

## Dundee & District Philatelic Society

### Hon. Secretary's Report 2012-3

The 2012-3 season was opened on the 27<sup>th</sup> September by Alan Roy presenting the President's display, *GB Miscellany* in the presence of 16 members and his wife, Roma. At the following meetings displays were given by one of our members (Ron Goodfellow), by visitors (four times) and by other societies (Edinburgh, Perth & The Caledonian). We held five meetings at which members in general participated. The average attendance was 19 with the highest attendance being 23 on the 25<sup>th</sup> October to see Christopher Podger's *Cyprus Miscellany*. The lowest attendance was 14 (as to be expected on a cold, wet & windy night). This continues the improved attendance recorded in 2011-2.

Jean Osborne was unable to come from Falkirk on the 10<sup>th</sup> October to show her award winning *Papua, New Guinea and PNG* collection and her visit was rescheduled to the 6<sup>th</sup> December. Unfortunately, the continued ill health of her husband meant she had to cancel the rearranged date as well. We are indebted to Ron Goodfellow for bringing his display forward to October and also to *The Quartet of Members* who stepped-in in December. Both evenings were enjoyed by large audiences.

Our Society visited four others this year (Aberdeen, Arbroath, Stirling & the Postcard Club of Tayside). Four members displayed each time and their varied material was very well received.

We welcomed two new members (David Millar & Harry Jackson) but were sorry to receive the resignation of Colin Rochester who attends Perth PS, which meets on the same evenings as Dundee. Undoubtedly, it is the publicity that Colin Campbell creates that informs the public of our existence, but after that it is the friendly atmosphere and interesting displays that produce membership. When mentioning publicity today, I must not overlook our website which (thanks to Norrie Kelso) is an excellent resource. It is unfortunate that the meetings of Perth and Dundee clash. This is unavoidable because both societies must meet when their venues are available. In Dundee, we meet on the second and fourth Thursday in the month from September to April. The Arts Society continues to be good landlord and its rooms in Roseangle are an excellent philatelic society meeting place for environment and location.

I regret having to inform the AGM of the deaths of two former members Ron Marr and Hamish Ogilvie.

The morning meetings continue to be a success with a normal attendance of seven. The peak attendance was ten. As with the evening meetings, publicity (in the press & on the web) brings in visitors who find the daytime more suitable. Indeed, there are members who do not enjoy going out on dark winter evenings who find a daytime informal meeting ideal. Next year, Thursday morning meetings will continue to be held once a month.

Reorganising and cataloguing our library continues. This task has increased in complexity because a system is being developed that is appropriate to philately and which allows the classification of any book with cross referencing to other relevant headings. Library morning meetings continued through the year and they will continue throughout next year since the task is unlikely to be completed soon.

At present, I am drafting the syllabus for 2013-4 and plan that there will be 14 meetings with the normal mix of individual visitors, visiting societies and member's participation nights. *Showing one's Stamps (The 1<sup>st</sup> Step)* is a new type of members event in which everyone can be involved.

This year's Society Dinner was held on March 9<sup>th</sup> at The Tasting Rooms, a reschedule forced upon us by the venue originally chosen ceasing to trade. It was a well-attended social event with 19 members and wives being present. I should not dwell on any negatives because we enjoyed each other's company and good food in general! At the AGM I will propose holding a dinner in 2014. We should consider two changes. We will investigate a different restaurant and when to hold it. We have no control over the weather in February / March and, on leaving, one or two of us found the bitter cold uncomfortable. Should we hold it in May?

Charles Lloyd (Hon. Secretary) 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013