

EXECUTIVE BULLETIN March 2015

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

Club membership is down 5% since last year and specialist society membership is down 4%, so we all need to play our part in promoting and supporting our hobby. If your society has not yet paid its affiliation fees for 2015, please arrange this as soon as possible.

NEW WEBMASTER

We are pleased to tell you that Maurice Buxton is starting as webmaster for the ABPS site. He is an experienced manager of websites and we are confident that he will oversee not only regular updating of the site but continuing improvement. Maurice would welcome any feedback and content.

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

ABPS DIRECTORY AND SPEAKERS LIST ****IMPORTANT****

A major update is being undertaken of both the Directory and Speakers Lists, due to be published in 2015. Any contributions, updates and additions for this should also be sent to Rev John Walden. Please check your current details and advise us of any changes.

IMPORTANT **The closing deadline for any submissions is March 10th

We would also like copies of any Federation or Society Lists of Speakers.

Please send to handbook@abps.org.uk

Please note unaffiliated societies will not appear in the Directory.

EUROPHILEX LONDON 2015

ABPS is a major sponsor of this important event.

13th to 16th May 2015 at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London. Nearest Underground station is Angel (Northern Line).

Tickets can now be purchased for the first day at £10 from their website. All other days are free entry. www.London2015.net

This is expected to be the premier event in 2015 in GB with around 2000 frames of competitive displays and over 100 dealers taking part. The special display is “Philatelic Events that changed the world”.

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the event including manning the ABPS Information Stand.

Stamp Active will have a stand at the show and will be providing free goodie packs for all young collectors with a prize draw for any adult bringing a child

U18 to the stand. There will be a treasure hunt and activities on the theme of Europe to complete.

MIDPEX 2015 Warwickshire Exhibition Centre , Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN, 4th July 2015 10:00AM – 5:00PM

Sponsored by Cavendish Philatelic Auctions

MIDPEX is the prestigious biennial exhibition first held in 1995 and attended by stamp collectors from across the UK. It brings together Specialist Societies with local, national and international dealers covering all aspect of Philately. It provides a shop window for Specialist Societies to show off their sphere of interest to other collectors, to recruit members and identify common ground with members of other Societies. It also provides an opportunity for Societies to promote their publications and research projects and for members to meet informally, particularly those members who find it difficult to get to meetings in London. The event in 2015 will be the biggest and best yet with more space allowing the introduction of post card dealers as well as stamps, thematics and postal history. Over 60 dealers and 40 Specialist Societies are expected to support the Show with many holding their regional meetings at the event.

AUTUMN STAMPEX 2015 is a Full National ABPS Exhibition from 18th to 21st February at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London. The event will celebrate GB Overprints Society 45 Years Stampex is a full national exhibition with all classes.

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

STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK

Stamp Active Network will again be at Autumn Stampex with youth activities and a free children's auction. The theme of the event will be "USA". There is the continuing initiative to "Bring a Child to Stampex" to encourage the next generation of collectors with a free draw for a great pack of goodies if you take a youngster (U18) to the youth stand during the Show, so start planning your visit now. Prizes include an SG Presentation wallet of an 1840 Penny Black RRP £350. Their website is www.stampactive.co.uk

ABPS has agreed to continue to support the hosting and maintenance of the site in 2015 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 now 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. We urgently need a newsletter editor, fund-raiser and auction/promotional manager. Can you help?

Email: davies1890@btinternet.com

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain takes place at The Queens Hotel, Leeds, from 6th to 9th August 2015. The theme of the event will be the 1890's. Full details can be found on the ABPS website or please contact Paul Gaywood for more information. Email: gaywood@hotmail.co.uk

An article on Congress by Dane Garrod will appear in the April issue of Stamp & Coin Mart, in the shops around 13th April.

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

1. Spring Stampex 2015 results are on the FEPA website. It was a great show - 93 entries with a lot of Large Gold medals. The best in show was awarded to Howard Hughes for The Maltese Cross Cancellation. The Special Prize for Best in Show has been re-introduced as the Stampex Silver Mailcoach. A replica medal is being prepared for winners - this has been sponsored by the PTS. Incidentally, for those who have not heard, Graham Childs is retiring as Secretary of PTS and Stampex. Please have a look at the FEPA website for some excellent photographs of the show.
2. Frank Walton FRPSL has been awarded the FEPA 2014 Medal for Research for his book "The De La Rue Collection" in 6 volumes; one award is given per year.
3. York Fair National Exhibition is advancing well - the co-ordinator is Graham Winters, Wakefield. Maximum of 100 frames of postal history.
4. Gotha Bilateral National exhibition to be held 3rd to 6th September 2015 between UK and Germany. Going well - Graham Winters is Commissioner. Up to 200 frames of British exhibits. To celebrate 175 years since the marriage of Q Victoria and Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg
5. Turkey international to celebrate 100 years of Gallipoli is on very shortly. UK has four exhibits.
6. Hitchin Seminar Part II was held at Spring Stampex on Wednesday 18th February and all attended were successful in completing their training and are now accredited at UK county level. Certificates are being prepared.
7. New York 2016 - Bulletin and application forms are now available - please contact either Jon Aitchison or Francis Kiddle, Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner. Closing date August 2015.

OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2015 Early September - joint UK/Germany national exhibition to be held in Gothe -celebrating 175th Anniversary of marriage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. 200 frames available for UK exhibitors.

Singapore 2015 FIP Exhibition: 11th to 16th August: 50 years independence
2500 frames

Spring Stampex 2016: ABPS Pictorial Classes Thematic, Open and Postcards

World Stamp Show – New York 2016 28th May to 4th June: Javits

Convention Center New York City

Autumn Stampex 2016: King George VI Society and Cinderella Societies
throughout the world.

Spring Stampex 2017: Middle East celebrating 100 years of Iraq stamps.

Executive Centre has been booked by SWE for each Spring & Autumn.

Hiring available at £100 per 2 hours (subsidised) - contact Chrissie Baker.

Breaking the mould - Essen 2015 (European Thematic Championship) will combine with
London 2015 to be a single international event held in two countries. This provides more
frames for each exhibition. The top nine exhibits from Essen will be shown at London 2015,
not judged, but available for candidate for 'Best in Show'. ECTP will have FEPA patronage
and FIP recognition.

Please remember that the ABPS does **not** subsidise individual collectors' exhibition fees or the costs
of Stampex.

For more information, contact: international@abps.org.uk

SEMINARS

Judging and Exhibition Seminars, organized by ABPS over two days,
are available to Federations where demand exists locally. Thanks to
Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions for their sponsorship.

If you would like more information please contact

events@abps.org.uk

The recent event in Hitchin, sponsored by Grosvenor Philatelic
Auctions, had 19 delegates and was well received. All have now
qualified as Federation Judges.

All judges are expected to attend a Seminar within a five year period
to maintain their accreditation.

Other Reminders...

UPDATES FOR THE ABPS HANDBOOK & DIRECTORY

Please provide feedback and updates to handbook@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 'hidden' but can be reinstated
instantly when they become affiliated.

Additional copies of the Directory may be obtained from the Secretary at a cost of £9 inc. p&p.

THE ABPS RANGE OF INFORMATION LEAFLETS

They are:

What the ABPS does for you

What is stamp collecting?

Stamps Fact Sheet

What is Social Philately?

What is Postal History?

What is Thematic Collecting?

The Visiting Speaker
ABPS Awards Scheme
What is Postal Stationery?
Model Constitution & Rules for Philatelic Societies
What is Open Philately
Organising a Society Conference Weekend

Copies can be obtained by sending a SAE to the Secretary (address below) or downloaded from the website.

Others under preparation are: How to conduct Society Auctions, What is Cinderella Collecting? What is Traditional Collecting? Post Card Collecting. These will be available from London 2015 on the Information stand.

Any feedback on communications and ABPS publications, should be sent to Chris Oliver. Email: communications@abps.org.uk

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 February. 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 typed in a clear format or posted to him. He needs more photos too!

The closing date for copy for the next issue is 31st March 2015.

WEBSITE

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.

Please send any material for inclusion or suggestions for improvement to John Baron:

Email: chair@abps.org.uk **The new 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 are to be published shortly. Further details can be found on the ABPS website.

A Powerpoint presentation is now also available on the website 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 Susan Oliver for more information.

Nominations for the Congress Medal and Awards of Merit must be sent to Susan Oliver by 1st March each year. Email: awards@abps.org.uk

THE BRITISH PHILATELIC TRUST has now been wound up.

Applications for funding should now be sent to THE PHILATELIC FUND
c/o RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY .

The office space at the Business Design Centre (Room 145E) is available for hire (suitable for committee meeting etc) on application to Tina Wilby at RPSL.

MORE HELP NEEDED URGENTLY

Help is also required to man the Information Stand at every Stampex.

“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

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 but 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 the ABPS
General Secretary

Willie King, ABPS, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G6JY

E-mail: secretary@abps.org.uk

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