

Hon. Secretary's Report

The most important element in the activity of our society is the displays shown at our evening meetings. This year we enjoyed 14 meetings, all of which were well attended. The highest attendance was 23 on the 13th October when Arbroath Stamp and Postcard Club visited. The lowest attendance was 14 for Competition Night on the 12th January (A cold and wet evening). On average 18.2 individuals were present. [In 2015-6 these three figures were 23, 16 & 19.1.] We continued with our new practice, adopting a specified schedule for the elements within meetings.

The society endeavours to have a varied & interesting programme presented by expert collectors. I believe we achieved our objective in 2016-7. Our season opened on 22nd September with President's Night, for which Francis' subject was "Singapore Revenues 1937-2012". Full displays on Cuba, German East Africa WW1, Commerce in the Post III, Netherlands East Indies and Transylvania followed. As we are accustomed to, society visitors treated us to a great variety of subjects – Robbie Burns, Compassionate Scots, Famous Scots, US Presidents, ½d Green of KEVII and GV, KEVIII, Recent GB miniature sheets, QEII Commonwealth Definitives, Enemy Aliens Interned in the UK during WWII, Postcards from the Prague Symphony Orchestra 1936, Lighthouses, Booklets and Hong Kong Covers 1937-85.

Members' evenings continue to be well supported. Participation in competitions was varied with 12 for the one sheet event & 5 entries on the competition night: Winners One Sheet: Colin Rochester. *Shipwreck Mail from SV Albatross*
Postal History: Charles Lloyd. *An air crash cover from Nyasaland*
National and General: Norman Kelso. *Canadian Artefacts and Parliament Definitives*
Thematic: Norman Kelso. *Penguins*
Social Philately: Harry Jackson. *German Inflation / Hyperinflation 1916-23*
No less than 14 offerings were shown on "N-Night"; with no less than 188 sheets, this must be a record!. A second "Philatelic Miscellany" evening, our technical / educational event, was the final subject on our evening meeting programme.

Morning meetings are now an established fixture, at which up to ten attend.

Our membership stands at 36 (including 4 honorary members). At the last AGM members approved unanimously conferring honorary membership upon Bill Early and I can report that he was very pleased and accepted this distinction. There has been one resignation, Peter Taylor. Sadly, I have to report the deaths of two current members, Allan Beat in May and Alan Roy in November. A former member, David Stirrups died in August.

We round off our season in two weeks' time with the Society Dinner at the Invercarse Hotel. It is an appropriate and enjoyable way to end this successful philatelic year.

Charles Lloyd (Hon. Secretary)