

Dundee & District Philatelic Society
Minutes of Meeting 12 October 2017
Dundee Art Society, Roseangle Gallery, Dundee

Colin Fraser (USA) – ‘British Central Africa 1891 – 1908’

Welcome: President David Millar welcomed members and guests to the evening’s display from Colin Fraser.

Apologies: Doug Howkins, Peter Dix

Attendance: 14 Members and 3 Visitor(s)

Minutes: The minutes of the 28th September 2017 were approved by Harry Jackson and seconded by Charles Lloyd

Business:

President: Nothing to report

Secretary: Copies of the Autumn and Summer issues of ABPS news were available for members to take home. Charles also advised members that he has taken ownership on behalf of the society a complete inventory of copies of each society syllabus, apart from the very first one, from the estate of Dennis Collins. This will be passed on to the society archivist.

Treasurer: Subscriptions payments steadily coming in.

Packet Secy: Nothing to report

Librarian: David showed members the discovery walk badge and pamphlet produced for the James Chalmers plaque. He also informed members that the obituary for Dennis Collins was published in Stamp Magazine. David also advised members that an album was available to be purchased from Alistair Lawson with some Animals on Stamps.

Publicity: Our meeting was again not published in the what’s on pages of the courier but a photo from the last meeting was printed. Stamp & Coin Mart are attempting to publish a directory of societies. To be included would cost £60.

Webmaster: Nothing to report.

ASPS Rep: Next delegates meeting is at Scotex on 21st October. Report on events from this will be made at the first meeting after Scotex. The theme for congress will be 125 years of Scottish Philately.

Vote of Thanks: On behalf of the members Alec Steele thanked Colin for putting on such an incredible display.

Date of Next Meeting: Morning Meeting – 2nd November 2017 10am till Noon
Evening Meeting – 26th October 2017
Visit from Lanarkshire Philatelic Society

Dundee & District Philatelic Society
Minutes of Meeting 12 October 2017
Dundee Art Society, Roseangle Gallery, Dundee

Display:

Colin Fraser who hails from Woodstock in the USA, but who originates from Dundee, came over to provide members with what can only be described as a jaw dropping display of British Central Africa 1891 – 1908, which contained a number of unique items. As one member put it afterwards, he was gobsmacked.

In the first part of the display Colin walked us through the period from when the British South Africa Company was responsible for the area through to it becoming British Central Africa (Protectorate). His display contained the 7 Bradbury Wilkinson preparatory essays, perfined specimen and manuscript specimen stamps and covers showing the postal rates applicable in the 1890's. Also shown for the next issue of stamps were die proofs produced by both Bradbury Wilkinson and De La Rue as well as essays of the finished design. The 1895 issue included proofs of the issue by De La Rue using Lithography as well as examples of the stamps and covers showing their usage.

Part 2 of his display took us from 1897 to 1908 beginning with essays of the 1897 issue using Typography by De La Rue, die proofs and colour trials. This issue was requested by Harry Johnson, The High Commissioner who designed the BCA's first stamp insisting it be used. Included in this were examples of watermarks both sideways and inverted as well as UPU specimen stamps. Again covers were on display showing the postal usage at the time and also perforate and imperforate stamps. Colin finished up his display with the issue of the 1899 10/- value followed by the colour changes to conform to the UPU and the King Edward VII issues when British Central Africa became Nyasaland in 1903 showing essays of the stamps, which were not known to have been produced.