

ABERDEEN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER September 2021

A Message from the President

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and spirits as we continue to cope with the Covid 19 virus. I am pleased to announce that we can return to room meetings on our scheduled start date of 9th. September. A lot of work has gone on in the background to achieve this. With the help of a Church of Scotland health & safety auditor, we have developed a Covid safety policy and a risk assessment has been carried out regarding our use of the facilities. We will be responsible for sanitising the surfaces in use, such as tables, chairs, toilets and the lift. Hand gel will be available and the wearing of masks will be necessary when seated inside the room, except when consuming tea or coffee. The assumption is that members attending meetings have been fully vaccinated.

As a back-up, we are developing a schedule of zoom presentations and the society has been approached by Harrogate Philatelic Society with a view to carrying out joint zoom presentations. This is something that could still happen in conjunction with room meetings. Our treasurer and Zoom guru Graham Searle has kindly volunteered to develop this new format and we will keep you informed of developments. I am looking forward to meeting everyone again in early September for the beginning of a full programme for the season.

Roy Burnett

The first meeting of the season on 9th September will take the usual form of an informal gathering when members are invited to bring items for sale or exchange. There are usually plenty of boxes and stock books to browse so bring along some small change and you may make some acquisitions. If you have items to dispose of which may not be suitable for the auction in December, e.g. stock books of duplicates, then this is an opportunity. There will be the usual standing display on 5 frames, provided by Alex Walker.

The Friday morning group will convene again this season with the first meeting on Friday 17th September in the Rubislaw Church Centre.

The Society's Postal Auction No. 35 returned £750 to the society, enhanced by two generous donations of lots. Many thanks to Sandy McKenzie who audited the accounts, Fred Jefferies who distributed winning lots to the Aberdeen area

and to all who submitted lots for sale in the auction. The next auction is scheduled for March 2022.

The Packet Secretary reports. Thanks to all the vendors for material and of course the buyers without which the packet would not exist. I had two extra packets running for 2020-21, just to give members something to look at during lock-down and they did quite well, so thank you for spending your time and money. Now I know some of the material does not come up to scratch i.e. condition and price and I know some of you could do better. I have FREE books that you could have and with a little time you could fill these books and try and sell. One tip, do not over price. First packet should be out early September.

News from the Publicity Officer. You may have seen by now occasional decorated fibre glass LIGHTHOUSE Art works around the City and County. Our President Roy Burnett has been much involved with the CLAN Charity in distributing these to some 50 locations, museums, shops and community centres. We have taken the chance to piggyback three of these exhibits with an A-Frame of David MacDonald's "LIGHTHOUSES on STAMPS," placed, one in each of The Garioch Centre Inverurie, The Museum of Scottish Lighthouses in Fraserburgh, and the Science Centre in Constitution Street. My thanks to David for his material and to Roy who did all the transporting of frames.

I will now try to prepare posters for future meetings to be available at each club evening for members to distribute to shops and POs etc which have notice boards, as we have done in the past. The poster for 9 Sept is ready now. If any members can help distribute one or two of these I would be grateful for assistance in getting these out. Alex Walker.

David Macdonald's zoom **display of Basutoland** to the South Africa Collectors Society, earlier this year, has now been placed on the website of the South African Philatelic Club in South Africa.. The web link is:-

<https://southafricanphilatelyclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Basutoland-Postal-History-Display.pdf>

ASPS Society Displays in place of Congress 2021. The Alternative 91st Congress exhibition is still available to view on the ASPS website and will remain there until 31st August, so there is just time to have a look if you have not done so already. Go to the Homepage of the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies' website where you will find no less than 72 displays, including 28 Traditional Philately, 14 Postal History, 13 Thematic, 11 postcards and 6 Aerophilately, submitted by 24 ASPS member societies including Aberdeen PS.

A reminder. SCOTEX, the annual October event organised by the Scottish Philatelic Dealers Association has been cancelled this year. The Dewars Centre, Perth, has been used as a vaccination centre.

Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies Annual subscriptions paid by member societies to the ASPS is under consideration for a change from the present graded system (1-11 members, 11-25 etc) to a simple per capita basis. An individual patron membership is also under consideration. The Association is seeking additional funding to meet an unsustainable deficit arising from fame storage costs in the absence of Congress table income. Watch this space!

British Guiana 1856 1c black on magenta. Most collectors will have heard of the sale of this famous stamp at Sotheby's New York last June, when it realised less than its estimate, a mere £5.8 million. It was bought by Stanley Gibbons which is said to have borrowed the purchase price from its major shareholder with the object of recouping the purchase price or perhaps making a profit by putting the stamp on display at its shop in London and selling shares or some other form of token denoting part ownership. The details have yet to be announced. Perhaps it will appear on the agenda of a future committee meeting of Aberdeen PS!

Subscriptions. Members Subscriptions to the Society are due in September for the season 2021-22. 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. Members who don't attend meetings regularly can pay by mail. 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, particularly if it has altered in the last year. The subscriptions for the coming year are:- Town Members £15.00, and Country Members £8.00.

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Aberdeen Philatelic Society **Subscription Renewal – Season 2021-22**

I enclose my subscription of - Town Member £15.00.)
Country Member £8.00) *Delete as appropriate*

Name(*Print*).....email:.....

Address(*if changed*).....

.....Treasurer: - Graham Searle, Ryvoan, 11 Riverside, Banchory AB31 6PS.