hampshire events. I have been kept informed of the work of Yorkshire and Scotland with snippets from elsewhere. It is pleasing to note that Nottingham and Scarborough have rejoined the ABPS. The interest in postcards is increasing and societies need to see how they can incorporate these collectors into membership. Bob Young from the Cotswold has just emailed me to say that he has setup a facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1683390465230024/>

From my point of view it has been a quiet year and I owe my wife Sandra a big thank you and probably some flower for her willingness to drive me to club meetings. This has allowed me some time out of the house and been able to spend some time with collectors. I am disappointed this year that I am not at congress to present Bryan Jones with his Congress medal. The work that he has put in on maintaining Midpex has been rewarded with this accolade.

The executive committee has been very supportive during this year and I extend my personal thanks to Willie King, John Davies, Chris and Susan Oliver, Francis Kiddle, Chris King, John Walden, Nigel Gooch and especially to Paul Gaywood who as senior vice chairman for standing in for me on a number of occasions. Also included in the thanks are Gerald Marriner, Keith Burton, John Dickenson, Alan Godfrey, Dane Garrod, Peter O'Keeffe and John Woodson. We have been very fortunate in obtaining Maurice Buxton to be our web master and this will relieve me of some of the burdens of the web site. We have authorised our web hosts to look at a more dynamic to the site and hopefully Maurice will be able to make a big contribution

Wishing all members well and successful collecting and I look forward to seeing you all at Cambridge next year under the Chairmanship of David Stirrups.

C:

John Baron  
Nigel Gooch

Paul Gaywood  
Susan Oliver

The Reverend John Walden  
Christopher Oliver      John Davies

**D:**

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - 22nd June 2015

Class	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	Number of individuals	Number of individuals	Value £	Value £	No of Societies	No of Societies
Friends	57	46	£1,265.09	£1,050.21		
Patrons	9	6	£450.00	£300.00		
Specialist Societies	7,830	7,123	£8,572.40	£7,835.30	64	59
Local Societies	6,548	5,928	£7,149.80	£6,522.60	192	180
National Societies	1,306	1,340	£1,436.60	£1,474.00	2	2
Overseas Societies			£23.82	£0.00	1	0
Overseas Friends	2	2	£50.00	£52.05		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,752</b>	<b>14,445</b>	<b>£18,947.71</b>	<b>£17,234.16</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>241</b>

2015	New or Rejoined	Resigned	Unpaid YTD	New or Rejoined	Resigned	Unpaid YTD
CHANGES:	No of Individuals	No of Individuals	No of Individuals	No of Societies	No of Societies	No of Societies
Friends	2	2	10			
Patrons	0	1	2			
Specialist Societies	0	0	606	0	0	6
Local Societies	98	75	336	3	3	13
National Societies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas Societies				0	0	1
Overseas Friends	0	0	0			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>

**E:**

The Quarterly issues of ABPS News continue as previously though slowly but surely the number of copies required has reduced over the last two years. This is partially because of societies closing or withdrawing from ABPS and partly because no additional outlets have been identified. The number of reports submitted by societies and federations and included in each issue has risen slightly on average to about 50 – the lowest total being 42 and the highest 61. It is noticeable that some substantial member societies have sent no reports during my 3-year association with the magazine. During this time 135 different members/affiliates have submitted from a total of 281. I am pleased to report that favourable comments are regularly received about the content.

F:

## **ABPS Exhibitions and International Committee**

Report to AGM 7th November 2015

Since we first heard of Francis Kiddle's illness, and prognosis, we have ensured that his work has been covered by other members of the committee. We have also restructured the committee to ensure continuity and coverage of all of our activities. Set out below is a synopsis of work undertaken from May 2014 to date, followed by work proposed in the future.

### **National Exhibitions**

17-20 September 2014 - Autumn Stampex Germany and Colonies with Saturday seminar

17-21 February 2015 - Spring Stampex with Saturday seminar (FEPA Board Meeting 20 February 2015)

16-17 July 2-015 - York Fair First Postal History Exhibition

16-19 September 2015 - Autumn Stampex

**Federation Judging Seminar:** 14-16 November 2014 - Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation Judging Seminar, Hitchin, Herts.

### **International Events**

ABPS has been represented at the following exhibitions and international events, at no cost to the federation funds except for FEPA events attended by Birthe King in her capacity as a Director of the FEPA Board.

June 14-22 2014 - Planete Timbre 2014

7-12 August 2014 - Philakorea

11- 13 September 2014 - FEPA Congress: Alp-Adria Lugano

18-25 March 2015 - Philacanakkale 2015

14-19 August 2015 - Singapore Philatelic Exhibition

12- 15 November - NOTOS Exhibition - Athens

### **UK International Events**

13 to 16 May 2015 - LONDON 2015 EUROPHILEX with patronage by FEPA, the European Federation of Philatelic Associations, and recognition by the International Philatelic Federation (FIP).

### **Committee Membership**

Chris King Chairman (International Matters)                      Bill Hedley (Commissioner Matters)      Brian Trotter (Jury Matters at all levels)

David Alford (Exhibitions)    Frank Walton (Chairman 2020)

   Gerald Marriner (Philatelic Congress of Great Britain)

Jon Aitchison (Keeper of The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists)

   Nigel Gooch (Finance)

Mrs Deborah Gooch (Exhibitions Secretary)

Email: [exhibiting@abps.org.uk](mailto:exhibiting@abps.org.uk): Tel: 00 44 (0)1892 613176

### **Future Exhibitions**

#### **National Exhibitions**

**Spring Stampex:** 17th to 20th February 2016

A full national exhibition with all classes and the Seven Nations Challenge.

Application forms will be on the website at [abps.org.uk](http://abps.org.uk) from 15\* October. The

SNC is an invited competitive exhibition comprising four entries, in different classes, from each of Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom and the USA.

**York Fair:** 15\* to 16th July 2016 A full national exhibition with all classes.

**Autumn Stampex:** 14th to 17\* September 2016 A full national exhibition with all classes with the lead society being the King George VI Society  
With a three day International Cinderella Congress which will take place at the same time.

**Spring Stampex:** 15th to 18th February 2017

A full national exhibition with all classes and countries, but focussing on the on the former Ottoman Empire (including North Africa, Egypt and the Balkan States, plus Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Trans-Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Gulf States). Other exhibits will be accepted including those of Iran.

### **International Exhibitions**

**New York 2016:** 28th May to 4th June 2016 FIP Patronage APS Patronage  
World Stamp Show: Javits Convention Center in New York City

All literature entries and 40 entries in the frames have been accepted

**Taipei 2016:** 21st to 26th October 2016 FIP Patronage FLAP Auspices  
PHILATAIPEI 2016 World Stamp Championship and Exhibition, Taipei World Trade Centre, Exhibition Hall 1. UK Commissioner: Chris King

**Finlandia 2017:** 24th to 28th May 2017 FIP Recognition and FEPA Patronage  
Tampere-Hall, Tampere, Finland. Open to exhibitors from all FEPA countries, the United States of America and Australia, Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Finland. UK Commissioner: Bill Hedley

**London 2020:** 2nd May to 9th May 2020

### **Judging Seminars**

5th and 6th February 2016 Juror Training Seminar in Middlesbrough

This is aimed at Federation judges wishing to improve their skills, or for those wishing to accredit as a national philatelic judge or as a Federation level juror. Places are limited. Contact John Sussex

### **Challenges facing the Committee**

Locally

Federation events have not been listed above, and one area of work that the committee needs to undertake in 2015-16 is with Federations on federation exhibiting rules, judges, frames etc.

#### **Nationally**

Maintaining skills for national jurors

Exhibition Frames

#### **Internationally**

Funding FIP Affiliation Fees

FIP Regulations and GREX review

THE FIP Board Elections

Maintaining influence at FIP level