

**Minutes of a Meeting held in Dundee Art Society Gallery, Roseangle, Dundee
on 25 September 2014**

Latin America

Welcome: In the absence of the President, Vice President David Millar welcomed members to the first meeting of the new session. Due to work commitments the President was unable to give his presidential display and Doug Howkins had agreed to give his display which had been scheduled for the next meeting.

Apologies for absence: Francis Podger and David Cree

Attendance: 19 members were present.

Minutes: The Minutes of 24 April had been approved at the AGM on 8 May on the proposal by Robert Duguid and seconded by Norman Kelso.

Display: Doug Howkins gave an overview of his display and referred to a hand-out of a map showing the 20 countries whose stamps would be displayed. The first half was devoted to the countries in Central America, Venezuela, Columbia and the islands of Haiti, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. The first stamps of Mexico appeared about 50-60 years after the start of the war of independence from Spain in 1810. These initially commemorated the formation of the Republic and its founding fathers along with pictorials of various sites. Doug's detailed and in-depth knowledge added greatly to the display – including the politics surrounding the building of the Panama Canal. The second half was a display involving the remainder of the Latin America states. Again the history of these states was fully explained.

Business:

Vice President: Expressed thanks to Doug Howkins for his willingness to display earlier than was scheduled.

Secretary: Arbroath PS had requested a visit on a date to be confirmed. Dennis Collins was thanked for his article on mail from the Tay Rail Bridge disaster that appeared in the newsletter

Treasurer: Many subscriptions had been paid and the remainder would be welcomed. Society funds had been transferred from the existing holdings to six Investment Trusts. Denis Collins was thanked for his guidance.

Packet Secretary: Four packets had almost completed their circulation and up to six could soon be issued. There had been an increase in the number of contributors.

Librarian: Every book now had a temporary sticker prior to a final label being attached. It was intended that a listing would appear on the intranet of the Society website allowing access to members only.

Publicity: Information continues to appear in the local and philatelic press.

The Postcard Club of Tayside were interested in working with us to produce a card to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of James Valentine.

Webmaster: Information on members who have won awards will appear on the website and members were asked to give Norrie any missing information. Details of the displays will also appear in the website.

A.O.B.: Chad Neighbor announced that his 'fairs' would be returning to St Aiden's church hall. Full details of stamp fairs can be seen on <http://chadneighbor.blogspot.co.uk/>

Vote of Thanks: The vote of thanks was given by David Millar who commented on the speaker's passion and local knowledge of Latin America
Members then enjoyed the traditional refreshments to celebrate the start of the new session.

Date of Next Meeting: Morning meeting- 2 Oct 10am to noon. President's Night on 9 October.