

ABERDEEN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER September 2018

Members should all have received a copy of the 2018-19 syllabus by mail, together with an up-to date copy of the Society's constitution which the committee felt should be in the hands of all members. There will be spare copies of the syllabus available at the first meeting which will be on 13th September and will take the form of the usual informal gathering when members are invited to bring items for sale or exchange. There is usually plenty of boxes and stock books to browse so bring along some small change and you may anticipate some acquisitions. If you have items to dispose of, then this is an opportunity. Thanks to Chrissie Jefferies, our Secretary, for all her hard work in preparing a programme with a mix of visiting speakers and our own members.

We Remember Alex Gray who passed away last February. Alex had a wide range of collecting interests and was very regularly in attendance at meetings as well as a frequent bidder at our auctions,.

Congress Report 2018. The 89th Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies annual Congress in Perth last April included another very successful National Competition, with seventeen philatelic entries in nine classes, plus six postcard entries. Congratulations to Graham Searle who was awarded gold for his 'Money and Valuables through the Post' which charts the development of the registered mail system in Canada. Congratulations also to Bruce Walker (with Brian Dow) for the award of small silver gilt for their book on 'Kincardineshire Post Offices and Postmarks 1741-2017'. The open competition was again well supported, with thirteen one-frame entries, one more than last year. Entries in the open competition are anonymous but I suspect that at least two of the entries came from Aberdeen. The winner of the open competition, which is judged by the public at the exhibition, was an exhibit entitled 'The Postal History of the GOA World War II Internee Mail', a totally new topic to most of us. Now is the time to think about an entry in Congress next April. Further details can be found on the Association's website at <http://www.scottishphilately.co.uk/>. Whilst on the topic of competitive exhibiting, the President directs me to mention that your newsletter editor won the *Grand Prix* at Finland's annual national exhibition in April this year with his 8-frame exhibit of 'Finland: the Arms Type of 1875'.

Other ASPS news. There are currently 42 societies affiliated to ASPS, ranging in size from less than ten members to 2/300 members. ASPS still has a vacancy for a publicity officer, mainly to handle the promotion for Congress. Does anyone have any journalistic insights and a willingness to help? There are tentative discussions in progress about relocating the UK national exhibition which has been held in York for the past three years, perhaps on a year-about basis and Perth is one possible venue. The exhibition could conceivably include entries at both federation and UK national level.

Library: The library copy of Stanley Gibbons Part 1 is missing, with no borrower identified in the loan book. Does anyone know where it is?

Club Packet: The Packet Secretary can still accept booklets for circulation. If blank booklets are needed, he can supply. Members not currently receiving the packet and who would like to receive it, please contact the Packet Secretary (his details are on the syllabus) who will be pleased to add names to the circulation list. No postage costs are involved, as the packets are circulated by hand.

Promoting the Society! Alex Walker reports that the 3 A-frames for exhibiting in libraries, museums etc have arrived and have been checked and assembled. One will be on display at the opening meeting of the Society. One frame went on show on 21st August in Airyhall public library for a month with a display entitled "A-Z of Stamp collecting". There has been a very positive response to our suggestion about having a single frame in other local branch libraries which have floor space, in rotation for 3-4 weeks at a time. The Central Library has been reserved for a 3 frame (six side) display from 15th October until 18th November, with WWI as its theme. Half a dozen members have promised suitable material. Suggested venues for future include the Garioch Centre at Inverurie, and the Lighthouse Museum Fraserburgh. We are open to further suggestions.