

Minutes of the AGM of Dundee and District Philatelic Society held at Dundee Arts Society Rooms, Roseangle, Dundee on Thursday 28th April 2016

The meeting opened at 19:30 with the President, Francis Podger, in the chair. He welcomed those who were present. (Those present are listed in the attendance book)

Apologies for Absence: Alec Steele, George Soutar, Colin Rochester Alan Roy, Dennis Collins, Dick Chalmers, Betty Wood, Ron Goodfellow, Alastair Lawson, Doug Howkins

Adoption of the Agenda: Adopted as circulated.

Minutes of the AGM held on 23rd April 2015: Accepted as a true and full account of the meeting.

Matters arising from the Minutes: None

Officers Reports:

President: Francis Podger welcomed everyone. He commended members for their participation during the year, adding that the quality of contributions at members' evenings is a testament to the strength of our society. The introduction of the new evening timing with the open question sections (at meetings) had been a success. He noted that the committee works hard to keep us on track and wanted to record his thanks to each and every one for the effort put in. He hoped that all members had enjoyed the year as much as he did and he was eagerly awaiting the next session .

Secretary: The most important element in the activity of our society is the displays shown at our evening meetings. This year all 14 were well attended. We enjoyed full displays given by 2 of our members, by 4 non-members and by 3 visiting society displays (8 individuals contributing at these). There were four members' evenings, one of which was a new and successful concept "Philatelic Miscellany". The highest attendance was 23 with 16 being the lowest. On average 19.1 individuals were present. Morning meetings are now established fixtures at which a stable company of about ten attend. Our membership has remained the same. No deaths were reported. Bill Early has resigned after many years as a member. Finally, Charles said he was looking forward to rounding-off our season with the Society Dinner at the Invercarse Hotel, an appropriate and enjoyable way to end this successful year.

Treasurer: Robert reported that the accounts for 2015 had been "*examined and found correct*" by our Independent Examiner (Mr R G Young). Reinvestment of our funds in an Alliance Trust Savings account in 2014 meant that 2015 was the first full year for income (being £1014). In 2015 our total income (£2105) was lower than 2014 and overall expenditure slightly higher (£2083). (The transfer of a meeting to the Queen's Hotel, purchasing a new trophy and an increase in library purchases contributed to the latter.) The net result was that the overall surplus fell to £22. Robert was hopeful that the accounts in 2016 will show a healthier surplus. In particular, he thanked our Independent Examiner, Mr Richard G Young - he is meticulous in examining the accounts of the Society.

Packet Secretary: In 2015 there were two batches, one of four booklets, 88-91, and one of six, 92-97, completely finished. (For these, there were 15 contributors and 17 buyers.) Another batch of six, 98-103 were issued in 2015 and almost finished during the year. They were completed, and booklets, letters and cheques sent out to contributors in early April 2016. In 2015 there were two payments made to the main DDPS fund totalling £110.

Librarian: David Easson acknowledged the work of the three other members of the Library Working Party (Alan Roy, Dave Cree and Peter Dix). The stock is over 700, a total that increases as cataloguing progresses. Also additional books are received as gifts and occasionally are purchased. Monthly meetings are held during which stickers are inserted and reference details recorded. The intention is to provide members with an abridged 4 page paper copy with the full 80 page catalogue being put on our website. There has been an increase in use of the library. This year David promoted the library at meetings by showing some of its treasures.

ASPS Representative: Congress went very well with an increased number of dealers in attendance. 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. Four of the Trophies were not awarded. The Tom Rielly display was delivered by Ray Welland (selecting from his World War I collection of postal history and postcards). The 88th Congress will be hosted by Lanarkshire Philatelic Society on the 21/22nd April 2017. Lanarkshire is considering having a cover representing something related to the Cameronian Regiment during World War 1 (and hopefully someone from the Cameronian Regiment will be present as guest of honour). The 2017 Tom Rielly display will be presented by Professor Ian Stevenson. The President for next year's congress is Alan Wishart and the Vice President Richard Cuthbertson (from the Scottish Philatelic Society). Mike Turnbull has assumed responsibility for the Open Competitions. George Henshilwood has taken on the duties of the Representative to ABPS. Norrie expressed his gratitude to those members of our society who helped out at this year's Congress. Also, he thanked others who manned our society table, from which society funds benefitted to the tune of £30.30. (It was noted that the "seal" junior trophy donated by Dundee had gone missing. This required investigation.)

Publicity Officer: Regular reports, along with photographs, have been sent to the philatelic magazines, the Courier and ABPS News. The philatelic magazines occasionally print the reports; the Courier usually prints (abbreviated) reports but ABPS News always gives the society a good review. The "What's On" insert in the Courier occasionally carries details of our meetings but it is unfortunate that this publication appears on Fridays. Information on the society appears on the Dundee City Council website. Our own web-site has been very successful in promoting the society.

Webmaster: In the previous 12 months no significant changes were made to the website, other than the normal updates. One feature which has taken off is the ability to publish member's displays. Work has commenced on a complete revision of the website to improve its functionality and to include a private members' area which will include access to a library database. Analysing usage revealed there were 16 new visitors a month (one of whom

became a member subsequently) and that Windows is still the dominant operating system. Finally Norrie appealed to members to help in the evolution of content on the site.

Society Dinner 2017: It was agreed to hold this and there was very strong support for this to be at the Invercarse Hotel.

Election of Officers and Committee Members:

President : -	Francis Podger	(no change)
Vice President –	David Millar	(no change)
Hon. Secretary –	Charles Lloyd	(no change)
Hon. Treasurer –	Robert Duguid	(no change)
Packet Secretary –	David Easson	(no change)
Librarian –	David Easson	(no change)
ASPS Rep. –	Norman Kelso	(no change)
Publicity Officer –	Colin Campbell	(no change)
Webmaster –	Norman Kelso	(no change)
Hon. Examiner –	Richard Young	(no change)

Committee Members:

Peter Dix	(elected. Term of office expires 2019)
Harry Jackson	(no change. Term of office expires 2018)
David Dobson	(no change. Term of office expires 2018)

The President thanked Doug Howkins who retired from the committee due to his term of office ending

AOCB:

1. It was proposed that Honorary Membership of Dundee & District Philatelic Society be conferred upon **Bill Early**. Bill has been a keen philatelist all of his life and a member of our society for many more years than we can remember. His friendly disposition and willingness to help fellow members made him a popular member. The Council were unanimous in proposing that it is fitting to make Bill an Honorary Member in recognition of his contributions over many years and for his clubability. Members attending the AGM unanimously supported this proposal.

2. The subscription will remain unchanged.

3. Congress: We have been invited to host this in 2023 or 2024 (the centenary of the 1st congress). It was suggested that we might approach Arbroath (as small society) to be co-host

4. It was decided that there should not be oral introductions for entries in club competitions.