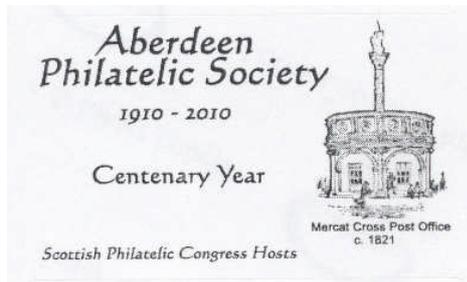


ABERDEEN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER: September 2009

Welcome, not just to another new season, but to the season in which we reach our centennial. The Society came into being on Wednesday 30th March 1910 when nine philatelists met in a solicitor's office in Union Street. We will celebrate that event to the day at the invitation of the Lord Provost on 30th March 2010, except it will be a Tuesday, not a Thursday. The event at the Town House will take the form of a drinks reception finger buffet tea/coffee. Invitations will be sent out from the Lord Provost's office to members of the Society and a small number of guests. The total number in attendance will be about seventy but to enable an exact number to be negotiated with the Lord Provost's office, please let our Society Secretary know if you would like your partner to be included in the invitation. It would also be helpful to know if you will be unable to accept the invitation.

The preparations for the other events commemorating our centennial year are progressing. The following are the reports of those in charge of the arrangements for individual events.



The Librarian reports that an adhesive **centenary label** depicting the Merkat Cross Post Office 1822 has been produced in sheets of 21. Sheets will be available at society meetings or directly from the Librarian. We hope that members will support these by purchasing 5 sheets at £2, or better still, 10 sheets costing only £3. Use them on all your mail.

The Centenary Exhibition coordinator reports that the Society's **exhibition in the Maritime Museum**, Ship Row, is confirmed as from 18 July to 14 November 2010. It will be a six-frame exhibition with the display changed every four weeks. The coordinator thanks all members who have offered material. All the frames are now spoken for and he will be in touch with exhibitors in the autumn to finalise the details. The event will be launched on Sunday 18 July with a 'Cheese and Wine' reception in the Education Room of the Maritime Museum. The event will be recognised as part of London 2010 Festival of Stamps, a year long programme of exhibitions, events and activities to mark the centenary of the accession of George V, the philatelist king, and will be listed on the Festival of Stamps website: <http://www.london2010.org.uk/exhibitions-and-events>.

The Congress Display coordinators report good progress in preparing for our **Host Society display at Congress** in Perth next April. They canvassed all the members who missed the initial request for a 16-sheet (1-frame) entry and wish to thank those who have responded. To date, 45 members have offered one frame. The remaining 15 frames will be filled from the archive and from some members whose initial response included a second frame with a different topic. If you offered five frames and have only been asked for one, why not enter the national competition? We need some entries from our Society in our centennial year.

Pre-Congress display meetings. As you will see from our 2009-10 syllabus, two meetings have been allocated to ensure that displays are ready in good time. All participants will be invited to bring their 16 sheets to show to the Society either in December or in January. A letter will be sent confirming the arrangements. We shall probably invite the A-M surnames to show at the first meeting and the N-Y at the second. Please make every effort to ensure that yours is ready by December. We will issue large size standard envelopes to hold each entry. If anyone does not have protective sleeves for their pages, please see the Librarian as these can be provided on loan. They can be purchased from Grampian Stamp Shop.

The centennial history entitled 'Aberdeen Philatelic Society 1910-2010 – a history of philately in northeast Scotland' has gone to press. It runs to 165 pages in A5 format with some 80 illustrations. We were eventually successful in a second application for financial assistance from Awards for All Scotland. To my surprise, I received letters from Nicol Stephen MSP and from Anne Begg MP congratulating us on the award. We have already received £1000 from the British Philatelic Trust. As a result of the second award, we anticipate covering the outstanding production costs from sales, with a very substantial discount for members. The publication date will probably be in January 2010, perhaps at the first meeting of the Society in the new year.

