

## ASPS Representative's Report

This year there have been 3 delegates meetings, one in October during Scotex, one in January and the final one, the AGM, in Perth during Congress.

Congress this year again went very well with an increased number of dealers in attendance compared to last year. There were 44 dealers this year, with there being 4/5 new dealers attending for the first time, compared to only 36 dealers last year. In the National Competitions there were only 13 entries which is a significant drop from the previous year, with only 1 Gold medal being awarded this year. Four of the Trophies were not awarded this year. The Open Competition saw 6 entries and the Postcard Competition only had 2 entries. Unfortunately there were only 5 entries in the Junior Competition and as such the ALBA Salver was not awarded this year. The Tom Rielly display was delivered by Ray Welland and consisted on sheets selected from his World War I collection of Postal History and Postcards.

Each year Congress requires a number of volunteers to assist in setting up the displays and organising the exhibition space ready for congress to begin. These volunteers are necessary because without them Congress would not be able to go ahead. I would like to express my gratitude to those members of our society who helped out at this year's Congress.

The 88<sup>th</sup> Congress will be hosted by Lanarkshire Philatelic Society on the 21/22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 so mark up these dates in your calendars now. The President for next years' congress will be Alan Wishart and the Vice President will be Richard Cuthbertson from the Scottish Philatelic Society.

Although still to be finalised Lanarkshire are considering having a cover representing something related to the Cameronian Regiment during World War 1 and a postcard possibly relating to Scotland victory over England in 1967. The Tom Rielly display will be presented by Professor Ian Stevenson and the Guest of Honour will hopefully be someone from the Cameronian Regiment.

Mike Turnbull has assumed responsibility for the Open Competitions in the future. George Henshilwood has taken on the duties of the Representative to ABPS following the resignation of Willie King. As yet the posts of Publicity Officer and Junior Competition Organiser are still vacant and volunteers are being sought from all societies.

Thank you to all who manned our society stall at Congress, our society funds benefitted to the tune of £30.30.

*Norman Kelso* ASPS Representative