

ABERDEEN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER September 2014

The first meeting of the 2014-15 season will be on 18th September and will take the form of the usual informal gathering when members are invited to bring items for sale or exchange. Thereafter, in the first half of the season, we will be treated to displays by three visitors, commencing with a GB display, a topic which used to be on the syllabus at least once every year but which has been absent for some time. Ian Evans will no doubt give us a fine display, as will Stewart Gardiner who has displayed to us before and also has much to admire. Some of Jean Osborne's pages of Papua & New Guinea were on display at PERTH 2012 and if you saw it, your appetite will have been whetted for more.

We remember Tom Beedie and Angus Naples who passed away earlier this year. Tom was Packet Secretary from 1995 to 2002 and collected widely. Angus had a fine collection of classic New Zealand Chalon Heads which he recently displayed to the Society. Both were regular attenders at Society meetings and will be sadly missed.

At the AGM last April, both our current **Secretary and Treasurer** indicated that they wished to stand down at the end of the 2014-15 season. Please consider whether you can be of any assistance in the filling these two vacancies, at least in part, and if so, do speak to Ian Kennaway or David Macdonald.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Society on 17 April, **access to the library for Friday members** was considered and it was agreed that access would be possible if someone is nominated as the responsible person and obtains the key from the Secretary. Access would only be possible, of course, when the room adjacent to the store room where the library is held, is not in use.

The next **Postal Auction** will be scheduled for March/April 2015.

That label again. Members may recall my note in the last Newsletter (January 2014) about the advertising label produced by the Aberdeen nineteenth century commercial photographer, George Washington Wilson, which Charles Kiddle used to open his display to us in the previous November. I was intrigued by it and made further enquiries. I reported that two members were in possession of copies and asked if further copies were in members' hands or known elsewhere. I can now report that Aberdeen Public Library has a damaged pair in black but no other copies have come to light. It is clearly a rare item so if you happen to come across an example in brown or in black, snap it up, if only for the Society archive.

The editor has a few copies remaining of **Aberdeen Philatelic Society 1910-2010**, our centennial history. If any member does not have a copy or could otherwise suggest suitable locations to place copies, please contact the editor. They are available for any modest donation to the Society. Better that they go into circulation than sit in my loft. I have placed one or two in local charity book sales, where apparently they were snapped up!

A new way to collect. How about one stamp from every stamp issuing country? The William H Gross Stamp Gallery in the USA has designed an album which can be

downloaded from their website, with places for one stamp for every country that has ever issued postage stamps, including many that no longer exist. The list amounts to almost 800 stamps! It would be very easy to find examples from many countries but some are very obscure and the collection would be very difficult to complete. Collectors are always up for a challenge and it would surely make an interesting display.

LONDON 2015 EUROPHILEX philatelic exhibition next May has apparently attracted a lot of interest from potential exhibitors across Europe. There were 520 applications from 36 European countries, far more than could be accommodated at the venue, the Business Design Centre in Islington, the same London venue as the annual STAMPEX exhibitions, but with every available hall occupied. The organisers decided that the fairest way to match the number of applications with the capacity of the venue was to accept 60% of the applications from each country which means that there will be 367 competitive exhibits in the frames. All the usual classes will be represented, with strength in traditional philately, postal history and the open class. It is clearly going to be the biggest UK exhibition since LONDON 2010 and for some time to come. Further details from the website at <http://www.london2015.net/>.

The Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies annual Congress in Perth last April hosted by the Scottish Postal History Society with David Kindley in the Presidential chair was a very successful event. The national competitions attracted almost as many entries as last year's record. There were twenty-three entries plus three in the literature class and five in the postcard class, providing a very good show. Four gold medals were awarded, including one in the newly instituted Cinderella class and another in the aerophilately class. For the first time for many years, there were entries in all available classes. Congratulations to Ken Bruce who was awarded bronze-silver for his Royal Tour Mail and for the award of the "Best in Class" in the postcard competition. The more informal Open Competition which is decided by popular vote, attracted eleven entries and was won by our very own Chrissie Jefferies. It is time to start thinking about an entry into either the national or the open competitions in next year's Congress to be held on 17-18 April 2015. At the annual dinner, Ron Harkess, who displayed to us at the end of last season on the subject of the Battle of the River Plate, was awarded the McConnell Medal for his chairmanship of PERTH 2012. This is an occasional award in recognition of an exceptional contribution to philately in Scotland.

Subscriptions

Members Subscriptions to the Society are due in September for the season 2014-15. The treasurer will receive subscriptions at the opening night, in cash or by cheque, and it would be helpful if the enclosed form could also accompany your payment. The form is also seeking your address if you have moved house in the last year; and your e-mail address, if you have one, or it has altered in the last year.

The subscriptions for the coming year are:- Town Members £12.00, and Country Members £6.00.

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Aberdeen Philatelic Society **Subscription Renewal – Season 2014-15**
I enclose my subscription of - Town Member £12.00.)
Country Member £6.00) *Delete as appropriate*

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Address (if changed).....