



Money Matters

While the letters debate on our sub-title warms up, I'm back to back-office concerns. At last AHP has a Treasurer in Timothy McMichael, who as well as having financial expertise has experience in counselling, psychotherapy and in company law. He heads an association of health, legal and financial professionals, so should prove an invaluable asset. For we need to seriously monitor and control our financial position, as it seems Dickens' Mr Micawber is also an AHP Board Member; with his maxim: *'Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen pounds, nineteen shillings and six pence, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds and six pence, result misery.'*

Well, in line with 150 years of inflation since Dickens, our position is very roughly one of annual income £27,000, annual expenditure £27,300. These comprise several variable ins and outs, so it's more a state of recurring anxiety rather than simple misery. (Though Freud saw that as progress!) A veering between the red and the black, a sort of always being in a brownish state. (More Freudian stuff?) Seriously, we aren't yet going broke, but our bank balance swings like a yoyo. So, just as every sixpence was precious to Mr Micawber, every fiver is to AHP. The annual subscription went up by £5 in June of 2003, but very many standing orders are still being paid at £28, instead of £33. So please, please, check your bank statements over the last six months and if you paid your standing order at £28, get your bank to amend it, if you haven't already done so, and kindly send us the missing fiver, using the form enclosed with this S&S. It may seem churlish to chase a mere five pounds, but it's from some hundreds of subscribers. However, what Mr Micawber didn't have is a pot of gold labelled 'Gift Aid from the Tax Man', so by also signing that part of the form AHP gets £7 as well. If you've already done all this, sorry to go on about it, and thank you; but to chase people individually would take up an enormous amount of time and effort from our hard-pressed administrator Kathy, who has enough to do.

So, if you didn't complete the form issued previously, use the one in this issue. And check you've changed your standing order. If you've mislaid the form, contact us.

AHP(B), BM Box 3582, London WC1N 3XX 0845 707 8506 admin@ahpb.org.uk