

**Minutes of a Meeting held in Dundee Art Society Gallery, Roseangle, Dundee
on 22 January 2015**

Alec Steele ‘British South Africa Co. & Early Rhodesia’

Welcome: President Francis Podger welcomed the members and visitors.

Apologies for absence: Colin Campbell, Sandra Campbell and David Cree

Attendance: 18 members and 3 visitors (Alec’s wife Hazel, Gordon Shepherd from the Rhodesian Study Circle and his wife, Wilma.) were present.

Minutes: The Minutes of 11 December were approved on the proposal by Robert Duguid and seconded by Peter Dix.

The Minutes of 8 January were approved on the proposal by Dennis Collins and seconded by George Soutar.

Display: Alec Steele has been a collector of Rhodesian stamps for a significant number of years and his British South Africa Company / Early Rhodesia has to be one of the foremost modern-day collections. From this he selected items to display. Alec displayed the Small and Large Arms, Double Heads and Admiral issues. There was a comprehensive variety of colours and perforations (for the latter two issues). Specialising in high quality mint stamps clearly revealed the colour differences. The 2/- purple-black was notable. Also on display was a fantastic study of double-head stamps which contained flaws including a block of 8 stamps which contained two different types of flaw! In the admirals, Alec pointed to the 2/- in yellow brown which is extremely difficult to find, with possibly only one sheet produced. In addition to these definitive sets, there were overprints, specimens, the Falls Bridge commemorative, dies, currency cards, inverted overprints and blocks of stamps. Rare emergency overprints for the besieged town of Bulawayo were fascinating because the Matabele Impis allowed mail out to encourage the white settlers to leave! Alec finished his display with postal stationery from 1893 and some postal history including early letters and cards which related to the 1896 Matabele Rebellion.

Business:

President: None

Secretary: Advised members that Harry, Doug, Peter and himself will display at Falkirk next Thursday. He was looking for 3 volunteers for the Arbroath visit. Also, he asked members for suggestions for speakers for next year’s session.

Treasurer: None

Packet Secy: 2 Boxes now issued with more to follow.

Librarian: Still being worked on.

Webmaster: Website up to date following last meeting.

ASPS Rep: Reminded members about the request for assistance for Congress 2015 and informed members that a sheet is available at the Presidents’ desk for members to put their name down as a volunteer. Delegates meeting next Saturday will be reported on at next meeting.

Vote of Thanks: The vote of thanks was given by Charles Lloyd who complemented Alec on his display of one of the foremost collections of Early Rhodesia in existence.

Date of Next Meeting: Morning meeting - 5th February 10am to noon.
Evening Meeting - 12th February
Member’s Evening - “L” Night