



West of
England
Thematic
Society

Newsletter No.65 APRIL 2020

Society Officers

Chairman – Gary Green

Secretary – TBA

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IN THIS ISSUE – WETS by email, Dates for your Diary, WETS AGM Minutes, The Current Emergency, Memory Sticks, Website worth Looking At.

WETS NEWS by email – If you are not yet a recipient give your name and email address to the Editor. Increases in postal charges, mean it is important to circulate as much information as possible by this means. Look at our website www.wessexpf.org.uk for examples of the quality. Download time is very fast. **DON'T FORGET TO SAVE WHAT YOU GET.** It is suggested you create a file called WETS News to put them in.

Dates for your Diary – We hope to run the Autumn Meeting on November 7th and are looking to Book a Speaker to Talk about the Voyages of Captain Cook. The next newsletter will give full details.

WETS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Buckfastleigh Town Hall on Saturday 19th October 2019

Apologies – Jim Wigmore, Vicki Wigmore, David Roseveare

Minutes of the previous meeting – these were circulated in the News Letter and approved at the meeting.

Matters arising from the minutes – there were no matters arising.

Chairman's report – WETS has had a good year which started with Spring Stampex where Jim Wigmore entered our memory stick of WETS Newsletters in the Philatelic Literature Class and winning a Large Vermeil. The April WETS Thematics Day was great success with Sue Burn displaying her "Smithies Bus" exhibit, all about McRobertson Air Race & mail service to New Zealand & Australia. This was followed by our members displays of the Theme 'Be Prepared'. Next year is the WETS Road Show so if you have anything we can display please let Jim Wigmore have photocopies. I hope the coming year will be another successful one for WETS.

Secretary's report – as Chairman's Report.

Treasurer's report - Overall it has been another successful and profitable year for the club. For 2017/18, expenditure is higher (up £64) predominantly from increased room hire (up £20) and refreshment costs (up £37), but this is more than balanced by increased income from higher thematic day bookings (up £72).

The final balance is up £41, which is a similar increase in the account's final balance to that last year.

The overall balance is healthy and there is no need to increase subscriptions.

It was agreed to maintain subs at £6 per member per year and £8 for the Thematic Day bookings. Subscriptions are now due for 2020/21 – see attached form.

Newsletter's report – Producing our newsletter is a struggle as we do not get any input from the membership, we need stories about what our members are working on and about the stories that inspire them to produce thematic displays.

Election of Officer's

Chairman – Gary Green

Vice Chairman – Jim Wigmore

Secretary – Gary Green

Treasurer – Andrew Austen

News Letter Editor – Jim Wigmore

Auditor – Mervyn Kerswell

Proposed. on bloc: proposed Carol Turner, seconded: Tony Key agreed by the meeting

AOB – There was a discussion about whether we should reduce to one meeting a year due to the poor attendance today. CT asked that we support two meetings and the meeting agreed.

Future dates were discussed and it was agreed:

April 25th – theme is 'Space'

November 7th – theme is 'Home'

Other suggested themes for future meeting are:

Architecture and Design

Wings

Charity

Walking

THE CURRENT EMERGENCY

For obvious reasons we have been unable to have our usual Spring Meeting and at the present time we are still unsure if we will be able to have our Autumn Meeting. All now depends upon the easing of the current Lockdown and the easing of Social Distancing Regulations.

Until this happens the local authorities will not allow any meetings to take place in any of their buildings, which is going to affect all clubs and societies.

MEMORY STICKS

The Wessex Federation have brought together all the Wessex Bulletins and the WETS Newsletters and have produced superb interactive indexes for both sets of publications. Both can now be searched by Title, Author or Subject Group. It was hoped that these could be made available online as they have been created using web type technology, however all attempts to get our website to link to the Memory Stick content have failed. We are currently looking at putting this into the ABPS Stamp World Exhibitions InterFed National Competition which is currently planned for 30th September – 3rd October to be held at the Business Design Centre.

Government predictions suggest that Social Distancing Regulations may not be lifted by this time and like London 2020 it could finish up being cancelled.

The Memory Stick WessexMS01v1.0 could be made available to WETS and Wessex Federation Club Members once approved by Wessex Federation.

The volume of superb philatelic information and ideas held within these volumes is fantastic and well worth obtaining once available.

WEBSITE WORTH LOOKING AT

Dawlish Stamp Club have set up an email forum to enable them to keep in touch during the current situation and have also set up their own website at <http://dawlishsc.org>

Have a look at what has been achieved and especially at the Publications Page and the pages that give access to the Wessex Bulletins and WETS Newsletters.

KEEP SAFE & LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL SOON.