



# ABPS

The Association of British Philatelic Societies Ltd

“The Voice of British Philately”

## EXECUTIVE BULLETIN

March 2024

Please circulate this bulletin to any philatelic friends to show what the ABPS is doing to promote philately across the UK. Also, please visit [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk)

## NEWS AND EVENTS

The ABPS website is being kept up to date with the latest news and events. Please take a regular look at [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk)

## NEW NATIONAL GB EXHIBITION AT THE ROYAL

The next A.B.P.S. United Kingdom  
**NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION**  
will be held at  
**THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON**  
15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW

**Thursday 28, Good Friday 29 and  
Easter Saturday 30 March 2024**  
Open 10am-5pm Thursday and Friday, and 10am-3pm Saturday

**165 frames of exhibits from most FIP classes**  
Three dealers present: Bill Barrell, Stanley Gibbons  
and David Griffiths/Thames Themes.

**FREE Souvenir Sheet for everyone attending**  
Coffee lounge. Museum of Philately exhibits.  
A chance to explore the magnificent home of British philately  
at the world's oldest philatelic society.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME  
FREE ADMISSION**

**PLEASE SUPPORT THIS INAUGURAL EVENT**  
The Royal Philatelic Society London is located close to  
Bank, Cannon Street and Monument underground stations

The New GB National Stamp Exhibition, organised by the ABPS, will be held at the Royal Philatelic Society London from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Everyone is welcome with free admission and all visitors will receive a FREE souvenir sheet.

Please support this inaugural event. We are looking forward to meeting you all at 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4 7BW in March. The building is located close to Bank, Monument and Cannon Street Underground Stations.

## PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN



Congress 2024 will be in Southampton from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July. It will be based at the Leonardo Grand Harbour Hotel, close to the harbour and city centre. Free parking is available for visitors. Local attractions include the Sea City Exhibition featuring Titanic and a Spitfire Museum. Other nearby hotels include the Holiday Inn, Premier Inn and Travelodge to suit all budgets.

The programme will feature discussion on “**Exploring new directions in Philately**” including “Context Philately”. We can share latest developments and best practices in philately. This is an event for everyone with displays by local collectors as well as leading overseas collectors.

It is expected that the presentation ceremony for the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists will take place during Congress 2024.

For more information contact Steven Harrison, Chairman of ABPS, by emailing him at [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or calling him on 0121 313 0671.

### **STAMPEX: DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

The next Stampex, organized by The Philatelic Traders' Society, is being planned from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at the Business Design Centre, London. Please note there is no Spring Stampex.

At the moment, the PTS has no plans to provide talks in an auditorium or to provide society meeting rooms (as was the case in recent years).

**ABPS would be interested to know if any Societies would like to hold meetings at the event if space can be made available by ABPS.** Please let us know asap to [dane.garrod5@btinternet.com](mailto:dane.garrod5@btinternet.com)

## ABPS NEWS

The latest issue of ABPS News will be circulated shortly. Back issues can be downloaded from the News section of the ABPS website.

**The closing date for the next issue is 15<sup>th</sup> April.**

Please remember that affiliated societies can benefit from putting information into ABPS to publicise themselves. Here is a detailed reminder from our Editor:

Any affiliated society is eligible to send in

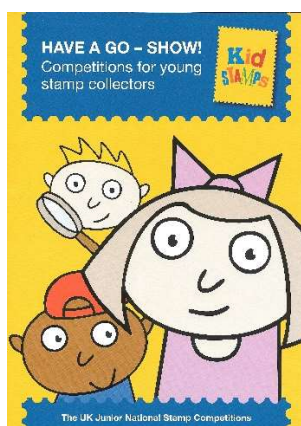
- (i) an advertisement for any activity (meeting, AGM, weekend, fair) once a year. This should be sent as a jpeg or Word document and be suitable to fit into an A5 page (allowing a 2mm margin round the page).
- (ii) notification of any meetings etc to be included in the Diary. This should be in Word and give date, title, times, address, contact details. Details can be sent at any time but must be received at least 3 months before the event to allow for the publication and distribution.
- (iii) reports on their meetings and other activities, up to 250 words per issue. This will be edited to fit the space available. Photos are welcome (usually one per report is the maximum). As before, Word and jpeg or equivalent are the necessary means = I use Arial 10, single-spacing - no other format as I have to remove it before inserting.

Articles and enquiries relating to ABPS News can be submitted via the website or you can write direct by email at [editor@abps.org.uk](mailto:editor@abps.org.uk)

## STAMP ACTIVE YOUTH STAMP COMPETITIONS

The Stamp Active Network, the voluntary organisation that promotes stamp collecting for children in the UK, is organising the national youth stamp competitions to be held as part of the senior competitions to be displayed at York in July 2024. Full details of the competitions and entry forms can be found on the Competitions section of the Stamp Active website.

For further information, and advice on preparing an entry, go to [www.stampactive.co.uk](http://www.stampactive.co.uk)



## ZOOM MEETINGS

Some Societies hold regular meetings on Zoom and welcome visitors. I am pleased to share details of those that have shared their information. Thankyou.

Details of speakers who are prepared to give displays via Zoom can be found on the ABPS website by doing a search of "Zoom" on the Speakers page.

Southampton DPS has an established Zoom programme with meetings on the last Tuesday of the month.

Meetings for 2024 are included in the overall programme: <http://www.southamptondps.org.uk/meetings.html>

and video recordings of most past meetings are listed here: <http://www.southamptondps.org.uk/avideolibrary.html>

## CALLING ALL SOCIETY SPEAKERS

**It is extremely disappointing that around 20 individuals, who are currently on the speakers list, did not have the courtesy to reply to four emails, sent over a period of three months, regarding renewal of their entry. This is a legal requirement to comply with data protection regulations. As a consequence, very regrettably, these entries must now be removed. We shall delay this until 31<sup>st</sup> March to give a final opportunity to maintain those entries on the website.**

If you are a Society Speaker and would like to add your details to the ABPS website, you can do so by going directly to the Speakers section of the ABPS website and complete the form by clicking on "Add your details to our Speakers database here". There is generally a shortage of speakers for Societies and you will be greatly assisting Programme Secretaries by adding your personal details to the website.

**ABPS would also like to compile a list of Societies that have a ZOOM programme. If you do so, please email [pr@abps.org.uk](mailto:pr@abps.org.uk)**

## FEDERATION LIAISON OFFICER

DAPHNE McMILLAN has now taken on this role.

Daphne is particularly interested in how the ABPS may support Federations to develop and get more out of their websites. Email: [mcmillandaphne@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mcmillandaphne@yahoo.co.uk)

## URGENT HELP NEEDED BY ABPS

Everyone in philately is finding it more difficult to find individuals who are prepared to get involved in administering or organizing philatelic activities or events. This, of course, includes ABPS. If you are someone who is prepared to give even a few hours to help out, we would welcome a discussion to see how you can provide support. Specific vacancies include a Communications Director as well as help with development of learning resources for the website but there are plenty of opportunities to help out in other ways.

Please contact Steven Harrison, Chairman of ABPS, by emailing him at [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or calling him on 0121 313 0671.

**It would be greatly appreciated if all Societies would copy this request in their Journals or Newsletters or by email.**

## EXHIBITING

**Full details of all opportunities to take part in both national and international stamp exhibitions can be found in the Exhibiting section of the ABPS website.**

## EUROPHILEX 2025



A full European International Exhibition, under the auspices of FEPA with FIP Patronage, will take place at the NEC, Birmingham, from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

<https://europhilex2025.co.uk>

The Chairman of the organizing Committee is Jon Aitchison.

Individuals and trade organisations can support the event as Sponsors.

You can also become a Supporter or Patron with a range of exclusive benefits. Full details can be found on the website.

## ABPS AWARDS



Congress Medal

The Awards Committee invites nominations for both the Awards of Merit and the Congress Medal for 2024 by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

See the website for nomination forms and full details of the Award of Merit and Congress Medal.

## SUPPORT ABPS BY BECOMING A FRIEND OR PATRON

If you are active in the world of philately and want to play a direct part in supporting the hobby today and in the future, please think about becoming a Patron or Friend of ABPS. You will receive personal copies of ABPS News, an ABPS badge, be featured on the website. Most importantly, you will be contributing to the growth of the hobby in the UK.

For more information, go to the ABPS website [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk)

## ABPS SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

The ABPS is always there to help! If you are planning a local event to promote philately and may need financial assistance, please have a look at this scheme on our website as you may be eligible for a grant.

In particular, there may be some small societies of less than ten members who made need financial help to keep going. ABPS is very willing to consider financial support.

Recent grants have included support for AV equipment and lighting for society frames. The maximum grant is £250.

## CALLING ALL STAMP EVENT ORGANISERS

The new website of the ABPS provides the opportunity for organisers of philatelic events such as Stamp Fairs, Philatelic Exhibitions, Society Weekends and Regional Society Meetings, to promote their events free of charge. It is also a chance, if you are planning an event, to check that it does not clash with anything else.

**The ABPS Executive has now agreed that Society Auctions, organised by affiliated Societies, can also be included in the ABPS events calendar.**

You can request an event to be added to the ABPS Events Calendar directly on the website. Entries will then be checked by the administrator and approved.

Go to <https://www.abps.org.uk/request-event-addition/>

## **MAKE SURE YOUR SOCIETY LOOKS GOOD ON THE NEW ABPS WEBSITE**

Our website has received some very positive feedback so far but we know there is more that can be done. It is the same address [www.abps.org.uk](http://www.abps.org.uk)

It is on a new platform and includes all the usual information about ABPS news and activities. **It now also includes a searchable list of speakers, judges and an events calendar.**

If you are a speaker or judge or an event organizer, please check the information on the website and advise us of any corrections, updates or additions.

**If you are a Society or Speaker, you can add some pictures of your meetings or displays to create attractive content.**

If you have any images of your local Society, events or seminars etc. that you think might enhance the website please send them to the PR Manager at [pr@abps.org.uk](mailto:pr@abps.org.uk)

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO GIVE YOUR COMMENTS,**

Please contact those mentioned above, or E-mail: [secretary@abps.org.uk](mailto:secretary@abps.org.uk)

Any feedback or ideas, or if you would like to help, please contact our Chairman, Steve Harrison, ABPS, by emailing him at [sharrison500@btinternet.com](mailto:sharrison500@btinternet.com) or by calling him on 0121 313 0671.

The postal address for all ABPS correspondence is: ABPS, 15 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 7BW