

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps



THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 98:1. 970

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Awards:

- o Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
- o Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
- o Vermeil APS Stampshow 1999,
- o Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- o Federation Plaque 2004,
- o Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- o Large Silver NZ Literature Exhibition 2007,
- o Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- o Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.

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- 04: Essen international exhibition 25 - 28 May 2023 Germany
- 04: SAVPEX one fame Virtual Exhibition - Bloemfontein
- 07: London International Exhibition 2022, 19 - 26 February
- 07: Cape Town International Exhibition 2022

To avoid late delivery, please note; Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material for *The SA Philatelist*. ARTICLES should be submitted in the month prior:

- **APRIL 2022 - Volume. 98 : 2. 971. 14 March 2022**
- **JUNE 2022 - Volume. 98 : 3. 972. 10 May 2022**



FEDERATION NEWS

from the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA - André du Plessis RDPSA 083 399 1755.
<https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



How does *The SA Philatelist* stack up to 'specialist' publications world-wide? After much research and comment from leaders in the field of serious philately, the conclusion is that the journal rates 'up-there' with the best - we deliver on the 80 / 20 principle - keeping our entry level collectors well informed and carrying a high quality, informative, well researched and expertly articulated articles for the most discerning philatelists.

The newsletter 'KEEPING IN TOUCH' as well as the well-used PFSA website have clearly indicated that *The SA Philatelist* can indeed be accepted as a 'specialist' publication. With this in mind, the bi-monthly newsletter will focus tantalising 'tit-bits' of interest and ideas to encourage collectors to explore avenues as yet undiscovered, and focus on in-depth research material in the well respected SAP.

We encourage our readers to submit ideas and requests - in fact, take this opportunity to participate in the upcoming VIRTUAL SAVPEX 2022 - you will be delighted and surprised with the experience by entering your exhibit at this now well established event. Looking forward to welcoming your entries.

The PFSA encourages participation in both this journal - *The SA Philatelist*, as well as the electronic newsletter, 'Keeping in Touch' with regular and new readers who will ensure that the social media activities and publications continue to support stamp collecting in South Africa. Contact the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA, André du Plessis RDPSA, 083 399 1755.
<https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



For all those lockdown people wishing their exhibits to get some air - the **Essen international exhibition** will now take place on 25 - 28 May 2023 in Germany.

Foundation kindly announced that "an exhibitor will be subsidised by 50% of the frame fees in respect of a single show per year. Obviously the exhibitor is not obliged to accept the subsidy should the exhibitor be in a position to afford the fees themselves."

For more information and/or if you wish to exhibit please contact SA commissioner below. Exhibit application forms must be received by **11 September 2022** at the latest.

South African Commissioner: Francois Friend

Tel: 082 554 8900 email <francois@softchem.co.za>

SAVPEX 2022 :

South Africa's Seventh Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (SAVPEX), a one-frame exhibition, proudly hosted by the Orange Free State Philatelic Society under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

EXHIBITION DATES: 30 April 2022 – Receipt of Entry Form, Description and Payment
21 May 2022 – Receipt of Uploaded Exhibit
30 June 2022 – Announcement of Results

July 2022 – Exhibits will be available for viewing on the PFSA website <https://www.stampssa.africa/>



EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editorial Board reserves the right to accept or decline any articles, letters or any other material submitted for publication, and reserves the right to effect minor changes of spelling, punctuation, grammar and word choice without requesting prior permission from the author(s). For more substantial revisions, such as shortening or restructuring, either the Board will request the author(s) to effect such changes or will propose amendments to the author prior to publication - if no agreement can be reached then publication will be declined.

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Enquiries regarding **subscriptions and PFSA membership** can be addressed to the C.O.O. André du Plessis RDPSA at andredupfs@gmail.com Tel: +27 (0)83 399 1755

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SIGNING OF THE ROLL - RDPSA

Dr Keith Klugman RDPSA

On 16 November 2021, the new member of the prestigious RDPSA, Dr Keith Klugman, who had been invited to sign the Roll at the 83rd PFSA Congress, found himself in Cape Town.

This presented a perfect opportunity for the President of the PFSA, Hugh Amoore to invite Keith to join other members of the RDPSA for lunch at *De Volkskombuis* restaurant in Stellenbosch, and finally get to sign the Roll.

Together with his great lifelong friends, who live and work in the Stellenbosch area since University days, Michael and Karen Burns, as well as RDPSA members (seen in the photo from left to right) Roger Porter, Michael Wigmore, Emil Minnaar, Hugh Amoore and Emil Bührmann and Keith signed the Roll.

As Keith now lives in the United States, this opportunity had a further advantage - for Keith's 98 year 'young' father to witness the achievement.



Dr Klugman's substantial philatelic achievements have been published in the December 2021 issue of *The SA Philatelists* on p186 where the citation was proposed by Roger Porter and seconded by an elite group of his peers. [📄](#)

PROPRIETOR: PAUL VAN ZEYL RDPSA

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PHILATELIC ASSOCIATES

Signatories to the ROLL of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa

Introduced 1932

Distinguished Philatelists, who have made a significant contribution to philately in Southern Africa, are invited by the congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa to sign the Roll of Honour. The Signatories are entitled to use the letters RDPSA after their names. The following is the full listing of Signatories:

*Deceased

1932	Gilbert J Allis*	1965	Jonas M Michelson*	2000	Peter Van Der Molen
1932	A J Cohen*	1966	Max Peisach (Israel)	2001	Chris Mobsby
1932	Sir Edmond Howard Lacam Gorges*	1967	Jack Emil Crewell*	2002	John Sandilands*
1932	Saul Aaron Klagsbrun*	1968	W G Combrink*	2002	Wikus Van Heerden*
1932	George Blockey*	1968	Jesse Manfred Weinstein*	2003	Mary Bromfield*
1932	William Charles James Hand*	1969	A Leslie Leon*	2003	John Wannerton*
1932	George J Houbert*	1970	Gustav Bülbring*	2004	Richard Johnson
1932	Jerome Ritchie*	1970	Ken EW Lydall*	2004	Des Hyland*
1932	Emil Carl Christiaan Tamsen*	1971	Albert (Bert) L Meyburgh*	2005	Dr Ian Matheson
1932	Louis Simenhof*	1971	Vivian F Ellenberger*	2005	Danie Scheepers
1933	J Herbert Curle*	1972	John T (Jack) Burrell*	2006	Jan Bakker*
1934	Major Walter John Harrington*	1972	S J (Fanie) Vermaak*	2006	Neville Polakow
1938	Leonard A Wyndham*	1973	Dr Hendrik Jacobus (Henry) Raubenheimer*	2007	George Cafetzoglou
1938	G N Gilbert (Gillie)*	1974	Rudi Jeidel*	2008	Emil Minnaar
1939	Charles H Thornton*	1976	Hilda Jeidel*	2008	Patrick Flanagan
1939	William L Ashmead*	1977	Dr Hasso Otto Herman Frederick Reisener*	2009	John Cheminais*
1948	Albert Edward Basden*	1979	IR (Bob) Goldblatt*	2010	Hugh Amooore
1948	Adrian Albert Jurgens*	1980	Joh Groenewald*	2011	Gawie Van Der Walt
1948	Percy C Bishop*	1980	Arie J Bakker*	2011	Herbie Schaffler
1948	James Hunter Harvey Pirie*	1981	Archie GM Batten*	2012	Emil Bührmann
1948	William M Redford*	1982	Natie Becker*	2012	Bob Allison (UK)
1948	Archibald Hylton Sydow*	1982	Harry Birkhead*	2013	Jim Findlay
1948	J Norman Welsford*	1985	Stan P Naylor*	2013	Pauw Steyl
1949	Karl Freund*	1986	David G Crocker*	2014	Dr Neil Conjé
1949	Alec Kaplan*	1986	Harold M Criddle*	2014	Herwig Kussing
1951	George K Forbes*	1987	M J (Thys) Rall*	2015	Mike Tonking
1951	Sam Legator*	1987	Danny T Swart*	2015	Richard Stroud (UK)
1952	Ernest Hunt*	1988	Ernest Cecil Wright*	2016	Prof Alex Visser
1952	Andrew Watson*	1988	Richard Cave Knight*	2016	Paul van Zeyl
1953	Bertram R L Fox*	1988	N C (Nico) Combrink*	2018	Dr Nic Zerbst*
1954	William N Sheffield*	1988	H R Holmes*	2018	Lars Jørgenson
1955	John H H Chamberlain*	1989	André Bezuidenhout*	2019	Roger Porter
1956	William (Willie) Newlands*	1989	Mike J Nethersole (USA)*	2020	André du Plessis
1956	Thomas B Davie*	1990	Coen Slagt*	2020	Dr Chris Board
1957	S J (Jack) Hagger*	1990	Robson Lowe*	2021	Dr Keith Klugman
1958	Leo Buchen*	1991	Ralph F Putzel*		
1959	Thomas (Tom) Butland Berry*	1991	George van den Hurk*		
1959	Cdr Cyril Emil Delgado Enoch*	1992	Cedric Roché		
1960	Milton Frederick Stern*	1992	Gunter Von Schumann (Namibia)		
1963	I H Charles Godfrey*	1993	Dr Gerrit H Jonkers*		
		1993	Howard Green		
		1994	Wilhelm Grütter*		
		1994	Dr JR (Achi) Frank (UK)		
		1995	Dr Alan Drysdall (UK)*		
		1996	David Stern*		
		1997	Philippa Mcintosh*		
		1997	Colin M Hoffman (UK)		
		1998	Jill D Redmond		
		1998	Dr Gerhard Kamffer		
		2000	Michael Wigmore		





LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Correspondence to THE SA SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board. Articles and items of interest are welcome and will be reviewed for publication. Letters to the Editor are welcome, and robust, constructive debate encouraged on the pages of the Journal with the right of publication reserved.

PLEASE NOTE:

Dr Neil Cronjé RDPSA will take over the challenge of South African Commissioner for the **London 2022** from Patrick Flanagan RDPSA.

Kindly direct any enquiries to the PFSA COO, André du Plessis RDPSA regarding sending/ receiving of material.

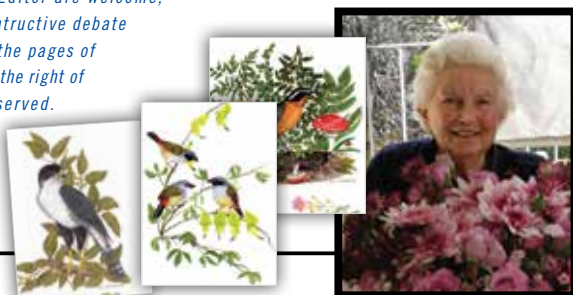
LONDON 2022

19 TO 26 FEBRUARY



There will be a total of 3,400 frames of exhibits, divided between the two halves of the exhibition. These can be seen in the Gallery Hall and Auditorium. Exhibits of Postal History, Postal Stationery, Open Class, Picture Postcards, Revenues and part of the Youth Class will be on display from Saturday, 19 February until midday on Tuesday, 22 February. Entries of Traditional Philately, Aerophilately, Thematics, the remainder of the Youth Class, plus exhibits for the World Stamp Championship, can be seen from Wednesday, 23 February until midday on Friday, 25 February.

There will be an opportunity during Saturday, 26 February to see those exhibits that have been recognised as the 'Best in Class', as well as the Grand Prix National, Grand Prix International and World Stamp Championship winners.



WE SADLY REGRET

the death of Julia Birkhead, the widow of the late Harry Birkhead, the former Honorary Life President of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, who died in April 2013. Julia past away on Monday, 20 December 2021.

Julia was an artist of some renown, in particular for painting of the birds of South Africa. Many of her paintings appeared on postcards, sold to generate funds for the Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition. The late Harry was the first Honorary Treasurer of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society after it moved to the Country Club Johannesburg, which position he held for 6 years. Julia was often seen with Harry at Society meetings, especially the President's Evening and the formal annual black-tie Banquets. Our deepest condolences are hereby sent to Julia's three daughters, and other family members.

Herbie Schaffler

IN MEMORIAM:

Malcolm Driver, a past member of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society, passed away on 19 January 2022. Malcolm joined the Wits in August 1998. He and the late *George van den Hurk* founded the Edenvale Philatelic Society in 1976. He was also the Principal of the Edenvale High School for many years. No further details are available at this stage.

Peter Vogenbeck passed away in December 2021, age 70. A well-known philatelist, dealer, auctioneer and author of numerous philatelic publications, his career as a dealer started in the 1980s. In 1984 his first Postal Auction covered all interests, with stamps and covers from all over the world - Argentina to Zululand. Emigrating from South Africa to Germany in 1991, he



specialised in *German Colonies and Postal Offices Abroad*, adding over a hundred auctions in this field. His book "*Nebenstempel und Dienstsiegel von Deutsch-Südwestafrika*" (1998), is a valued reference book on the topic of cancellors, cachets and post cards of that period. Our deepest condolences to his widow, Ingrid, his two sons, Jochen and Bernd, and his daughter, Brigitte, and their families and friends.

Another philatelist, **John-Peter Wharton-Hood**, passed away after major surgery. Seriously ill for a few years, he waited for a donor for a liver transplant. With a donor found on 7 December 2022 he underwent the transplant, on the 8th.



He was recovering well until complications set in and he died on 10 January 2022, at the age of 61.

HS

CONGRATULATIONS to the SOUTH AFRICAN contingent participating in LONDON 2022 International Stamp Exhibition from 19 to 26 February 2022. Hugh Amoore, Avi, Chavah and Shimon Barit, Emil Bührmann, Jim Findlay, Patrick Flanagan, Francois Friend, Howard Green, Ian Matheson, Alan Rogers, Herbie Schaffler, Malcolm Suttill and Peter van der Molen. We wish these 14 all the best and know they will do us proud.



The Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition from 8 to 12 November 2022.



Website: www.capetown2022.org

Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za



THE GENEALOGY OF A SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE CASH REGISTER/TERMINAL RECEIPT

Introduction

A notice issued by the Post Office on 19 August 1935, states "that it is notified for general information that a Parcel Franking Machine has been introduced experimentally at Pretoria. Parcels franked by this machine will bear yellow labels in place of the usual postage stamps. The amount of the postage paid will be included on the label. Similar machines will in due course be introduced at Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban" (*Stamps of South Africa – Handbook Catalogue, 1979, 2nd Rev edition, pp445/6*). An extensive compilation of South African labels has been produced by the International Postage Meter Stamp Society which is available at https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International_Postage_Meter_Stamp_Catalog/South_Africa (2021). Permission to use some of the images, indicated as (INT), is gratefully acknowledged. This article presents the time line of the different styles and printers. Note that period of usage is given at the end of each heading.

EXPERIMENTAL TRIAL USE Ohmer Fare, 1936

Only a single loose tape/slip is known to survive, shown as Fig.1. It consists of a borderless impression with large 'PARCEL POST' / 'PAKKETPOS' / 'PRETORIA' in top half. Below 'PRETORIA' is a line across the stamp above 'DATE' 'PAID' / 'BETAALD' 'ASS'T' / 'NO.'. Along the bottom are the date, value figures, 'MS' (clerk identification), and a 3-digit transaction number. It is printed in violet on green paper. One machine is known used experimentally.

Intriguingly it is dated 2 IV 1936, although the announcement was made in 1935, and green paper was used, not yellow.



Fig.1: First experimental parcel label (INT)

PARCEL POST PAID - NCR - Yellow / ochre paper 1936 - 1952

The earliest machine that was brought into service was the N.C.R. which prints through a violet ribbon on gummed paper varying in shade from pale yellow to deep ochre, in amounts from 1d to £99/19/11. The number of the machine is shown on the left of the amount paid, the transaction sequence number on the right. The date of posting appears at the top with the month in Roman figures. Generally the format is DDMYYYY, but sometimes it is MMDDYYYY. The earliest recorded Parcel Post label is shown in Fig.2. Of interest is that the date is earlier than the experimental label.



Fig.2: Earliest recorded label, 5 II 1936 (INT)

A range of designs were produced. Durban was the only machine seen producing only English labels. The machines were popular as Johannesburg labels have been seen up to terminal 7, Pretoria up to 6 and East London up to 9.

PARCEL POST PAID - NCR - White and buff paper 1947 - 1968.

From 1947 white or buff paper was introduced as shown in Fig.3. The same range of designs as with the yellow paper are found. Occasionally yellow paper was used during this period, as in Central St, Pretoria in 1950 and Durban in 1954. During this period a number of smaller offices received terminals and decimalisation took place when £sd were converted to Rc on 14 February 1961. The dot between s and d became a decimal point between R and c. The parcel post labels were only permitted for parcels, and items on piece are rare, and obviously on a parcel are very rare. These labels are thus collected loose.



Fig.3: Parcel post on white paper

POSTAGE PAID - National Cash Register - white paper 1958 - 1987

As the terminal use became more popular, a new design for all types of postage was introduced (Fig.4a). The designs had variations such as POSTAGE and PAID first or POSGELD and BETAAL first. These labels have been seen pre-decimalisation and post-decimalisation. An exception to the design is shown in Fig.4b, which has only been seen used at Caledon Sq, Cape Town.



Fig.4: Postage paid on white paper, with (a) the common design, and (b) unusual design (INT)

BROAD SLIPS 60mm (1968 – 1990), 72mm (1979 – 1990)

As technology developed, a new range of printers was introduced. The style of the transaction line at the bottom remained consistent with date, transaction number and postage paid. The difference was the width of the paper that was used, 60mm (59 offices seen) and 72mm (12 offices seen) (Fig.5a and b). Variations in the office information style and sometimes even without 'POSTAGE PAID' have been seen.



Fig.5a: Postage paid on broad slips, (a) 60mm wide and (b) 72mm wide (seen top of following page Fig.5b). (INT)

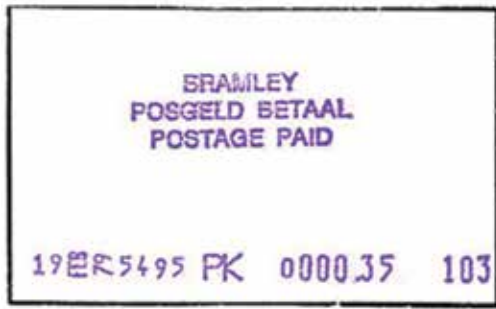


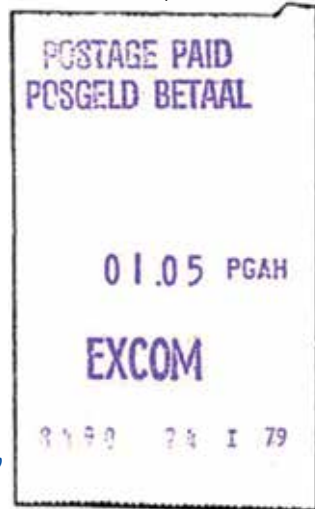
Fig.5b.

NARROW SLIPS 37mm (1983 - 1990) **46 and 54mm** (1962 - 1991)

At least ten different formats were used, mostly at fewer than 5 offices, which means they are rare. Two different styles are shown in Fig.6a and b.



a



b

Fig.6a&b: Postage paid on narrow slips showing different styles used in (a) Linden and (b) Excom (INT)

OLIVETTI SLIPS 1982 - 2004

The Olivetti slips (Fig.7a) are probably the most common type, being in use from 1982 for more than 20 years. The transaction information, seen at the base, is transaction code followed by, in this case PK, which signifies, postage paid which was 1c, date and terminal number. Often terminals were moved between offices. An unknown narrow slip (Fig.7b) was used at Cawood PA in 2001. This is the only slip of this style that has been used and may have been an experimental terminal.



Fig.7a: Olivetti narrow slip issued by Vincent, East London, (b) unusual 2001 Cawood PA narrow slip

A different style Olivetti label was introduced initially as an experiment with the terminal identification as # and number, or five digits. The trial took place at Strijdomplein, Arcadia, Boksburg, Potchefstroom, Pretoria, Randburg and Rissik St from 3.1988 to 10.1989. This is shown in Fig.8a for Strijdomplein. Mostly PT emblem paper was used. Normal operation used a terminal number that started with 6. This is shown as Fig.8b, which was seen from 10.1989 to 21.6.1995. The red marker indicates the end of the paper roll. PT emblem or white paper was used during this period. From 21.6.1995 to 8.1999 a new terminal identification number was implemented (Fig.8c), which starts with 0. PT emblem or white paper was again used, but mostly white paper. Paper width depended on the paper availability. The last variant

is where the terminal number starts with 99 (Fig.8d). Date has hyphens. Seen from 2.1999 to 8.1.2001. A new format which has DATE and TERM ID below place name (Fig.8e) was seen 1.2000 to 2004 with the exception of Brentwood Park which was seen 2008 – 2016.



8(a)



8(b)

Fig.8(a): Experimental slip, (b) slip with terminal number starting with 6, and (c) with 0, (d) terminal number starting with 99, and (e) new format with DATE and TERM ID.



8(c)



8(d)



8(e)

ANKER DATA SLIPS 1990 - 1999

A total of about 700 terminals were used from 1990 to 1999. The Anker Data electronic registers were installed according to a listing, with the terminal number indicated by the #. However, terminals were moved between offices, and during installation there was confusion as incorrect terminals were installed. Gomm published an article in *The SAP* Nov 1992 introducing these labels. Labels were as shown in Fig.9a. A new style, shown in Fig.9b, was used from 4.1996 to 9.1999. Transaction information is contained after the date and time. The first three digits are the teller (three tellers could use the same terminal). The next two digits are the terminal number. The last four digits are the transaction number.



Fig.9a: Initial Anker Data terminal label, and (b) style introduced in 1996



Fig.9b: introduced in 1996

HASLER 'MAILMASTER' 1988 - 1992

Rectangular cachet with double-edged outer frame with small curls in the corners is shown in Figs.10a and b. Applied in black on self-adhesive labels with yellow print. At the top are the town (Oos Londen, for bilingual names) and 'Posgeld Betaal', at bottom are the town (East London, for bilingual names) and 'Postage Paid'. Date and value figures in the centre. Only examples from Bloemfontein, East London and Pietermaritzburg have been seen. It is not clear whether this was an experimental system.



Fig.10a.



Fig.10b.

Fig.10: Examples of Hasler 'Mailmaster', (a) East London and (b) Pietermaritzburg (INT)

POSTLINK RECEIPT AND TRACK AND TRACE LABELS 1996 - 2012

The Postlink receipt and track and trace labels that are printed at the post office were introduced in 1996. Although these labels look like tracking information, the postage paid is also indicated, and it is thus also a terminal receipt. The example shown in Fig.11 is from Secunda to Hatfield as a registered item.

Fig.11: Postlink receipt for registered item from Secunda to Hatfield



THE WebRePost PAT LABEL 2009 – present

A new standardised system was introduced in 2009 and started superseding the Postlink system. It is commonly known as the PAT label. A detailed article was published in the *Phun* column, April 2014 of *The SAP*, and will not be repeated here. Fig.12a shows an example of the PAT label and Fig.12b shows the use of Lotto paper when the normal paper was unavailable.

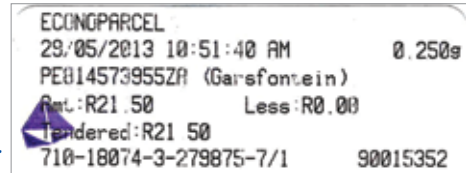


Fig.12a.

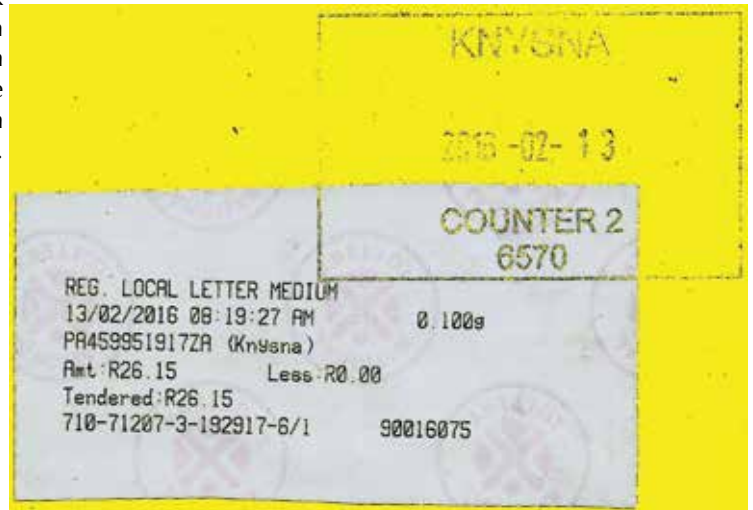


Fig.12b.

Fig.12a: An example of a PAT label, and (Fig.12b) use of Lotto paper during shortage.

I trust that this exposition has stimulated the study of these labels. In a future column the use of labels by postal administrations in the southern African region, including TBVC, will be discussed.

Daar is skynbaar maar min versamelaars wat na hierdie verwaarloosde deel van die posgeskiedenis kyk. In hierdie rubriek is gepoog om 'n oorsig asook tydperk van gebruik van pakketpos en posgeld betaal etikette te verskaf. Aangesien die etikette oninteressant voorkom word hulle nie bewaar nie. Daar is heelwat detail van die verskillende etikette wat nie bespreek is nie aangesien hierdie rubriek 'n oorsig is en nie 'n navorsingsverslag nie. In toekomstige rubrieke sal ander fasette van hierdie studie behandel word.

by Robin Messenger – Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

Domestic Letter	New Rate		Old Rate		Increase %
	R	c	R	c	
Small DL	5.65		5.34		5.81
Medium B5	11.40		10.75		6.05
Large B4	13.95		13.15		6.08

Domestic Postcards: Same rates as letters.

Registered letters, with insurance option (up to a maximum of R 2,000.00)

Small DL (5.65 + 34.05)	39.70	37.45	6.01
Medium B5 (11.40 + 34.00)	45.40	42.85	5.95
Large B4 (13.95 + 33.85)	47.80	45.10	5.99

Insurance fee

Up to R 100.00	Free	Free	
Up to R 250.00	27.75	26.20	5.92
Up to R 500.00	56.85	53.65	5.96
Up to R 1,000.00	114.30	107.85	5.98
Up to R 1,500.00	170.10	160.45	6.01
Up to R 2,000.00	226.95	214.10	6.00

International

Registration fee	53.80	50.75	6.01
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There is no insurance option for international letter post.

Aerograms	8.50	8.00	6.25
Postcards – Airmail	11.50	10.85	5.99
Postcards – Surface	7.00	6.60	6.06

	New Rate		Old Rate		Increase %
	R	c	R	c	
Airmail letters – Southern Africa					
Small DL	10.35		9.75		6.15
Medium B5	37.60		35.45		6.06
Large B4	58.35		55.05		5.99
Small packets (per 100 g)					
	33.05		31.20		5.93
Airmail letters – Rest of the world					
Small DL	13.40		12.65		5.93
Medium B5	45.40		42.85		5.95
Large B4	76.90		72.55		6.00
Small packets (per 100 g)					
	58.20		54.90		6.01

New rates taken from **Government Gazette**, No. 45780 (19 January 2022).



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ITALIAN ENCLAVES



by Chris Mobsby RDPSA, FRPSL, George Philatelic Society

Between the years 1974 and 2019, I thought of myself as a stamp collector with a self-imposed target of several hundred stamps each one of which would represent a different issuing authority.

That last phrase requires, perhaps, an explanation. Within the scope of 'authority' I attempted to include each and every country, town, company and even individual that had ever issued at least one stamp for postal purposes. This went far beyond the catalogues of, say, Stanley Gibbons or Michel and included, for instance, the 'Strike Posts of Great Britain' of 1971. The earliest known tally of such services appeared in Rosen's Catalogue with no fewer than 197 such authorities listed.

By 1977, this tally had increased to 258 companies and individuals while the authoritative Cinderella Stamp Club of Great Britain had, in due course, inflated this estimate further to 458 although not all of these would have had distinctive stamps of their own. Rather more modestly, the mounted element of my own collection included 20 pages of strike posts with a total of 232 authorities represented with 22 of these being shown 'on cover'. Similarly, a vast number of Russian towns and villages that were not served by the Imperial Postal Service and known collectively as *Zemstvos*, were allowed to issue their own stamps to pay the cost of local delivery. It has been estimated that between 1865 and 1917, a total of 175 towns in 33 different local assemblies took advantage of this concession. However, my collection included only six examples 'on cover' but with a further 150 mint or used examples. These two references, will, I trust, give some idea of just how vast a list of all of the 'Issuing Authorities of the World' might be. Further illustrations could be drawn from China with nine covers and one hundred stamps in my collection, this latter figure including, *inter alia*, stamps issued for eleven different towns where the postal service was in the hands of the occupying French authorities.

On a somewhat smaller scale, I have included eighteen different airmail services in Canada each having their own individual stamps. Moving to the United States, my collection includes 10 covers and 43 stamps, many of which were for services in New York itself. It would be remiss of me not to make reference to my own 'home country' of South Africa. While the four provinces provided a total of seventeen authorities for my check-list, I included one cover for each of them including, for Natal, the so-called 'Coleman Provisional' that includes, in manuscript, the annotation 'One half penny received in money'. This was signed, in 1895, by the Postmaster of Durban. In total,

I represented the four provinces with 4 covers and 13 stamps, each for a different authority.

Originally, I had intended for this article to be confined to a single country and selected Italy as a suitable example where I could limit my selection to 'Italian Enclaves'. This would enable me to by-pass the stamps of the Italian Post Offices in the Mediterranean, eighteen in number, issues for thirteen individual states, the likes of Parma and Modena and for those sixteen towns for which stamps were issued to mark the end of World War II.

Thus, I find myself limited to three authorities – San Marino, Vatican City and Campione which I grouped together in my collection under a page-heading of 'Italian Enclaves'.

The first of these, measuring only 38 square miles close to the eastern, Adriatic coast of Italy, is certainly the smallest and also one of the oldest republics in Europe. Small though it is it rejoices under the title of the 'Most Serene Republic of San Marino'. It was under this title that stamps were first issued in 1877 and in Fig.1, I have shown a block of four from that date with the circular cancellation of 'Repubblica Di San Marino'.

Although the postal service of San Marino had been established in 1862, stamps of the Kingdom of Sardinia and later Italy, had been used for the first fifteen years of its' operation. With the collapse of Fascism in 1943, stamps not yet issued for that constitution were overprinted for the Provisional Government as illustrated in Fig.2.

Unlike the Papal or Roman States that used distinctive stamps from 1852 to 1870, Vatican City only issued stamps from 1929 when the temporal power of the Papacy was restored. As illustrated in Fig.3, Pope Pius XI was the first of many Pontiffs to appear on the stamps of the Vatican. There are, apparently, no fewer than four post offices in the city, no doubt justified by the popularity of the site as a tourist destination.

Surprisingly, Campione, the last of these Italian enclaves is not in Italy at all but abutting Lake Lugano in Switzerland. It was, apparently, originally in Italy but the district was ceded to the land-locked Switzerland, but not, unfortunately, with the approval of the inhabitants who opted to retain their Italian identity.

In 1944, during World War II, at a time when Italian issues were unavailable, stamps were printed firstly in May by Orell Füssli in Zurich and then in September by



Fig.1: Most Serene Republic of San Marino



Fig.2: Provisional Government of San Marino



Fig.3: Vatican City



Fig.4: Campione

Courvoisier. A complete set of the latter issue is illustrated on the cover in Fig.4. The stamps were withdrawn in June, 1952, since when Swiss stamps were valid for mail to Switzerland while Italian issues were available for mail to that country. Stamps from both countries remain valid for international mail.

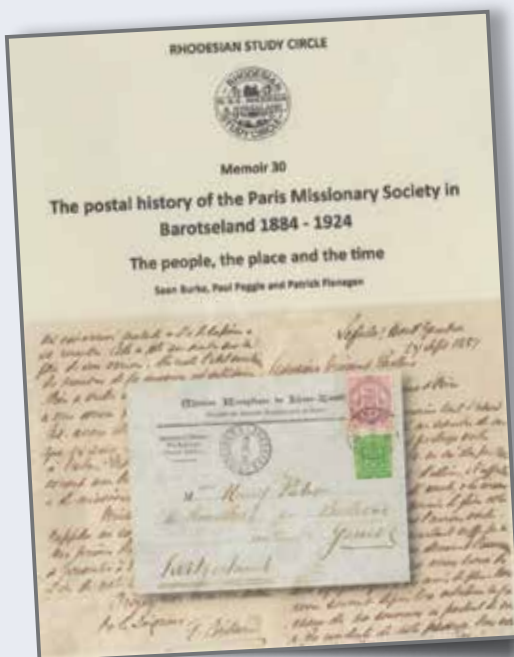
PUBLICATIONS

'RHODESIAN PHILATELY TO 1924, THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY PERIOD'

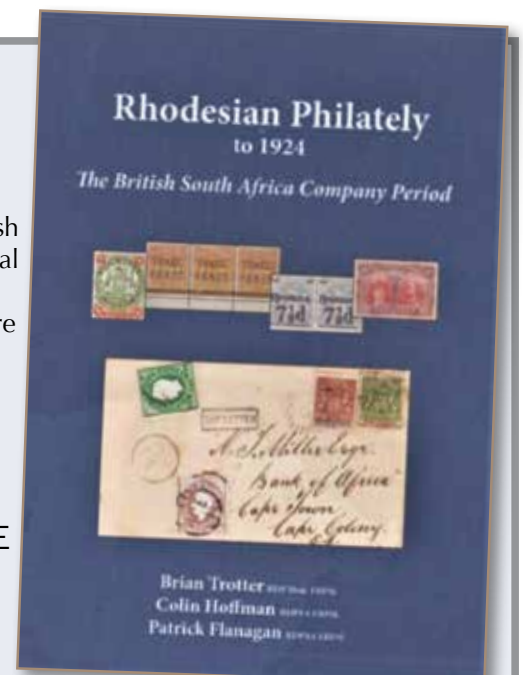
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VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Part 7: THE RAILWAY LETTER POST SYSTEM, RAILWAY NEWSPAPER STAMPS AND OTHER RAILWAY RELATED ISSUES



Joh Groenewald stated in the foreword of Hagen and Naylor's book Railway Postal History of South Africa that: "For well over a century the railways had a profound effect on the postal service in South Africa. Only in retrospect can one start to appreciate the all-encompassing impact of rail links and railway transport on the socio-economic development of the sub-continent, an influence reflected graphically in terms of the postal history we collect today". Over the years the rail-post system became refined and highly efficient. Elements of the rail-letter postal system as implemented in the Republic of South Africa after 1961 will be described and illustrated in this article.

RAILWAY LETTER POST

The rail-letter system was originally devised to assist rural communities which were without the services of a post office (Fig.1). However, it was not long before it became evident that these communities did not have ready access to postage stamps. As early as 1935 Station-Masters were instructed that "postage stamps purchased for official letters... may be sold to persons tendering letters under the Rail Letter Post System"

Ordinary letters were accepted, at an additional charge, at any railway station or any railway motor-bus station, for conveyance by the next train or bus. On such letters the postage stamps were cancelled by a South African Railways and Harbours mark, often oval in shape but of a great variety of type. On arrival of the letter at its station of destination it was handed over to the local postal authorities for further handling and it usually received the date stamp of the distributing office. The South African Railways (SAR) was responsible for ensuring that rail letters bore the correct prepaid postage for the weight of the letter, in addition to the railway letter-fee as indicated in Table.1 and Fig.2.



Fig.1: Registered letter posted from Westleigh Station near Kroonstad on 17 May 1966. This is an example of a station with a post office in a rural area.

The theft of rail post letters had become a serious problem already in the 1930s as an outcome of the depression, and therefore a red gummed label was affixed over the flap on the back of the envelope. These labels were still in use after 1961 during the RSA period. These large-sized T.110 labels carried the wording: RAIL LETTER POST SPOORWEGBRIEWEPOS.

Some advertising was also done on these labels: "Let the Travel Bureau of the South African Transport Services arrange your next holiday" (Figs.2&3). Later on just a handstamp had been applied on the front to indicate that the letter was posted using the Rail Letter System (Fig.4).

Compared to the volume of mail handled overall by the Post Office on an annual basis, only a small amount was handled via the railway letter post system: 1972/1973 – 114,168 items which went up to 175,826 in 1985/1986. This is also the main reason why this type of letter is relatively difficult to find.

THE VALUE SYSTEM AND THE BOOKED-LETTER SYSTEM

Important or valuable company mail received special treatment, involving either the Value System or Booked-Letter System. The Value System was introduced and used for letters or parcels containing negotiable documents, deeds of sale, agreements etc. which could not readily be replaced if lost. This involved the application of a G22 label and was used for internal mail only which was passed from hand to hand with acknowledgement of receipt by signature (Fig.5).

TABLE 1: TARIFFS FOR BASIC POSTAGE PLUS THE RAIL LETTER FEE			
Date	Basic Postage	Rail-letter Fee	Total
4.4.1961	2½c	3½c	6c
1.4.1971	4c	3½c	7½c
25.11.1974	4c	5c	9c
1.9.1977	4c	10c	14c
1.2.1980	5c	10c	15c
1.4.1982	8c	10c	18c
1.7.1982	8c	R1.10	R1.18
1.4.1983	10c	R1.10	R1.20
1.4.1984	11c	R1.10	R1.21
1.4.1985	12c	R1.10	R1.22
1.12.1985	12c	R1.70	R1.82
1.4.1986	14c	R1.70	R1.84
1.4.1987	16c	R1.70	R1.86
1.7.1987	16c	R1.95	R2.11
1.4.1989	18c	R2.10	R2.28
1.4.1990	21c	R2.10	R2.31
1.4.1991	25c	R2.10	R2.35
30.9.1991	27c	R2.10	R2.37
1.5.1992	35c	R3.00	R3.35
1.4.1993	45c	R3.63	R4.08
31.3.1993	Service suspended		

Source: Hagen and Naylor, *Railway Postal History of South Africa*, pp. 47 - 48



Fig.2a.

Fig.2: Document posted by rail from Hoedspruit to Tzaneen on 27 October 1984. The R1-65 pays postage of 55c plus the rail letter fee of R1-10 charged from 1 July 1982 to 30 November 1985. Note the Rail Letter Post Label applied when the item was handed in at the railway station. Cover folded but the 'TRAIN LETTER TO BE COLLECTED' cachet Fig.2a was also applied on the front left top corner of the cover.



Fig.3: Label T. 110 used on the back of a letter, as prescribed by regulation, posted from Kalbaskraal Station near Malmesbury on 6 June 1979 using the Rail Letter System to Pietermaritzburg.



Fig.4: Posted from Johannesburg Station on 25 February 1985 to Messina. As of 1 April 1985 the basic postage rate was 11c and the rail letter fee R1.10, a total of R1.21 applicable at the time, but this cover was under paid by 1c. (Cover cut open on the right hand side).

According to Hagen and Naylor the constant need to obtain signatures made the value system clumsy so in June 1926, in terms of the *Weekly Notice*, No. 1639, a booked-letter system using a G22a label was introduced. Booked letters were effectively treated as parcels. Unlike rail letters which were posted on arrival at the station nearest the destination, booked letters had to be collected. This service catered for internal mail but was also available to members of the public (Figs.6a & 6b).

THE ROAD MOTOR TRANSPORT SERVICE

In 1912 the first Road Motor Transport (RMT) was inaugurated, between Bot River and Hermanus. From this modest beginning a vast national system arose, which at its peak, served the most remote corners of the country.

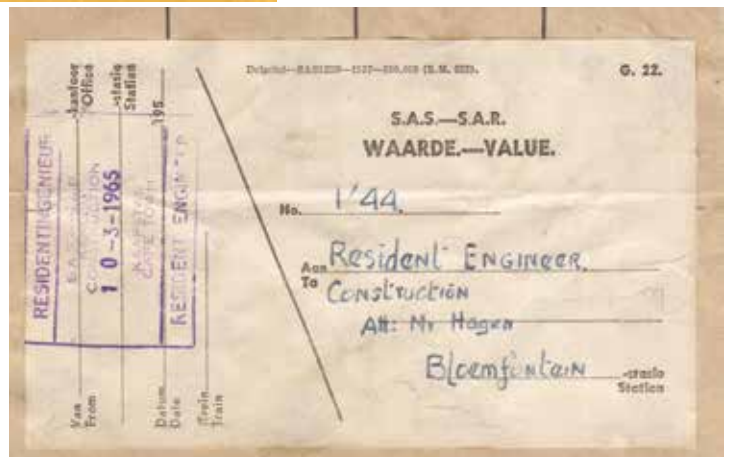


Fig.5: An example of the G22 label used for the Value System of the SA Railways on mail dated 10 March 1965 from the Resident Engineer Cape Town to the Resident Engineer at Bloemfontein Station. The label carries the cachet of the Resident Engineer applied at the Cape Town Station. This system was used for internal mail only, and mail was passed from hand to hand with acknowledgement of receipt by signature.



Fig.6a: Booked Letter bearing the G22a label posted from Balgowan Station on 25 December 1978. In the system letters were forwarded under cover of a waybill with the implication that booked-letters were effectively treated as parcels. Figure 6b. shows the item was overpaid by 1c. At that stage the basic postage was 4c and the rail-letter fee was 10c. The 15c fee applicable only from 1 February 1980. Figure 6a. shows the address side of cover.



Fig.6b: It shows a piece of the address side of the cover, over payment of the item from Balgowan in Fig.6a. .

Although the rail-post system was, from time to time interrupted or delayed by broken down vehicles and acts of nature, it continued to apply to the road motor service even after 1961. Eventually with the demise of the rail-letter system on 31 March 1994, its application to the road motor services also fell away (Fig.7).



Fig.8: Cover posted aboard the Blue Train en route to Johannesburg with the Superintendent's cachet applied on 14 April 1969 in Cape Town. The rail letter fee of 3½c that was set on 4 April 1961 was applied in stamps. The cover is however underfranked by 2½c which was the inland surface letter rate. The cover was posted in Johannesburg when the train arrived there as indicated by the Johannesburg machine canceller.

quickly by overnight train. In these cases, post offices in the Johannesburg-Pretoria area would hand-stamp the mail with a purple 'X', thereby conveying the instruction that the article should be sent by the most rapid means and not necessarily that indicated on the cover (Fig.9).



Fig.7: Cover posted from New Hanover to Pietermaritzburg with a cachet indicating that this item was re-routed due to the fact that the Road Motor Transport Service to Pietermaritzburg was suspended because of heavy rains that pounded the northern parts of Natal at that time.

THE DE LUXE TRAIN SERVICE – THE BLUE TRAIN

South Africa's luxury train, the *Train de Luxe*, had a postal service aboard whereby mail matter for dispatch could be handed to the conductor. He would cancel the stamps in purple with a mark before transferring the mail to a post office at a suitable station *en route* for ultimate delivery. When the train was later renamed the Blue Train, the Chief Steward received material for posting. He impressed his mark alongside the stamps and posted the item at a suitable station (Fig.8).

ROUTING INSTRUCTIONS: LETTERS MARKED WITH AN 'X'

Hagen and Naylor state that although labelled 'airmail' and additionally franked, there were occasions in the 1960s when letters from the Transvaal, destined for Bloemfontein and Kimberley, could be conveyed more

NEWSPAPER STAMPS: POSTAGE FEES

Newspaper stamps are supplied to newspaper offices or newspaper distributors for the pre-payment of single copies of a newspaper carried as a railway parcel to the recipient, but the stamp is put on the wrapper and there is no waybill made out. Newspaper stamps are generally sold in full sheets to newsagents or distributors.



Fig. 9: Cover marked 'X' and sent by rail rather than air, the former being the quicker method of delivery. This was probably due to the limited number of flights from Johannesburg to Pietermaritzburg or the fact that the letter would have been routed via Durban to Pietermaritzburg. Posted in Pretoria on 2 June 1965 to Pietermaritzburg.

Individual stamps have always been affixed to the wrapper and would thus have come into possession of the recipient. Carriage was at a uniform rate irrespective of the distance carried (Fig.10).



Fig.10: Newspaper stamps on wrapper depicting the correct usage of 25c that was applicable from 1 January 1983. 'Die Volksblad' newspaper was posted from Bloemfontein Pakkette/Parcels on 8 February 1983 to Zastron in the Free State.

Date	Tariff	Date	Tariff	Date	Tariff
Feb 1961	1c	1-2-1979	5c	1-4-1982	20c
1-11-1974	2c	1-4-1980	10c	1-1-1983	25c
1-4-1976	3c	1-4-1981	13c	1-4-1984	28c
1-4-1978	4c				

Sources:

- Hagen, H.S. and Naylor S.P., *Railway Postal History of South Africa*, Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Johannesburg, 1998.
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- Putzel, Ralph F., *The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, Vol 3 (N-T), Cape Town, 1989.
- Republic of South Africa, *Post Office Guide*, Number 1, December 1963, Government Printer, Pretoria.

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NEWSPAPER MAIL OF NATAL

by Roger Porter RDPSA, Cape & Natal Study Circle



To keep relatives living in their home country, businesses and authorities abreast of developments the early British settlers in Natal resorted to sending copies of local newspapers to the United Kingdom at the more affordable postage rate of 1d compared to that, for example, of a 1857 letter at 3d from inland Natal to Port Natal plus a 3d port charge to which was added the 6d packet letter charge. The story of newspaper, commercial and other forms of printed papers and documents sent through the mail has generally been neglected by South African postal historians. The purpose of this article is to relate just how interesting a study of such mail is, given a complexity of local and international requirements, bureaucratic laws and regulations that postal authorities struggled with for more than 50 years to administer. The first challenge confronting the pioneer Colonists of Natal was the need for a 1d postage stamp for payment on newspapers sent by ship.

The Cape Colonial Secretary dealt with the arrangements for the supply of embossed revenue steel dies for Natal which he ordered from Mr B. Wyon, London and these were numbered 1 to 29. The dies were dispatched, arrived at Port Natal, sent to Pietermaritzburg and by the 10 September 1851 the press and dies had been set up and ready for use. At that time there was no need for a 1d die: the first die in the series, numbered '1' was for the 3d duty. The 3d, 6d, 9d and 1s dies were used for making both revenue and in September 1857, for postage stamp purposes (Dickson 1997). Law No. 12 dated 21 June 1859 confirmed that there would be no postage charge payable on newspapers sent to any place within the Colony. No mention was made for newspapers addressed overseas.

However, Natal was subject to the UK Post Office regulations and therefore had to comply with their postal system. But the Natal Post Office also had a close relationship with the Cape Post Office which allowed for postal conventions between Natal and the Cape Colony and similar arrangements with the Orange Free State and the South African Republic. These arrangements eventually culminated 39 years later in the creation of the South African Postal Union on 1 January 1898.

The matter of newspapers forwarded beyond the Colony was dealt with in a Post Office Notice dated 1 July 1859 which stated that the postage rate of 1d on newspapers would be applied. The consequence of this enactment was that a one penny stamp was required urgently. Authority was sought by W.H. Collins, the Postmaster General, from D. Erskine, the Colonial Secretary, for a die for the manufacture of 1d embossed stamps as an interim measure until such time printed stamps from Perkins Bacon & Co. became available in the colony. This new die was of a simple rectangular shape and smaller than the Wyon dies and came into use on 4 September 1859. The earliest date of use recorded is 6 September 1859 on mastheads of copies of *The Natal Mercury* newspaper (Table 1, and Fig.1).

Prior to 1885 all newspapers published in Natal, and all newspapers from the UK and foreign countries were transmitted and delivered free of postage within the colony. Postage was required on newspapers addressed overseas. The sender of a Natal newspaper addressed overseas wrote the name and address of the recipient on the masthead and attached a 1d stamp (Fig.2). The earliest newspapers recorded that were sent from Natal were cancelled at Durban on 6 September 1859 (Fig.1). Newspapers from five different publishers are listed in Table 1, these are *The Natal Mercury* (16 copies), *Natal Courier* (2 copies), *Natal Colonist* and *Herald* (2 copies), the *Natal Witness* and *Natal Star* with one each. *The Natal Witness* (now *The Witness*) is the oldest continuously published newspaper in South Africa, having first been published on 27 February 1846. The founding editor and first proprietor of the newspaper was David Dale Buchanan (1817-1872) who came to South Africa from Scotland at the age of 12, and is particularly remembered for having introduced the first private postal service between Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

Newspaper postage rates promulgated

Post Office Law No. 22 of 7 November 1884 which came into effect on 1 January 1885 contained definitions for commercial papers, printed papers, packets, and newspapers. When compared with these distinctions,



Fig.1: Masthead of *The Natal Mercury* newspaper dated September 1, 1859 with a 1d blue embossed stamp cancelled NATAL 6 SE in black being the earliest recorded use of this stamp (Klugman 2020) (image reduced).

Newspaper	Stamp	Date + place of cancellation	Destination	Notes
The Natal Mercury	1859 1d blue embossed	6 SP (1859), D'Urban	London	Klugman (2020) lists 13 newspapers / mastheads from 6 SP 1859 to 22 MR 1860.
Natal Star	1859 1d blue embossed	6 SP 1859, D'Urban	London	Klugman (2020)
Natal Courier DE 9 1859	1859 1d blue	Mute - dots	London	Klugman (2011) list 2 newspapers / mastheads from 9 NO to 21 DE 1859.
Natal Witness	1861 1d pink/buff	Ms – cross, PMBurg	London	Unique.
Natal Mercury DE 23 1865	1863 1d lake	Berrie '1' (PMBurg)	London	Unique, Christmas Supplement.
Natal Colonist and Herald	1877 1d POSTAGE overprint	?	England	Unique.
Natal Mercury 16 FE 1878	1874 1d rose	Mute - cork	London	There are 2 copies recorded with this stamp.
Natal Colonist and Herald 12 OC 1878	1874 1d rose	Mute - cork	London	1 copy recorded.

Table 1. List of Natal newspapers sent to destinations outside of the Colony at the 1d newspaper postage rate.



Fig.2: Masthead of The Natal Mercury dated December 23 1865 with a 1863 1d lake Chalon stamp cancelled numeral '1' (Pietermaritzburg) with the London address inscribed.

occupation, place of business of the printer, publisher or vendor and the name of the person by whom it was sent and the name, occupation, and address of the person to whom it was sent. Clause S.9.

- Nothing was to be enclosed with or in a newspaper.
- Every inland and foreign newspaper was to be prepaid by affixing thereon postage stamps (the stamps were not to be cancelled, defaced, embossed, or impressed stamps cut out of a card, etc.) – clause S.12.
- If in the event of a default the newspaper would be destroyed – clause S.12.
- All postmasters were required to ensure that newspapers entering the postal system had postage stamps affixed thereon (or a proper acknowledgement for money equal in value to the postage) – clause S.15.
- Newspapers forwarded or redirected were to be charged postage – clause S. 16.
- On each inland newspaper postage of ½d for every 4oz or fraction of 4oz.
- On each newspaper forwarded by ship postage 1d for every 4oz or fraction of 4oz.
- However, no postage would be charged on newspapers printed or published in Natal if posted by the publishers within two days of the date of publication, and enclosed in printed and approved wrappers.

newspapers had a privileged position in terms of the 4oz weight / postage rate basis in the Natal postal system. It was this situation that caused the Natal Government to obtain and issue newspaper wrappers (Dickson & Hanman 2001).

Newspapers were defined by the Post Office as 'publications consisting wholly or in great part of political or other news, or articles related thereto, or to other current topics, with or without advertisements, and with or without engravings, prints, or lithographs illustrative of articles in such newspapers'. They were also subject to several conditions, as follows:

- That a newspaper must be published at intervals of not more than seven days.
- That the sheets of paper were to be unstitched.
- The full title and date of publication were to be printed at the top of the first page and every subsequent page – clause S.8.
- If sent in a cover (wrapper) it was to be open at both ends, without any communication, character, figure, or number. But it was permitted that the cover may be printed with the name,



Fig.3: QV ½d wrapper used locally in Natal for a newspaper that did not exceed 4oz in weight.

CHARGES ON NEWSPAPERS SENT OR TRANSMITTED WITHIN NATAL 1859 - 1911

Period	Postage rate	Scale	Notes	Figure
1859 – November 1884	Free	N/A	Includes English and foreign newspapers	
7 November 1884 - 31 December 1908	½d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and ½d for every additional 4 oz. or part thereof.	See ^{1, 3} Post Office Law of 1884.	Fig. 3
1 January 1885 - January 1909	Free	Newspaper publisher privilege.	See ² Post Office Law of 1884.	
20 September 1892	½d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and ½d for every additional 4 oz. or part thereof.	Zululand is included with Natal.	Fig. 4.
1 January 1909 - 1 September 1911	½d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and ½d for every additional 4 oz. or part thereof.	Act No. 28, 1908.	Fig. 5.

¹ See conditions listed above. The ½d privileged newspaper postage rate can be compared with the more expensive ½d rate per ounce for other classes of mail e.g. commercial papers, printed papers, pattern and sample packets.

² Newspaper printed or published within Natal and posted by the publishers within two days of date of publication in printed wrappers approved by the PMG, qualified for the free postage privilege granted to Natal newspaper publishers by the Post Office.

³ A newspaper or packet of newspapers posted unpaid would be sent to the Returned Letter Office to be destroyed. If underpaid it would be forwarded to the address and would be charged at double the deficiency (Fig.6). The 'Government Gazette' was forwarded free of charge provided it was enclosed in a cover open at both ends with the words 'OHMS' printed thereon together with the title and imprint of the printer.

CHARGES ON NEWSPAPERS SENT TO SOUTHERN AFRICA STATES AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES 1859-1911

Period	Destination	Postage rate	Scale	Requirement	Figure
9 September 1859 – late 1883	Britain	1d *	Each		
9 September 1859	Cape	1d	Each		
9 September 1865	Britain	2d	Each	Via Mauritius + Southampton	
9 September 1865	Britain	3d	Each	Via Mauritius + Marseilles	
January 1865	Britain	2d	Per 4 oz	Via Southampton (via Mauritius)	
January 1865	Britain	3d	Per 4 oz	Via Marseilles (via Mauritius)	
Prior 1883	Cape, OFS, Transvaal,	1d	Up to 4 oz.	Natal Almanac of 1884.	
Prior 1883	Britain	1d	Up to 4 oz.	Natal Almanac of 1884.	
Prior 1883	Europe	2d	Up to 4 oz.	Natal Almanac of 1884.	
3 May 1884 – 1 January 1898	Cape Colony	½d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and ½d for every additional 4 oz. or part thereof.	Government Notice No. 182 dated 3 May 1884. And Post office Law No. 22 7 November 1884.	
3 May 1884 – 1 January 1892	Britain	1d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and ½d for every additional 4 oz. or part thereof.	Government Notice No. 182 dated 3 May 1884. And Post office Law No. 22 7 November 1884.	Fig. 8.
16 February 1885 - 1 January 1898	OFS	½d	As above for Cape Colony.	If not fully prepaid will not be forwarded.	Fig. 7.
30 December 1885 – 1 January 1898	Transvaal	½d	As above for Cape Colony.	If not fully prepaid will not be forwarded.	
1 January 1885	Europe	2d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and 1d for every additional 2 oz. or part thereof.	Natal Almanac 1886. And Notice dated 27 March 1886.	Figs 9 & 10.
1 January 1892	Britain	½d	Per 2 oz.	Proclamation of 4 July 1892(Natal joins UPU). And Postal Notice of 18 July 1892.	Fig. 11.
18 October 1892 – 1 January 1898	Cape, OFS, Transvaal	½d	For a single newspaper that does not exceed 4 oz. in weight and ½d for every additional 4 oz. or part thereof	Consolidated in terms of the formation of the South African Postal Union, 1 January 1898.	Fig. 12.



Fig.4: 1897 QV 1/2d wrapper from Hermansberg 6 1 97 to Inyezane, Zululand at a 1 1/2d postage rate for a packet weighing above 12 oz.

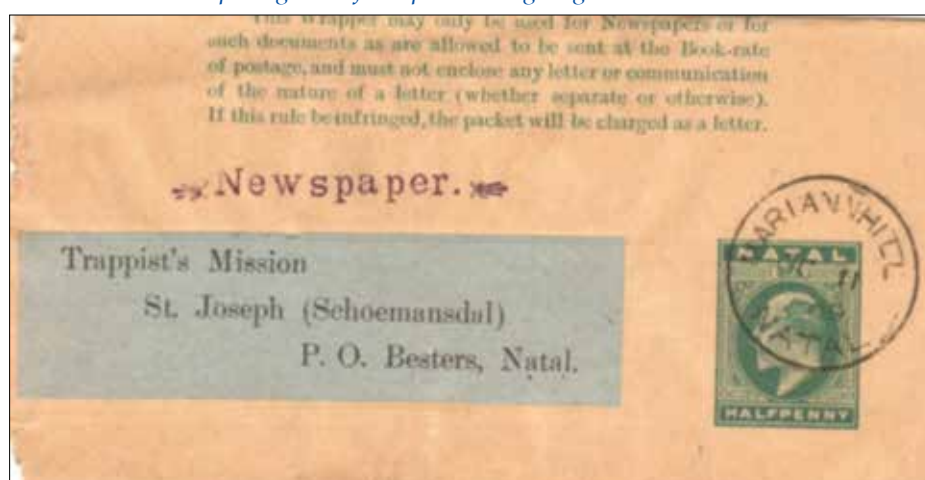
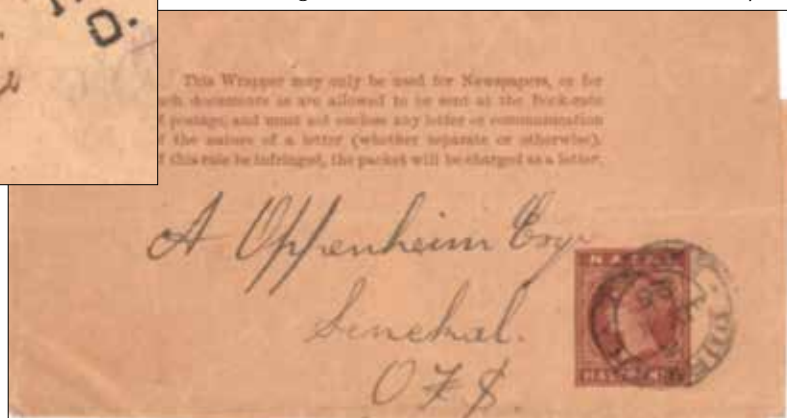


Fig.5: KEVII 1/2d wrapper cancelled with relief cancel Mariannhill OC 11 09 with cachet *Newspaper*.



Fig.6: QV 1d wrapper deficient in postage taxed 5c in Natal and 1d on arrival in England cancelled Colenso JY 5 01.

Fig.7: 1885 QV 1/2d wrapper cancelled Durban JY 1 85 to OFS for a single newspaper that did not exceed 4oz in weight.



Newspaper Wrappers

A Postal Notice dated 30 January 1885 informed the public that a stock of half-penny and penny wrappers could be purchased at post offices. These were the first items of postal stationery to be printed by De La Rue for Natal. The wrappers could be used as covers for newspapers and packets.

Post Office requirements regarding newspapers entering the postal system were clarified in 1887 and 1888, as follows;

- Every newspaper had to be posted either without a cover, or in a cover open at both ends.
- No communication, character, figure, letter, or number was allowed. If a letter, paper, or other article liable to a higher rate of postage was enclosed in a newspaper, the sender was liable to a penalty of a fine, or imprisonment with or without hard labour!
- If posted unpaid it was sent to the Returned Letter Office and destroyed.
- Any number of newspapers could be sent as a 'Book Packet'. However, if sent as newspapers, postage had to be paid at the specified amount for each newspaper whether one or several were enclosed in the same wrapper (*Government Gazette*, 25 December 1888).

Newspaper free franking privilege

The Natal Post Office permitted the publishers of newspapers to send these through the postal system free of postal charges (unfranked), provided that this was done within two days of the date of publication; and if a privately printed wrapper was used it had to be approved by the PMG. The privilege persisted until it was withdrawn on 1 January 1909 i.e. 24 years later (Postal Notice 7 November 1908).

Between 1884 and 1901 the number of 1/2d and 1d QV wrappers sent to Natal by De La Rue were 1 406 570 and 452 068, respectively although a large number were withdrawn and destroyed

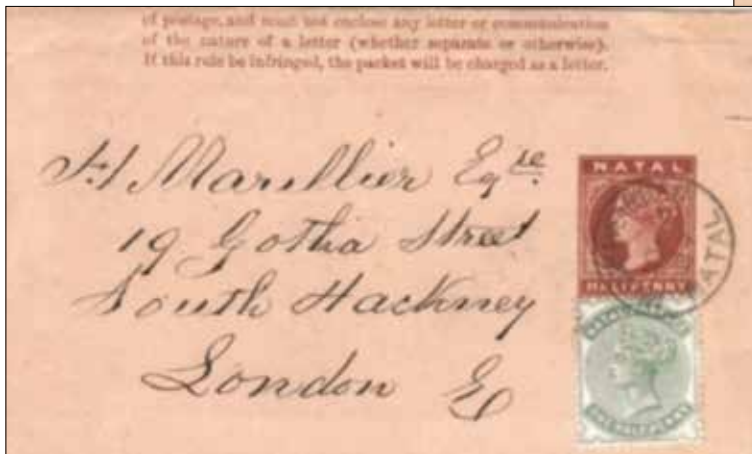


Fig.8: 1887 QV 1/2d wrapper with additional 1/2d stamp cancelled Musgrave Road 30 3 87 to London for a newspaper that did not exceed 4oz in weight being the 1d newspaper rate to the U K.



Fig.11: 1897 QV 1/2d wrapper cancelled Highflats ? 9 97 to London for a newspaper that did not exceed 2 oz in weight being the reduced 1/2d newspaper rate to the U K.



Fig.9: 1887 QV 1/2d wrapper with additional 1/2d and 1d stamps (i.e. 2d postage rate) cancelled Durban JA 25 87 to Detroit USA for a newspaper that did not exceed 4oz in weight.



Fig.10: 1890 QV 1d wrapper with additional 1d stamp cancelled Durban 24 12 90 to Germany with '1 1/2d' accountancy mark in red for a newspaper that did not exceed 4 oz in weight.



Fig.12: 1893 QV 1/2d wrapper cancelled G P O to East London with manuscript '1' in blue crayon confirming that a single newspaper was enclosed that did not exceed 4 oz in weight.

A further privilege afforded newspaper publishers was provided by Proclamation No 107 dated 31 October 1896 which allowed for 'Exchange Copies' of a newspaper. This law allowed an editor to send a copy of a newspaper free



Fig.13: Late use in 1910 of QV 1/2d wrapper with additional 1/2d KEVII stamp cancelled Schroeders 30 DE 10 to Sulphur Spring, Transvaal.

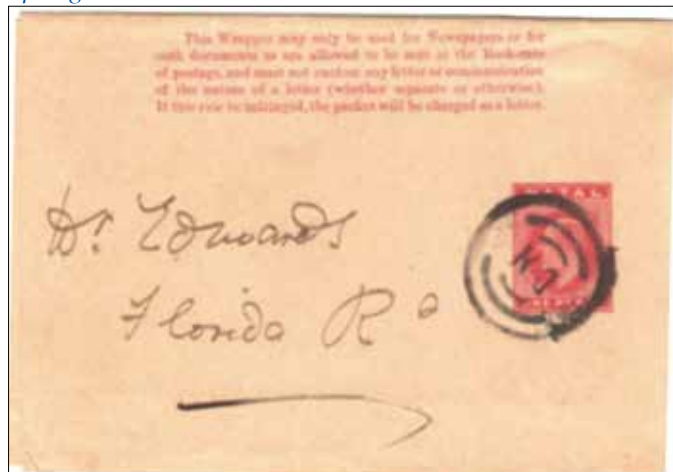


Fig.14: KEVII 1d wrapper with 'D N' newspaper cancel addressed locally sent at double the postage rate, possibly enclosing two papers.



Fig.15: 1896 privately made wrapper in compliance with Post Office Regulations enclosing the price list of PR Murphy & Co with stamp cancelled P O A 21 at the West End, Pietermaritzburg Post Office Agency.

of postal charges to an editor of another newspaper publishing company. The exchange privilege was extended to the Cape Colony and Orange Free State on 1 November 1896 and to the Transvaal on 1 December 1896. The conditions were that only one copy may be sent to a particular address, and that the words 'EXCHANGE COPY' were to be written or printed on the newspaper. No surviving example of this practice has been seen.

It was the promulgation of Act No. 28 of 17 October 1908 that repealed Section 6 of Law No. 10 of 1887 that led to the Postal Notice of 7 November 1908 which resulted

in the abandonment of all of the privileges granted to newspaper publishers. As from 1 January 1909 the Natal Government now required that newspaper publishers frank each newspaper at the postage rate of 1/2d each (Fig.16).



Fig.16: Wrapper of The Natal Mercury from Durban with 1/2d stamp paying newspaper postage to Ladysmith.

The Universal Postal Union

From 1884 the Natal Post Office distinguished between newspapers and packets. Packets included three categories which were (i) Commercial Papers (ii) Printed Papers (this included books) and (iii) Pattern and sample packets. Natal became a member of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) on 1 July 1892. This resulted in changes the most significant of which was that newspapers were now

included in the definition of 'printed papers'. The use of wrappers was not confined to newspapers but was also used for packets.

Postal rates were revised and rationalised in accordance with the Universal Postal Convention. The 1/2d per 4oz newspaper rate continued to be applied to newspapers sent to any part of Natal (Fig.17), Zululand, Cape Colony (Fig.18), Orange Free State and South African Republic (ZAR).



Fig.17: 1909 1/2d KEVII wrapper cancelled Pietermaritzburg NO 30 1909 to Noodsberg Road for a newspaper that did not exceed 4 oz in weight being the SA Postal Union rate.

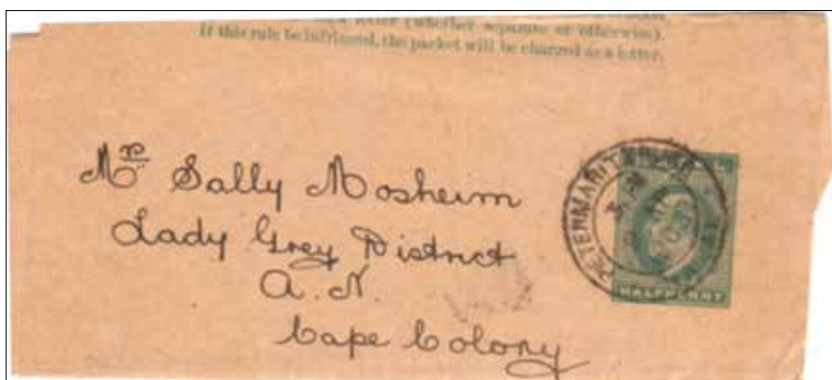


Fig.18: 1903 ½d KEVII wrapper cancelled Pietermaritzburg 9 AP 1903 to Cape Colony for a newspaper that did not exceed 4 oz in weight being the SA Postal Union rate.

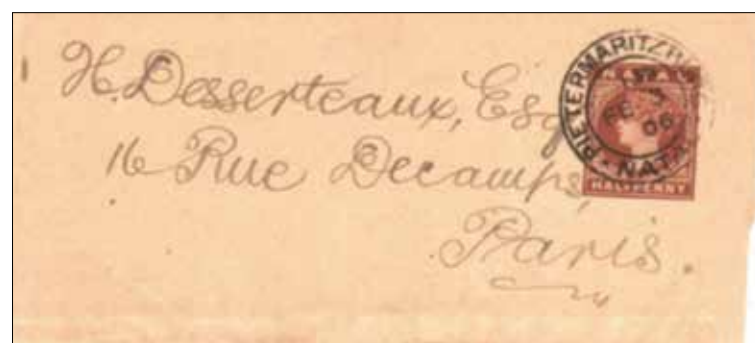


Fig.19: 1906 ½d QV wrapper cancelled Pietermaritzburg FE 3 06 to Paris for a newspaper that did not exceed 2oz in weight being the Universal Postal Union rate.

For newspapers sent to any country, whether a member of the UPU or not (Fig.19), the postage rate was ½d per 2oz (Postal Notice of 18 July 1892).

The ZAR entered the UPU on 8 August 1892 and thus the postage rate on newspapers initially changed to ½d per 2oz (Postal Notice of 8 August 1892). However this was rapidly amended in Postal Notice of 15 October 1892 and reverted to ½d per 4oz. Postal Notice of 23 February 1895 stipulated the 1d per 4oz postage rate for newspapers sent to Bechuanaland, Mashonaland, and Matabeleland (Fig.20).

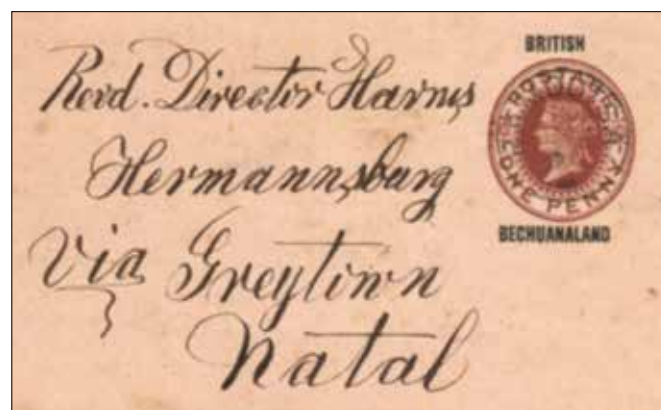


Fig.20: 1897 QV 1d British Bechuanaland wrapper cancelled Ramoutsa DE 14 01 to Greytown for a newspaper that did not exceed 4oz in weight being the Universal Postal Union rate.

The PMG required that inland newspapers entering the postal system had to be folded so as to display the title for inspection and that no newspaper was to include any enclosure except the supplement belonging to it.

He reiterated that only the name and address of the person to whom it was being sent was permitted to be written on the newspaper itself. The cover (i.e. wrapper) was permitted to include in addition to the name and address, the printed title of the publication, name and address of the publisher, and words indicating the date on which the subscription would end.

The minimum postage rate for Commercial Papers was 2½d and included documents of legal procedures, deeds, way bills, bills of lading, invoices, and other documents of a mercantile character, insurance documents, manuscript music, manuscripts of books etc. (Fig.21). Postage on patterns or samples of merchandise was 1d. Samples of seeds, drugs, etc. that could not be sent in covers were posted enclosed in boxes or linen bags.



Fig.21: 1900 ½d QE wrapper with added pair of 1d stamps cancelled Durban 13 FE 00 to Mauritius enclosing commercial papers (printed papers) that did not exceed 2 oz in weight being the Universal Postal Union rate.

The South African Postal Union of 1898.

The four colonies jointly wanted improved transactions of postal business between themselves and by common consent agreed on the creation of the South African Postal Union. The terms of the Postal Convention came into effect on 1 January 1898. Article 1 stated that the Union would be a single Postal Territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence between their post offices, including newspapers (Article 15). It also confirmed in exhaustive detail in Article 16 all the types of papers and documents that were categorised as being either Commercial or Printed Papers. A Table of the Rates of Postage was given in Annexure A. II. and were in accordance with UPU rates of postage.

The provisions of the SA Postal Union prevailed following the formation of the Union of South Africa in May 1910 and continued until 1 September 1911. From 15 August 1910 the postal stationery of any province could be used in any other province (Fig.22). In December 1910 all stocks of postal



WHY A CROCODILE?

background by David Wigston

Union of South Africa stamps were used in Basutoland from 1910, but prior to their distribution stamps of the former states of Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal all served as valid for postage in Basutoland. Until the Basutoland Post Office began to function officially with its first definitives on sale on 1 December 1933, its counter staff employed cancellers that had been supplied by the Union of South Africa. Stamp duties available were 1/2d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 1s, 2s 6d, 5s and 10s. The first issue, engraved for Basutoland and printed by Waterlow & Sons, consisted of the above ten denominations with a portrait of King George V, and a vignette depicting a crocodile on a river bank, with the Drakensberg Mountains as a background.

Now, the explanation for the crocodile on Basutoland's stamps.



Geographically and topographically the country offers nothing to attract such creatures. Research into the ancient history of the Basothos reveals that their ancestors resided in what is now the Congo region of the continent, where numerous rivers, streams and swamps abounded with West African crocodiles which the ancient Basothos must have known. When the clan migrated southward over several hundred years, they carried some of their cultural practices in their language and oral history. One tradition involved belief in a totemic creature that carried great significance for every clan member, and which became the clan's emblem. For the Basotho the crocodile served that purpose; indeed, they called themselves 'Koena', which translates as the people of the crocodile.

The postage stamps issued for Basutoland in 1933 carried an image of the monarch King George V. In 1938 the image of the monarch was changed to King George VI. The stamp designers in London considered it expedient to acknowledge the spiritual leader of the Basothos on the same stamp, hence the crocodile.

On 4 October 1966 Basutoland became independent and changed its name to Lesotho.

Acknowledgement:

www.allaboutstamps.co.uk/stamp-guides



Fig.22: KEVII 1/2d Cape of Good Hope wrapper with purple oval telegraph office cancel SWEETWATERS / MAY 27 1913 / * T. O. * to Wartburg with cachet NATIONAL HEALING SANATORIUM / A. BEISSNER. / SWEETWATERS NEAR MARITZBURG.

stationery held by post offices in provinces was transferred to PMG Pretoria from where future supplies were distributed.

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Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Episode 68 Errors on Stamps... 'WRONG DATE'

The Republic of Niger is far from Central Europe, but they seem to have been so impressed by the reunion of Germany that a commemorative stamp was issued in 1991. It shows the Brandenburg Gate, the former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and lots of happy German people.

The date below the picture is 10 November 1989. This is wrong in a couple of ways; the day the Berlin Wall opened was 09 November and the official unification of Germany took place only on 03 October 1990 which is now the German National Holiday.



DISORDER ON THE RAND

by André du Plessis RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



This article is the first dealing with labour unrest on the Witwatersrand and intends to give an overview of early labour issues that eventually culminated in one of the most severe labour unrests in the history of South Africa, the Mine Workers Strike of 1922.

Sporadic strikes and industrial unrest were the order of the day on the Witwatersrand in the first two decades of the 20th Century. Downing tools was the favoured form of industrial action in which white mineworkers tried to pressurise management to back down from a policy of saving on labour costs by employing blacks in positions reserved for whites. Although working side by side, black mineworkers were excluded from early strikes as the white workers did not consider them as fellow workers.

Since the early days of mining in South Africa, a racially hierarchical division of labour had developed. Supervisory and skilled jobs were reserved for whites, while unskilled and poorly paid labour became associated with black and coloured labourers.



Fig.1: 1894 TVL stamps officially defaced with a mine office cancellor

The very first strike in the industry took place when white workers struck against wage reductions at the Randfontein Mine in 1897 (Fig.1).

The cosmopolitan working community on the Rand was predominantly British immigrants and the English model of trade unions and habits of the British worker, impacted on the mining industry. Trade unions started to grow, and labour and capital became more and more involved in conflict to control the industrial workforce.

The early Trade Unions were mostly for white male workers with organisations like the South African Confederation of Labour favouring employment policies based on racial discrimination. Several Unions came into being representing the workers from different industries.

The Transvaal Miners Association (TMA) was founded in 1902 and renamed the South African Mineworkers Union (MWU) in 1913 and was a key player in the white mine workers strikes (Figs.2 & 3). It gained a reputation as a militant union during the bloody mining strikes of 1907, 1913 and 1922.



Fig.2: The TMA Wage/food coupons for miners to use in concession stores



Fig.3: The MWU Wage/food coupons for miners to use in concession stores

As the need for labour developed, skilled workers became the minority and were overwhelmed by unskilled and underpaid (mostly black) workers. Mine-owners formulated a policy of division of labour that served their own interests without disturbing the racist social order.

1907: The introduction of the Chinese indentured mine workers after the Boer War resulted in controversy between mine management and white workers.

Until May 1907, the practice was for white miners to supervise a maximum of two rock-drilling machines. The Chinese mineworkers became skilled in rock drilling, a skill preserved for white miners, a fact that had a dramatic impact on both white and black labour. Black miners that worked alongside

the Chinese workers profited from their example, learning the necessary skills. This transfer of skills contributed not only to the elimination of white unskilled labour, but also disrupted the position of white skilled labour (Fig.4).



Fig.4: Caption on postcard reads: "No.14 Nourse Deep Gold Mine - 10th Level Station. No.2 front shaft, Depth 2,200 feet" image depicts Chinese miners with two white miners.

Labour policies accepted the transformation of skills and realised that it would be possible to supervise more pneumatic drills. To increase output and reduce cost, Management directed that miners supervise three instead of two drills (referred to as the 'three machine drill' plan) thus reducing shift payments. It was this policy and the process of disrupting the position of skilled white miners that led to the first major industrial action on the Witwatersrand gold mines.

The Transvaal Miners Association (TMA) objected to the new decree and negotiated with mine management and government. No settlement could be reached, and the TMA called for a general strike. On 1 May 1907 the strike started at the Consolidated Gold Fields controlled Knights Deep mine on the East Rand near Germiston (Fig.5).



Fig.5. By 8 May over 1,000 miners on the East Rand - Benoni, Brakpan, Boksburg, Germiston and Springs - had downed tools. The strike extended to the central Rand and to mines other than those controlled by Consolidated Gold Fields and some 5,000 men participated in the strike that lasted three months. When the first serious incidents of violence occurred in mid-May, Government initiated

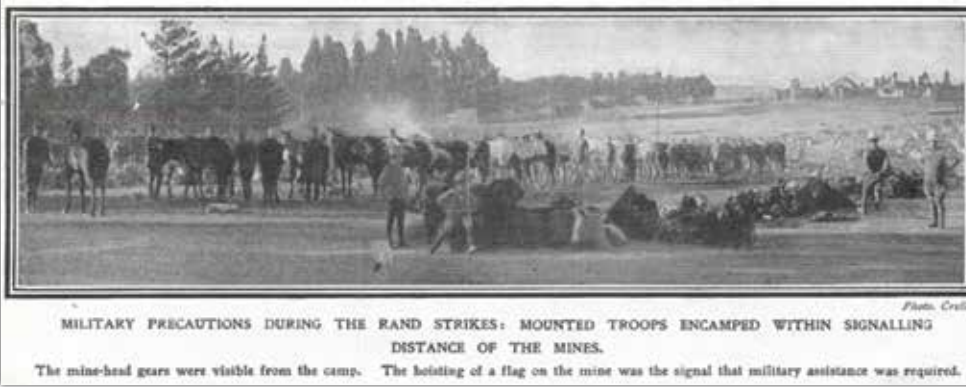


Fig.6. military action and provided protection to the mines. Approximately 1,400 Imperial troops were deployed on the mines to protect property and scab labour (Fig.6). At the end of July 1907, hundreds of loyal strikers found themselves without work and victimised. Many of the foreign miners left South Africa and the white workforce was increasingly dominated by Afrikaans speaking men.

Although the strikers lost the day, this was the first example of the power of trade unionism in influencing industrial relations, at least in the gold mining sector. On the other hand, Government's actions and conduct in the strike served as a prelude to subsequent conflicts on the mines in which the State would be obliged to intervene in Industrial disputes.

1913: The deep-rooted dissatisfaction of the white workers over the graduation of native workers from unskilled to semi-skilled jobs and salaries had been simmering for some time.

In May 1913 this labour discontent came to a head in a general strike at the New Kleinfontein Mine in Benoni (Fig.7) where management introduced changes to working hours. Five underground mechanics refused to comply and left the mine on 10 May.



Fig.7: New Kleinfontein Mine

On 26 May most of the white workers at the mine voted to support the five men and a strike was declared. Management decided not to reinstate the strikers and opened the mine on 11 June 1913 with the assistance of scabs (strike breakers).

At first, Government adopted an impartial attitude, holding the directors of the New Kleinfontein Mine responsible for the disturbance, confident that the concerned parties will resolve the dispute without state interference. As the strike spread from mine to mine it was accompanied by growing violence and Government took the first steps to intervene.



Fig.8.

General Jan Smuts met with the strike leaders and management on 22 June 1913 but was unsuccessful in resolving the deadlock between the two parties (Fig.8).

Smuts feared the police would not be able to cope with the situation and called the Imperial forces to strengthen them.

The emerging violence lead to the first instance in South Africa's history in which there was a spilling of blood because of Industrial disturbance...

At the beginning of July, no resolution to the dispute had been reached and some 19,000 white workers were on strike. The Witwatersrand Mines ceased to operate, and the strike reached its climax on 4 and 5 July 1913. The strike committee arranged for a mass demonstration on Johannesburg's Market Square on Friday 4 July.

Although the meeting was banned, white miners from Benoni and Brakpan, joined by others, marched into Johannesburg determined to hold the meeting.

Anarchistic speeches were made by the leaders and the meeting was dispersed by the police. Violence started when the crowd began stoning the police and Imperial troops were brought in to assist the Police (Fig.9).

An unfortunate weekend of violence was underway...

The 1913 strike revealed a new facet in labour unrest – women! Under the leadership of Mary Fitzgerald, they took an active part with the extreme action and were charged with 'inciting to violence' (Fig.10). At about eight o'clock that evening a packed crowd had gathered opposite the Post Office. Several of the self-appointed leaders, including Mary Fitzgerald, delivered speeches preaching open revolt. One speaker incited the crowd to get rifles and ammunition to arm themselves. Another speaker boasted about railway traffic and lines that had been disrupted in the afternoon.



Fig.9.

First serious trouble on the Square began by an attack on a man who remonstrated over the throwing of stones at the police. (Caption on newspaper clipping)



Remarks from the crowd could be heard, that trains were still running and a clear voice instigated torching of the railway station - this was the proverbial spark in the powder keg (Fig.11).



The Luggage and Booking Offices at Park Station, which the Mob set fire to

Fig.11.

A hooligan element took over and the crowd advanced to Park Railway Station in Braamfontein looting gun shops for arms and ammunition on their way. At Park Station the front-line clashed with the police but around thirty men managed to take possession of the station, setting the booking office and goods shed on fire (Figs.11 and 12).



The Ruins of Park Station.

Fig.12.

From the Railway station the mob moved to the offices of *The Star* in President Street that were plundered and ruined by fire (Fig.13).

The Star was regarded by the strikers as the mouthpiece of the Chamber of Mines and more interested in the well-being of black workers than that of white workers.



The "Star" Office Guttled.

Fig.13.

Reinforcements from the Military and Cape Police were deployed to assist the Police to suppress the strike (Fig.14). On the way the picketers were attacked by the Military and Police who opened fire trying to restore the order.

After this incident fighting and hostilities by the strikers subsided but were far from over... On Saturday morning 5 July it started again. Reports indicated that the strikers were on their way to burn

down the Rand Club – “the haunt of the capitalist classes”. The violence that roamed the city since the previous day reached its climax with the attack on the Rand Club. People gathered outside the club and a small group entered and vandalised the club, trying to set it alight. Within minutes the police and military arrived and, what was described by some, as a battle to protect the Rand club (and Johannesburg) commenced (Fig.15). The strike became beyond control with fear that Johannesburg and its mines would be destroyed. Alarmed by these reports of violence and deaths, Generals Botha and Smuts arrived in Johannesburg on 5 July 1913 to intervene.



Cape Police who took a prominent part in the quelling of the disturbances.

Fig.14.

They met with the mining executives and leaders of the demonstrators to negotiate a truce. Most of the strikers' demands were met and the strike was called off – the strikers won the day. During the strike, twenty-one people were fatally wounded with more than 200 injured which included police and military. A funeral for most of the victims was held on Monday 7 July 1913, attended by about 60,000 people (Fig.16). Interesting that whilst Johannesburg and the East Rand were in a state of anarchy, the West Rand was relatively quiet and escaped the weekend's lawlessness and disorder.



Fig.15:
The Rand
Club

TIMELINE:

8 January 1914 the Railway and Harbour workers went on strike and the Transvaal Federation of Trade Unions called a general strike on 13 January 1914 (Fig.17). Mine and coal workers joined in and acts of sabotage to railway lines were committed. Government replied with a declaration of martial law and took control. The strike was crushed on 18 January 1914 and arrests were made. Nine of the strike leaders were deported without trial.

21 December 1915 2,800 Black miners strike at Van Rhyn Deep. The strike was repressed by the police. The first Trade Union to organise black workers was the *Industrial Workers of Africa* (IWA), formed in September 1917 by the revolutionary International Socialist League (ISL). The IWA merged into the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union of Africa in 1919

and was the first Nationally organised union for black workers including farm workers, domestic and factory workers, dockworkers, teachers and retailers.

February 1918 Black miners, hard hit by the rising cost of living, boycott concession stores on the East Rand. Police break up the boycott by arresting picketing workers.

May 1918 A bucket strike held by black sanitary workers resulted in 152 arrests. *The African National Congress* (ANC) launched a labour campaign threatening to organise a General Strike and the workers were released.

11 May 1918 White Power Station workers went on strike.

2 July 1918 A black Mine workers strike was organised to demand a 1 shilling a day pay raise. Although the strike was called off, the message did not reach most of

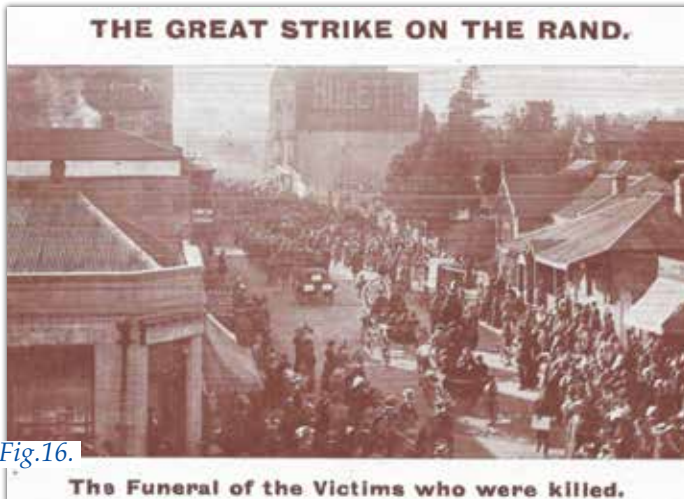


Fig.16.

the workers, and thousands still came out on strike (Fig.18). At Village Main Reef Mine, police forced workers down the shafts, resulting in violent clashes. After three days the unrest was suppressed, and the police arrested eight men who were accused of 'incitement to violence' for the strikes. Two belonged to the ANC, three to the ISL and three to the IWA.

September 1918 White mineworkers persuaded the Chamber of Mines to agree that no position filled by a white worker should be given to an African or Coloured worker.

In **1919**, seventy-one thousand African miners went on a peaceful strike for an increase in wages. Government troops broke up the meetings, killing eleven workers at City Deep Mine. The rest were forced back to work.

Between **1 February to 31 March 1919** white building trade workers, power station workers and municipal workers participated in a strike that was called off on 1 April 1919. **January 1920** - Black Miners' went on strike. Black workers rioted on **29 February** near Vrededorp.

4 to 21 May 1920 White tramway workers went on strike.

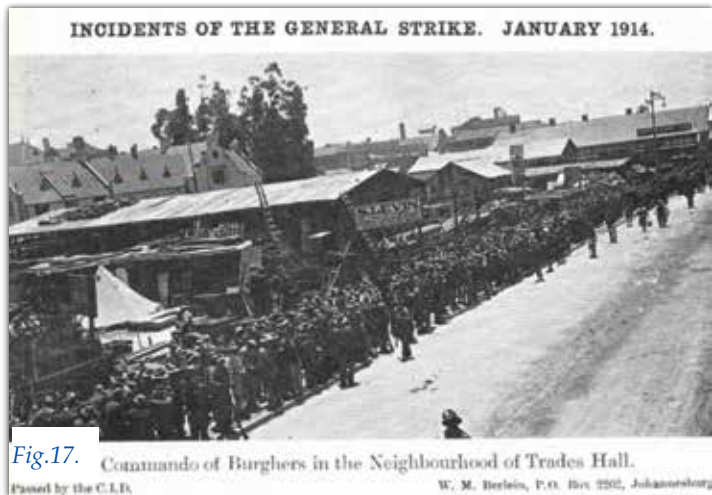


Fig.17. Commando of Burghers in the Neighbourhood of Trades Hall.

Passed by the C.L.D.

W. M. Berleis, P.O. Box 2502, Johannesburg.

Following intermittent disputes in 1921, the catastrophic 1922 white miners' strike followed, it was formally declared on 9 January 1922 when 22,000 white miners stopped working. The strike involved all the gold mines on the Rand and occurred against the backdrop of an economic depression. It also became known as the **Rand Rebellion** or **Red Revolt**, the main area of activity was Johannesburg.

Fig.18: (below) Postcard from Benoni dated 30 June 1918, with message "Big Strike here..." shared the strike news with family or friend in the UK



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 - *The South African Labour Movement's Responses to Declarations of Martial Law, 1913-1922*: W. Visser. p142 - 157
- Various Internet websites accessed:
<https://www.theheritageportal.co.za> :
<https://commons.wikimedia.org> :
<https://www.sahistory.org.za> :
<http://www.historicalpapers.wits.ac.za>



DAVID PARSONS FRPSL
Philatelist

Born on 27 June 1951, David died after a long illness on 6 January 2022.

David had a love of stamp design at an early age through his father who, when David left school at 18 years old, arranged interviews with Robson Lowe and Stanley Gibbons in London. David took the job with Robson Lowe at 50 Pall Mall on the basis of a £15 a week salary – £3 more than Stanley Gibbons offered!

The rest is history, with David going on to become one of the most respected philatelists and expert describers of recent years.

His expertise was centred on British Empire, with specific focus on India and Africa, though he was readily able to turn his hand to describe all of the Empire if needed.

To this end, in recent years David took it upon himself to edit entire sales to make sure descriptions were uniform and to his liking, undertaking this work behind his colleagues' backs! He was a stickler for the proper use of English until the end.

David had been a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of London since 2005 and became a Fellow in 2021. He was a long-term member and on the Board of the BPA Expertising Committee, plus a well-known judge at Exhibitions in South Africa.

He will be missed by all at Spink and his many friends and clients around the world.



SOCIETY DETAILS

VISIT the <https://www.stampssa.africa/> <https://www.facebook.com/groups>

It is important to note that not all Societies have returned to having regular meetings during this time of lockdown, they do, however, welcome communication via phone and email - also see activities on the website www.stampssa.africa



Philatelic Meetings of The Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

As a result of moving to Corona 19 level one, all meetings at both venues will start at 19h00 and finish at 21h30. The gates of the Club at both sections will close at 21h30.

If you intend dining before the meetings, please meet in the Club Room at Auckland Park or the Members' restaurant at Woodmead at 18h00.

Formal Monthly Meetings at Auckland Park on the second Wednesday of each month

- 9 February - Foreign Evening
- 9 March - Annual General Meeting

You can contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA, for further information 082 722 7604.

WOODMEAD
Informal Study Group
please send all communication to haschaff@iafrica.com

All meetings at this venue are held on the last Wednesday of each month, except December.

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests. For further information contact:

Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 673 2229
ccarey@icon.co.za



PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357

Until it is considered safe to gather indoors, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg will hold monthly Zoom meetings. Anyone interested in joining these meetings should contact Clive Carr directly.

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374.
Chairman or Secretary Ian Walker, Tel: 011 472 1161
email: ianwalker@vodamail.co.za

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly newsletter, active exchange section, loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks.
President and Society Secretary: Alex Visser.
alex.visser@up.ac.za
Box 36473, Menlo Park 0102; cell 082 922-2927

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by die NG Kerk Queenswood in Garretweg, Queenswood. Aangename en aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief 'Die Posduif' verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter: Dr. Louwrence Erasmus. Sekretaris: Ronel Erasmus. Kontak: Herman van Niekerk by hinvestasta@gmail.com of 072 446 2501

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Sekretaresse: Gerrie Conradie
082 952 6700.
Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com



BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Werner Barnard;
email: president@bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za
Secretary: Reanie de Villiers; 0825670353 (a.h.);
email: secretary@bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za
Website: <http://bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za>
Contact the Secretary for Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN



Email: <https://stampssa.africa/rpsct/home/>
President: Ida Potgieter
email: matheyc58@gmail.com
cell: 074 333 4646
Secretary: Victor Millard 0828028882
or email: millardvg@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.rpsct.org>

PAARLSE FILATELISTE

Sedert 1951

Kontak gerus vir: Gawie Hugo: 083 956 2410
gawiehugo@gmail.com of
Riaan Crafford: 082 876 7608
n/u craffies@telkomsa.net



PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Programmes for meetings include displays, talks by visiting speakers and 'Show & Tell' exhibits. An Exchange circuit and auctions from time to time. Visitors always welcome! Contact: Marilyn Crawford at 021 689 5050
email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com



GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Nick Zerbst 0836255804,
Secretary: Rob Sinclair-Black 044 8746337.
email: robrita@mweb.co.za

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula. President: Dave Young
email: davesueyoung@gmail.com
Secretary: Volker Janssen.

Website: www.fhps.info

Established 1890 - Reconstituted 1912

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY



President: Francois Friend, 082 554 8900
francois@softchem.co.za or
Vice president: David Brown
041 360 4025; or Secretary/
Treasurer: Rodney Maclachlan
072 619 5409. PostNet Suite #11,
Private Bag X0002, The Fig Tree, Charlo, 6033

PORT ELIZABETH
Daytime meetings - 10h30/11h00 to 13h00 at same venue.
Dates for 2022: 7 February; 7 March; 4 April; 9 May; 6 June;
4 July; 1 Aug; 5 Sep; 3 Oct; 7 Nov. No meeting in December -
reserved for President's Christmas party.

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meetings: First Tuesday, every month, 19:00 at Le Donjon, Recreation Hall, La Clemence, Webersvallei Rd, Stellenbosch.
Contact via email:
stellenboschstamp@gmail.com



CASPIP

CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE
ISRAEL PHILATELY

Contact for details: Aubrey Katzef
<akatzef@mweb.co.za>
+27 (21) 4615134 President of CASPIP.

FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: David Preston
082 7742090.
email: prestee@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca
082 334 7603.



ZIMBABWE - BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe
email: phil.soc.zim@gmail.com

EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Our Facebook page allows club activities to continue 24/7; search for Edenvale Philatelic Society. Contact: Colin Bousfield
082 309 8656

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: David Wigston
email: speedbird.imperial@gmail.com
Secretary: Paul Hammerton
hampaul@ananzi.co.za



OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein.
President: Dr Neil Cronjé and Vice president: Garry Osthoff email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY DURBAN

The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join and get involved in this social hobby of Kings.
German Restaurant open for lunch.

President: Leigh Hen-Boisen, leigh.hb@gmail.com
Secretary: Bronwen Edwards,
edwards@worldonline.co.za
Membership: Bev Chittenden,
bev@natalaircon.co.za or
Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za



Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

1. Secretary: Aubrey Bowles 082 316 3308, 033 239 2136.
36 Amberfield, Private Bag X010, Howick 3290.

E-mail: aubrey.bowles45@gmail.com

2. President: Dave Wyllie, davewyllie37@outlook.com

3. Stamp Circuit Book Officer is Russell Bowton
Society activities can be obtained from the secretary.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL



Meetings and auctions are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Rd, Bluff, Durban on every 2nd Saturday and last Saturday of each month.
Contacts: *President:* Fonda Sonitus 074 347 1388
Vice President: Zbigniew Kawecki 079 465 7468.

zkawecki57@gmail.com *Alternatively, email the Secretary at philatelicsocietykzn@gmail.com for more details on meetings, auctions, sales packets and membership. Everyone is welcome and committee members are always on hand to give advice about evaluations and philately. The club has a very successful Study Group focusing on specific topics. These meetings are held two weeks after the general meeting at 09h00 for 09h30. Please use the contacts above for more details of topics.*

THEMATICS SOUTH AFRICA PRETORIA CHAPTER

Vibrant and active group - loads of expertise and lots of topical discussions.
Group Leader: Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

Smalls' Corner

WANTED: An advanced collector of the 1/2c (Kingfisher) value of RSA 1st Definitive, looking for following:

- a. Group1 - Issue1 (SACC 197)- proving strip with no numbers on margin.
 - b. Group2 - Issue2 (SACC236a)- Sheet numbers missing on G7 9 16A block.
 - c. Group3 - Issue1(SACC281)-block of 6 of the B or D panes with sheet numbers below either stamps 2 & 3 or 1/2&3 or 1&2.
 - d. Group3 - Issue2 (SACC287) - 1st distribution-Swiss 5mm. Full sheets of B and C Panes.
 - e. SACC 287d - 3mm Harrison-tete-beche but REVERSE WATERMARK on Band D panes.
- Contact Phidias Chrysochou 0827880187 or p.chrysochou@absamail.co.za

WANTED: Homelands commercially used covers and reprints of definitives MNH: Contact Ralf Kollmann. Email: ralf.kollmann@gmx.de

WANTED: Looking for somebody who's has interesting to get fdi from Ukraine. Contact: Vadym Govorovsky. Email: govorovsky@gmail.com

WANTED: Mafeking blue varieties. Stephen Cross. Email: sacross1@me.com

RAND STAMPS. Proprietor: Paul Van Zeyl



PLEASE NOTE - altered email address:
randstamps@gmail.com or link up with Facebook and WhatsApp, WhatsApp, number is 076 124 9055.

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Usual Meet in the Captain's Table at Woodmead Johannesburg - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Chairperson: Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com

Secretary: Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com

Pretoria Fair & mini-auction, Greek Orthodox Church, corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Pretoria, 09h00 to 14h00).

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Kontak: djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrieff. Jan de Jong: 079 190 1066.

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. For more information on meetings, visit <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings> or Contact the Secretary, Brian Zlotnick. email bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk or postal address 10 Fortis Green Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 9NA. UK.

The South African representative is Patrick Flanagan RDPSA.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Now amalgamated with the EDENVALE Philatelic Society.

POSTAGE DUE MAIL STUDY GROUP

For more details, look at their website: <http://www.postageduemail.org.uk/>
Contact: Bob Medland, Secretary & Treasurer of the Postage Due Mail Study Group, email: secretarypdmsg@gmail.com

THE CAPE STAMP FAIR

Bellville Valley DRC Hall, Usually first Saturday of every month (09:00 - 12:30) *Contact:* Ken Joseph. 072 597 1287
email: ken@philatelicfriends.com

Kopano Nokeng COUNTRY LODGE & CONFERENCE CENTRE

Tel: +27 (51) 813 9130

Fax: 086 656 1906

www.kopanonokeng.co.za

Maselspoort Road, Midway,
BLOEMFONTEIN, Free State

CONFERENCE & EVENTS

events@kopanonokeng.co.za

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The South African Philatelist

All about stamps



THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 98:2. 971

www.stampssa.africa



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THE SAGA OF TWO TOWN HALLS, DURBAN AND PIETERMARIZBURG



PAPER AS A STRATEGIC COMMODITY AND ITS IMPACT ON PHILATELY



SAVPEX
South Africa
Virtual Philatelic Exhibition
Entries close on 30 April 2022



The Anglo-Zanzibar War The World's Shortest War: 38 minutes



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Awards:

- o Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
- o Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
- o Vermeil APS Stampshow 1999,
- o Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- o Federation Plaque 2004,
- o Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- o Large Silver NZ Literature Exhibition 2007,
- o Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- o Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.

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To avoid late delivery, please note; Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material for *The SA Philatelist*. ARTICLES should be submitted in the month prior:

- JUNE 2022 - Volume. 98 : 3. 972. **10 May 2022**
- AUGUST 2022 - Volume. 98 : 4. 973. **12 July 2022**





FEDERATION NEWS

from the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA - André du Plessis RDPSA 083 399 1755.
<https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



AFFILIATION FEES

From December right through to this time of the year, there are a number of reminders for the renewal of membership to clubs/associations, subscription for magazines, renewal of PO boxes and so on. The list is never ending. Which brings us to the renewal of Stamp Societies fees to the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA).

Membership lists were circulated for confirmation of home members and payment of the affiliation fees in January 2022. A few questions and comments have been received with regards to the fee.

As with all other clubs and societies, members are required to pay an affiliation fee to a regulating body which, within our organisational framework, is the PFSA.

Societies, and for that matter, home members of a society pay an affiliation fee of R100.00 per annum to cover administration cost and to enjoy PFSA benefits. Before listing these benefits, lets respond to the most frequent asked question - it relates to *The SA Philatelist*.

This journal has supported our interest in collecting and has been instrumental in keeping a well researched ongoing stream of information and has acted as the mouthpiece since its inception in 1932. It is produced and distributed for the most part, to PFSA members.

There exists a perception that fees payable to PFSA are for the subscription to *The SA Philatelist*. The fact of the matter is that the journal is provided free of charge to members.

In 2019, a Congress decision made it clear that annual membership of the PFSA would be extended to any interested individual. A **digital copy** of *The SA Philatelist* will be available to all members who paid their affiliated fee of R70.00 per annum, however, a **hard copy** (printed copy) of *The SA Philatelist* would be

available to those who prefer it, at a cost of R250 per annum, which includes the affiliation fee.

Effectively one does not subscribe to *The SA Philatelist* but has access to it electronically free of charge, as part of the annual PFSA affiliation fee as decided by Congress (currently R100.00).

A printed and posted copy of the journal is available after paying the affiliation fee and an additional fee, as decided by Congress, (*the cost of which covers and includes printing, postage, envelope and administration fees*):

- Within South Africa – R470.00 (Total R570.00) (via surface mail)
- To SADC countries – R900.00 (Total R1 000.00) (via airmail)
- To Foreign countries – R1 250.00 (Total R1 350.00) (via airmail)

Please note: A printed copy is for six issues per year and includes access to the electronic copy.

Other PFSA member benefits:

- Access to the 'members-only' area on the PFSA website, www.stampssa.africa
- Access to the bi-monthly electronic newsletter, 'STAMPS SOUTH AFRICA – Keeping in Touch'.
- Submission of applications to exhibit at exhibitions sanctioned by the PFSA. (Often with addition support benefits).
- A discounted expert verification of stamps and postal items.
- Assistance with collections/exhibits and their preparation.
- Philatelic library.
- Assistance for youth groups.
- Opportunities for buying and selling philatelic material.

The PFSA encourages participation in both this journal, *The SA Philatelist* as well as the electronic newsletter, 'Keeping in Touch'. By doing so, with regular and new readers will ensure that the social media activities and publications continue to support stamp collecting in South Africa. Contact: the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA, André du Plessis RDPSA, 083 399 1755. <https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editorial Board reserves the right to accept or decline any articles, letters or any other material submitted for publication, and reserves the right to effect minor changes of spelling, punctuation, grammar and word choice without requesting prior permission from the author(s). For more substantial revisions, such as shortening or restructuring, either the Board will request the author(s) to effect such changes or will propose amendments to the author prior to publication - if no agreement can be reached then publication will be declined.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy and honesty in the editorial columns of this journal, the publisher and editor cannot be held responsible for inaccurate information supplied and consequently published. Publication of articles is subject to availability of space and cannot be guaranteed in each edition. Copyright for material published in this journal is strictly reserved. Illustrations are not necessarily actual size because of space constraints.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: • **Affiliation fee** in RSA and World Wide: R100.00 (*this includes your electronic copy*). **Printed copy** of *The SA Philatelist* - if you elect to receive a printed copy, fees are as follows:

- South Africa - R100 plus R470.00 (*Includes local postage*)
- SADC countries - R100 plus R900.00 (*Includes International postage via airmail*)
- Foreign countries - R100 plus R1,350.00 (*Includes International postage via airmail*)

PLEASE NOTE:

Printed journal, which automatically includes access to an electronic copy, is for six issues per year. The 2022 rates are also available on the PFSA official website under 'CONTACT/JOIN': www.stampssa.africa

Enquiries regarding **PFSA membership** can be addressed to the C.O.O. André du Plessis RDPSA at andredupfs@gmail.com Tel: +27 (0)83 399 1755

Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist*, email: pfsastamps@gmail.com

Advertising Rates available from the C.O.O. André du Plessis RDPSA, PO Box 53100, Wierda Park, 0149 or email the Production Editor: janice@gdb.co.za





Correspondence to THE SA SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board, email: pfsastamps@gmail.com

Articles and items of interest are welcome and will be reviewed for publication. Letters to the Editor are welcome, and robust, constructive debate encouraged on the pages of the Journal with the right of publication reserved.

WARNING

Bogus Cover: Alert dealers, auctioneers and collectors that such items are not genuine and were manufactured. Having read the Dr Gerhard Kamffer's article issue of the February 2022 in *The SA Philatelist* with interest, I am honour bound to let you know that the cover illustrated as Fig.7 on p16 is bogus. There are several similar covers that were 'manufactured' by Peter Southwood and sold by him at a premium to gullible collectors. He offered one of these covers to me and I was immediately suspicious for the following reasons:



He had a batch all with the same post marks and cachets all of which were addressed to him and his wife in Hilton. The sequence of postmarks was not logical e.g. the date of the Wartburg and Pietermaritzburg (1.10.87) cancellations precede that of Schrouders (2.10.87). In discussion with him I ascertained that he had produced these covers and had carried them himself from Post Office to Post Office where they were cancelled by favour of the respective postmasters.

Roger Porter RDPSA



Cape Town 2022 National Stamp Exhibition - is on the road

PFSA has negotiated with the Organising Committee of the Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition 2022, to accommodate the National in parallel with this prestigious event from 8 to 12 November 2022 in the Cape Town International Convention Center (CTICC).

Erection of frames and mounting of exhibits will take place on Sunday 6 November. Judging will take place while the exhibits are on display, with jury feedback on Saturday 12 November. The exhibits will be taken down and frames dismantled on Sunday 13 November.

Congress is tentatively scheduled for Friday 11 November. Prize giving will be in conjunction with the international's prize giving on Saturday 12th, presently, no separate Palmars is planned.

Important dates to remember:

- Provisional Entry - 30 June 2022;
- Final Entry - 15 August 2022;
- Delivery of exhibits - 7 November 2022.

Updates will be made closer to the time. The Organising Committee is set to give you a wonderful stamp show and an experience to remember. We are looking forward to seeing you in Cape Town.

The Prospectus and Entry Forms are available on the PFSA website - <https://stampssa.africa/> - or email Andre du Plessis at pfsastamps@gmail.com or cell +27 83 399 1755. The preferred way of communication is via e-mail.

Designer of the 1996 Soccer African Cup of Nations

It is with great sadness that I must report to readers of your journal the passing of the artist Zanele Mashinini.



Zanele Mashinini

Zanele was well known in art circles as a graphic designer whose work, in its time, was featured in a number of media, including photography, art education and museum design. He was also recognised by his many friends as a social activist dedicated to the art of disadvantaged communities. In 1995 Mr Mashinini's work was chosen by the South African Post Office to commemorate the 1996 Soccer African Cup of Nations, thus becoming the first Black South African artist to design a postage stamp for his country. Subsequently Zanele and I became firm friends and collaborated on a number of projects, including poverty relief and AIDS education.

The condolences of the artistic community go out to his family, his countless friends, and to the many persons whose life was touched by this kind, gentle and sensitive man. Hamba kahle, old friend.



Prof Franco Frescura
frescuraf64@gmail.com
+27 (0)31 266 4150
+27 (0)82 863 9036

REPORT - LONDON 2022

19 TO 26 FEBRUARY by Dr Neil Cronjé RDPSA

After years of planning amidst a worldwide pandemic, the London 2022 exhibition finally took place in the capital in February, and even a major storm couldn't stop the show going ahead!

London 2022 took place at the Business Design Centre with H.M. Queen Elizabeth as patron. South Africa entered a large number of exhibits including one in the Championship Class and three in the One Frame Class.

The flight: This is not something that we would generally discuss but the approach to London was a lifetime experience with the Airbus 380 unable to land on three occasions because of the storm Eunice. We were featured on TV in Britain before we were in the reception hall of the airport. The plane was flying at an angle (crabbing) for a long period and was so unstable that the cabin crew became ill. In the end we landed safely but by that time we were already an hour late.

Accommodation: The Organising Committee arranged accommodation at a Hilton Hotel approximately a kilometre and a half from the exhibition centre. We walked there on a daily basis, and especially on the first day, it was quite a difficult task to find the place through the narrow alleyways.

The Exhibition: It was extremely well organised and spread over four halls on two levels. Frames were borrowed from different federations resulting in various styles throughout the show. In certain areas the lighting was not very good and I felt that some of our exhibits were displayed in a poor position and did not show the exhibits at their best.

On the fourth day all the exhibits, except the Championship Class, were taken down and replaced with new exhibits, all within 24 hours. This was quite a task and was extremely well organised. It certainly saved a lot of money in that less frames were required and the exhibition took place in a smaller area.

The Dealers: There were 155 stands available but not all were taken up by dealers. Some were occupied by clubs and different societies. The Royal Mail used a large area with all postal services available. There were new cancellations available on a daily basis.

The size of the stands varied from a few square metres to absolutely massive. Some were simple and straightforward while others were very grand with wonderful material exhibited.

The Judging: Judging was done by 77 Jurors over 7 days with critiques on 2 days. There were usually 2 to 4 Jurors available for every critique. The Jury included 11 apprentices and a group of three experts. Judging took place while open to the public, although they were excluded at certain times during the day.

There were 54 Commissioners present from about 50 countries including Russia. Hong Kong was unable to attend and was amongst the exhibits that were shown as colour scans. The quality of these printouts was inferior and probably resulted in the lower mark for these collectors. The Facilities provided to commissioners was of a variable standard as no permanent facilities were available.



CONGRATULATIONS

to the South African
contingent who exhibited

Emil Bührmann - Champion Class
H Amoore, A Barit, C Barit, S Barit,
J Findlay, P Flanagan, F Friend, H Green,
I Matheson, A Rogers, H Schaffler,
M Suttill and P van der Molen

you've made us proud!

Meetings of Societies: Many meetings of different societies took place throughout the show, including many study circles that which meet on an annual basis, including specialist societies. Several F.I.P meetings took place that included the Literature, Revenue, Astrophilatic, Thematic, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Traditional and the Aerophilatic Commissions.

I attended several meetings daily and used the opportunity to promote **Cape Town 2022**.

I was quite surprised to hear that many people had little knowledge about basic problems such as security and COVID-19 in South Africa. The COVID-19 figures showed that the UK has approximately 20 to 25 times as many new cases per day as well as a much higher death rate than South Africa during the time that we were in London.

AWARDS: The recently elected Signatory to the Roll of Honour, Keith Klugman RDPSA, achieved the second position in the Championship Class. We also had another exhibitor in the Championship Class, namely Emil Bührmann RDPSA.

Awards Ceremony: The Award ceremony took place on Friday 25 February in the Guildhall. It was only open to ticket holders and lasted approximately one hour. During the ceremony all major awards were handed out and the votes for the Grand

Prix and Championship Class winners were counted and announced.

The Royal Philatelic Society of London held a President's Dinner after the award ceremony which was only open to paying ticket holders. Tickets were available at £135 each!

RPSL Open Day: On Thursday, 24 February, an open day was held at the home of the Royal Philatelic Society of

London. There was a tour of their new building, followed by a visit to the 40 frame exhibition held by overseas members. This was followed by the handing over of medals.

It was a most enjoyable afternoon and especially the visit to the library and the room where items were expertised, which was interesting. I noticed that literature on South Africa was not complete and was lacking some of the more modern books.

I felt sad when I had to start packing the exhibits knowing that the next show of this quality and quantity will only take place in the year 2030.

It has been a great experience, to see all the magnificent material available on a worldwide basis from so many countries, displayed all under one roof.

This was a real once-in-a-lifetime experience to visit LONDON 2022.

Neil Cronjé RDPSA

The SA Philatelist, April 2022.



Championship Class Entry

South African entry results for London 2022

H Amooore	88 Large Vermeil
A Barit	69 Silver Bronze
C Barit	78 Large Silver
S Barit	74 Silver
J Findlay	70 Silver
P Flanagan	95 Large Gold
F Friend	85 Large Vermeil
H Green	91 Gold
I Matheson	92 Gold
A Rogers	80 Vermeil
H Schaffler	85 Large Vermeil
M Suttill	83 Vermeil
P van der Molen	83 Vermeil

Keith Klugman RDPSA runner up in the Championship Class with his exhibit 'Natal Embossed Stamps'.

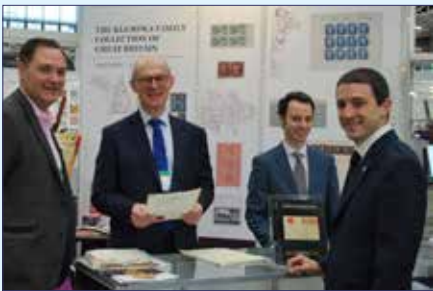


Keith Klugman (above and center) with his winning exhibit at LONDON 2022 and at the black-tie ceremony receiving his award

Dr Neil Cronjé RDPSA took up the challenge as South African Commissioner for **London 2022**



RDPSAs at the Awards - Keith Klugman, Neil Cronjé and Emil Minnaar



The familiar face of Ian Shapiro (2nd from left) and colleagues from SPINK



Signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa **Dr Chris Board** OBE RDPSA

The Citation for Dr Board was published in the 2020 December issue of *The SA Philatelist* (Vol: 96:6 963 on page 188) and now, finally the LONDON 2022 International presented an opportunity for Chris to formally sign the Roll of Honour.



With many of our RDPSA philatelists in London, the signing was witnessed by, left to right, Neil Cronjé, Colin Hoffman, Ian Matheson, JR Frank, Lars Jørgenson and Emil Bührmann. Seated are Gawie Van der Walt and the man of the hour, Dr Chris Board.





The World's Shortest War

by Andrew Briscoe, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

At first sight, there is nothing especially interesting about the illustrated cover. It is addressed to Italy, and franked with an India 2½a overprinted ZANZIBAR (second 'Z', italic S.G. 8 o). The stamp is cancelled with a ZANZIBAR circular date stamp of 6 November 1896. The franking is the correct rate to Europe. On reverse are two transit datestamps: Aden (15 November 1896), and Spezia (27 November). End of story? However, the envelope has one other feature. 'R.N. VOLTURNO' is embossed on the backflap of the envelope. The *R.N. Volturno* was an Italian gunboat, illustrated in Fig.2. But what was she doing at Zanzibar in November 1896, shortly after the Anglo-Zanzibar War?

Background to the Anglo-Zanzibar War

In 1890, Britain and Germany had signed the Heligoland / Zanzibar Treaty, by which the two imperial powers agreed to divide their spheres of influence in East Africa. The island of Zanzibar was ceded to British influence and Germany was given control over the mainland (German East Africa).

By an agreement of 14 June 1890, Britain established Zanzibar as a Protectorate, with the right of veto over the appointment of Sultan. The pro-British Ali bin Said was installed as Sultan and ruled as such until his death in 1893. With the approval of the British Consul, bin Said was succeeded by Hawad bin Thuwaini.

Bin Thuwaini ruled for three years, but was unpopular with many of his subjects who considered him to be too close to Britain and in particular

resented the abolition of the lucrative slave trade. On 25 August 1896, bin Thuwaini died suddenly at the Palace. Although we will never definitely know the cause of bin Thuwaini's death, it is generally believed that his cousin Khalid bin Barghash had him poisoned. Within hours of his cousin's death, and without British approval, Khalid moved into the Palace and assumed the position of Sultan. Basil Cave, the senior British Consul, quickly warned Khalid that he should stand down, but Khalid ignored this warning and responded by gathering his forces around the palace.

On the following day, 26 August, Cave issued an ultimatum: Khalid should leave the Palace by 9.00 a.m. the following day.

By this time, Britain had five warships anchored in the harbour. That night was tense, and a junior British Consul noted that *"The silence which hung over Zanzibar was appalling. Usually drums were beating or babies cried but that night there was absolutely not a sound."*

27 August 1896

By 8.00 a.m., Khalid had amassed about 3,000 Zanzibaris to guard the Palace. The majority of them were civilians, but there were also Palace guards and almost a thousand of Khalid's employees, slaves, and servants. Machine guns were stationed at the front of the Palace together with artillery pieces pointing towards the British ships. Khalid sent a message to Cave: *"We have no intention of hauling down our flag and we do not believe you would open fire on us."* Cave replied that he had no desire to fire upon the Palace *"but unless you do as you are told, we shall certainly do so."*

At 9.00 am the order was given for the British ships in the harbour to begin bombarding the Palace.

At 9.02 the shelling commenced. Within minutes, the majority of Khalid's artillery had been destroyed, and the Palace's wooden structure had started to collapse. The British also quickly sank the Zanzibari royal yacht HHS *Glasgow* and two smaller vessels that were stationed in the harbour. At some point, Khalid and his senior officials escaped from the Palace and were given sanctuary in the German consulate.



Fig.1: The R.N. Volturno cover

The war ended when firing ceased at approximately 9.40 a.m., by which time the Palace and the attached harem were in flames. Some 500 Zanzibari men and women were killed in the battle, and an unknown number were wounded; most were victims of the fire that engulfed the Palace. The war saw Zanzibar lose most of its sovereignty, and a new 'puppet' Sultan was promptly installed.

The war was the shortest in recorded history. Estimates of the length of the battle vary between 30 and 45 minutes, although a time of 38 minutes is the most commonly stated. The disparity stems from differing views of what defines the start and end of a war. Some commentators place the start of the war at 9.00 a.m. when the mandate to commence

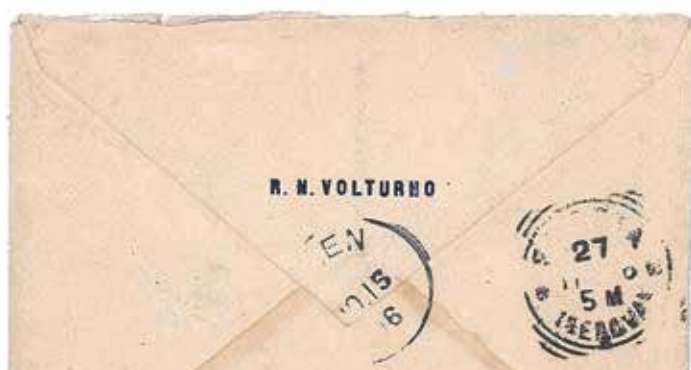


Fig.1b: The R.N. Voltorno back cover.



Fig.2: The R.N. Voltorno

fire began, while others prefer the start of actual firing at 9.02. Since the Zanzibaris in the Palace had no commanding officer, there was no official surrender, and estimates of the time that the last bullet was fired vary between 9.40 and 9.45.

Let us now return to the Italian gunboat *R.N. Voltorno*. Under the command of Captain Francesco Mongiardini, on 27 August 1896, she happened to be moored in the Zanzibar harbour and observed the events of the short war. A small detachment of Italian sailors was landed to protect the Italian Consulate, and also those of Austria and France. Thereafter, the *R.N. Voltorno* was stationed off the East African coast for another year to monitor any further conflict.

References

- Knight, R. C., *The Genesis of the Zanzibar Post Office, A Postscript to the Postal Historian*, Volume 42 at p 129, 1992.
- The British Newspaper Archives

SAVPEX 2022 :

South Africa's Seventh Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (SAVPEX), a one-frame exhibition, proudly hosted by the Orange Free State Philatelic Society under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa



EXHIBITION DATES:

- 30 April 2022 – Receipt of Entry Form, Description and Payment
- 21 May 2022 – Receipt of Uploaded Exhibit
- 30 June 2022 – Announcement of Results

Exhibits will be available for viewing on the PFSA website in July 2022
<https://www.stampssa.africa/>

JOHN and MARK TAYLOR

Nyasaland-Rhodesian
Field Force.

Plate no. blocks showing the
small stop flaw after 'F'



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P.O. Box 37324,
London N1 - 2YQ.

Tel: 020 7226 1503
Fax: 020 7359 7456

email: markjtaylor@btinternet.com

Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za



REGIONAL USE OF CASH REGISTER/TERMINAL RECEIPTS

INTRODUCTION

In the January 2022 *SA Philatelist* the genealogy of parcel post and postage paid labels used in South Africa was presented. This column deals with the regional use, such as by the TBVC countries and neighbouring countries such as Southern Rhodesia. The information complements that presented in an extensive compilation by the International Postage Meter Stamp Society which is available at https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International_Postage_Meter_Stamp_Catalog/South_Africa (2021). Permission to use some of the images, indicated as (INT), is gratefully acknowledged. I do not have sufficient material on the use of labels in South West Africa and this may become a future topic.

TBVC COUNTRIES

The TBVC countries were given nominal independence starting with Transkei (26.10.1976), Bophuthatswana (6.12.1977), Venda (13.9.1979) and Ciskei (4.12.1981). The postal administrations were independent, and although technically the homelands were incorporated into the Republic of South Africa on 27.4.1994 the postal administrations were only incorporated on 1 April 1996 by Act No. 5 of 1996. The regional use is thus limited to the independent postal administrations. No labels for Venda and Ciskei during the homelands period have been recorded.

Transkei

The only two copies recorded of the broad slips are shown in Fig.1 for Butterworth. The upper postage paid line is in isiXhosa which replaced the Afrikaans inscription. The dates are 1977 and 1978. Surprisingly no labels have been recorded for Transkei's capital, Umtata.



Fig.1: The only Transkei labels recorded are for Butterworth. The loose label is from (INT).

Bophuthatswana

A range of labels have been recorded used in Bophuthatswana. These will be presented by office.

Two items have been recorded for Hammanskraal 1989 - 1993, shown in Figs.2a and b. Both are Olivetti narrow slips. The express letter is rare. Fig.2a does not show place name and postage paid, which may have been a misprint as it is shown



Fig.2: Hammanskraal earliest and latest recorded labels.

In Mafikeng a range of labels were used, shown as Figs.3a to d. The earliest were broad slips with the Afrikaans Posgeld Betaal replaced by Setswana that were seen used 1982 – 1987. They were printed by terminals 99 (bottom right) and 100. Two terminals #9001 and #9002 that printed receipts on an Olivetti printer were used 1986 – 1987 (Fig.3c). Terminal #1234 was most likely used in Mafikeng and was seen used 1988 – 1989 (Fig.3d).



3b



3c

Fig.3a to d:
Various label
types used in
Mafeking.



3d

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

In the early days with the implementation of NCR terminals evidently there was a regional impact. Although S. RHODESIA, RHODESIA and later ZIMBABWE had more than 10 different designs and offices, minimal regional influence is seen and thus only the NCR labels are presented. The other designs may be seen in https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International_Postage_Meter_Stamp_Catalog/Zimbabwe

Parcel post labels for Bulawayo (terminals 1 and 2) and Salisbury (terminals blank and 1), shown in Fig.6 have been recorded. Obviously the Afrikaans inscription was not used. The Bulawayo labels have been recorded used 1960 – 1966, and the Salisbury labels from 1955 – 1959. These labels were introduced much later than in South Africa, and are scarce.

Mmabatho

Terminal #9019 that printed receipts by Olivetti printer was seen used in Mmabatho in 1986 (Fig.4a).

Molopo

Molopo presumably used terminal #9002 in 1987 (Fig.4b). This deduction is made from the routing from Molopo, Mafeking to Kimberley and Rondebosch, as the label does not have an office name. This terminal number was also used in Mafeking.



4a

Fig.4: Labels used in (a)
Mmabatho and (b) Molopo.

4b



Tlhabane

Terminal #3799 that printed receipts by Olivetti printer was used in Tlhabane, seen in 1990 (Fig.5). This is an example of label use in a smaller office.

Fig.5: Label used in Tlhabane.



6a



6 b

Fig.6: Labels used in Bulawayo and Salisbury,
Southern Rhodesia.

More than 25 years have passed since the Homelands existed. This column has demonstrated how difficult it is to define elements of postal history, even from 25 years ago. Readers who may have complementary material are welcome to submit so that in future the full picture would be available.

In hierdie rubriek sien ons dat selfs inligting oor posgeskiedenis gedurende die tuisland periode van slegs 25 jaar gelede nie volop is nie. Weereens wil ons lesers aanmoedig om aanvullende materiaal oor posgeld betaal plakkers beskikbaar te stel sodat die prentjie voltooi kan word.



WORLD WAR II:

PAPER AS A STRATEGIC COMMODITY AND ITS IMPACT ON PHILATELY

by Dr Jim Findlay RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Introduction: When the Union of South Africa declared war against Germany in September 1939, South Africa was not prepared for war. Military and civilian manpower requirements had to be adjusted to ensure that the country functioned and met commitments. Many minerals, chemicals and commodities became strategically important and were protected by various acts of parliament and legal regulations published in the Government Gazette. Examples of these designated strategic commodities under the control of the Director General of Supplies are 'Iron and Steel Control', 'The Controller of Soap and Oils', 'The Controller of Food Supplies', 'The Director of Civilian Supplies' and paper under 'The Controller of Paper'.

Industry Anticipation of a Paper Shortage:

In a circular letter sent out by the Acting Buyer of Rand Mines dated 21 February 1940, a shortage of paper was anticipated by industry. This letter states "Owing to the possible difficulty of obtaining the required quantity and quality of paper for Native Ticket Books (and envelopes), it will be necessary to place the contract for 1941 as early as possible". The numbers required were 125,000 pink envelopes for underground, 68,000 green envelopes for surface use, as well as numbered ticket books totalling about 67,000 books. A similar Rand Mines letter was circulated on 19 February 1941 for the 1942 Ticket Books and Envelopes. (These letters are in the author's collection).

In June 1941 the South African Pulp and Paper Industries, Limited, (SAPPI) issued an advertising pamphlet that emphasised two points in particular: (i) by buying South African made paper products this has the effect, "In wartime conserve shipping and save dollar credits which can be used for more important national purchases"; and (ii) the South African Printers and Stationers Association and the South African Pulp and Paper Industries, Limited, supported the South African Mobile Military Printing Unit "by supplying at short notice the various papers required for maps, orders, propaganda and entertainment".

On 23 March 1942 Rand Mines, Limited, sent a circular letter to all mine managers regarding the 'Conservation of Paper' with the opening paragraph as "A serious shortage of paper is likely to arise in the near future, therefore everything possible must be done to reduce the consumption on the Mines and elsewhere". This went on to detail type spacing, using both sides of a paper sheet, re-using envelopes and addressing envelopes in pencil and not ink for ease of re-use.

Paper as a strategic commodity

Mr Johannes Jacob Kruger was appointed by the Director General of Supplies as Controller of Paper in terms of Regulation 3 of War Measures No. 7 of 1942 and War Measures No. 44 of 1943 specifically for the implementation of the control of paper as a strategic commodity. The office of the Controller of Paper was at the Government Printing Works, Koch Street, Pretoria.

Government Gazette Notices on the Control of Paper

The *Extraordinary Government Gazette* of 24 April 1942 covers a very wide range of restrictions and regulations on paper use. Some examples are the reduction in weight of the following: newsprint for newspapers 60% for *The Sunday Times* and other weekly newspapers; daily newspapers 50-55% such as *The Star*, *The Rand Daily Mail* and others; magazines 40%. Also container label sizes must reduce by 50%; train and bus tickets were restricted to a size of 2½ inches by 1½ inches (6.35 cm x 3.81 cm); books and documents must reduce the size by at least 25%; calendar or almanac size was restricted to a maximum of 12½ inches by 20 inches (31.75 cm x 50.8 cm) only on specific paper types; restrictions on wrapping paper were very wide covering items such as bacon, cigars, fishing bait, sweets, tennis balls, soap and many foodstuffs; and many other paper items (1). This was followed by a Gazette dated 26 June 1942 detailing the returns that had to be submitted by all paper users to the Controller.

Definition of 'Paper': Notice 1647 (August 1942) refers to previous government notices regarding "the size, substance, colour, type of paper or board, actual net tonnage, country of origin and import permit and/or certificate of essentiality number". The definition is included in this gazette as "paper means all types of paper, including cardboard, paperboard, strawboard and the like, both in the raw and in manufactured or made-up form (4)."

Types of Paper: Notice 2525 (December 1942) defined the following "Types of paper: Flat newsprint; MF, SC and other printings, white; MF, SC and other printings, tinted; art paper; imitation art white; imitation art tinted; MG poster; litho varnish; cartridge papers; cream laid and wove; tinted laid and wove; white bonds and banks, substance large post 13 lb. and over; white bonds and banks, substance under large post 13 lb.; tinted bonds and banks; white I.V.P.; tinted I.V.P.; ledger and a/c book papers; gummed; greaseproof; vegetable parchment; tissues; cover papers; manillas; printers' boards; bookbinders' boards; mfg. envelope cream wove and laids; mfg. envelope linen faced; mfg. envelope manillas; mfg. manillas; mfg. cream laids; mfg. linen faced; blotting paper; flints; chrome paper; paper not elsewhere enumerated (specify) (6).

Bulk Paper Imports: Notice 2525 (December 1942) states (i) Any company, firm or person to whom a 'bulk' permit to import paper has been issued, shall, before placing such an order for the purchase of any paper obtain prior consent of the Controller for such purchase. (ii) Every company, firm or person having an order from overseas any of the undermentioned types of paper shall on or before 15 December 1942, render to the Controller a return in respect of each such type of paper (6).



British re-use label applied to official mail - the label had to cover the previous address and all post marks. The original cover, an Active Service Green Envelope with instructions for use on the left obliterated. Paper was rationed from September 1939. Small sheets of paper were sold to affix to the front of a cover so it could be used over and over again.

Paper being imported from the United States of America and Canada required a Certificate of Essentiality or an Import Permit. In the case of the United Kingdom documentary evidence regarding the quantity was required. There was a distinction made between paper manufactured and ready for shipment and paper ordered but not manufactured (6).

Christmas Cards:

Notice 2072 (October 1942) placed restrictions on the manufacture and paper use permitted for Christmas cards. These included:

- (i) No person shall use cardboard for the manufacture of Christmas Cards.
- (ii) No paper of a calliper exceeding .009 in. or a size exceeding 40 square inches, shall be used for the manufacture of Christmas Cards.
- (iii) No person shall supply with any Christmas Card manufactured

after publication of this notice, envelopes for the posting of such Christmas Cards, provided, however, that envelopes may be supplied for the posting of Christmas Cards which were manufactured prior to the promulgation of this notice.

(iv) No printer shall print for an individual customer more than 5,000 Christmas Cards except by special authority of the Controller. (5)"

Recycling of Paper: Recycling or re-use of paper packaging was one of the earliest directions in place (May 1942) - "No person shall dispose of paper cement bags otherwise than to cement producing companies or their authorised agents (2)."

Reduction of Document Size:

Notice 1646 (August 1942) provides for the repeat printing of any document, book or form of which the dimensions are prescribed by law being reduced by at least twenty five percent (25%) in the dimensions of such a document (3).

For the printing or re-printing of any educational books, which have been recommended or prescribed by an Educational Institution, the printer or publisher must accomplish a twenty five percent (25%) saving of the paper used. The saving is based on the paper previously used if before 31 July 1939 or before 31 December 1941 (in the case of firms who were not in existence for a year at 31 July 1939) or any other period that the Controller may lay down at his discretion (3).

Any other books or literature which cannot be classed in the above categories must accomplish a fifty percent (50%) saving of the paper used. The saving is based on the paper previously used if before 31 July 1939 or before 31 December 1941 (in the case of firms who were not in existence for a year at 31 July 1939) or any other period that the Controller may lay down at his discretion (3).

Control of Waste Paper (Recycling):

Notice 54 (January 1943) concerns the recycling of waste paper as follows:

1. In the municipal areas of Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Durban, East London, Johannesburg, the Witwatersrand, Kimberley, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria and such other areas as may from time to time be designated by the Controller –

- (a) no person shall destroy or use any wastepaper for purposes other than for household, hospital or sanitation purposes;
- (b) no person shall discard or dispose of any wastepaper except as permitted by these regulations;
- (c) no person shall mix any wastepaper with any articles or material not being wastepaper.

2. Every person shall deposit on such day or days and at such place and places as may be notified by the local authority concerned all wastepaper in his possession or control.

3. The local authority and the Anti-Waste Committee shall collect and dispose of all wastepaper to one or more of the following companies or associations -

- (a) Messrs S.A. Pulp and Paper Industries, Geduld;

- (b) Messrs National Pulp and Paper Company, Umgeni;
- (c) Messrs Premier Paper Mills (Pty.), Ltd., Klip River Station;
- (d) Wastepaper Recovery Association of South Africa, Booysens.

4. The Companies and Associations referred to shall accept such wastepaper and shall pay such price as may be fixed from time to time by the Price Controller. Wastepaper from centres other than those mentioned may forward bags or bales of waste paper in consignments of not less than 300 lb [= ±137 kg] by goods train. These regulations come into force on 30 January 1943 (7).

Price Control of Waste Paper:

Notice 108 (January 1943) concerned the maximum price that could be paid by authorised waste paper sellers and buyers. This was under the control the Union's appointed Price Controller, Mr. Edward J. Crean (8).

'Waste paper' means any waste, scrap, worn-out or disused paper or cardboard or any article made therefrom that can be re-pulped but does not include

any secret or confidential document. The 'Definition' as in Government Notice No. 54 of 8 January 1943.

The Control of Paper: As published in Notice No. 1284 (July 1943) the supply and use of paper, card or cardboard was restricted to less than 4 months normal requirements of a person or company. Also restricted were the number of printed single sheets to 1000 or a quantity of books or pads of 110 sheets in duplicate or 100 sheets in triplicate or quadruplicate. These orders required approval and were required to be inspected and reported to the Controller of Paper (9).

Import of Toilet Rolls: Notice No. 641 (August 1944) declared that permits and essential certificates were required to import toilet rolls from the United States of America and Canada (10).

The Impact of Paper Control Regulations on Philately

The restrictions placed on the use of paper had in a significant impact on philately: (i) stamp size was reduced (the 'Bantam' issues, postage due stamps, savings stamps), (ii) covers were used multiple times with multiple datestamps, (iii) the introduction of air letter cards and the printing of a postage stamp on air lettercards to save the use of a stamp, (iv) the introduction of airgraphs, (v) the reduced size of petrol coupons with Post Office datestamps and (vi) homemade covers.

The Large Format War Effort Stamps: A series of stamps was produced to publicise the South African war effort. These were issued between August 1941 and January 1942. The denominations in either English or Afrikaans were ½d. (19 November 1941), 1d. (3 October 1941), 1½d. (12 January 1942), 3d. (1 August 1941), 4d. (20 August 1941), 6d. (3 September 1941). The bilingual stamps were 2d. (15 September 1941) and 1 shilling (27 October 1941).

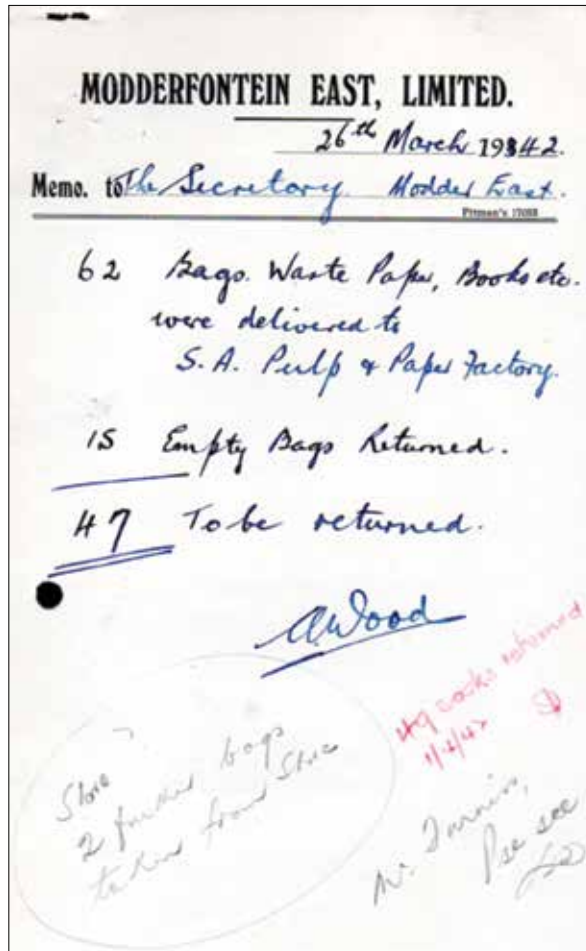


Fig.1: Modderfontein East Gold Mine delivery of wastepaper to the South African Pulp and Paper (SAPPI) factory.

The 'Bantam' Reduced Size War Effort Stamps: The Post Office implemented the above paper control directives by reducing the size of the War Effort postage stamps. The smaller version stamps printed and perforated for the large size but with the smaller stamps on the large size format separated by roulettes. The artwork design of each denomination was done by Neville Lewis and is retained in the 'Bantam' stamps with a colour change in some. These stamps are described by Wigston in *The SA Philatelist* (October 2018). The values and date of issue are ½d. (October 1942), 1d. (5 January 1943), 1½d. (August 1942), 2d. (February 1943), 3d. (October 1942), 4d. (October 1942), 6d. (October 1942) and 1 shilling (November 1942).



Fig.2: Examples of large War Effort stamps and equivalent 'Bantam' stamps.

Postage Due stamps were also printed in reduced size 'Bantam' format as units of three stamps subdivided by roulette. The values printed were ½d, 1d, 2d and 3d. Bilingual National Savings 9d stamps were issued in 1940 and were surcharged at one shilling in 1947 but this design was not reduced in size. The 'Bantam' size National Savings Bank 3d stamps were issued in a horizontal format and introduced in 1943.

A new printing of these stamps but in a vertical format was introduced in 1948 and was still in use in 1949.

(Matheson, Kamffer, 2016). 'Bantam' size Union revenue stamps were also produced. The 1 shilling and 10 shilling 'Bantam' stamps were over-printed 'ASSIZE/YK' (Kamffer, 2019).

Fig.3: Postage Due 'Bantam' stamps.

'Bantam' size revenue stamps were overprinted 'PENALTY / BOETE' and the values are 3d (issued 1944 and in use up to 1956) and £5 (possibly issued 1945 and in use in 1949) (I. Matheson).



Fig.4: Examples of 'Bantam' National Savings stamps of the 1943 horizontal issue and the 1948 issue of the vertical stamps (1 unit with 3 stamps).



Official Mail Covers: The Government Printer issued 'On His Majesty's Service' (O.H.M.S.) envelopes with a printed slogan 'GEBRUIK PAPIER SPAARSAAM - USE PAPER SPARINGLY' with the option of having four addresses, two on the front and two on the reverse. On receipt by the first addressee, the first address would be deleted (if in pencil) or obliterated and the second user would use the 'Address 2' panel, which could be repeated so as to achieve four deliveries with the same cover (Fig.5).



Fig.5: An Official Mail cover with a slogan and panels for four addresses.

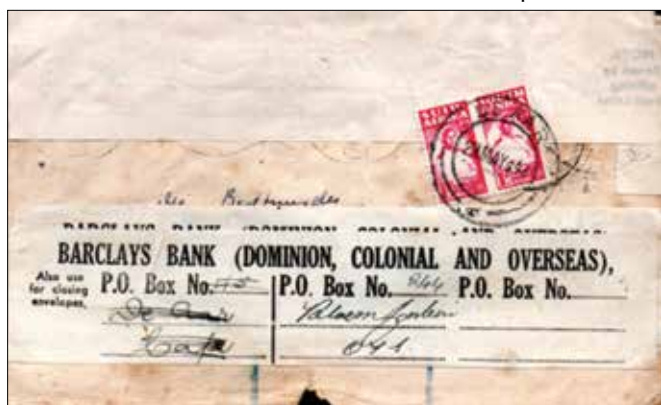


Fig.6: The front and reverse of a multiple use O.H.M.S. cover with 4 address panels from Port Elizabeth to Somerset East to Nigel with a re-sealing label issued by the Government Printer.



Fig.7: A British 'On His Majesty's Service' cover with the War Economy re-use directions. This was addressed to a South African serviceman and re-directed approximately 5 times without using an additional label. It received the Union of South Africa High Commissioner cachet in London. The 'blank' area is a label to re-seal the cover and/or re-address it on the reverse. There is nothing 'missing'.

Multiple Use Covers: Labels were made from paper odds or printed to accommodate multiple addresses for re-use. The example of Barclay's Bank label allows for 3 addresses per label. This cover has three labels which were attached after the first use which illustrates that the cover was posted 6 times.



Cachets on the reverse indicate that this cover was used at Ficksburg, Petrus Steyn, Reitz, Riversdale, Uniondale and lastly De Aar to Bloemfontein (Figs.8a and 8b).

Figs.8a and 8b: Front and reverse of a multiple used cover using Barclay's Bank labels.

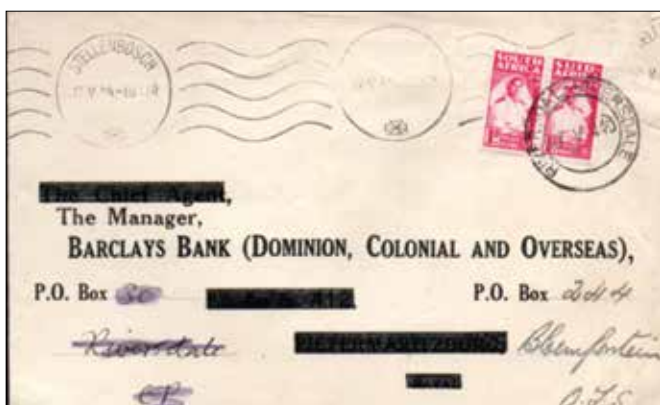


Fig.9: A multiple use Barclay's Bank cover that went from Stellenbosch to Riversdale to Bloemfontein with the Pietermaritzburg address obliterated.

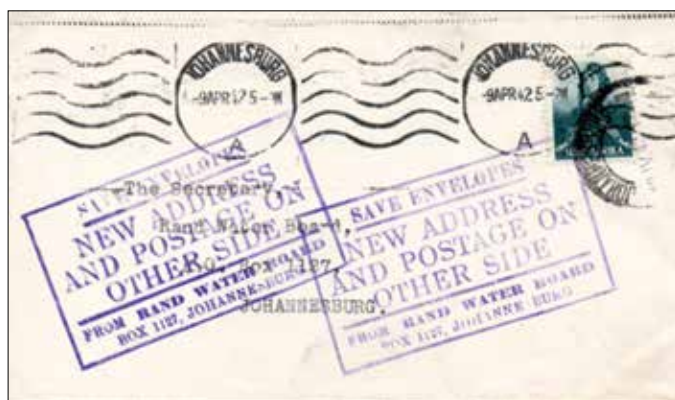


Fig.10: A Rand Water Board cachet indicating that this address was cancelled and the new address from Johannesburg to Germiston with 1/2d. postage is on the reverse.

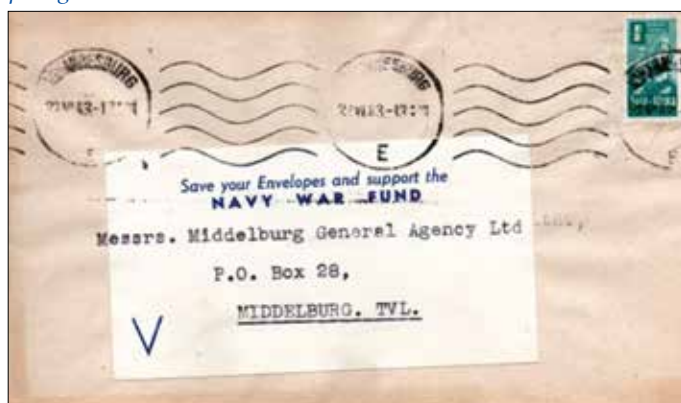


Fig.11: A Navy War Fund label for the re-use of covers that was sold to raise funds to support seamen.

Censor Labels: U.C.8 'Passed by Censor' bilingual re-sealing adhesive labels were designated as large, medium and small. There is no consistency regarding the size of these labels and the terminology is misleading. Labels did not have a frame and were often trimmed by the censor resulting in some label

measurements being misleading. Mullins describes 8 types of labels and some have sub-types. As a paper saving measure these labels were cut in half (Fig.12) resulting in either the English or Afrikaans version being used on censored covers.

Air Letter Cards : Made from light weight paper, Air Letter Cards reduced the weight of air mail and thus increased the mail volume per flight. Initially the printed air letter cards were stampless and postage stamps were required to be attached to the letter card.



Fig.12: Half of an 'OPENED BY CENSOR' label.

Stampless South African air letter cards were first used in July 1941 as a military issue rather than a Post Office issue. Later these included the printed postage stamp which saved the use of a gummed postage stamp for air mail payment.

There are 14 printed types of the Active Service Letter Cards depending on variations of the printed 3d. stamp, paper and gum types and frame size. There are 3 types of Air Letter Cards for civilian use with the 'Bantam' printed 3d. stamp. Some of these issues were over-printed for use in South West Africa and the three High Commission territories. There are also 'Xmas Greetings' air letters.



Fig.13: An Active Service Letter Card with a printed stamp.

Prisoner of War Letter Cards: There were 9 types of air letter cards produced for Italian prisoners of war and a single type produced for German prisoners of war in the Union of South Africa. These were designed as a single page with one side for the addresses and the other for correspondence. This was to conform to Geneva Convention / Red Cross POW privileges and ease of censorship rather than a paper saving measure but it did result in reduced paper use and mail weight.

Airgraphs: Airgraphs were instituted to reduce the mass of airmail letters by having special forms that were photographed and then the film was despatched by air to the relevant country for printing and onward postage.

A single film contained 1,500 letters, which cost 3d. each, and the Kodak Company supplied all cameras and processors.

The first airgraphs were from Cairo on 21 April 1941 to the United Kingdom which arrived on 13 May. The airgraph service was terminated on 31 July 1945 due to the popularity of the air letter card.

Fig.14: The first airgraph from South Africa (No. 01) was sent by Field Marshall Jan Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union, to The Right Honourable Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, on 1 May 1942 when this service was inaugurated in Johannesburg.

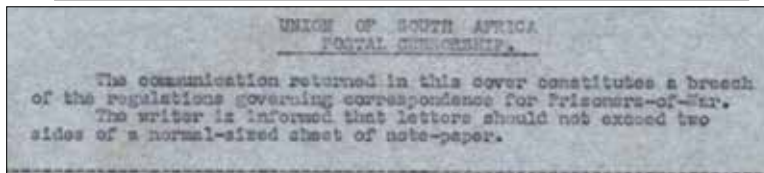


Fig.15: Return to Sender - Restriction of the use of notepaper in a letter to a Prisoner of War in a Camp in Florence, Italy, which was rejected by the censor due to the letter being more than a single sheet of paper.

Restriction on paper use in letters: The Red Cross Regulations allowed for only one sheet of paper to be included in a single letter to a prisoner of war which also had the impact of saving paper.

Homemade Covers: Numerous homemade covers were used. Examples are a foolscap page folded in such a way that it could be sealed with tape and no cover was used and large covers were cut so that the 'old' address was excluded and then sealed for reposting. The example in Fig.16 is of a Tate and Lyle sugar package cut and folded to form a cover.

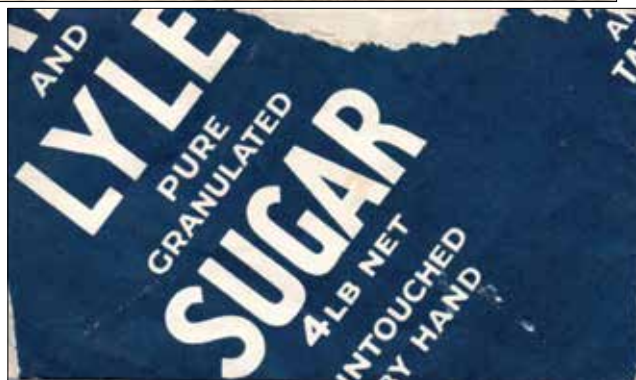


Fig.16: A cover made from a Tate & Lyle sugar package as a paper saving measure.

Petrol Coupons: Paper saving of 50% was implemented in petrol ration coupon size. The examples illustrated in Fig.17 show a 4 gallon counterfoil and 4 x 1 gallon large coupons issued for car license TJ 6049 (Johannesburg) issued at Rissik Street Post Office for May 1942.

The small Bantam issue is a 15 gallon counterfoil with 5 x 3 gallon coupons.



Fig.17: Large and small (Bantam) Petrol Ration Counterfoil and Coupons.

Air Mail Newspaper Editions: As indicated in the Control of Paper regulations, newspapers reduced the size of sheets as well as the number of pages. However, the printing was a very small font so as to maintain the volume of news, adverts and opinion columns. Many newspapers produced a weekly news summary edition that proved to be very popular among the armed forces. These were printed on thin lightweight paper. Illustrated below is the weekly edition of *The Times*, London, dated 10 February 1943, that contained 20 pages of Special Articles, War and Home News, Book of the Week, Bridge, Chess, Obituaries, Sport and other editorial material (size 14.0 x 21.5 cm).



Fig.18: The front page of the weekly airmail edition of *The Times* of London.

Patents: South African patents were protected and restricted from being distributed especially to other nations. Any mail item containing sensitive information relevant to patents had to be approved for despatch by the Patent Office in Pretoria.

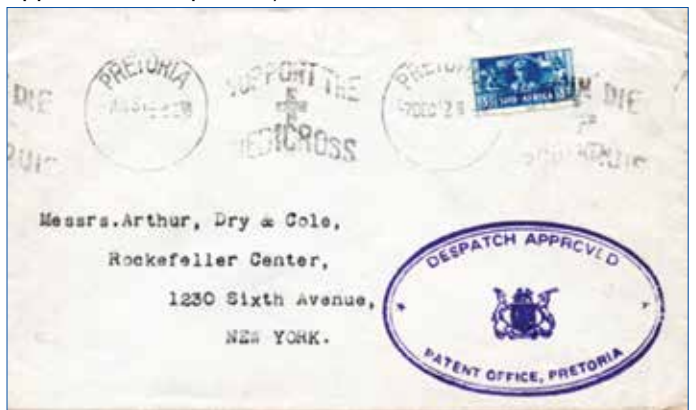


Fig.19: A cover dated 7 December 1942 from D.M. Kisch & Co., Patent Attorneys, Johannesburg, approved for despatch by the Patent Office, Pretoria, to the United States of America.

Summary: There are many opportunities for philatelists to form collections related to the Second World War as indicated here – the large War Effort stamps, the ‘Bantam’ War Effort stamps, other ‘Bantam’ stamps such as postage due, Post Office Savings stamps, air letter cards, airgraphs, petrol coupons with town datestamps, postal history stories. This can be expanded to cover Army Post Offices, censor cachets and labels, regimental and unit cachets, air force and naval mail, specialist military services such as medical/hospitals or engineers or signals, military bases and camps and many more.

The information and examples of the ‘Bantam’ National Savings stamps and the petrol coupons are from the collection of Ian Matheson RDPSA, FRPSL. His assistance is greatly appreciated.

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 - 4) *Government Gazette* No. 3087, 14 August 1942; Notice No. 1647: Control of Paper.
 - 5) *Government Gazette* No. 3103, 9 October 1942; Notice No. 2072: Control of Paper.
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A SAGA OF TWO TOWN HALLS

by Roger Porter RDPSA, Cape & Natal Study Circle



In *The South African Philatelist* (2021) the rare circular mark OFFICIAL PAID G.P.O. NATAL (Type T.1, Hart et al. 1977) was described in an article entitled 'OFFICIAL MAIL SENT BY OR RECEIVED IN NATAL FROM OVERSEAS COUNTRIES'. It was stated that this 'mark has not been seen on either local or official mail addressed to the UK'. Indeed the mark is very scarce and was recorded on only three items: an 1889 official cover to Austria, an 1896 returned letter addressed to the U S A, and on a 1902 cover to Italy (Porter 2021).

Illustrated in Fig.1 is a new discovery, a fourth use on cover addressed to Durban with the crest of GOVERNMENT HOUSE NATAL in red together with a cancellation of Pietermaritzburg 5 AU 1901 addressed to Durban. It is the only recorded cover with this rare Type T.1 mark addressed locally. Enclosed in the envelope was a folded illustrated card being an invitation to a reception in honour of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (Fig.2). A tour of the British Empire had been arranged to recognise the dominions for their participation in the Anglo Boer War and the royal couple were scheduled to visit Natal in August 1901 where the Duke would present the South African War Medal to Natal Colonial troops (Fig.3).



Fig.1: 1901 cover (in Fig.2, invitation to reception) and crest of Government House, Natal, cancelled red OFFICIAL PAID

The Royal Visit to Natal was during the period of official mourning of the death of Queen Victoria which was acknowledged by a black corner placed at the top of the invitation card. Illustrations were vignettes of the Pietermaritzburg and Durban Town Halls, Durban and its harbour and a river scene. In the centre of the invitation card was a coat of arms presumably that of the Duke. However it was inaccurate in its portrayal of this, Fig.4 is the Duke's correct coat of arms.

To commemorate the Royal Visit a postcard was produced as part of the 'Links of the Empire' series (postcard No.11). On the card is printed 'Posted at Durban during the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York' with a view of Durban from the Berea (Fig.5).

The illustration of the Pietermaritzburg Town Hall on the invitation card was of the very recently completed second building and that of the Durban Town Hall was of a building that was flawed in its design. The story of the two Town Halls was captured in contemporary privately produced picture postcards.

The Pietermaritzburg Town Hall

The foundation stone for the Pietermaritzburg Town Hall was laid by Queen Victoria's fourth child, 16 year old Prince Alfred in 1860. Construction work began only 30 years later after an architectural competition which was won by William Street-Wilson, and the foundation stone was then re-laid in February 1891.



Fig.2: (above) The ornate mourning RSVP invitation to the reception function for the Duke and Duchess at Government House with illustration vignettes of the new Pietermaritzburg and Durban Town Halls.



Fig.4: Coat of Arms of the Duke of Cornwall and York.



G. P. O. NATAL and Pietermaritzburg 5 AU 1901 date stamp addressed to Durban.



Fig.3: A Queen's South African War Medal, with 5 of the 26 'clasps' issued for military services in South Africa.

The Natal Governor Sir Charles Mitchell opened the town hall on 15 June 1893 (Fig.6). Prince Alfred now the Duke of Edinburgh and 49 years old was represented by the Mayor and sent a message to the town's folk recalling that dusty day in 1860 when he laid the foundation stone. Underneath the stone is a copy of *The Natal Witness* newspaper and a 1844 farthing (a quarter penny) placed in a bottle (Hillebrand 1988).



Fig.5: '1901 postcard to Wales with 1d QV stamp' cancelled Durban 15 AU 1901 inscribed 'Posted at Durban during the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York'. (The card was produced in Britain)



Fig.6: Postcard of Pietermaritzburg's first Town Hall privately published by G. Budrick's Art Galleries, Cape Town. This is one of three known examples. Note that the building is two stories high and the clock tower is of a large rectangular design. Private postcards were not produced in Natal at that time. (The card was produced in Britain).

Disaster struck five years later when the Town Hall was gutted by fire on 12 July 1898 (Figs.7 & 8). Re-building the Town Hall was a priority and Street-Wilson was appointed to revise and improve his design (Gordon 1981). Work commenced immediately and continued during the period of the Anglo-Boer War in Natal until August 1901 (Fig.9).

The Durban Town Hall

The first Durban Town Hall (Fig.10) was designed by Philip Dudgeon, the foundation stone was laid in February 1883 and the building was later opened by the Mayor of Durban in October 1885. However by 1899 it was apparent that the seating capacity was insufficient. The building was put up for sale and was sold in 1901 for £100,000 to the Natal Post Office but continued to be used as a Town Hall until 1910. It continues to function as Durban's Post Office (Frescura 2013). A new Town Hall was required and the architectural competition was won by Wollacott, Scot & Hudson.



Figs.7 & 8: Photographs of the fire damaged Pietermaritzburg Town Hall (ex Gordon 1981).

Their design was repeatedly modified given the concerns about the destruction by fire of the Pietermaritzburg Town Hall. The Durban Town Hall (Fig.11) was opened in April 1910 and its opulence led to the description 'the final act in Natal's colonial drama' (Frescura 2013).



Fig.9: Postcard of the newly completed building of the Pietermaritzburg Town Hall framed by the Anglo Zulu War and Anglo Boer War memorials. Note a third floor has been added and a more ornate clock tower constructed.



Fig.10: Postcard of the first 1885 Durban Town Hall that was later sold in 1901 to become the Durban Post Office.

Royal visit to Natal

Following the passing of Queen Victoria in January 1901, her eldest son succeeded to the throne as King Edward VII. The King's eldest son Prince Albert Victor had died of pneumonia in January 1892 shortly after becoming engaged to marry. Prince George's his second son, the Duke of Cornwall and York, was next in line to become King (Fig.12). Preparations for the Royal Visit to Natal began six months before their arrival and included the building of an extension to Government House with a new staircase and up-to-date accommodation



Fig.11: Postcard of the proposed new Durban Town Hall which was opened in 1910.

for the Duke and his entourage for two nights (Figs.13 & 14). Those Natalians who had faced severe hardships during the Anglo Boer War resented the display and decried the enormous costs of the extravagant preparations for the visit.



Fig.12: Postcard featuring the flag of Natal, King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra with the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

The reception in Pietermaritzburg in honour of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York was arranged to be held at Government House at 10pm on 14 August 1901. A disparaging comment at that time was that the Duke did nothing but 'kills animals and stick in stamps'. This arose because he was reported to have shot 21 tigers, eight Indian rhinoceros and a bear during a visit to India, and also that he played a large part in building the Royal Philatelic collection.



Fig.13: Government House in Pietermaritzburg, the official residence of the Governor of Natal, prior to the construction of the extension to the building in preparation for the Royal Visit in August 1901.

A Royal flirtation at Pietermaritzburg Town Hall

Following the death of his father Edward VII, Prince George assumed the throne and was crowned King on 22 June 1911. In 1925 his eldest son Prince Edward came to Natal. At a reception at the Pietermaritzburg City Hall he did not dance with the daughters of the Administrator of Natal but found a young reporter from *The Natal Witness* newspaper more to his liking and entertained her in some way on the Royal Train... . His father was appalled by Edward's many affairs especially with married women and was reported to have said 'After I am dead, the boy will ruin himself within 12 months. I pray to God my eldest

son will never marry and have children...'. King Edward VIII abdicated eleven months after the death of his father in January 1936 and did not have any children.

The 1982 Fourth Definitive Issue

South African architecture was the theme for the 15 July 1982 fourth definitive stamp issue and the three Town Halls were depicted. The light brown 10c stamp illustrated the Town Hall Pietermaritzburg (Fig.15) and the red 20c the Post Office Durban (Fig.16). There was a colour change for the 10c stamp to dark brown in January 1983 and the 20c colour was changed to greyish black in May 1983, and grey in November 1985 (Fig.17).



Fig.14: Postcard of Government House showing the extension to the right side built to accommodate Prince George and Princess Mary with their entourage during their two night stay in Pietermaritzburg.

Fig.15: Pietermaritzburg Town Hall on the 1982 10c brown stamp.



Fig.16: The 1982 20c red stamp showing the Post Office, Durban.



Fig.17: The 1985 20c grey stamp of the Post Office, Durban.



Fig.18: The 1987 16c reddish stamp showing the City Hall, Durban.



Fig.19: In November 1987 the 16c stamp showing the City Hall, Durban with overprint '+10c / NATAL / FLOOD DISASTER'.



Acknowledgements: Members of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society assisted in providing scans for figures 15 to 19. Mr. P Izaaks, Mr. M O'Connor, and Mr. D Wyllie are thanked for these scans and their kind assistance.

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The Philatelic Exhibition in 1977 was held in Vereeniging on 21 October.

A mini exhibition was held in Roodepoort:



Motivation: Roodepoort had achieved 'City' status on the 1st October that year, this exhibition formed part of the celebrations.
Venue: Roodepoort City Hall.

Opened by: The Deputy Mayor, Bennie van der Walt.

Scope: 135 frames in the Competitive class and 35 in the Honour class.

Major winner(s): Grand Prix - H. Godwin, *Bermuda from Queen Victoria to George VI*

Special Postmark: On 10 October a special post office was opened.

Other Official item(s): Unserviced envelopes were made available on 7 and on 8 October, covers franked with the Uranium cancellation as well as the Roodepoort cancellation were on sale.

Commemorative cover(s): The City Council issued special souvenir covers for 1 Oct.

Reference(s): SAP December 1977, 331 & 3

ROODEPOORT 100

A cover with six signature - we've managed to identify four so far:

David Crocker RDPSA. (awarded 1986)

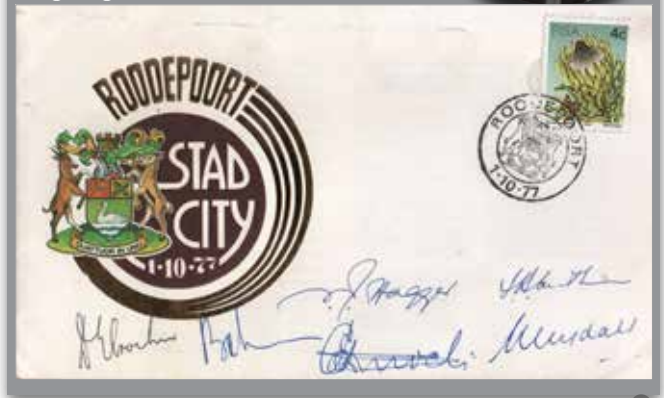
Natie Becker RDPSA. (awarded 1982)

Jack Hagger RDPSA. (awarded 1957) (1904-2006) One of the original founding members of ERPS.

Photograph taken 1983.

Ken Lydall RDPSA.(awarded 1970)

The exhibition was held as part of the Roodepoort Centenary - with six prominent philatelists signing the cover.



PROPRIETOR: PAUL VAN ZEYL RDPSA

Dinizulu arriving at St Helena

BUSINESS CARD
A PROUD MEMBER OF SAPDA
SINCE 1976

RandStamps

PROPRIETOR
Paul Van Zeyl
Let's chat at any of our Gauteng fairs!

CONTACT ME
randstamps@gmail.com
and on
Facebook & WhatsApp
my whatsapp number is
076 124 9055

Because you deserve ~~x~~ A good dealer

Let's chat at any of our Gauteng fairs!
CONTACT ME ON WHATSAPP:076 124 9055
randstamps@gmail.com

RAND STAMPS

ASPECTS OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Johan Joubert, Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging Pretoria



Part 7: EXPRESS MAIL

Upon payment of the express fee in addition to the usual postage, mail matter – with the exception of insured or COD parcels – may be sent by ordinary or registered post from a post office to a head or branch post office from which telegrams are delivered by telegraph messenger.

Introduction

Express Mail was one of the earliest services provided by the Post Office that was still applicable after 1961. Articles 81 to 100 of the Post Office Regulations of the Union of South Africa that came into effect on 1 September 1911 dealt with Express Mail as a service. It was also mentioned that the system of Express delivery of packets in force in the Transvaal, would with some slight modification, be extended throughout the Union of South Africa.

These Articles read in part:

“81. Upon payment of the prescribed fee the sender of any article may have the same delivered by express service, subject to such conditions to weight, dimensions, shape, making up, and the offices and hours of acceptance

82. By “express delivery” is meant delivery by telegraph or other special messenger on foot or by bicycle within the telegraph delivery area instead of ordinary course of post.

84. Articles for express delivery shall be marked by the sender with the ‘Express’ in bold characters above the address in the left-hand corner of the cover

97(2). In addition to the words ‘Express Delivery’ which must be marked by the sender with a broad perpendicular line from top to bottom on the face and on the back of the cover thereof.”

Brian Trotter illustrates a registered letter posted via the Express Mail Service in 1914 in his book *Southern African Mail Routes, Rates and Regulations 1806-1916*. Already at an early stage a pink label with the words ‘Express’ were affixed to the top left corner of the cover as indicated in the regulations. Later on an orange label (Fig.1) was used followed by a red label (Fig.2) which was used up to and after 1961.



Fig.1: Cover posted from Roodepoort to Johannesburg on 30 September 1929 using the Express Letter service. The express fee was 6d at that stage, plus 6d per mile if in excess of one mile. The 7d paid the 1d letter rate per ounce applicable from 1.1.1926 and the 6d express fee. As it was within the delivery range it was marked prepaid indicating no express fee to be collected from addressee.

The original colours of these labels were changed after the UPU laid down a rule that these labels were to be red.



Fig.2: Cover posted from Cape Town on 30 September 1953 to South West Africa (SWA) making use of the Express Mail Service. The 8d paid for: 2d Surface Letter rate to SWA plus a 6d Express fee.

The Express Delivery Service in the Republic of South Africa

This service is described in various Post Office Guides after 1961 and was available to a number of countries in Africa, Europe and the United States of America. The following was stated in the Post Office Guide of 1963:



Fig.3: Cover with the red label EXPRESS/SPOED posted via the Express Delivery Service from Johannesburg to Pretoria on 5 February 1968. The postage fee of 12½c paid: 5c Express fee, minimum delivery fee of 5c plus the usual postage fee of 2½c. This cover is correctly made up in terms of the postal regulations.

“Express items must be handed in over a post office counter and must bear an ‘Express’ label. In the absence of a label the word ‘Express’ must be written boldly above and to the left of the address. In addition, a thick red line must be drawn from top to bottom on the front and on the back of the item (Fig.3).

Express items must be forwarded to their destinations in the first dispatch after posting or receipt. Every effort must be made to connect express items with outgoing mails up to the last possible moment even if that entails opening a

bag awaiting dispatch or preparing a special mail.

Delivery by special messenger: With the exception of insured and C.O.D. parcels, mail matter may be sent by ordinary or registered post from a post office to a head or branch post office from which telegrams are delivered by telegraph messenger upon payment of the express delivery and handling charges in addition to the usual postage.

If an express article should reach a post office at a time when there is no messenger available to deliver it, it will be handed to a collector on proof of identity."

Charges: Handling and delivery charges were payable in addition to the usual postage (Figs.4 - 10)

Date	Fee	Date	Fee	Date	Fee
14.2.1961	5c	1.7.1987	R2-25	1.4.1995	R8-00
1.11.1972	20c	1.4.1989	R2-50	1.7.1996	R9-20
1.2.1980	30c	1.4.1990	R3-00	7.7.1997	R10-00
1.4.1982	R1-00	1.4.1991	R4-00	14.4.1998	R11-00
1.4.1984	R1-10	30.9.1991	R4-35	1.4.1999	R12-00
1.4.1985	R1-50	1.4.1993	R6-50	1.4.2000	R13-00
1.4.1986	R1-80	1.4.1994	R7-50		

Table of Express Fees



Fig.4: Cover franked with 2 x 12½c stamps posted from Pretoria on 26 August 1966 to West Germany. The 25c franking paid: 15c Airmail fee per ½oz to Europe plus 5c Express fee and an additional 5c for street delivery for Express Mail.

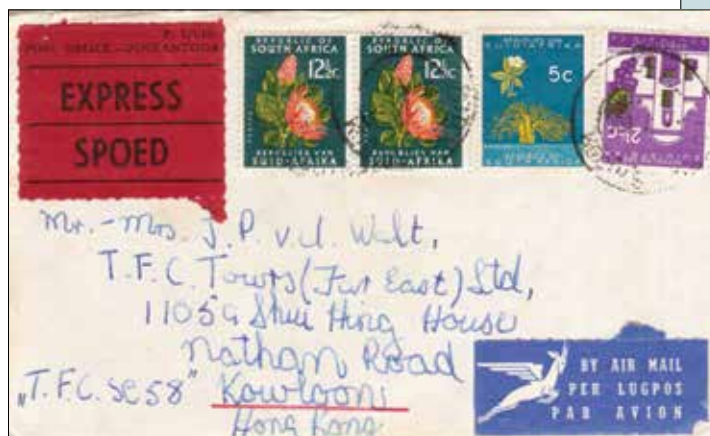


Fig.5: Letter posted from Potchefstroom on 17 May 1966 to Hong Kong with postage stamps applied to the value of 32½c. The 32½c pays: the 22½c per ½oz airmail rate to Hong Kong introduced on 14 February 1961 plus the 10c Express Fee (5c express fee plus 5c fee for street delivery).

A set of four stamps were issued on National Stamp Day on 30 September 1994 advertising the various services, including the Express Mail Service, offered by the Post Office (Fig.11).



Fig.6: The Express-fee introduced on 14 February 1961 was 5c in addition to the normal postage rate of 2½c. In this case there was a deficiency of 2½c and therefore the cachet was applied: INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID FOR EXPRESS SERVICE/ONVOLDOENDE GEFRANKEER VIR SPOEDDIENS



Fig.7: Cover posted Express-mail on 2 March 1974 and franked with the correct amount of 25c. The Express label was crossed out by the postal official because the addressee has "left" (see manuscript above label). However, the cover was re-directed to a new address and probably delivered by the postal messenger and therefore the cachet: 'EXPRESS SERVICE RENDERED'.



Fig.8: Cover not handed in over the counter and therefore marked 'POSTED OUT OF COURSE' in Pretoria on 9 December 1983. The postal official obliterated the express label with a six-line canceller to indicate that the Express service was not valid due to the fact that the item was 'posted out of course'.



Fig.9: Cover posted Certified Mail and using the Express Mail Service from Sasolburg to Heilbronn on 15 August 1985. The postage fee of R1-88 pays for: the 26c certified mail fee that was introduced on 1 April 1985 plus the R1-50 express fee that was introduced on 1 April 1985 plus the internal service rate of 12c that was introduced on 1 April 1985.



Fig.10: Cover posted from East London on 4 March 1994. The R10-40 franking pays: R6-50 for the express delivery fee introduced on 1 April 1993, R3-00 registration fee and 90c fastmail fee when the client used his own envelope. Fastmail could be sent registered mail from 1 November 1993 to 30 June 1995.



Fig.11: Proof of the Express Mail Service stamp (left), and the actual R1.15 stamp issued

Labels used in the Republic of South Africa from 1961 onwards

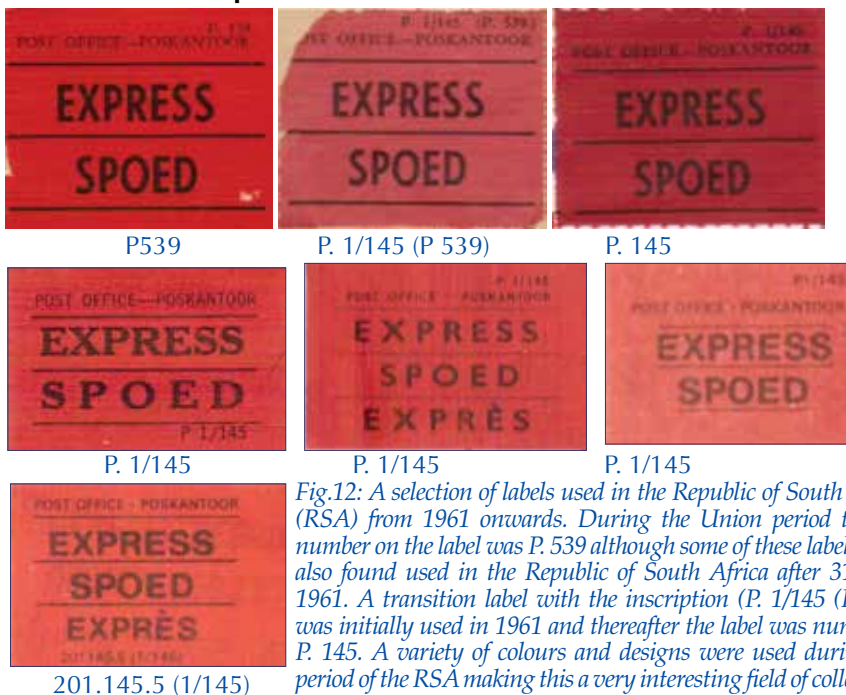


Fig.12: A selection of labels used in the Republic of South Africa (RSA) from 1961 onwards. During the Union period the job number on the label was P. 539 although some of these labels were also found used in the Republic of South Africa after 31 May 1961. A transition label with the inscription (P. 1/145 (P 539) was initially used in 1961 and thereafter the label was numbered P. 145. A variety of colours and designs were used during the period of the RSA making this a very interesting field of collecting.

The Express Mail Service also introduced in the TBVC states

The South African postal authority was the leading agency in terms of postal matters in SWA and the Homelands or TBVC states - Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei. Therefore the same postal rates, rules and regulations were normally applicable in these regions and the same patterns of design were followed regarding the issuing of postal stationery and post office stationery for example Express Mail labels.



Transkei label in Xhosa and English
 Bophuthatswana label in Tswana, English & Afrikaans
 Ciskei label in Xhosa and English
 Venda label in Venda and English

Fig.13: Express labels used in the TBVC states

The authors would like to acknowledge Hugh Amooe RDPSA of Cape Town for providing information for this article.

All the items illustrated are either from the Kamffer or Joubert collections.

Sources:

- Kamffer, Gerhard. *Postal Rates and Regulations 1961-2000*, Published in the RSA Stamp Study Group 25th Anniversary Issue, December 2007.
- Republic of South Africa, *Post Office Guide, Number 1*, December 1963, Government Printer, Pretoria.
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The Editorial Board takes this opportunity to congratulate Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA on being the 51st recipient of the prestigious South African National Defence Force (SANDF) decoration the iPhrothiya yeGolide - Golden Protea - postnominal letters PG. Dr Kamffer is still serving as a Brigadier General in the South African Army. The iPhrothiya yeGolide was instituted by the President of the Republic of South Africa on 16 April 2003 and came into effect on 27 April 2003. It is only awarded to persons who have distinguished themselves by exceptional leadership or exceptionally meritorious service and the utmost devotion to duty. It is South Africa's highest existing military decoration for meritorious conduct. This award came into effect to replace the Southern Cross Decoration (SD) and Pro Merito Decoration (PMD) established under the South African Defence Force. The bilingual title of the decoration is isiZulu and English. Brig Gen Kamffer PG SM MMM DWD is a former Director Army Reserve and a long serving soldier in the South African Army Reserve.



MUIZENBERG POST OFFICE

closure shuts the door on desperate residents - and a piece of history

Reported in the 'Daily Maverick' by journalist Terry Bell - The Muizenberg Post Office closed without warning to clients including desperate people who receive grants. The photo was taken by Shelley Christians. (An extract...)

An abrupt notice of closure - no explanation or warning. It is a particularly hard blow for the desperate residents who queued there for the special Covid grant.

"I paid R375 two months ago to renew the annual rental on my post office box in the post office lobby in Muizenberg. I did so reluctantly because the mail delivery service from the post office had been appalling, and getting worse, over the past two years. But, even in this digital and social media age, it is through this PO box number that many friends, family and acquaintances around the world make contact with me". It was heart-wrenching to watch hundreds of desperate people queueing across the parking lot and along the adjoining pavement for hours and even days for that pittance to help sustain themselves. A notice pasted on to the closed door of the Muizenberg Post Office read: "FOR THE R350 GO TO RETREAT OR FISH HOEK." The recipients of this governmental largesse are men and women who often walked for hours to get to Muizenberg, now face another 7km to the neighbouring Retreat Post Office to check for any correspondence.

The closure of post offices, which formed a central part of the economic life of generations of many South Africans, has a particular resonance for Muizenberg - it was the post office in this



coastal resort that was the first in the country to receive mail by air. South Africa's first airmail delivery, accompanied by suitable pomp, ceremony and a special hand stamp on the delivered mail, was in 1911.

In response to queries from 'Daily Maverick', SAPO spokesperson Johan Kruger confirmed the permanent closure of this post office. He stated that the closure was due to the landlord terminating the lease, with negotiations being unsuccessful. He also confirmed "The residents are correct. The termination of lease was not expected, and therefore we were only able to put up notices after the event. We sincerely apologise to our customers for this inconvenience."

He said it was not a planned closure. "All transactions that used to take place at the Muizenberg Post Office have moved to Retreat Post Office, which is 7km away in the Abasha Park Building, 7th Avenue, Retreat".

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1964 Queen Elizabeth II Tiger Fish. 2/6d. Horizontal strip of 4. Vermilion omitted on centre pair.



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WWII, ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR, IN SOUTH AFRICA

by André du Plessis RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Dr. Jim Findlay RDPSA, PS of Johannesburg



Much has been written about the Prisoners of War (POWs) of WWII, and when Zonderwater was offered as a home for Italian POWs, thousands were sent to South Africa. After the war South Africa saw landmarks that act as reminders of the Italian POWs such as the Du Toit's Kloof and Montagu Mountain passes; irrigation schemes in Upington, Vaalharts, Riet River and Loskop dam; the Mountain Park Hotel in Bulwer and improvement to Chapman's Peak Drive in Cape Town to name a few. This was the result of "outside employment" by these POWs, which is the emphasis of this article.

Italy declared war against France and England on 10 June 1940 defining Italy as an enemy of the Allied nations. South Africa, in response, declared war against Italy the following day.

Following these actions, as well as South Africa's participation in the North and East African campaigns, there was a mindset change in government and domestically towards Italy from an 'unofficial' to an 'official' enemy of the Union.

Some of the Italian community in the Union were fascist supporters, but the majority had integrated into the local population with little time for Italy's fascist ideals. Notwithstanding this partition, Italy's alignment with Germany caused Italian nationals to be regarded with suspicion. The Union Government reacted by erecting internment camps for Italian and German civilians residing in SA.

These included Andalusia near Jan Kempdorp; Baviaanspoort (Zonderwater) near Pretoria Fig.1; Ganspan near Andalusia; Jagersfontein on mine property outside Jagersfontein town; Koffiefontein on mine property near the town Koffiefontein; and Leeukop near Pretoria. Later, there was also a transit camp in Durban for receiving POWs from ships.

Approximately 1,000 Italians were placed in each internment camp, the most notorious being at Koffiefontein in the south western Free State. Few of these internees were kept in the camps for the duration of the war, Fig.2.

The scorched deserts of East and North Africa were the sites of the first truly bloody battles of World War II. These battles, and specially the battle of Sidi El Barrani (December 1940), saw many Italian soldiers captured and held as POWs in terms of the Geneva Convention of 1929. The capturing authorities were obligated to inform the POW's next of kin of such internment, Fig.3.

In early 1941, General J.C. Smuts offered South Africa as a home for Italian POWs. The offer was accepted by the Allied forces and the Union Defence Force was

instructed to develop the farm Zonderwater near Pretoria as a POW camp. In February 1941 the first ten thousand prisoners arrived from the front and were disembarked in Durban and taken to Zonderwater, which at the time was a ready-made tented camp, Fig.4.

The initial tented camp at Zonderwater was slowly transformed into a huge, permanent hutted camp, with the POWs - many of whom were outstandingly competent, industrious, and willing artisans - themselves carrying out most of the construction work. When it was completed, the 'Camp' consisted of 14 blocks, each block having four units, Fig.5.

Zonderwater developed into what was the largest and most comprehensive Allied POW camp during the entire conflict.

During the war some 120,000 Italian POWs passed through Zonderwater, with an estimated maximum of about 65,000 at any one time, Fig.6.

POWs were restricted to write two postage-free letters per week. Postal stationery, in the form of Lettercards and Postcards, were provided free of charge to them by Government.

Postage was due for letters sent via Airmail.

The conditions of detention of POWs did not depend entirely on the goodwill of the Detaining Power. Minimum conditions were laid down by the Geneva Convention of 1929, a document which has been referred to as "the greatest Gentlemen's Agreement of all time".

Under the Geneva Convention, Switzerland was designated the Protecting Power, and the International Red Cross, which has its headquarters in that country, maintained a watchful eye to see that the minimum standards provided for by the Convention were observed, Fig.7.

After Italy surrendered in September 1943, the approach from South Africa towards Italy changed overnight, from

Fig. 1: (at right) Baviaanspoort Camp cachet



Fig. 2: (below) Internee's letter with Koffiefontein PO handstamp dated 23 Sept. 194?, to Johannesburg. Censored, receiving normal markings.



Fig.3: Postage Free Notification of Capture Card issued to POWs to inform their next of kin. This card, dated 10 February 1941 at the back, was sent from Egypt to Italy. By the time the family received the card, the POW could already have been in Zonderwater POW camp.



Fig.4: Zonderwater tented camp.

enemy to friend. Initially, the South African authorities did not fully accept Italy as an ally. However, the question arose what to do with the Italian POWs. This led to a revision of the terms of internment that were relaxed in some cases.



Fig.5: Zonderwater rebuilt as 14 blocks, after completion.

One drastic change was the encouragement of 'Outside Employment' all over South Africa to take advantage of the Italians as a labour force. POWs who were willing to undertake work beyond the terms of the Geneva Convention were offered an income, better conditions and the chance of early repatriation while remaining as prisoners. Skilled POWs were given the option to be 'employed' on government projects such as road building, timber felling, mechanics, and the erection of irrigation systems and so on. Unskilled men were permitted to work as labourers on private farms and businesses as builders, chefs or gardeners, Fig.8. Interested POWs were required to sign an agreement that they would not escape or interfere with the local people. The labour contractor on the other hand was compelled to give POWs a minimum standard of accommodation, food, and leisure time.

To maintain order, external camps were erected in the Cape Province, Orange Free State, Natal and Transvaal to house upwards of 50 men. Du Toit's Kloof camp (Fig.9) held 1,500 men. Mail was redirected from Zonderwater to appropriate camps.

All administration was managed by the Outside

Employment Office at Zonderwater that functioned till 1947 when all POWs were repatriated (Fig.10).

In all, over 50 camps of varying sizes were established countrywide, from Cape Town to Durban to Tzaneen. These provided accommodation for work teams on projects such as road building, (Du Tots Kloof and Montagu Pass, Fig.11), irrigation schemes, (the Riet, Olifants, Pongola, Orange and Vaal Rivers) and innumerable forestry activities. These last were administered by the Department of Forestry.



Fig.7: RED CROSS Post Card from Pirino, Italy to South Africa dated 30 October 1942 with Italy and Cairo censor markings. These cards were transmitted via the Red Cross in Geneva.

Smaller camps were provided in appropriate areas to provide seasonable labour for maize harvesting, Figs.12. Specialist facilities were available at Krugersdorp, a mental hospital, Carolina Fig.13, a convalescent camp for victims of depression and a detention centre at Voortrekkerhoogte.

These camps served as transit centres to transport co-operative prisoners between farms and civil construction sites.

Many became self-administered by Italians under supervision of SA authorities. It also fostered interaction of Italian nationals and South African citizens, significantly changing attitudes towards the Italian nation - the former enemy!



Fig.6: Zonderwater Camp cachet.



Fig.8: Redirected Postcard dated 5 November 1945 addressed to a POW in South Africa. By the time the postcard arrived at Zonderwater, the POW was employed as a chef at the Pretoria Country Club.

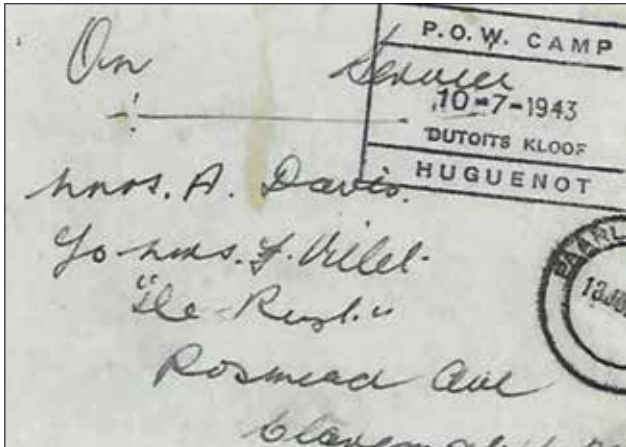


Fig.9: Private letter from Du Toits Kloof camp (cachet) to Claremont, Cape Town with Paarl cds dated 13 July 1943.

It appears that some ventures that employed POWs did not have a formal external camp. These were Military Units where POWs were employed as chefs, waiters, gardeners, and general labourers; Camp 121 at Worcester (according to SANDF archives); Ceres Factory a fruit exporting factory; Greytown Camp near Pietermaritzburg, probably an irrigation scheme on the Umvoti River; Mfuli River Dam in Zululand for building the dam and an irrigation canal;



Fig.10: Zonderwater Outside Employment Office cachet.

Mountain Park Hotel, Bulwer, POWs built the hotel; and St Elmo's Mission, Umzimbi (near Hibberdene, KZN) - POWs were employed at the mission.

In many instances POWs lived in farm houses and outside rooms on farms, businesses and other premises. In general, they behaved well, co-ordinating with authorities and only 38 escape incidents were reported.

The POWs had, by law, to be repatriated to Italy. This commenced in June 1945, gaining momentum in 1946. Approximately 3,000 applied for permission to remain in the Union while waiting for repatriation, but only 850 were given residency.



Fig.11: Official Postcard from Montagu pass camp, George (cachet) to Pretoria with George cancellation dated 24 March 1944.

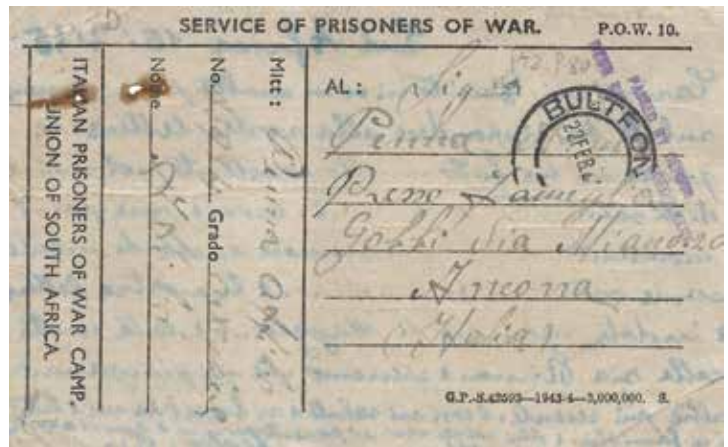


Fig.12: Union of South Africa POW Postcard from a POW doing outside work at Bultfontein. The Post Card is dated 18 February 1945 and was sent from Bultfontein to Italy

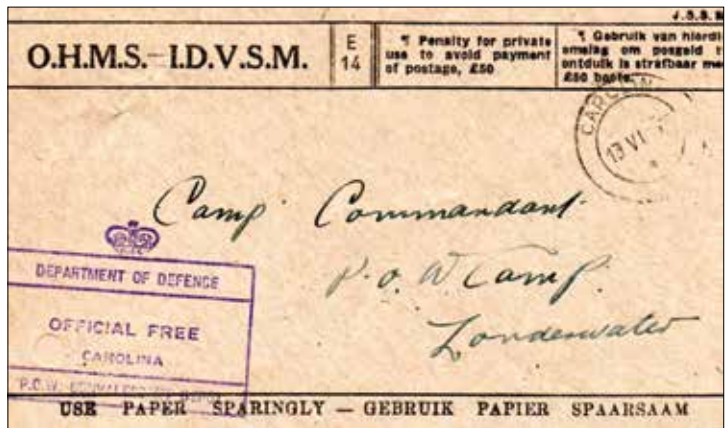


Fig.13: O.H.M.S. cover from Carolina camp to Zonderwater with Carolina cds dated 13 June 1945.

A fairly large number had been so impressed with South Africa that they returned as soon as possible, taking up permanent residence, greatly enriching our nation.

Many of them revisited farms and towns where they had been employed and also reacquainted themselves with families they had met and lived with.

Thanks to George Cafetzoglou RDPSA, who assisted with some of these images.

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Stamps that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Errors on Stamps... Episode 69

'LOSER BECAME WINNER'

Tanzania issued a set of four commemorative stamps for the *Tour de France* in 1990 which is indeed the 'World's

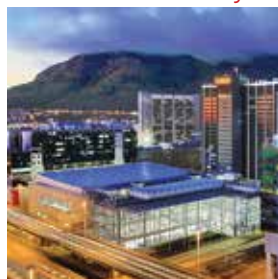
Most Prestigious Bicycle Endurance Race'. The 30 Shilling stamp shows the cyclist Ronan Pensec of France and his title '*Champion 1990*' as if he would have won the race.

The truth is that he was just participating and finished at 58th place.

The ranking may have been disappointing for him but he 'made it' to be honoured as a champion by appearing on a stamp.



CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 8-12 NOVEMBER 2022 'Road to Democracy'



A 2000 frame, specialised International Philatelic Exhibition (IPEX) under patronage of the F.I.P.

Venue:
Cape Town International Convention Centre

Dates: Tuesday 8 November 2022 to Friday 11 November 2022. Daily 9.30 to 18.00.

Saturday 12 November 2022: 9.00 to 17.00

Closing date for entries is 15 May 2022: entry forms must be received by the National Commissioners no later than 15 May 2022

Exhibits will be shown on a rotational basis:

Classes: Aerophilately. Open Class. Revenue. Literature. Postal History. Thematic. Modern. Postal Stationery. Traditional. Picture Postcards. One Frame.

Court of Honour: The Court of Honour will feature award-winning international exhibits. Special sections will be devoted to an exhibition of the philatelic Gems of Africa; and to Gerhard Kamffer's award-winning exhibit, the '*Road to Democracy*'.

The Jury: Howard Green RDPSA is the head of the jury. Names of additional jurors will be posted as and when they are appointed.

MonacoPhil 2022 24 to 26 November 2022

"We hope to welcome a large number of visitors in November"

- Patrick Maselis
General Commissioner
MonacoPhil 2022



PARTNERS



The Seventh South Africa Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (SAVPEX)

is going ahead with entries closing on **30 April 2022**.

We invite all to enter and support this event!

You will find all the details and entry form about SAVPEX 2022 on the PFSA website on the 'WELCOME' page.

www.stampssa.africa



For all those collectors wishing their exhibits to get some air - the **Essen International Exhibition** will now take place from 25 to 28 May 2023 in Germany.

PFSA kindly announced that "*SA Exhibitors may be subsidised by 50% of the frame fees in respect of a single show per year, if requested*". Obviously the exhibitor is not obliged to accept the subsidy, if in a position to afford the fees.

For more information and/or if you wish to exhibit please contact the SA Commissioner below. Exhibit application forms must be received by **11 September 2022** at the latest.

South African Commissioner:

Francois Friend Tel: 082 554 8900

email francois@softchem.co.za

SOCIETY DETAILS

VISIT the <https://www.stampssa.africa/> <https://www.facebook.com/groups>

It is important to note that not all Societies have returned to having regular meetings during this time of lockdown, they do, however, welcome communication via phone and email - also see activities on the website www.stampssa.africa



**WITWATERSRAND
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**
P O Box 528, Florida Hills, 1716

Philatelic Meetings of The Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

As a result of moving to Corona 19 level one, all meetings at both venues will start at 19h00 and finish at 21h30. The gates of the Club at both sections will close at 21h30.

If you intend dining before the meetings, please meet in the Club Room at Auckland Park or the Members' restaurant at Woodmead at 18h00.

Formal Monthly Meetings at Auckland Park on the second Wednesday of each month
13 April 2022 - Open Class Exhibit
11 May 2022 - Favourite Cover/s
8 June 2022 - First Competitive Evening
You can contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA, for further information 082 722 7604.

WOODMEAD Informal Study Group

*please send all communication to
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All meetings at this venue are held on the last Wednesday of each month, except December.

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests. For further information contact:

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ccarey@icon.co.za

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357

Until it is considered safe to gather indoors, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg will hold monthly Zoom meetings. Anyone interested in joining these meetings should contact Clive Carr directly.

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374.
Chairman or Secretary Ian Walker. Tel: 011 472 1161
email: ianwalker@vodamail.co.za

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Monthly newsletter, active exchange section, loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks.
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alex.visser@up.ac.za
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AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by die NG Kerk Queenswood in Garretweg, Queenswood. Aangename en aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief 'Die Posduif' verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter: Dr. Louwrence Erasmus. Sekretaris: Ronel Erasmus. Kontak: Herman van Niekerk by hinvestasta@gmail.com of 072 446 2501

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

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Tel / Faks 044 698 1074.
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email: president@bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za
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Contact the Secretary for Programme details.

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PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Programmes for meetings include displays, talks by visiting speakers and 'Show & Tell' exhibits. An Exchange circuit and auctions from time to time. Visitors always welcome! Contact: Marilyn Crawford at 021 689 5050
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Daytime meetings - 10h30/11h00 to 13h00 at same venue.
Dates for 2022: 9 May; 6 June; 4 July; 1 Aug; 5 Sep; 3 Oct; 7 Nov.
No meeting in December, 2nd Dec. President's Christmas party.

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Established in 1924

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Dave Wyllie. davewyllie37@outlook.com
The MPS now meets at the Scout hall in Hilton on the 3rd Saturday monthly at 10am. Secretary: Ian Horrell, email: ian.horrell@sappi.com
cell - 083 6618122
Stamp Circuit Book Officer is Russell Bowton
Society activities can be obtained from the secretary.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL

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Vice President: Zbigniew Kawecki 079 465 7468.

zkawecki57@gmail.com Alternatively, email the Secretary at philatelicsocietykzn@gmail.com for more details on meetings, auctions, sales packets and membership. Everyone is welcome and committee members are always on hand to give advice about evaluations and philately. The club has a very successful Study Group focusing on specific topics. These meetings are held two weeks after the general meeting at 09h00 for 09h30. Please use the contacts above for more details of topics.



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EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

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TBVC STUDY GROUP

Chairperson: Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com

Secretary: Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com

Pretoria Fair & mini-auction, Greek Orthodox Church, corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Pretoria, 09h00 to 14h00).

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Kontak: djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrieff. Jan de Jong: 079 190 1066.

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. For more information on meetings, visit <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings> or Contact the Secretary, Brian Zlotnick. email bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk or postal address 10 Fortis Green Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 9NA. UK.

The South African representative is Patrick Flanagan RDPSA.

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Now amalgamated with the EDENVALE Philatelic Society.

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Bellville Valley DRC Hall, Usually first Saturday of every month (09:00 - 12:30) *Contact:* Ken Joseph. 072 597 1287
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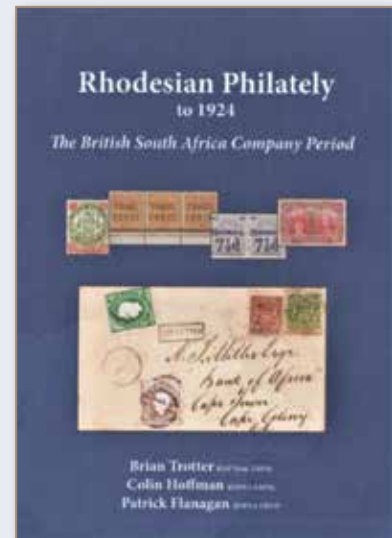
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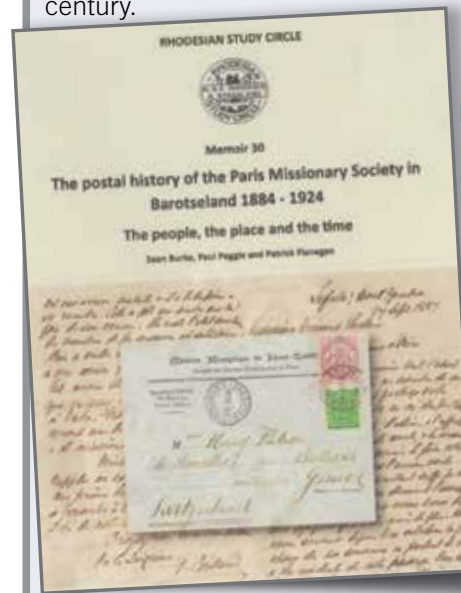
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The South African Philatelist

All about stamps



THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

volume 98:3. 972

www.stampssa.africa



INCORRECTLY FRANKED INLAND AIRMAIL LETTER WITH A 'GIFT' FOR THE POSTMASTER (this revenue stamp bears the year of issue in small print below the King's head)



THE LISTED VARIETIES OF THE COMMEMORATIVES OF SA shown here, missing hyphen damaged 'K'



EARLIEST KNOWN BOTSWANA METER MARK (Case, 1971)



MALTA 5/-, 1886 PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



Cape Town 2022 National Stamp Exhibition
8 - 12 November 2022



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The South African Philatelist

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To avoid late delivery, please note; Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material for *The SA Philatelist*. ARTICLES should be submitted in the month prior:

- **AUGUST 2022** - Volume. 98 : 4. 973. **12 July 2022**
- **OCTOBER 2022** - Volume. 98 : 5. 974. **13 Sep 2022**



FEDERATION NEWS

from the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA - André du Plessis RDPSA 083 399 1755.
<https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



Back in 2019, and featured in the December issue of *The SA Philatelist* of that year, we announced that former President Kgalema Motlanthe enthusiastically agreed to serve as Chief Patron for this milestone event, the CAPE TOWN 2022 International Stamp Exhibition. Many hours of planning and skilled negotiating has brought us to this point: an exciting and prestigious stamp exhibition at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). This once-in-a-lifetime exhibition has focused the philatelic world's attention on South Africa. With 'The Road to Democracy in South Africa' theme, the exhibition sets the stage for a remarkable gathering of stamp enthusiasts. Fifty eight Commissioners from across the globe assisted the organisers to fill the exhibition frames. In 2019, we never anticipated the challenges of a pandemic and lockdown that could very easily have scuttled this event.

THREE IN ONE YEAR

After the paucity of philatelic exhibitions in the past two years due to the Covid pandemic, we are now making amends by holding three exhibitions this year; two are conventional and the third, is an ever popular virtual exhibition. Federation has engineered a bumper treat by having two exhibitions running simultaneously at the same venue but independently of each other. We're assured that it will work, with visitors moving freely between the two.

The major attraction is the Cape Town 2022 International Stamp Exhibition being held at the CTICC from 8th to the 12th November, daily from 9h30 to 18h00. Although entries for this event closed on 31st May, anyone wishing to see the entry conditions and prospectus should visit the PFSA and Cape Town 2022 website. This is a full-blown international with up to 2000 frames, and the regular selection of classes; exhibits will be rotated to accommodate all entries and allow viewing. The prize-giving is scheduled for Saturday 12th November.

Concurrently with this International will be the South African National Exhibition to be held at the same venue over the same period, but totally separate from the International. Entry forms and the prospectus are available on the PFSA website. Provisional entries are due by 30th June, final entries by 15th August and the delivery of exhibits by 7th November. Although there will be no Palmares for this event, the prize-giving will be concurrent with that of the International on Saturday 12th November.

Whilst these exhibitions will run concurrently in the same venue, allowing visitors to view both, it is emphasised that they are totally separate with their own Organising Committees, exhibits and Juries. Judging will take place whilst exhibits are on display with jury feedback on Saturday 12th November.

The third exhibition is the now well-established South African Virtual Philatelic Exhibition - Savpex, hosted by the Orange Free State Philatelic Society. Entries for this event closed on 30th April and judging is in hand, with results promised by 30th June. Viewing of entries will be possible on the PFSA website in July 2022.

Should you have any queries, please direct an email to me - andredupfs@gmail.com

Thank you to our Editorial Board member, Dr Alan Rose, for this accurate summary expressed as "Three in One Year".

The PFSA encourages participation in both this journal, *The SA Philatelist* as well as the electronic newsletter, 'Keeping in Touch'. By doing so, with regular and new readers will ensure that the social media activities and publications continue to support stamp collecting in South Africa. Contact: the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA, André du Plessis RDPSA, 083 399 1755. <https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editorial Board reserves the right to accept or decline any articles, letters or any other material submitted for publication, and reserves the right to effect minor changes of spelling, punctuation, grammar and word choice without requesting prior permission from the author(s). For more substantial revisions, such as shortening or restructuring, either the Board will request the author(s) to effect such changes or will propose amendments to the author prior to publication - if no agreement can be reached then publication will be declined.

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Printed journal, which automatically includes access to an electronic copy, is for six issues per year. The 2022 rates are also available on the PFSA official website under 'CONTACT/JOIN': www.stampssa.africa

Enquiries regarding **PFSA membership** can be addressed to the C.O.O. André du Plessis RDPSA at andredupfs@gmail.com Tel: +27 (0)83 399 1755

Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to the Editorial Board of *The SA Philatelist*, email: pfsastamps@gmail.com

Advertising Rates available from the C.O.O. André du Plessis RDPSA, PO Box 53100, Wierda Park, 0149 or email the Production Editor: janice@gdb.co.za



Another Successful Meeting with former President Kgalema Motlanthe and his Support Team for CT 2022



Back row: Former President Kgalema Motlanthe, Dr. Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Maj Siphwe Ngwenya, Kevin Lodge
Front row: Col Siphso Majombozi, Ms Renah Lusiba, Deputy Minister Philly Mapulane.

A successful meeting took place on 26 May 2022 under the auspices of the Patron of the Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition, Pres Motlanthe, where the Deputy Minister of Communication and Digital Technologies, Mr. Philly Mapulane updated everyone about his Department's progress to support the Cape Town 2022 event in November 2022.

It was agreed that the philatelic fraternity in South Africa would need the support of the South African Government, the Department of Communication and Digital Technologies and the SAPO to make this International event a success. The Deputy-Minister has requested a follow-up meeting to discuss certain aspects in more detail.

Cape Town 2022 National Stamp Exhibition



The 2022 National Stamp Exhibition will take place in parallel with the prestigious CAPE TOWN 2022 International from 8 to 12 November 2022 in the Cape Town International Convention Center (CTICC).

Although in the same venue, the National will function as a separate event with its own Organising Committee, Entry fees, Frames, Exhibits, Jury, Prospectus, Awards etc. Erection of frames and mounting of exhibits will take place on Sunday 6 November. A frame rotation system is in place for the International but does not apply to the National. Judging will take place while the exhibits are on display, with jury feedback on Saturday 12 November. The exhibits will be taken down and frames dismantled on Sunday 13 November.

Congress is tentatively scheduled for Friday 11 November. Prize giving will be in conjunction with the International's prize giving on Saturday 12th; presently, no separate Palmares is planned.

Important dates to remember: • Provisional Entry - 30 June 2022; • **Final Entry** - 15 August 2022; • Delivery of exhibits - 7 November 2022. The Organising Committee is set to give you a wonderful stamp show and an experience to remember.

We are looking forward receiving entries and to see you in Cape Town.

Contact: André du Plessis at pfsastamps@gmail.com (Preferred way of communication is via e-mail).

The Prospectus and Entry Form is also available on the PFSA website - <https://stampssa.africa/>



Correspondence to THE SA SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board, email: pfsastamps@gmail.com

Articles and items of interest are welcome and will be reviewed for publication. Letters to the Editor are welcome, and robust, constructive debate encouraged on the pages of the Journal with the right of publication reserved.

WHAT IS THIS MARK ◊?

South African Airways was in league with BOAC, UAT and Air France in being the first airlines to offer commercial jet services in the early 1950s. SAA leased a Comet 1 from BOAC which was operated in BOAC colours with a SAA crew. The route was via Rome, Cairo, Khartoum, Entebbe and Livingstone. The cover illustrated here was for the first service, which was southbound, 4 October 1953. The service only lasted five months, ending with the catastrophic explosive decompression of the aircraft just after leaving Rome, 8 April 1954. Following this incident, the Comet was withdrawn from service.

The cover has a lozenge shaped cachet on the front. This was obviously applied in the UK. But what was the purpose of this mark? Can anyone help resolve this mystery? If you can help, please send your explanation to janice@gdb.co.za.



BRINGING BACK MEMORIES

Thank you for the April 2022 edition and the continuous work you do on behalf of RSA Philately.

Another of the signatories on Page 57 is Cyril Enoch, who I believe was Chairman of the Expertising

Committee at that time. I have a faint memory of attending. I think the prime mover in arranging this philatelic event was Mary Bromfield.

Kind regards from Vancouver, Canada
David Mordant.

The SA Philatelist, April 2022, p57



APPRECIATED

Having just finished reading the latest edition of The SA Philatelist, I found the articles fascinating.

Besides the interest of the stamps, envelopes and labels, the historical backgrounds are completely absorbing.

What an asset to have such well presented material. Thanks to all concerned for the effort, research and interest.

Looking forward to the next edition. (I feel encouraged to delve into my own material again.)

Denise Collie. WPS.
(edited)

Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za



SOME SNIPPITS OF INFORMATION

Early Windhoek to Kimberley air mail

Two datestamps, shown in Figs.1a and b, and recorded by Putzel (1991) in *"The comprehensive handbook of the postmarks of German South West Africa/ South West Africa/ Namibia"* were prepared for use on the early airmail service. Confusion about the cancellers is perpetuated by Putzel who stated that Fig.1a (B44) with the empty space at the bottom left, was *"in all probability is the altered Fig.1b (B45)"*. This is obviously incorrect judging from the lettering.

The two datestamps (together with two other datestamps, B46 and B47 which are not the subject of this discussion) were ordered by Junkers Werke, Dessau and made by 'Theodor Gleichmann Berlin'. Junkers won the contract to supply single engine Junkers planes for the 1931/32 internal service. The incorporation of two aeroplanes in the design is unusual. The illustrated B44 is the actual date of the first flight, and is recorded being used until at least 1.3.1937.



Fig.1: Two datestamps prepared for First Air Mail from Windhoek to Kimberley.

I am indebted to Klaus Kornacker, member of the South West Africa Stamp Study Group, who provided the following narrative setting the record for the earlier confusion. A German magazine *'Deutsche Zeitung für Briefmarkenkunde'* issue Nr. 11/1964 contained an interesting article, explaining the gaps on the canceller B44.

The canceller B44 was specifically ordered for the mail to be transported on the Christmas Flight in December 1931. The wording of the canceller was supposed to be FIRST AIRMAIL WINDHOEK-KIMBERLEY EERSTE LUGPOS. According to the article the canceller was ordered by Junkers from a German company 'Stempel-Kaiser', which is different from the Putzel information. This company knew nothing of the Afrikaans language and the word EERSTE was mistakenly changed to ERSTE which is the German version of the same word. This mistake was only discovered on arrival of the canceller in Windhoek. There was insufficient

time to return the canceller to Germany for correction and it was decided to remove both words FIRST and ERSTE. Therefore the gap. Another canceller (B45) with the complete and correct wording was then ordered for the flights starting 26 January 1932. The Post Office Archives have a specimen dated 2.2.1932.

This discussion confirms that B44 and B45 were definitely two separate cancellers.

Voordurend kom nuwe inligting na vore wat verband hou met filatelie en die poswese. Die voorbeeld van die datumstempels van die eerste vlug tussen Windhoek en Kimberley 91 jaar gelede is 'n voorbeeld. En dis nie slegs inligting van 'n eeu gelede nie wat aanpassings ondergaan nie. Kyk maar hoe die pos-landskap sedert 1994 verander het, aan die hand van 'n ronds krywe van die SA Poskantoor wat die destydse toekoms uitgestippel het. Help ons asseblief om historiese of hedendaagse inligting te dokumenteer.

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Dear Client

A more equitable mail delivery system in South Africa

We at the Post Office are committed to providing each household in South Africa with a postal address. In just over a year, we have installed more than 500 000 additional postboxes in the form of transportable postbox lobbies countrywide. Our ultimate goal is to introduce some five million of these address boxes – more if necessary.

At present, we deliver mail to approximately five million addresses of which more than three million are street addresses. The client does not pay more for street delivery, but an annual rental is charged for private postboxes.

As from 1 January 1995, the Post Office intends to implement a more equitable mail delivery system. In areas where there is no street delivery, clients will use their postboxes free of charge, whether private postboxes or address boxes at the post offices, mail collection points or transportable postbox lobbies. A key deposit of R15 will be payable, but will be reimbursed to the client when the service is discontinued and the keys handed in. This arrangement applies to both individuals and business undertakings in such areas. However, where business undertakings require the medium or large postboxes, the appropriate rate will be applicable.

In areas where there is street delivery, clients will continue to have the convenience of mail delivery to private postboxes. However, in cases where clients live outside the Post Office's established delivery areas, they will be able to make use of their private postboxes only. The rental for these postboxes in 1995 will be R50 for a small postbox, R100 for a medium-sized postbox and R150 for a large postbox. Existing postbox renters need not pay the additional R15 key deposit applicable to new renters. The new postbox rental applies as from 1 January 1995.

A new form for correct mail delivery

To deliver mail correctly, it is essential that we always have the clients' correct postal addresses. However, the fact remains that 35 per cent of households in South Africa move each year and that up to 50 per cent of these households take up to two months to change their addresses formally. Bearing these facts in mind, the extent of mail misdelivery is obvious. In addition, up to 14 per cent of the mail handled by the Post Office bears incorrect postcodes. The loss on mail that we misdeliver or have handled several times as a result, could amount to R100 million, to say nothing of the inconvenience to the client.

To further streamline delivery and to eliminate errors as far as possible, we have designed a form on which you will be required to apply each year for mail delivery or to confirm that your address is still correct.

This information will enable us to determine on an ongoing basis whether your mail is still being delivered correctly. Therefore, please complete this form in full and hand it in as soon as possible at the post office where you currently rent a postbox. This is the only way in which the Post Office can deliver on its commitment to rendering an even better postal service.

If you intend to be away for a long period at the end of the year, please arrange with your local postmaster for your application form to be handed in before you leave and for your mail to be retained until your return.

Thank you for your co-operation, and season's greetings



Senior General Manager: Postal Business

Fig.2: Circular distributed to all post box holders in 1994.

In 1994 the SA Post Office had great ideas:

Chris Cordes received the notice (Fig.2) in a Post Office envelope sent in 1994 to all box holders sharing the plans for ensuring good service from the SAPO. His post box was at Bryanston. The purpose of sharing this information is not to belittle the SAPO, but rather to look back and realise that the anticipated future was nowhere near what actually transpired. In 1995 SAPO was planning to provide each household with a postal address, and plans were underway to deliver to the correct address. Those of us that can remember will know that the internet and cell phones became popular and ubiquitous in 1994. The result was that writing letters was superseded by using the electronic media. Consequently a significant decline in letters being processed by the SAPO. When last did you write or receive a personal letter? Obviously no amount of marketing would increase letter writing. Strikes and slow delivery of mail resulted in large users such as municipalities resorting to electronic platforms. Evidently it is no longer "business as usual" and the SAPO is focussing on parcels, and services such as vehicle licences, pensions and banking. Who could have imagined that the Post Office environment would change dramatically in 25 years?

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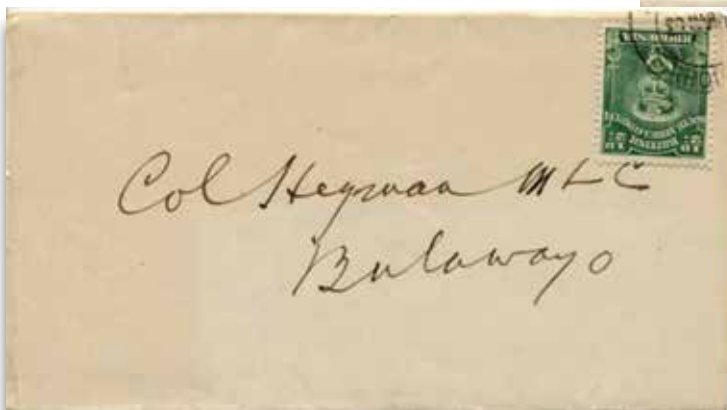
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The story behind a cover/letter

by Sean Burke, Rhodesian Study Circle

Sometime during the seemingly never-ending lockdown which accompanies the pandemic, I acquired this item of postal history. It is not particularly pretty, but I thought it was an interesting example of a single sheet letter being folded and used without an envelope – possibly due to paper shortages during the Great War 1914-1918. I have only now started to give it some more attention.



The letter, which is shown here in its two side of a single sheet, is to Col Heyman MLC, Bulawayo. It has the following cancels: GWELO 29 MAR 1915 and BULAWAYO 31 MAR 15. The writing is rather faded, but I have managed to decipher most of it:

... & Iron Mine Hill Farmers Association
27-3-15

Dear Sir

As Friday, April 2nd, is Good Friday, the Quarterly General Meeting called for that day will be postponed to the following Wednesday, April 7th at ... at Hotel when it is expected Col Heyman, MLC, will be present & address members with regard to the coming session of the Legislative Council. All members should endeavour to be present.

Yours faithfully

.....

Hon General Secretary



LIEUT.-COLONEL H. M. HEYMAN

Now let us turn our thoughts to Colonel Heyman, Member of the Legislative Council. A bit of research and some assistance from historian, Rob Burrett, based in Bulawayo, reveals the following: *Heyman seems to have lived a full life.*

He participated in the Matabele and Mashona Uprisings (1896/7); he was part of the Jameson Raid (1895/6) and took part in the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902); he was involved in World War I; he was the first President of the Rhodesia Pioneers' and Early Settlers Society; he was an Acting Magistrate & Civil Commissioner, Bulawayo; he designed the second Buluwayo Fort which gave rise to the name of Fort Street; he was the Officer in charge of collecting the 'Loot Cattle' from the Matabele (Ndebele), whose actions caused considerable trouble in 1896; he imported the tree seeds for Bulawayo's streets and Park - these massive gums are still standing in the Park; he was a key member of the English Church in Bulawayo and responsible for the Chapel of St John the Baptist and later what is now the Cathedral of the same name (but located elsewhere); he fundraised for several other Anglican Churches in the country, being asked to lay the foundation stones; he initiated collections for Rhodes' statue in Bulawayo; and, most importantly, he was the first President of the Rhodesian (now Zimbabwean) Rugby Union.

It does not seem that he was troubled by any 'lockdowns'.

Iron Mine Hill was situated about 60kms from Gwelo, now Gweru.



International Philatelic Exhibition: Cape Town, 8-12 Nov. 2022

Road to Democracy

It is an honour for this Organising Committee to have former President Motlanthe as the Patron of this International Stamp Exhibition. Together with commitments of support at Cabinet level from Departments of Tourism and Telecommunications and Postal Services, who have from the very beginning promised their support for the event. The Organising Committee has worked through some trying times to make it happen - in spite of the COVID 19 pandemic. Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams has responded positively saying that she will give her full support and that of her Department to make it a success, and ensure that they would be involved. A commitment reaffirmed their request for a designated display at the Cape Town International Convention Centre from 8th to the 12th November 2022. The Department of Communications and Digital Technologies (DCDT) which was established in June 2019 by the merger of the Department: Communications (DOC) and the Department: Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS), with the now Minister, Ms Khumbudzo Phophi Silence Ntshavheni (seen at right), have been involved in the planning and expressed a wish to see an element for participating school children and visitors to be drawn from a wider geographic area.



A commitment at the highest level - left to right: *Siphwe Ngwenya, Siphu Majombozi, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams - former Minister of Communications, Telecommunications and Postal Services, President Kgalema Motlanthe, Jannie Hofmeyr (standing) Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, and Emil Bührman RDPSA.*

Now with 58 international Commissioners who have who have supported the Organising Committee, this event offers many opportunities for our local societies.

Members of Philatelic Societies have been invited to enter exhibits for Cape Town 2022 and, by doing so, support this international philatelic event. Entries will be considered through to 30 June 2022. A special dispensation offered by the Organising Committee would afford societies meeting rooms

for their own meetings and workshops, available at a minimal fee. In addition, tables will be available for the promotion of their society.

Societies have an opportunity to sponsor frames and after the event - the sponsorship allows the Society ownership of up to 5 frames. (Please note that Societies will be responsible for any storage and transportation cost)

As with every philatelic event, the Exhibition Catalogue offers local and international societies, dealers and private individuals space to promote themselves or make a donation which will be noted either as a donation or an advertisement in the Exhibition Catalogue and on the official Cape Town 2022 (<https://capetown2022.org/>) and PFSA (<https://stampssa.africa/>) websites. Donations of any value will be appreciated.

A list of sponsoring opportunities is available on the Cape Town 2022 website under 'PATRONS' in the top menu.

Get in touch, we would not want to disappoint - let us know what your needs are, so that we can plan accordingly. Lastly, greetings from Cape Town and we wish you and your society all the best for the future.

Any further information required, can be requested the COO, andredupfs@gmail.com

KEEP IN MIND - There are sets of ten post-cards depicting original artworks by Mrs. Julia Birkhead, wife of the late Harry Birkhead RDPSA, for sale to collectors as part of fund raising for the Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition



These official Postal Stationery cards issued by the Post Office, are the fourth in the series and sold in a packet of 10 designs, depicting indigenous birds. Orders through Emil Minnaar. Tel. 063 803 3536 or by email: Emil@Minnaar.org Selling Locally (in South Africa) for R230 plus pp R20

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ENDEAVOUR

Botswana Meter marks: An introduction

by Gordon Smith, Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the Postal History Society of Canada, and the Nova Scotia Stamp Club.



Introduction

The public often pays little attention to the stamps on their mail, and even less to other marks that have helped move the mail, especially since they are less colourful and art-like than stamps. However, most mail in the world now moves by non-stamped means, so if we are to describe and preserve current postal history for future collectors, we need to consider the marks that allow an item to move through the postal system without the use of postage stamps. Postmarks are viewed by the philatelic community as a valid aspect of postal history collecting and it can be argued that marks denoting payment (just like a stamp) are at least as equally important to understand and record as postmarks.

Neglected even in developed countries, the collecting of non-stamp marks denoting payment is even less common in smaller developing countries, such as Botswana. Given the lack of interest in this material, covers are often quickly relegated to the trash, even by philatelists, making them rare in collecting circles and challenging to obtain.



Fig.1: Typical Botswana Meter Mark

The Introduction of Meter Machines to Botswana

Prior to Independence in 1966, Botswana was known as the Bechuanaland Protectorate. While other countries in the region, such as South Africa and the Rhodesias were issuing meter licences as early as the 1920s, Botswana remained largely undeveloped until the 1970s, thus influencing the lack of demand for franking licences.

There is no evidence that postal franking machines were used in the Protectorate, although a drawing of a frank die from Universal Postal Frankers Ltd. in London UK in 1957 indicates that their use was under consideration (Fig.2). An article by John Inglefield-Watson (1991) states that *"It has been reported that in May 1963 the Postmaster of the Protectorate wrote in reply to a query, that were no machines were then in use, but applications for their introduction (makes unknown) were in hand."*

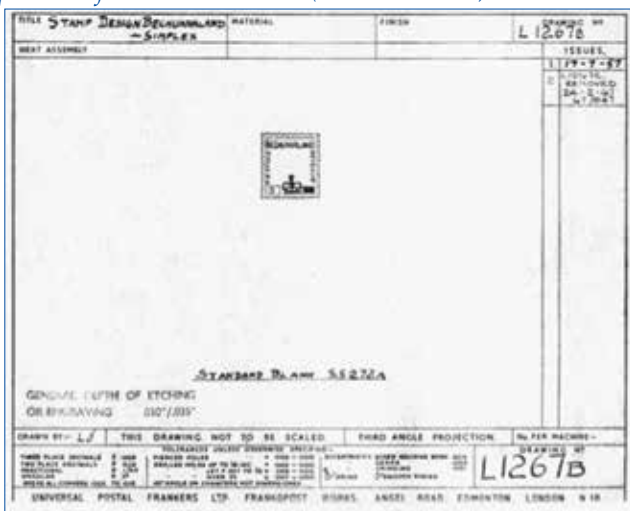


Fig.2: Simplex Stamp Design from Universal Postal Frankers Ltd. in London UK in 1957. (Inglefield-Watson, 1991).

The first meter franking appears to be meter licence no. UA1 issued to Standard Bank of Botswana in Gaborone and dated 13 November 1970 (Fig.3). This mark was created by a Universal MV 'Automax' machine from Universal Postal Frankers Ltd. The production of this model of machine is *"stated to have ceased in 1960"* (Inglefield-Watson, 1991), which in conjunction with the drawing of the frank die noted in Fig.2 would make the earlier use of meter machines in Botswana seem more likely.

Issue dates for the first 30 or so licences in Botswana are unknown. The only file record from the 1970s and 1980s remaining at Botswana Post is the original licence number issue list, which does not contain this information. It is only possible to estimate dates on the basis of earliest seen dates.

From commencement, meter licences were issued nationwide as evidenced through the issuing of the following licences:

- licence number 2 to Central District Council in Serowe,
- licence number 3 to Botswana Business Machines in Francistown,
- licence number 4 to Standard Bank in Maun,
- licence number 6 to Botswana Power Corporation in Francistown, and
- licence number 7 was issued to Botswana Game Industries in Francistown.

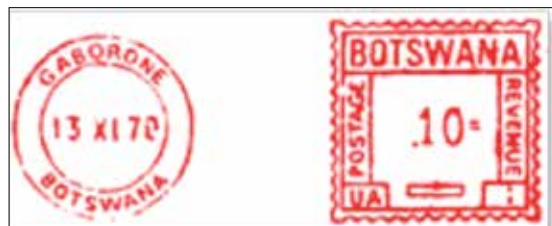


Fig.3: Earliest Known Botswana Meter Mark (Case, 1971)

The Number of Meter Licences Issued

By March 1999, a total of 232 licence numbers had been issued.

In 1992, all licence holders were contacted by Botswana Post in order to confirm whether the issued licences were still in use. While a number responded that either they had never purchased a meter machine or that their machine had ceased functioning, no further action was taken by the Post Office.

In 1999, a similar contacting exercise was undertaken. At that time, licences not being used were designated for re-assignment. This resulted in 75 old licence numbers becoming available for re-use. However, research from Post Office files and secondary sources appears to indicate that a few licence numbers changed hands before the Post Office began re-issuing expired numbers in mid-1999.

Including the re-issued number, a total of 327 licences had been granted by August 2002.

Meter Machines Used

The Post Office did not charge for the use of a meter licence nor did it sell meter machines. It only re-set the machine on request by the licence holder. This may have changed since this information was determined in the early 2000s. So, for at least the first 30 years of postal meter use in Botswana, licence holders had to obtain their machines from a private source.

A variety of makes were used including:

Ascom	Ascom Hasler	Francotyp Postalia	Hasler	Neopost	Pitney Bowes
Postalia	Roneo	Roneo Neopost	Satas		

Meter Licence Prefixes

In countries other than Botswana, the meter licence prefix usually indicates the meter machine make and or model. In Botswana, after an early attempt to assign prefixes, postal authorities seem to have settled on the universal prefix 'R' for all meters fielded in the country (Hawkins, unpubl.).

In addition to the 'R' prefix (Fig.1), the following prefixes have been seen (Fig.4 a - f: 'UA' on licence number 1 and 2 for Standard Bank, 'S' on licences numbered 1, 2 and 797 for Botswana Book Centre in Gaborone, Matemela Master in Serowe and an unknown licensee in Lobatsi, 'P' on licences numbered 91 for First National Bank, 'J' on licence numbers 700, 706 and 713 for unknown licencees in Selibi Phikwe and Gaborone (which are unusual, non-sequential licence numbers), 'TX' on licence 148 for an unknown licensee in Selebi-Phikwe, and 'G' on licence number 148 for the Botswana Medical Aid Society. In addition, the Botswana Medical Aid Society meter mark, dated 10 April 1995 is printed in blue despite all meters in Botswana and elsewhere being typically printed in red. This does not seem to be a provisional issue, as their licence was granted on 11 June 1992.



Fig.4a: Meter with Prefix 'UA'



Fig.4b: Meter with Prefix 'S'



Fig.4c: Meter with Prefix 'P'



Fig.4d: Meter with Prefix 'J'

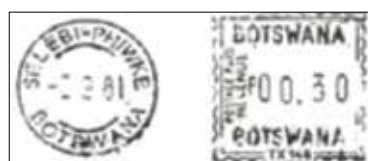


Fig.4e: Meter with Prefix 'TX'



Fig.4f: Meter with Prefix 'G'



Fig.5: Meter No. R51 with 'H1' in frame

Marks for licence number 51 for Jwaneng Mine contain an 'H1' within the frame in addition to the 'R' within the indicum (Fig.5).

John Inglefield-Watson (1991) provides an undated illustration of a frank die for a Pitney Bowes Model 6300 with an indication of a 'PB' prefix (Fig.6). While there is a mark that has the same layout as this illustration, there does not appear to have been any marks prefixed 'PB' in circulation.



Fig.6: Drawing of Die for Pitney Bowes Meter Machine (at left) compared to an Actual Mark

In April 2004, BotswanaPost suspended issuing licences pending the introduction of meter machines that could be digitally recharged by telephone. The new licences are prefixed 'BP', which is assumed to stand for BotswanaPost. 'R' prefixed licences continued to be used until at least September 2008.

With one known exception, licence numbers in this new 'BP' series are all 5 digits long, and, as of January 2022, the following licence numbers have been seen:

- series starting at 06001 and running into the 06100s (Fig.7a),
- series starting at 06501 and running to the 06570s (Fig.7b),
- a few licence numbers beginning 5118# (Fig.7c), and
- one licence each with numbers 51454 (Fig.7d), 51805 (Fig.7e), and 51981 (Fig.7f).

One meter mark with a 6-digit licence number BP372980 has also been seen (Fig.8).

A complete list of licence numbers known to date can be found at <https://postalhistory.ca/botswana-meter-marks/>.



Fig.7a: Example of series starting at 06001



Fig.7b: Example of series starting at 06501



Fig.7c: Example of licences beginning 5118#



Fig.7d: Meter BP51454



Fig.7e: Meter BP51805



Fig.7f: Meter BP51981



Fig.8: Meter BP372980

Denominations

At independence, Botswana utilised the South African Rand as its currency and meter marks were denominated in cents, the minor currency unit of the Rand. In 1976, Botswana issued its own currency, the Pula which is equal to 100 Thebe, and since that time, meter marks have been denominated in Thebe and Pula.

References

- This article is more or less a reprint of information contained on a portion of my website. For more in-depth information on the topic, please visit <https://postalhistory.ca/botswana-meter-marks/>.
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TRAVELLING TAXES OF SOUTH AFRICA

mail from Southern Africa with a fiscal accent (published in multiple parts)
by Oscar van der Vliet, Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika, Netherlands

Part 2: Union period (1910 - 1960)

2.1 Development of use of remaining colonial stamps and revenues

The self-governing Dominion of South Africa was constituted on 31 May 1910 by the amalgamation of the former colonies of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony and the Transvaal.

In Government Gazette (GG) 23, published 16 August 1910, Government Note (GN) 349 stated the interchangeability of postage and revenue stamps from 30 May 1910.

Colonial postage stamps were finally demonetised on 1 January 1938 according to a notification of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs GG 2471 of 16 October 1937, GN 1575 of 15 October 1937. However, revenue stamps were not demonetised until 1 April 1914, by GG443 of 23 December 1913, GN 2021 of 22 December. Those with mint remainders were able to exchange their stamps up to one year after demonetisation. Mint stamps of value up to 5/- were accepted by the Receiver of Revenue for exchange into valid revenue stamps without application. Higher amounts required proof of purchase and an application form.

The first Union revenues were officially introduced on 1 September 1913. Due to a shortage of the 3d, 6d, and £1 values, permission was granted on 15 July 1913 to introduce these values earlier than that date.

They became one of the most used values of revenues for regular revenue use, and when overprinted, for other purposes: for regular use abroad and for other purposes abroad. Some values have colour changes (1/-, 10/-, £1 and £2) because there were problems with the obliteration and in some cases confusion with other values. Some of the colour changes are not explained and require a further study. Errors in the design were reported by Sherwood (1980) like 'left frame line doubled' (in the 2/-, 10/- and £1 (blue and purple-slate). Others are faulty numerals, 2/-, £1 (blue and purple slate), missing Springbok watermark 1/- (blue and purple-slate) and inverted watermarks, 3/-, 5/-. Inverted watermarks were also found on a 6d and a £1 (red and green), the latter overprinted for Swaziland.



Fig.1: Early use of a Union 6d revenue on a registered letter.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1913	6d red & purple	Barefoot 2
Fee:	Postage: (18950901-19251231) ½ oz-1oz Registered: (18950901-19540630) (extra)	2d 4d	Trotter p. 381.- GG1520 / GN2238 of 19251218 1 st Tvl Peoples Court; art 539 - GG5298 / GN1242 of 19540425
Cancels:	Davel: Normal cancel No cancel at back R in oval-black-457 with pen	2-MAY A 14	Putzel 1 No literature

Series 1913-SWA (1913-1931)

This unexpected variety showed up on a South African auction in 2020. A local letter, Fig.2, dated 8 December 1925 in Windhoek, SWA, was franked with a 3d revenue overprinted for South West Africa. Like the postage stamps there were four of these overprints issued. They are alternating overprints of Afrikaans and English throughout the sheet. Generally, there are four versions in Afrikaans and two versions in English. (A1-E1, A2-E1, A3-E2, E4-E2). The dates of issue are not printed in Barefoot, but it is assumed they will be similar to those of the postage stamps.



Fig.2: Locally posted letter in Windhoek, SWA.

Forerunner usage (130715-130831)	Forerunners abroad (SWA) 1915-1921	Other colours	Inverted watermark South Africa	Inverted watermark Swaziland
3d; 6d and £1	Government & commercial	10/- lemon instead of green	3/- and 5/-; 6d previously unrec.	Previously unrecorded

TABLE 1: Some examples of the wide variety of printing and usage for this type.

Fiscal Mailing Attempts in the Union Period

Series 1913 –SA

An example from the first revenue series of September 1913 (1913-1931), was discovered by accident in January 2017 (Fig.1): a signed letter for local delivery within Davel, Transvaal. What is surprising is that this was Registered mail. For the Transvaal the fee was 1d for a letter up to ½oz from 1 January 1989. Registered mail was 4d extra. In this case it is a letter up to 1oz with registration.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1923	3d Green & Green A	Barefoot 1
Fee:	Postage: (19210601 - 19251231) 1oz	2d	GG1132/ GN771 of 19210324
Cancels:	Windhoek: Normal cancel No cancel at back	8 DEC25 12-16PM	Putzel B19z

Series 1931 (1931-1337)

I have found more fiscally franked covers from Series 1931, including airmails. Fig.3 is an example of an inland flight dated 26 July 1937 from Durban to Johannesburg. The sender used a type of revenue which bears the year of issue in small print below the King's head. There are in fact, four of these types due to small changes.

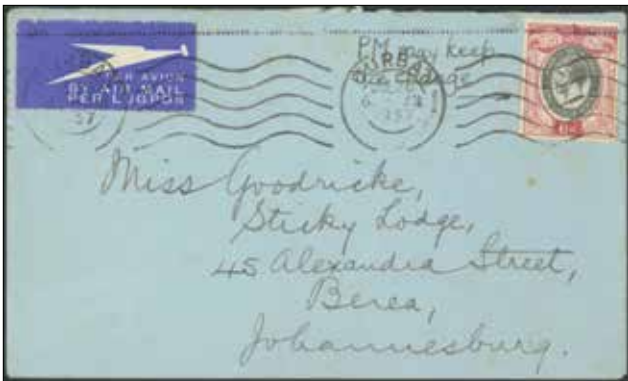


Fig.3: Over-franked inland airmail letter with a gift for the postmaster.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1931	6d red & grey (36)	Barefoot 20
Fee:	Postage: (19340404 - 19380201) ½ oz	1d	GG2187/ GN476 of 340413
Cancels:	Durban machine roller cancel: Airmail label No cancel at back	JUL26-6-AM-1937	Not in Vermaak G.Mair RSA-A-5d*

* = GÜNTER MAIR - Airmail labels

The fee for a domestic flight was 1d from 1 July 1937 until flights were suspended in November 1939. The letter is heavily over franked, and the sender indicated to the left of the stamp: "P.M. keep the change".

Normally the stamp would be declared invalid but in this case the officer was not so inclined, so that the letter arrived without problems. Had it been intercepted it would have continued but with a double airmail fee because continuation by surface was suspended from 1 July 1937 (GG2448 of 18 July 1937, GN 948).

A similar letter was less fortunate, Fig.4. This was an intended airmail cover from Johannesburg to New York, USA. From September 1935 until the suspension of Imperial Airways' flights on 29 May 1940, the rate for a standard letter was 1/- for ½ oz. The affixed fiscal of 1/- was declared invalid by marking the stamp with a blue pencil; also added were a handstamp indicating insufficient payment and a 60centime penalty cancel, which is hard to see. Over many years, Jan Stolk has published an extensive study of these cancellations in *Bartholomeu Dias* (BD), the magazine of a Dutch Study Group for southern Africa, and in *Forerunners* of the PSGSA. It is listed as type 'B'.



Fig.4: Penalty of 60 (gold) centimes on an airmail letter from Johannesburg to New York.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1931	1s purple & grey (36)	Barefoot 21
Fee:	Postage: (19350901 - 19400529*) ½ oz	1s	**
Cancels:	Johannesburg machine roller WAVY LINES INSUFFICIENTLY PAID FOR AIRMAIL Octagonal cancel in black (unlisted for Johannesburg) Blue pencil deleted airmail label and marking revenue Airmail label No cancel at back	5FEB37 5.15PM 3 T - 60 CENTIMES	Not in Vermaak We27 B16a- BD 53 (II-01) G.Mair RSA-A-5d

** = PAR AVION IN SOUTH AFRICA; John T. (Jack) Burrell) RDPSA

Series 1938 (1938-1942)



Fig.5: Intercepted postcard to Cottingham, GB.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1938 Postage: Postage Due (GB) 1937-38	2/6d red (39) 3d violet	Barefoot 39 SG D30
Fee:	Postage: (19350101 - 1950401) each Penalty: double deficient	1½d 3d	GG 2239 / GN1798 of 19341221
Cancels:	Durban normal cancel - 91 Cottingham cancel Oval cancel in black Hand stamp in black	14.VI 40 11.30 ??? / 40 "T - 30 centimes" "3d I.S.G." (Inland Section G)	Putzel 149 Mackay C6 Mackay

After introducing a new series of revenues in 1938 showing King George VI, examples were found of attempted postal use. Fig 5 is a postcard from Durban to Cottingham, East Yorkshire, GB. The postcard was cancelled in Durban on 14 June 1940. As air mail connections were suspended, there was limited air traffic and air mail. From September 1939, letters were sent to Britain for 1/3d per ½oz instead of 1½d, i.e. ten times the old rate. Postcards by airmail were possible until 1 April 1943. Sea mail was ½d (1 April 1934 to 1 April 1943), and postage due was generally double the required rate, but in this case it is six-fold. The arrival cancel at Cottingham, '28 (Jul)Y 40' is barely visible. The penalty cancel is Stolk type 'C8'. The revenue stamp, marked with a blue pencil, is far too much, over-franked.

Of note is the fact that the 3d value revenue has the English text on the left. The next value, the 6d, has the English on the right and so on up to the 9/-. The 10/- value and above is a different design with the English on the top and switching for successive values up to £10. A £25 value stamp exists as a photographic essay but was never issued.

World War II impacted many people as they tried to reach families in the occupied countries and even in Prisoner of War (POW) camps. Fig.6 is an airmail letter sent from Germiston on 12 August 1942 to a POW camp in Italy. The airmail letter rate from May 1940 was 9d per ½oz to Europe via Britain. Although inappropriately franked, the value was correct, and the postmaster detained the letter but did not charge it.



Fig.6. Intercepted airmail to an Italian POW camp.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1938	3d green (40) 6d red (42)	Barefoot 34 Barefoot 35
Fee:	Postage: (19390101 -) ½oz	9d	GG 2673 / GN1315 of 19390901
Cancels:	Germiston machine roller - WAVY LINES "SPEND LESS SAVE MORE "SPANDEER MINDER SPAAR MEER" Airmail label No cancel on back	12.VIII 42- 5.00	H&S SMC11* G.Mair RSA-A-5d

Series 1942

People were very creative in using their revenue stamps for postage. This airmail letter, Fig.7, was sent on 17 June 1946 from Johannesburg to New York, USA via Springbok. The charge for airmail letters to the USA was 4/- per ½oz from 1 March 1942, and 1/9d per ½oz from 24 October 1947. However, there was a North Transatlantic Air Service sending everything to and via New York.

From 1 September 1939, the fee was 2/- to New York whilst other airmail was sent to the USA for 1/- per ½oz from the same date. It is not clear under which service this letter was sent.

The stamp used was originally intended for native taxes, but the scheme was not a success. The remainders were overprinted for general revenue use in South Africa, and for Assize purposes in Bechuanaland and Basutoland.



Fig.7: Former native tax stamp on letter by airmail to New York.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1942	2/6d green & brown	Barefoot 50
Fee:	Postage: (19390901 -) ½oz North Transatlantic Air Service	2/-	GG 2673 / GN1315 of 19390901
Cancels:	Johannesburg machine cancel "SAVE MEAL AND BREAD" "SPAAR MEEL EN BROOD" (1945-57) No cancel on back	17.VI 46- 17.30A	Vermaak 40a

Series 1943 (1943-1946)

During World War II, smaller versions of Series 1938 were introduced. These were 'the Bantam Series', approximately half the normal stamp size. The year date can only be distinguished under high magnification, and varieties due to language and date errors are known.

An example of postal use is shown in Fig.8, an airmail from Durban to Antwerp in Belgium, sent on 10 April 1947 (?). The franking using 4 x 3d revenues was correct for the 1/- pre-war rate to Europe. However, on 31 March 1937 the rate for a regular airmail letter (1oz or 28g) was reduced from 2d to 1d so the 1/- affixed was excessive. The correct fee was 4½d.

The SA Postmaster was clearly unhappy as he marked the stamps with blue pencil, crossed out the airmail vignette with black pencil and charged the letter with 40 centimes. Research on old currency rates gave the result that 0,4 Gold Francs for 10/31g against £8,40/oz = approximately £0,0375 (9d), which was double the current surface fee.

The year of cancellation is important here because the surface fee is correct from 1 May 1947.



Fig.8: Intercepted airmail letter from Durban to Antwerp.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1943	3d x 4 green (44)	Barefoot 51
Fee:	Postage: (19390101 - 19420228) ½oz. airmail letter Postage: (19470501- 19500331) 1 +1oz surface letter	1/- 4½d(3+1½d)	GG2597/ GN19 of 19390106 GG3886 GN2193 of 19471024
Cancels:	Durban normal cancel 5?(indistinct): Airmail label with vignette imprint Oval cancel in black Insufficient prepaid cancel in purple No cancel at the back	10 IV 47?... "T-40 centimes"	Putzel 85? G.Mair RSA-A-5x(#) C We15

= no record on blog

Series 1946 (1946-1952)

Series 1946 was introduced for a longer period compared with the previous types. It is the first and only series in which a South African stamp occurs with only one language, either English or Afrikaans. In some cases the language was switched, showing the country name in Afrikaans and the word 'revenue' between the value and vice versa. These are the so-called 'transposed plates'(TP).

Figure 9 is an example of an airmail letter without the airmail vignette. It was sent on 15 February 1954 from Vandyksdrift to a PO Box in Port au Prince, Haiti. Vandyksdrift had had a post office since 1948.



Fig.9: Intercepted letter from Vandyksdrift to Port au Prince, Haiti, with three different revenues.

Fig.10: arrival cancels in Haiti.



Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1946	6d (52) blue & orange 1/- (52) red & grey 2/- (52) orange & blue	Barefoot 68a EN-AF Barefoot 69 AF-AF Barefoot 71 EN-EN
Fee:	Postage: (19500301 - 19610214) 1oz	3/6	GG 4336 / GN401 of 19500224
Cancels and Markings	Vandyksdrift Normal cancel black Octagonal cancel in black; Blue pen value T7/- and marking with black cancel "surface" with blue pen "UNPAID / ONBETAALD" cancel in purple PORT-AU-PRINCE-B- cancel black Barred oval in black	15.II B54 "T-31½ centimes" 24 MARS 1954 H	Putzel 1 B1b WC7 PaP Duplex 3(B)*

(* = provided with courtesy from personal knowledge of Wolfgang Windel from Haiti Philately: no literature available)

The arrival cancels in Haiti are shown in Fig.10. The rate for this service was 1/9d for ½oz, or 3/6d per oz. the Postal Officer was not happy with the revenues, and declared the letter unpaid. Several markings were added and the letter continued as surface mail, arriving 37 days after departure on 24 March 1954.

Series 1954



Fig.11: Local letter in Johannesburg with 2d series 1954.

Franking:	Revenue: Union series 1954	2d(54) EN-AF	Barefoot 82
Fee:	Postage: (19540401 - 19600401) 1oz	2d purple & pink	GG 5298 / GN1242 of 19540625
Cancels:	Johannesburg normal cancel black No cancel on back	23.IV 54- 13.30 33	Putzel 286

Returning to surface mail again shows an example affixed with only a revenue from the Queen Elizabeth II series of 1954. Political motives in South Africa made this series a short lived one with only a few values printed. Figure 11 is a domestic letter for local delivery in Johannesburg. the fee used was for a letter up to 1 oz from 1 April 1954 until 1 April 1960. From 1 April the fee was 3d! Cancellation '33' was recorded by Putzel under No. 286. The letter was delivered without problems to a Post Office Box. (The addressee, S.J.Vermaak was the author of *Airmail Vignettes*, published in 1979.)

As not many Queen Elizabeth II revenues were printed for political reasons, only a few have been found. Some are overprinted for Assize, Consular and for use in South West Africa.

Series 1954(1954-1960)



Fig.11: Airmail letter with the fee corrected by the later addition of the correct stamp.

Franking:	Revenue:Coat of arms series 1954	1/-(59) EN-AF purple & blue 3d; 1/-	Barefoot 92 SACC154;158
Fee:	Postage: (19531030 - 19710331) 1oz	1/3/12½c airmail 2nd class	GG 51718 / GN233of 19531030
Cancels:	KAAPSTAD A CAPE TOWN A+ slogan: VOORKOM BOS- EN VELDBRANDE / PREVENT BUSH & VELD FIRES (1958-62) Johannesburg normal cancel in black Airmail vignette Blue pen notification No cancel on back	6.00 10-II 1960 11-III-60 14.30 98	Vermaak type 59/2 Putzal 357 G.Mair RSA-A 8c

This is the last of the Union series. A study on these Coat of Arms revenues (1954-1968+) proved that stamps with year of date '54' were not issued in 1954. Revenues with Queen Elizabeth II were printed from February to August 1954, but the earliest cancel found so far is a 2/- stamp dated 14 February 1955. It took several years before the first cancellations were found within the year of issue for all values.

I recently found an example of an airmail letter which received a second chance, Fig.12.

The letter was first cancelled in Cape Town on 10 March 1960 at 6.00 am for a flight to London. Franking was 1/3 which was for a second class airmail letter up to ½ oz. This fee was valid from 30 October 1953 until 1 April 1971. The Republic was proclaimed on 31 May 1961, but from 11 November 1960, the fee was set at 12½ cent, based on the rate of 2 Rand = £1. The franking was insufficient but on 11 March, someone corrected this by the addition of a 1/- postage stamp. The letter continued on its way to London without problems.

All references to this article will appear after Part. 3.

ASPECTS OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

Part 8: THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DATESTAMPS, POSTMARKS AND CACHETS AS PART OF THE POST OFFICE SYSTEM



Datestamps, postmarks and cachets are essential elements for the functioning of the post office system. Dr. T.B. Berry stated: "A Post Office, no matter of how humble a status or whether situated in the remotest region, cannot function without its date stamp of one form or another". The apparently insignificant impressions made by these all-important instruments are essential to the type of services provided by the Post Office.

Introduction

Postmarks or cancellations serve several important purposes. One of these is to mark or cancel a stamp affixed to a letter to prevent re-usage to the detriment of Post Office revenue. Postmarks with place names have been used for centuries, and in the case of the RSA the variety of postmarks and cachets used provides postal history collectors with an exciting field of collecting.

Datestamps or hand cancellers

Dr Hasso Reisener indicated that in the development of postmarks it was soon established that a postmark should show the place of posting, the date on which the item was posted and even the time when it was handled for further dispatch. Evidence of time and date of posting became very important especially in the commercial environment. This led to the appearance of the postmark, as we know it over the years.

The head of the datestamp bears a face onto which the name of the town and any other inscriptions are engraved in reverse. Hand cancellers also contain an internal space into which the date and time mechanism, assembled on a roller is accommodated. According to Berry these datestamps were manufactured in Pretoria from 1956 to 1963 and in Cape Town from about 1965. The heads were kept in stock at the Post Office Stores and were issued against a job requisition form bearing the details of the name of town etc.

Instructions to post office officials for the usage of datestamps

The following was stated in the Post Office Manual: *"The date-index figures of all date-stamps in use must be carefully changed at the beginning of each day. Where applicable, time-index figures or letters of date-stamps must also be changed punctually at the appointed times (See Table 1) When any change is made in the date-index figures or time-index figures or letters of a date-stamp and before the stamp is so used, a specimen impression must be made, and this must be examined and initialed by the officer who made the change as well as by a senior officer"* (Fig.1).

It is further indicated that the impression of the datestamp or cancellation stamp on letters etc. should be perfect in every respect.(Fig.2). To ensure this the following requirements must be observed:

- The stamp must be kept clean by washing it in paraffin.
- The rubber stamping cushion should be placed on a strong table or other firm base.
- The stamp must be held firmly and impressed upon the postal article with a light and quick forward movement. Care must be taken to ensure that the impression is not placed over any other datestamp impression that may appear on the postal article.

QUEENSTOWN POST OFFICE DATESTAMP CHANGES - CIRCA 1971			
Datestamp Changes		Datumstempelveranderings	
Time of Change/Tyd van Verandering		Om aan te sluit met/To connect with	
Week Days/Weeksdae			
A	6 AM/VM 7 AM/VM	06 00 07 00	Office Opens/Oopmaak van kantoor 21 2UP/OP, 201DN/AF, 4 33DN/AF Delivery/Aflewering. Airmail/ Lugpos (Wed/Woens
B	07-15AM/VM	07 15	ditto. Late Fee/Laatport
C	9 AM/VM	09 00 09 15	Lady Frere, Mlungisi, 1133 DN/AF Airmail/Lugpos, (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat)
D	10 AM/VM	10 00	Whittlesea, Romanslaagte, Brymac, Blackstreams, Nkonyama, Buffelsdoring, Bankies
E	10:15 AM/VM 1 PM/NM	10.15 13 00	do. Late Fee/Laatport Delivery/Aflewering
F	3 PM/NM 3.15 PM/NM	15 00 15 15	4 34 UP/OP /OPDo. Late Fee/Laatport
G	5 PM/NM	17 00	9DN/AF, 6UP/OP, 16 UP/OP
H	5.15 PM/NM	17 15	do. Late Fee/Laatport
Saturdays/Saterdag			
A	6 AM/VM 6:30 AM/VM	06 00 06 30	Office Opens/ oopmaak van kantoor 27 DN/AF, 433 DN/AF
B	6.45 AM/VM	06 45	do. Late Fee/Laatport
C	7 AM/VM 7.15 AM/VM	07 00 07 15	Airmail/Lugpos do. Late Fee/Laatport
D	9 AM/VM	09 00	Lady Frere, Whittlesea, Mlungisi, Delivery/Aflewering
E	9.15 AM/VM	09 15	do. Late Fee/Laatport
F	11.30 AM/VM	11 30	4 34 UP/OP, 6 UP/OP, 9 DN/AF
G	11.45 AM/VM	11 45	do. Late Fee/Laatport

Table 1: Example of the codes (A – H) linked to the time digits inside the datestamps used in the Queenstown Post Office. See Fig.1. of the application of this system.

Position of datestamps on mail matter

Guidelines were also given to indicate the position in which the impression of the date-stamp is to be placed upon the undermentioned classes of postal articles.

On the address side of the article:

- All postal articles posted in reposting boxes
- Missent articles
- Postcards received for delivery through the poste restante
- Articles sent to the Returned Letter Office. At offices where RLO dispatches are prepared weekly the articles may be date-stamped daily, that is, as and when they become

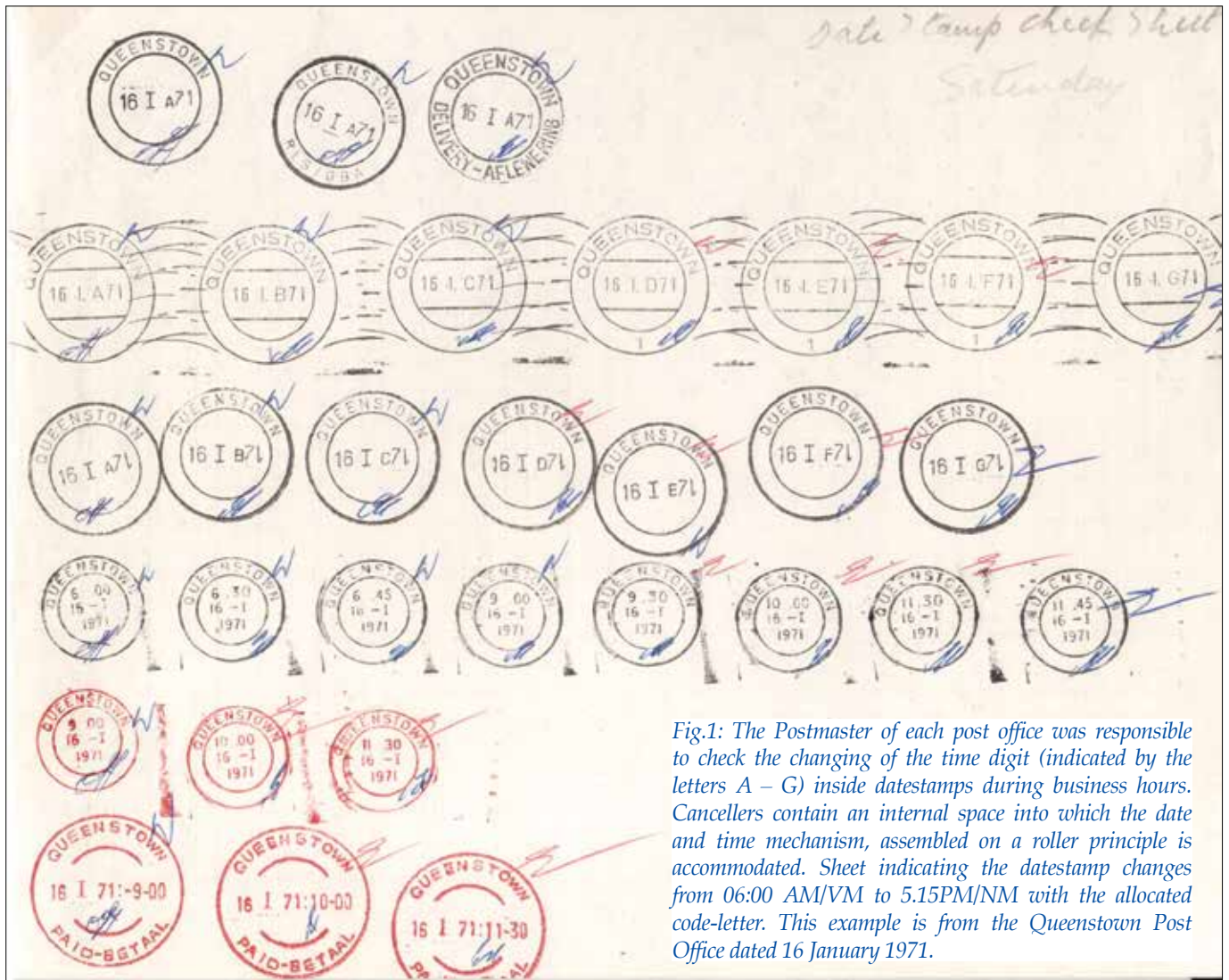


Fig.1: The Postmaster of each post office was responsible to check the changing of the time digit (indicated by the letters A – G) inside datestamps during business hours. Cancellers contain an internal space into which the date and time mechanism, assembled on a roller principle is accommodated. Sheet indicating the datestamp changes from 06:00 AM/VM to 5.15PM/NM with the allocated code-letter. This example is from the Queenstown Post Office dated 16 January 1971.



Fig 2: Registered cover posted from Westleigh Station on 17 May 1966 with a clear impression of the datestamp as prescribed.

available for dispatch to the Returned Letter Office.

On the back of the article:

- Registered articles at the time of acceptance
- Registered articles received in a mail, whether such articles are for local delivery or onward dispatch
- Letters received for delivery through poste restante
- Redirected articles

Secondary cancellations

According to Berry secondary cancellations are those marks which are applied to mail matter after it has received

its initial impression which indicated that prepayment for its conveyance by the post office has been made. These cancellers normally bear an insertion indicating the nature of its purpose, for example, Priority Mail, Customs, Post Office Depots, Returned Letter Office, Registered mail, Post Restante etc (Figs.3 & 4).



Fig.3: Registered cover posted Priority Mail from Pietermaritzburg to Pretoria on 30 May 1986. The total postage fee of R2.29 pays: R1.50 priority mail fee + 65c registration fee + 14c inland postage fee. Note the specially designed date stamps Priority Mail section in the Pretoria post office and the Customs Duty section in the Pietermaritzburg post office.

Post Office Depots: They are centrally situated offices to serve demarcated areas and function for the receipt and dispatch of mail matter which is accordingly dated with a distinguishing cancel.

Complementary Marks

The Post Office performs many allied services each of which possesses obliterators peculiar to its particular purpose, for example, Parcel Post Cancellations or Rail Post Cancellations.



Fig.4: Bloemfontein Post Office Customs canceller used on a foreign parcel receipt dated 4 December 1984.

Returned Letter Offices: Undeliverable postal articles and unclaimed letters are disposed of either through the Returned Letter Office (R.L.O.) or by direct return to the sender.

Undeliverable Mail Marks: The Post Office Guide prescribes that undeliverable mail matter be accordingly marked and returned to the Returned Letter Office for disposal. The identification marks may be in manuscript or an impression represented diagrammatically from a rubber stamp which was obtainable upon requisition to the Post Office Departmental Workshops (Figs.5, 6 & 7)

Berry also includes Relief Datestamps in this category. When a postmaster considers it necessary that a datestamp should be re-cut, repaired or replaced he must apply to the Regional Director for a relief date-stamp. As soon as the relief datestamp is received the old stamp must be sent by registered post to the Depot Manager, Buying and Supplies in Pretoria.

Dr Berry wrote the following in his book about Relief Datestamps: *“The Relief date stamp is a temporary dater designed to do duty, while the regular datestamp is out of commission, or it may be employed for a special temporary purpose.”* He also indicated that these types of datestamps are basically unstable, as the date slugs, if not properly clamped are inclined to shift, making some interesting varieties from a collector’s viewpoint.



Fig.7: Post Card posted from Newcastle 15 February 1980 with the cachet applied to explain the non-delivery of the item: ‘No street delivery at Newcastle’. ‘Postal articles should be addressed to private box number/Geen straat aflewering by Newcastle. Poststukke moet slegs aan privaat posbusnommer geadresseer word’.



Fig.5: Registered cover posted from Rissik Street in Johannesburg 6 March 1986 with the reason for the non-delivery of the item indicated by means of the cachet: ‘GEBOU GESLOOP. BUILDING DEMOLISHED.’

Because most reliefs had a very short life they can be regarded as scarce (Fig.8). Putzel in his book ‘The Postmarks of South Africa’ (Volume 1, pp. 47 - 50) illustrates a variety of relief datestamps of different designs that were used in the RSA.



Fig.6: Cover posted from Johannesburg to Port Elizabeth on 11 July 1961 with the two Port Elizabeth cancellers dated 13 July 1961 and 14 July 1961. The latter probably applied the day when the two cachets were applied to indicate that ‘NO SUCH ROAD OR STREET’ exists in Orange Park in Port Elizabeth and therefore the recipient is ‘UNKNOWN’ to the post office.

Stamping Ink

The following stamping inks are supplied and must be used as indicated:

- Red stamping ink: For use with Postage Paid Stamps
- Black stamping ink: For use with all metal stamps, excluding postage paid stamps
- Red endorsing ink: For use with rubber stamps for stamping of official minutes
- Black indelible ink: For use with rubber parcel stamps for cancelling postage stamps on parcels and other articles.

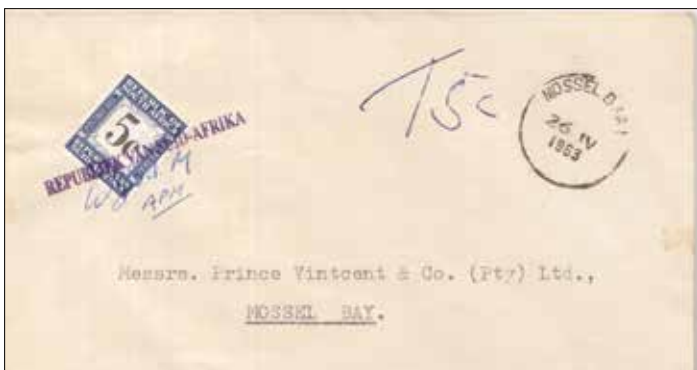


Fig.8: Cover posted from Mosselbaai on 26 April 1963 with the Mosselbaai skeleton relief canceller and taxed 5c (double the deficiency) of 2½c. Note the Republican hand stamp over the postage due stamp with the initials of the postmaster applied over the stamp. This is proof that several postmasters used this to denote Republican status after Union.

Heidelberg, Transvaal Post Office as a case study - 1986



Fig.9: Card with illustrations of the various postmarks used in the Heidelberg Transvaal Post Office.

The Heidelberg, Transvaal post office was an average size office. The type of datestamps and other marks displayed on the card (Figs.9 & 10) will be used to illustrate the role that these important instruments played in the smooth functioning of a typical post office like Heidelberg Transvaal.

No's 1 – 3: **Counter datestamps:** These are numbered at the bottom according to the counter number. This was important so that items handled by an official who was on duty at that counter can be traced back to the individual.

No. 4: **Certified Branch:** This canceller was used to cancel certified mail. The inscription 'SA/CB' refers to 'Sertifiserings Afdeling/Certified Branch'.

No. 5: **Spare canceller:** This canceller has no indication of its application. However, in this case the datestamp was used in the Parcel-section of the post office.

No. 6: **Registered Mail Section:** This canceller with the inscription 'GBA/RLS' Geregistreerde Briewe Afdeling/Registered Letter Section, was used in the registration section of the Post Office.

No. 7: **Telegraph Section:** Cancellor with inscription 'TK/TO' Telegraafkantoor/Telegraph Office used on telegrams.

No. 8: **Cheap Rate datestamp:** This canceller was used in dealing with cheap rate mail and red ink was used.

No. 9: **Taxed Mail:** This well-known 'T' mark was applied on covers and other postal matter to indicate that it was an insufficiently prepaid postal item.

No. 10: **Registration Label:** Adhesive registration labels made their appearance in about 1930. These labels are attached to the article, the numeral on which is recorded for control purposes. Articles prepared for registration were handed over to the office counter and a receipt obtained bearing the same number as on the label.



Fig.10: In the Transvaal Colony a system of numeral tax marks was introduced by the British postal authorities in August 1902 to afford a means of tracing an office at which a charge had been raised. This taxing mark allocated to Heidelberg is illustrated used in 1906 (See cover above). It is interesting that 62 years later this tax mark was still in use in the same Post Office (See cover below). The taxing mark shows a distinctive number (in Roman letters) for example on the cover illustrated of the very late usage (1970) of the number 4 tax mark of Heidelberg. The cover was taxed 5c which was double the inland surface mail rate of 2½c.



Conclusion: This article is confirmation of the fact that datestamps, postmarks and cachets are essential elements for the functioning of the post office system. It is also an indication of the sophistication of the post office system. The variety of postmarks and cachets in the RSA provides postal history collectors with an exciting field of collecting.

Sources:

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- Reiserer, Hasso, *The special and commemorative postmarks, cachets and covers of South Africa, 1892-1975*, Pretoria, 1975.
- *Union of South Africa, Post Office Manual* (as amended after 1961), Part II, Volume II, Instructions to Postmasters in charge of Money Order Offices and for use by the Post Office Staff generally, Government Printer, Pretoria, 1952.
- Republic of South Africa, *Post Office Manual, Postal operating instructions*, Published: 31 March 1994. Pretoria.

ALISTAIR MCKENZIE

It is with regret to note the passing of Alistair Mackenzie of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and West Rand Philatelic Societies.

He was the chairman of the West Rand Society for many years and built it up to quite a strong, although small, society at the Panorama Tennis Club in Roodepoort.

Alistair had a large collection of stamps of various countries in addition to an extensive collection of aerograms. His comprehensive exhibit of airgraphs gained him the Aerophilatelic Award at a National Exhibition.

He was always willing to display his material and assist other philatelists. In addition, Alistair organised and ran a very successful youth club on the West Rand. He was a very religious man and also very musical. He played the piano, organ and trumpet. On one notable occasion, many years ago, Alistair brought his trumpet to a Witwaterand PS meeting and entertained members for probably 30 minutes, playing various pieces of music.

Our sympathies go to his family and friends.

MARILYN MARTIN

It is with regret that we record the passing of Marilyn Martin on Sunday afternoon, 22 May 2022, following a short illness.



To most stamp collectors Marilyn was probably unknown, yet she played a vital role in the production and design of South African stamps. Although not a stamp collector per se, Marilyn's artistic background shaped and honed the design of stamps as a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee (SAC).

Marilyn spent eleven years as director of the South African National Gallery, which was followed as director of Art Collections for Iziko Museums. Prior to her career in the museum sector, she was senior lecturer in the Department of Architecture at Wits. Since her retirement from Iziko Museums in 2008 she worked as an independent writer, curator and lecturer at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, lecturing in Visual and Art History. In 2002 Marilyn was admitted to the Legion of Honour of the Republic of France at the rank of Officer and in 2013 she received the medal of the Fondation Alliance Française in Paris.

As an invaluable and long serving member of the SAC, she served with passion for more than 10 years. Her insight, assistance, informative advice and subject knowledge provided much needed support and direction. She will be sadly missed. It was a real privilege to have known, worked and been a good friend. Marilyn leaves a big gap on the SAC. May she rest in peace.

D.W.

WELL KNOWN CAPE TOWN PHILATELIST

John Gibson Kilroe
13 October 1934 – 16 March 2022

Born in Johannesburg in 1934, John was educated at Christian Brothers College, Kimberley, matriculating in 1951, as Head Prefect in his year. He obtained a BSc, Chemical Engineering from Wits University, an MSc from Imperial College, London, and also attended an Advanced Management Course at Harvard. Joining Shell in 1960 as a graduate apprentice, he remained



loyal to the company for most of his working career. During 1966-1977 he returned to South Africa for the education of his children, during which time he worked at SA Oil Mills, finishing as Managing Director.

In 1978, John returned to Shell as Manufacturing and Supplies Director, transferring to Shell Netherlands in 1984 as Managing Director. He returned to SA in 1989 as Chairman of Shell Southern Africa. His intention to retire in 1995, however, was thwarted by Shell who requested his expertise to facilitate Shell's entry into China where he operated as Chairman and Chief Executive of the Shell companies in Greater China from 1994 -1997. Retirement was finally achieved in 1997 after the handover of Hong Kong to China.

John's extramural interests were legion. He was a natural artist, having been taught skills by his grandfather, and recorded many of his travels in watercolour. As a passionate sportsman, both player and spectator, he excelled at tennis and cricket. Vintage cars led him to a 1950 MG TD sports car. Though flying attracted him sufficiently to take lessons after retirement, he never qualified as a pilot.

A long term interest in philately resulted in membership of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town since 1996. His interests, and winning collections, extended from Colonial Hong Kong and the Treaty Ports of China, to King George V Downey Heads and the Development of South African Airways. He exhibited regularly, claiming many society awards at the Royal. At National level John achieved three Gold medals, numerous Large Vermeil and Vermeil awards and several Federation cups and trophies.

John was a devoted family man, eagerly keeping abreast of the activities of his three children, Philip, Bridget and Nicola, his eight grandchildren and his recently arrived great-grandchild, born a month before his passing. Our thoughts, prayers and condolences go out to his wife Maureen, and all the other members of his family. We will miss his quiet, humble and steadfast friendliness. Peace be with you, John.

Brian Franklin. 



EXTREME POST OFFICES

by Gerhard Freund <gerhard.freund@hotmail.de>

In addition to the southernmost civil post office in Port Lockroy (British Antarctic Territory) and the northernmost post office in the world in Ny Alesund (Spitsbergen), there is the highest post office in the world, which is located in India.

To be precise, it is located in a mountain village called Hikkim in the Lahaul and Spiti district in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh at an altitude of 4,400 metres. It is 46 kilometers from the nearest town called Kaza and accessed by a gravel road. It is one of the highest places in India which is inhabited all year round. The residential buildings are between 4,330 and 4,400 metres. The village and its surroundings remain cut off from the outside world for 6 months of the year due to the heavy snowfall in winter.



metres in altitude to Hikkim to send the two letters. The postage stamps were cancelled by the postmaster, Rinchen Chhering with the postmark Hikkim - Lahaul Spiti and the date 11/09/21.

In addition to the postmark, he added the cachet "India Post - World's Highest Post office-Hikkim 4440 meters 14567Ft. Dist. Lahaul Spiti Himachal Pradesh" and put his signature on it. The postmaster was very helpful.

Hikkim also housed the highest polling station in the world for a long time, but was then replaced by the village of Tashigang in the same district.

The Hikkim Post Office, connects other villages in the area with the rest of the world by post. The villagers can receive and send letters and parcels. The post office is also a special highlight for tourists, who insist on sending postcards. The post office is also a savings bank for the villagers. The post office's zip code or PIN 172114.

Rinchen Chhering has been the postmaster since the post office was founded in 1983.

Based on the experiences of my last two projects Port Lockroy - ISS and Scott-Amundsen Station - ISS, the idea arose to send a letter from the highest post office in the world to the International Space Station which is serviced by the Russians.

Ms. Sarah Appelt from India, originally from Germany, who runs a travel agency (Chalo Reisen) in India, helped me to realise the project. In the spring of 2021, I asked her to post two letters for me at the highest post office in the world on her next trip to Hikkim.

I sent her two ready-made letters, but unfortunately they didn't arrive. So I sent an e-mail with the text of the letter and described the procedure regarding the address on the envelope, etc. On 09.09.21 the time had come and Ms. Appelt started the trip to Spiti. By mountain bike she rode from the city of Kaza the 46 kilometers and about 600



The letters arrived in Moscow on 20 October, and on the 21st were ready for the last leg of the journey. Igor Rodin, who handed the letters over to the cosmonauts, helped me with this.

The letters were taken on board the Soyuz MS-20 spacecraft and flew to the ISS with the Russian cosmonaut Misurkin Aleksandr Aleksandrovich and the two Japanese space tourists Maezawa Yusaku and Hirano Yozo.



Photo taken in the ISS cupola and photographed by a member of the ISS

The last time a tourist was taken by the ISS was in September 2009 with the spacecraft TMA-16. The current launch of the ISS took place on 8 December 2021 from the spaceport in Baikonur (Kazakhstan) at 7:38am, Universal Time. The spacecraft successfully docked with the International Space Station at 1:40 p.m. The undocking took place on 19 December 2021 at 23:50 UTC. At 3:13 the next day all three returned to earth again. On board the ISS, the letters travelled about 7,600,000 Kilometres in this short time.



Various photos from Hikkim: Signpost indicating the post office, Sarah Appelt with the letter, Postmaster Rinchen Cchering. The postmaster has worked in Hikkim since 1983. The village Hikkim and the photo of the post office. Photographer: Ms. Sarah Appelt.

JOHN and MARK TAYLOR



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UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA STAMP VARIETIES

by Andre du Plessis RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



A series of articles is planned to illustrate the listed varieties of the Commemorative stamps of the Union of South Africa as listed in *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1961* by SA Hagger RDPSA, also referred to as *The Union Handbook* (UHB).

In total there were 28 Commemorative issues, and this first article kicks off with the fifth to seventh issues.

Notes on the first four issues:

1. The first stamp of the Union was issued on 4 November 1910. An introduction of this stamp appeared in the March 2021 STAMPS SOUTH AFRICA – *Keeping in Touch* Newsletter.
2. The Voortrekker Memorial Fund issue appeared 23 years later on 3 May 1933. Varieties of this stamps appeared in STAMPS SOUTH AFRICA – *Keeping in Touch* of Nov 2021.
3. King George V Silver Jubilee, 1935. These stamps were discussed in articles that appeared in the following SA Philatelists: August 2014: February; April; August and December 2015: February; August and December 2016: April 2017. Also January 2022 STAMPS SOUTH AFRICA – *Keeping in Touch* Newsletter.
4. JIPEX Commemorative Panes, 1936. *The SA Philatelist* articles, June and August 2018.

* All the above articles are available on the PFSA website under 'PUBLICATIONS' – www.stampssa.africa/

King George VI Coronation, 1937 (UHB NUMBER 15)

This series was issued on 12 May 1937 to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

There were five values, 1/2d, 1d, 1 1/2d, 3d and 1/-, (Fig.1). All were produced from the same interior design of the King's Head, inscribed alternately in English and Afrikaans. The design was by J. Prentice, with the photograph of the head being supplied by the Postmaster General.

There were two interior cylinders (Head plates) no. 55 and 30A. The first, No. 55, is known as the 'Uncommon' cylinder because it was used for printing the first 113,000 sheets of the 1d value only, which had the watermark facing right.

The other, No. 30A, was used to produce the stamps of all the other values so it is referred to as the 'Common' cylinder.

These productions had the watermark facing left or right, but the printing of the 1d value, from plate 55, in which it faced

right, must have been a very small one indeed, as these stamps are scarce. They can only be distinguished from those of the first issue, which have the same watermark, when varieties of the common cylinder are present, or on positional pieces where varieties of the uncommon cylinder are absent.

The exterior cylinders (Frame plates) were used for each of the five values as follows: 1/2d - 54; 1d - 22; 1 1/2d - 26; 3d - 6932 and 1/- - 25.

WATERMARK	PERFORATION	SHEET
Multiple Springbok head, facing left or right	15 x 14	120 Stamps in 6 rows of 20 columns



Fig.1: Five values of the Coronation series

The horizontal rows and vertical columns (i.e. left to right and top to bottom) alternate the language order of the stamps.

The first stamp on the sheet was printed in English and cylinder blocks, specimens, plate:- and colour proofs exist.

AFRIKAANS/ENGLISH above the variety indicates the language on top of the stamp on which it appears. Varieties appear on stamps with the watermark facing left as well as facing right

1/2d - COMMON INTERIOR CYLINDER (HEAD PLATE) Nr. 30A

AFRIKAANS	AFRIKAANS	ENGLISH	AFRIKAANS	ENGLISH	AFRIKAANS	ENGLISH

Fig. 2: Varieties found in the Common Interior Cylinder printing.






½d - EXTERIOR CYLINDER (FRAME PLATE) Nr. 54				
ENGLISH 	AFRIKAANS 	AFRIKAANS 	ENGLISH/ AFRIKAANS 	VARIOUS 
Break in left inner frame ex Row 3/7 UHB 64 - V10	Break in base of crown ex Row 3/18 UHB 64 - V11	Break in left outer frame near top ex Row 6/15 UHB 64 - V12	Line through AFRICA and AFRIKA ex Row 6/2 and 3 of later printings only UHB 64 - V13 (SG71A)	Much paler or missing shading around proteas UHB 64 - V14

Fig.3.







1d COMMON INTERIOR CYLINDER (HEAD PLATE) Nr. 30A – V1 to V9 Details as in ½d value UNCOMMON INTERIOR CYLINDER (HEAD PLATE) Nr. 55					
AFRIKAANS 	ENGLISH 	AFRIKAANS 	ENGLISH 	AFRIKAANS 	RANDOM 
Line under eye ex Row 2/15 UHB 65 - V10	Without light patch to right of crown ex Row 2/16 UHB 65 - V10	Large dot on Forehead ex Row 4/17 UHB 65 - V11	White scratches behind head Row 4/18 UHB 65 - V11	Spot on cheek & white patches behind head Row 5/20 UHB 65 - V12	Much paler or missing shading around proteas UHB 64 - V14

Fig.4.

*V13 = Joined Paper (see below)

1½d, 3d and 1/- COMMON INTERIOR CYLINDER (HEAD PLATE) Nr. 30A – V1 to V9 Details as in ½d value						
Note: Appears on stamps with watermark facing <u>left</u> as well as watermark facing <u>right</u>						
EXTERIOR CYLINDER (FRAME PLATE) Nrs. 26, 6932 and 25 respectively						
1½d AFRIKAANS 	1½d VARIOUS 	3d ENGLISH 	3d VARIOUS 	1/- AFRIKAANS 	1/- VARIOUS 	1/- VARIOUS 
'Mouse' opposite 'S' of SOUTH ex Row 4/1 UHB 66 - V10 (SG73A)	Much paler or missing shading around proteas UHB 66 - V11	Extra dot below 'd' of 3d ex Row 6/14 UHB 67 - V10	Much paler or missing shading around proteas UHB 67 - V11	Hyphen in SUID-AFRIKA obliterated ex Row 2/13 UHB 68 - V10 (Progressive) (SG75A)	Much paler or missing shading around proteas UHB 68 - V11	Numerous dots on head UHB 68 - V12

Fig.5.

Figs.3, 4 and 5: Varieties found in the indicated printings.

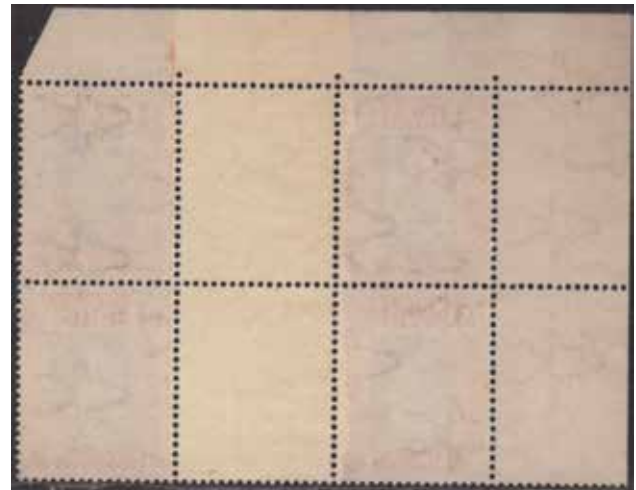


Fig.6: Front and reverse of a corner piece showing the sheet join
UHB 65 - Joined Paper (See article by Danie Scheepers RDPSA in the April 2006, The SA Philatelist)

Voortrekker Memorial Fund and Centenary, 1938 (UHB 16)

A second set of Voortrekker Commemorative semi-postal stamps was issued on 14 December 1938. It consisted of four values, ½d + (½d), 1d + (1d), 1½d + (1½d) and 3d + (3d), the value in brackets accrued to the fund for building the Voortrekker Monument. The stamps were designed by WH Coetzer, with lettering by J. Prentice.

They remained on sale until 28 February 1939. The stamps were inscribed alternately in English and Afrikaans, without marginal arrows and with the four-figure sheet numbers in black on the right margin.

Cylinder numbers in order of interior/exterior: ½d - 9/6926; 1d - 6918/6927; 1½d - 6934/5 and 3d - monochrome - 22.

The first stamp on the sheet for the lower values were printed in Afrikaans and for the 3d in English.

WATERMARK	PERFORATION	SHEET
Multiple Springbok head, upright	½d and 1d - 14 1½d and 3d - 15 x 14	120 Stamps in 20 rows of 6 columns



Voortrekker ploughing

Wagon crossing Drakensberg



Signing of Dingaan/Retief treaty



Voortrekker Monument

EXTERIOR CYLINDER (FRAME PLATE)

½d AFRIKAANS	½d ENGLISH	1/- AFRIKAANS	1½d AFRIKAANS	1/- AFRIKAANS
Line above the Voortrekker ex Row 5/1 UHB 69 - V1	White flaw under 'C' of AFRICA ex Row 15/4 UHB 69 - V2	Blue smudge below 'KA' of AFRIKA ex Row 12/6 UHB 70 - V1	Green blob behind Retief ex Row 4/6 UHB 71 - V1	Brown spot right edge over huts ex Row 8/4 UHB 71 - V2

Comments regarding varieties and other identified recurring varieties would be welcome and can be emailed to andredupfs@gmail.com

1½d
Bottom portion of frame much paler on all stamps in row 20
UHB 74 - V2

3d AFRIKAANS	3d AFRIKAANS	3d ENGLISH	3d AFRIKAANS
White spot on straight edge of 'D' in SUID Ex Row 1/2 UHB 72 - V1	White spot on Monument Ex Row 5/3 UHB 72 - V2 (Wrong sheet position)	White spot on 'F' of AFRICA Ex Row 14/6 UHB 72 - V2	White spot on top edge of circle Ex Row 6/1 UHB 72 - V4

Voortrekker Centenary, 1938 (UHB 16)

Two fully postal stamps of the 1d and 1½d denominations were also issued on 14 December 1938 to mark the Voortrekker Centenary, with alternative English and Afrikaans inscriptions.

Design was by WH Coetzer with lettering by J Prentice and they remained on sale until 28 February 1939.

The sheets were printed without marginal arrows. Four-figure sheet numbers were printed on the right margin, in blue on the 1d value and black on the 1½d.

Cylinder numbers in order of interior/exterior were: 1d - 62/6932 and 1½d - 31/20.

The first stamp on the sheet was printed in English.

WATERMARK	PERFORATION	SHEET
Multiple Springbok head, upright	15 x 14	120 Stamps in 20 rows of 6 columns



Wagon Wheel



Voortrekker Family

1d AFRIKAANS	1d ENGLISH	1½d AFRIKAANS
Blue lines below 'IK' of AFRIKA Row 2/5 UHB 73 - V1	Three 'nuts' instead of two in felloe Row 15/5 UHB 73 - V2 (SG 80A)	Blue spot in rays near top Row 13/6 UHB 74 - V1



The 10 featured birds have been exclusively illustrated in detail for Royal Mail by Irish ornithologist Killian Mullarney, one of Europe's best-known bird artists. His work has featured in the



Collins Bird Guide and on stamps issued in the Republic of Ireland. The stamps showcase the diversity of migratory birds that arrive in the UK; from seabirds that migrate along the UK's coastline, such as the Arctic Skua and Arctic Tern, to the exceptionally rare bird of prey, Montagu's Harrier.

David Gold, Director External Affairs & Policy, Royal Mail, said: *"The migratory journeys of the birds featured on these stamps are truly amazing. Their annual travels have fascinated and baffled naturalists for centuries. It is only now that we are beginning to understand what drives and maintains this amazing, high-risk-high-reward behaviour. We hope that these stamps ignite a new interest in this remarkable phenomenon."*

A miraculous journey: Bird migration is the annual, seasonal movement of birds along predefined routes, known as flyways, between their breeding and non-breeding grounds.

It is clear that migration is a perilous venture for birds, whatever their size. The numerous hazards to overcome include topography, sea crossings, inclement and extreme weather, food shortages, predators and hunting by humans, to name a few. Migration is a costly behaviour both in terms of the energy needed and also higher risk of mortality that it involves. Arguably, migrant birds are more susceptible to environmental change than their resident counterparts because these arduous migrations and

dependence on different sites at different times of the year place them in multiple jeopardy.

The seasonal availability of surplus food at higher latitudes and a favourable climate for breeding prove attractive and advantageous to many species. Migration allows birds to find themselves in their preferred climate and take advantage of seasonally abundant food, while simultaneously escaping the threats of local competition from other animals. The stamps have been available since 7 April at www.royalmail.com/migratorybirds, and at 7,000 Post Offices branches across the UK.




The Seventh South Africa Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (SAVPEX)

You will find all the details about SAVPEX 2022 on the PFSA website on the 'WELCOME' page. www.stampssa.africa



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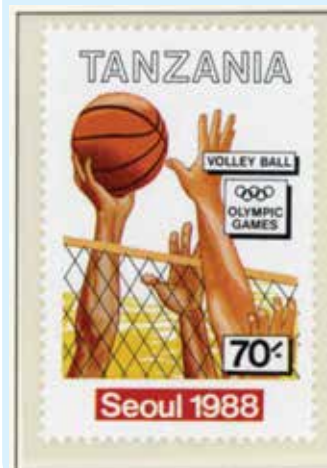
Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen, Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Errors on Stamps... Episode 70

'WRONG BALL'



For the Olympic Summer Games in Seoul, Korea in 1988, a set of four stamps was issued by Tanzania. The 70 Shilling stamp was dedicated to Volley Ball.

A volley ball is always a small and white ball of ca 65cm and max 250g. The ball on the stamp is brown, ca 78cm with a weight of 600-650 g, which means this is definitely a basket ball, but never a volley ball.

POSTAGE STAMPS OF MALTA 1860-1935

by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



Malta is a group of islands situated in the Mediterranean about 90km south of the Italian island of Sicily. After occupations by many different nationalities, the Treaty of Paris in 1814 and the Congress of Vienna in 1815 confirmed Britain's possession of Malta which became a Crown colony. Adhesive stamps were officially introduced in Malta in 1857, when contemporary British issues were used.

The rate for internal letters was originally 1d per half ounce but was later reduced to ½d necessitating the need for a special Maltese stamp, as at that time there was no British stamp of this denomination. On 1 December 1860 a ½d stamp in buff, printed in typography by De La Rue, was issued. For 25 years this was the only Maltese stamp and during this period there were numerous shade, paper, watermark and perforation changes (Fig.1).

This stamp had no franking validity beyond Malta and all mail intended for overseas used British stamps until 1885 when control of the islands' postal affairs was handed over by the GPO in London to the Maltese authorities.



Fig.1: Malta's first stamp.

A new series of six values to 1/-, featuring a portrait of Queen Victoria, was issued, the ½d value being in the original design but in green. A 5/- stamp appeared in 1886 (Fig.2).



Fig.2: The 1886 5/-

Four pictorial stamps were introduced in 1899, recess printed by De La Rue. The values were 4½d, 5d, 2/6 and 10/- (Fig.3).



Fig.3: The 1899 Pictorials

A ¼d stamp depicting the Grand Harbour at Valletta, appeared in 1901; this design was retained in various forms until the King George VI issue of 1938 (Fig.4). This was the rate for newspapers



Fig.4: Grand Harbour Valletta

A shortage of 1d stamps in 1902 led to the provisional surcharging of the 2½d stamp with 'One Penny' in two lines. A constant error occurred at Row 9/2 with the second word mis-spelled 'Pnney'.

The postmaster collected most of the positional blocks including this error and sold them to the philatelic trade at a large premium over the face value (Fig.5).



Fig.5: Plate block of the penny provisional with 'Pnney' error at R 9/2

A new series of low values appeared from 1903 following the accession of King Edward VII in 1901, featuring the Fuchs profile of the King (Fig.6).



Fig.6: King Edward VII

From 1914 stamps in the King George V key-type design first used by St. Lucia, (Fig.7) were issued but the higher values of 2/- and 5/- utilised the large key-type 'Nyasaland' design (Fig.8).

Fig.7: Small King George V key-type



Fig.8: Large 5/- 'Nyasaland' type key-type



Towards the end of World War I a levy on correspondence was introduced. The ½d stamp was overprinted 'WAR TAX' for use on letters and postcards and remainders of the 3d King Edward VII issue was similarly overprinted for use on parcels.

Malta was granted Self Government in 1921 and these King George V issues were overprinted 'SELF-GOVERNMENT' diagonally (Fig.9) – note that this 10/- value's design has been redrawn to include the word 'REVENUE'.

Fig.9: 1922 10/- with SELF-GOVERNMENT overprint



Fig.10: 1922 'Melita' designs



In 1922 a new definitive issue appeared to mark Malta's new status, featuring allegorical designs: 'Melita' on the lower values and £1, and 'Britannia' embracing 'Melita' on the shilling values (Fig.10). In this latter design there appears, in the left-hand corner of the vignette, 'MCMXXI', which is the date 1921 in Roman numerals. These stamps were inscribed 'POSTAGE & REVENUES'

On 1 April 1926 stamps of the above issue, with the exception of the £1 value, were overprinted 'POSTAGE' by the Government Printing Office, Valletta, when their use for fiscal purposes was banned. Five days later a new definitive series began to appear piecemeal, printed by Waterlow, the pence values, in typography, featuring King George V and the Arms of Malta (Fig.11) and recess printed pictorials, without the King's portrait, for the shilling values. The 1/6 and 10/- values are illustrated in Fig.12. In April 1928, the 6d value was overprinted 'AIR MAIL' to mark the inauguration of the London-Cairo-Baghdad-India air service.



Fig.11: 1926 King George V pence values



Fig.12: 1926 Waterlow pictorials

The above stamps were inscribed 'POSTAGE' but later the authorities decided to make them valid for either postal or fiscal purposes and as a result in 1928 they were overprinted 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE'. In 1930 they were issued in redrawn designs inscribed 'POSTAGE & REVENUE'.

The constitution was suspended in 1930 over a fringe dispute between the Maltese Government and the Church. It was restored in 1932, but suspended again within a year when the elected members were dismissed for having given unwarranted prominence to Italian as a language over English and Maltese. Internal self government was not restored until 1947. In 1935, Malta participated in the British Colonial omnibus stamp issue celebrating the Silver Jubilee of King George V. The common design was printed by Bradbury Wilkinson, for Malta, so the variety 'Extra flagstaff' (row 9, stamp 1) appeared on this issue (Fig.13).

REFERENCES

- Malta Study Circle. 1980. *Malta: The Stamps and Postal History 1576-1960*. Robson Lowe.
- Marshall Cavendish. 1970. *International Encyclopedia of Stamps*, Vol. 4. IPC Magazines.
- Stanley Gibbons 2022. *Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970*.

AUTHOR'S NOTE. The above article is based on an exhibit shown at club level, which has now been sent to Spink for auction. All I have left are colour photostats of the album pages. I must thank my fellow Editorial Board member, David Wigston for his expertise in cleaning up the stamp images for inclusion in *The SA Philatelist*.



Fig.13: 1935 King George V Silver Jubilee issue with 'Extra flagstaff' variety.

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SOCIETY DETAILS

VISIT the <https://www.stampssa.africa/> <https://www.facebook.com/groups>

It is important to note that not all Societies have returned to having regular meetings during this time of lockdown, they do, however, welcome communication via phone and email - also see activities on the website www.stampssa.africa



**WITWATERSRAND
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**
P O Box 528, Florida Hills, 1716

Philatelic Meetings of The Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

All meetings at both venues will start at 19h00 and finish at 21h30. The gates of the Club at both sections will close at 21h30.

If you intend dining before the meetings, please meet in the Club Room at Auckland Park or the Members' restaurant at Woodmead at 18h00.

Formal Monthly Meetings at Auckland Park on the second Wednesday of each month

8 June 2022 - First Competitive Evening

13 July 2022 - Grand Challenge Match

10 August '22 - Invitation to another Society

You can contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA, for further information 082 722 7604.

WOODMEAD Informal Study Group please send all communication to haschaff@iafrica.com

All meetings at this venue are held on the last Wednesday of each month, except December.

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests. For further information contact:

Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 673 2229
ccarey@icon.co.za

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357

Until it is considered safe to gather indoors, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg will hold monthly Zoom meetings. Anyone interested in joining these meetings should contact Clive Carr directly.

WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374.
Chairman/Secretary Ian Walker. Tel: 011 472 1161
email: ianwalker@vodamail.co.za

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Monthly newsletter, active exchange section, loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks.
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alex.visser@up.ac.za
Box 36473, Menlo Park 0102; cell 082 922-2927

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by die NG Kerk Queenswood in Garretweg, Queenswood. Aangename en aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief 'Die Posduif' verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter: Dr. Louwrence Erasmus. Sekretaris: Ronel Erasmus. Kontak: Herman van Niekerk by hinvestasta@gmail.com of 072 446 2501

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email: president@bellvillephilatelicociety.co.za
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Contact the Secretary for Programme details.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN



Email: <https://stampssa.africa/rpsect/home/>

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Riaan Crafford: 082 876 7608
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PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Programmes for meetings include displays, talks by visiting speakers and 'Show & Tell' exhibits. An Exchange circuit and auctions from time to time. Visitors always welcome! meeting start at 18h30. Contact: Marilyn Crawford at 021 689 5050 email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com



GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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email: robrita@mweb.co.za

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Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula.

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francois@softchem.co.za or
Vice president David Brown
041 360 4025; or Secretary /
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072 619 5409. PostNet Suite #11,
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PORT ELIZABETH

Daytime meetings - 10h30/11h00 to 13h00 at same venue.
Dates for 2022: 6 June; 4 July; 1 Aug; 5 Sep; 3 Oct; 7 Nov.
No meeting in December, 2nd Dec. President's Christmas party.

STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meetings: First Tuesday, every month, 19:00 at Le Donjon, Recreation Hall, La Clemence, Webersvallei Rd, Stellenbosch.
Contact via email:
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President: Colin Bousfield. Cell 083 961 9656.
email: colin.bousfield@gmail.com
Secretary: Sandy Robertson.
email: sandystampnews@gmail.com
Meetings now held on the last Saturday of the month at 1 pm at the Edenvale Bowling Club.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: David Wigston
email: speedbird.imperial@gmail.com
Secretary: Paul Hammerton
hampaul@ananzi.co.za



OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Road, Bloemfontein.
President: Dr Neil Cronjé and Vice president: Garry Osthoff email: OsthoffG@ufs.ac.za

HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY DURBAN

The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join and get involved in this social hobby of Kings.

German Restaurant open for lunch.
President: Leigh Hen-Boisen, leigh.hb@gmail.com
Secretary: Bronwen Edwards,
edwards@worldonline.co.za
Membership: Bev Chittenden,
bev@natalaircon.co.za or
Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za



Established in 1924 MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Dave Wyllie, davewyllie37@outlook.com
The MPS now meets at the Scout hall in Hilton on the 3rd Saturday monthly at 10am. Secretary: Ian Horrell, email: ian.horrell@sappi.com
cell - 083 6618122
Stamp Circuit Book Officer is Russell Bowton
Society activities can be obtained from the secretary.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL



Meetings and auctions are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Rd, Bluff, Durban on every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. Contacts:

President: Zbigniew Kawecki 079 465 7468.

email zkawecki57@gmail.com or philatelicsocietykzn@gmail.com

for details about membership, sales packets, study group topics and auctions. Everyone is welcome and committee members are always on hand from 09h00 to give advice about evaluations and philately. The club has a very successful Study Group focusing on specific topics on the fourth Saturday of the month while the second Saturday of the month is reserved for a monthly auction.

THEMATICS SOUTH AFRICA PRETORIA CHAPTER

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Group Leader: Helena Snyman Helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

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WhatsApp. number is 076 124 9055.

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Usual Meet in the Captain's Table at Woodmead Johannesburg - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Chairperson: Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com

Secretary: Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com

Pretoria Fair & mini-auction, Greek Orthodox Church, corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Pretoria, 09h00 to 14h00).

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Kontak: djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrieff. Jan de Jong: 079 190 1066.

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. For more information on meetings, visit <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings> or Contact the Secretary, Brian Zlotnick. email bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk or postal address 10 Fortis Green Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 9NA. UK.

The South African representative is Patrick Flanagan RDPSA.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Now amalgamated with the EDENVALE Philatelic Society.

POSTAGE DUE MAIL STUDY GROUP

For more details, look at their website: <http://www.postageduemail.org.uk/>

Contact: Bob Medland, Secretary & Treasurer of the Postage Due Mail Study Group, email: secretarypdmgs@gmail.com

THE CAPE STAMP FAIR

Bellville Valley DRC Hall, Usually first Saturday of every month (09:00 - 12:30) Contact: Ken Joseph. 072 597 1287
email: ken@philatelicfriends.com



For all those collectors wishing their exhibits to get some air - the **Essen International Exhibition** will now take place from 25 to 28 May 2023 in Germany.


PFSA kindly announced that "SA Exhibitors may be subsidised by 50% of the frame fees in respect of a single show per year, if requested". Obviously the exhibitor is not obliged to accept the subsidy, if in a position to afford the fees.

For more information and/or if you wish to exhibit please contact the SA Commissioner below. Exhibit application forms must be received by **11 September 2022** at the latest.

South African Commissioner:

Francois Friend

Tel: 082 554 8900

email francois@softchem.co.za 

INDONESIA 2022 WORLD STAMP CHAMPIONSHIP EXHIBITION Jakarta 4 – 9 AUGUST 2022

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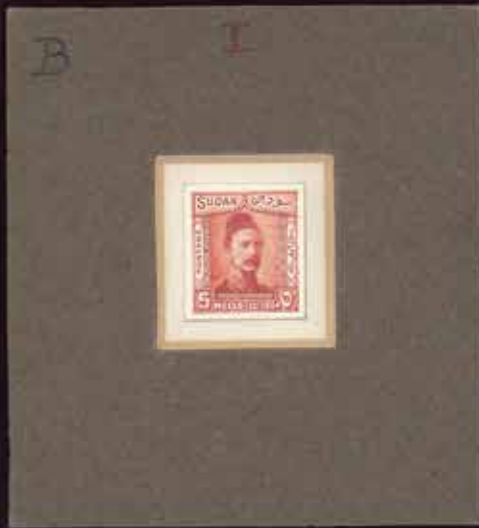


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- o Large Silver Hafnia 1994,
- o Silver Bronze Pacific 1997,
- o Vermeil APS Stampshow 1999,
- o Large Silver Egoli 2001,
- o Federation Plaque 2004,
- o Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- o Large Silver NZ Literature Exhibition 2007,
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- o Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.

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EXHIBITIONS

- 109: MonacoPhil 2022 International Stamp Exhibition 24-26 November 2022
 110: Cape Town 2022 International Stamp Exhibition 8-12 November 2022
 114: SA National Stamp Exhibition Cape Town 2022 8-12 November 2022
 135: Essen International Exhibition 25-28 May 2023

To avoid late delivery, please note; Publication closing dates for FINAL submission of Advertising Material for *The SA Philatelist*. ARTICLES should be submitted in the month prior:

- **OCTOBER 2022** - Volume. 98 : 5. 974. **13 September 2022**
- **DECEMBER 2022** - Volume. 98 : 6. 975. **9 November 2022**



FEDERATION NEWS

from the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA - André du Plessis RDPSA 083 399 1755.
<https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



EXPLORE THE PFSA EXHIBITIONS BY VISITING THE WEBSITE: www.stampssa.africa

As the season changes for us here in South Africa and we are on our way to welcome back summer, we invite our readers to enjoy this interesting edition of our favourite stamp magazine.

And, as with all things in life, SAVPEX 2022 has come and gone. I would like to thank Emil Minnaar RDPSA and Joof van der Merwe for the enormous input in making this event the success it has been. Well done! Also, a big thank you to the exhibitors and jury members for their contributions.

Although we do not support forgery in our world of stamps, it is part and parcel of our hobby and generally annoying. However, it amazes the observer to what extend forgers

will go to create the forgery or collectors of the strange, often 'perfect' forged item. I found the article on page 128 especially interesting from the aspect of the way the forged date stamps were produced - out of wood! The carvings are very authentic and one needs to look closely and compare to the original, a skill that is highlighted through this article.

Urban legend had it that 'Madame Joseph' was possibly of French or Belgian nationality. The name 'Madame Joseph'(MJ) is attributed to Gordon Rhodes, possibly as means of keeping people off his back and there is no concrete evidence that 'MJ' was from a European country.



SAVPEX 2022: RESULTS

- | | | | | |
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| 4 - Aero Philately | 5 - Astrophilately | 6 - Revenue | 7 - Postal Stationery | 8 - First Day Covers |
| 9 - Open Class | 10 - Picture Post Cards | 11 - Marcophily | 12 - Modern Experimental | 13 - Maximaphily |
| 14 - Cinderellas | | | | |

NAME	FEDERATION	TITLE OF EXHIBIT	CLASS	%	NAME	FEDERATION	TITLE OF EXHIBIT	CLASS	%
Klugman Prof. Keith.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa	<i>Early primitive stamps: The 1857 Natal embossed issue.</i>	1	90	Urushima Mr. Andrew.	United States, APS	<i>The 1944 Gross Born POW Olympics</i>	1	82
McEntyre Mr. John.	Royal Philatelic Society of Canada	<i>Canada 1934: Cartier quadricentenary stamp</i>	1	88	Tonkin Mr. Mike.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa	<i>King's head roll stamp issues 1913 - 1926</i>	1	78
Tiernan Mr. Jon.	Australian Philatelic Federation	<i>New South Wales railway parcel/freight stamps pre decimal period 1891 - 1966</i>	1	88	Cheung Mr. Andrew.	The Hong Kong Philatelic Society	<i>Hong Kong - King George VI wartime printings</i>	1	77
Redner Dr. Gregg.	Royal Philatelic Society of Canada	<i>Philately of the 1920 Antwerp Olympics</i>	1	87	Chio Mr. Hong Chi.	Clube Filatélico de Macau	<i>Study of Stamp Overprint Errors from the Founding Period of the Republic (1912-1914)</i>	1	76
Grigorian Mr. Igor.	United States, APS	<i>Production archival material and final appearance of the 1993 Garni stamp</i>	1	85	Sorour Dr. Vic.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa	<i>The 4d Rectangular stamp - 1927</i>	1	75
Van Der Merwe Mr. Joof	Philatelic Federation of South Africa	<i>The fourth RSA definitive series - Architectural buildings - Some identifying aspects</i>	1	85	Rogers Mr. Alan.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa	<i>Machin Head pre-decimal definitives</i>	1	73
Muhonen Mr. Ari.	Philatelic Federation of Finland	<i>Mail of the Red Guards area, Finland, spring 1918</i>	1	83	Coetzee Mr. Peter.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa	<i>The versatile 1951 Southern Rhodesia 'Overprinted' Postage Due Labels</i>	1	71

CONTINUED on page 108

The PFSA encourages participation in both this journal, *The SA Philatelist* as well as the electronic newsletter, 'Keeping in Touch'. By doing so, with regular and new readers will ensure that the social media activities and publications continue to support stamp collecting in South Africa. Contact: the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA, André du Plessis RDPSA, 083 399 1755. <https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>

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Correspondence to THE SA SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board, email: pfsastamps@gmail.com

Articles and items of interest are welcome and will be reviewed for publication.

Letters to the Editor are welcome, and robust, constructive debate encouraged on the pages of the Journal with the right of publication reserved.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS WORTH NOTING:

Delta Air Lines Agrees To \$10.5 million US Mail Accusations Settlement

by Callum Tennant. Published 4 July 2022.

The settlement is the sixth to be agreed by US airlines over similar allegations.

Delta Air Lines has agreed to pay \$10.5 million to the US government to settle accusations brought forward by the Department of Justice (DOJ) that the airline had falsely reported US mail deliveries. The allegations revolved around claims that Delta had altered the reported delivery times of mail it was contracted to deliver with the United States Postal Service. The airline becomes the latest to settle in regards to similar allegations of wrongdoing.

Delta Air Lines is accused of falsely reporting the times at which it delivered the mail and of transferring possession of the mail. The case has gained significant attention, in part due to the fact that some of the mail was destined for US soldiers who were deployed abroad.

In a statement, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Brian M. Boynton said: "The United States expects the air carriers with which the USPS contracts to accurately report the services they provide. The resolution announced today reflects the department's commitment to pursuing contractors that do not meet their contractual obligations to the United States and misrepresent their failure to perform."

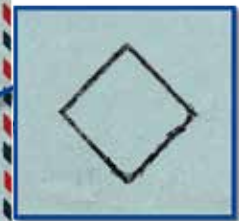
The resolution obtained in this matter was the result of a coordinated effort between the Civil Division's Commercial Litigation Branch Fraud Section, with substantial assistance from the USPS OIG and the USPS Office of General Counsel. The settlement confirms any liability by Delta Air Lines

MYSTERY SOLVED ?

I expect you have had several readers getting back to you about your query on page 73 of the June *SAP* concerning the diamond-shaped mark which appears occasionally on UK mail? but in case you have not: I believe this to be a **British postal inspector's mark** indicating that this postal item has been seen by them (or maybe counted by them?) I am afraid I do not know any more about the purpose or circumstances of its use, but hope someone else can give you more detail! I have examples on items of mail from the following years:

- 1949 mail from UK to South Africa
- 1955 postcard from UK to South Africa
- 1965 fdc from UK to RSA
- 1966 mail from Kenya to UK
- 1974 mail from UK to RSA and 1979 mail from UK to RSA (2 examples)

Regards
Martin Crawford



247 post offices closed in 4 years

Number of post offices closed



There were 2,098 post offices in March 2021

Source: Parliamentary Committee Response (NW816)



The South African Post Office not only delivers letters and parcels; it also plays a vital role in distributing social grants to millions of people each month and, more recently, in distributing chronic medication. Yet hundreds of post offices have been closed over the past few years.

Thankfully, people can also withdraw their grant money from banks and shops, but what does it mean for those of us who need to renew car licences and receive that birthday gift from a grandparent?

In answer to a Parliamentary question, the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies said post offices had been closed for a range of reasons including rent arrears, fire damage, 'amalgamation' and 'optimisation'.

Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za



POSTMARKS ARE PHUN

Research into postmarks continues to uncover new information. In this column I show some seldom seen material.

A tatty piece of paper

I recently acquired a tatty piece of paper which had a handful of 1d ZAR stamps with a nice 1900 Hartebeestfontein squared circle cancellation. Figs 1a and 1b show the front and reverse of this document.

On closer inspection, and in particular of the blue crayon marks made by a post official, it was clear that this was a message written on foolscap, probably delivered by someone other than the writer, glued onto a Telegraph A form. The telegraph was from Akhmat in Cyferfontein near Hartebeestfontein to Dr Russel in Klerksdorp. The message was "My wife rather seriously ill symptoms severe headache cold shivers excessive heat after tongue badly coated very feverish come over if possible at once when can I expect you".

There were blue marks, underline each word, 32 in all for. The fee paid was 24 pence, or two shillings, assuming all the stamps were still intact. The rate during this period is unclear and is being researched, so we anticipate that the information will be forthcoming.



Fig.1a (above)

Fig.1b (below)

Fig.1c

Fig.1: Front and reverse of a telegraph contents and receipt as well as an enlarged copy of date stamp.



This is only the second such item recorded for this office, as Ian Paterson sent me Fig.2 which I show with acknowledgement. It is intriguing that this item is on the same date sent by Weber to Marais, Klerksdorp. There were 15 words and payment was 1/6. Furthermore, it is a complete Telegraph A form.

South African Airways SAR offices

It is well-known that the South African Railways (SAR) offered a rail letter service, where a letter could be handed in at a station and by payment of additional postage for the service, it was delivered to another station on the rail network for collection or transfer to the postal service. Less known is the fact that during the 1950s South African Airways (SAA), then a division

under the SAR, offered an Airways Letter Service for letters handed in at the SAA office at an airfield. Figure 3 shows a letter handed in at Alexander Bay in 1952. It is rather intriguing that a small airport such as Alexander Bay even had an airline service. Hugh Amooore RDPSA has researched this aspect of postal history and has recorded two further items up to 1961 but with different date stamps. In his unpublished research Hugh indicated that the Air Letter Service started on 1 June 1936. He has identified 14 SAA offices in South Africa and South West Africa that provided this service.

Recently Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA discovered an almost illegible oval date stamp of Cape Town. By means of digital technology Louwrence Erasmus managed to extract a more legible copy, which is reproduced with his permission as Fig.4 (see article in this SAP). There was no date, but from the stamps this was used in the early 1950s. This raised some interesting questions. Which Cape Town



Fig.3: Air letter from Alexander Bay to Three Anchor Bay and date stamp on the reverse.



Fig.2: Another telegraph A form used on 25 May 1900



airfield was used? In a draft list that Hugh prepared Wingfield and DF Malan Airport are listed for Cape Town. Wingfield served as the Cape Town Municipal airfield until DF Malan airport was opened in 1954. It is thus deduced that the oval date stamp was used at Wingfield. Note that the telegraph office operated by the Post Office (not under SAA) at DF Malan airport opened on 19.3.1956 and closed on 17.3.1969, and a post office was opened on 19.2.1973.



Fig.4: SAA cachet used at Wingfield in early 1950s

In hierdie rubriek word 'n interessante Boereoorlog telegraaf en kwitansie bespreek. Navorsing oor hierdie tydperk van die oorlog kan bydra om duidelikheid te gee oor hoe die plaaslike inwoners die beperkings hanteer het. 'n Mediese dokter word per telegraaf ontbied. Was daar vervoer? Was dit veilig vir die medikus om rond te reis? Was daar beperkings? 'n Aspek van die posgeskiedenis wat selde gesien word is the Lugbrieffdiens, soortgelyk aan die Spoorbrieffdiens, wat deur die Suid-Afrikaanse lugdiens bedryf is. Die diens is by gelewer in Alexanderbaai. Spesiale dank aan medewerkers vir hulle bydraes.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS

CONTINUED from page 104



NAME	FEDERATION	TITLE OF EXHIBIT	CLASS	%	NAME	FEDERATION	TITLE OF EXHIBIT	CLASS	%
Coetzee Mr. Peter.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		1	70	Murga de Pira Mrs. Alma.	Asociación Filatelica Guatemala		3	68
• <i>Christmas Postage used from 1929 to 1960 in the Union of South Africa using the SANTA Christmas Greeting Seals</i>					• <i>Historic Quetzaltenango</i>				
Viljoen Mr. Diederik.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		1	68	Krishnaswamy Mr. Ramarathnam.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	66
• <i>King George V & Southern Rhodesia: 1924-1935</i>					• <i>Penny Black to crypto stamps</i>				
Ho Mr. Weng Hong.	Clube Filatélico de Macau		1	66	Madiraju Mr. Lokeswara.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	66
• <i>Macau first aviation stamps 1936</i>					• <i>Buddhist dances</i>				
Hofmeyr Dr. Jan.	Royal Philatelic Society of Canada		2	95	Madiraju Mr. Lokeswara.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	66
• <i>Designing and selecting the colours for the 1861 3c stamp of the USA</i>					• <i>Lady Slipper Orchid</i>				
Callan Dr. Brian.	Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland		2	91	Martins Neto Mr. Braz.	FEBRAF Brazilian Federation of Philately		3	66
• <i>The Electric Telegraph Company 1846-1870</i>					• <i>Fuhrer's fury</i>				
Saboo Dr. Narendar.	Philatelic Congress of India		2	88	Lubbe Prof. Samuel.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		3	65
• <i>Portuguese India-Postal markings prior to their first stamp issue</i>					• <i>The development of atomic science</i>				
Fu Mr. Sio.	Clube Filatélico de Macau		2	85	Komankutty Menon Ms. Sathianarayanan.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	64
• <i>Lesson learn, postal history of Macau bisected stamps</i>					• <i>Joint issue: What do they signify?</i>				
Wong Mr. Siu Po.	The Hong Kong Philatelic Society		2	84	Robertson Mrs. Sandra.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		3	64
• <i>Liberated Area Issues of Anhui Province</i>					• <i>Silhouettes on stamps – Hanover to Windsor - 1837 to 2021</i>				
Porto Dr. Rubem.	FEBRAF Brazilian Federation of Philately		2	83	Sakhare Mr. Sammir.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	61
• <i>Letters with early postal marks of the Rio de Janeiro province in the Brazil Empire</i>					• <i>Human space exploration</i>				
Reinhoild Mr. Sterzer.	Philatelic Federation of Finland		2	83	Zitnik Metaj Mrs. Natalija.	Slovenian Philatelic Association		3	55
• <i>Finland Figure Cancels</i>					• <i>I, an artist</i>				
Abdul-Mughni Mr. Khaled.	Kuwait Philatelic and Numismatic Society		2	82	Khaitan Mr. Piyush.	Philatelic Congress of India		4	90
• <i>Kuwait - 'Postage Due' and connected instructional marking</i>					• <i>Indian mail via Airship and Catapult flights (1912-1937)</i>				
Kunc Mr. Lubor.	Union of Czech Philatelists		2	82	Callan Dr. Brian.	Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland		4	88
• <i>Field post system Czechoslovak territory October 1918 – February 1919</i>					• <i>Graf Zeppelin DZ-127 - 1929 On board mail</i>				
Al Rais Mr. Ali.	Kuwait Philatelic and Numismatic Society		2	76	Vidal Mr. Wady.	FEBRAF Brazilian Federation of Philately		4	86
• <i>A decade of postcards history in Kuwait 'Rate & Routes'</i>					• <i>From Brazil by the May 1930 Zeppelin flight</i>				
Erasmus Dr. Louwrence.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		2	75	Andrzej Mr. Jarzynkowski.	Polish Philatelists Union		4	85
• <i>Sending Money Home - South Africa to Sekakes from January to September 1973</i>					• <i>Gliding post in the pioneer period (1923 - 1936) - First Flights</i>				
Amoore Mr. Hugh.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		2	73	Khaitan Mr. Piyush.	Philatelic Congress of India		4	78
• <i>Official registration and geneses of certified mail in South Africa</i>					• <i>O.A.T. and AV2 markings on airmails connected with India (1935-1952)</i>				
Huo Mr. Huixiao.	Clube Filatélico de Macau		2	73	Haynes Dr. Bruce.	Australia Federation		4	75
• <i>Macau official envelope from Canton 1883 – 1930</i>					• <i>Netherlands East Indies domestic airmail 1920</i>				
Rivera Grajeda Mr. Carlos.	Asociación Filatelica Guatemala		2	73	Tiernan Mr. Jon.	Australian Philatelic Federation		6	83
• <i>Guatemala's Western Region mailbox markings</i>					• <i>Tasmania beer duty stamps 1880 - 1902</i>				
Miranda Mrs. Raquel Arabella.	Asociación Filatelica Guatemala		2	71	Diserio Mr. Mark.	Australian Philatelic Federation		7	91
• <i>Declare value markings in the Department of San Marcos in the years between 1949 and 1958</i>					• <i>Queensland 1d letter card and reply letter card</i>				
Moll Dr. Michiel.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		2	70	Ficken Ms. Sylvia.	Royal Philatelic Society of Canada		7	83
• <i>Italiaanse nommerstempels</i>					• <i>Dogs of Newfoundland: Newfoundland postal and revenue material 1887-1944</i>				
Rogers Mrs. Verena.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		2	70	Kumar Mr. Akhil.	Philatelic Congress of India		7	51
• <i>WWI Field Post Office and censor marks</i>					• <i>Dance: Rhythm of life</i>				
Pickering Mr. Terence.	UK National Philatelic Society		2	67	McLaughlin Mr. David.	Royal Philatelic Society of Canada		9	86
• <i>The Stilwell highway</i>					• <i>Canada: World's grain exhibition and conference, Regina 1933</i>				
Kumar Mr. Satish.	Philatelic Congress of India		2	57	Asthana Mr. Aditya.	Philatelic Congress of India		9	79
• <i>Pre-stamp mail</i>					• <i>Elgin Mills Co. Ltd., Cawnpore</i>				
Radnell Mrs. Vera.	Australian Philatelic Federation		3	85	Grigorian Mr. Igor.	United States, APS		9	77
• <i>The language of falconry</i>					• <i>Armenian scented paper (Papier d'Armenie) From incense to commodity</i>				
Herrera Mr. Washington.	Federación Uruguaya de Filatelia		3	81	Siarkiewicz Mr. Krzysztof	Polish Philatelists Union		9	70
• <i>Jose Artigas, the General betrayed, the shadows of Albion</i>					• <i>A history of wheelchair tennis</i>				
Deshpande Mr. Tushar.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	78	Hegarty Mr. Clem.	Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland		9	61
• <i>Elephantnama - The Elephant cronicles</i>					• <i>Two epic flights of the Vickers Vimy in 1919</i>				
Wadhwa Mr. Vijay.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	76	Pickering Mr. Terence.	UK National Philatelic Society		9	52
• <i>Above & beyond - Bird migration</i>					• <i>British Empire Exhibition 1924 – 1925</i>				
Haeck Mr. Pascal.	Fédération Royale des Cercles Philatéliques de Belgique		3	72	Futerman Mr. Dion.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		9	48
• <i>The Statue of Liberty</i>					• <i>All the world's a stage (Five ages of postage)</i>				
Madiraju Mr. Lokeswara.	Philatelic Congress of India		3	70	Gendek Ms. Marilyn.	Australian Philatelic Federation		10	86
• <i>Buddhist mudras</i>					• <i>Nutritional sustenance in a nursing world</i>				

OBITUARY

WELL KNOWN PHILATELIST

JOHN KAUPE

6 May 1928 – 15 May 2022

There will be number of members of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa who will remember John Kaupe. He had just turned 94 and although troubled by sight loss and poor mobility, his prostate cancer had been kept under control for some years. Unfortunately the cancer caused complications and he passed away after a short stay in hospital.

John had been living in a flat adjoining the family home for the last 2 years. John was always courteous and kind; a gentleman. He loved books and acquiring knowledge and he kept up with the world around him. We spent many hours googling queries and books to buy. John loved to tell the tales of his life to his family, visitors and carers. John was writing an account of his life where philately features strongly. I didn't quite understand all the intricacies of his work on the Swaziland stamp forgeries (all this research is now with John Shaw at the Royal Philatelic Society), but I am aware of the hours of meticulous work that went into the research.

Born in Balham London, he was a Grammar school student and went on to study architecture. As a young man he enjoyed his travels around Europe on a motorbike on his own and with Joan, who he married in 1951.

The economic downturn of the 70s led to John taking a position in South Africa. This suited his adventurous nature and with his love of languages, he soon learned Afrikaans and subsequently took up dual nationality. In my conversations with John, it was clear how much he had appreciated his time in South Africa and all the opportunities it had offered him.



A keen philatelist since childhood, and after a working trip to Burma in 1966, started of a collection of Burmese stamps and covers and a friendship with fellow collector Gerald Davies. On moving to Pretoria, John became involved with the Pretoria Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and the Transvaal Study Circle. He took an interest in stamps from Swaziland and began research into forgeries associated with these. This led to John being invited to assist the Expert Committee in Pretoria and then back in London with the Royal Philatelic Society as the expert on the Swaziland 1889 overprints.

In collaboration with Peter van der Molen RDPSA, they produced, *Swaziland Philately to 1968*, the definitive work on that country's philately. John's achievements were recognised with the award of the Transvaal Study Circle's Gold Congress Award (twice), and the PFSA's Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion 'for over thirty years in-depth research into ZA Republic stamps, expertising work both in South Africa and the UK for numerous published articles on Transvaal issues.'

A serious-minded man, John never stopped educating himself throughout his 94 years; classical music, books, stamps, photography, London, motorcycles, exploring and understanding Europe and early English history, collecting moths, growing roses, architecture, family history - all held a fascination for him. He said of himself that he felt satisfied that he had led a long and fulfilled life.

John Kaupe was a gentleman of the 'old school' and will be sadly missed as a philatelist and as a person.

He is survived by his daughters Harriet and Charlotte, and their families.

His funeral took place at Stonefall Crematorium on 9 June 2022.

NAME	FEDERATION	TITLE OF EXHIBIT	CLASS	%
Pienaar Mr. Gary.	Philatelic Federation of South Africa		10	83
		<i>Scouting during the great war – Through old picture postcards</i>		
Srinivasa Mr. Ramu.	Philatelic Congress of India		10	83
		<i>Victoria Terminus</i>		
Kantor Mr. Rod.	Australian Philatelic Federation		10	80
		<i>St. Helena - The polytechnic postcards</i>		
McLaughlin Mr. David.	Royal Philatelic Society of Canada		10	77
		<i>Local publishers of Ottmar Zieher philatelic post cards</i>		
Metaj Mr. Matjaž.	Slovenian Philatelic Association		10	71
		<i>Aerodrome Ljubljana</i>		
Sudhakar Ms. Muthiah.	Philatelic Congress of India		10	64
		<i>Incredible India</i>		
Wong Mr. Ivan.	The Hong Kong Philatelic Society		11	85
		<i>Cancellation on issues of Hong Kong Queen Victoria 2 cents after 1900</i>		
Madiraju Mr. Lokeswara	Philatelic Congress of India		11	73
		<i>Great Britain: Postal cancellations of post office number of London postal district and London suburban district on penny red</i>		
McLaren Mr. Sinclair.	New Zealand Philatelic Federation Inc		11	58
		<i>The Wonky cancellation</i>		
Quinhone Mr. Gerson.	FEBRAF Brazilian Federation of Philately		13	77
		<i>A tribute to the Leiao Urbana</i>		

Proudly hosted by the Orange Free State Philatelic Society under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of SA



MonacoPhil 2022

24 to 26 November 2022

"We hope to welcome a large number of visitors in November"

- Patrick Maselis,
General Commissioner
MonacoPhil 2022

PARTNERS





International Philatelic Exhibition: Cape Town, 8-12 Nov. 2022

Road to Democracy

Things are happening at full capacity for CT 2022. More than 400 exhibitors from 40 countries will exhibit over 1,600 frames of stamps to be judged by 42 jurors under chairmanship of Howard Green RDPSA.

Add more than 60 Literature entries and Cape Town as the venue, the show is destined to offer an experience to remember.

Since announcing the Exhibition in 2019, the Organising Committee experienced many difficulties before reaching this point. Think of the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that hit in 2020 and virtually brought the world to a standstill.

The uncertainty also caused the Exhibition to be postponed to the current date which placed a haziness over its likelihood to take place.

The Organising Committee, throughout this difficult period, remained positive and set to offer an exciting and prestigious stamp exhibition at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC)

- With former President Kgalema Motlanthe serving as Chief Patron and Gerhard Kamffer's International award-winning exhibit **'The Road to Democracy in South Africa'** as theme, the exhibition sets the stage for an experience worth remembering.

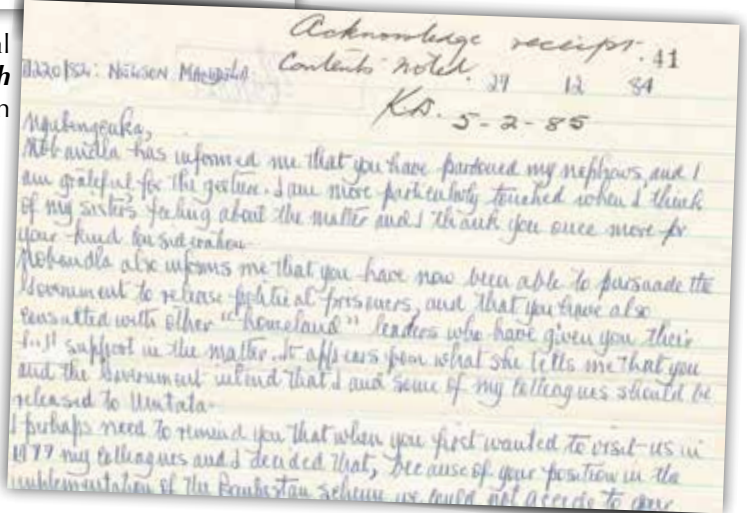
Exhibits will offer all the regular selection of classes and will be shown on a rotational basis with rotation taking place on Wednesday 9 November 2022.

Societies, dealers, businesses and private individuals are offered space to promote themselves or make a donation which will be noted either as a donation or an advertisement in the Exhibition Catalogue and on the official Cape Town 2022 (<https://capetown2022.org/>) and PFSA (<https://stampssa.africa/>) websites.

Donations of any value will be appreciated. A list of sponsoring opportunities is also available on the Cape Town 2022 website under 'PATRONS' in the top menu. Also available is a set five prepaid official Postal Stationery cards issued by the Post Office at R120.00. The cards depict the indigenous Kingfisher designs of the August 2016 stamp issue. Get in touch, we would not want to disappoint - let us know your needs, so that we can plan accordingly.



'The Road to Democracy' featuring Nelson Mandela Robben Island correspondence on display in the Court of Honour at Cape Town International Exhibition under F-I-P patronage.



With confirmation of popular local and international Dealers taking up their booths at this exciting "must-visit" philatelic event in Cape Town, you can also make a point of visiting the South African Post Office stand offering the unique Cape Town 2022 cancellor and much more. See you there!



Dear Readers,

In order to raise funds for the planned 2022 Cape Town International Exhibition, a set of five postcards depicting original artworks by Mr Andre Olwage has been produced for sale to collectors. These same paintings were those used for the 2016 stamp issue. Each card is prepaid with the same bird design as an imprint.

These official Postal Stationery cards issued by the Post Office, the fifth in the series, will be sold in a packet of 5 designs, depicting indigenous Kingfishers. Orders may be placed with Emil Minnaar Tel. 063 803 3536 or by Email: Emil@Minnaar.org

The cards will also be on sale at **Cape Town 2022 International Exhibition** in November.

The selling price of R120, plus Postage and Packaging of R20 (within South Africa), or selling price of US\$10 plus Postage and Packaging of US\$8. Previous official Postal Stationery cards (in sets of 10) showing indigenous birds of South Africa, taken from paintings by the late Mrs. Julia Birkhead, are still available at US\$20 plus Postage and Packaging of US\$8.

All sets will be on sale at Cape Town 2022 International Exhibition in November.



CAPE TOWN 2022 International Stamp Exhibition 8th – 12th November 2022

Payment may be made by EFT to the account of: Philatelic Federation of SA Standard Bank Swift Code: SB ZAZAJJ Branch Code: 012 442. Account Number: 023 304 669 or to PAYPAL account: Emil@Minnaar.org

The original paintings will be auctioned in November during the exhibition at a date and time to be announced. An indication of the estimate price per painting, starting at bids of R6,000 per painting - already been received. The paintings are framed and their size is 36cm x54cm. Please support our endeavour.

Kind regards
Emil Minnaar 

Doreen Royan & Associates (Pty) Ltd

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Identification of a Postmark/Cachet Using Contemporary Information and Communication Technologies

by Dr Louwrence Erasmus, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
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Introduction

Sometimes, remarkably interesting philatelic items come across my desk. This article is about one of those items, depicted in Fig.1, that Dr. Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, requested me to analyse and decipher the cachet that was applied. Combining a passion for philosophy of science, research, electronics engineering, physics, and philately gave the answers on why, who, where, when and how this cover was cancelled. A couple of new questions also resulted from this study.



Fig.1: Express Mail Cover sent from Cape Town to Johannesburg

The method and tools used to analyse the cover using image processing to identify the cachet are described below. Philatelists should be able to follow along by downloading and installing the software for the image processing and tracing of cachets to answer some of the intriguing questions about their own covers.

In correspondence, Kamffer consulted with Hugh Amoore RDPSA, about the oval rubber cachet used at the unknown 'VLIEGVELD' in Cape Town on the cover illustrated in Fig.1. On the right upper part of the cachet there is also an indication of an inscription: 'SAR & H / SAS & H.' Amoore had not seen the cachet before, but remarked that it might have been an aerodrome letter or a rail post letter. The paid letter rate of 1 1/2d plus the minimum express mail fee of 6d (PFSA, nd ('not dated')) is of interest on this cover as there is no attempt to pay either the aerodrome letter fee (plus 2d, (De Jager, 2007) or the rail post fee (plus 2d, (PFSA, nd) and there are no markings for either. The only mark is the internal tracking number, PR0295 or PR0275, written on the envelope at the post office in Johannesburg. There is also no Johannesburg cancellation on the cover.

In solving the above problem (philosophically different from a challenge and its resolution), the following questions need answers:

- How or with what was the cover cancelled?
- What is indicated in the script on the cachet?
- Who cancelled the cover?
- When was the cover cancelled?
- Where was the cover cancelled?

- Is the cover an aerodrome letter?
- Is the cover a rail post letter?

The first question is answered by examining the cachet: The cancellation was made with either a rubber stamp or a self-inking steel stamp.

The cover was scanned at 1200 dpi and the image was examined. The following was observed:

1. The letter was sent from Cavalla Limited, Cape Town (address printed on the back of the cover) to Mr H.L. Kaplan in Greenside Extension, Johannesburg.
2. A halved red express label (English half) was used
3. The PR0295 number is written in pencil next to the label.
4. A bilingual 1 1/2d green Voortrekker Monument postage stamp was used
5. An Afrikaans hyphenated single 6d green and orange/vermillion first definitive stamp was used.
6. A purple oval stamp with the following lettering visible: Cape Town / Kaapstad at the bottom, two telephone numbers and ...R. & H. / ...S. EN H. in the centre, and ...VLIEGVELDT at the top.
7. The combination of the green 1 1/2d stamp and the purple ink of the cachet makes it very difficult to read.
8. The green and orange/vermillion 6d stamp and purple ink also make it a challenge to read.

There are several software packages available for performing image processing. For this analysis, an open source copy of GIMP Version 2.10 was downloaded free from <https://www.gimp.org>. GIMP is available for Linux, MacOS or Microsoft Windows. Tutorials on how to use GIMP can be watched on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com>.

The image was imported into GIMP, and the green and orange colours softened / lightened and the cachet darkened, as shown in Fig.2.



Fig.2: Processed image

The following was also observed:

1. AF Station S ... ISCHVLIEGVELDT --> speculation, could it be AF Station STARVISCH Vliegveldt?
2. Where is STARVISCH?
3. Note the light ink blot to the right of the bottom of the tree.
4. A faint ink blot next to 'POSSEËL' of the 1 1/2d stamp.
5. Second Tel.no. 5 - 1??

A typical colour printer uses the CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow

and Black) colour space. These four colours can reproduce most of the colours on paper. A CMYK decomposition into layers (colour separation) of the scanned image in Fig.1 was performed and each layer was examined. The yellow layer gave the best information as shown in Fig.3.



Figure 3: Yellow layer of the CMYK decomposition

The following was also observed:

1. The ink blots observed earlier look like 5 point stars.
2. First tel.no. 5-3???
3. In the middle seems to stand: 'S.A. Airways S.A.R. & H.' and below that 'S.A. Lugdiens S.A.S. EN H'.
4. At the top it seems to be: 'AF Station S ... SCHVLIEGVE'

The human eye perceives colours totally different from any of the colour spaces like CMYK or the primary colours from art, red, blue, yellow, or the primary colours of physics, red, green, blue (RGB). The International Commission on Illumination defined the CIELAB colour space with L^* for perceptual lightness, and a^* and b^* for the four unique colours of human vision, red, green, blue, and yellow.

Figure 1 is decomposed into the L^* , a^* , and b^* levels. The green stamp is very faint on the b^* level. The purple cachet is more visible at the b^* level because of the blue component in it. Unfortunately, the orange has a large red and yellow component which makes the analysis difficult in any of the levels. By selecting the b^* level and doing an auto-equalisation of the colours, the image in Fig.4 is generated and the information on the cachet becomes visible.



Fig.4: Auto equalising of b^* blue-yellow

The following is additionally observed:

1. The ink blots observed earlier are five-point stars.
2. First tel.no. 5-3???
3. Second tel.no. 5-1???
4. In the middle is: 'S.A. Airways - S.A.R. & H.' and 'S.A. Lugdiens - S.A.S. EN H.'
5. A.F. STATION SUPERVISOR / VLIEGVELD ...

By combining all the observations above, evaluating the geometrical fit on the top line in the cachet, and translating the English part fully into Afrikaans, it can be deduced that the

line should read 'A.F.STATION SUPERVISOR / VLIEGVELD.T. HOUER' (A.F. indicates AIR FORCE, and the Afrikaans is an abbreviation for 'toesighouer').

A copy of Fig.4 was imported into Microsoft Power Point and rotated 4 degrees so that the cachet is horizontal. The cachet was then traced as shown in Figure 5.



Fig.5: Traced cachet

The cover was cancelled by the Air Force Station Supervisor possibly at Cape Town AFS. The only problem is where was the Cape Town Air Force Station? Was it at Ysterplaat? Before answering this question, one needs to determine when this cover was cancelled.

The cachet in Fig.5 does not appear in the pioneering work of Reisener (1978). Prof. Alex Visser RDPSA remarked that the cachet looks to be from the early 1950s, and that the cachets of S.A. Airways, S.A.R. & H are not listed in Putzel (Putzel & Visser).

According to Hagger (1986), the 1½d stamp was sold from 1 December 1949 until the end of January 1950. Closer examination of the 6d stamp shows that it is from the fourth hyphenated printing of November 1946 (Howgrave-Graham, nd). The fifth printing was issued in January 1950 and the sixth printing was issued in February 1954 (Hagger, 1986).

Postal rates increased for letter rate to 2d, while express mail and aerodrome rates were unchanged on 31 March 1950 (PFSA, nd).

Most likely, the letter was mailed between 1 January and 30 March 1950.

Cape Town Airport or DF Malan Airport was only operational after 1954 (Cape Town Airport, nd); thus, this leaves us with the following possibilities: Wingfield Aerodrome in Goodwood (Wikipedia Contributors, 2021), Ysterplaat AFS (The Airforce - Bases - Airforce Base Ysterplaat, nd), Fisantekraal AFS near Durbanville (Cape Winelands Airport, nd), or Youngsfield AFS in Wynberg. Wingfield was originally the Cape Town Municipal Aerodrome before becoming an AFS under the South African Air Force (SAAF). During World War II (WWII), it was used by the Fleet Air Arm unit of the Royal Airforce. After WWII, the aerodrome reverted to being the municipal airport again until 1954 (Wikipedia Contributors, 2021). With the military presence on Wingfield and being the Cape Town Municipal Aerodrome after WWII, the letter was most likely cancelled at Wingfield in Goodwood.

Wyndham (1936), in De Jager (2007), summarised the Aerodrome Late Fee as follows:

"The 1st June 1936, marks yet another important development in the history of aerial communications in South Africa, namely, the introduction of the arrangement

arrived at between the Postal Administration and South African Airways whereby late mail bearing air mail postage at the prescribed rates and additional postage stamps to the value of 2d are accepted by accredited representatives of South African Airways at aerodromes within the Union and South West Africa for conveyance by mail-carrying aircraft operated by South African Airways up to within ten minutes of departure of the aircraft by which the letters are intended to be conveyed. This arrangement, which is similar to the 'rail letter' system, is of great benefit to the public wishing to dispatch urgent letters which have missed the ordinary post office clearances. Such letters cannot be accepted at a post office or by postal officials; they are conveyed within the Union or South West Africa to the point from which delivery or onward air or ordinary transmission can be most expeditiously effected, where they are handed over to the Post Office authorities for franking".

Covers addressed to Wyndham sent in 1936 and 1938 and reported by De Jager (2007) had cachets from the aerodrome on them but not covering the stamps. Also, a cover from Port Elizabeth Air Station cancelled in 1950, is discussed, and the aerodrome cachet is also over the stamp, as in Fig.1. It seems that in 1950, aerodrome late mail was cancelled with the aerodrome's cachet.

Conclusion

In summary, Figure 1 is a letter that was probably cancelled by the Air Force Station Supervisor of Wingfield at the Cape Town Municipal Aerodrome during the first quarter of 1950 with the cancellation shown in Figure 5. A 1½d air mail plus 6d express mail fee was paid. The cover is not a railway letter. No 2d aerodrome late fee was paid and there are also no markings on the cover to indicate handling of the letter by the flight captain. There is also no Johannesburg receiving cancellation on the cover. This leaves the following questions:

- Why is the cancellation without a date?
- Why was the aerodrome fee not paid?
- Why is the Johannesburg receiving cancellation not on the cover?
- Could it be a possibility that express mail took preference over all other handling routes and the cover was delivered with express mail immediately after landing in Johannesburg?

The function of the magnifying glass will never be replaced, only modernised and extended with contemporary Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to make visible that which is undetected by the naked eye. The use of modern ICT in the study of philatelic materials in an inexpensive way is possible.

Acknowledgements: The author is grateful for the inputs and advice from Hugh Amooore, Johan Joubert, Dr. Gerhard Kamffer and Prof. Alex Visser.

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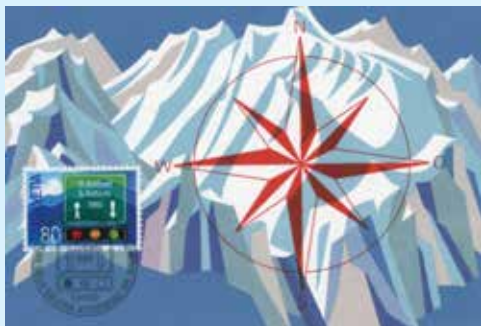


Comic Corner

Stamps that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen,
Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Errors on Stamps... Episode 71 'LEFT-HAND DRIVE IN SWITZERLAND?'



One of the biggest events in Switzerland in 1980 was the opening of the **Gotthard Tunnel**. This was then the longest road tunnel for general traffic worldwide. It was also symbolised by the two arrows on the large traffic sign which appears on the commemorative miniature sheet.

The dangerous error on this stamp is very obvious, as there is only right-hand traffic in Switzerland with no exception for British or South African tourists.



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Congress is tentatively scheduled for Friday 11 November. Prize giving will be in conjunction with the International's prize giving on Saturday 12th; presently, no separate Palmares is planned.

- **Final Entry** - 31 August 2022

Union of South Africa Roll Stamps, May 1935

by André du Plessis RDPSA, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria

Repeated here, as it appeared in the March issue of the newsletter 'Keeping in Touch' STAMPSSA



The first ½d and 1d roll stamps with the hyphenated spelling of SUID-AFRIKA and perforated 13½ x 14 appeared in 1935. separated by hand, and there is no means of distinguishing them from the strips torn from sheets.

These stamps were different from the ones to follow in that they were perforated by a single comb Grover machine instead of the 11-row comb machine used in the later ones and perforated 14½ x 14.

The perforation gauge caused the cylinders to be etched in such a way that there was a narrow gutter between stamps 6 and 7 of each row.

On this printing missing perforation holes are plentiful, and instances exist with as many as seven of them around a single stamp.

When producing the first sheets of both issues, no mechanical means existed for slitting the sheet into strips in which form they appeared. Like the unhyphenated issues they had to be



Fig.1: Stamps from later rolls of this and subsequent issues show cuts through the perforation at the edges and can be easily identified as roll stamps.



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TRAVELLING TAXES OF SOUTH AFRICA

Mail from Southern Africa with a fiscal accent *(published in multiple parts)*

by Oscar van der Vliet, Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika, Netherlands



- PART 3 The Republic Period (1961-2009)

Series 1961 (1961-1968)

The advent of the Republic saw no change in the design of revenues, or their occasional use for postage.; only the conversion to the metric currency: 1 Rand = 100 cent, 2 Rand = £1.



Fig.1: Registered mail within Johannesburg.

Franking:	Revenue: Coat of Arms series 1961	2c x4 (65) EN-AF green & brown	Barefoot 110
Fee:	Postage (19620401-19710401) 1 st oz. Registration (19620401-19710401)	2 ½ c 5c	GG6567 / R1791 of 19600930
Cancels:	Johannesburg normal cancel in black R 0942 Johannesburg Blue pencil cross Back: Johannesburg normal cancel in black	4 X 1966-8.00-143 4 X 1966-8.00-143!	Putzel 554 4/20 Putzel 554 4/20

The first example is a registered letter in Johannesburg. This is unusual in being registered within Johannesburg, also, the fact that the departure cancel is the same time as the arrival cancel, this is suspicious unless the Postal Officer dropped it immediately into the PO Box.



Fig.2: Fiscally adjusted fee resulted in Postage Due for airmail to Clifton

Franking:	Postage: series 1963-67; 'kafferboom bloem' Postage Due: series 1961 Revenue: Coat of Arms series 1961	1c (series 1963-67) 4c 2c (65) EN-AF green & brown	SACC 226 SACC 52 Barefoot 110
Fee:	Postage (19620401-19710401) 1 oz.	3 c inland airmail 2x2=4c Penalty	GG6567 / R1791 of 19600930
Cancels:	Johannesburg normal cancel in black Hand stamp in purple Pen correction and value in blue Cape Town normal cancel in black Airmail label No cancel at back	30VIII66-17.30-33 T4c T4c 1 IX 66:-6.00	Putzel 288 4/20 SD4 Out of use? Putzel 123 4/16 G. Mair RSA-A-9a

The second example is an inland letter sent by airmail from Johannesburg to Clifton near Cape Town on 30 August 1966. This time there is a Postage Due stamp affixed. The rate of 3c was in operation from 14 February 1961 to 1 June 1970. The letter was franked with a postage stamp and a revenue stamp. The Taxation marking was correct, and the only explanation for this 'double' notation is that the manuscript 'T4c' was applied simultaneous with the marking of the revenue stamp in the corner in Johannesburg, and that the purple handstamp 'T4' was added later in Cape Town.



Fig.3: Corrected mail before transmission to London.

Franking:	Postage: series 1963-67 Revenue: Coat of Arms series 1961	10c (series 1967-71) 10c (61) EN-AF purple & blue	SACC 269 Barefoot 110
Fee:	Postage (19620401-19710401) ½ oz.x2	5c x2 2nd class airmail to Europe	GG6567 / R1791 of 19600930
Cancels:	Pietermaritzburg cancel in black Germiston cancel in black Pen correction in corner 'SECOND CLASS AIRMAIL' hand stamp in purple Airmail label imprinted on airmail letter No cancel at back	- 6 II 62 8.II.62 14.00	Putzel 37 4/20 Putzel 18 10/50 G. Mair RSA-A-5x (#)

The third and final example in this series is a 2nd class airmail letter form Pietermaritzburg via Germiston to London. Second

class airmail was introduced on 30 October 1953 (*Government Gazette* GG5171, Government Note GN 2338 of this date), for printed papers, commercial papers and samples posted in the Union at a rate of 7d per ½oz. This converted to +/- 5.83c in the new currency. The rate was reduced to 5c per ½oz in 1961 (GG6567, R 1791 of 60,1111.)

Series 1967 (1967-1968)

A reduced issue of the 2c revenue stamp was specially prepared for use on cheques, and was introduced in 1967. Unfortunately it was taken out of circulation on 1 January 1969 and examples are scarce on cheques and also rare on letters. It had the same development as the larger 2c variety, only smaller.

Franking:	Postage: 100 years ZAR Oct. 6 1969 Revenue: scroll design series 1968	2 ½ c 20c (68) blue & brown	SACC 302 Barefoot 134
Fee:	Postage (19620401-19710401) ½ oz. Penalty	Airmail USA: 22 ½ c 45c	GG6567 / R1791 of 19600930
Cancels:	Bethlehem cancel in black T in circle with 26 at foot No cancel at back	23 III 70 16:45 26 = Bethlehem	Putzel 47 BD 98 2013



Fig.4: Taxed airmail letter from Johannesburg to Cape Town.

Franking:	Revenue: Coat of Arms series 1967 Postage Due: series 1961	2c (67) green & brown 2c x 2	Barefoot 128 SACC 51
Fee:	Postage (19620401-19710401) -1oz. Penalty	inland surface / airmail: 2 ½ / 3 ½ c for 1 st oz; 1 / 1 ½ c for next oz. 4c = 2x air postcard!	GG6567 / R1791 of 19600930
Cancels:	Johannesburg cancel in black Cape Town cancel in black Circular T-cancel in black Airmail label No cancel at back	12VIII67-.1:00 13 VIII A 67 T 4c	Putzel 288 4/20 Putzel 126 1/4 QD7 G. Mair RSA-A-8x?

This is the only example I have found with the reduced 2c stamp. It was intercepted and taxed, but the fee charged was that for an airmail postcard. If charged as an airmail letter the fee would have been at least 7c.

Series 1968 (1968-1978)



Fig. 5: Intercepted and taxed airmail letter from Bethlehem to Chicago.

The Lions Club was apparently too creative with this letter to Chicago as the Post Office did not have much faith in this combination and marked the specific stamp as being inappropriate. The added tax marking was specific to the Orange Free State Offices in the Union period and beyond.

Series 1978 (1978-2009)

A: 1978-1991

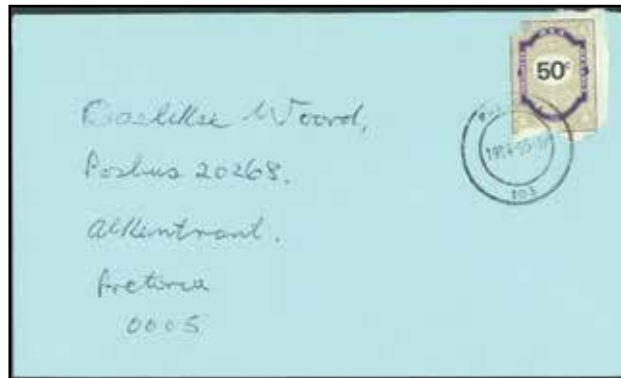


Fig.7: Inland local mail with revenue stamp from the first period.

Franking:	Revenue: frame design series 1978	50c (80) purple & gold	Barefoot 156
Fee:	Postage (19930401-19940731) -50g.	Standard mail: 45c	PSGSA: postal rates 1910-2013
Cancels:	Pretoria cancel in black. No cancel at back	1994-05-17 103	Putzel 170

This local letter was cancelled on 17 May 1994 and delivered within the confines of Pretoria. It is noted that the revenue stamp has been damaged as it was torn from a previous document and then affixed to this cover.

Nevertheless, the fee was acceptable and the cover was cancelled and delivered to the PO Box. The cover is over franked as the current rate at the time was 45c. Of significance is the numeral '80' in the lower right corner of the stamp, indicating the year of issue. This is a case of late usage as most values of these stamps were issued annually. Revenues from this period were printed on thin transparent and vulnerable paper. Any attempt to remove the stamp ended in most cases with a torn item. Soaking off the stamp could work in some instances, but for that reason, the Rand value is in

part fugitive ink on the back beneath the glue. Stamps which have been soaked off will show damage to the printing of the back of the stamp varying from faded spots to a plain faded background. Stamps from this period do not respond to UV light.

B: 1992-2002



Fig.8: Inland registered mail with (ignored) revenues from the 2nd period (1991-2005).

Franking:	Revenue: frame design series 1978 Receipt slip	20 c x3 (92) R 2,60	Barefoot 153
Fee:	Postage (19920501-19930331) -50 g. Registration (19920501-19930331)	DL size: 35c R 2,25	GG13937 / R1142 of 19920413
Cancels:	Payment slip Cresta Pretoria Traffic Department cancel in purple R label Cresta 00911 No cancel at back	03/03/03 -9 -03- 1993	Unchartered Unchartered

This cover is a registered letter sent presumably for a traffic fine. The fee for this letter was finally paid correctly, being 35c for a standardised letter type DL (110 x 220mm) and R2,25 for registration. The 60c affixed to the letter was for a non- standard letter up to 100g franking. Due to the ticket, no postmarks were needed. This type of payment has been seen for a few years but the service is no longer available.

Revenue stamps of this period were printed on thicker white paper. Colours vary slightly except for the R20 value which was changed significantly from brown to pink in 1997. The use of security dots in the printing continued and also the use of UV sensitive papers with or without an afterglow. Experiments with elliptical perforations were conducted on some values. No printings have been found for 2001.

Consulted sources:

Bartholomeu Dias (several issues FVZA) and Forerunners (PSGSA) with postage due cancels from Jan Stolk; Information from Bram Leeflang; A story about the history of South African aviation: <http://www.sapfa.org.za/history/history-sapfa>; *Par Avion in Southern Africa*: Jack Burrell; several parts from Ralph Putzel and Alex Visser for South- and Southwest Africa; Government Gazettes published by Sabinet (PDF -1993); Act's ; Notices etc from the website of the South African Government: <https://www.gov.za> ; *South African Colour Catalogue* (SACC) 2004/05; 27th edition published by Lutz Heffermann.
British Commonwealth Revenues; 10th edition 2019 from John Barefoot; *The special & commemorative postmarks, cachets & covers of South Africa (1975)* by Hasso O Reisener;
Southern Africa mails; Routes, Rates and regulations 1806-1916 by Brian Trotter RDP FRPSL;
COGH Revenues 1865 to 1898 (Volume 3) by John G.F. Fletcher (2014); *Natal & Zululand Posts with articles* from John Dickson (5/4 '01; 6/1 '02; 7/3

C: 2003-2005

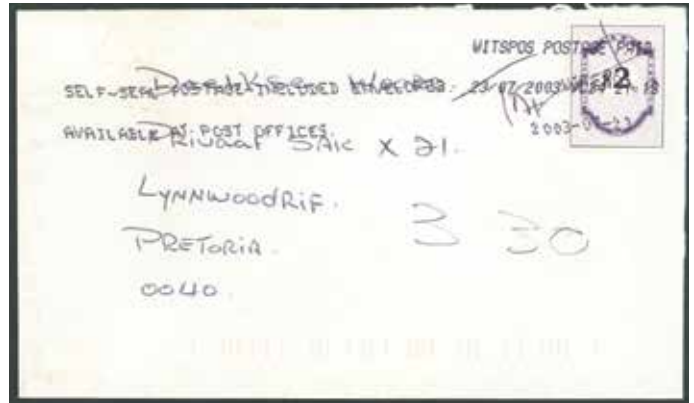


Fig.9: Surface mail with digital obliteration in Witspos for destination Pretoria in 2003.

Franking:	Revenue: frame design series 1978 Penalty with pen annotation	R2 (03) R 3,30	Barefoot 158
Fee:	Postage (20030401-20050331) -50 g. Penalty: double surcharge	R 1,65 R 3,30	GG24346 / Notice 366 of 20030131
Cancels:	WITSPOS POSTAGE PAID (print) Slogan: SELF-SEAL POSTAGE INCLUDED ENVELOPES AVAILABLE AT POST OFFICES 'Tax' ; cross through revenue and value to pay in pen	23/07/2003 3 30	Outside scope Putzel Outside scope Stolk

The most recent example seen from this period was sent on 23 July 2003 via Witspos to Lynnwoodrif, Pretoria. The stamp has been manually cancelled in pencil with the word 'Tax' and the amount owing. Computer controlled inkjet printers have replaced the conventional roller cancellations, with the image including a form of receipt. Revenue stamps were demonetised on 1 November 2009 by GG32057, GN 361 of 27 March 2009. Refunds were possible within 12 months of that date on production of a receipt of purchase.

C: 2006-2008

No examples of revenues used for postage purposes have been seen for this period

This article is considered to be a living document! Anyone who can add, correct or offer addition information in an constructive way can email Oscar at vliet307@planet.nl . Everyone will profit from a complete understanding.

'03) ; Tony Davis (6/2 '02; 7/4 '03) and Marius Wlodarczyk (16/4 '12); OVS letter and additional info from Tim Bartche; *English and Welsh postmarks since 1840* by James A. Mackay (1980); Courtesy Andrew McClellan for showing Assize stamps made from Native stamps series 1942; *Catalogue of airmail labels* by G. Main (1991); *A chronology of the postal slogans of South Africa* by S.J. Vermaak (1979) provided by Johan Diesveld; Cancellations of Haiti: information provided with courtesy from personal knowledge of Wolfgang Windel from Haiti Philately (no literature available) *Shielded Secrets! An extensive study of the Coat of Arms revenue issues in South Africa* by O. van der Vliet; R. Rong and T. Devine; Cleyen Segel No 97 supplement September 2020; Several other publications about SA revenues in 't Cleyen Segel by Oscar van der Vliet (1997-2020) and aspects being published for the 1st time in this article; ZAR laws of 1895; 1898 and 1900 scanned by the University of Pretoria.

TRADITIONAL PHILATELY



CENTENARY OF THE 'GREAT TREK' 1838-1938 – MEDIA RELEASE

by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Illustrated here is the Photographic Media Release for the Voortrekker Memorial Fund and Centenary Stamp issue of 1938, described by André du Plessis RDPSA in the June 2022 issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

This is of interest because the vignettes of the 1d Wagon Wheel and the 1½d Signing of the Treaty designs were

transposed in the issued stamps. The other values are exactly as issued. On the reverse is a hand-stamp in violet which reads:

'No. P 568 / BUREAU OF INFORMATION / OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH / Released for Publication', the number 'P 568' being inserted by hand.

On closer examination, it is noted that the vignettes of these two stamps are enclosed in similar sized frames, being rectangles with rounded corners.

One wonders if the transposition was intentional or accidental.



Photographic essay of final artwork of the Wagon Wheel design of the 1d.

Make a point of seeing Paul who will be present at the 2022 Cape Town International / National event

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NVI (NO VALUE INDICATED) DEFINITIVE STAMPS OF RSA

Part II
The Rhino stamp



by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Part I of this series appeared in the December 2010 issue of *The SA Philatelist* and readers were probably wondering why there was never a follow up. The reason was that the Rhino stamp was covered quite adequately by David Sinclair in the April 1998 issue of *The SA Philatelist*. Admittedly, David's article only covered issues up to 1997.

The full set of the RSA Sixth Definitive Series: Threatened Fauna, comprising 18 values from 1c to R10, due for issue on 3 September 1993, as illustrated in the Philatelic Services Bulletin, is reproduced in Fig.1. It is noted that this is taken from original artwork and may be subject to alterations. No date of issue of this bulletin is shown but it is assumed to be before the new tariff for domestic mail, to be introduced on 1 April 1993, had been decided as all of the stamps are shown with a face value.

All of the stamps were duly issued on 3 September 1993 in the designs as shown, with the exception of the 45c, depicting the African Striped Weasel (*Poecilogale albinucha*) and the 75c, depicting the Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*). The species name, in Latin, appeared at the bottom of each stamp below the frame line together with the name of the designer 'DENIS MURPHY' and the year of issue '1993'.

It was rumoured that the authorities would not agree to a Standard Postage rate stamp depicting a 'Skunk' (the African Striped Weasel, which like its North American cousin, also ejects a vile smelling scent as its defensive weapon). Accordingly these two designs were transposed and the 75c value depicted the weasel.

SHEET PRINTINGS

All values were printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria (GPW) using the lithographic process. The printing sheet size was 405 x 630mm comprising two un-identified panes of 100 stamps (10 rows of 10), one above the other. A quantity of 3,060,000 sheets (panes) were printed of the Standardised Mail stamp with plate numbers: 2463 (cyan), 2464 (yellow), 2465 (magenta) and 2466 (black) for the original issue.

On 1 April 1994 the standard postage rate was increased to 50c. A further 750,000 sheets, of the Rhino stamp, were printed on 17 October 1994 with plate numbers: 2656 (cyan), 2657 (yellow), 2658 (magenta) and 2659 (black).

In 1995 the standard postage rate was increased to 60c and in 1996 to 70c.



Fig.1: RSA 6th Definitives – Media Release

On 1 April 1993 the tariff for domestic mail was increased from 35c to 45c, an unprecedented increase of 28.6%, and the stamp of this latter denomination would be inscribed 'Gestandaardiseerde pos / Standardised mail' (Fig.2).



Fig.2: Chromalin of Latin Rhino stamp



Fig.3: Chromalin of English Rhino stamp

During 1996 it was decided, that the language of the species name, appearing below the lower frame line would be changed to English. The first value to have this change was the Rhino standard postage stamp, now inscribed: 'BLACK RHINOCEROS'; the rhino image was enlarged which resulted in the left and right frame lines to

be broken as on the chromalin, illustrated in Fig.3. This was corrected on the issued stamps.

The first printings of the English version of the Rhino stamp were for booklets on 9 April 1996 (600,000 sheets) and on 28 May 1996 (600,000 sheets). These special sheets for booklets comprised two panes of 50 stamps in ten rows of five; there were no plate numbers (Ref.1). Sheet stamps were printed on 1 July 1996 with plate numbers: 2820 (cyan), 2821 (yellow), 2822 (magenta) and 2823 (black). A proportion of this printing was perforated on a new security perforator, the 'Bickel MPA 65', which produced two elliptical holes in the horizontal perforations of each stamp (Fig.4). The individual quantities printed are not known but in Ref.6 it is stated that a total of 750,000 sheets were printed, including normal and security perforated stamps of both settings (dies).

On 7 April 1997 the standard postage rate was increased to R1.



Fig.4: Die I Plate block with Security Perforations

THE TWO DIES OF THE RHINO STAMP

On 7 July 1997, a Corporate Product miniature sheet, sponsored by the University of Pretoria in conjunction with ExpoScience Internationale '97 was issued (Fig.5). This incorporated a single Rhino Standardised Mail stamp in the English version. On examination of this stamp it was noticed that there were subtle differences between it and the 1 July 1996 printing. For instance, the relative positions of 'Suid-Afrika' and 'South Africa'. The second 'a' of 'Afrika' was directly above the 'c' of 'Africa'. Also, the 'S' of 'Suid' and the 'S' of 'South' were now aligned vertically whereas the latter had been noticeably to the left. In addition, the designer's name 'DENIS MURPHY' was in thinner print and was 7mm long compared with 6.75mm in the earlier printing.

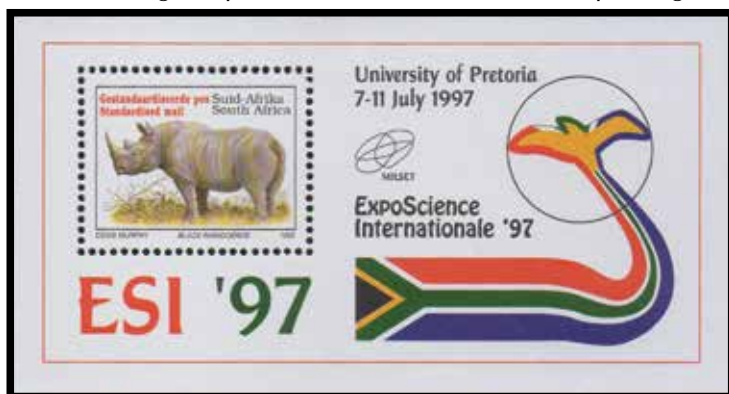


Fig.5: ESI '97 Corporate Product



Fig.6a: Die I Characteristics



Fig.6b: Die II Characteristics

The above discovery, made by Frank van Rensburg, President of the South African Stamp Study Circle (SASSC), was described in Ref.2. Subsequently, in Ref.4, the differences were illustrated and it was proposed that the types should be designated: Die I and Die II. It was shown that if a line were drawn through the tip of the horn and the chin of the rhino it would intersect the left frame line at 16° in Die I or 18° in Die II (Figs.6a & 6b). This was confirmed in Ref.7, where the differences were itemised and it was stated that, in Die II: *the rhino is tilted fractionally forward*. It was also stated in this reference, that Die I was from *authorised artwork* and that Die II was from *unauthorised artwork*, the implication being that *the staff of the Government Printer saw fit to tamper with the design as originally issued*. In my view, Die II is a correction of poor work in Die I, e.g. the misalignment of the 'S' in 'Suid' and the 'S' in 'South'.

During June/July 1997 permission was granted that stamps could be printed by other than GPW and a contract was given to Cape & Transvaal Printers (CTP) of Cape Town. Rhino stamps were printed by CTP using paper and plates supplied by GPW. They were perforated on the MPA 65 machine. They were Die I and are indistinguishable from stamps printed by GPW (Refs. 3 & 5).

Late in 1997 collectors began to notice stamps of Die II design on commercial mail, the earliest known date of usage being: 1997-11-26 CAPEMAIL. Plate blocks were not available from Philatelic Services but eventually a plate block was found at a Cape Town Post Office, surprisingly showing the same printing date and plate numbers as the Die I printing. A further distinguishing feature is that in the coloured blocks on the right-hand selvedge, the numbers were centralised whereas on the Die I blocks the numbers were closer to the bottom (Figs.7a & 7b).

It is interesting to note that in the chromalins illustrated in Figs.2 and 3, the country name 'Suid-Afrika' / 'South Africa' shows Die II characteristics.

In Ref.8, an explanation for the use of the same plate numbers and printing date is given. This was not a reprint but a continuation of an incompleting order. A new multi-positive was required as *the standing multi-positive was showing signs of wear*. New plates were prepared and a proof sheet submitted to Philatelic Services. Approval was granted on 6 August 1997.

THE FORGERY THAT WAS NOT A FORGERY

At the December 1997 meeting of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society, Dr Franco Frescura, who at that time headed up Philatelic Services, reported on the existence of forgeries of the Rhino Standard Postage Rate stamps. He had received, through the mail, a letter franked with a strip of five Rhino stamps, which were rouletted rather than perforated in the normal manner.



Fig.7a: Die I Plate Block – numbers towards bottom



Fig.7b: Die II Plate Block – numbers centralised

They appeared to have been printed from artwork in film-form 'stolen' together with the correct paper from GPW. Subsequently a report, reproduced as Fig.8, appeared in *The Star*, dated Monday December 15 1997, warning the public to be on the lookout for such stamps.

The Star, Monday, December 15 1997

COMPARISON BETWEEN COUNTERFEIT AND GENUINE "RHINO" POSTAGE STAMPS

Counterfeit stamp

- Brighter red ink
- Label-type perforations
- Different, thinner and lighter type face

Genuine stamps

- Security perforations (Introduced in 1996)
- Thicker type face
- Standard perforations

Make sure your mail gets the stamp of approval

The Post Office has warned the public to be on the lookout for fake stamps, depicting the black rhinoceros, which have surfaced in Gauteng.

Spokesman Ben Rootman said one of the flaws in the forgeries, which were very good, was that they had the wrong type of perforation.

Other differences between the fakes and the real stamps were the different typeface and colour of the words "South Africa", "Denis Murphy", "Black Rhinoceros", the date 1993 and the brighter wording of "Standardised mail".

If you are offered fake stamps or receive them on items in the post, telephone the Post Office's crime-buster unit on toll-free number 08000 33-554. Keep wrapping or envelopes as proof. – Staff Reporter

Fig.8: Cutting from *The Star* newspaper

Very few people, if any, have located copies of these 'forgeries' but, from the illustration in *The Star*, they would appear to be very similar to the Die II stamp described above and illustrated in Fig.6b.

In the Ref.4, an example was described that was discovered by Lucky Souyouljis, the proprietor of City Stamps, one of only two stamp dealers remaining in downtown Johannesburg, at that time. This copy (Fig.9) was found in a packet of kilo-ware and appeared to have 'pin-perfs', possibly from a

sewing machine, rather than roulettes and is clearly from Die I. It is 'dot-matrix' cancelled 'PRETORIA 1998-03-30' and the reaction to ultra-violet light is similar to that of genuine stamps.



Fig.9: Stamp found by Lucky Souyouljis (image enlarged)

At a much later date, I acquired three postcards, each of which had three Rhino stamps affixed. These were of Die II and were rouletted (Fig.10). These postcards were 'dot-matrix' cancelled: 'WITSPOS / 28/04/2000'. Why three stamps? – maybe it was thought that putting extra stamps on speeded up delivery!

The theory is that these 'counterfeit' Rhino stamps were, in fact, genuine and emanated from un-perforated sheets (or possibly printer's-waste) stolen from GPW and rouletted (or pin-perfed) to aid separation.



Fig.10: 'Express' Postcard dated 28/4/2000

In late 1997 the Redrawn 6th Definitives began to appear. These were simplified designs featuring the same fauna but without frame lines and with the country name: 'South Africa'. The Rhino stamp (Fig.11) was printed by CTP on 16 January 1998 and was only available in booklets but was also available from Philatelic Services in uncut panes of 30 stamps. Hence vertical *tête-bêche* pairs are quite common.

NVI Standard Postage rate stamps of this series featured five species of Antelopes and were printed *se-tenant*.

They were described in the October 2009 issue of *The South African Philatelist*, pages 782/785.



Fig.11: Chromalin of Redrawn Rhino stamp

Rhino stamps in booklets and on postal stationery will be covered in Part III, of 'NVI Definitive stamps of RSA' in a future issue of *The South African Philatelist*.

References:

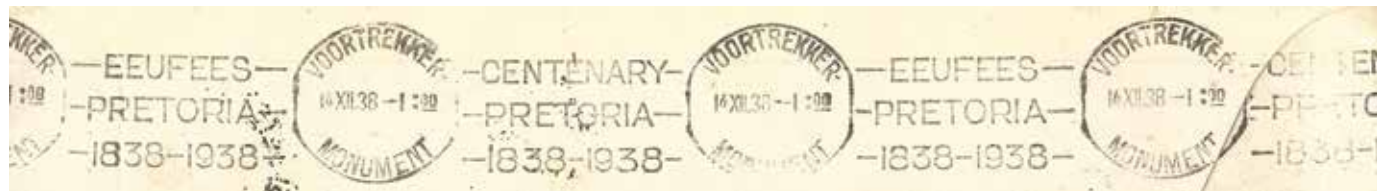
- 1) van Rensburg, Frank, 1997. *STAMP BOOKLETS 1988 – 1996 – Republic of South Africa*. RSA Stamp Study Group.
- 2) van Rensburg, Frank, January 1998, Reprint of Black Rhinoceros Standardised Mail Stamp. *NEWSLETTER* No.428. P2, SASSC.
- 3) van Rensburg, Frank, April 1998. Redrawn Black Rhinoceros Standardised Mail Stamp. *NEWSLETTER* No.157. P2-3, RSA Stamp Study Group.
- 4) Messenger, Robin, June 1998, Counterfeit Rhino Stamps. *NEWSLETTER* No.433. P4, SASSC.
- 5) Messenger, Robin, September 1998, The Redrawn Rhino Stamp (Die II), *NEWSLETTER* No.436. P5, SASSC.
- 6) Schmidt, Robbie, 2013. *THE CONCISE STAMP CATALOGUE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA 1961 – 2013 DEFINITIVE SECTION*. The Author.
- 7) Philatelic Services, 1998, Discovery of a new rhino stamp printing. *SETEMPE* VOL 3 NO 5 SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 1998. P10, South African Post Office.
- 8) Philatelic Services, 1998, Rhino Stamps – comments from the Government Printing Works *SETEMPE* VOL 3 NO 6 NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 1998, P8, South African Post Office.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA STAMP VARIETIES

by André du Plessis RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

The repeat of this and further articles (Silver Jubilee) that were first published in the 'KEEPING IN TOUCH' newsletter, are deemed important enough to be published in issues of The South African Philatelist.



UNION of S.A. COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS VOORTREKKER MEMORIAL FUND, 3 MAY 1933 AND 16 JANUARY 1936

The Union of South Africa issued 27 Commemorative issues from 31 May 1910 to 31 May 1961.

As discussed in the March 2021 issue of 'Keeping in Touch', the first Union Commemorative was the 2½d stamp of 1910. These Commemorative issues lend themselves to further discussion in forthcoming issues of *The SA Philatelist*.

A period of 23 years passed before the next set of Commemorative stamps; The Voortrekker Memorial Fund – were issued on 3 May 1933. After this, Commemoratives followed with shorter intervals.

The idea to build a monument in honour of the Voortrekkers, who left the Cape Colony between 1855 and 1854 (the Great Trek), was first discussed on 16

December 1888, when President Paul Kruger of the then Zuid-Afrikaansche Republic (ZAR) attended the Day of the Covenant Celebrations at Blood River in Natal.

However, the movement to build such a monument only started in 1931 when the 'Sentrale Volksmonumentekomitee' (SVK) (*Central People's Monuments Committee*) was formed to bring this idea to fruition. A *Memorial Fund* was also set up to administer funds.

The designs of this semi postal* set of four stamps were symbolic of the Great Trek and were produced to raise funds for the erection of the Voortrekker Monument.



Church of the Vow



Voortrekker sentinel

WATERMARK

Springbok head sideways, facing right
1d duty – facing right and left

PERFORATION

14

SHEET LAYOUT

120 Stamps in 6 rows by 20 columns inscribed alternately
in English and Afrikaans

PRINTER

Government Printing Works,
Pretoria using the Rotogravure process



Cradock's Pass



Voortrekker women

Three stamps with postal value of 1d, 2d and 3d were issued on 3 May 1933 and the ½d on 16 January 1936.

All stamps carry a surcharge and were the first Union stamps to be sold for more than their face-value.

The surcharge was credited to the *Memorial Fund*. The stamps remained on sale until 31 October 1938.






During the Voortrekker Centenary Celebrations in 1938 these stamps were used on specially designed covers that were carried by ox-wagon from Cape Town to Pretoria and a branch trek from Vegkop to Blood River.






SELECTED VARIETIES






Listed in the Union Handbook (UHB), 1986 edition.

AFRIKAANS/ENGLISH above the illustrated variety indicates the language of the stamp on which it appears.

The only variety listed by Stanley Gibbons is the 1d V1 'Comet flaw' (Row 2/7) as SG 51a.






<p>1/2d AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Irregular black cross in sky below left-hand value shield (ex Row 1/1) UHB - V1</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Black line joining the bottom portion of value shields (ex Row 3/6) UHB - V2</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Black blob between second and third windows (ex Row 4/1) UHB - V4</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Break in left frame line level with church (ex Row 4/19) UHB - V5</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Short black mark under flagpole to left of flagpole (ex Row 6/20) UHB - V6</p>
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<p>1d ENGLISH</p>  <p>Inscription blurred with red smudge - Comet flaw (ex Row 2/7) UHB - V1</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Red dot inside left frame line below 'U' of Suid (ex Row 3/6) UHB - V2</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Short red line below '1' of 1d (ex Row 4/9) UHB - V3</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Blurred figure of man on cliff (ex Row 4/8) UHB - V4</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Black dot in left value tablet (ex Row 5/7) UHB - V5</p>
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<p>2d AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Purple dot above hat (ex Row 2/7) UHB - V1</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Left hand shield broken on right (ex Row 5/15) UHB - V2</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Green line through figure of man into margin (ex Row 4/20) UHB - V4</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Purple line through 'OO' of VOORTREKKER (ex Row 6/11) UHB - V5</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Purple dot on foot of '2' of 2d (ex Row 6/16) UHB - V6</p>
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Creased paper on 2d - not listed

<p>3d ENGLISH</p>  <p>Dot in large '1' of 1 1/2d (ex Row 4/3) UHB - V1</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Thin blue irregular circle passing through 'DS' of FONDS (ex Row 4/6) UHB - V2</p>	<p>ENGLISH</p>  <p>Retouch under 'ENT' of MONUMENT (ex Row 5/8) UHB - V4</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Retouch on frame line above 'FRI' of AFRIKA (ex Row 6/8) UHB - V5</p>	<p>AFRIKAANS</p>  <p>Frame broken above 'SU' of SUID (ex Row 6/18) UHB - V6</p>
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* **Semi postal:** "A stamp sold at a price greater than postal value, with the additional charge dedicated for a special purpose. Usually recognized by the presence of two (often different) values, separated by a "+" sign, on a single stamp".

ASPECTS OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society and Johan Joubert, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging, Pretoria



Part 9: THE CERTIFIED MAIL SERVICE

The objective of the Certified Mail Service was to allow through the post, at a tariff lower than that for the registration service, important postal items that had no intrinsic value but in respect of which the sender required that proof of receipt be obtained from the addressee. The service was restricted to the provinces of the Republic of South Africa and to South-West Africa. Later it was also introduced in the homelands of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei and Venda.

Introduction

The Certified Mail Service worked in the same way as Official Registration for items of no intrinsic value but where proof of delivery was needed. The system of Official Registration was introduced in the Union of South Africa on 1 June 1926 (Fig.1). This system can be regarded as the precursor to the Certified Mail System that was introduced in 1961. From 1 April 1961 to 31 March 1964 this service was a limited service for the high volume of mail sent from the Workmen's Compensation Commission as a charged-for service. In this period the service was for the sole use of the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner.

of administration including payment of postage (Figs.2 & 3). From 1 April 1964 to 31 March 1971 the service was also open for the use of other Government Departments.

Certified Mail Service: Extension to the General Public

An announcement was made in the Post Office Bulletin in March 1971 that the Certified Mail Service, the use of which had been restricted to Government and Provincial departments, would be available for the public as from 1 April 1971. All classes of mail matter, except parcels, could be certified. The cost in 1971 was 5c plus postage at the appropriate rate (Fig.4).

This system was organised and a notification was issued to the addressee to collect the item from the post office (Fig.5). It also indicated that certified articles would be returned to the sender, if not collected within 21 days of the issue of the original delivery advice.

The following were the main features of the service:

- Objective: The Certified Mail Service allowed recorded post to be sent, at a tariff lower than that for registration service, important postal items with no intrinsic value, but in respect



Fig.1: Official registration item with the blue label posted on 31 January 1931. (Collection: Hugh Amoore RDPSA, Cape Town).

The Workmen's Compensation Commission was opened in 1945 and although official envelopes were used, all mail had to be prepaid by meter franking because the Workmen's Compensation Act provided that the Accident Fund should meet the costs



Fig.3: (Above) Certified mail cover posted from Pretoria on 21 August 1965 with the white label indicating that it was handed in at the Pretoria post office. The postage of 7½c is paid by Meter Franking Machine allocated to the Compensation Commissioner's Office in Pretoria.



Fig. 2: Certified mail item posted from Klerksdorp in 1964



Fig.4: Cover posted from Marquard on 24 October 1977 illustrating the 7c Certified Mail rate introduced on 1 January 1975 plus the 4c Inland Letter rate introduced on 1 April 1971.

• **Distinguishing mark:** The only identifying mark which was recognised for the Certified Mail Service was a distinctive green label bearing the wording 'Gesertifiseerde Pos/Certified Mail' and a number (Figs.8, 9, 10).

The labels were available as follows:

- P1/98 labels in rolls were for use by Government Departments and by firms and other institutions that made extensive use of the Certified Mail Service. Each roll consisted of 1000 labels in two parts. The sender affixed one part of a label to the postal article and retained the duplicate for record purposes.
- P1/99 loose labels were for use by the public and other users of the service whose requirements did not justify the issue of rolls of labels. The labels were in

of which the sender required a confirmation of receipt to be obtained from the addressee.

- **Extent of service:** The service was restricted to the four provinces of the Republic of South Africa and to South-West Africa. Later it was introduced for use in the homelands of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei and Venda (Fig.7).

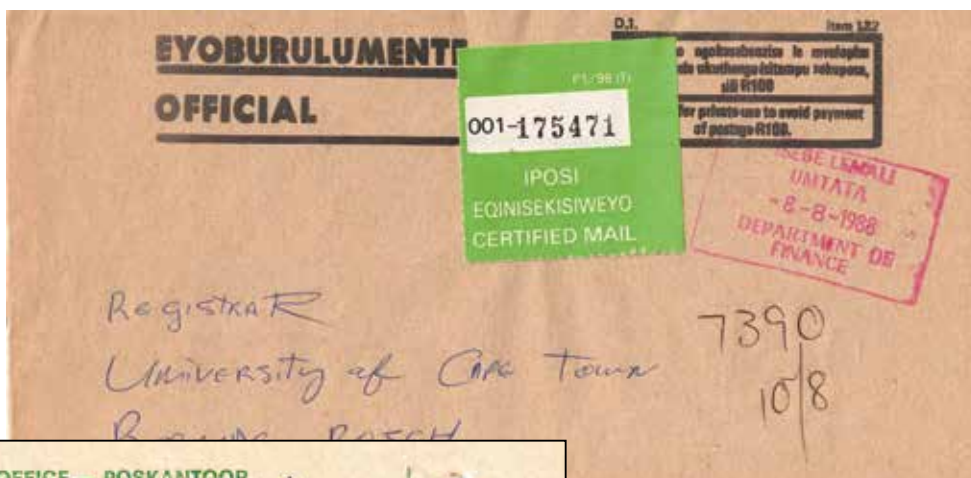


Fig.7: Official cover posted from Umtata on 8 August 1988 using the Certified Mail Service with a Transkei Homeland label in Xhosa. Label no. P1/98 (T) The 'T' referring to Transkei



Fig.5: Final notification issued for the collection of a certified mail article with the datestamp of the delivering office TEK dated 15 August 1980.



Fig.8: An example of Certified Mail labels. The sender affixed one label to the postal article and retained the duplicate for record purposes.

packets of 500, (or supplied 'piecemeal' as and when required). Each label was perforated and bore a number in duplicate. The sender affixed the small portion of the label to the postal article and retained the remaining portion for record purposes.

- **Method of making up:** Certified Postal items were made up in accordance with the general rules for the various classes of mail matter. Window envelopes could be used.
- **Posting of Certified Mail items:** Certified Postal items, except those intended for express delivery, were not accepted at post office registration counters, but had to be posted in posting boxes, included in private post bags, or when large numbers were involved, handed in at bulk posting sections of post offices.



Fig.6: Notice from the Post Office Depot in Pinetown dated 18 November 1989 that a certified mail item could not be delivered due to the fact that it was: 'Too large for street delivery'.

- **Acknowledgement of posting:**
Acknowledgement of posting of Certified Mail could be obtained if the prescribed fee had been affixed by means of a postage stamp to the counterfoil of the P1/100 label and a counterfoil handed back to the sender after the postage stamp had been cancelled.
- No compensation would be paid for the loss of a Certified Mail item or for damage to the content thereof. The local Postmaster would have willingly answered any questions clients might have had in connection with the Certified Mail Service.

Any postal article bearing the words 'Certified Mail' or any other word or phrase to that effect written or impressed on the cover, and posted without the prescribed Certified Mail label had to be treated and delivered as an ordinary uncertified article even if an amount equal to the certification fee in addition to the postage had been paid on it.

The Certified Mail Service was regarded as a very important service provided by the Post Office to the public. On 30 September 1994 a special stamp was issued to advertise this special service as part of a set of four stamps depicting other services such as 'Registered Mail' and 'Express Mail' (Fig.11).



Proof of stamp

Issued stamp with 70c value.

Fig.11: The stamp issued to advertise the Certified Mail System as part of a set of four stamps issued on 30 September 1994.

Certified Mail Fees

The following fees were applicable from the 1 April 1971 when this service was made available to the public (Fig.12):

Date	Fee	Date	Fee	Date	Fee
01.04.1971	5c	01.04.1982	20c	01.04.1990	60c
01.11.1972	5c	01.04.1984	22c	01.04.1991	75c
01.01.1975	7c	01.04.1985	26c	30.09.1991	R1-05
01.01.1978	7c	01.04.1986	30c	01.04.1993	R1-35
01.02.1980	10c	01.07.1987	40c	01.04.1994	R1-70
01.01.1981	10c	01.04.1989	50c	01.04.1995	R2-45

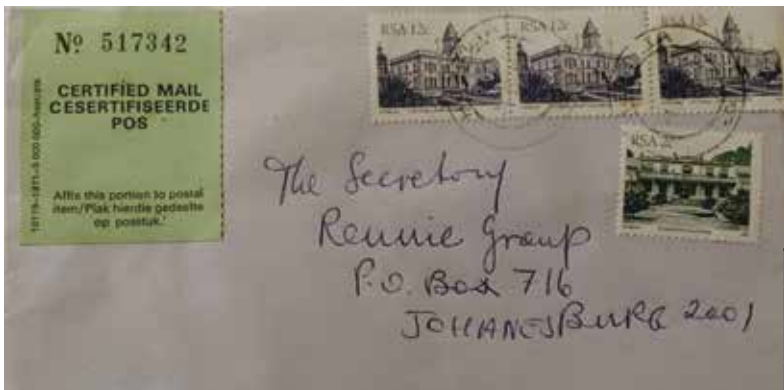


Fig.9: Cover posted from Herzlia on 4 February 1986 illustrating the 26c Certified Mail rate and also the 12c Inland Letter rate, both rates introduced on 1 April 1985. Note the different design of the Certified Label introduced in 1971.

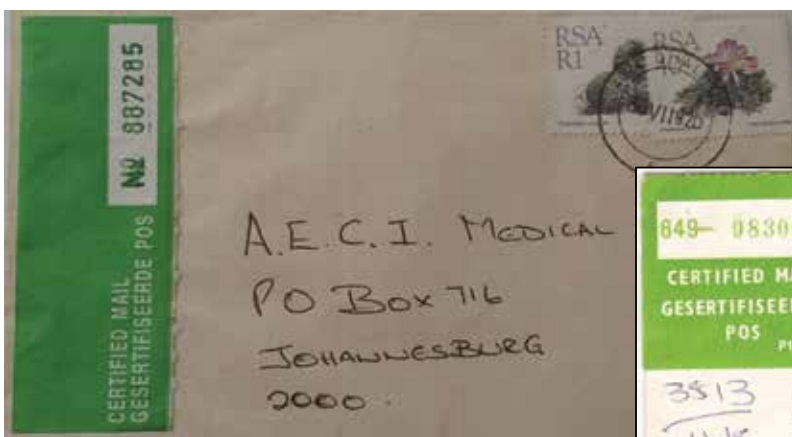


Fig.10: Cover posted from Qualbert in Durban on 30 December 1992 illustrating the R1-05 Certified Mail rate.

Fee for Proof of Posting

For Certified Mail an additional service was provided whereby, if the sender required proof of posting, an additional amount had to be affixed in postage stamps and the item handed in over the counter (Fig.13). The following rates were applicable for this service:

Date	Fee	Date	Fee	Date	Fee
01.04.1971	2c	01.04.1986	12c	01.04.1993	50c
01.04.1982	5c	01.07.1987	15c	01.04.1994	55c
01.04.1984	6c	01.04.1991	20c	01.04.1995	65c
01.04.1985	10c	01.05.1992	30c		

The Certified Mail System was in use in the Republic of South Africa from 1961, until 1 July 1996, when the Signature on Delivery system was introduced for important letters or documents which required proof of delivery.



Fig.12: Cover posted Certified Mail and Express Mail from Sasolburg to Heilbron on 15 August 1985. The postage fee of R1-88 paid for: the 26c certification fee, the R1-50 express fee plus the internal surface rate of 12c, all of which were introduced on 1 April 1985.



Sources:


- Amoores Hugh, *Official Registration in South Africa, from 1926 to the 1950s and the genesis of the Certified Mail Service, Cape Town.* (Scan of the collection).
- Reisener Hasso, *The Special and Commemorative Postmarks, Cachets and Covers of South Africa, 1892-1975, Pretoria, 1975.*
- SA Post Office, *Post Office Bulletin, No 55 (Special), 3 March 1971.* 

Fig.13: Receipt for a certified postal item whereby the sender required proof of posting and therefore had to pay the additional fee of 6c applicable from 1 April 1984. Stamp cancelled at the Rhine Road Post Office in Sea Point.

Unless otherwise indicated all the illustrated items are from the author's collection.

TRADITIONAL

Doctor Blade Flaw, 2d Roto issue 2a, 1932 by M J H Tonking RDPSA



The doctor blade flaw which occurred on the 2d roto issue 2a is of particular interest as it proves that the two panes were printed at the same time prior to perforation and separation.

ROW 19/4 - Dot above 'UI' in 'SUID'

ROW 20/4 - Dot in right scroll.

ROW 1/4 - Two dots above roof to left of tower.

ROW 2/3 - Line to right of left chimney.



Revisiting the 2d Roto Issue 2 and 2a

The rotogravure 2d postage stamps issues 2 and 2a were both printed from the same cylinders. The first had small marginal arrows and the second large marginal arrows etched over the original small arrows. The number of stamps printed of these Issues is not recorded, although it must have been quite large. Many flaws have been noted, some of which are shown here.

Partly missing frame
Watermark inverted



Partly printed vignettes
Watermark upright
ROW 12/5 - Dot in left scroll



(At left) Joined paper watermark upright
Postmark 17 December 1931
ROW 2/6 - Dot on 'O' of POSTAGE



Joined paper watermark upright
ROW 19/1 - Two dots right of left tower
ROW 20/1 - Dot inner frame below 'd' in SUID.



Southern Africa and '1935 Silver Jubilee Madame Joseph' Forged Postmarks

by Neil Donen, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada email <ndonen@shaw.ca>

"The postmark on a stamp or cover often tells a story – but who can say if it speaks the truth?" Anon



Introduction

Research work done by the King George V 1935 Silver Jubilee Study Circle (SJSC) has identified a clear association between The City Stamp Shop (CSS) in London and forged postmarks on 1935 Silver Jubilee (SJ) covers (Ref 1) (Fig.1). Many of these forged postmarks are known to have come from the so-called Madame Joseph (MJ) collection. In 1994 Derek Worboys published his landmark book on the MJ forgeries (Ref 2). An update to this book was produced by Brian Cartwright in 2005 (Ref 3). Cartwright also included a listing of MJ postmarks he had seen used on stamps. The 438 tools to make these forgeries had, at one time, belonged to a dealer named Gordon Rhodes. This collection now resides in the museum at the Royal Philatelic Society London. Neither Worboys nor Cartwright mention the CSS in their books.

It is believed that Rhodes used the services of at least three different forgers (based on the type of implement used to create the forged postmarks). Within the largest group of 311 wooden implements are 85 items that have dates that are very closely associated with early usage of the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue (1 May to 27 August 1935). The current thinking is that Rhodes procured the cancellers and provided the forged 'cancelled' covers to Eric Bowie, the owner of The City Stamp Shop, who then disseminated them. This theory has much credence as their shops were located less than 400m from one another.

The first identification of forged postmarks associated with the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue was by Robson Lowe who published three articles in late 1935 and early 1936 (Ref 4-6). Many of the items he identified are seen in the current collection at the Royal. More recently Roger West, a co-editor of Worboys' book, has made available on piece, items from a collection he acquired from a dealer in the 1980s. It appears that many of the stamps were damaged through flooding and the dealer arranged to have the stamps mounted and 'cancelled' using the MJ implements (Ref 7).

Since the initial Study Circle publication in 2015, the author has continued researching CSS covers and has identified additional SJ forged postmarks not associated with the MJ collection. These findings have added to the mounting evidence that the collection housed at the Royal is only part of Rhodes' original collection of forged cancellers.

Table 1 provides a breakdown and comparison of the number of colonies and countries with forged postmarks from the three groups (MJ collection, Robson Lowe and the SJSC). In many instances more than one forged postmark was made for a colony/country. The very high quality of these newly identified forged postmarks leads me to believe that they were indeed part of the original collection. It is assumed that they had either been lost or misplaced.

	Number of Countries & Colonies
From the 'Madame Joseph' Collection	
- Postmarks in collection	36*
- Registered Postmarks	6*
- Postmarks on stamps identified by Cartwright	24
- Postmarks identified by Robson Lowe	22
- City Stamp Shop (CSS) covers identified by the SJSC	25
Not seen in the 'Madame Joseph' Collection	
- Identified by Robson Lowe	2
- CSS covers identified by SJSC	6
- Postmarks/covers identified by both SJSC and Robson Lowe	7

* Two colonies had both registration and non-registration postmarks

Table 1: Numbers of Colonies/Countries with 1935 Silver Jubilee related 'Madame Joseph' forged postmarks.



Fig.1: Cover from 'Lobatsi, Bechuanaland', dated 6 May 1935. Addressed to the City Stamp Shop, London. The address imprint is similar for all the CSS covers. The actual first day of issue for Bechuanaland was 4 May 1935. The 6 May date was the first day of issue of most of the omnibus participating countries.

Unfortunately, none of the previous articles and books provides information on the differences between the MJ postmarks and the genuine ones. The focus of this series of articles is to include features that will assist the reader in differentiating forged from genuine postmarks. As will be shown, the high quality of the postmarks makes identification of forgeries very difficult. Usually, the only triggering clue is the association of the postmark with CSS. Many of the examples shown include City Stamp Shop covers with postmarks. Where I have not been able to collect CSS covers, I have used *on piece* MJ cancels acquired by Roger West who had edited Worboys' book (Ref 7) or examples from Cartwright's book.

It is important to stress that the presence of postmarks on these covers does not automatically imply the postmarks are forged. However, the probability is extremely high. To

date, many of the registered covers appear to have genuine postmarks. Identifying forged postmarks on stamps off-cover is more difficult and is usually serendipitous. The commonest scenario is finding a stamp with the appropriate date (usually 6 May 1935) and the name of the town. These items are more difficult to identify as usually there is only part of the postmark on the stamp (See Fig. 7 below).

Where concern was identified with the viewing of the postmark, I used a software program **retroReveal** to achieve greater clarity (<http://retroReveal.org>). This program, provided by the J. William Marriott Library at the University of Utah, uses a series of mathematical algorithms to break the colours into multiple separate layers of black and white images. Unfortunately, the program has recently been removed from the University website with no explanation.

The Forgeries

All five Southern African territories participated in the 1935 Silver Jubilee omnibus issue. Table 2 lists their first date of issue, together with the town/city used for MJ postmarks, the date on the MJ postmark and the association between the MJ collection housed at the Royal. The latter involves those postmarks either seen on stamps/piece by Cartwright/West or on CSS covers.

	First Date of Issue	MJ Postmark	MJ Date	Cartwright/West (On stamps or piece)	City Stamp Shop (Covers)
South Africa	1 May 1935	Jansenville	1 May 1935	-	No MJ number
South West Africa	1 May 1935	Okahandja	6 May 1935	MJ400	MJ401
Basutoland	4 May 1935	Maseru	6 May 1935	MJ51/52	-
Bechuanaland	4 May 1935	Lobatsi	6 May 1935	MJ55	MJ56
Swaziland	4 May 1935	Mbabane	6 May 1935	MJ408	MJ408

Note: MJ numbers listed are those from Worboys / Cartwright.

Table 2: Forged Madame Joseph Postmarks on 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps seen in the Public Domain.

South Africa

This CSS cover (Fig.2), 'cancelled' at Jansenville, Cape, on 1 May 1935 was previously shown in the August 2020 issue of *The South African Philatelist* (Ref 8). It purports to be a Putzel type 6 postmark (Ref 9).

A series of interactive e-mails between the author and Alex Visser RDPSA confirmed that this was indeed a forged postmark. Figure 3a is a composite of the various postmarks on the CSS cover, while Fig.3b is a composite of various Jansenville cancels Visser has in his collection. The following three features were identified as being different from the real postmarks i.e.

- The middle arm of the MJ 'E's of Jansenville is shorter than the genuine cancel.
- The first 'N' in the MJ Jansenville is narrower than the genuine cancel
- The middle arm of the MJ '3' is shorter than the genuine cancel

Visser also noted that the canceller had been rather lightly applied. This was quite different from the usual strong impression seen. It is not clear why a small rural town in the Eastern Cape was chosen.

South West Africa

Worboys and Cartwright list two different South West Africa 1935 Silver Jubilee forged postmarks (MJ400 and MJ401). Both are from Okahandja (70 km north of Windhoek) and dated 6 May 1935 (Figs.4 and 5). I identified five items (three cancels

on stamps/piece and two on cover) matching the above MJ numbers. The assessment noted subtle differences between the items, raising the intriguing possibility that more than two MJ wooden implements may have been made for Okahandja. However, for the purposes of this article, I have focused on the differences between the two listed MJ numbers. Table 3 highlights these differences.



Fig.2: CSS forged postmark cover from Jansenville, South Africa. Image courtesy of Nick Levinge.



Fig.3: Comparison of composites of the forged (3a at left) and genuine (3b at right) Jansenville postmarks.



Fig.4: Okahandja, South West Africa forged postmark on piece (MJ400).

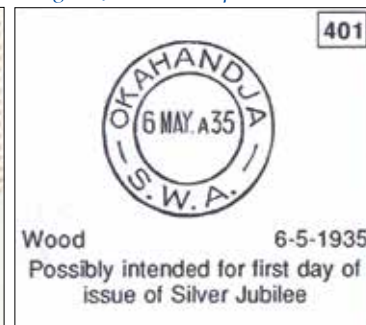


Fig.5: MJ401 forged cancel from Cartwright book (Okahandja, South West Africa). Reproduced with permission from the Royal Philatelic Society London.

	MJ400	MJ401
Position of cross bar of first 'A' of Okahandja	Above midpoint	At midpoint
Position of cross bar of "A" of S.W.A.	Above midpoint	Just below midpoint
Loop of lower part of '6' of '6 May 35'	Almost circular	Appears oblong in shape

Table 3: Differences noted between Okahandja Madame Joseph Forged Postmarks (MJ400 and MJ401)

Despite these differences, all of the forged postmarks, including the one not described, share a common finding. All of the forged postmarks show a continuous inner circle line. This contrasts with the genuine postmarks (Putzel Type

B6a and b) where there is a break in the inner circle below the letters 'OK' and 'J' of *Okahandja* (Ref 11) (Fig.6). Figure 7 is a partial MJ cancel of *Okahandja*. Note the distinguishing feature of the full inner circle.

Basutoland

Genuine Maseru postmarks in 1935 showed both thick and thin connector bars at the bottom of the postmark separated by a Maltese Cross (Ref 11). Like South West Africa, two MJ forged postmarks are listed in the catalogue (MJ51 and MJ52). Both are of the thick connector bar type. However, unlike the genuine postmarks which have breaks in the inner circle line above and below the date (Fig.8), the inner circle line of both MJ postmarks is continuous (Fig.9). The MJ postmark MJ52 additionally has a small break at the base of the '6'.

Bechuanaland

Similar to Basutoland there are two listed examples of MJ postmarks (MJ55 and MJ56). Table 4 is a breakdown of differences between the two MJ and the genuine Lobatsi postmarks (Ref 12). Figure 10 are **retroReveal** images which assist with the interpretations in Table 4.

Descriptor	MJ55	MJ56	Genuine Postmark
Leg of 'L' of <i>Lobatsi</i>	Well clear of inner circle	Close to inner circle	Well clear of inner circle
Top line of 'S' of <i>Lobatsi</i>	Almost straight	Almost straight	End curves down
Top of Left Cross bar	Below base of dateline	Below base of dateline	Above base of dateline
Top of Right Cross bar	Above top of dateline	In line with top of dateline	In line with top of dateline
Horizontal dash before date	Level with midpoint of number	Below midpoint of number	Level with midpoint of number
Right arm Maltese Cross	'Normal'	'Normal'	Misshapen.
Height of '3' of 35	Same size as '5'	Smaller than '5'	Same size as '5'

Table 4: Comparative Differences between the Madame Joseph and genuine Bechuanaland Lobatsi postmarks

Swaziland

To date I have only identified the MJ407 postmark from Swaziland (Fig.11) as appearing in the public domain. Figure 12 (MJ408) is taken from the Cartwright's book. Figure 13 (a&b) is an image of a genuine Mbabane cancellation with notations in the figure highlighting the MJ flaws and differences from the real cancel (Ref 11). The only additional point to note is that in MJ408 the number '6' (from 6 May) is much closer to the inner circle line than the same number in either MJ407 or the Mbabane cancel.

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Fig.6: Putzel Type B6 cancel Okahandja. Red lines show the breaks in the inner circle below the letters 'OK' and 'J' of Okahandja. These breaks are missing in the MJ postmarks (see Figs. 4 & 5). Image courtesy of Derick Loteryman.



Fig.7: Partial Okahandja MJ cancel on piece. Note a) the date and b) the 'full' inner circle line between the letters 'O' and 'S' on the left hand side of the cancel.



Fig.8: Maseru, Basutoland Putzel Type 6 postmark. Note the breaks in the inner circle line above and below the date.



Fig.9: Madame Joseph Forged Basutoland postmark number MJ52. The inner circle line is continuous compared to genuine postmarks. Note also the small break at the base of the '6'.

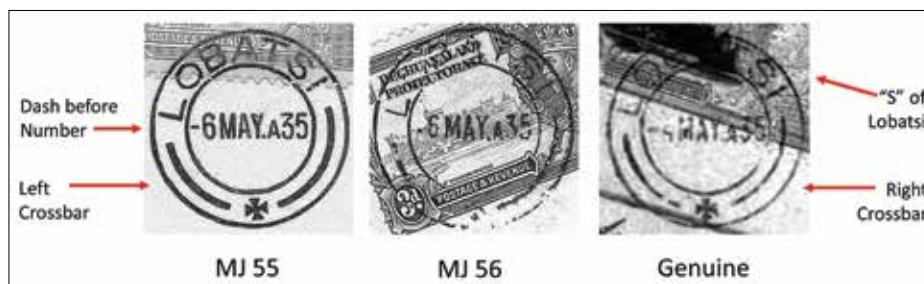


Fig.10: Comparison of Bechuanaland MJ forged postmarks with genuine Lobatsi cancel. See Table 4 for details.



Fig.11: (at left) MJ407 - Mbabane, Swaziland. Note missing dash after '6' (before 'May'); crossbar of letter 'A' almost at the midpoint; broken right leg of 'A' above the crossbar.

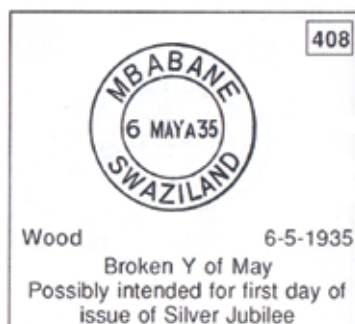


Fig.12: MJ408 - Mbabane, Swaziland. Note broken right upper arm of the letter 'Y' and the closeness of the number '6' to the inner circle line. Reproduced with permission from the Royal Philatelic Society London.



Fig.13a: On a 'genuine Mbabane cancel', the image shows the differences, (marked in red) identified on the MJ postmarks.



Fig.13b: The FULL image of a genuine Mbabane cancel.

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South Africa

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The South African Philatelist

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- o Federation Plaque 2004,
- o Silver España'06, Literature Award 2006,
- o Large Silver NZ Literature Exhibition 2007,
- o Large Silver JAKARTA 2008,
- o Large Vermeil IPHLA 2012.

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To avoid late delivery, please note; Publication closing dates for **FINAL** submission of

Advertising Material for *The SA Philatelist*. **ARTICLES should be submitted in the month prior:**

- **DECEMBER 2022** - Volume. 98 : 6. 975. **9 November 2022**
- **FEBRUARY 2023** - Volume. 99 : 1. 976. **10 January 2023**



FEDERATION NEWS

from the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA - André du Plessis RDPSA 083 399 1755.
<https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



EXPLORE THE PFSA EXHIBITIONS BY VISITING THE WEBSITE: www.stampssa.africa

Road to Democracy

The Organising Committee is completing and finalising all the loose ends for the exciting

CAPE TOWN 2022

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION!

Entrance is FREE TO THE PUBLIC

A total of 269 exhibits will be on display with 64 frames in the Championship Class. The biggest area by category is Postal History (397 frames); Traditional (395 frames) and Thematics (162 frames).

Topping the list of competitors are exhibits from the USA, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Exhibitors / visitors should note that the exhibits will be rotated by Class on the afternoon of Wednesday 9 November 2022.

From Monday to Wednesday exhibits in the following Classes will be exhibited: Postal History, Aerophilately, Thematics, and Picture Postcards. On rotation, these will be replaced with exhibit Classes Traditional, Modern, Revenues, Postal Stationery and the Open Class.

Exhibits that receive Large Gold in the first rotation will stay on display, as will the Championship Class.

To compliment the theme of the event, "The Road to Democracy" the South African Post Office (SAPO) is issuing a limited - edition stamp that will be on sale at the event.

Furthermore, SAPO have created **five** unique date stamps that will be used for each day of the event, to celebrate Nobel Peace Prize laureates Albert Luthuli, Desmond Tutu, Nadine Gordimer, Nelson Mandela and Frederik Willem de Klerk.

Visitors can create their own memorabilia by purchasing a special Exhibition envelope with the stamp and having it stamped with the unique date stamp available each day, 8 to 12 November, at the Post Office booth, in honour of these outstanding South Africans.

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL TIMETABLE

Event	Location
Tuesday 8	
09:00 Exhibition opens	
11:00 Opening Ceremony	Large Hall
18:00 Exhibition Closes	
Wednesday 9	
09:00 Exhibition opens	
09:30 UPU Workshop -all day	Large Hall
16:00 Compleitive frame area closes for rotation	
18:00 Exhibition closes	
19:00 Govt. Sponsored Gala Dinner <i>by invitation only</i>	
Thursday 10	
09:00 Exhibition Opens	
09:00 UPU Workshop continues	
10:30 Rhod Study Circle Meeting	Meeting Room 2
15:00 Postal History Seminar	Meeting Room 2
18:00 Exhibition Closes	

Event	Location
Friday 11	
09:00 Exhibition Opens	
10:00 Postal Stationery Seminar	Meeting Room 2
14:00 Open Class Seminar	Meeting Room 2
15:00 SA Philatelic Federation Congress	
18:00 Exhibition Closes	
Saturday 12	
09:00 Exhibition Opens	
10:00 Philatelic Friends Auction	
12:00 Royal Philatelic Society CT Lunch <i>by invitation</i>	
17:00 Exhibition Closes	
18:00/18:30 Prize giving	Large Hall
19:00 Cocktail and Handover of FIP Flag	



International Philatelic Exhibition: Cape Town, 8-12 Nov. 2022



The **2022 NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION** that runs alongside, but separate from the International, will announce results on Tuesday 8 November, with Prize-Giving starting at 18:30 on Saturday 12th. Jury feedback takes place on Saturday 12th at 14:00. **Frames will not be rotated** and will be taken down and dismantled on Sunday 13th. Congress is scheduled for Friday 11 November at 15:00. There will be no Palmares. Whilst this exhibition will run concurrently with the International, allowing visitors to view both, it is emphasised that these are totally separate with their own Organising Committees, exhibits and Juries.

A National Exhibition 2022 date stamp will be available.



Members of the Organising Committee with Deputy Minister, Mr Philly Mapulane (centre). Seen left to right - front row, Mr Kevin Lodge, Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Mr Mapulane, Col Siphso Majombozi and Emil Bührmann RDPSA. Back row: Mr Rebolang Soldaat, Ms Queen Montoedie, Ms Renah Lusiba, Mr Keith Brodovcky, Maj. Siphwe Ngwenya.

Just confirmed. Headline Sponsor: Spink. *We are pleased to announce that Spink will be our headline sponsor.*

Dealers: note that you can still book a stand. Go to <https://capetown2022.org/book-a-dealer-stand>.

The PFSA encourages participation in both this journal, *The SA Philatelist* as well as the electronic newsletter, 'Keeping in Touch'. By doing so, with regular and new readers will ensure that the social media activities and publications continue to support stamp collecting in South Africa. Contact: the Chief Operating Officer of the PFSA, André du Plessis RDPSA, 083 399 1755. <https://www.stampssa.africa> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



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Correspondence to THE SA SA PHILATELIST should be addressed to the Editorial Board, email: pfsastamps@gmail.com

Articles and items of interest are welcome and will be reviewed for publication. Letters to the Editor are welcome, and robust, constructive debate encouraged on the pages of the Journal with the right of publication reserved.

HOMELANDS - RESPONSE

Under 'WANTED' in the Small's Corner on page 35 of February 2022 issue of *The SAP* in the first of these, I read that a Mr. Kollmann is looking for "commercially used covers and reprints of the Homelands".

As I'm sure you are aware, I sold my collection of "Issuing Authorities of the World" a few years ago but I did make copies of all 344 pages. Among these is a page devoted to the "South African Homelands" where I included a postally used picture postcard sent from a post office near Umtata, in the Transkei. The cancellation, even on the original is not very clear but is probably KwaMiya or KwaNdanya, both of which are near Umtata, in the Transkei. The date, however, is quite clearly 26 September, 1984. Also quite clear (on the original, at least) is the arrival date of Peterborough in England of 10 November 1984. For my purposes at least, this was proof enough that stamps of the "Homelands" were recognised internationally.

Chris Mobsby

Thank you for the feedback...

For Homelands covers I do also

have a number of them mailed out of RSA. I think though some say "not officially recognised" when they are in the mail systems and the mail man does not know about it properly. Especially if in the delivery all RSA and Homelands are in the pouch and sent to destinations abroad. I have same experience with Turkish Cyprus. Mail from there is fast and efficient via Turkey and always arrives. If anyone has covers from Homelands or recent RSA stamps I am always interested in exchange.

Best regards from sunny Germany

Ralf <ralf.kollmann@gmx.de>



Setempe, Januarie/Februarie 1998 11

THE DIFFERENCE AN APOSTROPHE MAKES

Found in a scratch box at the Edenvale Stamp Fair this past August, a somewhat prophetic postal slogan. What did the Post Office know way back in 1998? Very appropriate some 25 years later!

(WE'RE WORKING FOR YOU!)

THE SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE
WE'RE WORKING FOR YOU



ERRATA – NVI PART 2

by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand PS

In my article in the August 2022 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, Page 123, I wrote, in connection with the *Redrawn Rhino stamp*, that this stamp was also available from Philatelic Services in uncut panes of 30 stamps. Hence vertical tête-bêche pairs are quite common. This is nonsense!

What I should have written was that 'vertical "imperf-between" pairs are quite common. Such a strip of five pairs is illustrated here.



EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editorial Board reserves the right to accept or decline any articles, letters or any other material submitted for publication, and reserves the right to effect minor changes of spelling, punctuation, grammar and word choice without requesting prior permission from the author(s). For more substantial revisions, such as shortening or restructuring, either the Board will request the author(s) to effect such changes or will propose amendments to the author prior to publication - if no agreement can be reached then publication will be declined.

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PLEASE NOTE:

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Philately helps Ukrainian orphans through the auction house Christoph Gärtner the auction of this item takes place on 18 October 2022

by Gerhard Freund. Italy. < gerhard.freund@hotmail.de >

IN SUPPORT, this auction is given prime space on the PFSA page: Ukraine "Україна" is a country in Eastern Europe and has an area of 603,700 square kilometers and is the largest country in Europe after Russia. Neighboring countries are Russia, Belarus, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova.

The country has more than 40 million inhabitants and borders on the Black and Azov seas in the south. On February 24, Russian troops began marching along the border with Russia and Belarus. The armed conflict has continued since that day.

Also on 24 February 2022, the Russian cruiser *Moskva* and the corvette *Vasily Bykov* approached Snake Island, where Ukrainian soldiers and border guards were located.

The Ukrainian soldiers were ordered by radio to surrender. The Ukrainians answered immediately with the now world-famous radio message from the soldier Roman Hrybow: "Russian warship, f@&\$ you!". Russia reported the same evening conquest of the island. As a result, the Ukrainian leadership was of the opinion that the soldiers stationed on the island had died. Towards the end of March, Ukrainian soldiers, including Roman Hrybow, were released in a prisoner exchange.

In early March 2022, the Ukrainian Post launched a contest on Facebook and Instagram for the design of a postage stamp. On 11 March the winner named Boris Groh was announced. At the time, no one could have imagined the worldwide hype this stamp would trigger. This stamp may certainly have become as famous as the 'blue Mauritius' and the 'One Penny Black', reported through media around the world, the issue date was 12 April 2022. The stamp was issued for domestic (F) and for foreign countries (W), each with a circulation of 500,000. Initially, the stamps were sold for hundreds of euros on Ebay and Delcampe, they depict a Ukrainian soldier on

Snake Island with a middle finger pointing towards the Russian cruiser *Moskva*. On the day of issue there were enormous queues in front of the post offices (see David Wigston's article on p.151).

Only a few of the remaining stamps could be bought through the online shop and online sales were disrupted by a hacker attack, after which the site was unavailable for days. Russian hackers were suspected. Two days after the stamp was issued, the cruiser *Moskva* sank, resulting in a second issue similar in design but with the *Moskva* removed. The original issue was reprinted, as a label with no postal validity, without the denominations and with the overprint 'Russian Warship ... Done'. This edition had a higher circulation, although these have reportedly also been sold out.

Luckily, by ordering some stamps from the online shop of the Ukrainian Post, my goal was to get a registered letter that had actually been sent, including the famous stamps, from the Ukraine. A collector from the Ukraine helped me. Since it is a war zone, the success was very doubtful, but in the end there were 7 letters from different places. I still can't believe this worked.

Due to the great suffering of the civilian population, I specifically thought of donating a letter with the stamps "Russian Warship" of the second issue and auctioning them in favour of Ukrainian orphans. The auction house Christoph Gärtner, immediately and enthusiastically supported my idea and will auction the letter during the **October auction 54**. All proceeds go to Ukrainian orphans. That the donated letter from Kharkiv reached its destination is nothing short of a miracle, as the city was hit by Russian rockets the same evening after the letter was posted. Six people were killed.

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS AUCTION

POSTAL HISTORY UKRAINE: LETTER FROM THE WAR ZONE:

Registered letter posted at Kharkiv post office number 72 in Ukraine to Italy. Registered mail number RD610195254UA.

Official cover of the Ukrainian Post Office and domestic (F) and foreign (W) stamps of the second issue 'Russian Warship'.

Postmarked 17/08/22.

According to the shipment tracking, the letter went from Kharkiv via Kiev and further abroad (probably Poland) and from there to Italy, where the letter was delivered on 01/09/22.

On the evening of the day of abandonment, 17.08.22, the city of Kharkiv was hit by Russian rockets and 6 people were killed in a residential building and others injured. The city is about 40 kilometers from the Russian border.

In addition to the letter, a printout of the tracking information from the Ukrainian Post Office will also be included to document the postal route.



R.I.P. Your Majesty

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society



After King George VI died in 1952, a new series of stamps featuring Queen Elizabeth II was issued, using a portrait by photographer Dorothy Wilding (Fig.1).

These definitive stamps remained in use until 1967 when the image of the Queen was replaced with an iconic side profile, created by sculptor Arnold Machin (Fig.2). This same image remained in use, untouched, for 55 years. It's an image that has been reproduced 220 billion times, making it the most reproduced image of all time. The replacement of the Wilding portrait was requested by designers as it was difficult to include the this portrait in their designs for commemorative stamps.

A miniature silhouette of the Queen's head, designed by Theodore Gillick, is featured on many commemorative stamps (Fig.6). The Queen has been a patron of the Royal Philatelic Society London since 1952. Queen Elizabeth II has been the UK's longest serving Monarch, serving as the symbolic head of the country and the Church of England for 70 years.



Fig.1: 18 Low value Wilding stamps were issued with 3 different watermarks.



Fig.2: 4d Machin definitive issued 5 June 1967. The Queen requested this first stamp be in deep olive-brown to complement the original Penny Black.

Now that King Charles III has succeeded Her Royal Highness to the throne, his iconography will begin to replace hers on everything from postage stamps and coins to passports and the royal seal. However, the new royal cypher, CIIIR, will only feature on newly installed post boxes.

This single £10 stamp, issued by Jersey, to mark the Platinum Jubilee, features another portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II taken by Dorothy Wilding in 1952, the year of Her Majesty's accession (Fig.3). The Queen can be seen wearing the George IV State Diadem which she also wore to her Coronation in 1953. The stamp has been printed with several special ink effects to reflect the nature of the occasion: platinum suprametal, silver hot foil, spot gloss UV varnish, and iridescent ink.

A two-minute silence held at 11.55am on Monday 19 September 2022, concluded the state funeral service for Queen Elizabeth II. The silence was followed by the sounding of the Last Post, which brought an end to the service attended by members of the Royal Family, visiting monarchs and presidents from around the globe, senior British dignitaries and members of the public in Westminster Abbey.



Fig.3.



Fig.4: Postmark for the stamp issue 'House of Windsor' 2012, showing the cypher of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

The cypher is surmounted by a representation of the St Edward's Crown, as seen in Fig 5, with which the monarch is crowned during the Coronation ceremony. At a weight of 2.23kg, it is actually carried rather than worn during the ceremony.



Fig.5: The St Edward's Crown which is featured in the Royal Cypher for Queen Elizabeth II.

The Royal Cypher symbolises a monarch's time on the throne. One common place where it can be found is on the thousands of Pillar Boxes across the United Kingdom (Fig.5). When the monarch changes, new postboxes do not replace old but are added to those in use, and this is why Britain has such an array of cyphers on its boxes.

The passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II is a sadness that reflects across the whole of Britain, and indeed of the world. She was a ruler respected by all people, whether republican or monarchist. Throughout her life she was a stabilizing influence to Governments amid many disturbing times, and a source of continuity to her people; few Britons knew any other monarch. Her commitment to the role into which she was thrust so suddenly on the death of her father is an example of duty and service which will never be surpassed.



Fig.6: 90p stamp from the Postboxes Miniature Sheet, 2009, showing the QEII cypher.

To philatelists she was known for her gracious loan of material from the Royal Collection for display, for her patronage of the Royal Philatelic Society London and not least for her portraits which enhanced the images of British and Commonwealth stamps for seventy years.

We send our condolences to the Royal Family and our wishes to King Charles III for a peaceful and prosperous reign. ☹

Phun with postmarks

by Alex Visser RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society Email: alex.visser@up.ac.za



POSTMARKS ARE PHUN

Recently Prof Hendrik Geyer alerted me to the cover shown in Fig.1, which originated in Egosso, Pondoland, and was sent by ship to Buckinghamshire, England. The postage of 1/- was paid by three 4d seated 'Hope' stamps of the 1871 – 1876 definitive issue and cancelled by a Barred Triangular Obliterator. The postage rate of 1s was for a letter between half and one ounce weight is correct at that time for overseas mail to the UK. Of special interest on this cover are the single circle date stamp of Egosso without the year slugs, and a negative sealer also described as a wax sealer or intaglio.



Fig.1: Front and reverse of cover sent from Egosso to England in 1879 (ex Gerald Bodily).

Egosso was a short lived office. Postal Agency opened in 1878 (PMG Report) and closed 1 Dec 1886 Post Office Circular (POC). The cover thus fits into the time line. In the

Putzel Encyclopaedia vol.1 GLENHEARLY is listed as the mother post office. This office is not listed in the Encyclopaedia nor in the Frescura and Visser 'REVISED LISTING OF THE POST OFFICES AND THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 1792-1910'. Either this is a misspelling or an unlisted short-lived office. Can anyone assist?

Roger Porter RDPSA and Prof Franco Frescura provided interesting background to the region and routes from Egosso, which is acknowledged. Egosso was located at the All Saints Mission, whose hospital was a lazaretto, an isolation hospital for people with infectious diseases. This means that the letter must have been addressed to the Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital, founded in 1832. The Mission Station at All Saints was established on 1 November 1859, and during the native revolt of 1880 most of the buildings were destroyed. The Mission Station was located about 8km from Engcobo, which Putzel Encyclopaedia indicated as being the mother post office of Egosso. It is strange that although the revolt took place in 1880, the POC indicated closure date as 1886.

The key to understanding the postal route taken is that the route for overseas mail from East Griqualand (with head PO at Kokstad) was by runner via Natal to meet the Union Line vessels at Port Natal. In fact, some years later the volume of mail necessitated a post cart. This was the fastest mail route to Cape Town from East Griqualand. It is an excellent example of a very early cover to England that was taken on this postal route out of the CGH. The route taken was: Egosso to Engcobo (head PO). The endorsement on the cover 'via King Williams Town' written by the sender was overruled (too slow) and it was sent in a closed bag via Umtata to Kokstad and onto Pietermaritzburg where the bag was opened - this took from 7 to 13 November = 5 days. To Durban = 1 day (i.e.6 days to Durban!), but it missed the sailing of the Union Line ship leaving for Cape Town and was delayed at Durban until the next mail ship arrived (estimated at 6 or 7 days). It was received at Cape Town on 24 November thus taking 22days from Egosso to Cape Town. The negative sealer impression is of particular interest, as it was not required to fulfil postal regulations. This may have been applied as a favour or when the mail bag was sealed. The negative sealer had a circular face which, when inked, delivered a negative impression, and normally, was only used as a wax seal to close mailbags. However, the interest is that a small post office was issued with a negative sealer in 1879.

Negative sealer use is uncommon on mail and only two further items have been recorded used in the Cape Colony. The one is for Gamtoos River Ferry used as a back stamp on 2.9.1885 (Geyer collection), shown as Fig.2, probably as a favour since there was a manuscript request. The other item was on a card from Remhoogte dated on or before 5.1.1905. The Remhoogte item (Visser collection) was discussed in the Jan/Feb 2010 issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

The post office at Remhoogte was opened in December 1904. Initially it does not appear to have been issued with an office date stamp to process its mails. Instead, the local postmaster seems



Fig.2: Gamtoos River Ferry negative sealer 2 SEP 1885 (ex Geyer).

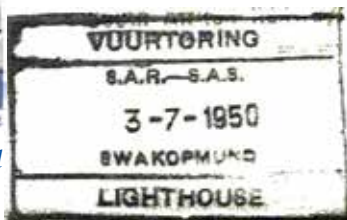
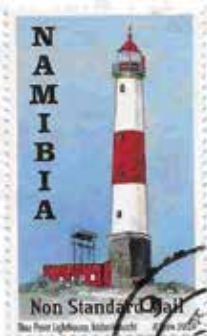
to have resorted to the use of a negative sealer inscribed PO REMHOOGTE to obliterate the postal adhesives. An impression of the Hermanus office arrival date stamp, in a DC.EMB format dated 7 January 1905, was applied next to the negative sealer. When the Remhoogte mark was described in 2010 it was the only negative sealer recorded having been used on Cape mail. Since that time the further two items have become known. The value of sharing information cannot be underestimated.

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS LIGHTHOUSES

In the July/August 2022 Phun column the link between the SAR&H and the South African Airways (SAA) was described. Recently Derick Loteryman provided scans of SAR&H cachets showing that lighthouses were also under the control of the SAR&H in South West Africa. Fig.3 shows the Diaz Point lighthouse at Luderitzbucht that was part of the 2010 issue of Namibian lighthouses. One of the cachets (Fig.4a) is from this lighthouse, and another one from Swakopmund (Fig.4b). Unfortunately, these impressions are on waybills or official memoranda. Finding these cachets on mail will be a challenge, but their existence is likely, as date stamps of telegraph offices, which did not handle mail, have been found on mail.

Another interesting cachet is the Road Motor Service (RMS) shown in Fig.5. This item was on a waybill, but RMS use on mail has been recorded for Swaziland, where the RMS was also under SAR&H jurisdiction.

Fig.3: Diaz Point lighthouse at Lüderitzbucht.



Figs. 4a and 4b: SAR&H cachets used at lighthouses in the early 1950s.

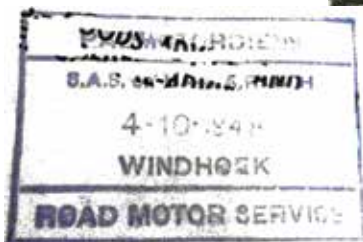


Fig.5: SAR&H Road Motor Service used on waybill.

In hierdie rubriek word twee soorte nuwe vondse bespreek. Die een vonds is twee nuwe sakstempels wat in die Kaapkolonie gebruik is. Daar is slegs drie sulke stempels tot dusver aangeteken, waarvan slegs een vir noodsaaklike posgebruik beskou kan word. Die ander vonds is SAS&H kasjette op memoranda of vragbriewe wat by vuurtorings gebruik is in die destyde Suid-Wes Afrika. Wie kan help met voorbeelde van die twee vondse wat posdiens verrig het?

Make a point of visiting the booth where Paul will be present at the CAPE TOWN 2022 International / National event

RAND STAMPS

ASPECTS OF TRADE MAY HAVE CHANGED WITH TECHNOLOGY BUT OUR SERVICE TO YOU REMAINS THE SAME

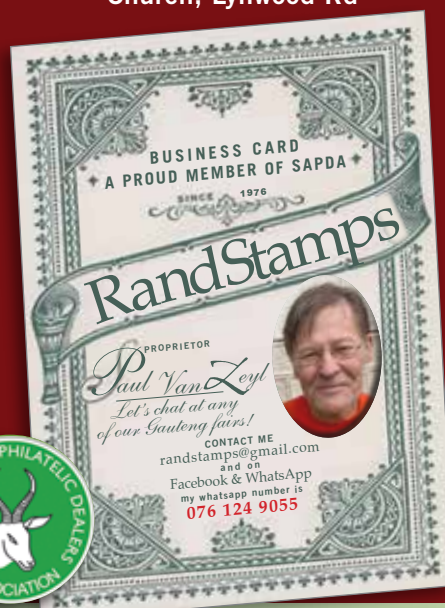


Let's chat via whatsapp +27 76 124 9055 !

MAKE A NOTE OF OUR REGULAR LIVE AUCTIONS:

Rand Stamps QSA Live Auction
Kyalami Country Club, Midrand

Rand Stamps PTA Live Auction Greek Orthodox Church, Lynwood Rd



CONTACT ME ON WHATSAPP: 076 124 9055
randstamps@gmail.com
PROPRIETOR: PAUL VAN ZEYL RDPSA

Picture Postcard From Peking

by Dr Louwrence Erasmus, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria.
 email: louwrence@erasmus.org.za and Eric Freshwater, Philatelic Society of Kwazulu-Natal, email: kwazulu@megatel.co.za



Introduction

Over a century ago a young lady in Port Elizabeth, (now Gqeberha (ǃ!ʰǝǃé:xà)), received a picture postcard from a lady sent from Peking or Beijing, China. Just think how great her excitement would have been seeing the exotic picture of pavilions on a hill with the park of trees in Fig.1. The architectural style was unknown in South Africa at the time and very seldom seen even today in the country.

Government representatives and the Eight-Nation Alliance reached a peace agreement on 7 September 1901. The foreign armies left Peking on 17 September 1901, although legation guards remained until WWII. Empress Dowager Cixi returned to Peking and restored the Qing dynasty's rule over China on 7 January 1902.

Looking at Fig.1 and having never been to China, one wonders where Coal Hill is and why is it on a post card?



From the postcard we see that Coal Hill is in Peking. In 1958, the pinyin transliteration method was adopted to write Chinese words using the Latin alphabet.

The old English spelling was Peking, and the pinyin spelling is Běijīng. Both old and new spellings are approximations of Chinese pronunciation. The West has started to use Beijing as a spelling widely since the 1980s. Peking/Beijing means North Capital.

Coal Hill, also called Prospect Hill or *Meishan* (Beautiful Hill), is situated North of the Forbidden City in Jingshan Park (Hill of Scenic Beauty.) The artificial hill is at 46m the highest point in Peking.

Fig.1: Picture Postcard with Coal Hill, Peking

Philatelically, the more interesting part of the postcard is on the back, (Fig.2). Before we get into the philatelic details of the postcard, let us first explore the historical context of this card.

Mrs. Mears sent the card from Peking on 28 August 1905. It had been 5 years after the Battle of Peking, also known historically as the Relief of Peking, which took place between 14 and 15 August 1900. During the Boxer Rebellion, the Eight-Nation Alliance of Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Russia, and the United States of America ended the 55-day siege of the Peking Legation Quarter.

Boxers, a group of conservative traditionalists, and Imperial Chinese Army troops had besieged the legations of Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Russia, Spain and the United States. They had besieged 2,800 Chinese Christians and nine hundred foreign diplomats, citizens, and soldiers since 20 June 1900.

After the siege, Peking was a battered city with foreign businesses, and all Christian Churches and homes destroyed. The occupying armies administrated the Legation Quarter by dividing it into districts. The Chinese



Fig.2: Postcard sent from Peking to Port Elizabeth on 28 August 1905

During the Liao Dynasty in the twelve century, earth excavated for the *Taiyi* (Pool of Heavenly Water) was piled up to form a hill.

The place was turned into an Imperial Garden during the Jin Dynasty. During the Yuan Dynasty, it was named Qīngshān or Zhēnshān and became a palace garden of the Imperial City. The hill was made bigger when the moat of the Forbidden City was built in the Yongle era of the Ming dynasty during the fifteenth century. The place was renamed Wansui Shan (Longevity Hill) during this time. During the Qing Dynasty in the eighteenth century, it was renamed to Jingshan.

Massive construction had taken place during the reign of Emperor Qianlong (1749-1751). During that time, the Guanmiao, Zhoushang, Wanchun, Jifang and Fulan pavilions were constructed on the five ridges of Jingshan offering a panoramic view of the city. A bronze Buddha statue had been placed in each pavilion, symbolizing the five types of tastes: sour, salty, sweet, bitter, and umami. In 1900, the troops of the Eight-Nation Alliance destroyed one of the statues and looted the four others. The pavilions had been used as holy places to make sacrifices to imperial ancestors in the Ming Dynasty (1368–1644). Later, the park had become a popular summer resort for the imperial family.

A local rumour was that the emperors kept a hidden stash of coal under the hill, but it was more likely that the hill was built to guard the Forbidden City from evil northern spirits, from which the nickname Feng Shui Hill came. Jingshan was planted with trees and was a private Imperial Garden of the Forbidden City where the Chongzhen Emperor, the last ruler of the Ming Dynasty, hanged himself on a locust tree on the eastern slope after Peking fell to rebel forces in 1644.

When the park was opened to the public in 1928, New Jinshan Road (today Jingshan Fore Street) was built to separate the park from the Forbidden City, which had only been accessible from the Gate of Divine Might on the southern side.

The picture in Fig.1 was taken within the garden walls of the park on the northwest side looking in a south-east direction. This was not a view that the public could have had from the park, as an ancient stone wall prevented public entry in 1905.

The big pavilion in Fig.1 is the largest of the five pavilions and is called the Whanchun / Wan Chun Ting Pavilion (Pavilion of Everlasting Spring or Pavilion of Ten Thousand Spring Seasons.) The five pavilions on the Jinshan Hill are arranged symmetrically with Whanchun in the centre. At a height of 46 meters, it was the highest point in Peking for centuries, as illustrated in Fig.3.



Fig.3: Whanchun Pavilion from the southern side, source: Wikipedia

The double-eave green tile pavilion to the right of the Whanchun Pavilion in Fig.1 is the Jifang Pavilion (Pavilion of Gathered Fragrance). This octagonal structure has a glazed tile roof with double-layer carved beams. The roof

of the pavilion is yellow, which represents the royal style, the dougong (cap and block) is painted mainly in green, the pillars and walls are red, and with beautiful lattice windows and doors.

The Fulan Pavilion (Pavilion of Panoramic View) is the dome-shaped double-eave tile structure to the right of the Jifang Pavilion in Fig.1. The roof is a double-layer dome, covered with golden glazed tiles, green carved beams, red painted walls and pillars, and gold-rimmed latticed doors and windows, illustrated in Fig.4.



Fig.4: Fulan Pavilion, source: Wikipedia

To the left of the Whanchun Pavilion in Fig.1, one can very faintly see the Guanmiao Pavilion (Pavilion to Enjoy the Scenery), a double-eave green-tile octagonal structure with the same design as the Jifang Pavilion, (Fig.5). Not visible on the postcard is the Zhoushang Pavilion (Pavilion to Enjoy the Peripheral View) to the left of the Guanmiao Pavilion. It has the same design as the Fulan Pavilion.

The picture postcard in Figs.1 & 2 was produced by the Graphische Gesellschaft in Berlin, Germany. They produced postcards with pictures of artefacts and architectures from around the world in the period. On the back of the postcard appears the wording "Postkarte - Weltpostverein. Deutschland. Carte Postale - Union Postale Universe", meaning Postcard - Universal Postal Union, Germany. Germany had diplomatic representation in Peking in 1905. The Chinese Imperial Post was not a member of the UPU at the time.

Mrs. Mears or a servant of her's had bought this picture postcard most likely in the Peking Legation Quarter (also known as Dōng Jiāomín Xiàng - East River-Rice Lane) in

1905. The picture postcard was posted on 28 August 1905 in Peking to be handled by the Chinese Imperial Post. It was franked with two red 2c 'coiling dragon' stamps to make up the postal rate of 4c for the Chinese international postage rate for postcards from 2 February 1897 to 1 October 1907. The currency in the Chinese Empire was 100 cents = 1 dollar at the time. The postcard was cancelled with a bilingual Peking postmark of the Chinese Imperial Post.

The postcard travelled to Shanghai, which lies between the mouth of the Yangtze River (Chang Jiang) in the north and Hangzhou Bay to the south on the coast of the Eastern China Sea. It has been a major port for international trade for many years. The card was handled by the Chinese Imperial Post in Shanghai and cancelled with a bilingual Shanghai postmark on 4 September 1905. On the same day, the British Post Office in Shanghai, opened in 1844 and closed in 1922, had handled the postcard and cancelled it with a Shanghai BPO postmark dated 4 September 1905.



Fig.5: Guanmiao Pavilion, source: Wikipedia

No extra postage had been charged to enter the British postal system; this is in contrast with the other foreign postal authorities, who charged an additional fee for Chinese Imperial Post items to enter their postal systems.

From Shanghai, the postcard had travelled to Colombo in Ceylon, where the British Post Office sorted it on 20 September 1905. The postcard had arrived in East London, Cape Colony, by mail steamer and was sorted at 10:00 on 27 October 1905. At the time, the Cape Colony had been a British colony.

The postcard arrived in Port Elizabeth and was sorted at

7:00 on 28 October 1905 then later that day, delivered to a surprised and excited Miss Wills at Langford on Cape Road.

The message is simple, but clear: "In exchange for your P.P.C. of 8.7.05, Mrs. C.B. Mears, Peking, China." This short message with a picture of an exotic place had taken two months from Peking, China and relayed through international ports carried on high seas and trains to be hand delivered with a friendly smile by the postman to a young lady in Port Elizabeth.

Today, the picture postcard is replaced by WhatsApp, Telegram, or Signal messages having text, photographs, voice, or video clips, sent instantaneously from anywhere in the world using mobile phones, tablets, or computers. A message with a photo or video from Beijing, China, to anywhere in the world takes a couple of seconds without a friendly postman delivering it to your doorstep.

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INDONESIA 2022 WORLD STAMP CHAMPIONSHIP EXHIBITION Jakarta 4 - 9 AUGUST 2022

Report by South African Commissioner: Joof van der Merwe, OFS Philatelic Society
email: josuav528@gmail.com mobile: 0828246350



Scheduled to be held in 2020, the Exhibition was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Exhibition, from 4-9 August 2022, was presented by the Indonesian Philatelist Association under the patronage of FIP and recognition of FIAP, in commemoration of the 77th Anniversary of Indonesian Independence, and hosted by the Indonesian Parliament and the Jakarta Provincial Government.

The venue was the Jakarta International Expo (JIEXPO) Kemavoran Centre, and proceedings opened by the local Governor of Jakarta, Anies Baswedan on 4 August. He emphasised the use of philately in education and history, and felt that it still had a place in the modern world.

Souvenir sheets and a presentation pack with stamps, a miniature sheet and FDC were available with special cancellers for each day of the exhibition.

Some 506 exhibits from 61 countries were on display in 2084 frames, together with 74 literature entries. In summary, 25 Large Gold, 83 Gold medals and 20 Special Prizes were awarded. There were four candidates for the Grand Prix International prize, which in the end went to Jan Huys-Berlingin (Liechtenstein) for his exhibit 'Belgium's First Issue, the EPAULETTES' with the most number of votes.

At the Palmares on Sunday 7 August, opened by Rachmat Gobel, Deputy Chairman of the Representatives, the FIP flag was handed to Emil Bührman RDPSA, Chairman, in preparation for the



Exhibition Hall

Cape Town International Exhibition in November 2022.

On stage were Gita Noviandi, Indonesian Commissioner in South Africa, Fatli Zon Fadley Chung, President of the Indonesian Philatelic Federation, Emil Bührman RDPSA, Emil Minnaar RDPSA, Representative of FIP South Africa and Bernie Beston, Consultant to the Cape Town International (In photo). South African Jurors were Neil Cronjé RDPSA, Howard Green RDPSA, and apprentice Juror Emil Bührmann RDPSA.

The South African exhibitors achieved the following awards:

- Dr Ian Matheson RDPSA - *The First Town and Village Posts of British Honduras* - Gold
- Dr Danna Strydom - *The Animal Series Definitive Stamps of the Union of South Africa* - Large Vermeil
- Mr Keith Brodovcky - *Southern Rhodesia: The Issues of the reign of King George V: 1924-1936* - Large Vermeil
- Mr Joof van der Merwe - *The Plating of the third definitive series, 1977, Proteas, of the Republic of South Africa* - Large Vermeil
- Prof. Gernot Ostoff - *The Erica photo-postcard series of RSA* - 76 points for One Frame Exhibit.



Emil Minnaar RDPSA represented South Africa at the 76th FIP Congress, 9 August 2022 where Prakob Chirakiti, Thailand and Richard Tan, Singapore were elected President and Vice-President respectively. One Frame, Picture Postcard, Open and Astrophilately classes were confirmed as permanent. Special Prizes were awarded from 96 to 100 points only.

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Russia's invasion of UKRAINE and stamps

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society



PART ONE

Some stamps will be used on mail, some will be saved as mementos. Some will be seen as trivia and thrown away. But the popularity of Ukraine's war issues shows that postage stamps, done correctly, retain enormous cultural value as an expression of nationhood (McCulloch). Postage stamps are symbols that carry an important message and capture modern history. Every stamp tells a story. "Part of a picture of the world that governments seek quite consciously to create" (Altman, 1991:3). As stamps are issued by governments, they are seen as 'silent ambassadors'. This makes stamps ideological and cultural artifacts that promote certain images while increasing revenue; several developing countries rely on the sale of stamps to collectors to earn hard currency.

"As long as there have been nation states, there have been disputes over territories" (Altman, 1991:39).

Given their wide distribution, this allows governments to propagate an official culture and proclaim national unity while asserting a sovereignty or proclaim a state ideology. Stamps can be used to stress friendship or attack other states. During a war, stamps are quickly used by occupying forces to establish their control. Stamps also become part of the total war effort as a morale booster and a means of raising funds. In this series of articles, we look at the role of stamps in the Russia-Ukraine war.

Russia invades Ukraine

In 1991 the Soviet Union collapsed. Russia and Ukraine, which had both been part of the Soviet Union, became independent countries that border each other. They've had a difficult relationship for centuries. Russia annexed Crimea in March 2014 following a referendum by the Russian-speaking majority who voted to rejoin Russia. As Crimea was internationally recognised as being part of Ukraine many see this as the start of the war with Russia.

"In January [2022], Sergey [a Russian conscript] was sent near the border with Ukraine for what he was told would be military drills. A month later – 24 February, Russia launched its invasion – he was told to cross the border". (BBC News).

Thus, Russia unleashed the biggest war in Europe since World War II. The goal was to "demilitarise and de-Nazify Ukraine" and so free Ukraine from oppression. The real reason was that Ukraine was leaning more and more to the West. Russia refuses to call it an invasion or war, but a "special military operation". The invasion took most by surprise. In Russia, the people had no say about the matter and much of Europe and the United States are on the side of the Ukraine. Since Russia invaded on 24 February 2022, thousands of civilians and combatants have been killed or wounded, while at least 12 million people have fled their homes.

Propaganda and moral support

Snake Island, or *Zimiinyi* Island, a tiny rocky outcrop just a few kilometres off Romania (Fig.1), was of strategic importance. It covered shipping channels to the ports of Odessa, Mykolaiv and Kherson. The island was seized by Russia on the first day of the invasion. The purpose was to cut off the shipping channels and isolate Ukraine from international markets. This meant that the export of Ukrainian grains became impossible. The Russian ship, *Moskva*, involved in the seizure gained notoriety when it called on a unit of Ukrainian border guards to surrender, only for them to defiantly refuse. One of the soldiers firing the rockets exclaimed "Russian warship – go f**** yourself!" After four months of bombing Russian forces abandoned the island.



Fig.1: Location of Snake Island, strategically important to the Russian invasion.

In March 2022 *Ukrposhta* (Ukraine Post) launched a competition to illustrate the episode. The competition was open to public voting with the winning design commissioned as a stamp. More than 500 designs were entered before the 5 March deadline. *Ukrposhta* did not expect there would be so many entries and had to shortlist 20 for public voting. Some of the designs were abstract or cartoon-like, but all symbolised the defiance Ukrainian soldiers have shown since the Russian invasion (Fig.2). The winning design (Fig.3) was submitted by artist Boris Groh. Credit also needs to go to Roman Grybov, the Ukrainian marine who told the Russian warship where to go. He somehow survived captivity, made it back to Kiev and was on hand at the launch. He cancelled and signed a set of philatelic products which were later auctioned for charity (Fig.4). These were the first postage stamps to be issued under wartime conditions. The stamps were printed in two panes of six in two denominations, with an inscription in the selva "Glory to the heroes!".



Fig.2: A few of the designs out of the 500 entered for the Snake Island stamp competition.



Fig.3: Ukraine's first wartime stamp was issued in two values: the 'F' domestic rate (23 hryvnia or ± R13.30) and 'W' international rate (± R25.60), with 500,000 copies of each denomination.



Fig.4: In Kiev, the cancelling of First Day Covers took place at the Main Post Office with the participation of Igor Smelyansky, General Director of Ukrposhta, and Roman Grybov, the Ukrainian marine who uttered the famous phrase while defending Snake Island.

The stamps proved a hit, selling out in many post offices. "It's hard to believe, but people who are busy defending their country from actual invasion were finding the time (and braving missile attacks) to queue up at post offices to buy these stamps." (Fig.5). On the day of issue, 12 April 2022, Ukrposhta was targeted by a cyber-attack, shutting down its website.

The issue sold out quickly as locals scrambled to meet global demand. About 700,000 of one million stamps were sold in the first week. As news emerged of the sinking of the Russian cruiser *Moskva* two days after the issuing of the stamps - for which Ukraine claimed responsibility - the stamps quickly became a hot commodity.

They are a global hit. Sellers on eBay were asking as much as \$100 (±R1600) for a single stamp, and the value probably will rise as there are no plans for reprints – but they would continue with the theme. These online bids were largely driven by non-collector speculators who saw the rise in value as a way of generating income. The craze did its damage and regular collectors outside of Ukraine have been unable to acquire the stamp.



Fig.5: At the Central Post Office in Kyiv, hundreds queue for hours to buy a copy of the stamp showing a Ukrainian soldier making an obscene hand gesture at the Russian flagship *Moskva*.

The guided missile cruiser *Moskva*, the vessel at the heart of this story, now lies at the bottom of the Black Sea. It was hit by two Ukrainian missiles on 13 April 2022, causing serious damage. The *Moskva* sank the next day while under tow. The loss being considered significant and humiliating to Russia.



Fig.6: The sinking of the *Moskva* was a psychological boost to Ukraine and resulted in a re-issue of the Warship Stamp, this time without the *Moskva*. The date of the sinking is also shown. The stamp is paired with a label showing the original stamp with a mock handstamp 'DONE' in English to promote international sales.

Not long afterwards a new sheetlet appeared (Fig.6). A national law prevented a second printing of the original warship stamp, so the original design was used as a label paired with a modified issue with the *Moskva* removed. This time five million copies were printed. The stamp was issued 23 May 2022, valid for international surface mail up to 50 grams.

Following the success of their first competition, Ukrposhta held a second using the same format, known as 'Good evening, we are from Ukraine'. With more than 1500 sketches submitted, entries were narrowed to five options for public voting. The winning entry shows the image of a tractor pulling a tank (Fig.7). This has become one of the iconic symbols of the War. Over 833,803 votes were cast with 340,000 votes for the tractor. 'Tractor Troops' is the common name for Ukrainian farmers who frequently haul away damaged Russian military equipment and give it to the Ukrainian forces.

The stamp was issued with two values: three million copies for internal postage and two million for international mail. The designer, Anastasia Bondarets, graphic artist and teacher said “This tractor, which is carrying broken enemy equipment to be repaired and put into service by our military, is an allegory of how every Ukrainian does everything in his power ... to bring victory closer”. Half of Russia’s 2700 tanks have been captured, abandoned, damaged or destroyed.

as postponed. However, the stamp was finally issued on 14 March 2022. The print run was 130,000 panes of six stamps each.



Fig.7: The winning entry for the “Good evening, we are from Ukraine” competition. The stamp was scheduled for release in July 2022.



Fig.11: Olasko Novakivsky (1872-1935) a Ukrainian painter 150th anniversary, featuring a self-portrait from 1911.

A further war-related stamp issue honours Patron, the bomb-sniffing Jack Russell who had

detected more than 200 explosives since the beginning of the War.(Fig.8). Patron, means ‘bullet,’ ‘cartridge’ or ‘ammo’ in Ukrainian.

A stamp illustrating the Sarmatians was also cancelled. They were Iranian-speaking nomadic tribes who lived in the steppes from the Urals to the Danube during the Early Iron Age. The Post Office stopped accepting mail for Russia and Belarus. Mail accepted before 24 February 2022 was returned to senders with postage refunded. In the second part, we’ll look at countries who issued stamps in solidarity and further war-related issues by Ukraine.

Fig.8: Two stamps honouring Patron, the explosive-sniffing dog.



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Issued 30 August 2022 as a semi-postal mini-sheet of eight stamps to raise funds for a demining vehicle and to support animal shelters. Two issues originally scheduled for release in February 2022 were withdrawn 25 February 2022 (Figs.9 & 10) as the Post Office continued to operate in a limited scale. Copies of these stamps were recalled. Even so, an unknown number were sold and copies can be found on eBay. A further three issues were also postponed indefinitely.



Fig.9: The single Sich 2-30 Satellite stamp scheduled for release 28 February 2022 to coincide with Ukraine’s 30th anniversary of Independence.



Fig.10: The Medobory Nature Preserve mini-sheet of five stamps was scheduled for release 25 February 2022. The item in the top row middle is not perforated at the top and has no postal validity. The print run was 20,000 copies with a face value ‘V’, for non-priority local mail up to 50g.

A further issue (Fig. 11), scheduled for release 27 April 2022, moved to a ‘to be determined’ date in March before finally being listed



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NVI (NO VALUE INDICATED) DEFINITIVE STAMPS OF RSA Part III - The Rhino stamp in Booklets

by Robin Messenger, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

INTRODUCTION

The production of postage stamp booklets is a labour intensive procedure. Special sheets of five stamps width are printed independently of those intended for distribution to post offices, which must then be split into booklet panes of ten stamps (two rows of five). Initially the sheets were hand-burst. Eventually the sheets were divided by using a guillotine. The individual panes then need to be affixed in folders. It is understood that University students were employed to perform these operations. Later booklets were assembled by Philatelic Services staff.

THE AVIATION BOOKLETS

On 7 May 1993 a stamp issue celebrating Aviation in South Africa appeared. Whilst the stamps, 25 different designs, of definitive size (30 x 24mm) printed *se-tenant* in panes separated by gutters, were not NVI, each being denominated 45c, this issue did have an impact on the NVI story. A large proportion, 55,000 sheets, of the printing was executed in sheets of 100 stamps (20 rows of 5, i.e. 4 panes) without horizontal gutters separating the panes (Ref.1, p17).

These sheets were then split into panes of ten stamps, i.e. two stamp rows and made into booklets to be sold at R4.50. This special printing was sufficient for 550,000 booklets. These booklets were available from numerous outlets throughout the country and not only from post offices. In many of the supermarkets booklets were sold at a discount – they could be purchased from Pick ‘n Pay for R3.99.

The demand was enormous especially from collectors as, due to the fact that there were 25 different designs, there were five different combinations of stamps that could appear in a booklet.

These Aviation stamp booklets were so popular that by July 1993 all supplies of the booklet stamps were exhausted. Due to a seriously short supply of booklets, the Standardised Postage stamp of the forthcoming 6th definitive series, due on 3 September 1993 was pre-released on 4 August 1993. This stamp, depicting the black rhinoceros (inscribed *DICEROS BICORNIS* on the lower margin), was printed in special sheets comprising two panes each of 50 stamps in ten rows of five (Ref.1, p26). Like the Aviation booklet stamp sheets, these Rhino stamp sheets were split into panes of ten stamps which were affixed into surplus aviation folders (Fig.1).



Fig.1: Aviation folder

The envelope logo of the SA Post Office, in black was printed in the left margin opposite row 2 and on alternate rows (Fig.5). The first booklet printing can be distinguished by the

narrow selvedge, being seven perforations wide (10.5mm) A footnote reads: *'As no record was kept of this and later printings of the rhino stamps used in particular folders, it is not considered essential to give further printing details unless there are significant changes'.*

On page 27 of Ref.1, van Rensburg writes: *'The Senior Manager, Philatelic Services, in a letter dated 20 January 1994, advised that 55,000 sheets of 100 rhino stamps for booklets were ordered on 2 August 1993, 360,000 sheets of 50 stamps on 4 October and a further 360,000 sheets of 50 stamps on 11 January 1994. Folders were used as required and up to January 1994 approximately 23,500 booklets with rhino stamps were released.'*

From the numbers quoted above, there would have been sufficient booklet panes for 4.15 million booklets.

In October 1993, new booklet folders were produced by Printpak Tvl (Ref.1, p30). These were similar to the Aviation folders, produced by the same printer, except that the illustrated stamp was changed to the Rhino stamp with the denomination: *'Gestandaardiseerde pos / Standardised mail'* in black (Fig.2). The date code '93/3' appeared on the inside flap.

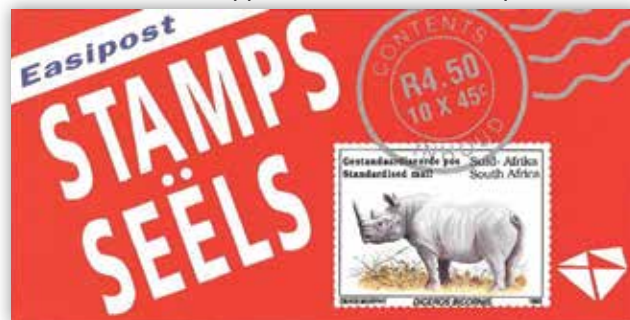


Fig.2: October 1993 Rhino folder

In November 1993, Provisional Business Forms (PBF) produced folders with a more accurate reproduction of the Rhino stamp. This time with the inscription: *'Gestandaardiseerde pos / Standardised mail'* in red and wider stamp margins (Fig.3). A further printing of this folder was made by Universal Printing, who had taken over PBF, in December 1993 (Ref.1, p34/35). These printings are distinguishable by the printer's logo which appears on the inside cover. The date code '93/3' appeared on the inside flap on both printings.



Fig.3: November 1993 folder

As these early folders had the price: *'CONTENTS / R4.50 / 10 X 45c / INHOUD'*, in a simulated postmark printed on the cover, the increase of the standard postage rate to 50c, on 1 April 1994, necessitated a new design of booklet folder.

This is illustrated in Fig.4 and was printed by Printpak Tvl initially in January 1994. This had the date code '1 94' printed on the inside flap. Subsequent printings of this design folder containing Rhino stamps had the date codes: '7 94', '11 94' and '2 95'.

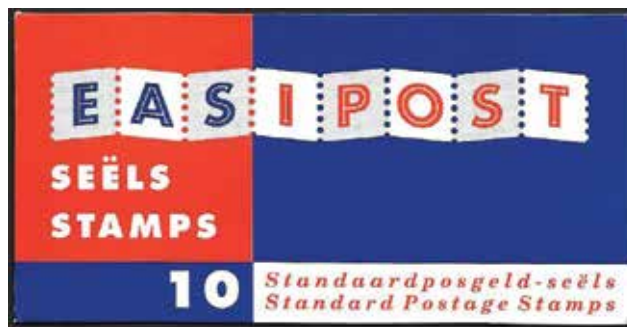


Fig.4: EASIPOST Standard Postage Stamps folder 1994-1996

Over 6 million folders were printed in the period January 1994 to February 1995 (Ref.1 p36/48).

On page 49 of Ref.1, van Rensburg writes: *'In March 1995 booklet stocks reached critically low levels. The release of more booklets was delayed by the system having to reorganize for the postal rates increase effective from 1st April. To expedite urgent orders an old stockpile of Rhino booklets were released with the circular 'CONTENTS / R4.50 / 10 X 45c/ INHOUT' on the front cover masked out by a 31mm diameter light blue circular adhesive sticker making these booklets acceptable for sale. The retail price of R5 per booklet made this modification necessary.'*

Approximately 7,000 Rhino booklets with the blue sticker were released. Both designs of the 1993 folders can be found – they are not common. In late 1994 it was decided to guillotine booklet sheets to eliminate the possibility of badly torn stamps. Some 10,000 fully perforated sheets were guillotined on an experimental basis (Ref.1, p51), (Fig.5).



Fig.5: Booklet pane from guillotined fully perforated sheet

From early 1995, stamps were printed with alternate imperforate and perforated horizontal rows. Booklet panes produced from these sheets had top, bottom and right margins imperforate (Fig.6).



Fig.6: Booklet pane imperforate top and bottom

Later in 1995, the Rugby World Cup and Masakhane commemorative issues were also released in booklet form. These issues were Standard Postage NVI and will be dealt with in a future article on NVI commemorative issues.

During 1996 it was decided, that the language of the species name, appearing below the lower frame line would be changed to English. The first value to have this change was the Rhino standard postage stamp, now inscribed: *'BLACK RHINOCEROS'* and on which the rhino was enlarged. The first printing of the English version of the Rhino stamp was for booklets on 9 April 1996 (600,000 sheets). This printing comprised two panes of 50 stamps in ten rows of five and had alternate imperforate and perforated rows; there were no plate numbers. The PO logo, in the left margin, was now red and blue and the printing date '1996-04-09' appeared below it. Booklets produced from this printing appeared in folders with the date code '3 96' but are known in '7 94', '11 94' and '2 95' folders (Ref.1, p68/69).



Fig.7: Booklet pane inscribed BLACK RHINOCEROS (Die I)

A further printing of booklet stamps was made on 28 May 1996 (600,000 sheets) with the same characteristics as the 9 April 1996 printing except that the date '1996-05-28' appeared on the left margin below the logo.

Stamps from this printing were issued in folders with date codes '3 96' and '4 96' in the same design as that introduced in January 1994 (Fig.7).

During 1997, two further printings of Rhino stamps destined for booklets were made, on 22 April (1.8 million sheets) and 19 July (1.2 million sheets).

The details were similar to the two 1996 printings excepting for the printing dates but there was a departure from previous practice in that 3000 uncut panes of 50 stamps, from each printing were made available to the public.

In addition, these panes had plate numbers in the bottom margins: 2927-2930 (22 April printing) or 2979-2982 (19 July printing). New folders were also produced, depicting a Rhino on the front, facing right (Fig.8) (Ref.2).

THE MAILED RHINO BOOKLETS

In Ref.3, p10, it was announced that amongst other factors:

"The need to use up the Post Office's strategic stock of stamps bearing the old rhino design, we have been forced to produce locally another provisional booklet. The front cover shall bear the engraving of a rhino originally published in Peter Kolbe's Beschryving van de

Kaap de Goede Hoop in 1727 (Fig.9). The back and inside covers will carry messages relating to AIDS as part of the Post Office's social awareness campaign. The stamps were originally printed in sheets of 100 and have been burst by hand into panes of ten (5 x 2). As in previous instances the top right hand corner block bearing the plate numbers has been taken out and in most cases destroyed".

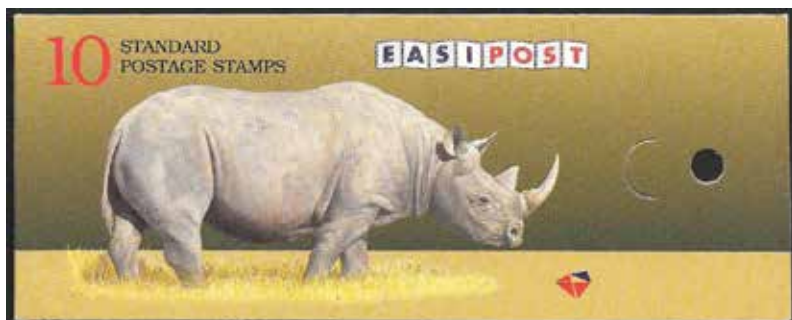


Fig.8: 1997 folder with rhino facing right, cover also used for R1.

Issues include:

- (i) Diceros Bicornis Plates 2656-2659 of 17.10.1994
- (ii) Black Rhinoceros Plates 2820-2823 of 01.07.1996 Die I with normal perforation
- (iii) Black Rhinoceros Plates 2820-2823 of 01.07.1996 Die I with security perforation
- (iv) Black Rhinoceros Plates 2820-2823 of 01.07.1996 Die II with normal perforation



Fig.10: Booklet pane of Redrawn Rhino stamp.

ADDENDUM - THE WATTLED CRANE BOOKLET

In Ref.2, p11, the following is noted: "the issue of a provisional booklet in May 1997, following yet another breakdown in the Government Printer's delivery of stamp sheets".

On 7 April 1997 the standard postage rate was increased to R1.00.

The contents of this booklet are given as: "Surplus stocks of the Sixth Definitive Issue R1.00 depicting the Wattled Crane were guillotined at the Post Office Printing Works and inserted into new covers depicting a rhino. The sheets used originated from the first four printings of this stamp which bore a Latin inscription. All top-right-hand corner sheetlets bearing the cylinder numbers were destroyed."

This new folder is shown in Fig.8 and on the back appeared an advertisement for the ILSAPEX '98 International Philatelic Exhibition, to be held in Johannesburg in October 1998. The booklet panes were affixed by left or right selvedges, the former having accounting information, resulting in five different types, the latter being blank. A quantity of 164,800 sheets were used, sufficient for 1,483,200 booklets.

The same folders were used for the Rhino printing of 22 April 1997, released in June 1997 but for the printing of 19 July 1997, released the same month, the back was changed to promote the South African Human Rights Commission.



Fig.9: 1998 Mailed rhino folder

Panes are found with left as well as right selvedges. If affixed by the left selvedge, stamps are correct side up but if affixed by the right selvedge, stamps are inverted. Thus eight different booklets occur.

These booklets were issued in November 1998. Individual quantities are not known but it is reported that between 10,000 and 15,000 booklets were produced (Ref.4).

It is worth noting that these booklets include the only occurrences of Die II Rhino stamps in booklets and also of Rhino stamps with security perforations.

THE REDRAWN RHINO STAMP

In late 1997 the Redrawn 6th Definitives began to appear. These were simplified designs featuring the same fauna but without frame lines and with the country name: 'South Africa'. The Rhino stamp (Fig.10) was printed by Cape & Transvaal Printers (CTP) of Cape Town on 16 January 1998 and was 1.2 million only available in booklets.

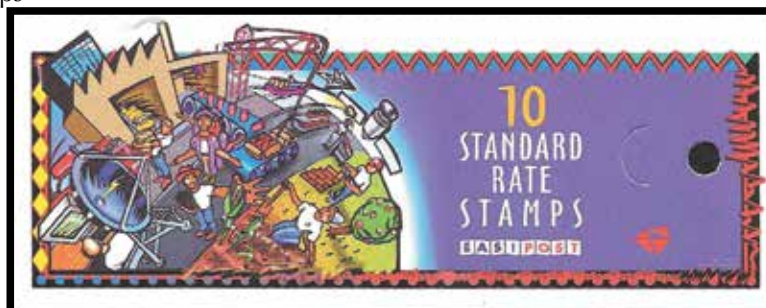


Fig.11: Redrawn Rhino stamp folder also celebrating the 'Year of Science and Technology 1998'.

- Please Note: All images are reduced to 75% of original size.

New Zealand withdraws Māori stamps. Again!

by David Wigston, East Rand Philatelic Society

When announcing the issue, July 2022, New Zealand Post said “For most of the 20th Century, New Zealand’s government discouraged and banned people speaking openly in the Māori language (te reo). Then 50 years ago, te reo champions calling for it to be taught in schools presented a Māori language nation-wide petition to Parliament.” As a direct result, the Government then introduced the teaching of Māori into schools as an optional extra. This set of stamps (Fig.1) was intended as an important commemoration for the 50th anniversary of the Presentation of the Māori Petition.

The Māori language originated in Polynesia, arriving in New Zealand with Polynesian migration 1200 years ago. Over the years it developed independently to become a unique language specific to New Zealand. It’s seen as a positive social force in the Māori community. This was recognised by the Māori Language Act of 1987 which made it an official language of New Zealand.



Fig.1: The 50th Anniversary of the Māori Language Petition issue was withdrawn the day before it was due to be issued. Note the inclusion of Aotearoa, the Māori name for New Zealand.

The set consisted of four stamps and one miniature sheet containing all four stamps, designed by Dave Hakarias, lithographed by Southern Colour Print in New Zealand and originally scheduled for release 3 August 2022. Despite extensive consultations during the development of the designs, there were problems with the design. The New Zealand Post Office then decided to withdraw the four stamps at the last moment, 2 August 2022. The decision was made following feedback from key stakeholders after the stamps had been printed. New Zealand Post merely commented that “some expectations were not met” and therefore the stamps could not be issued.



This was the second Māori stamp to be withdrawn before going on sale. In June 2006 a set of stamps for Traditional Māori Performing Arts was prepared but not issued (Fig.2). Despite being withdrawn, the set is listed by Gibbons as SG 2285. The set, which celebrated Māori performing arts, was withdrawn after concerns about the design and style of the stamps were voiced. Objections were raised over the vivid background and exaggerated cartoon-like images that were used. New Zealand Post concluded that the stamps would cause offence and the stamps were withdrawn. All stock that had been dispatched to post offices was recalled and destroyed. The issue was withdrawn from sale before the issue date and has not been used postally. Samples have been kept for archival purposes.

However, eight prepaid orders were sent out before the release date. New Zealand Post then asked for them to be returned; it has not been revealed how many (if any) were returned. Some of these stamps have appeared for sale in various stamp catalogues and on auction sites in 2019, with the asking price of NZ\$11,000.00 (± R116,380) for a set of stamps, and NZ\$30,000.00 (± R317,400) for a first day cover. New Zealand Post estimates that 3 presentation packs, 48 blank first day covers, 11 booklets and between four and nine stamp sets exist with one used set.



Fig.2: Traditional Māori performing arts, known as kapa haka, is a strong spiritual and cultural part of their tradition.

In conclusion, it’s a strange fact that English, the most common language spoken by 95% of New Zealanders and the predominant language, was not originally an official language. It was never codified in a statute, until a bill was introduced in 2018 to recognise it as an official language.



1953 CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II – UHB 28

by André du Plessis RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society

On 8 September 2022, Elizabeth II, the Queen of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth Realms and the longest-living and longest-reigning British monarch, died at the age of 96 at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. The official announcement came at 18:30 BST, at which Charles, Elizabeth II's eldest son, succeeded to the throne as King Charles III of the United Kingdom.

A 2d. bilingual stamp portraying the head and shoulders of Queen Elizabeth II was issued to commemorate her Coronation on 2 June 1953 (Fig.1).

As the Coronation date was a public holiday, the stamp was not on sale until the following day, 3 June 1953 and was withdrawn from sale on 31 August 1953. Stamps were printed in sheets of 120 and the sheets were divided into two panes of 60 (6 rows x 10) side by side separated by a vertical gutter equal in width to that of a stamp.

Two different cylinders, produced from the same multipositive, were employed for printing these stamps. The sheet numbers appeared on the bottom margin under the first and eleventh stamps of the row. Number 98 for the first sheets (Issue 1) and 66 for those that followed (Issue 2), but stamps of both cylinders were available on the first day of issue.

Blue centre-indicating arrows, four in all, were on both sides of each pane, and as the four-figure red sheet numbers also appeared on the bottom margin of each pane, the two panes were exactly the same in appearance.

An interesting development was that the screen used for processing the multipositive had been scratched twice near its top right corner. On sheets of this format, these show as oblique white lines on the first stamp of both the first and second rows.

From Cylinder 98 they appear only on the 11th stamp of these rows and from Cylinder No. 66 on the 20th or 10th stamp of row 5 and, very faint, in row 6.



WATERMARK	PERFORATION	SHEET LAYOUT
Multiple Springbok head sideways with horns pointing left	14 x 15 <i>(Fig. 1)</i>	Distributed in sheets of 60 Stamps in 6 by 10 columns

SELECTED VARIETIES

Listed in the Union Handbook (UHB)

TABLE 1

BOTH CYLINDERS	BOTH CYLINDERS	BOTH CYLINDERS	CYLINDER 98	CYLINDER 98
Violet mark under chin (ex Row 2/7 or 17) UHB – V1	White spot touching upright 'F' of AFRICA (ex Row 4/9 or 19) UHB – V2	Dot in right arc of 'O' in SOUTH (ex Row 6/1 or 11) UHB – V3	White screen scratch through 'U' of SOUTH (ex Row 1/11) UHB – V4	White dot over 'K' of KRONING (ex Row 1/20) UHB – V5

CYLINDER 98	CYLINDER 98	CYLINDER 98	CYLINDER 66	CYLINDER 66
White screen scratch through 'O' of SOUTH (ex Row 2/11) UHB – V6	'Q' for 'O' in CORONATION (ex Row 3/19) UHB – V7	Round violet mark on neck touching line of cheek (ex Row 4/17) UHB – V8 (SG 143b)	Violet spot on bottom of '2' (ex Row 5/15) UHB – V9	Mark on upper lip (ex Row 1/12 or 2) UHB – V10

TABLE 2

Colour proofs were printed in brown, green, magenta and the accepted blue colour, (Fig.3a - d). In 1947 the Royal Family (King George VI, his wife Queen Elizabeth and their daughters, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret) (Fig.2) undertook a leisurely three-month journey (February to April) through their Southern African dominions; South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Swaziland, Basutoland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

CYLINDER	CYLINDER
Defective letters of POSSSEEL and POSTAGE (ex Row 2/18 or 8) UHB – V11	White screen scratch running down to the right from 'D' of SUID (ex Row 5/20 or 10) UHB – V12

TABLE 3



Date of issue: 17 February 1947

Fig.2: Princess Elizabeth as she was then, (at right), celebrated her 21st birthday (21 April) in SA, with her sister Princess Margaret.

For Princess Elizabeth it was a momentous year; a year of the great South African adventure, coming of age, then her engagement followed by marriage to Prince Philip on 20 November 1947.

During the tour she had her first solo public engagement, the opening of the Princess Elizabeth Graving Dock in East London on 3 March 1947 (Fig.4).

When her father died in February 1952, Elizabeth - then 25 years old, became Queen of seven independent Commonwealth countries: the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan, and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) as well as Head of Commonwealth.

It took almost half a century before Queen Elizabeth II returned to South Africa.

Following the 1994 'all race elections' with universal franchise, Nelson Mandela had become the "rainbow nation's" President. South Africa re-joined the Commonwealth and in 1995, Queen Elizabeth II, in support of reconciliation and the new SA Government, stepped ashore in Cape Town off the Royal yacht *HMS Britannia* on an official visit to South Africa (Fig.5).

President Mandela welcomed her and so began an unlikely friendship between the two iconic figures. During this visit she also addressed the new SA Parliament (Fig.6).

Then in November 1999, Queen Elizabeth II visited South Africa in her capacity as Head of the Commonwealth for the 16th Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting that took place in Durban. Thabo Mbeki was the President. In Fig.7, Queen Elizabeth II is pictured arriving at Durban airport. Her official visit to South Africa, which saw the best rainy season in 10 years, winning her the nickname 'Motlalepula', which

means "to come with rain".



Fig. 4: The Princess, seen here with Governor General Gideon Brand van Zyl and his wife, on her first official engagement.



Fig.6: Queen Elizabeth II and Pres. Nelson Mandela.



Fig. 3a – d Colour trials of the SA 1953 Coronation stamp. Source: SA Postal Museum.



Fig.5.



Fig.7: Queen Elizabeth II and Pres. Thabo Mbeki.

South African philately has enjoyed a proud history with this iconic monarch, HRH Queen Elizabeth II and we pay tribute to her on page 143.

The author would also like to thank Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA and Liab Venter for their contributions with some of the material shown.



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1935 Trans-Tasman Jubilee Mail to South Africa

by Neil Donen, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The July 1935 issue of *The South African Philatelist* described mail items received by LA Wyndham, the noted aerophilatelist, from New Zealand (ref.1). The items were originally planned to be flown by Sir Charles Kingsford Smith on his return flight to Australia. Covers carried to South Africa from the special 1935 Jubilee Trans-Tasman flight are few in number making them extremely desirable and collectable items. This article describes the ill-fated flight and the known covers associated with the planned flight.

Background

In June 1928 Charles Kingsford Smith gained international fame with the first Trans-Pacific flight in his tri-motor plane, the *Southern Cross*. He subsequently undertook a number of notable flights, including the first flight across the Tasman Sea from Australia to New Zealand in September 1928. He was knighted for his services to aviation in 1932.

Seeking to obtain the contract for the Australia-New Zealand leg associated with the All-Empire Air Mail scheme, Kingsford Smith was able to get permission for a special bi-directional Trans-Tasman flight in recognition of King George V's Silver Jubilee. Departing Sydney on 15 May 1935, the *Southern Cross* carried 28,279 mail items. Over the Tasman Sea the starboard engine propellor was damaged and the engine had to be shut down. Kingsford Smith was forced to turn back and jettison most of the mail and freight to lighten the load for the overheated engines.

Patrick Gordon Taylor, the co-pilot, in one of the most dramatic events in aero history, saved the plane and crew by climbing out on to the wing struts and transferring oil from the dead starboard engine to the

overheated port engine. He received the Empire Gallantry Medal (called George Cross today) for this act of bravery.

Landing successfully in Sydney, it was discovered that seven small mailbags, with 1,277 mail items were still on board. These items were transported by ship to New Zealand, receiving a specially prepared cancel on arrival in Wellington on 23 May (Fig.1).

New Zealand mail items scheduled to be on the return flight to Australia (approximately 13,000), as well as return mail from the flight were sent to Australia by sea. All of these items, except those that were to be carried onwards by air, were cancelled on arrival in Sydney.

For the past 15 years I have been researching and acquiring covers associated with this flight. In 2021, I was able to access the related correspondence file from the Postmaster General's Office (PMG) of Australia Post and Telegraphs (APT). Included in the file was a listing of the names and destinations of all the addressees of the saved mail (ref.2). Much of the information dealing with the saved mail has been published (ref.3).

This article deals with South African mail noted in the correspondence file as well as mail from New Zealand. It is worth noting that none of the Australian covers destined for South Africa have been found.

Mail from Australia

The APT correspondence file includes a memo dated 16 May 1935 from the Chief Inspector. The memo instructed the Department to create a listing of all the names and addresses from the saved mail. The listing of registered mail from Queensland included one sent to LA Wyndham in Cape Town (Fig.2). Two other unregistered mail items were also sent to South Africa. The first was to LA Wyndham and the second to Mr. RV Soloman, also of Cape Town. To date none of these three covers have been seen in the public domain. However, more information is available on the registered cover sent to Wyndham.

Included in the APT correspondence is a series of letters between Wyndham and the PMG's Office. On 31 July 1935 Wyndham



Fig.1: Special Wellington 'Relief' cancel applied to mail saved from the aborted Trans-Tasman flight. The presence of this cancel is considered to be the gold standard when validating covers carried on the flight.

- 29 -

<u>REGISTERED ARTICLES.</u>		
<u>OFFICE OF ORIGIN.</u>	<u>REG. NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS.</u>
Brisbane	A. 9756	H.E.Barlow, C/- The Inspector, Bank of Australasia, Martin Place, Sydney.
"	" 9754	J.S.B.McIntyre, C/- Bank of Australasia, 406-414 Queen Street, Brisbane, Q.
Brisbane	7416	Miss Ella M.Ryan, 26A Rose Street, St.Kilda, S.2. Melbourne, Vic.
"	7364	G.I.Dickson, Solicitor, Sexton Street, St.Brisbane, Qld.
"	7363	do. do. do.
"	7291	J.S.B.McIntyre, C/- Bank of Australasia, Brisbane, Qld.
"	7290	do. do. do.
Albion	2945	Mr.L.J.Middleton, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Albion, Qld.
Broadway.	0442	E.C.Davidson, Box 295-E, G.P.O. Brisbane, Qld.
"	0443	do. do. do.
"	0444	do. do. do.
Charleville	4931	R.Blackburn, C/- Mrs.L.M.Baseley, White House, Main St., Thurnley, Leicester, England
"	4930	L.A.Wyndham, House of Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa
Rosa	4500	Mr.W.E.Gibbs, P.O. Okeiru, Via Gisborne, N.Z.
Rosa	4497	Mr.W.E.Gibbs, C/- Higgan Bros., Matacka, Via Wellington, N.Z.
Brisbane	7415	Miss W.Curtis, Umatol, Ashhurst, N.Z.
"	7285	Messrs.S.Curtis & Co. Umatol, Ashhurst, N.Z.
Total	76	

Fig.2: Listing of registered mail item (No. 4930) sent to LA Wyndham, c/o House of Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa from Charleville, Queensland. From correspondence file of Postmaster-General of Australia Posts and Telegraph (Reference 3).

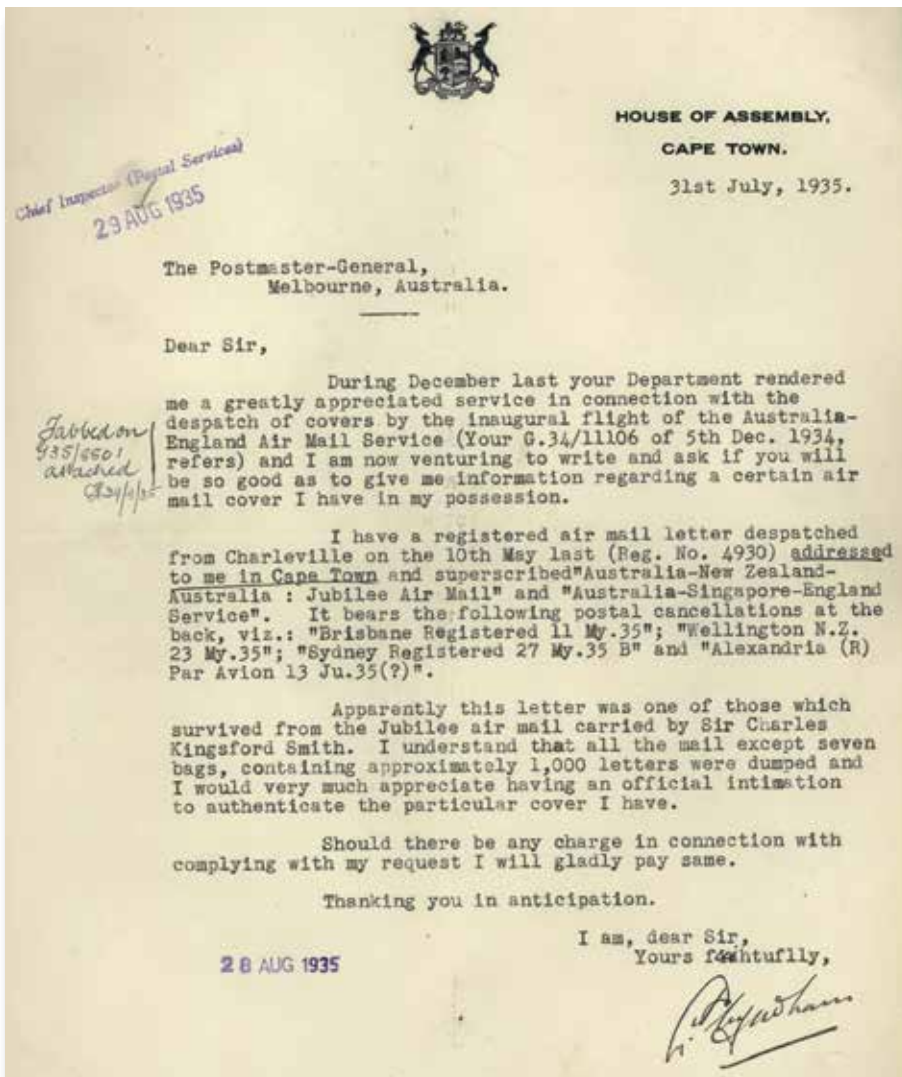


Fig.3: Letter dated 31 July, 1935 sent by LA Wyndham enquiring about the registered airmail he received. Item received in Melbourne on 28 August (Reference 3).

wrote requesting confirmation that the registered cover (Registration No.4390) mailed from Charleville, Queensland had been contained on the ill-fated flight of 15 May. Wyndham's letter also included details of the flight as per the postmarks on the cover (Fig.3). The reader's attention is drawn to the question mark against the Alexandria transit cancellation date. This will be discussed in more detail below. On 3 September the APT responded confirming that indeed the cover and contents had been carried on the flight (Fig.4).

In my personal collection is an OHMS cover cancelled 3 September from the PMG APT's office (Fig.5). It is my firm belief that this envelope included the response seen in the 3 September letter to Wyndham.

Returning to the route postmark details recorded by Wyndham. All of the Australian 1935 Silver Jubilee Trans-

Tasman mail to Britain that I have seen was flown on Imperial Airways followed the identical routing and dates. Initially the saved mail items were transported to New Zealand on TSMV Wanganella leaving Sydney on 17 May. After the special Wellington receiving cancel of 23 May was applied, the covers destined to be returned to Australia and beyond were carried back to Australia on the Wanganella, arriving in Sydney on 27 May. All of the saved Trans-Tasman mail flown to Great Britain I have seen left on Imperial Airways flight IW343 on 29 May. This flight arrived in Alexandria on 7 June <4>. I believe the Alexandria transit cancel of 13 June noted by Wyndham, was in fact dated 8th June. This makes more sense as there were no flights from Australia arriving in Alexandria on either the 12 or 13 of June. It further matches the connecting southbound flight from England (AS246), which left Alexandria on 8 June, arriving in Cape Town on 14th June <5>.

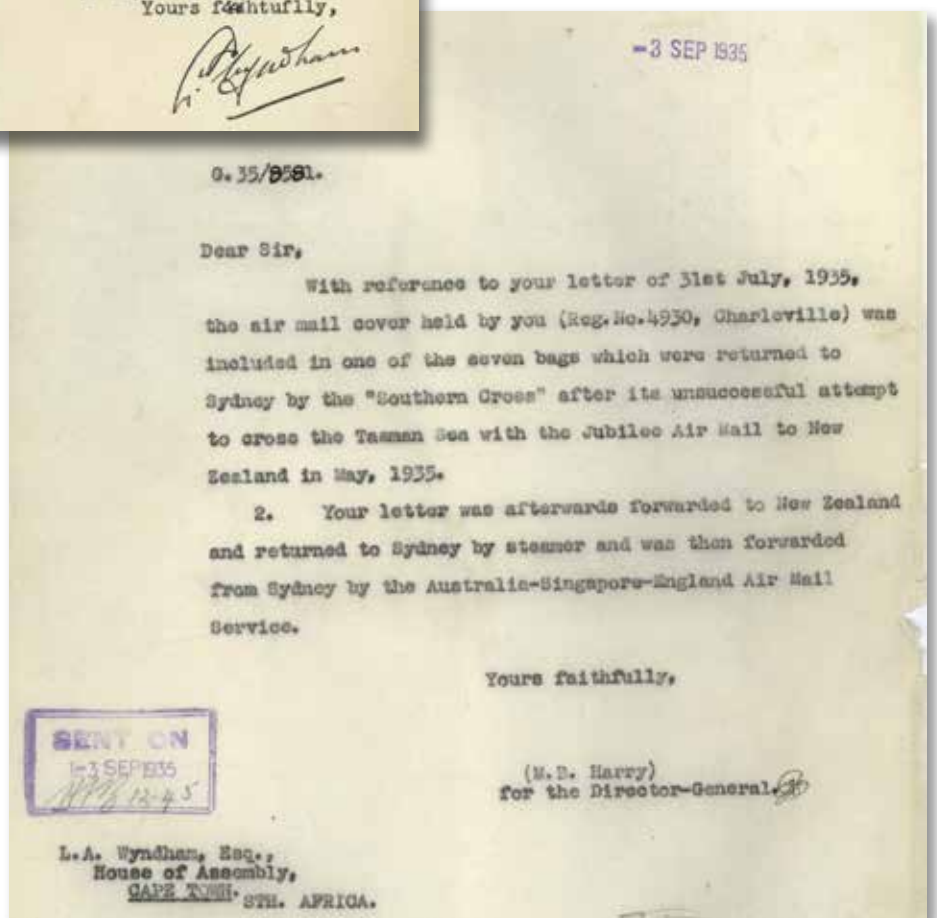


Fig.4: Copy of letter dated 3 September 1935 from Australia Posts and Telegraphs in response to Wyndham's letter of 31 July confirming the cover had indeed been part of the saved mail flown on Sir Charles Kingsford Smith's aborted Trans-Tasman flight in May 1935 (Reference 3).



Fig.5: OHMS cover mailed from the Postmaster-General's Department 3 September 1935 to LA Wyndham in South Africa.

Mail from New Zealand

It is thought that approximately 13,000 items mailed in New Zealand were to be carried back to Australia by Kingsford Smith on his return flight.



Fig.6: Sydney Receiving and Transit cancel seen on mail covers (either sent from New Zealand or returned to Australia) and related to the planned 1935 Silver Jubilee Trans-Tasman flight.

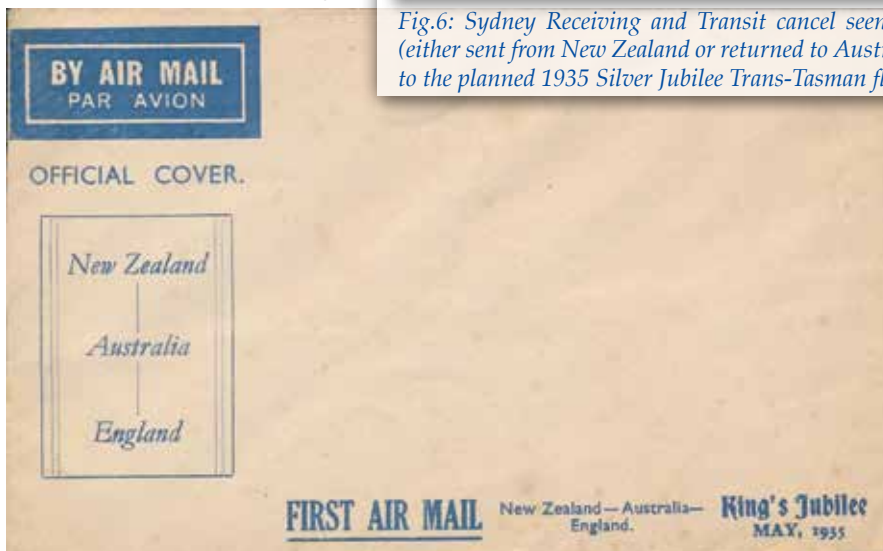


Fig.7: Special cover designed by New Zealand Post for the planned first all-air New Zealand-Australia-England flight.

With the failure of the initial air crossing of the Tasman Sea, these items were transported to Australia by sea, arriving in Sydney on 20 May where a receiving cancel was applied, except to those covers that were to be carried forward by air (Fig.6).

In his 1935 article Wyndham provided details of the New Zealand covers mailed to him, including route/transit cancellations. Using Fernbank's flight tables as a guide, these covers would have left Australia on 22 May on flight IW341 and arrived in Alexandria on 31 May <4>. In Egypt the mail items were transferred to flight AS244, arriving in Cape Town on 7 June <5>. The covers described by Wyndham were those designed by New Zealand Post for the first official all-air flight from New Zealand to Great Britain. A blank example of such a cover can be seen on Fig.7. Unfortunately, none of the covers mentioned by Wyndham are recorded as being subsequently seen.

It is unknown how many related covers were flown from New Zealand to South Africa. In my over 15 years of collecting 1935 Trans-Tasman material, I have only seen one cover addressed to South Africa (Fig.8). The cover was mailed on 13 May from Wanganui, approximately 200km north of Wellington, and addressed to St. James, near Muizenberg. The cover was specially designed for the Trans-Tasman flight. Different coloured envelopes and printings were used with all being distributed free at local post offices in New Zealand and Australia. The cream-coloured envelope with chocolate printing indicates this cover was produced in New Zealand.

Postage on the cover totals 7d. As per the special agreement between Australia and New Zealand Post, the mail rate for the Trans-Tasman flight included 5d (air fee) plus 2d surface rate per half ounce. The postage was thus sufficient for the return Trans-Tasman flight to Australia and carriage by sea to South Africa. The Sydney transit cancel of 20 May on the back of the cover confirmed the receipt of the cover in Australia.

Unfortunately, it appears that a postal clerical error confused the issue. On the right-hand side of the cover is a postage due cachet which has been cancelled by

an Auckland obliterator. It is not clear where and when the 40 centimes manuscript mark was made.

This amount is in keeping with a postage due payment of 4d which is double the deficiency of a standard Australian Empire rate of 2d (Note that the usual Empire surface rate from New Zealand was 1d).

While speculative, it appears that the local postmaster in Wanganui misinterpreted the various rules surrounding the flight and decided the sender should have paid an additional 2d for mail from Australia to South Africa. This fee was cancelled with the obliterator application when the cover arrived in Auckland. The only value of this error is that it provides additional information on the routing of the cover. Two vessels, one from Wellington and the second from Auckland, departed from New Zealand on 17 May and arrived in Sydney on 20 May. Given that an Auckland obliterator was applied, it is safe to conclude that this cover was carried on the *SS Monterey* from Auckland to Sydney. Onward carriage of the item was probably via Fremantle and Durban to Cape Town.

Final Thoughts

The probability of a number of covers from this flight destined for South Africa still being in existence is a real possibility. The author would be interested in hearing from any interested reader who may be able to add to the above story.

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Fig.8: Cover mailed from Wanganui, New Zealand to St. James, South Africa. Sydney transit cancel on back. See text for detail.



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THE ROAD TO DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH AFRICA FROM A PHILATELIC AND POSTAL HISTORY POINT OF VIEW

by Dr Gerhard Kamffer RDPSA, Pretoria Philatelic Society



Reflecting on the theme for the International Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town: 'The Road to Democracy'

The Organising Committee of the Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition decided that it will be appropriate to link this event with the theme *"The Road to Democracy in South Africa"*. This is based on the title of an Open Class collection that has been compiled over the last 25 years reflecting on the path to democracy in South Africa.

The importance of this exhibit, which is on display, lies in the fact that philatelic and non-philatelic items, that collectively illustrate a profoundly contentious period in our history, have been researched and described, and are displayed in a manner that allows members of the public viewing this exhibit, to make their own judgement, in terms of this period of our heritage. These covers, post cards and documents, as reprehensible as they might be to many people, are intrinsically part of the history of South Africa.

The exhibition illustrates aspects relating to the implementation of the apartheid system, the reaction by the liberation movements, as well as the responses by the South African Government. Also displayed are the roles those various leaders and institutions played on both sides of the dispute, which eventually led to the end of apartheid in 1994.

This article, in setting the scene for the exhibition, reflects on a few selected themes from the collection.

The history of the past century, the first fifty years leading up to apartheid and the following fifty years of its rise and fall, remains contentious, both in public politics as well as in the memories of those who lived through it. The specific items displayed in the exhibit, that confirm the policy of segregation and apartheid, include several unique and rare philatelic, and in some cases, non-philatelic pieces. The society that took shape between 1652 and 1994 in South Africa was unique in the world of European colonisation and was based on segregation between races that was entrenched by a formal system of apartheid.

However, concentrating on the common future, was the way the South African Government chose to go early in the Nelson Mandela presidency. After the transfer of political power in 1994, the government's Department of Arts and Culture has been trying to redress imbalances in heritage. For the first time the explicit goal of the Department was that the heritage sector should serve all South Africans. Previously marginalised communities should now have their cultural heritages recognised. The stated aim was to reflect the diversity among the people of the country, while at the same time help to build shared values and to aid nation-building. It is in this same spirit that the Organising Committee of the Cape Town International Exhibition is approaching the stamp show with the theme *The Road to Democracy in South Africa*.

Jan van Riebeeck established a trading post in 1652 at the Cape

An expedition of the Dutch East India Company (*In Dutch*: Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie, VOC) led by Jan van Riebeeck established a trading post and naval victualing station at the Cape of Good Hope in 1652 (Fig.1). Van Riebeeck's objective was to secure a harbour of refuge for VOC ships during the long voyages between Europe and Asia. Within about three decades, the Cape had become home to a large community of *vrijlieden*, also known as *vrijburgers* ('free citizens'), former VOC employees who settled in the colonies overseas after completing their service contracts. *Vrijburgers* were mostly married citizens who undertook to spend at least twenty years farming the land within the fledgling colony's borders; in exchange they received tax exempt status and were loaned tools and seeds. Reflecting the multi-national nature of the early trading companies, the VOC granted *vrijburger* status to

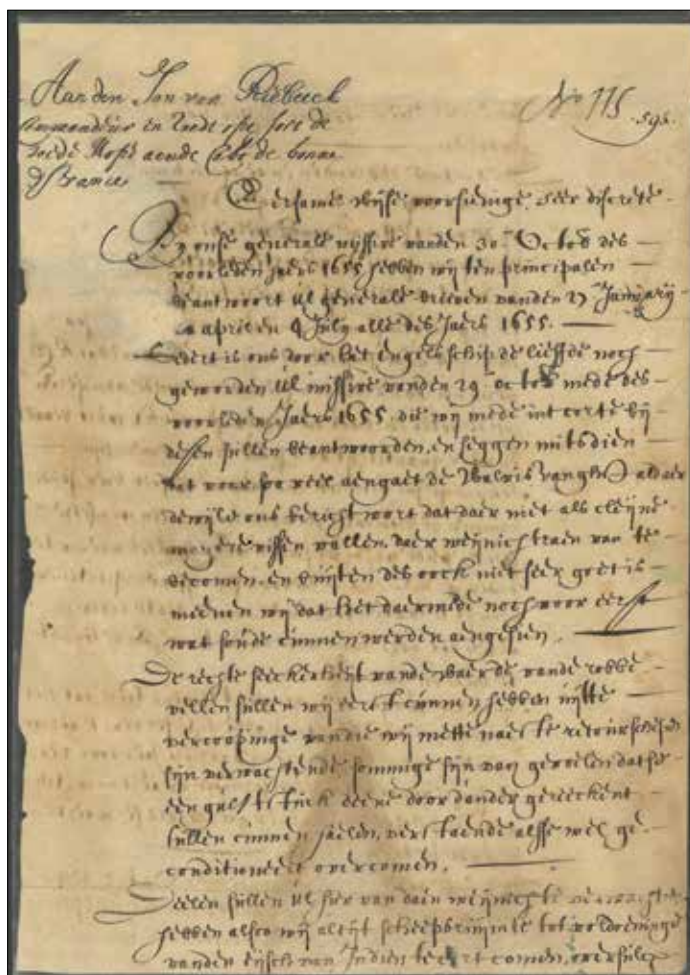


Fig.1: Letter sent to Jan van Riebeeck in 1655. Van Riebeeck is addressed as Commander and Councillor of the Fort de Goede Hoop at the Cabo de bonne Espérance. The letter ends with a word of praise that ships passing the Cape are evidently being sufficiently replenished with vegetables. (Collection: Danie Scheepers RDPSA, Cape Town).

Dutch, Scandinavian and German employees, among others. In 1688 they also sponsored the immigration of nearly two hundred French Huguenot refugees who had fled to the Netherlands upon the second Edict of Fontainebleau.

Many of the colonists who settled directly on the frontier

became increasingly independent and localised in their loyalties. Known as Boers, they migrated westwards beyond the Cape Colony's initial borders and had soon penetrated almost a thousand kilometres inland. Some Boers even adopted a nomadic lifestyle permanently and were denoted as *trekboers*. When European immigrants colonised the Cape in 1652, the Khoikhoi were practicing extensive pastoral agriculture in the Cape region, with large herds of Nguni cattle. The European immigrants labelled them Hottentots, in imitation of the sound of the Khoekhoe language, but this term is today considered derogatory (Fig.2) With the coming of the Dutch settlement the Khoikhoi faced a much stronger demand for their cattle. Soon the Company would settle free burghers in the vicinity of the fort and further inland to satisfy the demand of producing enough food. The free burghers would even put greater pressure on the Khoikhoi herds. They were soon dispossessed of land and livestock by some settlers who used their superior armed force to crush resistance. Tension over land started building up between colonist and the Khoikhoi.



Fig.2: Cover posted from Hottentots-Holland on 1 October 1870 to Stellenbosch via Eerste Rivier Station. On 6 June 1657 it was recorded in the diary of Jan van Riebeeck that a party of Free Burghers found about 500-600 Hottentots in a beautiful valley near the Cape. They explained that the place was their Holland or home country and thus the name Hottentots-Holland originated.

The Eastern Cape Frontier Wars

For several decades after 1775 the Zuurveld, a coastal stretch of 150km between the Fish- and the Sundays rivers in the Eastern Cape, was a zone of fierce contests. Both the Xhosa and the Boers were cattle-farming societies competing for land and pasture resources on the Eastern frontier. Soon after the British Government had taken over the Cape in 1795, they were drawn into the frontier conflicts. From a philatelic point of view this is providing postal historians with an opportunity to find covers and letters written by British soldiers, stationed in the Cape, and deployed on the eastern frontier, back home to the United Kingdom.

The Frontier Wars: From the late 1700s, Boer and Xhosa were locked in an intense but inconclusive struggle for control of the rich grazing-lands of the eastern Cape. They could no longer rely on the forces of the Cape Government for their protection and the Commando, or a citizen militia was introduced in 1715 as an extension of the Cape's military.

The British temporarily occupied the Cape between 1795 and 1803 and although it was determined not to cede it again after reoccupation in 1806, the Cape's status as a proper British Colony was only finalised in 1814. But in 1811, five years after they had occupied the Cape for the second time, the British introduced a new factor into the

frontier struggle: military intervention on the side of the settlers. It was the beginning of the end of Xhosa independence and created more tension between 'Black and White' about land in South Africa.

David Saks in an article about the Second Waterkloof Campaign, October - November 1851 pointed out that the Eighth Frontier War was played out in a wide array of theatres, from the dense jungles of the Fish River Bush, to the Amatola Mountains, along the line of garrisoned frontier forts, Fort Armstrong and Fort Cox amongst them, in the Alice - Keiskammahoe - Fort Beaufort triangle and northwards across the Kei. On one memorable occasion, Fort Beaufort actually came under all-out attack and was the scene of chaotic street fighting. Further north, the military villages of Auckland and Woburn were overrun while the hamlet of Whittlesea was subjected to a prolonged siege. The theatre of operations that has most captured the imagination of historians, however, is that of the Waterkloof, stronghold of the legendary Xhosa chieftain, Maqoma, and scene of some of the war's bitterest campaigning (Figs.3 & 4).

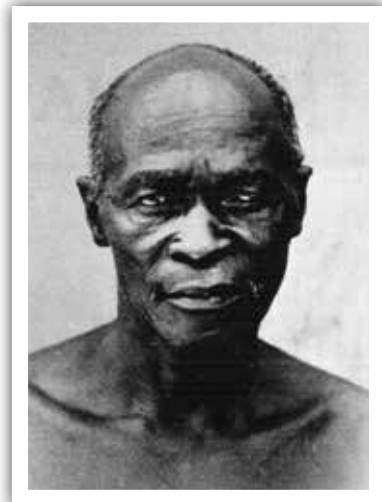


Fig.3: Chief Maqoma most renowned Xhosa chief of South Africa's 19th-century frontier wars in the Eastern Cape. (Source: Timothy Stapleton, Maqoma, Xhosa Resistance to Colonial Advance).



Fig.4: Entire posted from Cape Town to England, written on 21 November 1851 arriving per 'Royal Mail Steamer Harbinger'. 'General Post Office Cape Town' markings with arrival mark Bradford JA 8 1852' with reverse showing SHIP LETTER and transit code in red. Very rare letter referring to the 8th Frontier War.

The Cape Frontier Wars, (1779–1879) took place over a period of 100 years of intermittent warfare between the Cape colonists and the Xhosa agricultural and pastoral peoples of the Eastern

Cape, in South Africa. As one of the most prolonged struggles by African peoples against European intrusion, it ended in the annexation of Xhosa territories by the Cape Colony and the incorporation of its peoples

The first triangular stamps issued in the Cape - 1853

Stamps were first issued by the colony on 1 September 1853. The two stamps that were issued were a one penny in brick-red and four pence in blue (Fig.5). The unusual shape of the stamps was probably inspired by the large triangular obliterator used by the Cape Revenue Department from 1839. The stamps were printed by Messrs Perkins, Bacon & Co in London. The original die for these stamps was cut by William Humphrys, an engraver employed by Perkins Bacon. Sheets of a special handmade paper, measuring 282mm by 536mm, were used to print 240 stamps per sheet. The stamps were issued imperforate. The rate of postage within the colony was 4d for a half ounce letter and 1d for a newspaper. On 1 April 1863 the rate to Great Britain was increased to one shilling, if sent by mail packet, and reduced to four pence, if sent by private vessels.

On 18 February 1858 two new values became available: six pence and one shilling. The six pence rate was for payment of half ounce letters to Great Britain and the one shilling rate was for postage to some foreign countries. On 15 September 1860 the rate for local letters in Cape Town was reduced to 1d. One of the rarest stamps in the British Commonwealth is the Cape of Good Hope 4d. black triangular stamp, of which only 12 copies have been authenticated.



Fig.5: The two stamps that were issued on 1 September 1853 were a one penny in brick-red and four pence in blue https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_the_Cape_of_Good_Hope

Native Refugee Camps during the Anglo-Boer War (1899 – 1902)

Peter Warwick records: *“Following the British annexation of the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony and the beginning of the guerrilla war, the military administration was faced with two immediate problems concerning black refugees: first, to alleviate hardship and destitution among those Africans whose livelihood had been destroyed by military operations and secondly, to give protection to those communities in danger of suffering at the hands of the Boers for the assistance they had given to the imperial forces”.*

On 15 June 1901 the Native Refugee Department was established in the Transvaal under the control of Maj H G. Joly de Lotbiniere of the Royal Engineers, with its main task to supply workers to the British Army. All Transvaal camps were also placed under his department’s control at that stage. In the Orange River Colony 12,043 refugees had been concentrated in eight separate camps by the end of April 1901 and by the beginning of June this number has risen to 20,590. The largest camps in the territory were situated at Brandfort, Edenburg, Heilbron, Kroonstad and Vredefort Road.

The history of the black Native Refugee Camps forms part of the tragedy of the deaths of thousands of people in the concentration camps during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). Although it is 120 years since the Anglo-Boer War ended, the tragedy of the camps is still relevant and deeply felt by both Black and White in South Africa.

From a philatelic point of view, however, the collecting of the postal history of the Native Refugee Camps remains important and is posing a great challenge to find these items which can be regarded as philatelic gems (Fig.6).

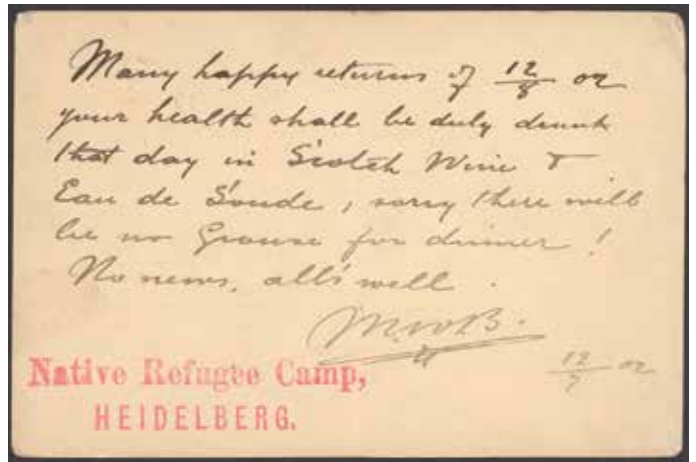


Fig.6: Postcard posted from Heidelberg on 12 July 1902 to England with the Native Refugee Camp Heidelberg cachet applied on the back. This is the only known copy with this cachet.

Passes for Indians

Giliomee and Mbenga indicated that in the immediate pre-Union years there was considerable friction in both Natal and the Transvaal between the Indian inhabitants and the governments of those colonies. Indian resistance to discriminatory laws, as personified by Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi dates to the turn of the 19th century. They adopted forms of non-violent passive resistance to the racial laws (Fig.7).



Fig.7: A Pass to Indians born in the Province of Natal with a 5/- pass fee to be paid and issued by the Protector of Indian Immigrants Office in Durban on 6 November 1931. Every indentured Indian who neglected or refused to return to India or to become re-indentured in Natal

“shall take out year by year a pass or licence to remain in Natal...”.
Very scarce example of a Pass to Indians.

Gandhi and his associates often got into trouble with these laws, for example when they embarked on pass-burning demonstrations. The laws relating to travelling passes in the Transvaal and the Orange Free State were consolidated in the 1930s. In the Cape province Natives enjoyed entire freedom of movement except in British Bechuanaland and the Transkei Territories where Natives entering or leaving were required to be in possession of a pass. In Natal, Natives did not require travel passes within the province, but Law no. 48 of 1884 required every Native entering or leaving Natal to be in possession of a Pass.

Ndabeni and Langa Locations

In 1902, the bubonic plague broke out among the black population leading to many whites demanding segregation. According to the Cape Town Medical Officer of Health the living conditions of Africans were ‘very undesirable, both from the point of view of sanitation and socially. It

was because of this that Ndabeni, Cape Town’s first black township, was established. The location was, at the time, on the Cape Flats near a sewerage plant *“Natives who were living under insanitary conditions in the slums of Cape Town were offered accommodation at low rental in Ndabeni”* The black township was not to be tolerated within the city so, as the city grew, new townships were built on its outer edge and the community was relocated. In 1923 Langa was established about 5km southeast of Ndabeni and it was to here that the population was sent before Ndabeni was dismantled (Figs.8 & 9).

of an emerging pattern of treating so called ‘non-Europeans’ differently from ‘Europeans’ (Fig.10).



Fig.8: (above) Registered cover posted from 'NDABENI LOCATION MAITLAND' dated 8 April 1928 and cancelled with a single circle canceller to Basutoland via Bloemfontein.

On 27 September 1951 at a meeting held in the Cape Town township of Langa and attended by representatives of the Non-European Unity Movement affiliates and the local ANC Branch, a resolution was unanimously accepted to boycott the coming tercentenary celebrations.



Fig.9: Registered cover posted from the 'Langa Native Loc' on 19 February 1952 to Kentani in the Transkei.

The Durban Bantu Post Office

The *Natal Mercury* reported in 1942 that *“A highly interesting experiment in Post Office communications was started in Durban last week when the first purely Bantu Post Office in the Union was opened by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs”* and *“The post office will use a franking stamp unique in the annals of South African postal transmissions – “Durban Bantu”*.

According to Putzel (Vol.1, p. 415) this post office was opened on 11.1.1943 and closed in 1958, however the example illustrated shows an earlier date of 18 Dec 1942 (Fig.10). Separate facilities in post offices for Blacks, Coloureds and Indians were introduced before 1900 in the Transvaal, Free State and Natal. Originally the idea was implemented for practical reasons and to provide a better service to these various race groups in their own language. But after the National Party came into power in 1948 the Separate Amenities Act of 1953 laid down so called ‘petty apartheid’ also in Post Offices. Before the introduction of the Act in 1953 this practice formed part



Fig.10: Example of the DURBAN-BANTU post office and registration cachet dated 2 January 1943.

Jan van Riebeeck Tercentenary and the Defiance Campaign - 1952

The strife over South Africa’s past and present was no more evident than in the festivities planned to coincide with the 300th anniversary of Jan van Riebeeck’s landing in South Africa.

The festival was about more than the landing, the settlement, and the attributes of Van Riebeeck. It was an attempt to display the growing power of the ‘apartheid’ state and to assert its confidence.

The ‘Defiance Campaign’ ostensibly sought the abolition of the ‘five unjust laws’ that embodied the national Party’s apartheid programme.

These laws elaborated urban segregation, imposed passes on black women, banned the Communist Party, removed coloureds from the voters’ roll and gave rural chiefs new authoritarian powers. The first stage of the campaign opened in June 1952 with small bands of black resistance in the main towns.



Fig.11: Cover posted from the Leeusig Post Office on 6 May 1954 with a 4½d stamp commemorating Jan van Riebeeck.

More than 8,000 people were arrested countrywide in the Defiance Campaign, nearly 6,000 of them in the Eastern Cape. During the campaign the ANC began to receive funding

from sympathisers in Britain, the first signal of international support that would play such an important role in the anti-apartheid struggle (Figs.11 & 12).



Fig.12: Examples of two 1/- labels sold to raise funds for the 'MILLION SHILLINGS FOR FREEDOM 1952' fund started in support of the Defiance Campaign.

Countries that issued stamps in support of the liberation struggle

Many countries, especially in Africa, supported the liberation struggle in South Africa in various ways. Some of these countries also issued postage stamps to support the actions against apartheid and to commemorate Nelson Mandela as the leader of the struggle. From a philatelic point of view this provides collectors with an interesting variety of stamps and labels from various countries linked to the history of South Africa that can be collected. This is also to support the idea that all African countries involved in the past in this regard will be invited to participate in this year's international stamp exhibition in November 2022 in Cape Town (Fig.13).



Tanzania

Nigeria

German Democratic Republic (DDR), East Germany

Fig.13: Selection of countries that issued stamps in support of the liberation struggle.

Angola and Cuba join hands in the struggle against apartheid and negotiations for Cuban withdrawal from Angola in 1984

Cuba entered the Angolan Civil War in 1975 by sending military and humanitarian aid to the MPLA. Cuba backed the MPLA while the USA supported FNLA and UNITA received help from South Africa. Cuba had as many as 36,000 troops in Angola fighting in the war at one point. Fidel Castro stated that until the apartheid government of South Africa was destroyed, Cuban troops would be available to the MPLA. In a joint statement on 19 March 1984 Cuba and Angola announced the principles on which a Cuban withdrawal would be negotiated: unilateral withdrawal of the SADF, implementation of Resolution 435 and cessation of support for UNITA and aggression against Angola. Cuban withdrawal would be a matter between Cuba and Angola. In a similar joint announcement in 1982 these principles had been formulated as demands. The proposal was rejected by Prime Minister P.W. Botha (Fig.14).



Fig.14: Cover posted from within Angola on 27 February 1981 to either a member of the MPLA or the Cuban forces in Ondjiva in Southern Angola. The cover is addressed to Antonio José da Costa who was a member of an anti-tank platoon as part of a Brigade near Ondjiva. A South African attack on Ondjiva took place on 26 August 1981 and Plant facilities in and around Ondjiva were destroyed. Note the Angolan postage stamp (see red arrow) with the words: 'LUTA CONTRA O APARTHEID' indicating the Angolan government's sympathy for the struggle against apartheid.

The Homeland System

To implement the homeland system the National Party government needed the support of the leaders from within these Bantustans. The first one to support the idea of independent homelands was Kaiser Matanzima.

Already in 1963, he became the Chief Minister of the newly formed Transkeian Legislative assembly. He was sworn in as Prime Minister when the Transkei became the first Bantustan to gain nominal independence (Fig.15). Lucas Mangope became president when he accepted independence for Bophuthatswana on 6 December 1977. The head of the Mphaphu tribe, Patrick Mphaphu became the president of Venda after independence. Lennox Sebe became President of the Ciskei after their independence on 24 December 1981.



Fig.15: First day cover issued on the day of independence of the Transkei, 26 October 1976 with 4c and 15c stamps illustrating Paramount Chief K.D. Matanzima and signed by him. Also signed by the President of the Republic of South Africa, Dr. Nico Diedericks.

It was these homelands that Mandela referred to in his letter (illustrated as Fig.17) written in 1985 to Matanzima.

Operations launched by the military wing of the ANC (Umkhonto we Sizwe) in the urban areas of South Africa in 1977

The Soweto uprising of 1976 marked a decisive shift in internal black politics towards massive resistance, with the ANC reverting largely to the tried and tested tactics of the early 1960s: sabotage. The primary objective was to "raise and sustain the level of morale and militancy among the masses inside the country". The 1977-1980 period witnessed Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) engaging in a range of operations which were to dramatically increase in the forthcoming years.

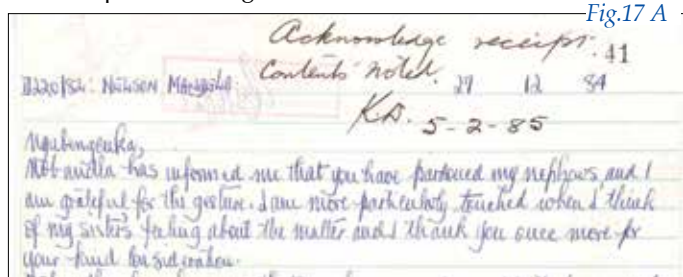
In 1977 the MK Central Operational Headquarters established the Transvaal Urban Machinery (TUM) in Maputo in neighbouring Mozambique. Infiltration of cadres from Mozambique began in earnest in 1977. Small combat groups of two or three guerrillas armed with grenade launchers were sent to urban areas to carry out attacks under the direction of the internal leadership (Fig.16).



Fig.16: Riot-damaged registered cover tied by the MOZODO date stamp dated 15 June 1976 with handstamp 'DAMAGED DURING RIOTS JUNE 76/BESKADIG TYDENS ONLUSTE JUNIE 76' The Mozodo Post Office in Soweto opened in 1966 and closed after being burnt down during the Soweto riots in 1976.

The Role of Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela's contribution to the political settlement of 1990-1994 was decisive. In 1985 he began "talks about talks" that were indispensable preliminary to the formal negotiations. However, already in 1984 Kaizer Matanzima, President of the Transkei, tried to start negotiating with the ANC leadership in jail. Kaizer Matanzima also attempted to meet two other jailed ANC leaders, Walter Sisulu and Govan Mbeki. Both had refused to meet him. The South African Government has denied any knowledge of a freedom offer to Mandela by the Transkei leadership in 1984 (Figs.17 & 18).



Mandela's position was clear from the contents of the letter displayed above: "We will under no circumstances, accept being released to the Transkei or any other Bantustan. You know fully well that we have spent the better part of our lives in prison exactly because we are opposed to the very idea of separate development which makes us foreigners in our own country, and which makes the Government to perpetuate our oppression up to this day".

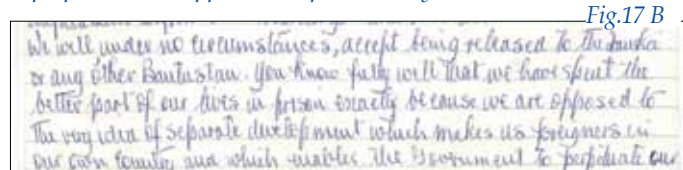
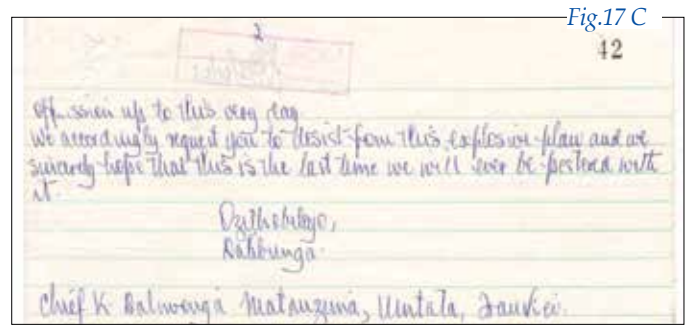


Fig.17 (A,B,C): Letter written by Nelson Mandela from the Pollsmoor Prison to Kaizer Matanzima, addressing him as 'Ngubengcuka' (in the Xhosa tradition this was a specific name that Matanzima acquired from Royalty literally meaning 'blanket of a wolf') on 1 March 1984, wherein Mandela is acknowledging the fact that Matanzima wanted to pay them a visit in prison.



He however, indicates that the original decision taken in 1977 still stands that they are not prepared to grant him such an opportunity. Mandela also belongs to a cadet branch of the Thembu dynasty and his patrilineal great grandfather Ngubengcuka (who died in 1832) ruled as the Inkosi Enkulu or king of the Thembu people. Kaizer Matanzima was also in line for the throne of the Transkei, a role that would lead him to embrace Bantustan policies.



Fig. 18: Stamps issued to honour Nelson Mandela.

Conclusion: The aim of the **International Stamp Exhibition in 2022 in Cape Town**, is to generate interest for the exhibition amongst all South Africans and in that way start encouraging new collectors across the spectrum to take up stamp collecting as a hobby.

Knowledge of history helps to shape and provide multiple perspectives on how various elements have come together to create a society or to build a nation. Philately and stamps can play a role to achieve this. These stamps and covers represent a thought-provoking aspect of our country's painful history.

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SOCIETY DETAILS

VISIT the <https://www.stampssa.africa/> <https://www.facebook.com/groups>

It is important to note that not all Societies have returned to having regular meetings during this time of lockdown, they do, however, welcome communication via phone and email - also see activities on the website www.stampssa.africa



Philatelic Meetings of The Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

All meetings at both venues will start at 19h00 and finish at 21h30. The gates of the Club at both sections will close at 21h30. If you intend dining before the meetings, please meet in the Club Room at Auckland Park or the Members' restaurant at Woodmead at 18h00.

Formal Monthly Meetings at Auckland Park on the second Wednesday of each month

12 October: *Second Competitive Evening.*

16 November: *Invited Exhibitor.*

14 December: *President's Evening & Cocktail Party.*

You can contact the President: Herbie Schaffler RDPSA, for further information 082 722 7604.

WOODMEAD Informal Study Group

*please send all communication to
haschaff@iafrica.com*

All meetings at this venue are held on the last Wednesday of each month, except in December.

SANDTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The society has an active exchange packet circuit and members with a wide range of philatelic interests. For further information contact:

Chris Carey 083 6622150 / 011 673 2229
ccarey@icon.co.za

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President: Clive Carr, Tel: 011 789 6357

Until the renovations of the venue are completed, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg continues to hold monthly Zoom meetings. Anyone interested in joining should contact Clive Carr directly.



WEST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Contact: Andries Nel, 083 269 9374.
Chairman or Secretary Ian Walker. Tel: 011 472 1161
email: ianwalker@vodamail.co.za

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: David Wigston
email: speedbird.imperial@gmail.com
Secretary: Paul Hammerton
hampaul@ananzi.co.za



EDENVALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Colin Bousfield. Cell 083 961 9656.
email: bousfield.colin@yahoo.co.za Secretary: Sandy Robertson. email: sandystampnews@gmail.com
Meet on the last Saturday of the month from 1 to 3pm at Thornhill Manor Retirement Village Hall.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Monthly newsletter, active exchange section, loads of expertise on traditional philately and postmarks. *President and Society Secretary:* Alex Visser. alex.visser@up.ac.za
Box 36473, Menlo Park 0102; cell 082 922-2927

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Vergader elke 3de Saterdag van die maand om 10:00 by die NG Kerk Queenswood in Garretweg, Queenswood. Aangename en aktiewe groep wat gereeld bywoon. Nuusbrief 'Die Posduif' verskyn maandeliks. Voorsitter: Dr. Louwrence Erasmus. Sekretaris: Ronel Erasmus. *Kontak:* Herman van Niekerk by hinvestasta@gmail.com of 072 446 2501

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN



Email: <https://stampssa.africa/rpsct/home/> President: John Rycroft
cell: 0828081320 email: john@grassrootsgroup.co.za
Secretary: Victor Millard
0828028882 or email: millardvg@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.rpsct.org>

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Werner Barnard;
email: president@bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za
Secretary: Reanie de Villiers; 0825670353 (a.h.);
email: secretary@bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za
Website: <http://bellvillephilatelicsociety.co.za>
Contact the Secretary for Programme details.

PAARLSE FILATELISTE Sedert 1951

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gawiehugo@gmail.com of
Riaan Crafford: 082 876 7608
n/u craffies@telkomsa.net



PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

Programmes for meetings include displays, talks by visiting speakers and 'Show & Tell' exhibits. An Exchange circuit and auctions from time to time. Visitors always welcome! meeting start at 18h30. Contact: Marilyn Crawford at 021 689 5050 email: m.tristan.crawford@gmail.com



FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded in 1954 and still promoting philately in the 'Deep South' of the Cape Peninsula.
President: Johan de Wet
Secretary: Volker Janssen.
email: janssenp@iafrica.com
Website: www.fhps.info



STELLENBOSCH FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Meetings: First Tuesday, every month, 19:00 at Le Donjon, Recreation Hall, La Clemence, Webersvallei Rd, Stellenbosch.
Contact via email: stellenboschstamp@gmail.com



Established 1890 - Reconstituted 1912 PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY



President Francois Friend,
082 554 8900
francois@softchem.co.za or
Vice president David Brown
041 360 4025; or Secretary/
Treasurer Rodney Maclachlan
072 619 5409. PostNet Suite #11,
Private Bag X0002, The Fig Tree, Charle, 6033
PORT ELIZABETH

Daytime meetings - 10h30/11h00 to 13h00 at same venue. Meeting: 3 Oct; 7 Nov. No meeting in December, 2nd Dec. President's Christmas party.

FOUNDED 30 APRIL 1909 EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: David Preston
082 7742090.
email: prestee@telkomsa.net
Secretary: Carlos Da Fonseca
082 334 7603.



GEORGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Willie Mollentze. 0825557760.
mollentzef@gmail.com
Secretariat: Otto Muller. 0832408722.
otto1muller@gmail.com
Treasurer: Charles Deacon. 0836304069.

DIE POSBOOM FILATELIE VERENIGING

Chair & Secretary: Gerrie Conradie,
082 952 6700.
epos: gajcon@gmail.com
Vice Chair: Bobby Dann,
083 288 0600,
bobbymosselbay@gmail.com



CASPIP CAPE SOCIETY FOR PALESTINE ISRAEL PHILATELY

Contact for details: Aubrey Katzev
akatzef@mweb.co.za +27 (21) 4615134
President of CASPIP.

ZIMBABWE BULAWAYO

Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe
email: phil.soc.zim@gmail.com

OFS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Society meets every 4th Friday monthly, (except December), at 19h15 at the museum of the Boer Republics in Memorium Rd, Bloemfontein.
President: Dr Neil Cronjé and
Vice president: Harry Osthoff
email: OsthofG@ufs.ac.za



HIGHWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY DURBAN

The Committee encourages past and new visitors to join and get involved in this social hobby of Kings.
German Restaurant open for lunch.
President: Leigh Hen-Boisen, leigh.hb@gmail.com
Secretary: Bronwen Edwards, edwards@worldonline.co.za
Membership: Bev Chittenden, bev@natalaircon.co.za
or Barry Livsey, livsey@netsolutions.co.za



Established in 1924
MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY



President: Dave Wyllie <davewyllie37@outlook.com> The MPS now meets at the Scout hall in Hilton on the 3rd Saturday monthly at 10am. **Secretary:** Ian Horrell, email: ian.horrell@sappi.com cell - 083 6618122 Stamp Circuit Book Officer is Russell Bowton *Society activities can be obtained from the secretary.*

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL



Meetings and auctions are held at the Classic Motorcycle Club, 137 Tara Rd, Bluff, Durban on every 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month. Contact: **President:** Zbigniew Kawecki 079 465 7468. email zkawecki57@gmail.com or philatelicsocietykzn@gmail.com for details about membership, sales packets, study group topics and auctions. *Everyone is welcome and committee members are always on hand from 09h00 to give advice about evaluations and philately. The club has a very successful Study Group focusing on specific topics on the fourth Saturday of the month while the second Saturday of the month is reserved for a monthly auction.*

THEMATICS SOUTH AFRICA

THEMATIC MEETINGS / TEMATIESE BYEENKOMSTE

The Pretoria Chapter - meets first Saturday of the month at 10:00 in Greek Orthodox Church Hall, corner of Lynwood Road & Roper Street, (opposite UP main gate). Contact: Helena Snyman 012 803 8922, 083 990 8953 or helena.snyman@gauteng.gov.za

The Western Cape Chapter - meets first Saturday of the month at 09:30 in the Church Hall, DR Church Bellville-Vallei, c/o Postma & St Andrews Street, Oakdale, Bellville. Contact: Diederik Viljoen at 021-976-2661, 082-456-6653 or diederikviljoen@gmail.com

The KZN Chapter - meets third Monday of the month at 15:00 in St Matthews Parish Hall, 115 Hesketh Drive, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg.

Study Groups

EUROCIRCLE STAMP STUDY

Usual Meet in the Captain's Table at Woodmead Johannesburg - last Wednesday of each month at 20h00 (except December).

TBVC STUDY GROUP

Chairperson: Jan de Jong djhome606@gmail.com **Secretary:** Eugene du Plooy eugeneduplooy@gmail.com **Pretoria Fair & mini-auction**, Greek Orthodox Church, corner Lynnwood Rd & Roper St, Pretoria, 09h00 to 14h00.

RSA SEËLSTUDIEGROEP

Kontak: djhome606@gmail.com Doen uitstekende studie en navorsing en publiseer 'n gereelde maandelikse nuusbrieff. Jan de Jong: 079 190 1066.

RHODESIAN STAMP STUDY

The Rhodesian Study Circle holds regular member meetings and events across the world. For more information on meetings, visit <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk/engage/meetings> or Contact the Secretary, Brian Zlotnick. email bzlot@blueyonder.co.uk or postal address 10 Fortis Green Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 9NA. UK. **The South African representative is Patrick Flanagan** RDPSA.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

Now amalgamated with the EDENVALE Philatelic Society.

POSTAGE DUE MAIL STUDY GROUP

For more details, look at their website: <http://www.postageduemail.org.uk/> **Contact:** Bob Medland, Secretary & Treasurer of the Postage Due Mail Study Group, email: secretarypdmmsg@gmail.com

THE CAPE STAMP FAIR

Bellville Valley DRC Hall, Usually first Saturday of every month (09:00 - 12:30) **Contact:** Ken Joseph. 072 597 1287 email: ken@philatelicfriends.com

The South African Philatelist

All about stamps

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1932

ISSUES OF THE JOURNAL ARE PUBLISHED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE - HOWEVER, LIMITED QUANTITIES OF

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of certain issues of the printed journal are
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(complete your collection and for easy reference)

contact André du Plessis if this is of interest to you, preferably by email, keep in mind that postage or courier fees are for your account
email <andredups@gmail.com>

Stamps that make you SMILE

by Volker Janssen,

Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Errors on Stamps... Episode 72

"FREEDOM or FRIENDSHIP?"

For the 25th anniversary of the death of President John F. Kennedy a commemorative issue of 4 stamps was released by Sierra Leone in 1988.

On the value of Le40 the spacecraft which took the first American astronaut John Glenn junior to orbit the planet earth three times in five hours in 1962, was depicted on the stamp.

His spacecraft was named 'Freedom 7', which was an error created by the stamp designer of Sierra Leone because the real name was 'FRIENDSHIP 7'.



MonacoPhil 2022

24 to 26 November 2022



"We hope to welcome a large number of visitors in November"

- Patrick Maselis,
General Commissioner
MonacoPhil 2022

PARTNERS



Lately not much is written or spoken about **SA Perfins**. I am interested in starting a **STUDY GROUP** to distribute information on all perfins used in Southern Africa. As it is expected to be a relative small group, with distances from each other, meetings will be done via **Zoom**.

The purpose will be to learn and study more about perfin usage, to allocate with proving covers / documents, all app. 170 local perfins and to exchange perfins to enhance members collections. Those interested are welcome to contact me on diederikviljoen@gmail.com - Bellville Philatelic Society

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