



DUNDEE AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
ONE HUNDRED AND SIX YEARS  
www.dundeephilatellic.org

## NEWSLETTER 2011

### SESSION 2011-2012

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### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Accepting the Presidency for the 2011-12 season has presented me with a challenge which should be described as an opportunity and not a problem! That challenge is what to display on President's Night. I started to tick off stamps you have seen already. I displayed my Rhodesia collection in my first year and my Belgian Congo collection last year. You have seen my South African High Commission Territories (Bechuanaland, Basutoland & Swaziland) also. I do have a decent collection of Ruanda-Urundi which is still to be displayed. Philatelically, this territory very interesting but would not give a full display since I stop a few years post independence. It will be the first half of my display.

For the second half I set myself a challenge. Could I put together a representative display of 80 sheets for Colonial Portuguese East Africa in six months? There would have to be acquisition rules. It would be all too easy to do this with a buy at any cost approach. Aside from the fact that this is not truly collecting, the excitement of "will I get the lot at the right price or be pipped at the post" is lost. As a demonstration to new collectors, I hope this will show that an interesting collection of stamps issued in a more conservative era can be done from scratch with modest expenditure. How much is modest? I decided 3 weeks of Sainsbury grocery bills.

Why Portuguese East Africa? Economically, it was closely linked to Rhodesia and in my early years living in Bulawayo, junior collectors could get their hands on low value postally used stamps quite easily. Mozambique stamps were attractive. I even had one that was a diamond shape. It caused a lot of interest. The fact that a large corner was missing did not seem to matter. Unfortunately, the teacher who ran our school stamp club discouraged adventuring into Mozambique. He informed us that many of its stamps were issued to get money from collectors and not really for post. It would be better sticking to the British Empire, but if we had to be rebellious we should try France. (He was a French teacher and that was his interest). Of course he was correct for that time. I'm not sure what he would make of Royal Mail's policies today! Secretly, I held on to my small number of somewhat grubby Mozambique stamps.

This was a start for my Presidential project. Also, I had a vague idea that the country had an interesting history and hoped that would be reflected in its stamps. Finally, on looking in Gibbons Part 9, I saw prices were very low even for the classic era.

I've found it exciting and enjoyable. The history is more complex and interesting than I expected and is reflected in the stamps. I (or more accurately Gibbons) was wrong about prices. I've been buying on e-bay. I believe that e-bay has produced a truly global market. Good quality stamps go for at least ten times Gibbons prices. Perhaps Gibbons is still looking at a national (UK) market in which there is little interest in obscure foreign stamps

issued in reasonable numbers (as distinct from classic rarities). Whether I hit the target will be for you to decide.

A few days ago, I received a call from Peter that I was expecting. Could he have my contribution to the newsletter? I claimed it was nearing completion (which it was in my head). I promised to avoid a rant. Then, in our phone talk, he brought up the topic of UK regional issues. We agreed that they are functional but lack artistic merit in many cases. There is no reason why Scotland should not have well designed (ideally, engraved) pictorial issues. Scotland has a rich heritage that can be publicised through stamps. There is no shortage of material. Try this. Sit back and think of a topic. It's not difficult to produce a list of Scots who have contributed to civilisation at the highest levels (e.g. engineers, writers, scientists). The same for a diverse range of topics –

e.g. golf, scenery, social reformers, etc. (And why not malt whisky? It's one subject that gets Japanese, American & European colleagues of mine excited).

Finally, by strange co-incidence becoming President of our society leads to premature departure from employment if you work for Dundee Dental School. David Stirrups, Robert Duguid and now I have left voluntarily. I retire on 30<sup>th</sup> September. The Dean will make a presentation to me over drinks and nibbles on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Any speech I make will be very brief since the 29<sup>th</sup> is a very special night for Dundee & District Philatelic Society and I intend to be there. Dennis Collins will mark 65 years as a member with a special display. Congratulations Dennis, we look forward to this.

Charles Lloyd

#### **NEWS OF MEMBERS**

We very much regret to announce the sudden death of George Munro. George joined us in January, but on return from holiday was suddenly taken ill with pneumonia and died in Ninewells Hospital. Our condolences are offered to his family in their sad loss.

#### **REVIEW OF 2010-11**

The season started on September 23<sup>rd</sup> with a members' "H" night as the President was out of the country. Appropriately Doug Howkins organised the display that contained the usual ingenious offerings. Hungary and History featured prominently

The President's night was on October 14<sup>th</sup> and Charles showed his marvellous display of the Belgian Congo from the infamous Leopold II to post independence and the issues of Katanga and South Kasai. As ever, Charles gave a detailed history of the trials and tribulations of this troubled country with stamps that were rarely seen.

On Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup> four members showed stamps to a very welcoming audience at Arbroath who were back in St Andrews Church Hall, Hamilton Green; just beside Arbroath Abbey.

The Members' evening of "Recent acquisitions" on October 28<sup>th</sup> was brought forward because it was impossible to fit in the Annual Competition before Christmas. There was the usual wide-ranging cornucopia of items and the response from members was, as ever, excellent. On Wednesday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at short notice four members were warmly welcomed to Kirkcaldy Stamp and Postcard Club. They now meet on Wednesday afternoons and membership has increased. Only one member was lost.

On November 11<sup>th</sup> a visit from Lanarkshire P.S. produced a variety of displays. Bill Wilkie showed Christmas Charity Seals of the U.S.A; Ken Norris (in absentia) sent the "Great Little Railways of Wales", Paul McGowan brought Netherlands postal stationery and Brian Dow showed some remarkable Norwegian Airmails.

Geoff Barber of Dunfermline returned on November 25<sup>th</sup> with a Falkland Islands display that had a remarkable amount of material. The first half began with pre-stamp covers and then the stamps from 1878 up until the Argentine invasion with many variations including use of cork obliterations, bisects, provisional surcharges, airmails etc. The second half covered the invasion with many anecdotes of the activities of the PO staff and others on the islands and much unique material.

Ron Goodfellow should have given his new display "Commerce in the Post" on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately General Winter intervened and it was postponed for a week until the Christmas meeting, with the One-Sheet competition moved to the New Year. Ron's display, which he was presenting with Aberdeen at the Royal Philatelic Society in London was unusual and fascinating with cachets, stamps bearing attached adverts, underprints, early embossed and printed advertising covers, booklet panes with adverts etc. Many of the covers featured companies (including German) for printing, linoleum, agricultural machinery, calculators, clothing, textiles, railway equipment, motor vehicles, and of course the bakery industry.

The first meeting of 2011 was the Competition Night on January 13<sup>th</sup>. There were two entries for the National & General and one each for Postal History and Thematic. Winners were Doug Howkins (National & General), Chad Neighbor (Postal History) and Colin Campbell (Thematic). There were seven entries for the One-Sheet Competition that was won by Sandy Sloss after judging by all the members present.

The final January meeting was entitled “Officers Mess” when six Officers of the Society each showed 25 sheets from their collections, providing plenty of variety .

The Society dinner was held on Thursday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Taychreggan Hotel, in Ellieslea Road, West Ferry, Dundee, DD5 1JG. There was a wide choice of dishes that did not have to be ordered in advance. The service was good and we had a room to ourselves. Unfortunately we picked a night of strong winds and the Tay Bridge was closed for a time. However this was when Alan and Roma Roy were intending to cross, and so they missed it. Had the strong winds occurred last year, only Alan and Roma would have managed the the dinner at the Guardbridge Hotel! It was generally agreed that we should repeat the venue next year.

On February 10<sup>th</sup> Colin Rochester gave us his magnificent display of Australia to England Airmails 1919-47 and described the background to the service with the focus on geography, history and politics before introducing the comprehensive collection of flight covers. Apart from first flight covers Colin displayed others that showed variations in the routes flown. The display finished with 15 crash covers and Colin had highlighted the nature and reasons for each crash.

On February 17<sup>th</sup> four members visited Aberdeen at the Rubislaw Church Centre for the biennial visit. Ron Goodfellow showed his “Commerce in the Post”, Charles Lloyd showed “Early Belgian Africa”, Alan Roy showed the “History of the GPO in Scotland”, and Colin Campbell showed pages from his Oil Collection. The team received its usual warm welcome.

On Wednesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> a much changed team were welcomed by the Tayside Postcard Club in the Glasite Hall, Dundee. Colin Campbell showed Dundee covers produced by the Society, Sandy Sloss showed material from the Greek Ionian Islands, Peter Dix showed Union-Castle postcards, stamps, covers, menus etc, and George Lewthwaite showed the Postal History of Caithness.

Frank Soutar from Falkirk PS was the next visitor on February 24<sup>th</sup> and gave his usual excellent display. He showed Åland Islands postcards and some stamps and covers from Liechtenstein. The postcards were produced by the Åland Post Office to mark its attendance at international stamp exhibitions. A different theme and a different artist is chosen each year to design the cards which featured aspects of the region – architecture, post boxes, post offices and uniforms to name but a few. In the second half Frank displayed stamps and miniature sheets post 1961 and airmail covers including three Zeppelin covers!

There were two visits from other societies in March. Perth PS visited us on the 10<sup>th</sup> and we were treated to a fascinating display by our old friend Norman Watson with the story of the campaign for a Robert Burns stamp and then three one-frame displays of items relevant to the reign of King George V.

The Scottish PS from Edinburgh visited us on the 24<sup>th</sup> after several years away. Eric Mason showed Edwardian Ceylon, Richard Cuthbertson brought stamps of Macao, John Law showed used France from 1930 to 1990, and Les Taylor showed Lombardy – Venetia stamps from 1850-8 when part of the Austro- Hungarian empire.

Ken Norris completed the season on April 28<sup>th</sup> with his display of British Writers. This comprehensively covered the many notable writers in alphabetical order with stamps, postcards, covers, cachets, aerogrammes, railway stamps etc. To complete the evening David Easson brought along a cake, suitably inscribed, to commemorate his 60 years of unbroken stamp collecting. This was much appreciated by the members.

<b>COMPETITION WINNERS</b>	
One sheet competition:	Sandy Sloss: “Greek censored cover of 1919”
National & General:	Doug Howkins: “A Step Back in Time – South America”
Postal History:	Chad Neighbor: “GB Compound Postal Stationery”
Thematic:	Colin Campbell: “Products from Distillation of Crude Oil”
Social:	No entries

## 2011-12 PROGRAMME

**The season begins on September 29<sup>th</sup> with a display by Dennis Collins FRPSL entitled “A Member for 65 years – Some of his current interests” to commemorate his 65 years as a member of Dundee Philatelic Society. I am told there will be a cake and fluid refreshments so do not miss this unique occasion. Few societies if any can boast such a long-serving member.**

This will be followed on October 13<sup>th</sup> by a visit from Richard Beith of Stirling Philatelic Society who will be presenting “Transatlantic Airmails in Peace and War”. We have had several excellent displays by Richard in the past few years and this one will be no exception. That weekend (14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>) is SCOTEX at the Dewar Centre in Perth.

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> there is a return visit to Perth Philatelic Society. It is four years since our last visit so we are looking for three or four volunteers to bring displays. Alan Watson from Falkirk Philatelic Society, the Secretary of ASPS, is bringing his display of “St Helena”. We have seen his Heraldry and this should be as good. October is a busy month and on the last weekend (28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>)

there is the biennial Dundee Philatelic Weekend – the 13<sup>th</sup> of such events – at the Queens Hotel.

Aberdeen Philatelic Society is visiting us on November 10<sup>th</sup>. On the 24<sup>th</sup> we have Charles Lloyd’s Presidential evening. We believe that the display will have something to do with Colonial Africa: Ruanda-Urundi and Portuguese East Africa. Do not miss this opportunity to see items rarely displayed.

On Thursday December 1<sup>st</sup> there is a Society visit to the Caledonian Philatelic Society (the Cally) in Glasgow arranged by our old friend Colin Caskie who is their President this year. He told me he will be retiring to Perth, so hopefully he will be rejoining us. Again we are looking for four volunteers and it is a long time since we visited the Cally so there should be some new material available. Surely we can’t have another November/December like last year?

There follow three members’ evenings confined to the depths of winter. On the 8<sup>th</sup> there is “I” night – India, Indonesia, Indo-China, Iceland to name but a few. As always members are asked to bring 10 sheets for one board. The Christmas meeting on December 22<sup>nd</sup> will be split between “Recent Acquisitions” and the “One-sheet Competition along with appropriate refreshment.

The New Year starts with the Annual Competition. The three trophies have been recovered and a list of past winners obtained. David Easson is having them brought up to date. Last year there were four entries. Let’s at least double that this year. On January 26<sup>th</sup> there is the return visit from our neighbours Arbroath Philatelic Society.

The Annual Society Dinner is again at the Taychreggan Hotel in Broughty Ferry on Thursday February 2<sup>nd</sup> for members and their spouses. Hopefully it will not be such a dark and stormy night and the Tay Bridge will not be shut. The cost should be about £25 excluding wine for a three course meal.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> there is a visit from Bob Catto of the Edinburgh Philatelic Society who will be displaying “The American War of Independence”. We don’t have many North American displays these days so it should be very interesting. The next week we are visiting Bob’s Edinburgh Philatelic Society on Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> at St.John’s Church Hall, Princes Street, a venue it shares with the Scottish and the morning Edinburgh Stamp Group, the biggest of the three! Again it is some years since we were invited there so volunteers are wanted.

A recently joined member, Francis Podger, is next, displaying his Gold Medal winning display – “Stamps issued and used in Singapore for Revenue purposes: 1826 – KGV” on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Should be another great evening. On March 8<sup>th</sup> there is a return visit from the Tayside Postcard Club. We haven’t had too many of their visits in recent years.

Apart from the AGM on Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup> the final two meetings involve two outstanding speakers with their displays. Dr Jim Grant MBE from Auchterarder (Stirling Philatelic Society) is coming on March 22<sup>nd</sup> with his outstanding display of “The Postal History of Perthshire”. Philatelists who have seen it tell me it is unmissable. Our friend Dr Ron Harkess from Perth Philatelic Society is showing “Argentina” on April 12<sup>th</sup> and he comes highly recommended.

The date of the ASPS Congress at Perth is May 11-12. Kirkcudbright Philatelic Society are hosting it and because of the distance for them to travel they will be grateful for any help from our members in putting up and taking down the displays. They saw us in action last year and have invited us back! So any help on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> will be welcomed.

### **Visits to other Societies**

Perth Philatelic Society – Tuesday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2011

Caledonian Philatelic Society – Thursday December 1<sup>st</sup> 2011

Edinburgh Philatelic Society – Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> 2011

We hope that as many members as possible will avail themselves of the opportunity to display from their collections at one or more of these societies. Ideally, there are four displays of 40 sheets each.

### **Hon.Treasurer**

The subscription is being held at £5. Again many thanks to Robert Duguid for his hard work in keeping the Society in the black. Thanks are also due to Robert for pursuing the matter of liability for Corporation Tax with HMRC. It seems that small societies such as ours, with incomes from investments, can no longer escape this tax as the threshold has been lowered. We have now paid Corporation Tax for the year on the income from our investments

### **Honorary Member**

Sandra Campbell, wife of Colin, was unanimously elected as an Honorary Member at the AGM in recognition of her immense support for the Society. As members will know, Sandra is always at Congress and SCOTEX helping with the Society Table, gives great assistance to Colin with the Dundee covers. Her contributions to the Christmas meetings are legendary – the Clottie Dumplings-and she is a great participant in the North-East Weekends. Perhaps wisely she does not collect stamps herself but in all other ways she is a great unofficial member of the Society and has been for many years.

### **Exchange Packet**

Several Exchange Packets have circulated this season. David Easson is always willing to receive new booklets for the packets, and is also looking for new members wishing to take the packet. We are very grateful to David for all his hard work in preparing and administering the Exchange Packet.

### **Publicity**

Colin Campbell has been assiduous in promoting the Society's activities. Most meetings are reported in the Dundee Courier although not always in the Angus and Fife editions, and usually accurately. Similarly notices of forthcoming meetings often appear in the Courier and we have gained new members through this source. Reports usually also feature in Gibbons Stamp Monthly, the Stamp Magazine and the quarterly ABPS magazine. Many thanks are due to Colin for maintaining the profile of the Society.

### **Dundee Postcard – Edmund Morel**

In November the Society issued a striking postcard celebrating Edmund Dene Morel, a British journalist, author and politician who led a campaign against slavery in the Congo Free State. The postcard is illustrated below. Thanks are due to Charles Lloyd and Colin Campbell for implementing this issue. As usual there are "only a few left" and copies may be obtained by contacting Colin or any member of the society's Council!

### **The Society's Web-site**

Don't forget the Society's Web-site at [www.dundeephilatelic.org](http://www.dundeephilatelic.org) Our thanks are due to Colin and Malcolm Campbell for keeping this running.

### **Display Boards**

It was felt that the display boards were looking a bit tired and could do with a makeover. Many thanks are due to Colin Campbell, Dave Cree and Len Stoneman for repairing and painting the boards ready for next season. The chains have been removed as the boards now stand free on tables.

### **Competitions**

None of the Dundee members' entries in the Open Competition at Congress won the Best in Show but they all added to the overall display. After all, there can only be one winner. The three Club Trophies have been recovered and are being brought up to date thanks to David Easson

One thing that has been noticed is that occasionally we are asked to judge other societies' competitions. Generally the entries do not reach the same standard as some of ours but the owners have obviously no intention of going National. With the widespread use of computers and the Internet it is possible to produce a very attractive entry without spending megabucks on stamps. Maybe we should have a less serious but none the less interesting section – a fun entry?

## **Past Presidents**

George Lewthwaite who has been looking after the Society's archives and records for several years is asking for "Philatelic CVs" of Past Presidents for the benefit of future members. He suggests that these should include a brief biography (personal), brief career details (professional) and, most important, details of philatelic interests (philatelic). These should include when collecting started, why it started, and details of collecting interests over the years which of course will change together with any other relevant information. George can be contacted on 01382 226843 and newduntay@tiscali.co.uk

## **Morning Meetings**

The Morning meetings have continued throughout the year on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 10am to noon. There is a steady nucleus of attendees and there are always upwards of half a dozen. We are still waiting to reach double figures! The main venue is the Art Society's Rooms but when there is an Art Exhibition and the Gallery is unavailable, David Easson has very kindly arranged for us to use a room at the Methodist Church in West Marketgate. There are additional meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month when Roseangle is available so that work on sorting out the library can be done and goody bags can be made up for younger philatelists. So if you know of any retired people who collect stamps or would like to take it up again please direct them to these morning meetings. Free coffee and tea are always available. Members usually bring along items from their collections to pass round and look at.

## **Library**

The sorting out of the Library has started and one or two sessions have been held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month. Some books have already been disposed of. The Caledonian Society lost their library when contractors put their books into a skip during work at the University of Strathclyde. Perhaps we could get rid of some literature that way? If any member would like a Library List this can be arranged. A copy can be e-mailed or a photocopy sent. David Easson has now taken over the role of librarian. Thanks to Charles we now have Professor Bulloch's collection in bakers' trays locked in a cupboard while we sort out what to do with it.

I am told that, although the Caledonian PS Library was insured, they are not intending to replace it, so it doesn't look as if we shall be able to get rid of volumes in that direction.

## **TICVR**

We have been approached by the **Tayside Institute for Cardiovascular Research** headed by Professor Jill Belch, asking if we could help them by looking through and purchasing some of the thousands of stamps they collect at Ninewells. These have been cut round and bagged and come from all round the world including GB special issues. Several bags have been passed round and members have taken some at 10p a stamp. The first round yielded £23 and TICVR said that this was more than they are paid for as kiloware by a dealer! These stamps have been circulated via the morning meetings but there is no reason why they shouldn't be brought to the regular meetings or even included in the packet.

## **Dundee Philatelic Weekend**

This year there is the biennial Dundee Philatelic Weekend – the 13<sup>th</sup> such event – at the Queens Hotel on the weekend of October 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>. The rooms have long gone but there is, as always, the special deal for non-residents and there is the dinner on the Saturday evening. More details and booking forms will be available at our first meeting. This is a fantastic chance to see world class displays. For more information contact Ken Norris on 01698 425120.

Mike Roberts: "Philately Will Get You Nowhere" and "Gambia"

John Hayward: "Motorcycles"

Robert Johnson: "Cape of Good Hope 1864-90" and "Service Suspended"

Alan Watson: "Medals"

## **North-East Philatelic Weekend**

The North-East Weekend is back at the refurbished Swallow Hotel, Gateshead. This venue is of course considerably closer to the shops much to the delight of the non-philatelist spouses! The date for 2012 has yet to be confirmed but is probably in the second half of May. More details can be obtained from Val Beeken on 0191 3861931.

## **Local Stamp Fairs**

There are the usual numbers of stamp fairs around Dundee. Dates and venues for the rest of 2011 are as follows:

Saturday September 10 <sup>th</sup>	Queen's Cross Parish Church Hall, Albyn Place	Aberdeen AB10 1YN
Saturday September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Masonic Lodge, 183/185, Admiralty Rd	Rosyth
Tuesday September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Community Hall, Castle Hill	Cupar
Saturday September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Age Concern Day Centre, Brook Street	Broughty Ferry, DD5 2EH
Saturday October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Hillside Village Hall, Dubton Rd, Hillside	Montrose, DD10 9HB
Saturday November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Kinross Church Centre, High St	Kinross, KY13 1EP

The fairs at Perth and Rosyth are run by Margaret Graham and Benny McIntyre and are ideal for filling gaps and purchasing accessories – albums, leaves, Hawid strips, hinges etc. Bring your wants lists along. The fairs at Montrose and Broughty Ferry are run by Chad Neighbor (North-East Fairs), those at Aberdeen are run by Cornucopia and those at Kinross are run by Bass Rock Fairs (01368 832823). There is more room to sit and browse than at Scotex and Congress. The dates for 2012 are not yet available. Details of these and other fairs can be found in the ASPS Newsletter – “Scottish Philately” written by Alan Watson. It also contains details of forthcoming society meetings.

Further details can be had from Chad Neighbor: [c.neighbor@virgin.net](mailto:c.neighbor@virgin.net) . Also [cornucopiacollectors@btconnect.com](mailto:cornucopiacollectors@btconnect.com) ,

### **Stamp Active Network (SAN)**

This nationwide scheme exists to promote philately among young people and schools. Thanks are due to Colin Campbell and Alan Roy for all their efforts in the SAN. Alan is always looking for surplus stamps etc that may be included in future “goody bags”. If you have any spare material please contact Alan. It is not necessary to soak stamps off envelopes. Just cut round them. The most useful items are those which youngsters can use in a thematic display. Alan has just completed a stint in promoting junior philately as Junior Competition Secretary and his success can be gleaned from the large number of very good entries at Congress. Colin Campbell is taking over to continue a Dundee interest in this post. David Stirrups and Frank Soutar (who hails from Dundee) are previous occupants.

### **Disposal of Collections**

Unfortunately we are all getting older. Most of us have spouses who do not collect and indeed offspring who are not interested. In addition we are often approached by widows seeking advice on how to dispose of their late husband’s collection. Some collections that are brought along have some worthwhile stamps but others that are common and would not fetch a great amount.

Recently I was approached by a member as to the best way of disposing of his quite valuable and comprehensive collection. I looked up Robert Murray’s website and found that he will value collections and advise as to the best way of disposing of them. This service is free as long as the collection is taken to Edinburgh. Valuations are done on Thursdays and Fridays and an appointment should be booked. After speaking to other members Robert Murray came highly recommended. Obviously, if Robert is required to come to you there will be a charge for his time and transport.

Robert looked at the collection and recommended that it be divided into several lots and entered for his October auction. This was agreed and so we await developments.

Thanks are due once more to Colin Campbell for setting up and printing the syllabuses for the past four years and also for copying Newsletters etc. Thanks are again due to Sandy Sloss for his superb minute taking at each meeting. Thanks to Alan Roy for keeping us updated on ASPS matters. We would also like to thank George Lewthwaite for another excellent article on some of Dundee’s lost Post Offices, which follows.

It just remains to wish you a good collecting season and we look forward to seeing you at Dennis’ display on September 29<sup>th</sup>, and then Richard’s on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Don’t forget the daytime meetings on the first Thursday of each month.

Peter Dix  
Hon Secretary



## Edmund Morel

1873 - 1924

Humanitarian and M.P.  
for Dundee 1922 - 1924



50th Anniversary  
Congo Independence

Dundee & District Philatelic Society

### Edmund Dene Morel 1873-1924

was a British journalist, author and socialist politician who led a campaign against slavery in the Congo Free State. Until 1908, the State was the property of the International African Association owned by King Leopold II. As a shipping clerk at Antwerp, Morel had become aware of the exploitation of the native population to harvest rubber using a labour system that amounted to slavery. He refused to be silenced and took up campaigning journalism to expose injustice and inhumanity. His Congo Reform Association was a focal point for the movement that led the Belgian Government to nationalize the State as the Belgian Congo. He played a significant role in the British pacifist movement during the First World War causing him to be imprisoned in 1917. He became the Independent Labour Party MP for Dundee (1922-24) defeating the sitting MP - Winston Churchill. With his expertise in foreign affairs, he was expected to be appointed as Foreign Secretary in the government of Ramsay MacDonald in 1924 but the PM decided to take the post himself. Morel continued to be a forceful critic of MacDonald's foreign policy. In spite of this MacDonald nominated Morel for the Nobel Peace Prize. We will never know if he would have won it since he died of a heart attack on 12 November 1924, shortly after his re-election to parliament.

*"No other man known to me has had the same heroic simplicity in pursuing and proclaiming political truth" - Bertrand Russell*



The support of Dundee City Council is gratefully acknowledged

## NOTES ON DUNDEE POST OFFICES

By G. W. Lewthwaite

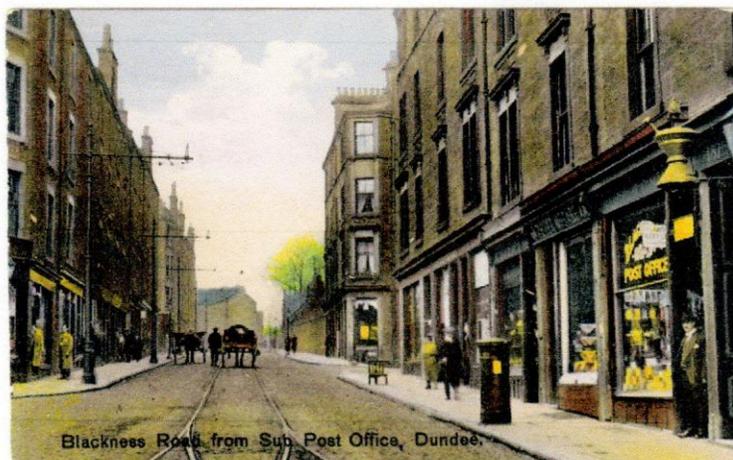
The postcard reproduced below was posted on July 26 1910. The notice on the side of the building at which the two ladies are standing can just be read as Longforgan/ Post Office. According to the Dundee directories Margaret Horne was the postmistress at Longforgan from 1882 to 1921 so she may be one of the ladies in the photograph

Mackay in his *"Scottish Post Offices"* lists Longforgan as opening in 1845 as a Sub Office of Dundee. The Dundee Directory for 1850 records the office as a Receiving House with receiver George Lowson. The office, operating from the same premises as in the photograph, ceased service on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010.



The following postcard posted in 1936 shows Blackness Road Post Office at number 183. According to Mackay Blackness Road Post Office opened in 1890 as a Town Sub Office. In the Dundee directories for 1890 to 1893 it is referred to as a Receiving House (at 199 Blackness Road) with James Lee, confectioner, as postmaster. By 1897 the office operated from the the location shown in the postcard and it is recorded as operating there in 1974, the year of the demise of The Dundee Directory.

The present Post Office is situated a short distance up, and on the other side of, the road at number 192. The chemist shop just included at the right of the postcard is still there, unfortunately the handsome Pestle and Mortar sign above the shop entrance has vanished, and can anyone explain the presence of the chair on the pavement a few yards up from the office?



Camperdown Post Office opened in 1952 on Lochee High Street and was demolished in the early 1970s – this photograph, taken primarily to record the tram cars, shows the office (beside the pillar box). At the time this was taken Lochee boasted two post offices – the other, older office, was only a few hundred yards down the High Street !

