

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held in the Grant Arms Hotel, Grantown-on-Spey, 7th October 2017 commencing 0900 hours

Present: The President and 18 members

1. Apologies for absence were received from Colin Banfield, Brian Hargreaves, Hugh Johnson, Malcolm Newton and Derrick Scoot
2. The President called for a minute's silence for members who had died during the year: Donald Barnes, H Kim Dodwell, John Gatecliff, John Hillson, Peter Payne, John Spicer and Iain Stevenson.
3. The minutes of the previous A.G.M. were on display during Convention. It was proposed they be signed as a true record by Neil Prior and seconded by Malcolm Montgomery. Passed by the meeting and signed by the President.
4. Judith Edwards, at the conclusion of the 2016 AGM, gave the Founder's Trophy to Greg Spring to have remade. The new Trophy was shown to the meeting and Greg Spring was thanked for his efforts.
5. Officer's reports were on display during Convention and were accepted en bloc by the meeting.
6. Brian Stalker, in the absence of Colin Banfield, reported that Malcolm Montgomery had been elected a Fellow of the Society in recognition of his work as Subscriptions Secretary, and in particular for his research on Transatlantic Mail. The Founder's Trophy had been awarded this year to J. Michael Powell for his two books on Internment Mail in WW1.
7. The Accounts had been on display during Convention and it was proposed by Graham Searle that they should be accepted. Seconded by Mike Street and carried by the meeting.
8. David Armitage said that the London Group had enjoyed regular monthly meetings with an average attendance of about 10 and that the programme for the next year had been settled and that the next meeting was to be held in two weeks' time. Graham Searle said that the Scottish Group held bi-annual meetings with attendance of between 6 and 8 and would continue to meet in the coming year.
9. The secretary announced that he had received letters of thanks from David Sessions and Douglas Campbell thanking the Society for the awards bestowed on them by the Committee in 2016. The secretary also reported that John

Gatecliff's son had contacted him, offering John Gatecliff's books to the Society. These had been accepted gratefully.

10. A note from Hugh Johnson was read out concerning the Exchange Packet. He asked if any members had received comments or complaints about the content of the Packet, but no reports of such had been received by anybody present at the meeting.

11. Election of Officers

Office	Nominee	Proposer	Seconded
President	David Armitage	Neil Prior	Colin Lewis
Senior Vice-President	Greg Spring	Graham Searle	Brian Stalker
Second Vice-President	<i>vacant</i>		
Third Vice-President	<i>vacant</i>		
Secretary	John Watson	Neil Prior	Graham Searle
Treasurer	Karen Searle	Colin Lewis	Mike Slamo
Editor <i>Maple Leaves</i>	Graham Searle	Neil Prior	Colin Lewis
Subscription Manager	Malcolm Montgomery	Karen Searle	Graham Searle
Auction Manager	Graham Searle	Colin Lewis	Brian Stalker
Librarian	Mike Slamo	Graham Searle	Richard Thompson
Packet Manager	Hugh Johnson	Graham Searle	Richard Thompson
Web Master	Graham Searle	Colin Lewis	Brian Stalker
Handbooks Manager	Derrick Scoot	David Armitage	Jim Bisset
Publicity Manager	Brian Hargreaves	Graham Searle	Richard Thompson
Advertising Manager	Brian Hargreaves	Graham Searle	Richard Thompson
Accounts Examiner	Jim Bisset	Karen Searle	Graham Searle
Committee Representative for			
Scotland	N/R		
South of England	N/R		
North of England and Wales	N/R		

With only one nomination for each office no election was necessary, all had been properly proposed and seconded and the above nominees were duly elected.

12. David Armitage reported to the meeting that the 2018 Convention would be held at the Homestead Court Hotel, Welwyn Garden City from 5th to 9th September 2018. Arrangements for events, both philatelic and social are in hand. David said that room and dietary requirements would be required by the hotel well in advance of Convention. The Convention was being held earlier than usual next year in order that Convention goers could attend "Stampex" which takes place in London, England, the following week, if they so wished.
13. Treasurer, Karen Searle proposed that the Subscriptions for 2018 should remain as they are. Malcolm Montgomery proposed that the meeting accept the subscription rate and Greg Spring seconded the motion. The proposal was carried.
14. Eldon Godfrey reminded members that BNAPS Convention, 2018 would be held in Quebec from 21st to 23rd September.
Colin Lewis thanked the meeting for the continuing support of the bourse held during Convention.
Brian Stalker told the meeting that BNAPS donate a copy of their books to our library and showed the meeting the latest two volumes, which had resulted in the Member's Trophy being awarded to their author. Brian felt that we should make a public acknowledgement of BNAPS' generosity in making this donation. The question of "youth membership" was raised by John Watson. A general discussion followed, amongst which was the question of whether a change to the Constitution would be necessary. It was agreed that it would be. David Armitage suggested working through Stamp Active Network. Brian Stalker suggested an area of the website for younger readers. Charles Livermore and Eldon Godfrey both mentioned BNAPS attempts to involve younger people. Colin Lewis suggested that the best way to reach young people was through "Facebook". Charles Livermore suggested that we start a Facebook page straight away. Greg Spring said he would set up a Facebook page. Jean Almond reiterated the need to try to reach older people and Colin Lewis mentioned his attempts at doing so through Ebay.
General discussion followed about membership issues. John Watson proposed that the junior membership issue be discussed by Committee at the 2018 Convention, and that if anybody had anything they felt would contribute to the discussion they should contact a Committee member. Karen Searle seconded this proposal and the proposal was carried.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.42