

ASPS Representative's Report

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

Congress this year again went very well but with a reduced number of dealers in attendance compared to last year. There were 34 dealers this year, compared with 44 dealers last year.

In the National Competition there were 25 entries compared with the previous year when there were only 13 entries, with 4 Gold medal being awarded this year. Only two of the Trophies were not awarded this year. The Open Competition saw 12 entries and the Postcard Competition only had 3 entries. Unfortunately there were only 1 entry in the Junior Competition and as such the ALBA Salver was not awarded again this year.

The Tom Rielly display was delivered by Dr. Brian Dow who stood in as a last minute replacement for Prof. Ian Stevenson. His display was entitled Scottish Viking Miscellany.

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 years' congress.

The 89th Congress will be hosted by Scottish Philatelic Society on the 20/21st April 2018 so mark up these dates in your calendars now. The President for next years' congress will be Richard Cuthbertson.

The McConnell medal this year was awarded to Alan Watson and an ASPS Award of Merit was awarded to Alexander McCulloch from Kirkcudbright P.S.

Alan Blakeley has assumed responsibility for the National Competitions in the future. As yet the posts of Publicity Officer and Junior Competition Organiser are still vacant and volunteers are being sought from all societies.

Norman Kelso

(ASPS Representative)