

ASPS Report of Meeting of 20th April 2013, given on 25 April at DDPS AGM

There are still 44 Societies affiliated to ASPS. **Alba Stamp Group** hosted a successful 2013 Congress last weekend, despite a severe delay in gaining access to our frames – a crane blocked the route into the storage where the frames are kept. Thanks to DDPS members who helped with set-up. The new layout was generally acceptable, though there will be some modifications in the light of experience. For instance, the ASPS Welcome table needs to be obvious from the entrance.

The **Post and Go** machines proved very popular.

There was the highest number of entries to the **National** Competition for many years – 28 entries, 51 faces, 5 gold medals awarded. The judges were impressed by the way in which entrants had paid attention to previous judges' comments. The new **Cinderella** Class had 3 entries.

Colin Campbell reported that there was a slight reduction in the number of **Junior** entries: two previous Scottish winners have now entered at International level in Melbourne. The current entries here maintain the high standard. The Alba Salvar winner scored 95!

The **Open** Competition drew 8 entries, the winner being The Travels of HRH Prince Philip.

There were three entries in the **Postcard** Class.

The 2014 Congress will be hosted by the Scottish Postal History Society on 11th and 12th April.

The postcard will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the Greta War, with the Professor of Battlefield Archeology, Tony Pollard, as Guest speaker at the Dinner. The Congress cover will feature golf – the Ryder Cup. ASPS President is Dr David Kindley, Vice President is Jean Osborne of Falkirk who will host 2015. Guidelines have been drawn up for the **Tom Reilly Display**.

DDPS please remember that we are due to host Congress in 2023 which the late Graeme Webster reckoned is the 100th anniversary of the first Scottish national Philatelic Gathering (1924 was the first full Congress. 2024 is as yet unallocated.)

The **Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS)** is marking the start of the Great War with a four day event in Ypres (Iper) Belgium – details from Willie King. ABPS Public Liability Insurance covers societies who are directly affiliated.

Judging Seminar There will be an extended training seminar for judges and people interested in training as judges, to be held in Uddingston on 30th and 31st August, with follow-up assessment at the Congress judging in 2014 at some point in the Autumn.

If you would wish to be considered, get in touch with Ken Norris, 30 Luss Brae, Hamilton, Lanarkshire ML3 9UT Tel 01698 425120 (He is not on e-mail).

Alan Roy intends to be present. Let him know if you are interested. We could share transport. Ken will send details of B&Bs.

ASPS Website The letter of complaint sent in by Dr Charles Lloyd on behalf of DDPS, which listed failures in keeping up to date, links that did not work, and out of date information, was reported at the meeting. Alan Watson reported that the webmaster had struggled, contending with family illness, and was now willing to hand over to Dundee's volunteer. ASPS then appointed Norman Kelso as ASPS Webmaster and handed him the disk of office!

Other business In answer to a question, it was confirmed that insurance of competition entries is the responsibility of the entrant, not ASPS.

The meeting backed an initiative by Sandie Robb planning to provide help to Guides and Scouts with working towards their Collectors Badges.