

EXECUTIVE BULLETIN February 2016

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

Although the number of societies affiliated to ABPS has been maintained, local club society membership is down 8.6% since last year although specialist society membership is down less at 4.4% and national societies membership have increased by 2.6%. This remains a concern, so we all need to play our part in promoting philately across the UK.

If your society has not yet paid its affiliation fees for 2016, please arrange this as soon as possible. Please note the affiliation fee for each member is now £1.25.

You can add further personal support by becoming a “Friend of Philately” with an annual contribution of £25 or a “Patron” for £60.

To discuss any membership issues, please contact Alan Godfrey by email on membership@abps.org.uk or call 01789765385

NEW OFFICERS

Following the resignation of Willie King, Neil Ritchie has taken over as Secretary of ABPS and George Henshilwood has joined the Committee as the representative for Scotland.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The accounts for 2015 can now be found on the ABPS website.

Income has fallen again reflecting the overall fall in society membership across the country. The association has been more active in providing grants and maintaining its profile via the website. Publication costs have fallen, simply reflecting that five printing bills for ABPS News were made in 2014 as against four in 2015. The overall deficit is comparable with the previous year. The increase in the level of capitation fees is unlikely to improve the position for 2015 as the publication of the ABPS Handbook will utilise these additional funds.

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

We are pleased to say that the new handbook and speakers list has gone to print and copies will be distributed to affiliated societies, friends and patrons shortly. This has been a big undertaking and our thanks to Rev. John Walden for his efforts.

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

Copies can also be bought at the Spring Stampex Information Stand at £8.

Please send updates or amendments to handbook@abps.org.uk

Please note unaffiliated societies do not appear in the Directory.

SPRING STAMPEX 2016 takes place from 17th to 20th February 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. The exhibition will include the displays for the “Seven Nations Challenge”.

STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK

Stamp Active Network will again be at Spring Stampex with youth activities and a free children’s auction (2pm Saturday). The theme of the event will be “**Flowers**”. 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 has agreed to continue 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

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain takes place at The Belfry Hotel, Cambourne, near Cambridge from 21st to 24th July 2016. The philatelic theme of the event will be the "Islands". Full details can be found on the ABPS website.

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

Membership and Roles

Chris King Chairman (International Matters)
Bill Hedley (Commissioner Matters) and Seminars
Brian Trotter (Jury Matters at all levels) Chairman of National Exhibitions
David Alford (Exhibitions) Secretary of National Exhibitions
Frank Walton (Chairman 2020)
Gerald Marriner (Philatelic Congress of Great Britain)
Jon Aitchison (The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists)
Nigel Gooch (Finance)
Mike Smith (Non-Attending) FIP Commissions [Needs brief]
Birthe King (Non-Attending FEPA Director)

York Fair 2016 15-16 July 2016

This is also a full national exhibition. Entry forms are available from the ABPS website.

Autumn Stampex 14th to 17th September 2016

The lead society for this event is the King George VI Society.

Spring Stampex 15th to 18th February 2017

Theme for this will be 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.

International Exhibitions

World Stamp Show in New York from 28th May to 4th June 2016

UK Commissioner Jon Aitchison with Assistant Commissioner - Graham Winters

Around 35 entries from the UK have been accepted for the Show - a tremendous effort.

Finlandia 2017 24th to 28th May 2017

Closing date for entry applications is 31st May 2016

UK Commissioner Bill Hedley: Email: ewlhedley@yahoo.co.uk

London 2020 2nd May to 9th May 2020

Chairman of the organising committee is Frank Walton with Chief Executive David Alford.

A new website can be found at www.london2020.co/

Seminars

Current

5th - 6th February 2016 Juror Training with John Sussex Yorkshire

17th to 20th February 2016 Stampex Seminar: Postcards with Colin Hofmann and Birthe King

18th - 19th March 2016 Workshop for accredited national jurors in Hitchin.

Future seminars

September: How to win a Gold Medal to be run by 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

FIP and FEPA

Chris King has been nominated as a Director for the FIP Board by the ABPS Executive Committee.

The Philatelic Hub

Meetings have begun involving the PTS, BPMA (Philatelic Museum), the Trade (Spink and SG), ABPS, RPSL and Royal Mail. The objectives are to find common marketing ground, to promote philately, to promote the United Kingdom, and London as the home of philately, and to work together to develop these.

European National, FEPA and FIP Exhibitions

Date	Name	Place	Category
2016			
17-20 February 2016	Spring Stampex 2016	London	Full National Exhibition and Seven Nations

			Championship. UK
18-19 March 2016	Milano 2016	Milano	National. IT
24-26 March 2016	Collecta Fair, Exhibition and Seminar	Ljubljana	International Thematic. SI
25-26 March 2016	Brievenbeurs International "Cover Fair"	Gouda	National Netherlands + International Fair. NL
08-10 April 2016	NORDIA 2016	Jyväskylä	Multinational, Nordic Countries, Estonia, RPSL. FEPA Recognition. FI
12-17 April 2016	EUROSPACE 2016	Praha	International, FEPA Recognition. CZ
15-17 April 2016	Seminar "Slovenian Symposium"	Plöschenberg	Seminar. AT
22-24 April 2016	INPOSTA 2016	Näfels	PH National with Int'l participation. CH
26 April - 01 May 2016	LUBRAPEX 2016	Viana do Castelo	Multinational. FEPA Support. PO
05-09 May 2016	BALKANFILA 2016	Tirana	10 countries. Albania FEPA Recognition
06-08 May 2016	Alpe-Adria 2016	Szombathely	Multinational. HU
06-08 May 2016	HUNFILA 2016	Szombathely	National. HU
12-14 May 2016	Deutsche Meisterschaften der Thematischen Philatelie (DMTH)	Essen	Rang 1 und Rang 2. DE
14-16 May 2016	Exfimo 2016	Mondorf-les-Bains	National Thematic. LU
18-19 May 2016	27e Journée	Trifolion	National Maximaphily. LU

	maximaphile		
19-22 May 2016	Paris-Philex 2016	Paris	National with Int'l participation. FR
20-22 May, 2016	ROSSICA 2016	Berlin	FEPA Recognition. DE
26-29 May 2016	EuroScout u. World Collectors Meeting	Wien	International TH Scout. AT
28 May - 04 June 2016	NEW YORK 2016	New York	FIP Patronage. USA
28 May - 05 June 2016	Philately and St. Anthony collectors	Padova	National Thematic. IT
02-05 June 2016	2. česko-slovenská filatelistická výstava	Žďár nad Sázavou	Binational. CZ
10-12 June 2016	WESTFILA 2016	Roeselare	National Belgium. BE
15-16 July 2016	York 2016	York Racecourse	Full National Exhibition. UK
12-14 August 2016	HALLFRIM 2016	Halmstad	National. SE
24-28 August 2016	ODESSAPHILEX 2016	Odessa	National with Int'l participation 9 countries, FEPA Recognition. UA
25-29 August 2016	GMUNDEN 2016	Gmunden	International, FEPA Recognition. AT
02-04 September 2016	Benedikt-Phila '16	Münsterschwarzach	National. DE
14-17 September 2016	Autumn Stampex 2016	London	Full National Exhibition. UK
14-18 September 2016	EXFILNA 2016	Zaragoza	National Spanish + Croatia + Israel. SP
16-18 September 2016	Thematic Seminar	St. Pölten	National TH. AT

16-18 September 2016	Jugend in Mainz	Mainz	Youth National. DE
07-09 October 2016	Exposition "Nature, Environnement, Ecologie"	Mamer	National TH Nature. LU
15-16 October 2016	Mostra Filatelica	Borgomanero	National. IT
20-25 October 2016	PHILATAIPEI 2016	Taipei	FIP Patronage + FIP Congress.
21-23 October 2016	PINKABRIA 2016	Pinkafeld	National. AT
21-23 October 2016	Toul Timbre Passion	Toul	National Youth and TH France. FR
25-27 October 2016	BULCOLLECTO 2016	Plovdiv	National Bulgaria. BUL
27-29 October 2016	International Fair and Seminars	Sindelfingen	Int'l Fair and Conferences. DE
05-06 November 2016	National udstilling i Birkerød Tak16	Birkerød	National. DK
2017			
15-18 February 2017	Spring Stampex 2017	London	Full National Exhibition. UK
31 March-02 April 2017	Leverkusen '17	Leverkusen	National. DE
24-28 May 2017	FINLANDIA 2017	Tampere	FEPA Patronage. FIN: FIP Recognition
25-27 August 2017	Multilaterale 2017	Hertogenbosch	Multinational 7 countries. NL
07-16 September	OsmoOkno Kranj	Kranj	One Frame International

2017	2017		Alps Adria Group. SI
06-08 October 2017	HIBRIA 2017	Hirtenberg	International. FEPA Recognition. AT
26-28 October 2017	International Fair and Seminars	Sindelfingen	Int'l Fair and Conferences. DE
27-29 October 2017	Nordia 2017	Vejle	Multinational, 6 countries. DK
1st week December 2017	MonacoPhil 2017	Monaco	National with Int'l participation. MO

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 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.

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? Post Card Collecting. 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 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 31st March 2016

WEBMASTER

Maurice Buxton is the webmaster for the ABPS site.

Maurice would welcome any feedback and content.

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 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 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 STILL NEEDED

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 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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