FEBRUARY 2005



The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE





SPECIAL FEATURE

The "Shipping Postmaster" Postmarks of South Africa

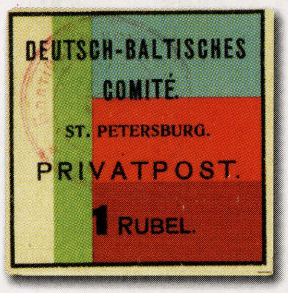
THIS MONTH



Swaziland



Designers All?



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The South African Philatelist

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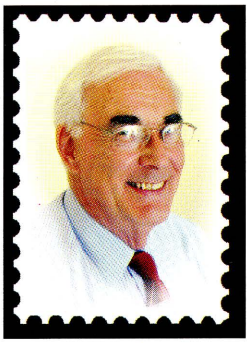
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Large Silver Hafnia 1994, Silver Bronze Pacific 1997, Vermeil APS Stampshow1999, Large Silver Egoli 2001, Federation Plaque 2004

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From the Editor



The report of the AGM of The Philatelic Foundation held in December 2004 is printed elsewhere in this issue, and opens up a new chapter of co-operation between Foundation and Federation. The adoption by Foundation of specific costs rather than making an amorphous donation is seen as a positive move.

Contrary to popular perception, *The SA Philatelist* has always been distributed free of charge to members of affiliated societies and clubs. Unfortunately, production costs absorb a disproportionate amount of Federation's budget which has given rise to the perception that the annual affiliation fee from societies is totally committed to *The Philatelist.* Not so, the fee is, and always has been, a contribution to the whole range of services offered by Federation of which *The Philatelist* is but one.

Similarly, the funding by Foundation of FIP and FIAP membership, and the rental of the Airborne Park storage facility is welcomed. The former will hopefully counter complaints that societies are subsidising those who exhibit internationally. Perhaps complainants should ask exhibitors who pays their entrance and frame fees.

In thanking Foundation for its new approach to supporting Federation, we feel we can look forward with confidence to a period where more effort is expended in promoting the hobby and moving it forward. Constructive comment and innovative ideas from the previous complainants would indeed be welcome. Regrettably, those who do not use the available facilities frequently complain the loudest about the cost. Now is the chance to remedy that situation.

Met die bogenoemde veranderinge, sowel as die vestiging van 'n Staande Komitee vir Fondse, word gehoop dat die bestuur van die finansies van Federasie onder beheer gebring sal word. Die Federasie kan dan sy hooftaak, die bemarking en uitbouing van dié stokperdjie, aanspreek en sodoende die werwing van nuwe lede aanmoedig.

Dr. Alan Rose

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Publishing deadline dates for 2005

April	issue	Vol. 81: 2.	869	10 March
June	issue	Vol. 81: 3.	870	10 May
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FUTURE EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2005
Spring Stampex
23 - 27 February
Islington, London

APRIL 2005
PACIFIC EXPLORER 2005
21 – 24 April
Sydney, Australia
Contact: SA Commissioner
Michael Wigmore
023 614 1424

SAPDA Rosebank Show
29 April – 1 May
Rosebank

MAY 2005
Brno
10 - 15 May
Czech Republic

AUGUST 2005
Taipei 2005
19 – 24 August
Taipei, Taiwan

OCTOBER 2005
Cape Stamp Show 2005
17 – 24 October
National Exhibition, Cape Town
Goodwood Civic Centre

MAY 2006
WASHINGTON 2006
27 May – 3 June
Washington, USA
Contact: SA Commissioner
Peter v.d. Molen
011 849 4822

ESPANA 2006
(TBA)
Valladolid, Spain

OCTOBER 2006
SA National Exhibition
October (TBA)
Gauteng

NOVEMBER 2006
BELGICA 2006
16 – 20 November
Brussels, Belgium

DECEMBER 2006
INDEPEX'06
December (TBA)
New Delhi, India

2007
BRASILIANA'07
(TBA)
Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

MAY 2008
ISRAEL 2008
14 – 22 May
Tel Aviv, Israel

Editor:
(Kunsliefhebber, it is policy not to publish anonymous letters. Please supply name and address (not necessary for publication).

Exhibition Appreciation

Dear Sir,

I was recently privileged to view the Dursapex Exhibition. Some of the exhibits were very good, in fact, world class material and layout etc. Unfortunately, some of the viewers present commented that the exhibitors must be, "...very rich, with plenty of money to spend on stamps and related material".

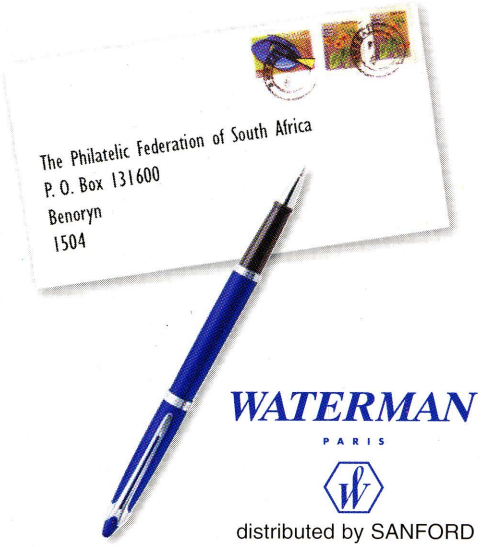
This is a very childish view, very belittling.

I happen to know some of the exhibitors personally and can assure the commentators that the frames shown were the result of many hours, sometimes years, of work. Just to obtain the stamps, covers, postmarks etc is difficult enough, and the time spent on research, presentation, correspondence etc, is immense.

Taking the long view, many exhibitors go without what some call necessities, i.e. tobacco, booze (and feel better for it) to afford their stamps. Some regard collections as a long term investment for their old age or family.

So next time you see a top class exhibit think of the trials and tribulations that have gone into it. There is much to learn from looking at and studying a frame or two. You can observe much and enhance your own collection.

Rex Osborne
Natal Philatelic Society



From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



The winning letter, chosen by the editor, will receive an exclusive pen sponsored by SANFORD. South Africa (Pty) Ltd

South Africa's New Issues

Dear Sir,

As a serious stamp collector for over 50 years, I am amazed at the nominal value of the stamps issued by South Africa during 2004. Many issues consist of 10 stamps at standard postage (R17), and international airmail postage (R40), but now the SAPOA joint issue has 8 stamps at R12.05 each!

As I do, if you collect one mint and one cancelled stamp and a First Day Cover, the total cost for year 2004 is R1000. I have purchased the new isues for some other stamp collectors and we have all decided to stop collecting them in the future. (Please note that those of us collecting Namibia have all agreed to continue buying their beautiful stamps - reaonable quantities and acceptably priced).

It is not surprising that very few children can afford to collect stamps and that many pensioners are unable, financially, to continue their life long hobby.

I look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely

Richard C. Hampton
Edenvale Philatelic Society
15 Moonlight Drive, Farrarmere, Benoni, 1501
sinclair@telkomsa.net



Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email saphilatelist@iafrica.com
Enquiries about membership can be referred to Robert Harm at robharm@mweb.co.za

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Stamping Around

Dear Sir,

It is with sadness that I realise that 'Stamping Around' has issued it's last publication after approximately fourteen years under the Editorship of David Wigston.

It is an excellent publication, enjoyed by the young and the not-so young. I will be interested to hear if and when another publication may be expected from the new Youth Activities Committee.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Mephius
Boksburg - Germiston Philatelic Society

editor's choice
Winning Letter

The Juror Replies

In response to Prof. van Wyk Smith's letter to the Dursapex jury published in the December issue, Jan Bakker, Head of the Jury team on Aerophilately replies:

Prof. Van Wyk Smith

Aerophilately is the study of routes and postage rates of airmail. An exhibit in the aerophilately class may have stamps if they are relevant. This means stamps illustrating the aerophilatelic side of the period chosen, not modern stamps illustrating the aircraft of the period; that would be thematic. They may show the aircraft used in a fantastic manner, but it is not aerophilately. Thus, one could include the 1925 airmail stamps of the Union to make the point that these were specially issued for the Government experimental airmail service, provided they were accompanied with covers over different routes/dates. On their own, without covers, they would be out of place in an aerophilatelic exhibit.

You mention the aircraft stamps of the Republic of Guinea. Please be aware that these are not very collectable except as 'stickers' or 'labels'. There is no evidence of postal use of these items and it is common knowledge that many have never seen the Republic; most have been issued by an agency in New York. To recap, aircraft stamps that belong with the subject are acceptable if they are also shown on cover. The rest is a no-no.

In your letter, you ask if you should contemplate rewriting your 22 album collection. No, definitely not! Those 22 volumes are your collection, they are personal to you, they show what interests you and have been written up in the way that pleases you. Show them to your friends, to anyone and be proud of them. However, an exhibit is an entry into a competition and must comply with the rules and regulations of the Organising Committee. An exhibit must follow a plan, pages flowing, illustrating your chosen topic. This means writing and rewriting exhibition pages time and time again, as often as you exhibit. Once you have exhibited, replace the material, your covers back into your different albums. When you decide to show again, you must look at the albums in a new light, bearing in mind the comment you received from the judges and your friends, any new material you have found in the interim, and how you view it yourself. Your view may have changed; you may also wish to put the accent on a different aspect. Remember, each exhibit is a unique creation. You can rarely use pages from a previous exhibit, and definitely not direct from a collection. The material may be the same or similar but it is presented in a unique way each time.

The method of writing up is debatable. Some handwritten exhibits are magnificent, neat, legible, veritable works of art. However, it cannot be denied that there is a trend amongst exhibitors to use computers. The results are generally neater and easier to read. This does not necessitate a three-week course in computer science. If showing individual stamps, then there is a case for a dedicated philatelic program, as one needs many individual boxes in which to mount the stamps. These the program will draw for you. Fortunately, you and I show mainly covers, one or two on a page.

Thus if we wish to box these, a ruler and pen will suffice. Personally, I find a general program like Microsoft Word adequate. I use scrap paper for all my initial attempts, laying material out on the table, the floor, anywhere, until I am satisfied with the layout, the font, font size, even colour. One's wife can frequently be invaluable for comment on overall appearance; the ladies see things differently to us! Only when completely satisfied are the final pages printed, the covers mounted using photo corners and the introductory page written.

Thank you for your letter, I hope my response has been informative and helpful.

Jan A Bakker

Obituary

Ken Gibbon

Ken Gibbon of Benoni, the postcard expert and collector of Benoni , passed away at the end of last year. He was 77. Ken was born in Kroonstad, but grew up and spent most of his life in Benoni. He was an inveterate collector with interests in topical postcards of Southern Africa, antique bottles, medals and military history of South Africa. His extensive postcard collection, some of which was exhibited at the Benoni '94 Nationals, was sold recently at Stephan Welz.

o

Eddie Beunderman

Eddie Beunderman, a founder member and stalwart of the Bellville Philatelic Society passed away in early January, aged 90. He was a well known figure in the philatelic world of the Western Cape and was still active in philately until recently.

o

Prof. Asher Dubb

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Prof. Dubb (1928-2005), after a protracted illness. He was a retired physician, having spent most of his distinguished academic career at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital. Prof. Dubb had taught generations of medical students and practitioners.

He was an accomplished topical philatelist, using stamps and commemorative covers to illustrate his lectures and articles. Conversely, he gave fascinating slide show presentations to philatelic societies and wrote articles on 'Medical Philately' for *the South African Philatelist*. He covered all aspects of philately, recounting interesting anecdotes.

The death of Prof. Dubb leaves a great void in the persuausions of both Medical history and topical philately. His contributions to both, always rendered with kindness and a sense of humour, will be greatly missed.

We would like to extend our sincere sympathy to his wife, Vivian, and the family.

JRF



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Foreign Exhibitions

Pacific Explorer 2005
World Stamp Expo
Sydney, Australia
21-24 April, 2005

Michael Wigmore, SA Commissioner, has now been honoured by appointment on to the jury for this event. All seven SA entries have been accepted. We look forward to good results. For information see Michael on 023 614 1424

Taipei 2005
18th FIAP International Exhibition
Taipei world Trade Centre
19 - 24 August, Taiwan, ROC.

The South African Commissioner is Howard Green. Entries have now closed and 46 frames from 8 exhibitors have been submitted. News on acceptances is expected in March. For further information contact Howard Green on 011 880 3125.

Washington 2006
World Stamp Exhibition
Washington D.C., USA
27 May - 3 June 2006

Entry Forms and Bulletins are still available for this exhibition; with some 3800 competitive frames this promises to be a stunning mega event. Although entry deadline was set at 1 July 2005 to the National Commissioner, This deadline has been advanced in view of an expected over subscription and I would therefore request interested parties to submit their entries to me by not later than 1 June 2005. For entry forms and the Bulletin, as well as any queries, please contact National Commissioner Peter van der Molen at **molens@pixie.co.za** or P.O. Box 12508, Benoryn 1504. More info is available at www.washington-2006.org

Society News

The Aerophilatelly Society of Southern Africa
1954 - 2004. The First half-century - A Brief Review.

by Ronald G.L. Mephius, FRPSL, Edenvale Philatelic Society

As I write this in the closing days of 2004, I feel that the 50 years commemorating the inception of the A.S.S.A. deserves an honourable mention. It was formed by a small band of Airmail enthusiasts on the steps of the City Hall Durban, when the P.F.S.A. held its annual Conference and also a Centenary Exhibition there in 1954. Milton Stern was elected the first President, and later became the life President of the Society.

There are many illustrious personalities over the years who compiled outstanding Airmail collections, but these are too numerous to name, in fear of ommiting others. It would be easier to confine this list to those who, by their efforts in writing books, magazines, newsletters, etc, put into print a wealth of data concerning everything that pertains to aerophilately past and present.

I start with L.A. Wyndam (The Airposts of South Africa) then M.F. Stern (South African Airmails) who expanded quite successfully into all the continent of Africa. Next, Jack Burrel ("Par Avion") who courageously valued all the better airmail items up to 1961. Then D.J. Uys (Airmails of R.S.A. 1961-81) who would have updated further, but for his untimely death in the Helderberg disaster of 1987. Overseas mention must be made of A.S. Newall (British External Airmails) with specific reference to Imperial Airways - a major early-days link with South Africa, and of Bryan Stokoe, a U.K. specialist of South African airmails. Finally (although there are many more) a name not to be forgotten is Colin Plen, who edited the "Aeroletter" for about 70 issues without a break - a compendium of information on aerophilately indespensable to the collector.

The membership total rose steadily until the mid-1970s, when 120 names were recorded. Unfortunately numbers declined just as steadily until the turn of the century, when the figure was around 30. About 40% of these were domiciled overseas, and the locals were thinly spread geographically, until even the major population centre - Gauteng could not muster a meeting higher than 3 members. This resulted in the A.S.S.A. reluctantly having having to be "Moth-balled". It is fervently to be hoped that a movement is afoot to resuscitate the Society by newer and younger enthusiasts will bear fruit and will survive another 50 years or more!

Philatelic Society of Jahannesburg

The 24 November 2004 meeting once again featured the Annual Inter-Society Quiz. It was once again a popular event although attendance was down on previous years. Dr. Achi Frank acted as Quiz Master, George Cafetzoglou being the scorer and adjudicator. Three teams of three took part in the contest.

The East Rand team of R. Wenger, G. van den Hurk RDPSA and C. Cordes won the quiz with 52 points, with the South West team of C. Cowburn, C. Juffard and A. Macnae on 35 points. The Johannesburg team of R. Willie, S. Kirshenbaum and R. Messenger scored 33. The over-all winner of the knock out stage was Chris Cordes.

The 22 February 2005 meeting will be an "Africa and Its Islands" evening. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 22 March 2005. Visitors are most welcome at all our meetings.

For further information contact Chairman / Secretary Ray Hackworth (011)706-6707

JRF

Henk de Lange

Please visit my website for other fine Rhodesian Double Heads

Buyer of pre-1960 Southern Africa Stamps and Postal History

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THE POST-INDEPENDENCE GENERAL REVENUE STAMPS OF SWAZILAND

by P.W. van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL – East Rand Philatelic Society

Synopsis

This article describes the 1970 'Small Numeral' and the 1984 'Shield' revenue designs which are inadequately recorded in the 2002 edition of the Barefoot Commonwealth Revenues catalogue[1]. Whilst these stamps appear to be rather plain and simple, the many facets of these issues are of interest. Fortunately a significant amount of proof and archive material exists to illustrate the development of these issues; this study does however not claim 'completeness' and many questions remain.

1 – The post-independence position

Swaziland had used the dual purpose Postage & Revenue stamps since 1933, except for a £5 Revenue Only stamp issued in 1956 and surcharged R10 in 1961. At Independence on 6 September 1968, the 1962 Enschedé Issue overprinted 'INDEPENDENCE 1968' was released and was for Postage & Revenue purposes, as was the first King Sobhuza II definitive issued in 1969. Probably because of simplicity in accounting for revenue[2], Swaziland decided to re-introduce Revenue Only type stamps, which had been in use in the territory prior to 1933. The Swaziland Stamp Duties Act of 1970[3] legalised again the use of Revenue Only stamps and revised rates of duties to be applied.

2 – The 1970 'Small Numeral' Revenue Stamps

Eight duties of Revenue stamps were issued in 1970 in denominations and colours as shown in fig 1; Note the use of South African currency of 'Rand'.



Fig 1 *- The 1970 issue of eight duties (* 75%)*

The design was probably developed by Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. in the U.K. who printed these stamps which were ordered by the Swaziland Government through the services of the Crown Agents, since most of these issues were printed on CA watermarked paper. Per their normal design practice, De La Rue would have submitted design proofs to the Crown Agents for approval, which could have comprised a master undenominated die followed by denominated die proofs. Only one such proof has so far been recorded, as shown in fig 2, where the proof was "'Approved, however FULL STOPS ON DENOMINATIONS TO BE REMOVED", signed R.B. Willis (probably from the Crown Agents) and dated '28/4/70'.

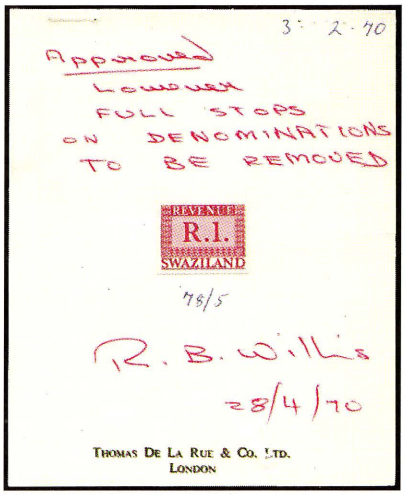


Fig 2 *- Proof for R1 duty (* 50%)[4]*

* Material has been reduced to the percentage indicated.

These stamps were recess printed; at that time most postage stamps were no longer printed by that process because of high cost, but recess printing does give a 'banknote' type feel which is an important security consideration against forgery. Delivered in panes of 50 in the format 5 hor. x 10 vert, the earlier issues show pane numbers of '1A', '1B', '1C' or '1D'. These panes also normally show 2 'pinning' marks each in the margin; from those marks together with the perforation layout it can be concluded how the panes would have been arranged in the printed sheet as shown in fig 3.

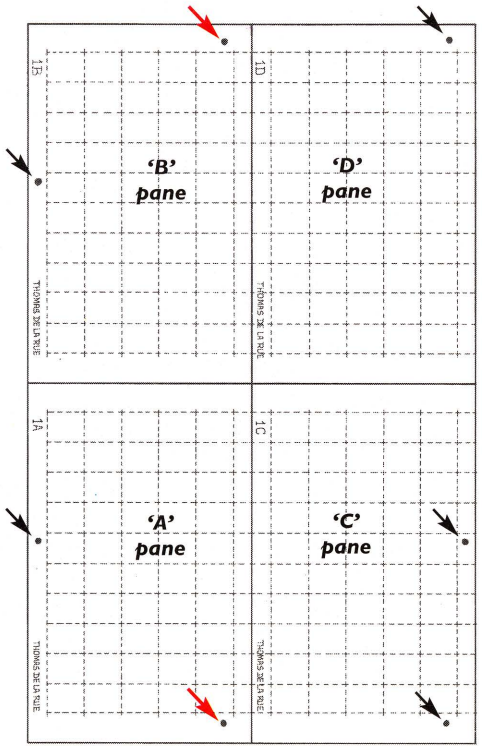


Fig 3 *- Layout of 4 panes in printed sheet. 'Pinning marks'[5] are shown arrowed; only the marks indicated by red arrows appear to have been used. Pane number is shown in fig 4 and imprint in fig 6.*

Fig 3 also shows that the perforating comb, probably one comb with the 'inter-panneau' pins removed, would have moved from left to right, therefore not perforating through any top or bottom margins; 1A and 1B panes would not be perforated through the left margin, while the 1C and 1D panes would always be perforated through the left and right margins. The delivered panes were numbered in top right corner, in black, as shown in fig 4 where also the pierced 'pinning' mark can be seen just above the digit '7'.

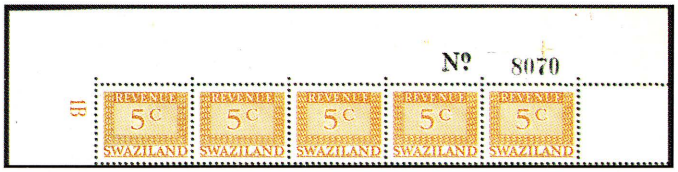


Fig 4 *- Top of pane showing Pane number '1B' at left, with sheet number at top right and 'pinning' mark (* 50%)*

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In total some seven issues can be distinguished with different attributes; within those issues there could have been more than one printing but in the absence of any differentiating characteristics such additional printings cannot be listed. These seven issues are discussed in the following sections.

2.1 – The First Issue, 1970

This issue (shown in fig 1) was printed on paper with watermark SG W12 'Block CA Upright' per fig 5. The watermark impression is very faint and hardly discernible even in the margins.



SG W12 Block CA Upright (* 75%) SG W14 Block CA Diagonal

Fig 5 *- Crown Agents' Watermarks found in the Small Numeral Issues with their Stanley Gibbons numbering, as viewed from the front of the stamps.*

Perforation was nominally Comb P12½. Stamps were gummed with the shiny Gum Arabic and the paper fluoresces 'medium[6]' under longwave UV light.

One pane of 50 stamps per duty, 8 panes in total, were retained in the imperforate state by De La Rue as colour samples; these were sold in 2000[7]. The bottom 2 rows of the R1 duty sheet are shown in fig 6, including the notations on the bottom margin. The Approval of Colour was most probably signed by a Crown Agents Inspector, possibly at a De La Rue printing works in Dublin.

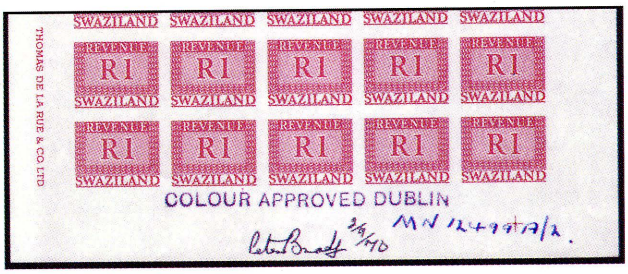


Fig 6 *- From Imperforate sheet[8], bottom 2 rows with marginal annotations concerning colour standard, * 50%.*

According to the records held in the Swaziland Treasury files in Mbabane, a complete pane of each duty was sent on 8 February 1971 by the then Accountant General, Mr V.V. Parkhouse, to the Government Archivist for Government records; receipt of the 8 panes was acknowledged. So far the author has not been able to trace those sheets in the Swaziland National Archives at Lobamba.

2.2 – The Second Issue, 1973

The Crown Agents possessed two watermark producing dandy rolls, one to impress the Block CA pattern in an upright position, and the other to produce the same pattern with a sideways orientation. In the late 1960s the dandy roll with the upright pattern became very worn and was 'retired'; sideways watermarked paper then became more generally used.

The 1973 issue was printed on paper with the Block CA Sideways watermark, which therefore was intentional and not an error. This watermark is also difficult to distinguish due to 'weak' impression; its orientation is shown in fig 7; an error of 'sideways inverted' has been seen on the R10 duty.



NORMAL (* 75%) INVERTED

Fig 7 *- Block CA Sideways watermark orientations as viewed from the front of the stamp.*

Printers' Archive record sheets of this 1973 issue are known[9] and a part of a sheet with notations in the bottom margin is shown in fig 8. These are likely to be 'internal' De La Rue proofs; all are signed by N.A. McGregor and dated 16/4/73 – the order (?) references at bottom right all have a 'DUB' (Dublin ?) prefix.



Fig 8 *- Bottom part of Printer's Record pane (* 50%) showing notations in bottom margin.*

This Second Issue was gummed with the matte PVA gum and the paper used fluoresces brightly under UV light. The perforations remained at P12½, but the combination of smallish perf holes, thickish paper and a small stamp appears to have sometimes caused difficulty in separating stamps and damaged stamps are fairly frequently encountered, with an example shown in fig 9.



Fig 9 *- Stamps damaged as described above (* 75%)*

2.3 – The Third Issue, 1975

Swaziland introduced its own currency per 2 January 1975, named the Emalangeni, divided into 100 cents and remaining on a par with the South African Rand. For stamps, the 'cents' duties could therefore remain current but new Emalangeni denominated stamps were required as shown in fig 10. The Crown Agents Security Printing Archives held by the British Library, London, contain a set of Emalangeni die proofs showing 'Approved' on 7 May 1975.



Fig 10 *- Emalangeni denominated duties (* 75%)*

The Rand denominated stamps were not invalidated or surcharged and were therefore simply used up. Now the comb perforation was changed to a nominal P14. All other attributes remained identical to the Second Issue, except that for at least the 50c and the new Emalangeni duties the panes were numbered A1A, B1A, C1A and D1A.

2.4 – The Fourth Issue, ca 1977

With the Crown Agents' Block CA Sideways watermark producing dandy roll by now also wearing out, a new dandy roll was made with a simpler watermark pattern called 'Multiple Crown Block CA Diagonal' as shown in fig 5.

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A new 20c duty appeared to be required and the proof[10] as shown in fig 11 was approved on 30 May 1977. This new duty was printed on the Block CA Diagonal watermarked paper, which for this issue showed no UV fluorescence to the front; perforation remained at P14. Two other duties, viz 25c and E10 have been found with the same attributes and could have been printed at the same time. For at least the 20c duty, the pane numbering reverted to the original 1A to 1D format.



Fig 11 *- Imperforate proof of 20c duty (* 100%)*

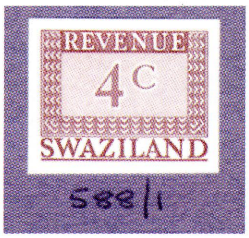


Fig 13 *- Imperforate proof of 4c duty (* 100%)*

2.5 – The Fifth Issue, probably 1978

This issue was printed on Block CA Diagonal watermarked paper which now shows medium fluorescence on the front; PVA gum is identical to previous issue as is perforation at P14.

From this issue, a pane of the 50c duty was found with a very clear offset on the reverse. The block in fig 12 came from a complete 'C 1A' pane with offset which was auctioned in 1987[11]; there could of course have been another 3 panes with the same error, but perhaps the Inspectors found those.



Fig 12 *- Offset on reverse of 50c duty (* 75%)*

2.6 – The Sixth Issue, 1979

Because of a doubling of stamp duty from 2c to 4c on cheques and on receipts (from E2.00) as from 7 May 1976[12], a 4c duty was added to the range, although rather late. Fig.13 shows the imperforate proof[13] which was submitted to the Crown Agents on 23 October 1978 and was approved by C.E. Freeman the next day.

This issue has been listed separately, because although the paper on which it is printed is watermarked Block CA Diagonal, the front does not fluoresce at all and the perforation has reverted to the original P12½. The pane numbering reverted to the original 1A to 1D format.

2.7 – The Seventh Issue, probably mid 1980

This last issue is somewhat of a mystery because many attributes have changed. Only seen in the E10 duty so far, the basic design is the same except that the printer's imprint "DE LA RUE" has been removed from the sheet margin and now appears in 'microprint' in each stamp's bottom RH margin as shown in fig.14.

These stamps are still recess printed, but the paper no longer has a Crown Agents watermark, indicating that these stamps would have been ordered directly by the Swaziland Government from De La Rue. The reason could be that the Crown Agents were being privatised and in fact in 1985 sold their stamp business to CAPHCO of Australia[14].



Fig 14 *- E10 duty of Seventh Issue (* 100%)*

A watermark is however present; known as 'Half Check' pattern and is shown in fig.15. In addition to the watermark, this issue also has an overlay visible under UV light printed all over, including the margins, which can best be described as 'multiple Swaziland' and is depicted in fig.16.

This issue shows an impressive array of security features: recess printing, watermarked and with the overlay visible only under UV light. Now perforated comb P14½, this issue has no marginal markings, but the panes were serial numbered in the top RH corner; these stamps were still on sale in 2004.

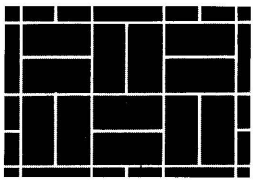


Fig 15 *- 'Half Check' watermark (* 50%)*



Fig 16 *- under UV light visible 'Swaziland' overlay (* 100%)*

2.8 – Conclusion. The attributes of these 'Small Numeral issues' are summarised in fig 17; this table should be regarded as an initial attempt at classification. It should be noted that stamp colours were quite consistent over the various issues.

Iss	Year	W'mark	Perf	Gum	Fluo Front[6]	U/V Print	2c	4c	5c	10c	20c	25c	50c	R1	R2	R10	E1	E2	E10
1	1970	CA upr	12½	Arab	M	*	Y	*	Y	Y	*	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	*	*	*
2	1973	CA s/w	12½	PVA	B	*	Y	*	Y	Y	*	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	*	*	*
3	1975	CA s/w	14	PVA	B	*	-	*	-	Y	*	Y	Y	*	*	*	Y	Y	Y
4	1977	CA diag	14	PVA	N	*	-	*	-	-	Y	Y	-	*	*	*	-	-	Y
5	1978	CA diag	14	PVA	M	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	Y	*	*	*	Y	Y	-
6	1978	CA diag	12½	PVA	N	*	*	Y	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	-
7	1985?	H. Check	14½	PVA	N	Y	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	Y

Fig 17 *- Summary of attributes of the issues of the 'Small Numeral' revenue stamps.*
*Symbols: Y denotes seen by author, - denotes may exist, * denotes unlikely to exist.*
Fluorescence: N denotes None, M denotes Medium, B denotes Bright.

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3 – The 1984 'Shield' design

A new design was introduced in 1984, featuring a stylised Swazi shield and spears within an 'ethnic' frame. The original artwork is shown in fig.18, which was headed "H1995 – NEW DESIGN" and mounted in a presentation folder with embossed 'Thomas De La Rue and Company Limited' on the front. This design was approved by Isaac Shlabangu, at the time the Accountant General of Swaziland, and dated 13 July 1984 with the Treasury datestamp.

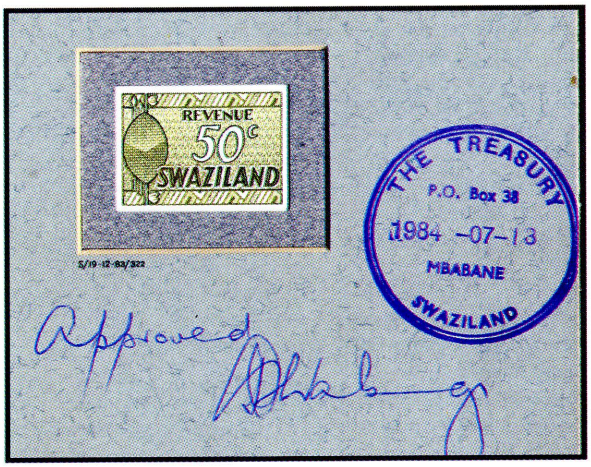


Fig 18 *- Original Artwork[15] for the 1984 Revenue Issue (* 75%)*

A set of denominated proofs, probably printed from the master dies and in the colours of the previous issue, were submitted where the cursive numerals on the original artwork were replaced with upright digits. These proofs were also approved by Isaac Shlabangu on 19 September 1984 as shown in fig.19.



Fig 19 *- Denominated proofs[16] for the 1984 Issue (* 50%)*

3.1 – The Issued Stamps in Recess Printing

These stamps were recess printed by De La Rue, on paper watermarked with the 'Half Check' pattern per fig. 15 and with the UV light visible overlay per fig.16. Supplied in sheets of 5 hor x 10 vert, without any imprint or other marginal marks except for sheet serial numbering above stamp 5. Each stamp bears the 'DE LA RUE' imprint and is comb perforated P 14.

Of the 7 duties proofed, the author has not seen any issued stamps of the 20c or E10 duties and suspects those may never have been ordered. For the 20c duty the reason could be remaining stock; as at May 2004 the author noted more than 5000 sheets of the Small Numeral 20c duty in stock at the Treasury at Mbabane. For the E10 duty, it could be that for some reason the Small Numeral version continued to be ordered, also explaining why Issue 7 came about. Other than for recent orders, Treasury records could unfortunately not be located concerning revenue stamps procured over past years.

When per 1 July 1985 the stamp duty on cheques was increased from 4c to 6c[17], stocks of the 4c duty were surcharged (probably locally) with '6' in dark blue[18], as shown in fig 20. Later a 10c duty in grey was added to the range, per fig 21; archive sheets[19] are known with dates of 1988 and 1991.



Fig 20 *- 6c on 4c surcharge[20] (* 100%)*



Fig 21 *- 10 cent duty(* 100%)*

Two 10c duty sheets and a part sheet of the 25c duty are known perforated T.D.L.R. / SPECIMEN as shown in fig 22.

The 10c and 25c duties have been found with 'None' paper fluorescence, whilst the 50c and E1 duties have been noted with a 'Medium' reaction. Only the E2 duty has been noted with both 'None' and 'Medium' fluorescence, but the sample size is too limited for definite conclusions at this stage concerning different printings.

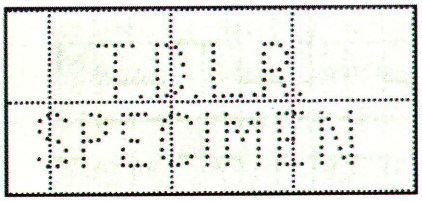


Fig 22 *- T(homas).D(e).L(a).R(ue). / SPECIMEN perforation[21] (* 50%); perforation overall is 83 x 32.5mm; comprises 169 holes.*

3.2 – The Issued Stamps in Litho Printing

When the Swaziland Treasury negotiated a further order for 25c, E1 and E2 duties in 2002, it was found that litho printing would be approx 50% of the cost of recess printing. Therefore the litho printed version was ordered.

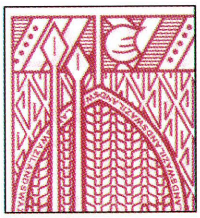


Fig 23 *- Microtext around shield edge(* 250%)*

De La Rue made two changes to the design for the litho version: (a) the edge of the shield was made to contain a line of microtext reading 'SWAZILAND' as a security feature, and (b) the two spears were placed in front of the shield rather than behind it, as shown in fig 23. Unwatermarked paper was now used and the UV visible overlay had larger lettering, the word 'SWAZILAND' now being 16mm long instead of 10mm in fig 16, applied to the printed area of the stamp only but seems more difficult to detect. The stamps were printed in softer pastel tones than the recess version, as a security measure since pastel tones are more difficult to reproduce accurately. The first litho printed duties are shown in fig 24.



Fig 24 *- Litho printed stamps (* 75%) received in 2003; 10 000 sheets each duty. The 25c duty[22] was not yet issued by May 2004.*

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4 – Acknowledgements
The author expresses his great appreciation to Elliot J. Sihlongonyane, the Accountant General of Swaziland, for his support by allowing access to Swaziland's Treasury Archive and Stockroom, and to Steven O'Connor of Mbabane for his assistance.

Acknowledgement for illustrations of items not in the author's collection are given in 'References and Notes.'

5 – References and Notes.

1- *'British Commonwealth Revenues'* , 7th edition 2002, edited and published by J. Barefoot Ltd, P.O. Box 8, York YO24 4AR, England

2- With Postage & Revenue stamps there is really no way to split the income and estimates or samples need to be made otherwise all revenue accrues to the Post Office. Revenue only stamps are normally also sold at Post Offices, who have to account to the Revenue authorities for sales and receive a percentage for their efforts. The downside to the Revenue authorities is that on smallish volumes the revenue stamps could become expensive.

3- The Stamp Duties Act, Act 37 of 1970 received the Assent on 1 October 1970 with date of commencement of 23 October 1970. The Act does not proscribe when revenue stamps must be used, since obtaining a receipt or using impressed stamps are equally allowed. Part I para 2 (Interpretation), also allows *"for the purposes of a receipt, includes a postage stamp"*.

4- Illustration courtesy of Argyll Etkin Limited, London where the proof was last sold as lot 649 on 15 April 2004. Original provenance was part lot 2223 in 'Essays, Proofs and Reference Stamps from the Bradbury, Wilkinson and De La Rue Archives' auction by Spink, London, on 7 December 2000.

5- 'Pinning marks' were used to correctly position sheets of stamps on the bed of the perforating machine. The marks are printed with the stamps, are about pinhead size and sometimes have cross-hairs or other targeting symbols. On the bed of the perforator, pins would stand up onto which the operator would spike sheets of stamps, aiming to pierce the centre of the pinning marks to ensure correct registration.

6- Using a long wave Ultra Violet light source in a darkish environment, the following fluorescence classification has been adopted:
- None: no fluorescence, the paper appears as dull brown
- Medium: some fluorescence, the paper appears whitish
- Bright: paper fluoresces a bright white

Only fluorescence on the front of the stamp has been determined.

7- Provenance: lot 2221 in auction *"Essays, Proofs and Reference Stamps etc"*

8- Illustration courtesy of Johnson Philatelics, Port Elizabeth

9- Provenance: part lot 2222 (8 duties incorrectly described as 1977 issue) in auction *"Essays, Proofs and Reference Stamps etc"* per note 4 above, later sold as lot 652 at Argyll Etkin Limited, London, auction on 15 April 2004.

10- Provenance: part lot 2223 in *"Essays, Proofs and Reference Stamps etc"*, per note 4 above. Later sold as lot 650 at Argyll Etkin Limited, London, on 15 April 2004. This small proof is mounted on a large card (209 x 148mm). The Crown Agents Security Printing Archives held by the British Library, London, contain a similar 20c and 4c imperf duty approved die proof.

11- Provenance: lot 761 at Stephan Welz & Co, Johannesburg, auction 19 August 1987. The pane number on the front is 'C1A' and serial number is '07143'.

12- The Stamp Duties (Amendment) Order , 1976, enacting the King's Order-in-Council No.21 of 1976, with date of commencement of 7 May 1976.

13- Provenance per note 10 above, except sold as lot 651 at the Argyll Etkin Limited auction.

14- *"Talking Head"* (interview of Nigel Fordham, Head of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau), Stamp Magazine, February 2004, p 74-76.

15- No provenance ex De La Rue Archives has been found.

16- As note 15 above.

17- By Legal Notice 363/1985 dated 3 June 1985 and effective 1 July 1985.

18- A complete sheet was sold as lot 655 at the Argyll Etkin Limited auction on 15 April 2004. Description of *"unique sheet of unissued surcharge from the printer's archives"* is not correct since author purchased this sheet at the Mhlambanyatsi Post Office in 1985/6.

19- Provenance part lot 2222 *"Essays, Proofs and reference Stamps etc"* per note 4 above, later sold as lot 654 at Argyll Etkin Limited auction.

20- Illustration by courtesy of Argyll Etkin Limited, London.

21- Illustration as viewed from front of the stamp; scan actually taken of back then inverted. Stamps are 25c duty, courtesy of Henk de Lange, Hout Bay.

22- Illustration of 25c duty by courtesy of the Treasury, Mbabane. ■

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President's Column

In 1989 a small article appeared in the `South African Philatelist' entitled `Whither Philately in Southern Africa'. It was written by Colin Fraser who raised a number of issues which have well stood the test of time. I would like to consider item 6 this month which stated "The role of exhibitions is to promote philately'.

No one can possibly argue with this statement. Or can they? A small voice niggles in the back of my mind and raises the following comment: How do National Exhibitions actually help philately?

I can hear a clamour of replies, and before I am ignominiously shot down in flames let me state that I LOVE these exhibitions. I enjoy showing my treasures and enjoy tremendously the challenges involved, I particularly enjoy meeting with other enthusiasts. I am a committed philatelist, and must face the fact that one rarely sees any people at exhibitions who are NOT committed philatelists.

If we are sincere in a desire to promote philately we should ask whether:

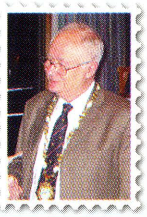
- National Exhibitions encourage collectors to `become philatelists'?
- National Exhibitions encourage people to collect stamps at all?

I continue by saying : Are large formal exhibitions really the only way forward? Should not time and effort be put into ways of promoting Stamp Collecting at other levels as well? I have heard many suggestions in this respect but one, in particular, really seems to be most sensible and that is that we need a small mobile exhibition which could travel the country showing off stamp collecting. Visiting all the schools, for instance. This has been successfully done with science/engineering at school level and we have the good example of travelling libraries.

I realise that this idea is difficult to put into practice and would be pricey but I do sincerely believe that if we want to spread the idea of stamp collecting to people other than the committed few, then we must do so before it's too late. The capital must be found to fund the idea and the volunteers to take the exhibition to the public.

I think we can and should do it. What do you think?

David Sinclair



Auction News

Stephan Welz & Co Auction

Collectors and dealers alike may take heart from the news that, with total realisations in the region of R2,5 million, the philatelic auction held by Stephan Welz in Johannesburg during December 2004 was deemed to be outstandingly successful. While featuring general and specialised collections of stamps and postal history in the majority of popular fields, the auction was particularly strong in postcards. A collection of some 350 cards from German South West Africa realised R60 000 compared with an estimate of R 5 000 – R7 000! A further collection of postcards with the emphasis on the Bambata Rebellion of 1906 sold for R11 000.

A key item in the sale was an unmounted mint marginal copy of the Rhodesian "Double Head" £1 scarlet and reddish-mauve error of colour that sold for R44 000. A very fine used pair of the Mafeking 1900 Sgt. Major Goodyear 1d pale blue/blue on piece sold for R4 000 while the scarce companion issue, the Baden Powell large format. 3d blue/blue from the cracked plate fine used on piece was bid up to R16 000. An exceptionally fine mint copy of the "Admiral" 8d violet and green realised R38 000. Of particular interest to Anglo-Boer War postal historians was a stampless cover from Kimberley to Bulawayo with the endorsements "No Colonial stamps" and "4d to pay". It was posted shortly after the relief of Kimberley but before the siege of Mafeking had been lifted and was thus routed via Port Elizabeth (MR 00) and Beira and thence to Bulawayo (31 MAR 00). It cost its new owner R2 800. A rare marginal unsevered double vertical strip of the three values of the 1894 Reuter's Telegraph Stamps in generally fine condition and with much original gum realised R7 000.

A charred cover from the 1931 Union Airways plane crash in Sir Lowry's Pass and therefore representative of South Africa's first airmail disaster was sold for R5 500. Among incoming mail to South Africa was an 1873 cover from Gotha in Germany to Dr Bleek in Cape Town. Wilhelm Bleek was an authority on the San people, studying them and their language. The cover sold for R14 000.

Among the G.B. material, a collection that included a rare copy of the 1840 Penny Black plate 11 on cover fetched R22 000 (cat £5 000, est. R16 000 – R18 000) while a top left corner block of four of the 1878 £1 imperf. colour trial in orange, overprinted "Specimen", sold for R22 000 and the very rare 1884 five-shilling rose on blued paper for R20 000. Exceptional interest was also shown in material from Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Cape of Good Hope, Gibraltar, Malta the Transvaal, Germany and South West Africa. The next philatelic auction at Stephan Welz is scheduled for Tuesday, 5 April 2005. (www.sothebys.co.za)



Members' Achievements

Congratulations to ***Neville Polakow (The Aerophilatelly Society of Southern Africa)*** *who was made a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London on the 24th of November 2004.*

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Designers All?

by Loek van Riet, East Rand Philatelic Society

The idea that all stamp designers are highly qualified, experienced and knowledgeable artists summoned by the issuing authorities to produce works of art on demand is not strictly true. Whilst the majority of stamps are designed by artists and draughtsmen of note there are many stamps whose designs have originated from the most unusual sources. Whilst this collection is not exclusive, it illustrates that even the most unlikely of us can aspire to great things, even if the final product has to be tidied up by the professionals.

The Baker's Boy.



Fig 1



Fig 2

In the mid 18th century, in the former State of Corrientes, now part of the Argentine Republic, small change in the form of silver coin was in very short supply. The use of postage stamps as an alternative was proposed, but no engraver could be found to produce the printing plates. By chance, the local baker's delivery boy, Mathew Pipet, overheard adiscussion on this point, and volunteered his services, explaining that prior to coming to South America he had been apprenticed to an engraver in Italy. He was given a French stamp of the Ceres type. Fig 1, and asked to copy it. Despite the terrible quality of his efforts, Fig 2, the government of the day accepted it and the plates were used for Corrientes stamps from 1855 to 1880, with only periodic changes of the colour of the paper. The design has the dubious reputation of being one of the world's untidiest stamps.



Fig 3

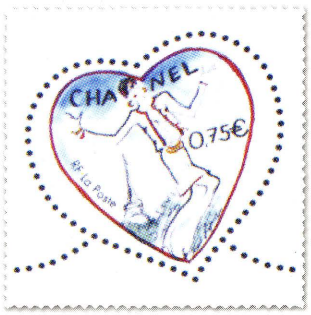
The Prince

King George V's interest in stamps extended back to when he was Prince of Wales. Thus it was not surprising that, at the time of the coronation of King Edward VII, the Director of the Canadian Post Office when on a visit to Britain, took the opportunity to consult with the Prince concerning the design of the proposed new issue of Canadian stamps. The resultant design, Fig 3, produced by the Prince assisted by Mr Tilleard of the Royal Philatelic Society, shows a portrait of the King in coronation regalia.

More recently Prince Charles' paintings and Prince Andrew's photographs have also featured on GB stamps.



Fig 4



The Couturier

In July 2004 the French Philatelic Bureau, *La Poste*, issued two stamps to commemorate St Valentine's Day and Coco Chanel, the *haute couture* fashion designer of the 1930s. For this task it called on the services of another couturier, Karl Largerfeld, who produced two heart-shaped designs, Fig 4. Essentially French, the designs show a bottle of Chanel perfume and the late Mme Chanel against the backdrop of the Eiffel Tower. The perforations are also heart-shaped, following the outline of the central motif.



Fig 5

The Teenager

When King Edward VIII came to the throne, several well-known artists were invited to submit designs for the stamps of the new monarch. Quite spontaneously, a young, 17 year old boy, Hubert J. Brown, sent in essays which were totally in contrast to the florid designs used on the stamps of King George V. Their stark simplicity shocked the Establishment, but took the fancy of the new King, and were adopted as the basis of the designs for the new issue, Fig 5. The Authorities later, rather grudgingly, acknowledged Brown's contribution in a letter,

> "...the design which has been selected bears some features in common with that which you suggested."



Fig 6

The Pop Star

In 2002 the Isle of Man Stamp Bureau invited Sir Paul McCartney, the legendary pop musician and a not ungifted amateur artist, to suggest designs for a stamp issue on the theme 'Happy Memories of the Isle of Man'. Remembering his own childhood holidays on the Isle, McCartney produced six designs with a primitive floral theme, Fig 6. Although welcomed by the Isle of Man Bureau, the issue caused much varied comment in philatelic circles and among collectors. The proceeds of sales were donated to the Adopt a Minefield UK anti-landmine charity.

Children



Fig 7

The first stamps using children's drawings were issued by Czechoslovakia in 1958 to commemorate the inauguration of the UNESCO Headquarters Building, Paris.

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Since then, other countries, including Monaco, Great Britain and South Africa have reproduced children's drawings on stamps with varying degrees of success. There has generally been a connection with children's charities or other child-related activities. RSA designs have used the themes of Peace and Our Family, Fig 7.

The President



Fig 8

Like King George V, President Franklin D Roosevelt of the USA was also a serious philatelist who took a keen interest in the designs of his country's stamps. During his 12 years of office he approved over 200 stamp issues. In August 1934, the US issued its first so-called combination stamp, the 16c special delivery airmail issue, Fig 8. This denomination combined the postage rate with the special delivery fee for airmail. The central design, incorporating the Great Seal of the US was included at Roosevelt's express request. A vertical strip of eight stamps, currently in the British Library's Fitzgerald Collection has a hand-written note on the selvedge, 'This stamp is from my own design', and is signed 'Franklin D Roosevelt 1934'. The stamp was reissued in 1936 with a distinctive red border to assist sorters.

The Soldier

In 1916 the Hejaz region of Saudi Arabia was liberated by the British from Turkish control. An issue of stamps inscribed with the name of the country in Arabic script was proposed as visible evidence to the nomadic tribes of the area of the overthrow of Ottoman rule in Hejaz, and to rally support to remove the Turks from the rest of Arabia. Initial designs by the Emir of Mecca were rejected as 'too Turkish', and T E Lawrence, later to be known as "Lawrence of Arabia', but then a junior officer in the Army Survey Department in Cairo was assigned the task of producing a design as part of his intelligence duties. Using his knowledge of the Arabic language and culture, and drawing inspiration from inscriptions in various Cairo mosques, Lawrence produced designs for 1/4, 1/2 and 1 piastre denominations, Fig 9. All carried the Arabic inscription 'Sacred Mecca' and 'Hejaz Post'. Approved by Emir Hussein, later King Hussein, the stamps were issued in September 1916. Other denominations produced by an Egyptian designer, followed in 1917.

...and others

Swedish tennis star Bjorn Borg is the next to join the list of stamp designers. Aland Post is due to release an issue entitled 'My Aland' in May 2005. The issue will include designs by Borg and Finnish President Mauno Koivisto. ■



Fig 9a



Fig 9b

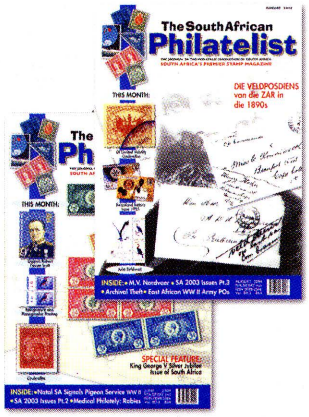


Fig 9c

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

Due to the growing popularity of philately in South Africa there has been a demand for back issues of the South African Philatelist.

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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Committee. Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- a printed proof copy of the text.
- a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.
- a corrected final draft of the article in a Word document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.
- scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format.

Argyll Etkin Auction

The Argyll Etkin auction (see *SA Philatelist*, October), held in November, was highly successful with a total realisation of over £220 000.

Boer War material from the Kenneth Griffith collection sold well, and included Mafeking Siege items, POW mail to and from camps in Bermuda, St Helena and Ceylon, and looted mail. OFS material included an 1874 combination cover, from the Transvaal, with OFS stamps for transit through the Free State and then onward to Durban (£4 500). ORC postal orders and postal stationery were fiercely contested with the orders reaching £21 050. Two unique lots of OFS postal orders from the De La Rue archives fetched £13000 and £5 000 respectively. A New Republic SG1 1d black unused fetched £6 500 and SG4a with missing 'd', £2 700. A Cape of Good Hope 1d triangular on blued paper on a cover paying the soldiers' 1d concession rate realised £2 900.

In the Rhodesian lots a block of 20 1/2d bluish green perf 14 Double Head unmounted mint raised £1 350, and an 1892 £200 Revenue stamp £300. From Nyasaland an 1897 postcard with a manuscript 'Fort Hill' cancellation realised £1 600. A particularly fine cover of 1873 from Pitcairn to the USA with Liverpool Ship and New York cancellations made £7 000.

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Fig.3. (75%)

Of Franks 'n Stamps

by Chris Mobsby, RDPSA, FRPSL.Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

In previous articles that I have written for *The S.A.Philatelist* on the subject of local Stamps, that is to say stamps of which the validity was limited to a prescribed area or route, I have made a point of including at least one item with a Southern African connection. In July 2004, there was a cover to Cape Town bearing the unauthorised Alan Crawford 4 potatoes essay and, incidentally, 1 1/2d in South African postage dues and also, the star of the show on that occasion, the one-shilling deep carmine of Tati Concessions. The following issue of the magazine carried comment on the Norwegian Missionaries Post in Madagascar, a subject that also merited a mention by Danie Scheepers in the December 2004 edition, and, a somewhat more tenuous relationship with South Africa, a 1971 issue of Davaar, a Scottish island for which a 25p stamp was issued in bilingual pairs, English and Afrikaans, to mark RSA10, the national philatelic exhibition of that year, the tenth year of "independence".

However, the area of Africa as a whole and of Southern Africa in particular has, over the years, been less well blessed with local posts than say, Europe, Asia or North America. This is, in all probability, a reflection of the lower level of literacy on the "dark continent" in years gone by. Nevertheless, I am able to open my account on this occasion with an exceptionally little known stamp that was used on local Boer mail during the later stages of the Anglo Boer War. There are those who would claim that the vast majority of stamps issued during that War were of a local nature. Although the provisional overprints for the likes of Wolmaransstad, Lydenburg and Schweizer Renecke do appear in Gibbons they lacked the approval of the Universal Postal Union and saw comparatively little genuine usage. In 1901, while Pietersburg was falling to the British, the East Highveld Postal Service linked Ermelo and Carolina as well as Lake Chrissie, Piet Retief and Paulpietersburg, previously Paulpietersdorp and, until 1903, within the boundaries of the Transvaal. Not having a printing press, the authorities produced typewritten stamps for the service and, as at Pietersburg, they were authenticated by a postal official, in this case Jan van den Bergen, then a telegraphist at the Headquarters at Ermelo. The copy of the 1d violet on orange in Fig. 1. appears to have been cancelled with the postbag seal of (Paul) pietersdorp. A substantial article on these issues by Joh Groenewald RDPSA appeared in *The S.A.Philatelist* of March 1981. At that time, only twenty copies in all of the seven values in three types were on record, twelve of these being in the Mosely Collection at the British Museum.

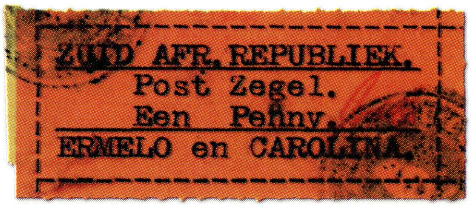


Fig.1.

A further local post in the Transvaal, and also one that is not without its detractors, was F.H.Bakker's Express, a service that connected Pretoria with Marabastad in the distant Waterberg. Two 1d stamps were issued in 1887, one inscribed "Pretoria" and a second one "Marabastad" while a third with the face value of a 1/2d bore the inscription "Nylstroom". The assumption may be made that a penny was charged for letters to be carried over the full distance while those to or from Nylstroom - the half-way station - cost only a halfpenny. This assumption, however, is important as there was also a postage due label inscribed "1/2"; not, you will note a 1/2d but simply 1 stroke 2. A copy is shown in Fig. 2. with a part straight line Pretoria cancellation. It is generally accepted that this is an error of design and that the value should have been 2d to accommodate the established practice of doubling the deficiency when levying postage due. This would have been fine for unstamped letters travelling the full distance but what about those starting or finishing their journey in Nylstroom? Surely they should have been taxed no more than a penny? Could it not be, therefore, that the "1 stroke 2" referred to above was intended to represent one penny or two pence, thus eliminating the need for an extra stamp?

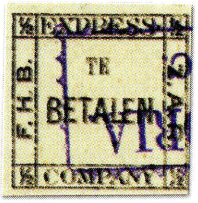


Fig.2.

Although this series of articles on the local stamps of the world is, at best, an irregular one, I have set for myself a few principles. The first, as described above, is the inclusion of an item or two of Southern African interest, while the second is to limit the items featured to those in my own collection, particularly when it comes to the choosing of illustrations. For this reason, I have been unable to include the stamps of Fox Hill, surely the ultimate in locals being used, as they were, to account for the quantities of mail carried between two adjoining farms in Natal. I also feel that it is important in an article such as this to introduce a few covers to prove that not all local posts are completely spurious. With the first requirement satisfied, let me introduce through Fig. 3. the first of four covers. This 1928 letter from Richmond, Virginia, is, in fact, an example of a triple franking. The first of these was the U.S.A. 10 cents airmail featuring Lindbergh's aircraft, the "Spirit of St.Louis", and was applied in order to catch the first flight on the New York to Atlanta route. From Atlanta it was forwarded to Havana and then redirected to Narrow Lake via, firstly, Key West off the coast of Florida and, thereafter,

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Rolling Portage in Ontario. The Cuba - Canada leg of the journey was prepaid with a Cuban 5 cents airmail stamp featuring a flying boat over Havana harbour and overprinted to celebrate Lindbergh's goodwill flight over Central America while the last leg of the delivery was flown by Western Canada Airways, a company operating in many Canadian states. These semi-official stamps were sanctioned by the Government but with the proviso that they should not bear any figure of value. It had been intended to sell the stamps illustrating the company's Fokker Universal "City of Toronto" for 25 cents each but on due consideration this was reduced to 10 cents and inscriptions to this effect reading "One Oz. Ten Cents" were included in the margins of each pane. During the 1920s, several private aircraft operating companies held contracts with the Canadian Government for delivering mail to those remote outposts that the more conventional airlines were unable to service. They were allowed to sell their own stamps, many of which were available at regular government post offices.

Early in 1918, the Deutsch-Baltisches Comité, a collection of Estonian merchants, organised a post between Reval (Tallinn) and St.Pietersburg in order to re-establish communications between the Baltic ports and Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution. Mail was carried by a private courier service for one rouble in either direction but the Russians suppressed the post within a few days of its establishment. In use, the stamps were cancelled in violet with a double-lined circle including the words "Baltisches Comité". On arrival, a similar cancellation was applied in red but with the inscription rendered in Cyrillic script as shown, albeit indistinctly, in Fig. 4.

The Royal Greenland Trading Company, administrators of the Danish island colony, issued stamps between 1905 and 1937 but only for use on the parcels that their vessels conveyed to and from the territory. Letters were carried free of charge. However, in 1935 a private steamship company issued stamps for a service under which letters and postcards were carried between Thule, other parts of Greenland and Copenhagen. The set of five stamps of which the 30 ore value appears as Fig. 5. commemorated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the settlement by Knud Rasmussen. The fact that only four people in Thule spoke Danish at the time suggests that the issue may well have been of a speculative nature.

In order to qualify as a local post it is not essential for such a service to have issued adhesive stamps. Handstamps impressed directly onto envelopes have frequently taken the place of the more conventional type of label as happened at Cap Haitien during the rebellion in Haiti in 1889. A more peaceful emergency, a shortage of $^1/_2$d stamps, gave rise to the "Coleman Provisional" in Durban in March 1895. The "Sultan's Cherifien Postal Service" was established by the Moroccan Government in 1892 in an attempt to wrest the mail franchises from private entrepreneurs. The word "Cherifien" means prince or ruler (Sheriff). A system of franks was introduced that denoted prepayment, the rate being eight mouzouma or about 8 cents per half ounce thus undercutting the ten centime rate of the foreign agencies. Hand stamps were introduced for thirteen towns and all were either round or octagonal in shape. On each stamp, the top line read "El Mahuth", the place name is in the middle - Fez on the cover shown in Fig. 6. - while the third line is an injunction to God to save the town - "Bielah". Adhesive stamps were introduced in 1912 for use countrywide and the service was absorbed by the French Post in 1913.

The next two authorities are both Long Island and yet neither is in New York Harbour. The better known of the two, to philatelists at least, is off the Turkish coast in the Gulf of Izmir, formerly Smyrna, and has been known variously as Makrosini, Cheustan and, now, Uzun. The island was occupied by a British Naval detachment in the Spring of 1916 and in May of that year the administrator, Lieutenant H.Pirie-Gordon, produced a series of stamps in values from a $^1/_2$d to one shilling using a typewriter and carbon paper. The latter gave a mauve, black or blue impression, the first of these being illustrated in Fig. 7. For security reasons, he initialled each and every stamp. Pirie-Gordon notified the authorities in London of his action whereupon the G.P.O. ordered the immediate withdrawal of the stamps, denying in a press release in August that their validity had ever been recognised. For Fig. 8., the scene moves to the southwest tip of Ireland. This first Irish local stamp, or, more correctly, carriage label, appeared in the name of Long Island in April 1973. Fifteen pence covered the cost of registration to the mainland at Schull. The service was conducted by a privately hired boatman on five days a week and was essentially for the benefit of the thirty or so residents and tourists visiting the island. Mail for destinations beyond Schull required the addition of regular Irish stamps. Sadly, the authorities suppressed the service later in 1973. Unlike the stamps of its more esteemed although also short-lived namesake, those of Long Island in Roaring Water Bay are not acknowledged by regular catalogues.

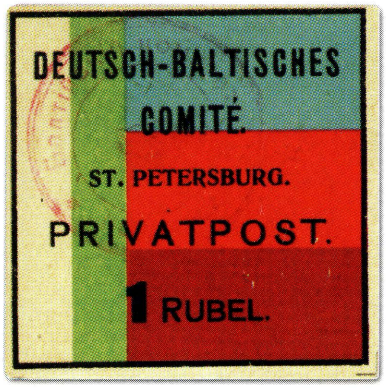


Fig.4.



Fig.5.



Fig.6. (75%)

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Despite the inclusion by Stanley Gibbons in recent years of the stamps of the Treaty Ports of China, there is no doubt that the validity of such issues was of a restricted nature and hence their qualification as local posts. Unlike various other treaty ports, there was no Municipal Post at Wuhu so a Mr Gregson administered the local service and held a reciprocal arrangement with Shanghai. The wrapper of 1898 in Fig.9 was sent "by hand" from Nanking (left) to "Squire Lee" (centre) in a suburb of Wuhu (right). Although there had been an agency of the Shanghai Local post in Nanking since 1885 and stamps had been issued there from 1896, this particular wrapper was unfranked, and therefore attracted a manuscript tax mark, (T), and a postage due label, albeit for no more than half a cent.

The Court Bureau was established in London in 1889 and charged one penny for the service of collecting mail on Sundays from clubs, hotels and private houses and ensuring delivery through the regular service by the first post on Monday morning. The lowest value of nine issued in 1890, one penny, has been selected for Fig. 10. While this remains, until recently at least, the only value known in used condition, it is believed that the $1^1/_2$d and 3d values were used for the same purpose. The higher values, however, from sixpence to six shillings, were utilised by members for the purpose of settling small accounts with the Bureau. All of the stamps were issued in the same shade of dull red. The service closed in January 1891 in anticipation of the opening of the railway letter post in February of that year and the Bureau itself was wound up in 1899.

Earlier in this article I discussed Western Canada Airways, one of twenty-two semi-official airmail authorities on my checklist for that country. Perhaps half a dozen of these should more properly be described as pioneer flights as they were undertaken by flying clubs in the early days of the twentieth century and any items carried were in the nature more of publicity items than bona fide mail. A somewhat similar situation unfolded in France during the thirty or so years starting in 1910. That year saw the first semi-official airmail stamp in France, Fig. 11, it being issued for a week-long aviation meeting at Nantes in August. The design resembled closely that of the "Basle Dove" with an Antoinette monoplane



Fig.7.



Fig.8.

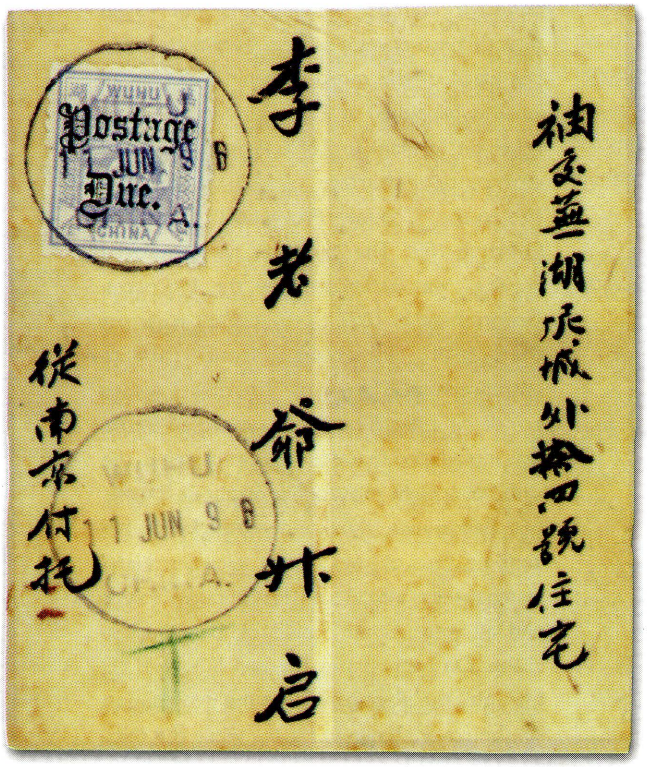


Fig.9.



Fig.10.



Fig.11.

replacing the bird of the famous Swiss stamp of 1845. Eleven competing pilots carried the mail during the week. As far as can be ascertained, semi-official stamps were issued at eight aviation meetings in France from 1910 to 1913 and between 1922 and 1924. The First World War (1914-1918) appeared to put a brake on the introduction of regular airmails.

Earlier in this article I made a case for the inclusion of certain handstamps as locals. An equally strong argument can be put forward for a number of authorities that issued postal stationery as part of their limited service. Amongst the college posts of Oxford University, Keble, Exeter and Merton issued pre-stamped postcards while Hertford produced both postcards and an envelope embossed with the same design as the stamps. During the G.P.O. strike in Great Britain in 1971, the Mayflower Mail Service that provided a temporary postal link with North and South America issued pre-stamped aerogrammes. My example of the genre dates from the First World War when a number of captives were interned at three camps in Valetta. On their own initiative, certain prisoners produced distinctive Kamp Post Malta impressed stationery even though postage was free as stated in the cachet in use from August 1915. Postally used copies such as the cover in Fig. 12 are uncommon, particularly to Egypt, the only addresses recorded by 1980 being Switzerland, twice, and Fiume. One of the advantages in collecting the whole world as I do, even though in limited depth, is that, when I exhibit, there is usually something on offer to interest most viewers. I hope that the same holds true for this series of articles. ■

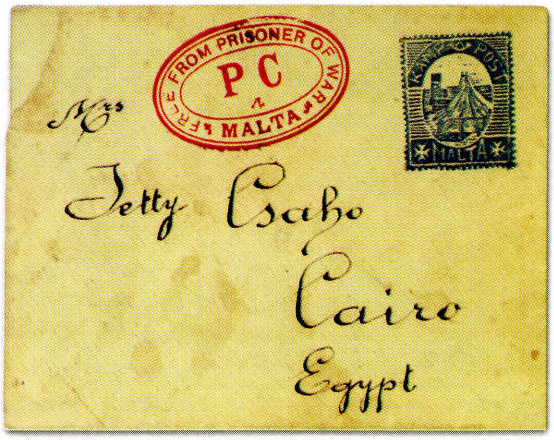


Fig.12. (shown at 60%)

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The "Shipping Postmaster" Postmarks of South Africa

by Dr JR Frank, RDPSA FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Introduction

The "Shipping Postmaster" and "Assistant Shipping Postmaster" postmarks, which were applied on board ships in harbour, are peculiar to South Africa. These markings, used at Cape Town and Durban, appear to have no counterparts elsewhere, although a "Ships Post Office" service existed for a short time in 1955 at Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanganyika. These distinctive postmarks were applied only to mail bearing South African stamps, as items franked with foreign stamps were sent to the head post offices for Paquebot cancellations. These ships' post offices were actually land-based offices temporarily installed on board ships in harbour to transact limited and specific postal business within South African territorial waters.

Functions of the Shipping Postmasters

The "Shipping Postmaster" at Cape Town was the postmaster of "Alfred Docks" later "DOCKS" post office. He had an "Assistant Shipping Postmaster" on busy days and when there was more than one ship to be serviced.

Likewise his colleague at Durban was the postmaster of the "POINT' post office. There was no assistant at Durban.

The "Shipping Postmasters" duties were to visit ships, mostly but not exclusively mail carriers, as they arrived at or departed from Cape Town or Durban in order to:

(i) accept for onward transmission Registered letters, cables (sent by registered mail) and telegrams

(ii) to sell postage stamps and money orders, but not to cash the latter

(iii) on occasion to hand Registered letters to the ships' officials for delivery

(iv) to collect the in-coming mail

In-coming mail bearing South African stamps was treated as domestic mail, receiving an "Alfred Docks" or "Docks" (Cape Town) or a "Point" (Durban) postmark. By favour or inadvertence "Shipping Postmaster" strikes are found on the odd non-Registered cover to South African addresses.

Rates and usages.

A late fee of 2/6 per letter was charged before 1910, after which the rate was reduced to 1/-. It appears to have become 6d after World War I, while cables only carried the normal Registration charge.

The Shipping Postmasters did not apply a Registration label before World War II but merely applied an additional strike of their handstamp and wrote the Registration number across it Handstamps have survived on Registered "Ocean Letters" of the 1920's where a telegram from a Northbound vessel was bought back to Cape town by a Southbound one and handed to the Shipping Postmaster. It is believed that the service did not operate during the World Wars, but mail has been recorded during the early years of both conflicts.

Scope of the classification.

The Shipping Postmaster service operated from 1906-1973 in Cape Town and from 1911-1965 in Durban. Hagger felt that the use of the Durban marking was the result of "intercolonial rivalry", it was little needed or used and one can collect maritime material for decades without seeing a Durban strike.

Harvey Pirie and Sydow published a tentative listing of these postmarks in "The South African Philatelist" in January 1949. Hosking mentions them briefly referring to them as "rare and handsome". The best listing, in Allen's "Maritime Marks of South Africa" is not entirely accurate. Putzel in his Encyclopaedia was unable to illustrate complete strikes of several entries and conceded that the had not personally seen some of the strikes illustrated, "as only one or two (have been) recorded."

These cancellations can often be assigned to dates of departure of specific ships. The usage of various types of postmarks frequently overlapped Prior to 1949 in the case of Cape Town and 1948 in Durban rubber stamps were used, while subsequently steel devices were employed

The rubber stamps tended to increase in size by 1 to 2 mm due to prolonged use and wear

This article is an endeavour to describe and illustrate as many of these attractive postmarks as possible.

Cape Town "Shipping Postmaster" Marks

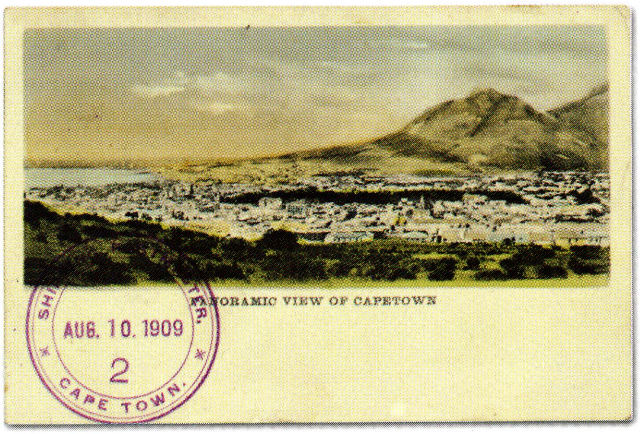
Type	Period of use	Shape	Colour	Dimensions	Date Line	Characteristics
1	1906-1911	Double circle	Red (before 1910) Blue after	37mm	Day before month	Line above and below date. Star ornaments.
2	"Only recorded date Aug 10, 1909"	Double circle	Violet	42mm	Month before day	Numeral "2" below date. No lines in centre. Star ornaments. Full stop after "Postmaster".
2(a)	"Recorded on April 18, 1910"	Double circle	Red	42mm	Month before day	Numeral "2" removed. Full stop after "Postmaster".
3	Recorded 1909	Double circle	Black, blue	40mm	Day before month	Maltese cross ornaments.
4	1911-1913	Double circle	Blue	39mm	Day before month	Numeral "3" below date. Star ornaments.
5	1913-1925	Double circle	Blue	40mm	Month before day	Narrow "3" below date. Unusual star ornaments. Year does not register well on early strikes.
6	1913-1920	Double circle	Blue	48mm	Month before day	Bow-like ornaments above and below date.
7	1924-1928	Circle	Violet, black	37mm	Day before month	Line above date. Broad figure "3".
8	1927-1931	Double circle	Black	43mm	Day before month	Inner ring. No numeral.
9	1927-1928	Double oval	Black	54x37mm	Day before month	Numeral "3" below date.
10	1930-1938	Double oval	Violet	46x29mm	Day before month	No numeral below date. Later broader cancel.
11	1933-1939	Circle	Violet	40mm	Month in letters	Lines above and below date. No inner circle.
12	1939-1948	Circle	Violet	40mm	Month in figures	As type 11.
13	1949-1959	Metal double circle	Black	30mm	Month in letters	Numeral "1" in lower section. A = Morning. B = Afternoon.
14	1959-1973	Metal double circle	Black	30mm	Month in figures	As type 13. Also exists with inverted date.

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Cape Town "Shipping Postmaster" Marks



Type.1. Illustration after R. Goldblatt



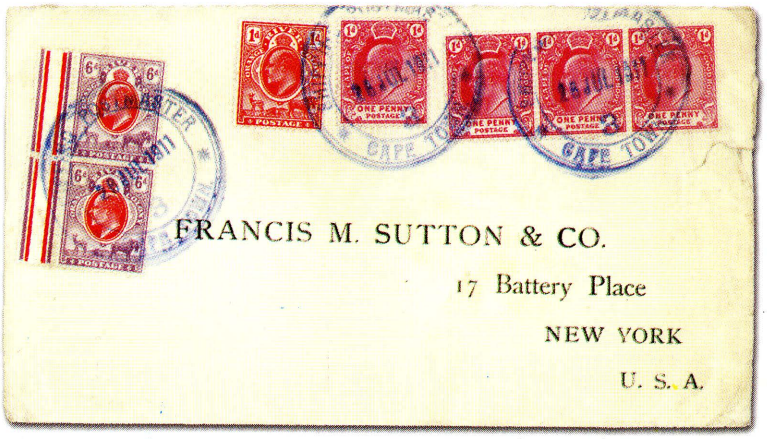
Type.2. Only recorded strike of shipping postmaster "2" carried on Kenilworth Castle. Stamp, on reverse, cancelled. "Alfred Docks".



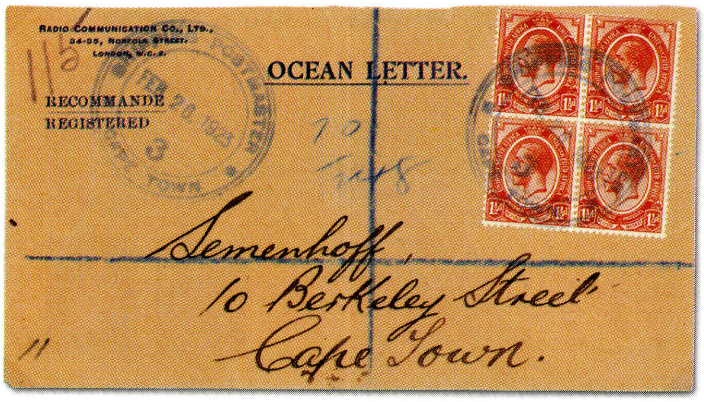
Type.2(a). Identical to type 2, but numeral removed.



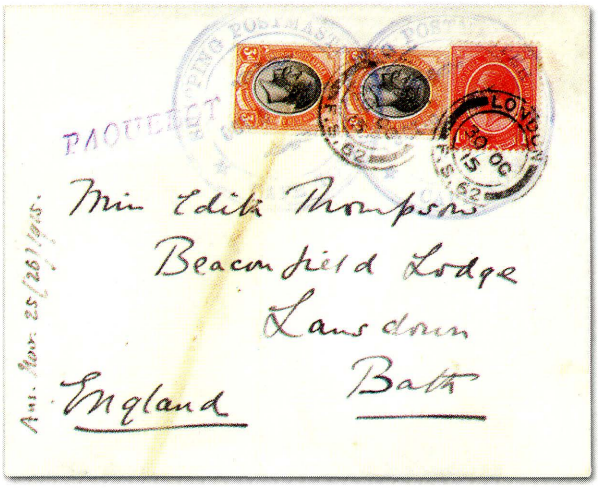
Type.3. Applied on "Briton" on 19 August 1909.



Type.4. 28 July 1911 by "Armadale Castle" to U.S.A double 2 1/2d plus 1/- shipping postmaster charge.



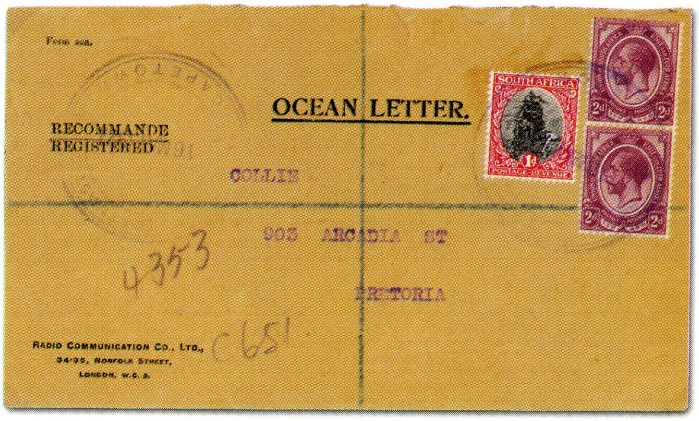
Type.5. 26 February 1923 - Sans-serif letters. Registered "Ocean Letter" cable.



Type.6. 9 October 1915 - to England with London "Paquebot" mark. Rated 1d plus 6d shipping postmaster charge.



Type.7. 13 June 1924 - Registered letter, no shipping postmaster charges.



Type.8. 16 May 1927 - Ocean letter cable.

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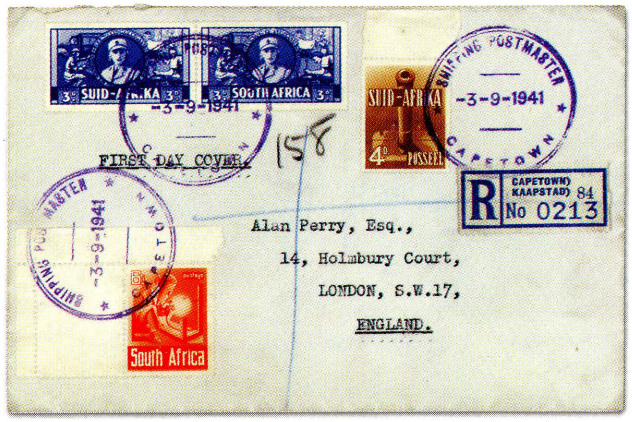
Type.9. 4 September 1927 - Registered post card to Germany.



Type.10. 26 Dec 1931 - Registered postal stationery cover to England.



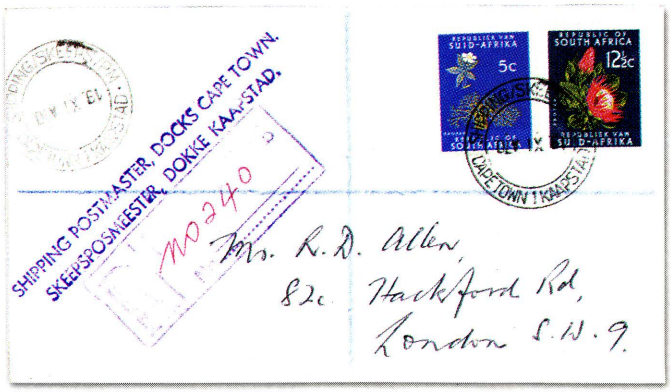
Type.11. Registered cover from an Italian liner cancelled "Giulio Caesars/Piroscafo postale Italiano 27-1-1935" and handed to shipping postmaster on arrival.



Type.12. 3 September 1941 - Philatelic registered cover to England.



Type.13. 15 September 1954 - Registered cover to Singapore.



Type.14. 19 November 1970 - Registered cover to London with inverted date.

Cape Town "Assistant Shipping Postmaster" Marks

Type	Period of use	Shape	Colour	Dimensions	Date Line	Characteristics
1	1907-1909	Circle	Red	40mm	Month before day	No inner circle.
2	1910-1914	Circle	Black	40mm	Day before month	Wavy lines above and below date.
3	1926-1929	Double circle	Violet, black	43mm	Day before month	Later increasingly distorted due to damage to canceller.
4	1933-1937	Double oval	Black	48x30mm	Day before month	No numeral.
5	1949-1959	Metal double circle	Black	28mm	Month in letters	Numral "2" in lower section. Also "A" and "B".
6	1959-1973	Metal double circle	Black	28mm	Month in roman figures	Numeral "2" in lower section. As type 5.

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Cape Town "Assistant Shipping Postmaster" Marks



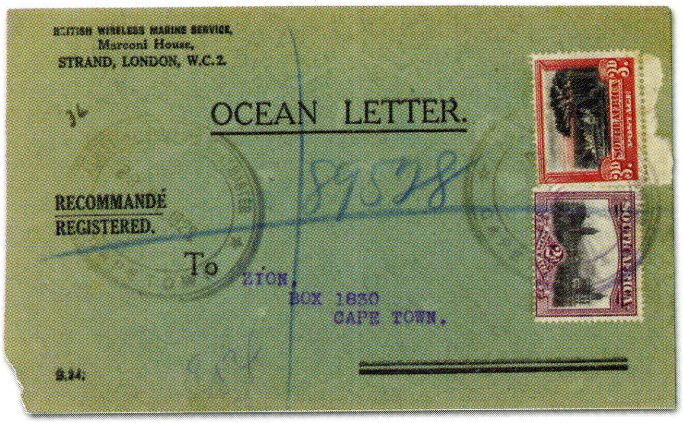
Type.1. Cancel on piece from "Kildonan Castle"



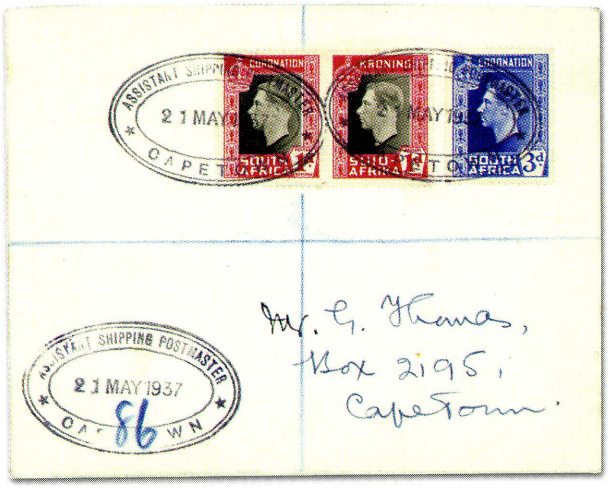
Type.2. Cancel used on Briton. 25 April 1914.



Type.5. Illustration after R.D. Allen. Numeral "2" at base.



Type.3. 29 July 1929 - Ocean Letter (cable) registered cover, with distorted cancel.



Type.4. 21 May 1937 - Philatelic registered cover.



Type.6. 26 November 1963 - Registered cover to England. Numeral "2" at base.

Durban "Shipping Postmaster" Marks

Type	Period of use	Shape	Colour	Dimensions	Date Line	Characteristics
1	Recorded on 13 Aug. 1911	Double circle	Unknown	Not recorded	Day before month	"Point Durban". "Mock up" reported by Cockrill (not seen).
2	1927-1936	Double circle	Violet	36 mm	Day before month	"Point Durban" reported incorrectly as two different cancels by Allen.
3	1937-1948	Circle	Violet	36mm	Date in arabic numerals	No inner circle.
4	1948-1963	Metal double circle	Black	26mm	Month in roman figures	"Point Natal"

Durban "Shipping Postmaster" Marks



Type.1. Illustration after R.D. Allen.



Type.2. 3 February 1936 - Post card to U.S.A, redirected to Canada, cancelled "Point Durban".

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Type.3. 2 March 1948 - Philatelic cover to Doyen of S.A. Philately at the time. Cancel reads "Point Durban"



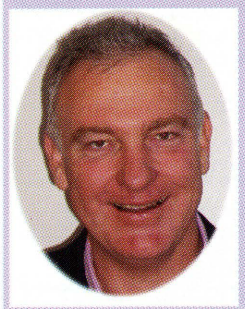
Type.3. 2 March 1948 - Another philatelic cover. Cancel reads "Point Natal"

References

- *R.D. Allen - Maritime marks of South Africa.*
- *R. Goldblatt - Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope.*
- *S.J. Hagger in R.F. Putzel - "The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies"*
- *J.H. Harvey Pirie and A.H. Sydow - "Maritime postmarks of South Africa and South West Africa in "The S.A. Philatelist", January 1949.*
- *R.F. Putzel - "The postmarks of South Africa and former states and colonies."*

Federation

New Signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

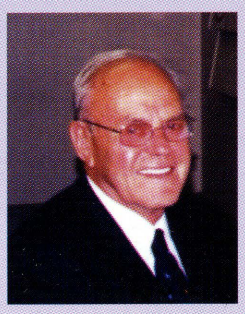


Richard Johnson

Richard has been associated with Eastern Cape philately for many years in many capacities. His juror's apprenticeship was served in 1989 at Wanderers101 at which he was invited to show his superb collection "Cape of Good Hope Eastern Frontier - Rectangular Period" in the Court of Honour. He later did Jury service at Stamps 150, Jopex 99, Stampshow 2000 and more recently as Vice Chairman of the Jury at Dursapex this year. In line with his growing interest and support of youth philately he was a judge at Junass , Bloemfontein 150 in 1996. At the international level, he impressed with his performance on the International Jury at Ilsapex 98.

As a collector and exhibitor, Richard has also proved that he is a force to be reckoned with. In 1982 he shared, with his father, a Gold medal at Telepex 82; in 1985 he took the Stampcor Award with felicitations from the Jury. In1991 it was a Large Gold with the Postmaster General's Trophy and in 2002, showing on his home ground at Algoapex, he claimed a second Large Gold and the SA Post Office Shield. Altogether, a record of which he can be justly proud.

As President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, 2001-2002, Richard travelled many miles visiting societies and attending Management Committee meetings in Johannesburg. On many occasions his quiet diplomacy achieved much where more aggressive responses would have failed as he steered the Federation through a period of troubled waters. As exhibitor, judge, administrator and more recently, as dealer, Richard has established himself as a stalwart of Eastern Cape philately.



Des Hyland

The prompt for stamp collecting comes in many forms. For Des it was a discarded box of stamps picked up when on service in Italy during World War II. Although later sold to buy 'wheels', the bug had bitten and on his return to the Republic, Des concentrated his efforts on the stamps of South and Southern Africa.

These efforts have not been without reward over the years beginning with a Vermeil and the SA Stamp Study Circle Award at Paarl in 1987. More local and international awards followed including a Large Vermeil for SA Booklets at Singapore, 1995, a Gold and the SA Stamp Study Circle Award for SA King's Heads at Cape Town, 1997, Gold for Bechuanaland in Spain in 1998 and again Johannesburg in 1999, and a Vermeil for SA Booklets in Nuremburg 1999. To these may be added the State President's Trophy in 1991 and 1995, and the Postmaster General's Shield in 1994.

Des left the OFS Philatelic Society in 1996 for the rarified atmosphere of the Royal in Cape Town where his example and commitment to philately was recognised by his election to the Presidency of that Society in 1997. Simultaneously he was elected President of Federation , 1997-1998. Although not a young man, Des' abilities have been called upon again as he has accepted the Chair of the Organising Committee for the Nationals in Cape Town, 2005.

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Wagenaarskraal - Conclusion

The following letter has been received from Mr Bill MacRobert concerning the post office at Wagenaarskraal.

Dear Sir,
Wagenaarskraal Post Office

There remains confusion as to the closing dates of the office. The later dates may have to do with the letters from the local museum asking for the date stamp and bag sealer. Unfortunately they have been melted.

I am enclosing a photostat of the last letter sent from Wagenaarskraal. I sent it to my parents residing in Victoria West who could return it for safe keeping. The value of the stamps is not correct as I just pasted the last 3 that remained in my possession.

At that time my monthly salary was R8-00, R3-00 for the work and R5-00 transport.

Thank you very much for the two journals. They will be treasured with the letter, etc.

Regards
WA MacRobert

Unfortunately the enclosed letter did not copy well, but the transcript is given:

Wagenaarskraal
via Beaufort West
29th August 1973

Dear Mom & Dad

Just a short note to say that this will be your last letter posted from Wagenaarskraal postal agency. I do not even know whether there will be a post bag for us at the station today.
Well the corona (sic) will make its last postal trip today.

Regards
William

This letter and cover would seem to be the last word on this topic - Ed.



Left: Back of envelope. Beaufort West - Hutchinson - Victoria West

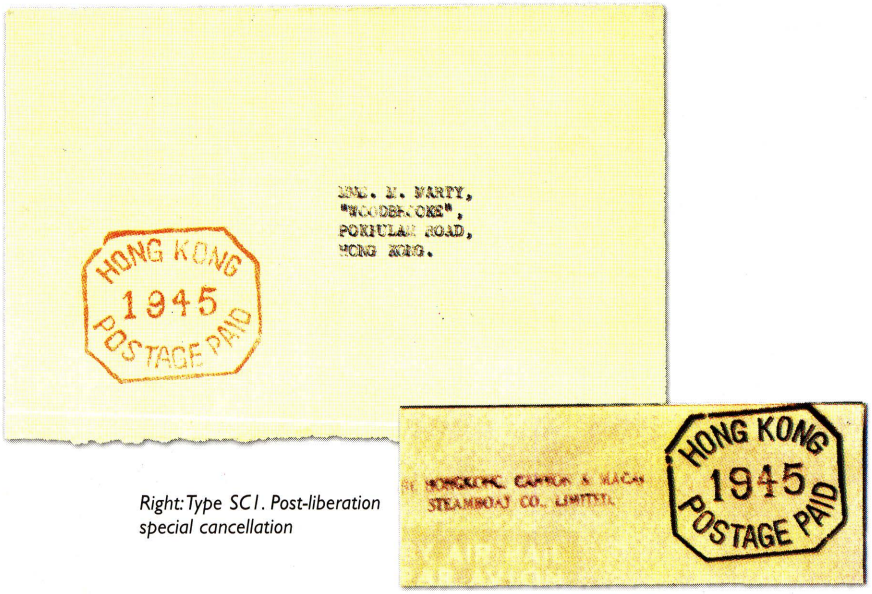
Right: Face of envelope. Beaufort West - Hutchinson - Victoria West

Hong Kong Query

by Loek van Riet, East Rand Philatelic Society

In December 1941 when the Japanese cut off the water supply, thus forcing the Crown Colony of Hong Kong to surrender, there were minimal stocks of stamps remaining in the post offices. As a result, at the end of World War II on 14 August 1945, there were no stamps available in the Colony.

To overcome this situation, the GPO produced an elongated octagonal handstamp with the wording HONG KONG / 1945 / POSTAGE PAID in three lines. These handstamps were in use until September 28th when fresh supplies of stamps arrived from the printers, Bradbury Wilkinson & Co in England. A study of various stamp and auction catalogues over the years has shown that these handstamps were applied in black ink, Fig 1, and were used on all civilian mail. Further, a note in the magazine *Stamp Collecting*, of 20 February 1953 indicates that Admiral Harcourt, the Acting Governor of the Colony, sanctioned the use of this canceller on mail carried by an emergency airmail service which commenced on 4 September 1945.



Right: Type SC1. Post-liberation special cancellation

However, a civilian cover in my collection differs from the above as the cancellation is in red ink, Fig 2. Comparison of the two strikes shows that there are also significant differences in size, shape and spacing of the letters. The brightness and freshness of the second strike precludes the inadvertent use of a red ink pad instead of a black one. It is clearly a red canceller used on a red ink pad suggesting that this was a normal cancellation.

Two questions arise. First, was this a rogue canceller, rather than official issue, and secondly, what is the significance of a red strike? No literature or catalogue studied to date records the use of red ink, only black. Was there a class of mail which merited a red cancel, if so why is there no reference to this on record? Does anyone have information or comment on this mystery?

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Elements of Federation

by Dr Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society

There are, unfortunately, many misconceptions as to the functions and operation of Federation, its Committees and officers. Most members know of the Standing Committees, but may be unsure of their exact functions; they are confused by the interface between Foundation and Federation, and are convinced that Commissioners to international exhibitions are on expenses-paid jawls.

In this series of articles it is intended to correct these misunderstandings and to give a summary breakdown of the services available to members.

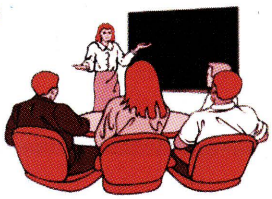
Federation

The Philatelic Federation of South Africa is the umbrella body for organised philately in South Africa. It was founded in 1928 as a body to promote philately and collecting, to standardise exhibiting and judging practice within the country and to be a unified voice on all matters philatelic. Membership currently runs at over 60 affiliated societies, some general, some covering specialised facets of collecting and others devoted to the needs of junior collectors. Whilst most are based in South Africa, others have their headquarters in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and the United States of America.

Federation is affiliated to the Federation International de Philatélie (FIP), and is an Associate Member of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP). As the controlling body within the country, it liaises closely with the South African Post Office on the promotion of collecting at all levels.

Federation has a constitution and bye-laws which are available to all members through their Societies. These are reviewed and revised periodically as deemed necessary to adapt to changes in the collecting world. It holds an annual Congress at which delegates from all societies transact business for the year. The Federation journal, *The South African Philatelist*, is distributed free to all members of affiliated clubs and societies.

Congress



The controlling body of Federation is the annual Congress at which all officers, office bearers and Chairmen of Standing Committees are required to be present, and at which all affiliated societies and clubs may have delegates. The number of delegates for each society is proportional to the society membership.

At Congress, reports are presented from Standing Committees to record and account for their activities during the preceding year. Similarly, reports are presented by the President of Foundation, the Treasurer and the Regional Vice-presidents. All committees and officers of Federation are the servants of the member societies, and as such, are accountable to the societies for their activities during the year. Their reports are open to questions, debate and ultimately the approval of delegates . If not accepted, then corrective action is agreed upon. By these means, societies are able to monitor, endorse or censure the actions of Federation's managers.

Societies have the opportunity to present motions to Congress on the running of Federation, its dealings with external bodies, matters of policy or any matter related to the world of organised philately. Motions are circulated to societies beforehand to allow internal discussion, before being debated and voted on at Congress. Congress is also the venue for delegates to appoint officers for the coming year, vote on the award of Federation honours and trophies, and ratify decisions made during the year by managers. Congress thus provides the mechanism for affiliated societies and clubs to monitor and direct the activities of Federation in a democratic manner.

Management Committee

Chairman:
Peter van der Molen, RDPSA
PO Box 12508
Benoryn, 1504
Tel: 011 849 4822
Email: molens@pixie.co.za

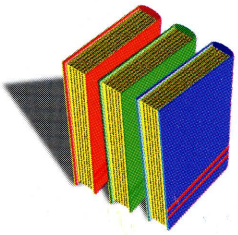


The Management Committee is the executive body of Federation, and meets at prescribed times to oversee and manage the activities of the various Standing and Sub-Committees. It is comprised of the officers and office bearers of Federation (9), the Chairmen of Standing Committees (10), Regional Vice-presidents (8) and representatives from SAPDA, Foundation and the Philatelic Services branch of the Post Office. In the event of urgent matters arising, an Executive, made up of the Chairman, the Vice-chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary is empowered to make decisions which must be ratified by the next full meeting of the Committee.

The Committee approves the budgets and projects of the Standing Committees and receives their reports on a regular basis. Contact with societies is maintained during the year through the Vice-presidents who relay matters of interest or concern to and fro between the Committee and the societies. Much of the detailed work of the Committee is delegated to the Standing Committees which operate under terms of reference agreed between them and the Committee.

Archives

Archivist
Ds Cassie Carstens
PO Box 52011
Wierdapark, 0149
Tel: 012 653 2279
Email algsin@mweb.co.za



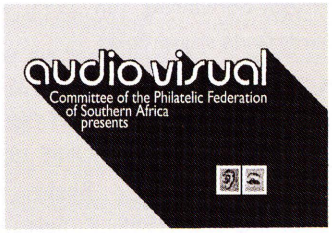
The role of the Archivist is primarily to preserve and conserve the records of Federation. All Federation correspondence, records, deeds and other relevant historical

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documents are being collected together, catalogued and preserved in a facility at Airborne Park, Boksburg. Additionally, full sets of *The SA Philatelist* are being assembled to contribute to a continuous record of Federation's development and activities over the years since its inception. Donations of pertinent historical documents are always welcomed by the Archivist. As the archives develop they will be available to members for consultation and research.

Audio Visual Committee

Chairman
Dr Angus Pringle
PO Box 975,
Kloof, 3640
Tel: 031 765 2541
Email: angus@compudoc.co.za



This Committee maintains a library of slide shows (120), VHS video shows (14) and CD ROMs (5) which are available on loan to societies and to individual members through their societies. The cost of loan is restricted to the local postage rate one way. An index list of shows is available which gives titles, duration and a classification of the content, i.e. country, thematic, studies/postal history, instructional, Southern Africa and juniors. Most of the shows have been produced locally by the Committee, but others have been sourced from overseas.

The current CD ROMs are primarily catalogue reference items although steps are in hand to convert slide shows into this format for ease of transport and projection. It is visualised that in the future shows may be made available for sale to members.

The Committee encourages members to produce shows based on their collections and has a guideline document for members wishing to produce scripts. Authors receive a free copy of their shows.

Exhibitions Committee

Chairman
Peter van der Molen, RDPSA
PO Box 12508
Benoryn, 1504
Tel: 011 849 4822
Email: molens@pixie.co.za



The function of the Exhibitions Committee is to assist and guide the organising committees of both local and national exhibitions in the management of their activities. Whilst Federation bye-laws give general guidance, more detailed guidelines for planning, programming and running an exhibition are provided in the Committee's Exhibition Manual, available to organising committees.

Through this Committee, organisers may borrow exhibition frames from the frame store at Airborne Park, Boksburg, with the only cost being the transport to and from the store. Societies are responsible for the cost of repairs if frames are returned damaged.

From a practical viewpoint, organisers may call directly on the vast experience of Committee members to help with any problems that may arise during the actual running of an exhibition.

The South African Philatelist Committee

Chairman
Dr Alan Rose
PO Box 131600
Benoryn, 1504
Tel: 011 816 1928
Email saphilatelist@iafrica.com
roses@wol.co.za

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

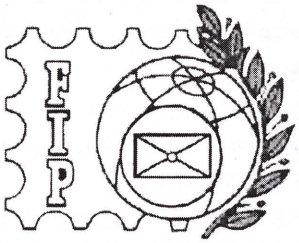
The SA Philatelist Committee is charged with producing Federation's journal which is distributed free of charge to members of all affiliated societies. It is also available on subscription to libraries, schools and individuals, and on sale to the public at restricted outlets. Production is currently on a bi-monthly basis. *The South African Philatelist* is the official journal of record of organised philately in South Africa, and contains articles by members, news of new issues (RSA), Federation activities, society news, book reviews and general information on the collecting scenario in South and Southern Africa.

A balance of content is maintained to include traditional philately, postal history, thematics and the plethora of other interests which are evident within the collecting community. Although the emphasis is on Southern Africa, articles on other areas are published.

The Committee operates under Terms of Reference provided by the Management Committee, and aims to cater for the interests of all collectors. In addition to being the journal of record for Federation, *The South African Philatelist* strives to be informative, educational and entertaining to collectors at all levels of expertise. Contributions for publication are welcomed from members.

The FIP Committee

Chairman
Howard Green, RDPSA
PO Box 412505
Craighall, 2024
Tel: 011442 7190
Email: jhb@sothebys.co.za



FIP, the Federation Internationale de Philatelie, is the world governing body for philately. The Philatelic Federation of South Africa is an affiliated member, and the FIP Committee acts to keep Federation and its members abreast of FIP activities and developments world-wide.

Federation supports FIP sponsored exhibitions on a selective basis, and when participating, will nominate a national Commissioner who accompanies South African entries and represents Federation and the exhibitors at all times. The Committee currently has nominees on a number of FIP committees including Forgeries, Revenues, Thematics, Traditional and Youth Philately.

The committee also liases with the FIAP, the Fedeeration of Inter-Asian Philately of which Federation is an Associate Member.

To be continued next issue of SAP.

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Die geskiedenis, die tragedie, en die potensiaal van Suid Afrika se posslagspreuke

by Jan Lessing, Postmark and Postal History Society

The author laments the adoption by the South African Post Office of English as its 'official' language, particularly with respect to postal slogans. He feels that the use of the other ten official languages would help promote national unity and mutual acceptance. The current use of the ink jet canceller would allow frequent and convenient changes of slogans, many of which currently carry pertinent, socially relevant messages.

Ons grondwet stipuleer elf amptelike tale. Selfs met die veelsydige moontlikhede van die modernste tegnologie, ignoreer die Poskantoor reeds sewe jaar lank hierdie bepaling.

Posslagspreuke bereik daagliks miljoene mense in Suid Afrika. Enige persoon met 'n posadres het moontlik onlangs 'n brief ontvang met die woorde "Remember dad by sending a Father's day card" wat die posseël kanselleer.

Slagspreuke word reeds sedert 1899 in Suid Afrika gebruik en alhoewel die vroegste bewoordings eenvoudig was, het dit algaande ontwikkel om besondere fasette en die progressie van ons gemeenskaplike geskiedenis en kultuur te reflekteer.

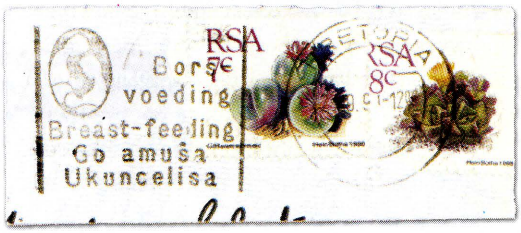
1899:"C * C" (for Cape Colony)
1911:"UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA / UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA"
1923:"SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES / ONDERSTEUN S.A. INDUSTRIE≈"
1925:"VERSKAF BEROEPE AAN ONS JEUG/MAKE CAREERS FOR OUR JUVENILES"

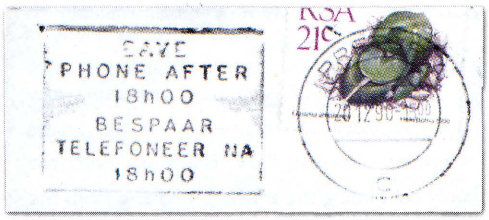
Die bewoording van posslagspreuke word deur die poskantoorowerhede, onder regeringstoesig, bepaal en is sedert vroegste dae gebruik om sake van algemene belang vir landsbewoners aan te spreek.

1926:"VRUGTE VIR GESONDHEID / FRUIT FOR HEALTH"
1929:"BEWARE OF EROSION / PASOP VIR VERSPOELING"
1929:"KEER DIE SLOTE / STOP DONGAS"
1936:"USE THE TELEPHONE / GEBRUIK DIE TELEFOON"

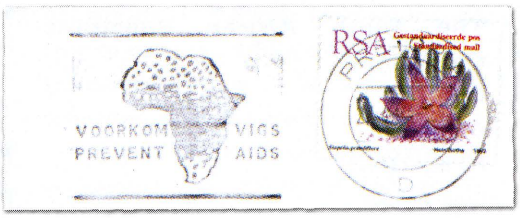
Die tale wat gebruik word vir pos slagspreuke is ook 'n refleksie van die geskiedkundige en politieke situasie van elke era. Een vroeë slagspreuk het 'n rowwe mengsel van Nederlands, Afrikaans en Engels bevat:

1922:"ADRES U MAIL NAAR PRIVATE BUS OF STRAAT EN NOMMER"

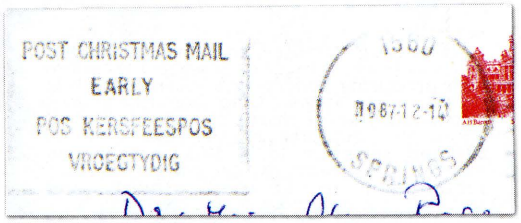












Vir 'n groot deel van ons geskiedenis was slagspreuke tweetalig, in Afrikaans en Engels gebruik. Daar was geen owerheids - of politieke of sosiale motivering om dit andersins te doen nie.

1942:"Don't talk about ships / Moenie klets oor skepe nie"
1971:"BEKAMP MISDAAD - DIS U PLIG / COMBAT CRIME - IT IS YOUR DUTY"
1987:"HELP FLOOD DISASTER NATAL / HELP VLOEDRAMP NATAL"
1988:"VOORKOM VIGS / PREVENT AIDS"

Toe breek 1994 aan en Suid Afrika word 'n demokratiese land met elf amptelike tale! Geen noemenswaardige veranderinge het dadelik in slagspreuke plaasgevind as gevolg van die nuwe bedeling nie, maar onthou jy nog Mnr Nelson Mandela se openbare deelname aan Suid Afrika se Wêreld-bekerrugby-oorwinning van 1995, en die gepaardgaande slagspreuke:

1995:"RUGBY '95 SOUTH AFRICA 25 MAY - 24 JUNE 1995 / RUGBY '95 SUID AFRIKA 25 MEI - 24 JUNIE 1995"
1995:"South Africa - Rugby World Champions 1995 / Suid Afrika Wêreldrugbykampioene 1995"

Ten opsigte van posslagspreuke het twee groot gebeurtenisse binne enkele jare plaasgevind na 1994: (1) Suid Afrika was 'n vrye demokrasie met 'n grondwet wat die land elf amptelike tale ryker gemaak het, en (2) die inkstraalseëlrojerings metode is in 1995 geïmplementeer. Hierdie twee gebeure mag onverwant blyk te wees, maar ek sal bewys dat hulle intens ineengestrengel behoort te wees.

1995:"EERSTE INKSTRAALSE≈LROJERING IN RSA / FIRST INK JET STAMP CANCELLING IN RSA"

Inkstraalseëlrojering geskied met behulp van 'n rekenaar in elke hoofpossentrum. Elke sentrum ontvang jaarliks 'n vooruitbeplande program met die bewoording van slagspreuke vir elke weeklikse of tweeweeklikse periode. Die slagspreuk van die week word ingetik en oorgedra na 'n drukker wat posstukke kanselleer. Die aantal karakters of woorde wat huidige slagspreuke kan bevat is veel meer as wat ouer masjiene kon hanteer. Twee reëls van sowat 80 karakters elk kan maklik ingetik word. Hierdie vermoë beteken dat kort boodskappe in meer as een taal tegelyk gebruik kan word.

Maar aangesien slagspreuke nou maklik en dikwels verander en afgewissel kan word, kan meer tale ook vinnig om die beurt gebruik word.

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'n Slagspreuk kan byvoorbeeld een week in Afrikaans, die volgende week in Engels en die week daarop in Zulu gedruk word, afhangende van die tydsdruk en demografiese toepaslikheid. Op hierdie wyse kan 'n program opgestel word om slagspreuke afwisselend in al elf amptelike tale beskikbaar te stel. Wat kan meer kultureel verrykend wees? Kyk maar na hierdie veeltalige slagspreuk:

1987:"Borsvoeding * Breast-feeding *Go amusa * Ukuncelisa * Ukuncancisa * Ho nyantsha"

Hierdie was die eerste, en enigste doelbewuste veeltalige slagspreuk wat meer as net Afrikaans of Engels vertoon het in Suid Afrika. Die inheemse taalweergawes is gebruik in die streke waar hierdie tale veral gepraat word.

Hierdie poging tot veeltaligheid is bereik binne die beperkings van 'n gegraveerde huls in ouer rojeermasjiene. Hoeveel meer kan ons vandag bereik met inkstraal rekenaardrukkers?

Die tragedie het in 1998 plaasgevind: die Suid Afrikaanse Poskantoor het vroeg in 1998 besluit om slegs Engels as die amptelike taal van die poskantoor te aanvaar. Dis ironies dat die laaste slagspreuk wat tweetalig verskyn het hierdie een was:

1998:"DIE SUID AFRIKAANSE POS-KANTOOR - ONS WERK VIR JOU/ THE SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICE - WE'RE WORKING FOR YOU"

Vir wie werk die Poskantoor? Met hierdie besluit het die Poskantoor nie net die bepalings van Suid Afrika se grondwet ge-gnoreer nie, maar ook die gevestigde posisie van Afrikaans tot nul gereduseer, en ook die miljoene gebruikers van briewedienste ontdoen aan 'n verrykende ondervinding om hul eie en ander tale in ons slagspreuke te sien. Die tegniese moontlikhede van die inkstraalrojeringsmetode word ook onderbenut.

Die potensiaal van die invloed wat posslagspreuke op Suid Afrika se samelewing en samehorigheid kan hê is enorm. Die wye diversiteit van ons tale en kulture kan in posslagpreuke aangespreek en aktief ten toon gestel word. Miljoene mense ontvang daagliks briewe en sien slagspreuke op koeverte. Dit sal vir die gebruikers van al elf tale geweldig baie beteken om byvoorbeeld "NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN" in sy/haar eie taal te lees op hul volgende brief. Waarom nie?

Sedert die begin van 1998, en die einde van 2004, sal meer as 330 nuwe slagspreuke, of variasies daarvan, verskyn het.

Dit is meer as 40 slagspreukaanpassings per jaar. Hierdie veelsydigheid is hoofsaaklik te danke aan die inkstraalrojeringsmetode en moderne kommunikasie. Die tragedie is steeds dat dit alles net in Engels plaasvind. Waarom kon die ander tien tale van ons land nie ook 'n enkele slagspreukkans gekry het nie?

Klein boodskappies wat dikwels oor 'n lang periode in groot getalle aangewend word en baie mense daagliks bereik, kan 'n magtige invloed uitoefen op die psige van 'n nuwe nasie. Die oordeelkundige en afwisselende gebruik van al elf tale in ons posslagspreuke kan die proses van ons vreedsame naasbestaan en wedersydse aanvaarding aanhelp. Ek praat nie hier van sosiale ingenieurswese nie. Ek praat net van die erkenning van al die tale wat alle mense in ons land raak.

1971:"BEKAMP MISDAAD - DIS U PLIG / COMBAT CRIME - IT IS YOUR DUTY".
1988:"PREVENT AIDS / VOORKOM VIGS

Waar is die ander nege tale van die slagoffers?



ONE FRAME EXHIBITION IN BLOEMFONTEIN

Concurrent with the JUNASS 2005 Exhibition taking place in Bloemfontein 15 -17 July, the O.F.S. Philatelic Society is holding a 'One Frame' Exhibition at the same venue. A Prospectus for the exhibition is included with the February issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

This is the first time that such an exhibition has been held as a free standing event. It will consist of 60 frames and be judged according to FIP rules by a six member jury chaired by Dr Neil Cronjé. This will be separate from the JUNASS jury which will be headed by Gerrie Conradie.

A Court of Honour will include material from the Anglo Boer War Museum collection, and winners of previous exhibitions. The event will be attended by the SA Post Office and a number of dealers.

The venue (to be confirmed) will be central, and entertainment will be available for spouses of exhibitors. This will include visits to local historic sites and museums, and possibly the Thaba Nchu Sun.

Accommodation at competitive prices can be arranged for interested parties. Further details of the exhibition, and contact addresses are contained in the Prospectus.

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Midrand Auctions	Pretoria Auctions
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Moerdy Road	Menlo Park, 26 Street
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A PHILATELIC LIBRARY FOR JOHANNESBURG

by Clive Carr, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

In his editorial to *The SA Philatelist* of 7 July 1938 Dr Harvey Pirie wrote of the need for a central philatelic library. He averred that it was virtually impossible for a private individual or a society to assemble an adequate collection of philatelic literature with the associated difficulties of housing it, maintaining it and allowing controlled access when needed.

In 1938 the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg (PS of J) donated its collection of philatelic books to the Johannesburg Central Library. Dr. Harvey Pirie was the driving force behind this move. A few months later Anna Smith, an avid philatelist, joined the Library. These two events started what was to develop into an outstanding collection of philatelic literature.

From 1938 onwards, Dr Harvey Pirie added to the collection by passing on copies of philatelic publications sent to *The SA Philatelist* for review. These donations, together with the dedication and expertise of Anna Smith, built a collection of significance. Anna Smith's role was crucial as she was a true champion of the collection. Many of the works in the collection came from donations, which have unfortunately dried up as interest in the library waned. Some components were bought. A significant acquisition occured in 1946, with the purchase of the philatelic library of Emil Tamsen of Nylstroom. There have been few additions in the last ten years.

Currently, the Library no longer has a philatelic champion, its budget has been severely cut, and the. collecting public has moved away with the urban sprawl of Johannesburg. Sadly, the philatelic collection has been forgotten and now rarely sees visitors.

In June 2004 the PS of J investigated the possibilities of resurrecting the library and making its wealth of literature more accessible. Two Society members, Rudi von Varendorff and Clive Carr, viewed the collection to explore the possibilities. What they found was a sizeable collection of some two thousand items in the Library's vast basement storage area. The collection included books, periodicals, newsletters, study group notes, catalogues, society history, memorabilia, etc. Fortunately, it had been properly kept in a controlled environment and is in good condition.

Realising the value of the collection, the PS of J initiated a project to move it to a venue where it would be easily accessible to philatelists. In June 2004, a proposal was presented to Granville Shenker, Regional Manager, Region 8 Libraries. After discussion, the Society agreed to become actively involved once a suitable location could be found. Granville immediately saw the merits of the proposal and agreed to investigate the possibilities.

In November 2004, after further meetings, discussions and investigations, the Library agreed to move the collection to the Sandton Library. The Society was delighted with the decision, and with the eagerness of the management team at Sandton to take over the collection. Their enthusiasm will be an essential element in making sure the library's philatelic centre receives the expertise and attention it deserves.

Sandton Library has provided a truly excellent facility. It is a separate glassed-off area on the ground floor and will be totally dedicated to philately. There is ample space to house the collection from Johannesburg, plus room for expansion. There is also space for tables and chairs to provide users with a perfect environment for reading, research, or merely browsing.

The area is currently being redecorated and refurbished. Bibliographic Services is busy updating the library's URICA database to include all the philatelic works; a sizeable task requiring much overtime, for which Sandton Library has generously agreed to allocate a special budget. Work should be complete by the end of March, and we are hopeful that the new philatelic centre will be ready to open in April.

An agreement is currently being drafted between the Johannesburg Central Library, Sandton Library and the PS of J which will set out the roles to be played by each of the parties and our joint objectives.

The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg has committed resources and expertise to assist in evaluating the collection, advising on how it can be updated, and to obtaining donations of material or funds. The Society will also use the new Philatelic Centre to promote philately and to encourage the use of the Library's excellent facilities.

Through this article, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to the staff of both the Johannesburg and Sandton Libraries. Their understanding, co-operation and efforts have made this venture possible. Special mention must be made of the roles played by Granville Shenker, Regional Manager Region 8 and Dieuwke Horne, Regional Manager Region 3.

In the meantime donations of surplus or unwanted items of philatelic literature will enhance their worth beyond any monetary value they may have. Their true value is in what they give to those who will read, study and share them.

For more about this project, or to donate material, contact either Rudi von Varendorff on 011 442 8253, or Clive Carr on 011 888 3640

Junass 2005

It was previously announced that JUNASS 2005 will be held on the 16th June 2005 in Pretoria. The bid by Tshwane Stamp Mates has since been withdrawn, and the OFS Philatelic Society has taken over the bid instead. The planning of JUNASS 2005 will therefore go ahead, and will be held in **Bloemfontein during 15-17 July 2005**. The theme for the Club exhibits is Farming (Boerdery), to complement one of the major activities of the host area. This is a wide theme and the youngsters should bear in mind that certain winged insects and water creatures as well as colourfull and fragrant plants are also farmed with!

Okay Kids, the OFS Youth Philatelists are awaiting you at JUNASS 2005!!

Daar is vroeër aangekondig dat JUNASS 2005 gehou sal word op die 16de Junie 2005 in Pretoria. Die aanbod deur Tshwane Seëlmaats is intussen teruggetrek, en die OVS Filatelievereniging het intussen die aanbod oorgeneem. Die beplanning van JUNASS 2005 gaan dus voort, en sal gehou word in **Bloemfontein gedurende 15-17 July 2005**. Die tema vir die Klubuitstallings is Boerdery (Farming), om een van die hoofaktiwiteite van die gasheerarea te komplementeer. Dit is 'n wye tema, en die kinders moet in gedagte hou dat sekere gevleuelde insekte en waterdiere asook kleurvolle en lekkerruikende plante ook mee geboer word!

Okay Kinders, the OVS Jeugfilateliste wag vir julle by JUNASS 2005!!

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Rev J Cassie Carstens, Thematics SA

PRETHEMA 2005

It is time to prepare for PRETHEMA 2005, the annual one-frame thematic exhibition held in Pretoria. The date is Saturday 7th May and the venue is the Adami Hall, Wren Street in Queenswood. The rules are quite easy i.e. frame (15 pages), any thematic theme, entry fee R50. And yes, there are several cash prizes in the bag. Come on, make this your philatelic adventure for 2005. Send in your exhibit and join in the fun of thematic philately. Remember: Any theme will do! Contact Rev Cassie Carstens (012 653-2279) for more details and entry forms. The latter will also be sent to all the clubs.

NATIONAL CAPE TOWN

The thematic category at the national exhibitions has lost some ground in the past few years - we must really try to turn the tide. I am sure there are lots of thematic collectors who only need a little encouragement to write up their story and prepare an exhibit Please note: you do not have to compete with eight frames for the large gold. The idea is to start somewhere, to participate, to show your beautiful and interesting stuff - and yes, to have lots of fun in the whole process. Let us bedazzle the traditional philatelists (and also the jury) at the October National in Cape Town this year, and show the Mother City what stamp collecting is really about: THEMATICS and PART OF THE FUN!

PROVINCIAL EXHIBITIONS

I had no response to my suggestion for an inter-provincial competition. Now here's another idea at the opening at Congress 2004 that exhibitors should qualify for the national by participating at provincial level. Each province/region should first organise a local exhibition where everybody can participate - only the best can then qualify for the following national. That will enhance the quality of exhibits at the national and also give beginners and novices the chance to get into the game and enhance their exhibits. Anyone care to comment on this?

THEMES ON STAMPS

• World Cup **SOCCER 2010** is not far away. Therefore we can take note of the 75th anniversary of the WCS and also hold thumbs that Bafana-Bafana will qualify for the spectacle in Germany 2006. **#1** I do not think that Korea will repeat their brilliant performance of 2002 — my money is on the Netherlands.

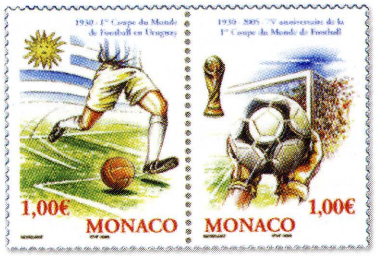


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

• There are some 520 species of **SWALLOW-TAIL BUTTERFLIES** found on all the landmasses except Antarctica. In all regions, they are a source of joy to all who see them. Swallowtails have been around for a very long time, maybe many years longer than humans. *Papillo schmeltzii* is Fiji's largest butterfly. **#2** When the newly adult butterfly emerges from its chrysalis it is called metamorphosis. When this happens tremendous changes have to take place. It takes about 20 minutes for the wings to unfold and the veins to fill with blood. It must then wait longer for the wings to harden properly before it attempts to fly. This can take up to an hour.

• The High Coast in Sweden reaches dizzying heights and surveys a variegated region. The 1425 km² expanse in Western Norrtand was granted **WORLD HERITAGE SITE** status in 2000. At 286 meters, the High Coast holds the world record in land elevation; it continues to rise 8mm annually. In addition to steep precipices, this unique site blends narrow troughs, billowy mountains and inlet lakes. **#3**



Fig. 3.

•**GASTRONOMY** is the theme for the 2005 Europa stamps (are they running out of ideas?). Traditional delicacies are depicted on the stamps of the island of Jersey - an entrée, fish course, main course and dessert, plus suitable accompanying wines or brandy for each dish. I think I will go for the fish course - oysters (with champagne, if my eyes do not fail me...!) **#4** I do not trust the eel soup or the bean crock.

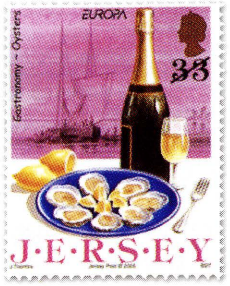


Fig. 4.

•The Centenary of the Australian Open **TENNIS** Championships is celebrated on two stamps. The Australian Open was established in 1905 as the Australasian Tennis Championships and played at the Warehousemen's Cricket Ground in Albert Park, Melbourne. The competition was renamed the Australian Championships in 1927, eventually becoming the Australian Open in 1969. The tournament moved to the multi- purpose Flinders Park when it opened in January 1988. Following expansion in 1996, Flinders Park was renamed Melbourne Park. **#5**



Fig. 5.

•All of us grew up on the **FAIRY TALES** of Hans Christian Andersen - The Snow Queen, The Little Mermaid, The Little Match Girl, Thumbelina, etc. My all-time favorite is The Ugly Duckling **#6**. This year we celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of this genius.

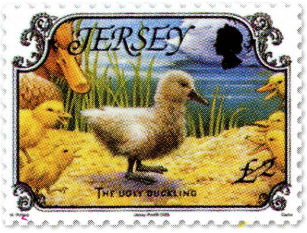


Fig. 6.

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•And speaking of **BIRDS**, the 1st South African Postal Operators Association stamp issue is a disaster - eight stamps depicting the countries' national birds, three of them the Fish Eagle. (I suppose the 2nd issue will be the national anthems - can you imagine all the versions of Nkosi "Sikelele on the stamps?!) To collect all eight editions, will cost you some money ~ especially the South African version (shame on us). I just have an idea that Zambia's K2 200 is perhaps the cheapest! **#7**

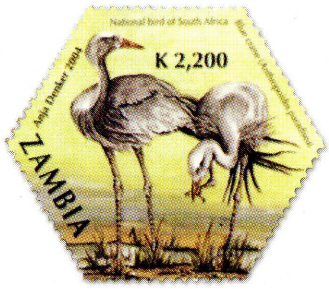


Fig. 7.

•This is the Lunar Year of the **ROOSTER** - all you people born in 2005, 1993, 1981, 1979, 1967, 1955, 1943, 1931, 1929 etc. You are said to be deep thinkers, loyal friends and entertaining hosts. You also have a sharp and observant mind and are consistently practical and resourceful, making you ideal leaders in crisis situations. The Rooster personality strives towards perfection and is well organised. Conscious of appearance, they must always look their best. Wow! **#8**



Fig. 8.

•Who would not want to own a **FERRARI**, even if it is on a stamp? Go it, Schumi! Go it, Rubens! Give them hell this year! (How I hate motor racing — I drive a Toyota. How I hate to listen every 2nd Sunday to the German National Anthem, and please note: by now I also know the Italian Anthem by heart. How I long to sing God Save the Queen .....) **#9**

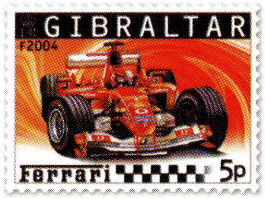


Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

•World **AIDS** Day is celebrated on the 1st of December. All very well. But why only "women" and Aids - what about the men? Apart from the fact that they are (usually) the big culprits in spreading the disease, there are millions of innocent men and boys dying from this epidemic crisis. We ALL have a responsibility, and in this country of ours, we ALL must take action, we ALL must help, we ALL must become part of the solution. **#10**

References

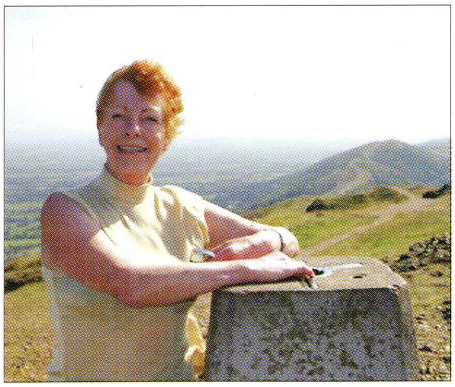
1. *Programme Philateliqoue, Principaute de Monaco*
2. *Philatelic Bureau, Suva, Fiji Islands*
3. *Posten Sverige AB, Sweden*
4. *Jersey Philatelic Bureau*
5. *Australian Stamp Bulletin*
6. *Jersey Philatelic Bureau*
7. *Zambia : Postal Services Corporation*
8. *Hongkong Post*
9. *Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau*
10. *Montserrat Philatelic Bureau*

Profile: Jill Redmond, RDPSA

Once upon a time, there was a Stamp Show in Germiston. A keen collector came to have a look – her first taste of organised philately – liked what she saw, and the rest is history. There can be few Federation members who have not heard the name Jill Redmond.

Shortly after getting involved in Society and Federation affairs, Jill, with children of her own, realised that there was a huge gap in the promotion of philately by Federation. Almost single-handed she took on the establishment, and by sheer perseverance achieved the formation of a Youth Activities Committee - later to be re-named the Youth Committee. There are now nearly 20 youth clubs affiliated to Federation. Initially under the Chairmanship of George van den Hurk, the first Junior National Stamp Show (JUNASS) was held in 1984. Within a very short time, George left for an extended stay overseas and Jill took over the Chairmanship as well as acting as Secretary, two positions she held until 2004. Under Jill's guidance, JUNASS has become a feature on the National stamp calendar, and many juniors have exhibited internationally.

Ably supported by her late husband, Rowland, and a very small Committee, Jill has turned the Youth Committee into a really mean machine.



For many years she voluntarily took the minutes at all Federation Annual Congresses, until in 2001 Jill was appointed as Secretary to Federation, a post to which she has brought her usual professionalism.

Federation has acknowledged Jill's work and dedication by awarding her the Lea Cup in 1988, the Skinner Cup in 1990 and in 1998 she was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa.

In spite of all her work with the Youth Committee, organising and overseeing the annual JUNASS and the secretarial work for Federation, Jill has never neglected her own collecting interests. Over time she has assembled collections of the 'Wilding Head' issues of Great Britain, 'Aspects of WW II Postal History', modern aerophilately and a wonderful thematic collection on the subject of 'Hands'. This last she has exhibited successfully at international level. Additionally Jill has served as Chairman of the GB Society of Southern Africa and has been active in several other societies. Following the death of her husband, she also now attends the local Stamp Fairs as a part time dealer.

After 22 years, Jill has now decided that the time has come to hand over the Youth Committee to others, since despite the amount of work she gets through, she – like all of us – has only 24 hours in a day. However, Jill leaves the Youth Committee with a solid foundation including the manual of guidelines for running a youth club and organising JUNASS which Jill compiled almost single handedly.

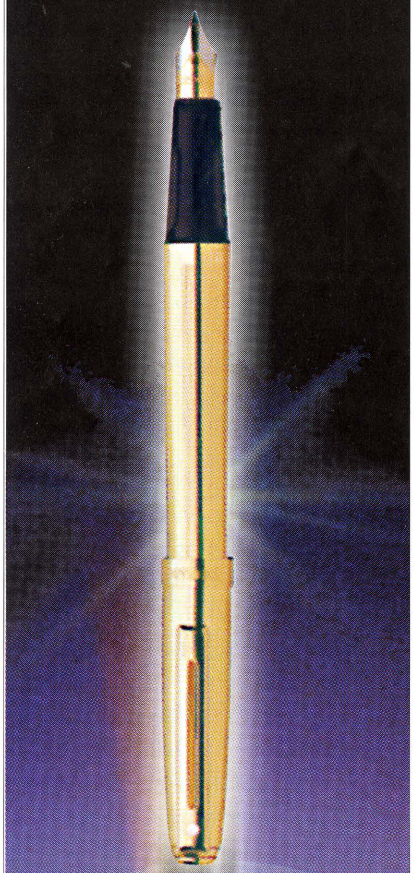
Readers. I give you a portrait of a remarkable lady.

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THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 13 DECEMBER 2004

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Foundation continues to act as a Trust for philately, mainly through the Philatelic Federation. Foundation, however, is not Federation's Trust and not accountable to Federation, as assumed by some people. Foundation has, as a courtesy, reported to Federation's annual Congress. However, this year I chose not to do so as I have had limited communication from Federation and it was clearly indicated to me that I was not a part of Management and not welcome at their meetings! I am pleased that Management have now given the President of Foundation a seat on their Committee, thanks to the wisdom and efforts of Herbie Schäffler, but without a vote.

The continual bickering about finance in Federation should stop so that one can get on with the main task of promoting philately and stamp collecting. To achieve this, Foundation has decided to up its grant to Federation to cover the following expenses:-

1. Federation's total cost of *The S A Philatelist*. Federation can also keep the income generated by the magazine. Now members of a philatelic society will get a free S A Philatelist, a good selling point for signing up new members.
2. FIP/FIAP membership fees. These were always covered by Foundation in the days of Herman Steyn: thus no more moaning about the costs of the few who exhibit abroad. Will those few please keep up the good work in promoting South Africa.
3. The rental cost of storing Federation's exhibition frames (Airborne Park).

Having just received the bumper December issue of *The S A Philatelist* reminded me to congratulate Dr Alan Rose and his Editorial Board for the great progress the magazine has made - well done!

Foundation enjoyed a substantial increase in its current assets in the past financial year due to the high interest rates on its fixed deposits. Unfortunately in the current Financial Year, which started on 1 April 2004, the drop in interest rates will considerably reduce our income. However, we are financially stable because of our substantial asset base. As we have all our eggs in one basket with ABSA Bank and as I believe that investment responsibility should not fall on a single Council member, we are in the process of establishing a Finance Committee outside of Foundation to advise Council. Their recommendations will then be decided and voted on by the whole Council.

I am amazed at the volume of paper being generated in Federation; let's halve this and direct the energy saved into promoting philately and at the same time save some trees - which makes one think, how many trees are used annually for the production of stamps worldwide.

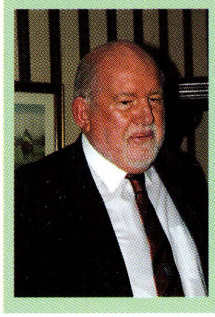
Council members:
Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPSL
Howard Green RDPSA
Emil Minnaar
Chris Mobsby RDPSA, FRPSL
Peter van der Molen RDPSA, FRPSL
Johan van Wyk, Philatelic Services

Many thanks for your input, wisdom and hard work which got me through my second year. Howard, sorry to see you leave Foundation with all your experience but our loss is Federation's gain.

Finally, as a stamp dealer, I recently had reason to wonder whether I have a place in organised philately because of what happened at Management regarding the appointment of a Chairman for the Judging and Ethics Committee.

by Coen Slagt, RDPSA

Retirement of David Crocker RDPSA



On 9 December 2004 a small function was held at the Country Club Johannesburg to mark the retirement of David Crocker RDPSA (from Montagu, Cape) as Chairman of the PFSA Expert Committee, after holding that position with distinction for 22 years. In the presence ofGauteng members of the Expert Committee and senior PFSA officials, David was thanked for his exceptional service to Federation by Peter van der Molen, Chairman of the PFSA Management Committee, who presented David with a suitably inscribed clock . It was announced that David's son-in-law, Michael Wigmore RDPSA, had accepted the Management Committee's invitation to chair the Expert Committee.

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Second Wmk
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1924 Wembley Exhibition
Imperforate at Left



1866 Shanghai to United States - not in the *Gurevitch* Census

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RESULTS WITH INTEGRITY

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Book Reviews

Asher's Anthology

By: Prof. Asher Dubb
Published by: 2004 by Unacel Publishers, ISBN 0 620 32659 X.

It is distresing to review a book, which was published a scant two months before the author's death.

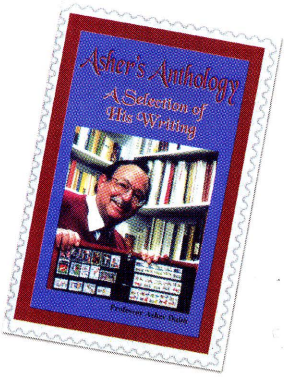
Prof. Dubb was a highly-esteemed physician and lecturer, as well as a keen philatelist. This intensely reaable publication is a collection of articles on facets of Medical history. These have been illustrated by means of stamps and covers. Many of the chapters have been published in journals and contain fascinating anecdotes regarding the lives of famous physicians, women in medicine, war and medicine, as well as music and medicine. Even longevity is covered.

He relates the story of the conquest of infectious diseases and diabetes. One also meets Napolean's army doctors, Laennec Doppler and countless others. Alfred Nobel and the Nobel prizes have not been forgotten either.

The illustrations are always appropriate and interesting. This book is certainly recommended reading for collectors of all aspects of Medical Philately.

Copies of book at R100.00 may be obtained from: Mr V. Dubb, 78 Dunrobin Street, Sydenham: 2192. Fax No. (011) 485-1494

JRF



In the next issue of

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

1910 Union Commemoratives
by Danie Scheepers

Cape of Good Hope Rectangular Issues
by Dr David Mordant

Waterloo and Sons Ltd
by Colin Fraser

Bergen Belsen
by Jan Bakker

Madagascar TPO's
by Chris Mobsby after M. Walker

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed.

1. "Stamp Perforation – The Somerset House Years 1848 to 1880" by Ray Simpson and Peter Sargent, *'The London Philatelist'* no.1321, December 2004, p403-413.

2. "A Chinese Labourer in the Transvaal 1906" by Dennis F. Collins, *'The Transvaal Philatelist'* no.152, November 2004, p91-93 (First Published in the Journal of Chinese Philately, June 2004)

3. "Letters from the Frontier" (Frontier Wars) by Alan Drysdall, *'The Transvaal Philatelist'* no.152, November 2004, p102-104.

4. "The Stamps of Swaziland 1889 – 1894" (Major Mathews Memorial Lecture 2004) by Andrew Higson, distributed as Memoir no.3 (12 pages) of the Transvaal Study Circle with *'The Transvaal Philatelist'* no.152, November 2004.

5. "Commission and Instructions to Sir Charles Warren" by Neville Midwood, *'The Runner Post'* no.61, December 2004, p1479-1483.

6. "Checklist of Botswana Postmarks" by Bruce Warrender, John Inglefield-Watson, Peter Thy and David Wall, *'The Runner Post'* no.61, December 2004, p1484-1498.

7. "Interview with Franco Frescura" by Ashley Cotter-Cairns, *'Forerunners'* no.50, July-October 2004, p4-6.

8. "Philatelic Display Exhibiting and Collecting" by Tim Bartshe, *'Forerunners'* no.50, July-October 2004, p7-11.

9. "Full Steam Ahead" (Railway development in Africa) by Ashley Cotter-Cairns, 'Forerunners' no.50, July-October 2004, p12-14.

10. "A Century's Record: Historical Sketch of the Telegraph Progress of the Cape of Good Hope to 1907" by Sir Somerset Richard French (Postmaster General), *'Forerunners'* no.50, July-October 2004, p15-17.

11. "Journey to the Past: Zeederberg's Zebra Mail Coach Experiment of 1893" by Werner Seeba, *'Forerunners'* no.50, July-October 2004, p19-21.

12. "Bechuanaland Telegraphs" by H. Hamilton Flowers (originally published in St Martin's-Le-Grand Vol VI 1895), *'Forerunners'* no.50, July-October 2004, p23-27

13. "Surcharged Stamps of Lesotho, 1986-1991: Part 1, SG715 to 718" by Morgan Farrell, *'Forerunners'* no.50, July-October 2004, p27-36.

14. "Headplate Varieties of the KGVs" by Morgan Farrell. *'The Springbok'*, vol 52/4, October/December 2004, p 105-107

15. "1_d Official, Horizontal Overprint" by Bob Hissey. 'The Springbok', vol 52/4, October/December 2004, p112-114.

16. "The Booysen's Essays" by Eddie Bridges. 'The Springbok', vol 52/4, October/December 2004, p116-118.

17. "De Boerenoorlog, een strijd van David tegen Goliath" by Jeffrey Groeneveld. 'Filatélie', No 901, December 2001, p908-911

•'The Runner Post'
is the Journal of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society based in the UK. S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email alan@rhodesia.co.za

•'The London Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Royal Philatlic Society London; the SA representatives are Dr J R Frank RDPSA FRPSL email: frankfam@icon.co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL email: wannerton@iafica.com

•'The Transvaal Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Transvaal Study Circle based in the U.K.; S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email cachetap@lantic.net

•'The Runner Post'
is the Journal of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society based in the U.K.; S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email alan@rhodesia.co.za

• 'Forerunners'
is the Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa based in the USA; S.A. representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email ulib@mweb.co.za

•'The Springbok'
is the Journal of the South African Collector's Society based in the U.K.; Secretary, C Oliver, email olivers.of_ham@virgin.net

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Maritzburg Philatelic Society turns 80

For a long time there was doubt about the date of the inception of the Maritzburg Philatelic Society. However, recent research by Past President Francis Eustace has unearthed an article dated 11 February 1924 stating that the Maritzburg Philatelic Society held their meetings on the fourth Monday of the month, and that the first President was a gentleman by the name of Mortimer. Now, 80 years later , and after many changes of venue, we still meet on a Monday, but now the last Monday of the month, at the St Matthews Parish Hall in Hayfields.

The past 50 years have seen many Presidents including Professor AG Rooks, CES Arbuckle, R Morton, CT Burns, Jack Dominy, Lawrence Slatter, Eric Holmberg, Michael Dyer, Anne Southwood, Francis Eustace, and the present incumbent, well-known Town Crier, Peter Southwood. Other 'characters' among the membership have included the late Cecil Wright, Pat Crosby and Ron Benton.

The Society embraces a large variety of collectors, both male and female, and from divergent professions, who collect all manner of stamps: countries, Postal History, Revenues and every theme imaginable. Sport, Olympics, flowers, dogs, animals, fungi, music and even Cinderellas, those bits that look like stamps but have no value except as decorations, do not escape our attention.

The late Cecil Wright had the distinction of exhibiting at national level in 1928 and again in 1988 – 60 years later, having begun his collecting in 1914. After retiring back to his home town, he vigorously re-entered the local stamp scene and took charge very successfully of the Society's Sales Exchange Packet Circuit, and helped Ron Benton at Wicks Stamp Agency. He was also involved in major research projects on Natal and Union stamps, doing much of the background work for Kantey & Hart's definitive book on Natal stamps.

A major highlight in the Society's life was the staging of the National Junior Stamp Show at Pietermaritzburg in 1987 in preparation for the big event of the National Stamp Exhibition – PMB 150, and the 50th Congress of the Federation to coincide with Pietermaritzburg's 150th anniversary celebrations the following year. At that time the Society published a special envelope commemorating the raising of the PMB 150 flag, the start of the Dusi Marathon and the naming of the Ernie Pierce weir. Eric also established a 'first' for Pietermaritzburg with a commemorative 'Glider Post' mail from Greytown to Oribi. At the Congress that year, Eric Holmberg was presented with the Postal Stone award, and Cecil Wright was invited to sign The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa. A further honour bestowed on Eric was the Presidency of the Philatelic Federation. Eric's widow, Maisie Holmberg, should also be remembered for her sterling work as Secretary at this time.

More recently, at the Dursapex Congress this year, Anne and Peter Southwood were presented with a Federation Plaque for their efforts in promoting philately in Pietermaritzburg and Natal since 1984 and 1986 respectively, and Anne for the promotion of stamp collecting amongst Juniors.

The 80th birthday was celebrated in fine style on Saturday 11 December commencing with the official inauguration of the Philatelic Counter at the new Msundusi Post Office in the Liberty Midlands Mall. This was followed by a garden party hosted by the President, Peter Southwood, and attended by veteran society member Mervin Pipes. The occasion was marked by the award to the Society of an 80 year commemorative certificate by the acting head of Philatelic Services, Sandile Keswa.

The South African Philatelist invites the various Philatelic Societies around South Africa to submit a brief and concise history, aswell as their current status, for possible publication.



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Small advertisements are accepted from Federation affiliated members at no charge. Ads can be inserted for two consecutive issues. Maximum 30 words. Material must be typed or printed for clarity, and the home society of the advertiser indicated. (Not necessarily for publication). Dealers and non-affiliated advertisers will be charged for classified advertisements at the rate of R50 per column cm per issue. Copy should be sent timeously, see page 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

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Regarding SAP February 2005 Vol 81:1

•Cape of Good Hope Rectangular Issues article by Dr David Mordant has unfortunately been postponed due to technicalities.

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APRIL 2005



The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE



SPECIAL FEATURE

Waterlow and Sons Ltd.
Postage Stamp Printers

THIS MONTH



Cape Rectangulars



1910 Commemorative



New Issues

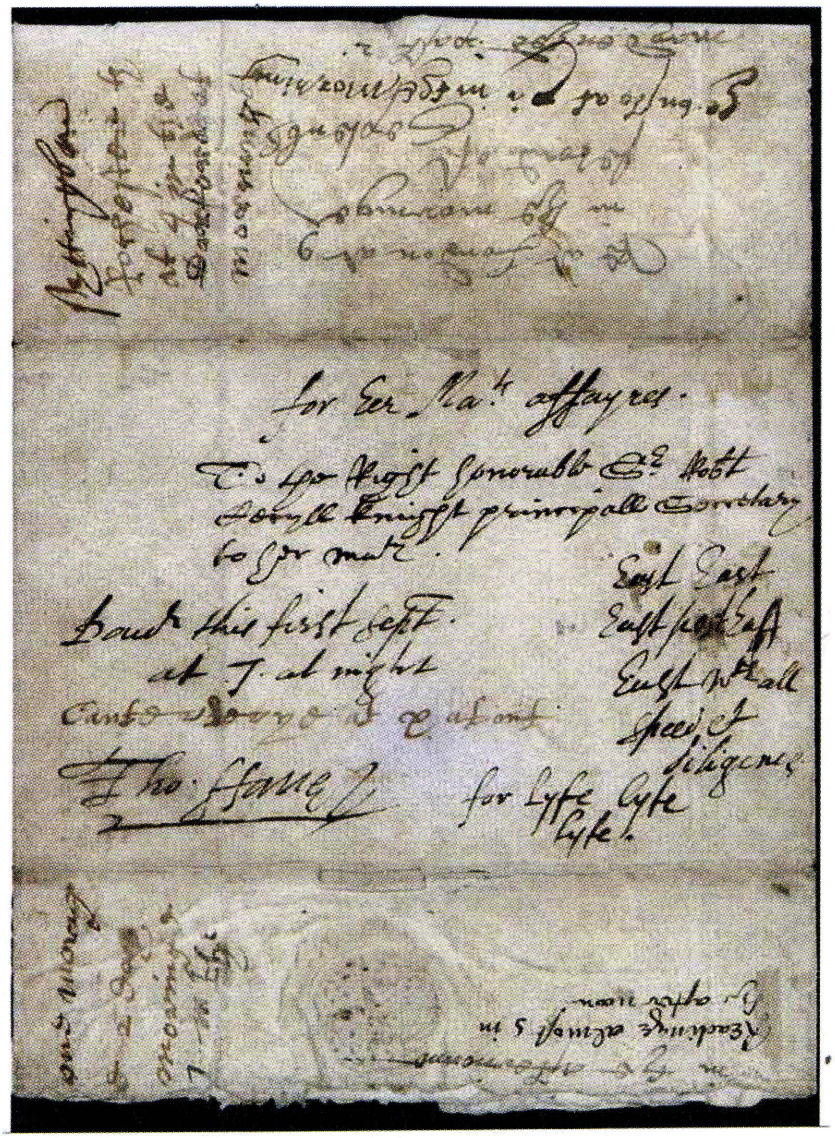
INSIDE: • Pioneers of SA Philatelic magazines • Bergen-Belsen • The TPOs of Madagascar

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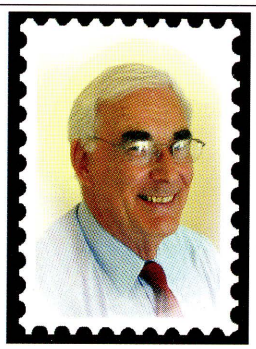
April 2005 Vol 81 No 2 Whole No 869

Large Silver Hafnia 1994, Silver Bronze Pacific 1997, Vermeil APS Stampshow1999, Large Silver Egoli 2001, Federation Plaque 2004

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From the Editor



When thinking of the stamps of the Cape, one's mind inevitably goes to the Cape triangulars. Perhaps less well-known are the Cape rectangular issues which followed them. A major article this month is the first of a series which examines and follows the development of these fascinating issues which have been overshadowed by their more popular relative.

The general description in the December issue of the philately of Madagascar reminded railway enthusiast Michael Walker of an article he wrote some 20 years ago on the railways and TPOs of that island. This has been condensed in this issue to highlight the role of the TPOs which provided the mail services, and their particular cancellations. In a similar vein, a late night TV programme and the chance appearance of a cover from Bergen-Belsen in a dealer's scratch box took Jan Bakker back to his early flying days. These are just more examples of the serendipitous nature of collecting. It's always a pleasure to recognise an item a dealer has overlooked.

On a local note, we're pleased to welcome back Johan van Wyk to his post as Senior Manager, Philatelic Services, and to congratulate Sandile Keswa for holding the fort so ably in his absence.

Onlangs het lesers opmerkings gemaak oor die gemaklike styl waarin Ds Cassie Carstens sy rubriek "Thematically Yours" hanteer. Terwyl dit moontlik nie altyd so polities korrek is as wat sommiges wil hê nie, verleen Cassie se lewendige, persoonlike en soms uitlokkende aanmerkings met betrekking tot nuwe uitreikings, nuwe geur, of soms ën tikkie humor, aan ën soms donker wêreld. Moontlik neem ons by tye dalk ons stokperdjie té ernstig op?

Dr. Alan Rose

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Publishing deadline dates for 2005

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August issue	Vol. 81:4.	871 :	10 July
October issue	Vol. 81:5.	872 :	10 September

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FUTURE EVENTS

APRIL 2005

PACIFIC EXPLORER 2005
21 – 24 April
Sydney, Australia
Contact: SA Commissioner
Michael Wigmore
023 614 1424

SAPDA Rosebank Show
29 April – 1 May
Rosebank

MAY 2005

Prethema
7 May
Pretoria
Contact: Rev. C. Carstens
(012) 653 2279

Brno
10 - 15 May
Czech Republic

July 2005

Junass
15 – 17 July
Bloemfontein
Contact: Garry Osthoff
(051) 522 3542

Bloem One Framer
15 – 17 July
Bloemfontein
Contact: Gerda van Zyll
(051) 477 9609
Gauteng Commissioner:
Jan Bakker
(011) 849 7766

AUGUST 2005

Taipei 2005
19 – 24 August
Taipei, Taiwan

OCTOBER 2005

Cape Stamp Show 2005
19 – 22 October
National Exhibition, Cape Town
Goodwood Civic Centre

MAY 2006

WASHINGTON 2006
27 May – 3 June
Washington, USA
Contact: SA Commissioner
Peter v.d. Molen
011 849 4822

ESPANA 2006
(TBA)
Valladolid, Spain

OCTOBER 2006

SA National Exhibition
October (TBA)
Gauteng

NOVEMBER 2006

BELGICA 2006
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Brussels, Belgium

DECEMBER 2006

INDEPEX'06
December (TBA)
New Delhi, India

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus

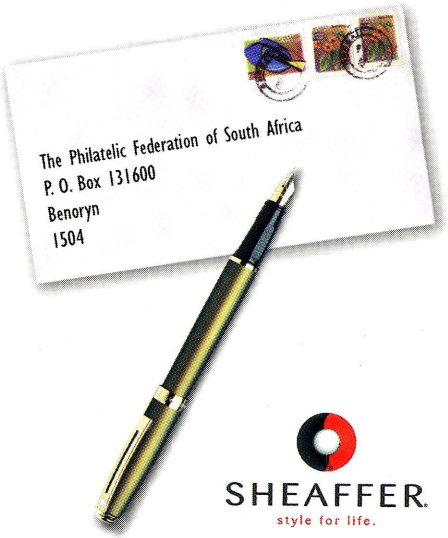


The winning letter, chosen by the editor, will receive an exclusive Sheaffer pen from STATMARK

The Cost of SA Stamps

I agree wholeheartedly with Mr R.C. Hampton who wrote in the February issue of The S.A. Philatelist about the cost of new South African stamp issues. These mini sheets that are issued from time to time e.g. the Year of the Rooster celebrating the Chinese New Year, are very expensive. I am sure that the general public do not buy these stamps. It is only collectors who do not wish to leave a gap in their collection of first day covers, who are really interested in buying. I don't mind purchasing stamps relating to South African cultural or historical events, but why must we foot the bill of the Post Office who print these stamps?

S.T Fourie
1 La Rochelle Park, La Rochelle, Bellville 7530



Re The Hong Kong Query

In reply to Luke van Riet's query on the octagonal 'Hong Kong Postage paid 1945' struck in red ink, he is quite right to be sceptical as it is a complete fake!

As he points out, the handstamp is different from the example illustrated in Webb FW (the *Philatelic and Postal History of Hong Kong* and *The Treaty Ports of China and Japan*, p97 Royal Philatelic Society, London 1961), the four examples in Proud EB (*The Postal History of Hong Kong* p401, Heathfield, Sussex 2004) and the two actual handstamps on the front cover of *Hong Kong Study Circle Journal* 285 April 1993, by being boldly struck, with a solid outer rim. The genuine example has a thinner rim, with notches and actual minor breaks. Although Proud shows four types, he only has usage dates for two. The two wooden handstamps are interesting in that one has been heavily used, the other hardly used at all, questioning the need for four cancels. There was certainly no need for another handstamp to be specifically struck only in red.

The other major problem with this cover is the address and the type of envelope. The "Hong Kong Canton & Macau Steamboat Co. Limited" was one of the handstamped addresses used by Henry da Luz to fabricate covers during the Japanese Occupation, mostly self addressed to 64 Macdonnell Road. Very often found on poor quality greyish blue airmail envelopes, with the imprint of 'Union Envelopes Manufacture Co'.

Da Luz is far better known for producing multi-colour frankings of Japanese definitives purporting to be 'cancelled' at the GPO and the sub-offices. Almost all of these 25 000 covers are fake; the most obvious ones are when the datestamp is earlier than the date of issue in Japan! The 1 sen Women Worker is known 251 days too early, the 4 sen Hyuga has been found 301 days before issue, whilst the 7 sen Tojo, issued in early July 1944, adorns covers of 1943 and even 1942!

As to the significance of the red handstamp, I have no idea. Perhaps he was working on the principle of that if an item is fake, make it as blatant as possible so that people will think that it must be correct.

My thanks go to Robert Spalding, long time editor of *Japanese Philately*, for all the hours spent on researching and exposing da Luz and all his creations. For those of you still in doubt about Da Luz, read his articles in *Japanese Philately*, vol 50, No 5 of October 1995 and Vol 53, No 1 od February 1998.

The two handstamps, from the estate of a high ranking Post Office Official, now reside in safe hands of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Mike Goldsmith
Chairman, Hong Kong Study Circle

Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email saphilatelist@iafrica.com Enquiries about membership can be referred to Robert Harm at robharm@mweb.co.za

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Waarde van EDKs

Meer as 70 mense met versamelings van seëls en eerstedagkoeverte het binne dae gebel nadat mev Marge Viljoen van Pretoria, sekretaris van die Postmark & Postal History Society of SA, aan 'n gewilde radioprogram deelgeneem het.

"Dit is 'n hartseer-storie," sê Marge. "Die mense het die indruk dat hierdie items waardevol is, en hulle vertrou geen handelaar nie."
Waaroor dit gaan, is die EDKs, seëls, hoekblokkies, datumstempelkaarte, maksikaarte en ander items wat Filateliedienste in die 1970s en 1980s bemark het.

Die kwessie is in die eerste week van Februarie aangeroer deur Niekie van den Berg, aanbieder van die inbel-en-kletsprogram "Sê wie?" wat weekmiddae tussen 14:00 en 15:00 op RSG (SAUK Afrikaans) aangebied word.

Marge het gebel en toe oor die radio mense aangemoedig om by seëlklubs in te skakel. Sy het aangebied om besonderhede van seëlbyeenkomste oral in die land te gee aan mense wat navraag doen. Niekie van den Berg het gesê luisteraars kan haar gerus kontak, en haar nommer herhaal. "Die telefoon het dadelik begin lui," sê Marge.

Die meeste mense wat gebel het, was oumas of mense wat die grootouers se filatelie-materiaal in die hande gekry het. "Almal het destyds die indruk gekry dat hierdie EDKs en seëls waardevol is. Nou sê handelaars sommer pront dis gemors. Mense is gekrenk, en hulle vertrou geen handelaar nie," sê sy.

Die feit is dat massas van hierdie items geproduseer is - selfs meer as 130 000 van 'n eerstedagkoevert, met die datumstempel daarop afgedruk deur 'n drukpers - en tweedens dat die kwynende aantal versamelaars wat wel nog vandag in Suid-Afrika belang stel, niks hiervan wil koop nie omdat hulle reeds hierdie materiaal het.
"Daar is dus 'n geweldige ooraanbod in die mark. Dit is eenvoudig die resultaat van die oor-bemarking deur die destydse hoof van Filateliediense, Herman Steyn, wat juis in radiopraatjies vir mense vertel het dat die goed waardevol is.

"Ek voel baie jammer vir die mense wat nou moet uitvind die materiaal is net 'n fraksie werd van wat dit destyds gekos het. Ongelukkig is die handelaarskatalogus besig om die onreg voort te sit, want daardie EDKs word in die katalogus teen allerhande hoë pryse gelys," sê Marge. -- JG

NEWS & EVENTS
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(In Johannesburg, two members of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society, Patrick Flanagan and Chris Mobsby, were invited recently to answer questions on a similar programme aired by Radio 702. They were faced with the identical question from one of their listeners - what is the value of grandpa's accumulation of First Day Covers? Their tactful reply was that the real worth of such collections lay not in any monetary value that they may have but in their ability to stimulate the interest of our grandchildren. Apart from offering a unique insight into the history and culture of our country, they might just inspire the youngsters to become stamp collectors themselves. Incidentally, the 702 programme did appear to reach in addition a comparatively serious philatelic audience. There were questions and comments on, amongst other topics, the collectability of Rhodesian petrol coupons, the different printers involved in the production of the Cape Triangulars, the wartime Ukraine overprints on the Hitler Head stamps of Germany and on the scarcity and value of pre-stamp mail from Pitcairn Island. Perhaps there is a call for a regular programme on philately on our airwaves? - Ed)

A Letter from Germany

I am amazed about the contemptuous comment on the South African Christmas Stamps. Greek icons may be "Un-African", but considered from this angle, so are pictures by Gainsborough, Stubbs, Rembrandt, Rubens, and so on (see South African stamp issues of 1980 and 1987, for instance). Does South Africa not have Greek immigrants? Were the former Christmas stamps better and more Africa-like? All in all, I find "Thematically yours" pretty superficial and with arbitrary contents, and not only in this special issue of *The South African Philatelist*. The excellent printing quality is amazing in contrast to the contents.

During the last years we had some odd stamp issues which mainly were destined to catch the attention of the collecting community; Why not informing readers about the odd, the unusual, the very interesting and the very well-done stamp issues? For example

- Switzerland released one stamp at 5 Fr on wooden veneer (!) in September 2004, and in June 2000 they already had another 5 Fr made on mechanical embroidery.
- Austria issued a souvenir sheet 'Swarovski Crystal Worlds' with two stamps at 3.75€ each in September 2004, that had several 'appliqué- crystals'.
- Great Britain will release an 'inter-active' set on 'Magic" on 15th march 2005.
- France has got heart-shaped stamps annually, that are designed by famous courturiers. On 31st January 2005 the designer Cacheral had his or her turn.

I am sure that it may be of even more value to readers if annual stamp schedules of South Africa and neighbouring countries could be published in advance! And on this occasion, extra and competent hints at thematically interesting issues would be welcome.

In general, *The South African Philatelist* could do much to improve interest in its contents.

- For instance, new stamp issue are depicted in colour: So far, so good and according to that which many philatelic newspapers do. But there is nothing to read which goes beyond that which can be taken from official publications.
- Information about remarkable date-stamps has not been seen since some time. Certainly it would be interesting to know about new special, provisional and odd cancellers.
- Another, serious neglect are the so-called 'virtual stamps' that were released on a trial basis in four South African post offices, and now partly or completely are sold out. Virtual stamps were announced by South Africa's postal services and whom ever, but not by *The South African Philatelist*. No good service to collectors.
- Another thing is the 'spiders' souvenir sheet, which apparently was withdrawn - for whatever reason. It would have been an essential job of publications like *The South African Philatelist* immediately to throw some light into the matter.

That which I find good are articles like that about Madagascar on page 163 to 165 with the informing pictures, and certainly, the intent to publish about the RSA definitives!

Rudolf Lasar,
Köln, Germany

(This letter has been shortened.)
Clearly Herr Lasar is unhappy with The SA Philatelist. Perhaps he is looking for a more technical journal which covers whole world philately. The SA Philatelist is aimed primarily at Southern Africa rather than whole world collecting; also we have to accommodate a wide spectrum of collectors from novices to experts, from classical to thematics and all places in between. We accept certain of his comments as relevant and will attempt to improve in the future. Relating to new issue schedules and the spider stamps, we are reliant on the SA Post Office which, unfortunately, is often sparing with information.



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Bergen-Belsen

By Jan Bakker, AFV



The fascination of philately is that it crops up and asserts itself in the most unlikely places and times. Everyone of my generation has heard of Bergen-Belsen, or more probably just Belsen, knowing it as an internment camp operated by the Germans at the end of WW II. Our newspapers were full of the horrific photographs of inmates taken by the liberating forces in April 1945. However, never did I think that philately would remind me of the time that I spent on the Lüneburger Heide near to Belsen in the 1960s. With the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen fast approaching, it seems an appropriate time to narrate this story with a philatelic twist.



Bergen-Belsen is close to Hannover and the Lüneburger Heide where Germany conducted massive military manoeuvres as it built up its forces in preparation for WW II. The camp was originally a labour camp for the building of the military accommodation and facilities. However, from 1939 to 1941 it was used as a prisoner of war camp as Germany successively invaded Poland, Holland, Belgium, France and finally Russia. Poor conditions resulted in typhus becoming rampant and some 20 000 Russian POWs died. By 1943 the camp was used for the internment of Jews, many of whom were 'traded' for German prisoners abroad. Still strictly an internment camp as opposed to an extermination camp, Bergen-Belsen became more and more overcrowded as Himmler pursued his 'final solution' programme. Food quality and hygiene declined as overcrowding increased and typhus again claimed many thousands of victims including Anne Frank and her family. Photographs of the camp at its liberation in April 1945 by Allied troops shocked the world, revealing nearly 60 000 prisoners, emaciated but still alive. Tragically, many of these died later from disease. As a final cleansing, inmates were moved to the guard's accommodation and the Bergen-Belsen camp itself razed to the ground by fire.



To the world, this was closure, and the horrors of Bergen-Belsen were forgotten. However, whilst the prison camp was razed, the other barracks remained and were occupied by the surviving inmates. The camp was in the British Zone of occupied Germany and quickly became a holding camp for displaced persons from all over Europe. Most of these were Jewish, of central European extraction but with no place to call home. Unfortunately the Iron Curtain had dropped, preventing their return home, America was limiting its intake and Britain was reluctant to accept the numbers involved for Palestine.

This was the situation that I became aware of on 29 November 2003. Watching a Dutch TV programme in the early hours of the morning I followed an interview concerning a newly released book. A book about Bergen-Belsen. Following the war, a South African girl, Cecilia 'Zippy' Orlin had volunteered in 1946 to work in the camp with the displaced persons. During her time there, 27 months, until late 1948, she took well over 1000 photographs of the camp and the people. The book reviewed was her story, illustrated by her own photographs, and a documentary of a portion of history forgotten by most: the story of Bergen-Belsen after the war.

The photographs came to light on 19 September 1986 when Zippy's brother, Chaim Orlin, handed in a parcel of photographs, 15kg in weight, to the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation with the comment that they would be better lodged there. The authorities soon realised that they had been left a treasure chest. The 1117 photographs, mostly without annotation, covered a period of post-war history of which very little was known. A four day search in Amsterdam finally located Chaim Orlin in his hotel, but tragically he had died in his sleep during the previous night! Nevertheless, the story was researched, the collection examined and many of the people caught on camera identified and, where living, their stories recorded. This was where the book was born.

So, where does philately fit in? The following day was the East Rand Stamp Fair, which is how I remember the date. Paging through a dealer's accumulation of covers I was struck between the eyes.

There was a cover from C. Orlin addressed to Cape Town, and carrying a pencilled note, 'Belsen Camp, British Zone'. A day earlier the cover would have meant nothing, but now, nine hours after the TV programme, here was a whole new story. It took me a few months to locate the book, as I hadn't even noted the title from the TV. It makes fascinating reading; 240 pages of the post-war story of Bergen-Belsen, intertwined with Leon Uris' story of the ship Exodus 47 and the ultimate return of the Jews to Palestine. And what of Zippy? The book relates her travels between South Africa, London and Israel before her final illness and death in Johannesburg on 1 September 1980. The photographs were found by her brother among her possessions.

And what is my personal connection with all this? Well, Bergen-Belsen was closed as a camp for displaced persons in July 1950.

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At this time the Cold War had become 'hot' and as the site was in the British Zone the British Army used it as a base for its troops in Germany. It was ideal as accommodation for troops as it was close to the training grounds on Lüneburger Heide, and not so far from the East German border. A few years later, French machinations forbade the use by Holland of military training grounds in France. Germany, its NATO partner, offered the use of Hohne, a camp near the Lüneburger Heide which is where I went with the Dutch Army Air Reconnaissance service directing artillery fire from the air during training exercises.

We were based at an ex-British army camp. Only after reading the book did I realise that I had in fact been located in Bergen-Belsen. I had visited the old camp and museum, only a few kilometres away but without knowing where I really was. [redacted]



Above: Zippy, taken for her collection



Robbery at Stampwise

The robbery in June last year at the Post Office Stampwise Archives in Pretoria was reported in the philatelic press at the time. Until now there has been confusion as to the exact description of the missing material, but the recent release by Johan van Wyk, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services, of a definitive list has clarified the situation. Missing material is identified as

1) Any commemoratives between 1979 Health Year through to 1982 Prehistoric Animals which are in uncut panes of 4 or 8 sheetlets, ie. with horizontal and vertical gutters between the sheets (between SACC 467/513 and 536/539).
2) Any miniature sheets between 1979 Roses and 1982 Prehistoric Animals in uncut panes of 12 or 18 miniature sheets (between SACC m/s 6/12).
3) 1980 Aerogrammes , three values 5c, 10c and 15c in uncut format (6 up).
4) 1988 Coils (incorrectly transcribed in theft alert as 1981 coils), and 1933 coils, both in uncut format, and 1995/96 Readers Digest uncut strips imperf horizontally logo in five different colours as issued.
5) 1993/96 Booklets in uncut format.
6) 1993 6th Definitive Series in uncut double pane sheets of 100 stamps, values 1c to R20 (the R1,50, R10 and R20 in uncut sheets of 10 stamps each) plus imperf uncut double pane sheets in each instance.
7) 1995/97 Miniature Sheets, imperf in uncut format from 1995 Singapore through to 1997 World Post Day (15 separate issues).
8) 1998/2000 Miniature Sheets, imperf in uncut format from 1998 Year of the Tiger to 2000 Junass issue (14 separate issues)
9) 1998/99 Commemoratives, imperf sheetlets in uncut format from 1998 N.S.R.I. through to 1999 U.P.U. 125th Anniversary (6 separate issues).
10) 1999/2000 Commemoratives, imperf sheetlets in uncut format from 1999 Sailing the Southern Oceans through to 2000 Medicinal Plants, (11 separate issues).
11) 1998/99 Standardised Mail in uncut booklet format imperf sheetlets from 1998 Buck series through to 1999 Aids Awareness, (9 separate issues).
12) 1996/98 Commemoratives, imperf sheets uncut format from 1996 Soccer through to 1998 Eastgate issue including uncut miniature sheets over the same period (32 separate issues).
13) 2000 7th Definitive Series, 15 values between 5c to R10.00 imperfs in uncut 4 pane sheets of 50 each (200 total per sheet) plus uncut format booklets.

The matter is currently still under investigation by the Post Office's own Security Department, the SA Police Services and has been reported to Interpol. Federation members possessing material they think might be from this list are recommended to contact the PFSA Expert Committee to check on the provenance of such items. Similarly, members being offered such items for purchase should contact Mr Van Wyk (012 845 2901) or Inspecter Cronjé SAPS (0823352329). SAPDA Management has also been advised of this list. Exhibits containing suspect items in exhibitions held under PFSA auspices would, in all probability, not be judged.

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New South African Stamp Issues

2004 Commemorative Issues, continued

By Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle



1 September 2004 - THE ECOLOGY OF TABLE MOUNTAIN

Denominations: 10 x International Airmail Small Letter Rate (R4.00) irregularly spaced in a composite design depicting flora and fauna found on Table Mountain.

Artwork/Design: Annamé Boshoff

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand

Process: Offset lithography

Stamp size: Horizontal format, 48 x 30.5 mm (8) and vertical format, 30.5 x 48 mm (2)

Perforation: simulated die-cut.

Gum: Self-adhesive, backing paper with description of stamps on reverse.

Phosphor: 2 bands at left and bottom margins.

Sheetlet size: 172 x 233 mm.

Cylinder Numbers: none

Sheet size: 800 x 550 mm comprising eight sheetlets arranged in two rows of four.

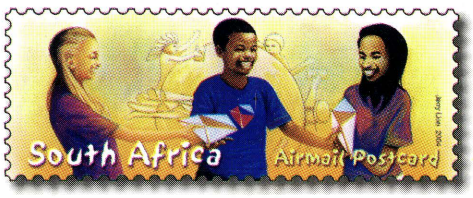
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.

Commemorative covers: 7.77 and 7.78, B5 size, each with 5 stamps. 10 000 printed of each, of which 6 000 were serviced.

Canceller: 7.67, Cape Town. 01.09.2004

Postcards: In addition to the above stamp issue, a set of five postcards was issued. These bear different designs by students of Potchefstroom University, and have an imprinted stamp of similar design to that depicting Table Mountain in the Natural Wonders issue of 6 September 2001 (SACC 1419), inscribed Airmail Postcard Rate (R3.45). These sets were sold at R20.00 and 2000 sets were printed by Communication and Development (Pty) Ltd. of Pretoria.

23 September 2004 - 23rd UPU CONGRESS, ROMANIA



Denomination: Airmail Postcard Rate (R3.45)

Artwork/Design: Jerry Lion, showing a person handing a letter to a postal worker, who in turn delivers it to another person. Behind the figures the UPU logo is depicted

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp size: Horizontal format, 60 x 23 mm.

Perforation: 14, comb.

Gum: PVA, tasteless tropical.

Phosphor: 4mm band at left and bottom margins.

Sheetlet size: 144 x 138 mm containing 10 stamps arranged in five rows of two.

Cylinder numbers: 7739, 7740, 7741 and 7742.

Sheet size: 706 x 506 mm comprising 12 sheetlets arranged in three rows of four.

Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.

Commemorative cover: 7.82, 190 x 102 mm of which 10 000 were printed.

Canceller: 7.68, Pretoria, 23.09.2004

1 October 2004 - WISHING YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS



Denominations: Standard Postage (R1.70); International Airmail Letter (R4.00)

Printer: Enschedé Security Printers, Haarlem, The Netherlands.

Process: Offset lithography.

Stamp size: Both in vertical format, 30.5 x 48 mm

Artwork/Design: Thea Swanepoel, featuring Greek sacred icons.

Perforation: 13.6 x 13.3, comb.

Gum: PVA.

Phosphor: 4 mm band at left and bottom margins.

Sheetlet size: 182 x 126 mm containing ten stamps arranged in two rows of five.

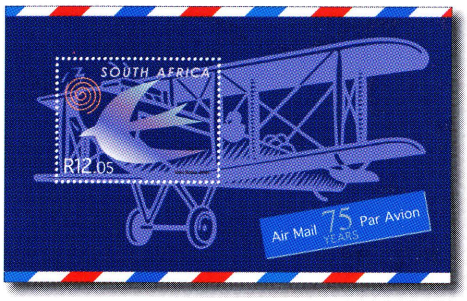
Cylinder numbers: Standard Postage, 7819, 7820, 7821, 7822A (black) and 7822B (gold); International Airmail Letter, 7823, 7824, 7825, 7826A(black) and 7826B (gold).

Sheet size: 455 x 583 mm, comprising four rows of two panes with both values on the same sheet, four Airmail Rate panes above four Standard Rate panes.

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Quantity: 50 000 sheetlets of each value.
Commemorative cover: 7.79, size 190 x 102 mm (small letter) of which 10 000 were printed.
Canceller: 7.68, Bethlehem, 01.10.2004

9 October 2004 - WORLD STAMP DAY, also celebrating 75 YEARS OF AIRMAIL IN SOUTH AFRICA



Denomination: R12.05 (Standard Postage Rate R1.70 plus Registration Fee R10.35) in a miniature sheet.
Artwork/Design: Hein Botha, features the DH 60 Gypsy Moth biplane similar to that on South Africa's first airmail stamps issued in 1925, with a metallic dove on the stamp.
Printer: Enschedé Security Printers, Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset lithography
Stamp size: Horizontal format, 38 x 29 mm
Perforation: 13.5
Gum: PVA
Phosphor: 2mm band at top and right margins of stamp
Size of miniature sheet: 105 x 63 mm
Cylinders numbers: none
Sheet size: 584 x 455 mm, comprising 20 units arranged in five rows of four.
Quantity: 25 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative cover: 7.80, size 190 x 102 mm (small letter) of which 10 000 were printed
Canceller: 7.69, Durban, 09.10.2004

11 October 2004 - FIRST SAPOA JOINT STAMP ISSUE (SAPOA is South African Postal Operators' Association).

Denomination: 8 x R12.05 (Standard Postage Rate, R1.70 plus Registration Fee, R10.35), South African sheetlet only.
Artwork/Design: Anja Denker of Nampost, depicting the national birds of the eight participating territories: - South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Each of these territories issued a sheetlet containing the same eight designs which differ only in the country name and the denomination. Some of the countries' sheetlets have the eight stamps of the same face value e.g. South Africa, R12.05; Namibia, N$ 3.40. Others have eight different values, e.g. Zimbabwe. The writer has not seen the sheetlets of the remaining five territories, so cannot report on these.
Printer: Enschedé Security Printers, Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: Hexagonal, 40 mm maximum, 34.5 mm minimum.
Perforation: 13.8
Gum: PVA
Phosphor: non-phosphorescent paper
Size of sheetlet: 170 x 95 mm.
Cylinder numbers: none
Sheet size: 450 x 620 mm, comprising 12 sheetlets arranged in four rows of three, the top six being South Africa, the bottom six being Namibia.
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets for South Africa
Commemorative cover: 7.81 (190 x 102 mm) with only the stamp depicting the national bird of South Africa affixed.
Quantity: 10 000
Canceller: 7.71, Pretoria, 2004.10.11
Note: the printing of this issue was organised by Nampost.

23 November 2004 - ANTI-CRIME (THE DIGNIFIED BLUE), also celebrating the 10th anniversary of the S.A.P.S.

Denominations: 10 x Standard Postage (R1.70), different designs in sheetlet arranged in two rows of five.
Artwork/Design: Depicting various areas of service delivery by S.A.P.S. in highlight block next page:



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	Stamp	Depicting	Artist
Row	1/1	Shield of SAPS	SAPS Graphic Unit
	1/2	Fight against drugs	Réaldi Marx
	1/3	SAPS Air Wing	Jacqueline van Marle
	1/4	Fingerprints & Forensic Science	Réaldi Marx
	1/5	Special Task Force	Réaldi Marx
Row	2/1	Protecting women & children	Rinie Voges
	2/2	Sector policing	Joannie Ras
	2/3	Reserve Police Service	Réaldi Marx
	2/4	SAPS Mounted Unit	SAPS Graphic Unit
	2/5	SAPS Dog Unit	Réaldi Marx

Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand
Process: Offset lithography
Stamp size: Vertical formar, 26 x 44 mm
Perforation: Simulated die-cut and roulettes.
Gum: Self Adhesive
Phosphor: 4 mm band at left and bottom margins.
Sheetlet Size: 200 x 134 mm
Cylinder numbers: 7827, 7828, 7829 and 7830
Sheet Size: 520 x 800 mm comprising ten sheetlets arranged in five rows of two.
Quantity: 35 000 sheets.
Commemorative covers: 7.83 and 7.84 (190 x 102 mm); 10 000 of each.
Canceller: 7.73, Pretoria, 23.11.2004.

1 December 2004 - SALT (South African Large Telescope).

Denomination: 5 x R4.00 (International Airmail Rate, small letters).
Artwork/Design: Annamarie Wessels, featuring various aspects of SALT.
Printer: Enschedé Security Printers, Haarlem, The Netherlands.
Process: Offset lithography.
Stamp size: Vertical format, 30.5 x 48 mm.
Perforation: 13.6 x 13.2, comb
Gum: PVA
Phosphor: 4mm band at left and bottom margins of stamps.
Sheetlet size: 182 x 126 mm containing two se-tennent strips of five stamps.
Cylinder numbers: 7831, 7832, 7833 and 7834.
Sheet size: 457 x 586 mm comprising eight sheetlets in four rows of two.
Quantity: 35 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative cover: 7.85, B5 size; quantity 10 000.
Canceller: 7.74, Sutherland, 11.11.2004
Note: The stamps were supposed to be launched at Sutherland on 11.11.2004 as is evident from the canceller, although the date on the sheetlet reads 2004.12.1.

Acknowledgment: The above information has been collated from newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria and SETEMPE, vol 9, nos 2 & 3.

2005 UP-DATE ON THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

By D.G. Morton, Honorary Secretary

In response to the letter that was published in your February edition of The SA Philatelist, I felt it was opportune to write and bring our readers up-to-date with the latest developments regarding A.S.S.A.

During the early part of 2004 a group of members got together to ensure that A.S.S.A. remained fully functional and that the much sought after Aeroletter which was last published in may 2002 was resuscitated. I am pleased to be able to report that A.S.SS.A. is alive and well and is supported by an active membership not only in Southern Africa but also in the United Kingdom, the USA and Europe. New members are being encouraged to join and I am pleased to be able to confirm that we have been successful in growing our membership satisfactorily over the past six months. Anyone who may be interested in Airmails of Southern Africa in particular and is keen to further their knowledge in this fascinating field of study and research is invited to contact the Society where they will be able, for a nominal subscription, to participate and develop their hobby with the help and assisstance of a number of very experienced and renowned Aerophilatelists.

Due to the wide geographic spread of our membership it is unfortunately not possible to hold regular meetings. Notwithstanding this, however, effective communication is being achieved through the medium of electronic mail and personal contact. Regional meetings in South Africa are encouraged and it hoped that members will continue to get together on an ad hoc basis whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Edition '91' of our Aeroletter will have been issued to all members by the time this letter is published. It has proved to be a bumper edition full of interesting articles and information which has met the high standards achieved in past years. The Aeroletter specifically focuses on issues related to Southern Africa but is not restricted to this field of study only and will extend to other aspects of aerophilately should they be deemed appropriate. At this stage it is the intention of A.S.S.A. to issue two editions of the Aeroletter per year.

A.S.S.A. is an affiliated member of both the International Association of Aerophilatelic Societies (FISA), and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. Part of the aims of A.S.S.A. is to promote interest in Aerophilatelic postal history of South and South West Africa (Namibia) and embark upon any activity that may promote this aim and in so doing contribute to the science, practice and enjoyment of the hobby.

It is hoped that this letter will clarify the current status of A.S.S.A. and we sincerely trust the A.S.S.A will continue to prosper and grow for many to years to come.

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Warwick & Warwick

The Rossi Collection of G. B. Overprints

Warwick and Warwick are pleased to announce the sale by auction of the outstanding collection of G. B. overprints formed by Gian Maria Rossi.

The collection has been carefully assembled over many decades and contains a wealth of extremely rare and, in some cases, unique items. It comprehensively reflects all aspects of the philately of these fascinating issues and includes proofs and trial overprints, specimens, varieties, multiples, cancellations and postal history.

There are particularly spectacular sections of British East Africa, Bechuanaland, Morocco Agencies, Nauru, Mafeking and Zululand, whilst the collections of Niger Coast and Oil Rivers must be amongst the best ever assembled.

The sale will take place on Wednesday 8th June, at the Court House, Warwick.

The fully illustrated catalogue will be available approximately 4 weeks before the sale and can be viewed on our website. A printed version is available at a cost of £10, to include postage



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The Rectangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope Part I

By Dr. D.G. Mordant, SA Stamp Study Circle



THE CAPE TRIANGULAR BECOMES A RECTANGULAR

The first stamps were issued at the Cape of Good Hope on the 1st September 1853 and were, of course, the well-known triangulars. They were printed in sheets of 240 and it soon became obvious in the Post Offices that the separation of the triangulars from each other was tedious as either a knife or a pair of scissors had to be used.

During February 1860 the Postmaster-General at the Cape wrote to the Colonial Secretary requesting that in future all postage stamps at the Cape be perforated. This request was transmitted to the Crown Agents in London who subsequently contacted the contractors. Messrs Perkins Bacon and Company replied that perforation of the existing triangular stamps by any machinery then in use would be a most difficult and costly process.

At this point the Crown Agents decided to transfer their stamp contracting business to Messrs De La Rue and Co. on behalf of the various colonies that they represented. After discussions with Messrs De La Rue and Co. on the subject of perforation of the Cape stamps, the Crown Agents reported that in their opinion the most economical way of surmounting this obstacle would be by changing the shape of the Cape stamps to approximate those of Great Britain, (which were rectangulars), while still retaining the central design of Hope.

THE ANATOMY OF THE CAPE RECTANGULARS

During 1862 the Postmaster-General suggested to the Governor of the Cape that should the decision be taken to alter the shape of the Cape stamps from triangular to rectangular, the figure of Hope should be retained as the central position of the design and also that she should be placed in an upright posture. The Governor referred the matter to the Surveyor-General, Mr Charles Bell, who was initially responsible for the design of the triangulars 10 years previously. Mr Bell replied by forwarding the Governor a proposed new design adapted to the requirements of a rectangular shape. In Bell's produced design, Hope was as nearly upright as space would permit, so fulfilling the wishes of the Postmaster-General. His Excellency the Governor, accepted Bell's design without modification and transmitted it immediately to the Crown Agents in London (this being in August 1862), with instructions that it should be adopted as suggested and only modified where engraving requirements necessitated alterations, but that the basic design of Hope, with an anchor, a bunch of grapes and a lamb should be retained.



The original Charles Bell design of 1d red, 4d blue, 6d lilac and 1d green with outer frame line, and issued from 1864.



The second issue of the Cape rectangulars with the modification to the original rectangular die and the outer frame-line removed.

The Crown Agents submitted the design to Messrs De La Rue and Co. towards the end of 1862. During engraving, little modification was found necessary except that the lamb was changed to a Merino ram. This basic design of Charles Bell in 1862 was retained, except with slight modifications until a new penny stamp was issued in 1893; that is to say, for well on 30 years.

POSTAL RATES

The postal rate at the Cape at the time of the introduction of the Rectangulars in 1864/65 was fourpence per half ounce weight or part thereof, between towns. This postal rate between towns in the Cape Colony was retained until the 1st November 1882, when it was changed to twopence and in 1895 it became a penny. So between 1853 and 1895 the postal rate at the Cape decreased from fourpence to a penny per half ounce. The newspaper rate in 1853, when adhesive stamps were introduced, was one penny per newspaper and this was changed on the 1st July 1882 to a halfpenny per newspaper, this rate remaining until Union in 1910.

Local one penny postage within a town was introduced first in Cape Town in 1860, in Port Elizabeth in 1861 and in various other towns in the Colony in 1864, 1876 and 1878.

The overseas letter rate per half ounce in weight, when adhesive stamps were introduced in 1853, was one shilling by mail packet and eight pence by private ship. In 1857 the rate to England was decreased to sixpence per half ounce and on the 1st April 1863 the rate was set at one shilling by mail steamer and fourpence by private ship. On the 1st January 1891 a new overseas letter rate was introduced, being two pence halfpenny per half ounce or fraction thereof between the United Kingdom and the Cape, in either direction. On the same date, 1st January 1891, a new letter rate of threepence per half ounce or fraction thereof was introduced between Europe and the Cape of Good Hope.

Within the British Empire the postal rate between countries of the Empire in 1886 was sixpence per half ounce. In 1888 this decreased to fourpence per half ounce, in 1890 to twopence halfpenny per half ounce and in 1895 to one penny per half ounce.

Registered rates for the registration of letters, were introduced twice in the Cape. In 1857 it was fixed at an additional sixpence per

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letter and this was decreased in 1897 to an extra twopence halfpenny per letter, over and above the standard postal rate for the specific letter.

The Cape Colony joined the Universal Postal Union in 1895 and Imperial Penny Postage was officially introduced at the Cape on the 1st September 1899.

WATERMARKS OF THE CAPE RECTANGULAR STAMPS

During the whole Cape rectangular period, from 1864 to 1910, only three different watermarks were used.

a. The Crown CC watermark from 1864 to 1881;
b. The Crown CA watermark from July 1882 to 1883;
c. The Cabled Anchor watermark from December 1884 to 1910.

THE CROWN CC WATERMARK

This was the watermark used from the outset of the Cape rectangular period; from the first shipment which left England on the 5th May 1863 and thereafter continuously for nineteen years. It consists of a Crown above the capital letters CC (Crown Colony), and each watermark impression was so positioned 20mm apart horizontally and 25mm apart vertically (from a central point), that in a pane of sixty stamps one watermark impression should have fallen in the centre of each stamp.

The sheet measures 55 cm x 28,3 cm and is made up of four panes of sixty watermarks each. Each pane comprises ten rows of six watermarks and each pane is surrounded by a single watermark line. The watermark impressions themselves occupy 49,4 cm x 24,5 cm of the sheet area. Between the panes is a vertical gutter 1,25cm in width. There is also a horizontal gutter between the panes, measuring nearly 2,5 cm in width and is watermarked by the words Crown Colonies in capital letters, this also being found along the outside margins of each of the panes.

The gum is white and was applied before printing the stamps, while the perforations were effected by a comb machine gauging 14.

THE CROWN CA WATERMARK

After receiving the assent of the Crown Agents in London, Messrs De La Rue and Co. introduced a new paper for the postage stamps of many of the colonies, including the Cape of Good Hope, in early 1882. This paper was watermarked Crown CA and consisted of the capital letters CA (Crown Agents) below the crown. This new watermark was, like the preceding Crown CC, so placed that one impression was intended to fall in the center of each of the 240 stamps making up a sheet.

The sheet is again made up of four panes of sixty stamps each, each pane containing ten rows of six stamps each. Each pane is surrounded by a single watermarked frame-line. The sheet measures 52,1cm x 27,8cm.

On each side of the sheet, reading upwards on the left and downwards on the right in outlined capital letters, are the words 'Crown Agents for the Colonies'. The horizontal central gutter dividing the upper panes from the lower is watermarked with the words 'Crown Agents'. At each corner of the sheet and at each end of the central gutter is a single plain watermarked cross.

Continuing the practice of the past, the paper was gummed before the printing of the stamp impressions and was perforated by a comb perforator gauging 14.

The Crown CA watermark period of the Cape was of short duration (and was highlighted by the introduction of a twopence value in bistre with all its fascinating printing problems) and was replaced in 1884 by an arrangement with Messrs De La Rue and Company whereby all future supplies of stamps were printed on paper specifically prepared for the Cape Colony only.

THE CABLED ANCHOR WATERMARK OF 1884

During 1884 arrangements were made between the Cape Government and Messrs De La Rue and Co. whereby all stamp supplies in the future were to be printed on paper specially prepared for the Cape Colony and reserved exclusively for its requirements. This paper was watermarked with a large single-lined anchor arranged in such a way that an anchor was programmed to fall in the centre of each stamp.

The anchor consists of a ring at the top and a stock at the bottom, the stock and ring being joined by a single upright. A cable is attached to the ring and twisted around the upright leading to the description of a cabled anchor.

With one exception, this watermark was retained exclusively for Cape of Good Hope stamps. In 1905 a few sheets of the Transvaal Penny Red Denomination were printed on this paper and the surviving specimens, only found used so far, have become rarities for Transvaal philatelists.



PRINTERS

All the Cape rectangular stamps, from the first shipment of the 5th May 1863, until the Union of South Africa was formed on the 31st May 1910, were printed in London by Messrs De La Rue and Co., who also surcharged provisional stamps on two occasions. Six times the surcharging of the provisional stamps was done at the Cape by Messrs Saul Solomon and Company, and once it was done by Messrs W A Richards and Sons of Cape Town.

Throughout the period the gum used was white in colour and was applied before the printing of the stamps.

PERFORATION

Throughout the rectangular period, 1864 to 1910, the stamps were perforated by a comb perforator gauging 14. Most of the time the vertical line of perforation between the panes was double, one for each pane. Initially, however, some sheets were perforated vertically by a single line of perforation between the panes, resulting in twenty stamps of each sheet being provided with a wing margin of about 5mm in width on the right hand side of the design and twenty stamps with the same characteristic on the left hand side of the design.

As far as can be ascertained, no Cape rectangulars were issued for postal usage while being imperforate on any margin. Such stamps when found, are probably due to the margins having been removed, for whatever reason, or are proofs and/or specimens.

THE ISSUE OF 1864 AND 1865

This was the first issue of the Cape rectangular stamps after the design of Charles Bell. The die was engraved on steel and the stamps were typographed by Messrs De La Rue and Co. They are characterised by an outer frame-line surrounding the design. The watermark is that of the Crown CC and the perforations by the comb perforator gauge 14. There are four distinct stamps in this issue, a penny red, a four penny blue, a six penny lilac and a one shilling green.

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The first stamp in the rectangular series to be issued with an outer frame-line was the 'One Shilling Green of 1864'. It was issued early in January 1864 and is found in shades of green, varying from deep green to green, pale-green, yellow-green and a blue-green. The paper used was the medium white wove type and the gum is white. Approximately 2 500 000 stamps were issued of which 410 000 were later issued to the Griqualand West Administration and were overprinted with a capital "G". Varieties known include wing margins as described previously, broken outer frame-lines and numerous shades of green, as well as inverted watermarks in the pale green and blue-green shades.

The next issue in the 1864 outer frame-line series, was that of the 'Six Penny Lilac of 1864'. The actual date of issue is not really known, but was definitely before 21st March 1864. The recognised shades are those of deep lilac, lilac, pale lilac, mauve, violet and a bright violet. The number of stamps issued was just over 5 000 000 of which approximately 410 000 were surcharged with a capital "G" and issued to the Griqualand West Administration. Varieties known include wing margins, broken outer frame lines and missing outer frame-lines, numerous shades of lilac, mauve and violet, and an inverted watermark in both mauve and lilac colours.

The next stamp to be issued in the outer frame-line series is that of the 'One Penny Red of 1865'. It was probably issued on the 1st May 1865 and definitely prior to the 14th May. Recognised shades are pale rose-red, rose-red, carmine-red, pale carmine-red and deep carmine-red. Approximately 8 000 000 stamps were issued. Varieties include wing margins, broken and missing outer frame-lines, numerous shades of red, and an inverted watermark has been recorded in the rose-red colour.

The last stamp to be issued in the outer frame-line series was that of the 'Four Pence Blue of 1865'. It was issued during August 1865 and recognised colours are those of pale blue, blue, deep blue and ultramarine. The number of stamps issued of the fourpenny blue exceeded 10 000 000. The deep blue shade numbered just under 4 000 000 and was printed from 1872 to 1873 after complaints had been received in 1871 that the pale blue shade emitted a greenish hue in the gas light of the Post Offices and was being confused with the one shilling green. Varieties of the fourpenny blue include wing margins, broken outer and missing frame-lines and numerous shades of blue. The ultramarine colour has been recorded with an inverted watermark, and the inverted watermark has also been recorded in the pale blue colour.

THE PROVISIONAL FOUR PENCE IN RED ON SIX PENCE DEEP LILAC OF 1868

This stamp was issued in a hurry on the 17th November 1868. The reason was that the ordering of postage stamps from England was the duty of the Treasury at the Cape whilst the use was controlled at the Post Office. As a result of a change in postal rates to overseas destinations from the Cape as from the 1st April 1863, fourpenny stamps were in strong demand while sixpenny stamps, which were used less often, accumulated at the Treasury.

Towards the end of October 1868, rectangular fourpenny stamps ran out and an emergency issue of fourpenny triangular stamps still in stock at the Treasury was released and used for about three weeks until Messrs Saul Solomon and Co. had time to surcharge the sixpenny. A suggestion from the Post Office that another issue of fourpenny woodblocks be made was rejected by the Treasury.

The sixpenny deep lilac of 1864 was overprinted in red by Messrs Saul Solomon and Co. with the words 'Four Pence' in lower case type. The original 'Postage Sixpence' at the foot of the stamp was obliterated by two bars in red set close together. There are at least two printings of this provisional surcharge known and there may be more. It is thought that the overprinting was done in panes of sixty stamps. Altogether 1 120 080 stamps are known to have been overprinted. (4 667 sheets).

The first printing was in early November 1868 and consisted of 120 000 stamps. The distance between the surcharged words and the cancellation bar varies from 17 to 18,5 mm and these were first issued on the 17th November 1868.

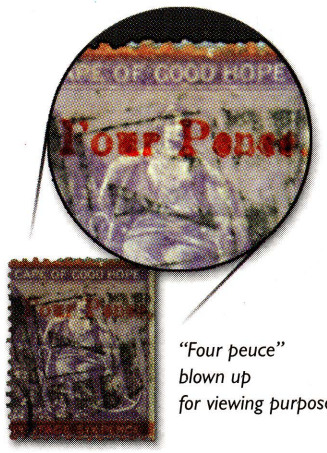
The second printing was done late in December 1868 or early in January 1869 and 1 000 080 were overprinted. In this case the distance between the surcharged words and cancellation bar varies from 15 to 16,5 mm. There does appear to have been a third printing as well, as stamps are found with a gap of 12,5 to 15mm between the words and the surcharge bar.

Thus depending on the printing the gap between words and bar can vary from 12,5 to 18,5 mm.

Many varieties of this emergency surcharge are found:

a. The colour of the surcharge varies from a bright vermilion through red to a dark brown.

b. Instead of the word 'Pence' one finds the word 'Peuce', caused by an inverted 'n'.



"Four peuce" blown up for viewing purposes

c. A comma is found instead of a stop after the word 'Pence'.

d. 'Fonr' instead of 'Four' caused by an inverted 'u'.



e. Downwards shifts of the type leading to the omission of obliterating bars on the upper stamp and the presence of obliterating bars at the top of the stamp below.

f. On the original sixpenny stamp that was overprinted, one also finds wing margins, broken and missing outer frame-lines as well as various shades of lilac.

g. An inverted watermark has been recorded.

h. An interesting variation is a narrow stamp fully perforated and 18mm wide as opposed to the standard 20mm of all the Cape rectangulars.

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i. 'Penee' instead of 'Pence'.
j. An indication of 'Penoe' instead of 'Pence'.



JULY 1870 – MODIFICATION OF THE ORIGINAL RECTANGULAR DIE

A superficial study of the macro appearance of the Cape rectangulars indicates that sixpenny and one shilling values with outer frame-lines continued to be issued for many years thereafter during the later Crown CA and Cabled Anchor watermarks periods.

In the case of the sixpenny all subsequent printings showing Hope seated on an anchor had outer frame-lines. The only other sixpenny rectangular value issued at the Cape was that of the Edward series issued in March 1903.

In the case of the one shilling value printings with an outer frame-line continued to be issued until December 1893, when a one shilling value in a blue-green colour was issued with Hope seated upright on an anchor but with no outer frame-line. A deep blue-green shade was also printed and was followed in May 1896 by a one shilling value without an outer frame-line in a yellow ochre colour. The Cape issues of the one shilling value was concluded with an Edward one shilling value in a yellow ochre shade.

However, in the case of the one penny and fourpenny values the printing plates were replaced with new ones, without an outer frame-line, during the 1870s. On the 12th July 1870 Messrs De La Rue and Co. informed the Crown Agents that the one penny printing plate, only five years old, was worn out and incapable of further satisfactory use. Without reference to the Cape the Crown Agents gave Messrs De La Rue and Company permission to proceed with the renewal of the die and the preparation of further printing plates.

The original die was softened, the details thereon re-touched, the shading on the figure of Hope and upon the vine leaves was re-drawn and the thin outer frame-line was permanently removed. This modified die was then hardened and after transfer to the rollers was subsequently used for all printing plates of the Cape rectangulars with Hope seated upright on an anchor.

Upon acceptance of the new plates and plate proofs, the original one penny plate was defaced and filed down by Messrs De La Rue and Co. on the 14th October 1870.

The next issue of stamps at the Cape took place between 1871 and 1876. This series is charaterised by a Crown CC watermark, perforations of the comb type gauging 14, but with the outer frame-line removed from the design. The range consists of a halfpenny in a grey-black colour, a penny in a carmine-red colour, a fourpenny in shades of blue and a five shilling in a yellow-orange colour.

The first issue of this series was the 'Five Shilling Orange of 1871', issued on the 25th August 1871. The colour recognised is that of an orange-yellow colour. As far as is known only 135 840 stamps were issued, of which 34 000 were overprinted with a capital 'G' and issued to the Griqualand West Administration.

The second stamp of this series to be issued was the 'One Penny Red of 1872' and was issued during February of the same year. Recognised shades are those of pale carmine-red, carmine-red and a deep carmine-red. Over 38 000 000 stamps of this denomination were issued of which 1 600 000 were issued to the Griqualand West Administration. A variety with an inverted watermark has been recorded. Especially where the shades of red are darker, there are indications of a printing having been done with a somewhat over-inked plate.

The next stamp in this series to be issued was the 'Half Penny Grey-Black of 1875'. The first consignment hereof was received at the Cape on the 21st December 1875 and was issued either during late December 1875 or early January 1876. The reason for the issue of a halfpenny stamp at the Cape was that on the 5th August 1875 the Postmaster-General of the Cape pointed out to the Government that the newly constituted Postal Union in Europe, to which the Cape Colony had agreed by virtue of its British Imperial Connection to become a member, had fixed the pre-paid single letter rate at 25 centimes. The Postmaster-General requested such a denomination for the Cape although such a rate was not introduced to the Cape until the 1st July 1882 when the newspaper rate for inland transmission was reduced to one halfpenny. The colours recognised are shades of grey-black, varying from pale to deep. At least one sheet of black stamps was sold erroneously over the counter in Cape Town as this was from a colour trial. The variety of inverted watermarks on different shades are recorded.

In excess of 1 400 000 stamps of this denomination were issued of which 378 000 were surcharged with a capital 'G' and issued to the Griqualand West Administration.

At the beginning of March 1882 stocks at the Cape Treasury of the halfpenny grey-black numbered approximately 400 000. As there was a standing order for 38 400 or 160 sheets every quarter, the Postmaster-General suspended the standing order after despatch of the January 1882 consignment. When it became likely that the Post Office Bill, Act 4 of 1882 would be passed into law during the 1882 Parliamentary Session, whereby the postal rates on newspapers was decreased from a penny to a halfpenny, the Postmaster-General in April 1882 requested that supplies of the halfpenny be resumed immediately and that the quarterly shipment be increased immediately to 810 000 (3 375 sheets). By virtue of the distance from England this took a little longer to be implemented than anticipated and, as we will see later in further editions of *The South African Philatelist*, led to another one of the very interesting provisional surcharges being issued in 1882.

THE FOUR PENCE BLUE OF 1876

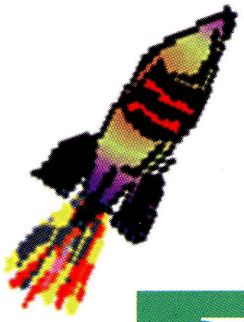
The last issue of the 1871 to 1876 series was the fourpenny blue, issued in December 1876. Although printings hereof had commenced in 1874, stocks of the issue with the outer frame-line were used up first. Approximately 14 million stamps of this denomination were printed and issued, of which 850 00 were overprinted with a capital 'G' for the Griqualand West Administration. Shades recognised are those of blue, varying from a dull blue to a deep blue with an ultramarine known as well. A constant variety found is that of a white spot in the blue tablet after the words fourpence, seemingly found on only one stamp in a sheet of 240, but its exact position is in dispute. An inverted watermark variety is also known.



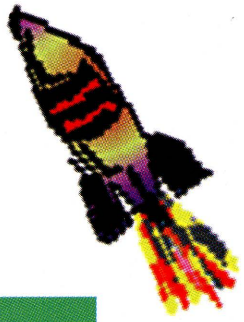
to be continued in a forthcoming issue of the SAP

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The Travelling Post Offices of Madagascar

By Chris Mobsby RDPSA, FRPSL, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.



In the December 2004 edition, *The S.A. Philatelist* featured an article by Danie Scheepers under the heading "Madagascar Intrigue". Evidently, this jogged the memory of Michael Walker, himself the co-author of the book "Historical Railway Postcard Journeys in Southern Africa", a recent publication that was, incidentally, reviewed in the same edition of the Journal. In a letter to the Editor, Mike recalled that he had written a paper some twenty years ago on the railways and T.P.O.s of Madagascar and thought that it might provide an interesting footnote to Danie's article. The following account, then, is based on Michael's paper but with the accent on the posts themselves rather than on the story of the construction of the railway lines.

The first four sections of the line were completed between 1901 and 1936 and totalled some 860 kilometres. (The Guinness World Fact Book of 1994 indicated that this figure had increased to 1054 kilometres). One Rev. Charles Baker, a missionary in Madagascar between 1909 and 1949, reported that "All trains were equipped with T.P.O.s which both deliver and collect mail at each station. These vans are properly equipped with all the necessary postal conveniences for service, sale of stamps, registration of letters, etc." An early railway postal van is illustrated on the 30-franc value of a set of stamps issued by the Malagasy Republic (as Madagascar was known) in 1965. A former postal official in the country, one Monsieur J. Devoise, noted that "... the trains have a *Convoyeur* or native postman who cares for the mail including the delivery and receipt of bags...". These two observations prompted Michael to the conclusion that the service in Madagascar was a combination of T.P.O. and travelling postman. The various postmarks used on these T.P.O.s were, not surprisingly, of French design.



1965 S.G. 108 Postal Van (photocopy)

The first datestamp was circular as, generally, were the Ambulant (TPO) datestamps of France. However, apart from one other circular strike (Fig. 7), the remaining postmarks all exhibit the typical wavy outline format that was used by the *Convoyeurs* and T.P.O.s of France.

This first postmark (Fig. 1) was used on the Tananarive to (A) Tamatave route, the line running by the shortest possible route from the capital to the east coast (La Côte Est) and thence north to the port of Tamatave. Eastbound mail, recognisable by the inclusion of the letter 'A' in the strike, from the period prior to the introduction of airmail in the late 1930s, is more frequently encountered than mail in the opposite direction. Thereafter, however, with mail from Tamatave for overseas destinations being sent via the airport in Tananarive, the westbound version (B) of the strike is the more common of the two. This strike was still in use towards the end of World War I.

A second type was introduced in 1920 (Fig. 2) and is known struck in blue as well as the more regular black ink. The letter 'A', 'B' or 'C' was included in the canceller and all three have been recorded on mail in both directions. In about 1931, these latest date stamps were replaced with a version including numbers instead of letters (Fig. 3) and a hyphen between the terminal towns instead of the 'A'. Although numbers '1' to '5' are all known used, in black, in each direction, No.5 saw but little use and is therefore rare.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

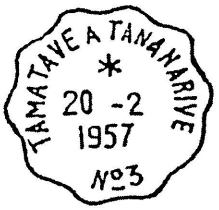


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.

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After World War II, a fourth type was introduced with the town names in smaller letters and with 'A' once again replacing the hyphen (Fig. 4).

Only one type of date stamp is known for mail carried on the Tananarive - Antsirabe line, the latter being an inland town south of the capital. A strike from the northern run is shown (Fig. 5); the names of the towns were transposed for mail in the other direction. The version No.1 is the only one known although it is surmised that other numbers could exist, it being a busy line.

Although the Moramanga - Lac Alaotra line opened in 1923, the earliest postmark on record is dated 1935. The strike shown in Fig. 6 and inscribed 'No. 1' was used on the trip to the lake while 'No. 2' was applied on the reverse run. The authorities Messrs Langlois and Bourselet in their 1927 publication *'Les Oblitérations des Bureau de Poste des Colonies Françaises* describe the canceller shown in Fig. 7 as a 'Station date stamp' for Le Mangoro. That, however, is the name of a small station on the main line to the coast and, as far as is known, no similar date stamps have been recorded for other, more important stations on that line. Le Mangoro is also the name of the river and valley through which the Moramanga - Lac Alaotra line runs and Michael has therefore surmised that the date stamp in question was, more than likely, the strike for the T.P.O. on that line.

One further line was discussed, that running from Manakara on the coast inland to Fianarantsoa, a town now, but not then, linked by rail with Antsirabe and Tananarive. The canceller shown in Fig. 8 came into use, it is thought, in about 1936. Neither the inscription for the return journey nor any numerals other than "No.1" are in fact known but may well exist. A more recent canceller in the Fianarantsoa - Manakara direction is illustrated in Fig. 9. Michael acknowledged the 1968 booklet "T.P.O.s" by C.W. Coles for certain of his information. ■

President's Column

This letter will attempt to open a debate on the 'Greying' of Philately.

This is a fact which we are all very well aware is happening. The big question is 'What to do'? Other countries are not immune from this phenomenon. In 1992 a survey carried out by the *Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Africa* (FVZA) showed that the average age of members was 55½ with the highest percentage in the 51-57 age group (see letter to *S.A. Philatelist* Jan/Feb, 1992, p23). Interestingly, of the respondents *" a full house said they collected as a hobby whilst 'investment' and 'for the children' drew zeros."* Do we have a clue here?

I refer readers to a short comment made in the *American Philatelist* (p72, Jan 2005) which was titled "*How Grey is your stamp club ?*". I had hoped this was going to be a feast of ideas but only the first paragraph applied. *'As the average age of club members increases'* was the opening line and it went on to suggest that meetings on Sunday afternoons could be appropriate for members who do not want to drive at night. The Mohawk Stamp Club of Williamstown had initiated this scheme. The Royal in Cape Town will have an experimental meeting on a Saturday afternoon this year. In one sense it is heart warming that we are not alone in the worrisome aspect of an aging membership.

What to do about an aging membership is another matter and one which requires an in-depth survey and report. I would refer members to the Australian magazine *Stamp News* (April 1999, p4) where an article regarding the support of philately in Australia, U.S.A. and New Zealand makes interesting reading ending with the comment by the then Editor, Doherty that: *"We should give serious thought to how we can ensure that philately in Australia continues to grow and flourish in the next millennium".*

Much effort and work and thought is obviously taking place in these countries. Is South Africa being left behind?

The ways to attract recruits to the hobby must be legion. Deciding which ideas are the most practical and carrying them out is an entirely different matter requiring research and teamwork between the Post Office, Philatelic Services, Organized Philately and local clubs.

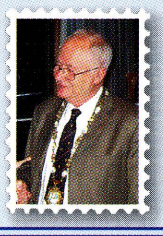
I would, then, propose that research is required in this country if the hobby is to thrive... so my suggestion this month is that 'Organized Philately' takes the initiative and for a Commission under the auspices of Federation and/or Foundation be set up to explore ways to stem the tide. The ideas produced could then be published in *The South African Philatelist.*

Let me end this time by answering points raised... except that there are no points raised!

Come on collectors, lets have a blast of debate in *The South African Philatelist.* As the well known poster stated: "Your Country Needs You".

It is in our hands if the hobby is to continue.

David Sinclair



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Specimen Issues of the 1910 Union Commemorative

By Danie Scheepers, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

The 2½d stamp which appeared on 4th November 1910 to commemorate the opening of the Union Parliament is arguably the most attractive stamp issued by the Union of South Africa.

In his article published in two parts in the London Philatelist of July/August and September 2000, Dr. Christopher Board refers to it as "one of the Empire's most attractive postage stamps". In a letter to the Agent-General for Transvaal, from the treasury, Pretoria, J. R. Leisk wrote the following: ". . . the necessity for obtaining a stamp of the very highest finish representing as nearly as possible the perfection of the engraver's and of the printer's art in work of this class".

It is, however, much more than just a pretty face and beautiful perforations as it has tremendous philatelic depth. This is clearly shown by Dr. Board in his well researched article and its philatelic value is further supported by the fact that it has been the sole subject matter of major award winning exhibits by philatelists such as Len van der Kar and Dr. Board.

In this article I would like to concentrate on the array of specimens that are available to collectors of this little gem.

Simply stated, specimen stamps are stamps that have been overprinted or perforated in such a manner as to distinguish them as being for sample purposes. Such stamps are then no longer valid for postal use. The definition allows for the fact that there may be more than one such purpose as will become apparent in this discussion.

The most well known usage of a specimen is that intended for distribution to member countries of the U.P.U. This practise which began in 1879 gradually died out by 1945. Each member country had to send sufficient of each new issue to the U.P.U. headquarters in Berne so that 3 examples could be supplied to all the member countries as samples of their stamps.

The specimen of the 1910 Union commemorative supplied to the U.P.U. had the word 'SPECIMEN' overprinted in black script (11 ½ x 1 mm) diagonally upwards. There is, however, a much scarcer variation of this where the word appears horizontally across the stamp.



United Postal Union Specimen

This variation is documented but without any explanation as to the reason for its existence.

A further variation of the above that I recently acquired is a copy with the 'SPECIMEN' placed diagonally, but in addition having received the Portuguese Receiving Authority Archive Specimen handstamp 'ULTRAMAR' horizontally in violet. The stamp is affixed to a piece from an archive folio sheet. This 'Specimen' which emanates from a Portuguese Colonial receiving authority, had the additional handstamp defacement applied in Lisbon prior to its distribution to a Portuguese colony.



Ultramar Cancel

Specimens may also be produced for purposes of promotion or information. To inform the public that there would be a special commemorative stamp appearing on the 4th of November, special cards were printed in English and a copy of the stamp hand stamped 'SPECIMEN' (35 ½ x 4 mm) in violet and reading diagonally downwards was mounted on each card. These cards were then distributed to postmasters with instructions that they should be displayed to call attention to the public. Almost as an afterthought, a Netherlands version of the so called 'publicity card' printed in red instead of black also appeared. It is not certain whether there was official sanction for this card. There were presumably only a few copies prepared as so far only two surviving examples have been found.

There is an unrecorded 'Specimen' overprint of which to date only one example has been seen. This consists of a strip of 4 stamps each individually overprinted 'Specimen' by handstamp in violet so that the word appears at irregular levels horizontally across the stamp. The word Specimen is composed of a capital 'S' but with the remaining letters in lower case. This is the only example of a Union stamp bearing the word specimen spelt in this manner.



Post Office Publicity Card at 50% of original size.

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It is thought that this specimen may have been a trial overprint for the 'publicity card'. The item has been certified as 'genuine' by the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

The final Specimen I must mention is a Specimen type where there is usually no overprint present. To facilitate a better price, no fewer than 20 million copies of the commemorative stamp were ordered. It was realised that this quantity would probably be in excess (understatement of the year, approx. 15 million copies were destroyed in 1920) so it was decided to involve the High Commissioner in promoting their sale to the public in London.

For this purpose he was supplied with special notepaper on which one or more copies of the stamp were attached for advertising and promotion. According to Dr. Board an example is known of a complete double sheet of this notepaper with a strip of 5 mint stamps attached. The stamps so attached were usually unoverprinted but copies with a Specimen overprint are known. The notepaper had the wording "H.C.1.72, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. Forwarded with the compliments of The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa".

There is a variation of this notepaper which had the address as 100 Victoria Street with the '100' crossed out and the number '72' written in pencil. It has the inscription 'With the Compliments of the Agent General for the Cape of Good Hope'.

This was overprinted in violet by a handstamp reading "THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA". In the top left hand corner it also shows the crest of the "AGENT GENERAL LONDON". The High Commissioner was also supplied with 96 000 copies of the commemorative with which to meet the anticipated demand.

The 2½d Union Commemorative of 1910 was a truly remarkable stamp with which to herald a new country and one of which we can be justifiably proud.

References and acknowledgements

- *Dr. C. Board - Article in the London Philatelist July/August 2000*
- *H. E. Lobdell - The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa*
- *J. Mackay - The Guinness Book of Stamps Facts and Feats*



Unoverprinted Specimens

The South African Philatelist
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SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- a printed proof copy of the text.
- a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.
- a corrected final draft of the article in a Word document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.
- scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Rosebank, where the team are able to assist you with the scanning of material.



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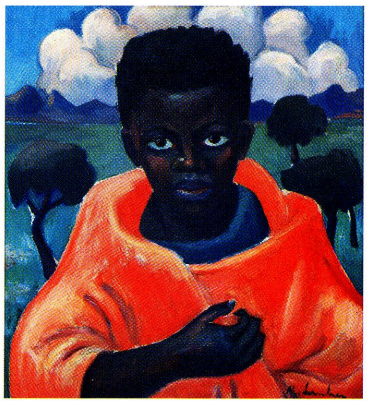
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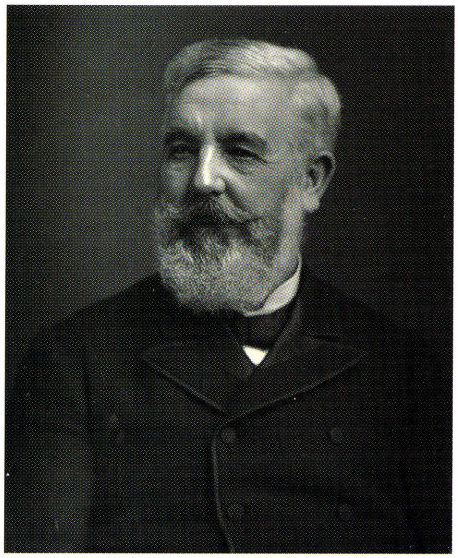
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Waterlow and Sons Ltd. Postage Stamp Printers

By Colin Fraser, RDPSA FRPSL., Witwatersrand PS



Sir Sydney Waterlow

The history of Waterlow and Sons Ltd. and details of many of the stamps printed by the firm are expertly portrayed by LN & M Williams in their monograph 'A Century of Stamp Production' produced by the firm to mark their centenary in 1951. This monograph is likely to be well known only to specialist collectors of Waterlow stamp issues as a very useful primary source of information. It forms an unrivalled starting point for any discussion of Waterlows' and their stamp issues. The monograph has been heavily drawn upon for this article with the two-fold purpose of bringing it to the attention of collectors and hopefully generating increased interest in the study of stamps printed by Waterlow and Sons Ltd.

The name of Waterlow first became associated with printing in 1810 when James Waterlow, a law writer, realised that there would be considerable advantages if legal documents, of which many copies were required, were lithographed instead of reproduced by hand. He put his idea into practice and the demand for the products increased. As the Waterlow business expanded, four sons of James Waterlow were taken into partnership and branches of the firm were opened at Westminster and London Wall. After the death of James Waterlow in 1876 the firm became a limited liability company. In the following year after some difference of opinion on business matters, the brothers decided to divide the business. Alfred James Waterlow and a member of the firm, Alfred Thomas Layton, formed Waterlow Brothers and Layton, which retained the original Birchin Lane organisation.

A new company called Waterlow and Sons Ltd. carried on business at the London Wall, Finsbury market and other factories under the Managing Directorship of Sir Sydney Waterlow. For forty-three years the two companies continued each to expand its trade alongside and sometimes in competition with the other. Over the years the two firms improved and perfected their printing and other processes but in 1919 it was considered in the best interest of both companies to merge their activities. The company continued as Waterlow & Sons till 1961, when it was absorbed by Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. and printing under the Waterlow name ceased.

Postage Stamp Printing by Waterlow and Sons. Limited

As producers of postage stamps, Waterlow and Sons, Ltd. concentrated upon recess or direct plate printing, although they have printed stamps by other processes including collotype, lithography, photogravure and typography. In 1851 when Waterlow and Sons were first asked to undertake stamp production they used the lithographic process. The first stamps printed by Waterlow and Sons, for the postal authorities of British Guiana showed the badge of the Colony and were issued in 1852. The quality of the lithograph print on this issue was high although the detail, which could have been obtained by recess printing, was lacking. Waterlows continued, for many years, to use the lithographic process for printing postage and revenue stamps for many countries, e.g. the commemorative stamp issued to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Colombian National Society of Agriculture (SG712) in 1949.

The Company also used the lithographic process in conjunction with other printing processes for stamp production. The 1938 Coffee Propaganda issue for Brazil (SG610) combined the lithograph and recess methods of printing. The pictorial centre was printed by lithography and the frame was recess printed. The earliest stamps to be printed by Waterlow and Sons, Limited, using the recess process were those of the first issue of Siam, in 1883, which comprised five stamps each printed in a single colour and bearing a portrait of King Chulalongkorn I (SG 1-5). During the nineteenth century, the different firms of printers produced stamps very different in character to suit the policies and ideas of the firm and those of their customers.



North Borneo. 1894 - Recess

Stamp production by De la Rue, the major firm of stamp printers at the time, was based on uniformity, efficiency and cost effectiveness. Small, poor, or cost-conscious colonies could get their stamps at minimum cost by using a standard plate, which was also used for printing stamps for other Colonies. Each Colony had to pay only for special 'duty' plates bearing the name of the Colony and the value required. These standard type stamp issues have been termed the 'Key Types'. The use of standard plates bearing the monarch's head with the frame and blank panels at the top and bottom of the stamp, which were filled by a second printing from the 'duty plate', made the production of bi-coloured stamps an inexpensive process. De la Rue by their business-like methods overcame competition for the printing of stamps ordered by Crown Agents for the colonies during the nineteenth century. Changes, however, became apparent in stamp design and printing for other parts of the Empire.

continued on page 058



British Guyana. 1852 - Lithography.



British Guyana. 1859 - Lithography.



Niger Coast. 1894 - Recess.

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Chartered Companies, with offices in London, were established in North Borneo, the Niger Coast, East and Central Africa. Competition must have been rather fierce in the early days of stamp production for these Chartered Companies. For British East Africa, in 1890, and for the Oil Rivers Protectorate, in 1892, De la Rue produced the first stamps by over-printing values from the contemporary Great Britain stamp issues. For later issues, however, these Companies placed orders for stamp production with firms of security printers, who at the time, were chiefly involved in the production of bank notes and other monetary documents. In 1890, Bradbury Wilkinson produced the 'Sunburst' issue for the Imperial British East Africa Company and in the same year produced the first stamp issue for the British South Africa Company. By the end of 1893, Waterlow and Sons had been successful in gaining contracts for the production of stamp issues for the Oil Rivers and North Borneo Protectorates, each based on a Chartered Company.

The stamp issue for North Borneo was a pictorial series of nine stamps and may perhaps be considered the forerunner of modern pictorial stamps. The Company wanted attractive stamps and was not concerned about such matters as either watermark or fugitive inks. From their London Office, the Company added considerably to income by selling stamps directly to collectors either in unused or cancelled-to-order condition. This pictorial issue for North Borneo was the first to be printed extensively for the stamp trade. Comment on these stamps and other new issues printed by Waterlow and Sons, Limited, in the late nineteenth century was favourable concerning the craftsmanship, printing and design of these recess printed stamp issues. Waterlow and Sons printed many fine stamps by the recess method, including the 'Double Head' and 'Admiral' issues of the Rhodesias, many of the attractive pictorial issues of the Belgian Congo and of Central and South American states including Guatemala, Nicaragua and Uruguay and the 'Sea Horse' issue of Great Britain.



Belgian Congo. 1898



Belgian Congo. 1900



Guatemala. 1900



Rhodesia. 1910



Rhodesia. Error of colour. 1910



Uruguay. 1896



Rhodesia. 1913



Nicaragua. 1912

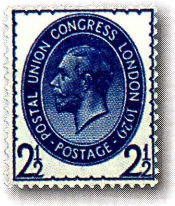


Great Britain. 1913

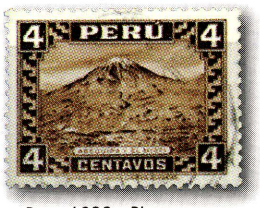
Following their tradition of adaptability, Waterlow and Sons, in 1932, produced their first postage stamps by the photogravure process, a variation of the recess process. These photogravure printed stamps were to mark the first anniversary of constitutional government in Peru and after 1932, many later issues were printed for the Peruvian postal authorities using this method. Stamps for other countries were also printed by photogravure including the 1937 Fourth National Olympiad issue for Colombia (SG 490-492) and the 1936 'Gomez Bicentenary' issue for Colombia (SG 415-422). Waterlow and Sons, not only printed stamps entirely by photogravure but combined this process with recess printing for stamp production. These two processes were used for printing the series of twenty-four triangular stamps, issued in August 1947 by the Nicaraguan Post Office, of which the pictorial centres of the stamps were printed by photogravure and the frames by recess. This combination of recess and photogravure printing was also used for the 1950 Airmail stamps of Costa Rica inscribed 'Guera de Liberacion National' (SG 480-487).

In typography or surface printing the print is made by raised type, the actual image being in relief on the printing plate. This process was used by Waterlows for printing a number of stamps including the definitive issue for Great Britain issued in 1924 and the four low values of the 1929 Postal Union congress set. The £1.00 value for this set was, however, recess printed by Bradbury Wilkinson, although JAC Harrison, an employee of Waterlow and Sons Ltd. at the time, was specifically loaned to Bradbury Wilkinson, at their request, to engrave the design.

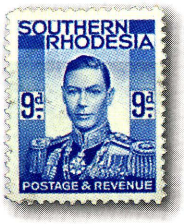
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Great Britain. 1929



Peru. 1932 - Photogravure.



Southern Rhodesia. 1937

Waterlow and Sons, for their own use as illustrative material in order to secure printing contracts, frequently printed stamps in issued designs but in non-issued colours. These were usually overprinted 'Waterlow and Sons, Limited, SPECIMEN' and had a small security puncture. These specimens were often given away at exhibitions and trade fairs to illustrate the quality of workmanship that the firm could achieve. During the mid-1920s Waterlow and Sons produced many of these specimen stamps from the original dies, but different printing plates, to give small miniature sheets of nine stamps. However this practice of producing special sheetlets was later discontinued in favour of using single stamps mostly printed from the original plates for such advertising purposes.

Waterlow and Sons, not only printed adhesive postage stamps for a large number of countries but also printed revenue issues. For some countries, including Southern Rhodesia, these revenue stamps were in similar designs to the postage stamps but for other countries such as Guatemala, different designs were used.

Much information on the stamps printed by Waterlow and Sons is available, including the printer's file sheets for many countries. These sheets give details of the dates and number of stamps produced in each printing as well as being of considerable value for the examination and positioning of the varieties, re-entries and guide marks on those issues for which the sheets are available. There are, however, large gaps in the available information due to the loss of the records of the Company during the bombing of London in the Second World War. The names of the engravers and designers, for example, of many stamps printed by Waterlow and Sons are unknown. There are many questions which puzzle specialists concerning individual issues of particular countries, for example, the true significance of many of the printer's marks, engraved on the plates between the impressions of the stamps, is unknown. These marks may appear as lines and dots or only lines or only dots and may be located vertically or horizontally. Many of these questions have not been successfully answered within the field of interest of one-country collectors. A Waterlow Study Circle was formed on 20 June 1981 to investigate specialised aspects of all stamps printed by Waterlow and Sons, Ltd. (and Waterlow Brothers and Layton). The Study Circle circulates such questions to which its members are seeking answers and it is hoped that collaboration between collectors of the stamps of different countries, which issued stamps printed by Waterlows, will be fruitful. Questions about specific issues or other issues of a particular country might be answered in relation to other issues of that country or the stamps of another country.

The Waterlow Study Circle holds regular meetings in London and publishes a quarterly journal. Membership is open to both individuals and to study circles or groups. Further information about the Waterlow study Circle may be obtained from:

Colin Hoffman R.D.P.S.A., FRPSL at colin@stamps.uk

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SG 160a with Gash in Ear variety

'Jeffrey K. Weiss Collection of Seychelles' at Harmers

The auction, held on 14 December 2004, realised an astonishing £227,130. Opening with some superb lots, notably lot number 6 comprising six envelopes from New Bedford, addressed to Edward Haven or Captain Allen, five to the Seychelles and the last to St. Helena, which was estimated at £5,000 and achieved a breath taking £14,115.

Shortly after this impressive lot came lot 14; 1869 (Jan. 22), blue envelope franked 9d. pair, with "B64" cancellations, addressed to John Hicks in New Bedford, Mass. This cover is addressed in the hand of Captain David Allen of the Barque Merlin. John Hicks was a colleague and ship owner in New Bedford. It was estimated at £2,500 but reached an extraordinary £8,234.

Lot 16 proved to be equally impressive, an envelope addressed to Mrs. Allen in New Bedford. Written by Harriet Allen, the wife of Captain David Allen of the Barque Merlin, to her cousin who was house-sitting at the Captain's residence on Grinnell Street while Harriet and their daughter Nellie (Helen) accompanied the Captain on this four year voyage. It was estimated at £3,500 and sold for £9,998.

By invitation, Weiss presented portions of his Seychelles collection at two of the Rare Stamps of the World shows in London (Claridge's): "Seychelles Stamps to 1902" and "Seychelles Postal History to 1890." All prices stated include buyers' premium.

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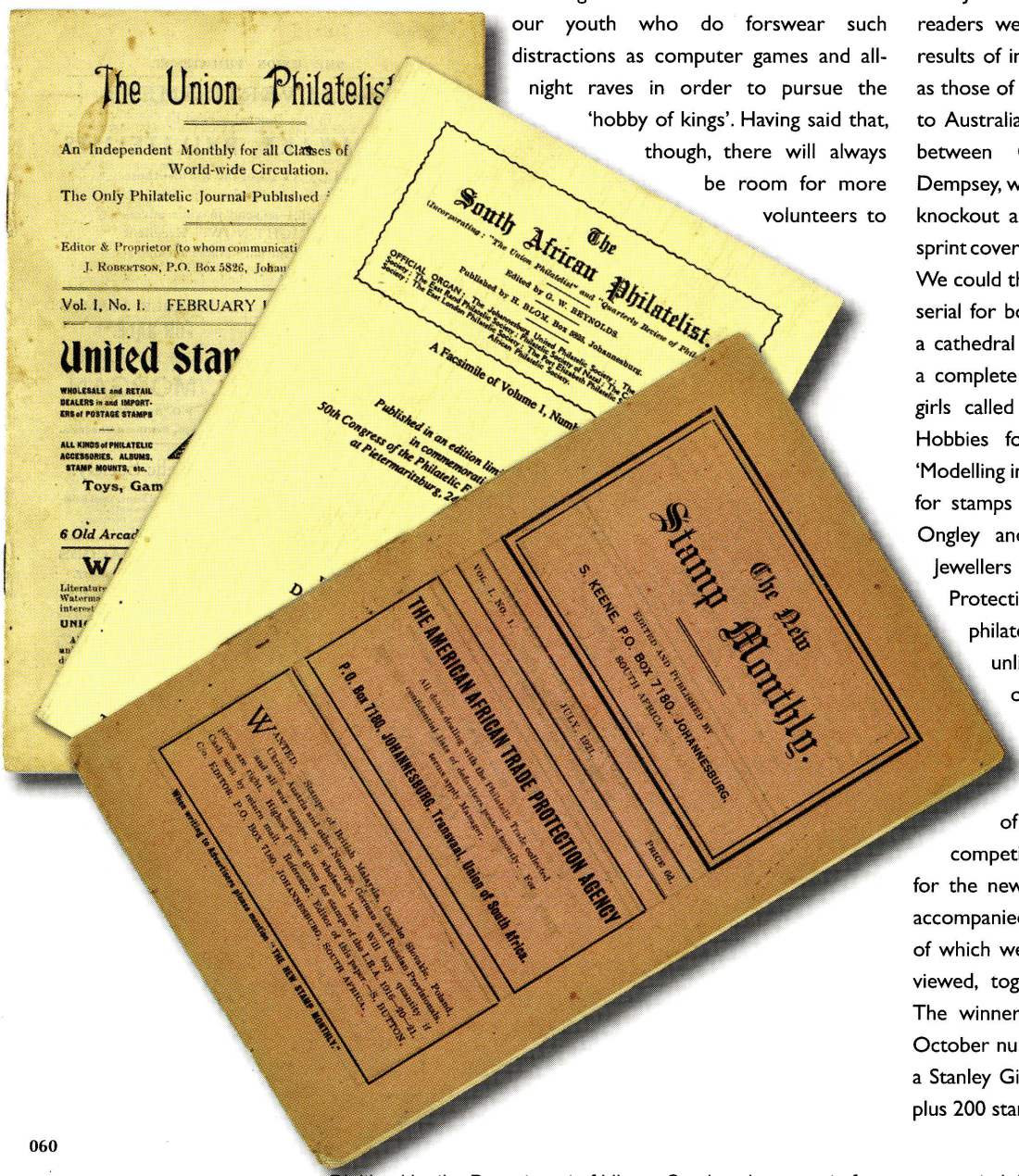
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Pioneers

By Chris Mobsby, RDPSA, FRPSL, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society.

One of the major concerns in philatelic circles in this country, if not throughout the world, is the absence of a solid base of junior philatelists that is both willing and able to preserve and develop our hobby as time takes its inevitable toll on our ever ageing senior members. There is such a demand on the time of school goers presently that one can not help wondering if we will ever get back to those halcyon days when just about every schoolboy spent his free time swapping stamps with his chums and when whatever was left over from his sixpence pocket money, after the mandatory expenditure on gobstoppers, would have gone towards enhancing his collection. Not that the grounding in the hobby that was acquired by schoolchildren in, say, the mid-Twentieth century, provided, a solid, ongoing corps of philatelists. Even in those, more leisurely, days, there were distractions. Stamps had to take a back seat when it came to participation in organised sport, or exam time, or university studies, or girlfriends (or, for that matter, boyfriends), or marriage, or starting a family. It seems there has always been a gap between fifteen-year old collectors and those of, say, thirty-five or forty years of age. I firmly believe that a large percentage of today's forty-, fifty-, sixty-, seventy- and even eighty-year olds that form the bulk of the present philatelic community would have experienced just such a trough in their stamp collecting lives.

This article was never intended to be an enquiry into the present health and future prospects of philately. Fortunately, there is a band of dedicated enthusiasts who both encourage and educate those of our youth who do forswear such distractions as computer games and all-night raves in order to pursue the 'hobby of kings'. Having said that, though, there will always be room for more volunteers to assist in the organisation of junior philately in this country.



No, this was intended rather to be a review of Vol. I No. I of *'The New Stamp Monthly'*, a magazine that made its debut in Johannesburg in July 1921. This appeared hard on the heels of *"The Union Philatelist"* of which the first copy was dated February 1920. It would seem that Stella Keene, the 'editress' (her own terminology) of *'The New Stamp Monthly'* was either short of copy for her first edition or, possibly, of the opinion that her rival journal was of too erudite a nature and that she would therefore attempt to appeal to the younger brigade. Either way, it may be seen that in a total of twenty pages, only six and a half are devoted to philatelic articles, these including notes on St. Helena and Natal and a profile on a 'leading philatelist in the Union', a Mr. P. J. du Toit, Mayor of Klerksdorp. Thereafter, readers were treated to a summary of the results of international sporting contests such as those of the Springboks on their rugby tour to Australia, the World Heavyweight contest between Georges Carpentier and Jack Dempsey, won by the latter via a fourth round knockout and a new record for the 75 yard sprint covered by Harold Abrams in $7^2/_5$ seconds. We could then read the first two chapters of a serial for boys, 'The Mystery of Ronald Leigh', a cathedral school story by M.&S. Keene and a complete and highly moral short story for girls called 'Greater Love' by the 'editress'. Hobbies for winter evenings focussed on 'Modelling in Cork'. There were advertisements for stamps from S. Button, M.P. Heston, A.C. Ongley and The Standard Pawnbrokers & Jewellers while The American African Trade Protection Agency offered to deal with philatelic debtors. Perhaps the most unlikely offer, given the overall tone of the magazine, came from a Madame Amamie of Eloff Street who provided 'Massage and Mannicure' (sic). The back page of the journal was devoted to a competition to find an appropriate name for the new magazine. Each entry had to be accompanied by one of the 'coupons', three of which were still present in the copy that I viewed, together with three penny stamps. The winners were to be announced in the October number and the first prize was to be a Stanley Gibbon's Ideal Postage Stamp Album plus 200 stamps.

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By contrast, *"The Union Philatelist"* under the editorship of Mr J. Robertson was devoted in its entirety to the hobby of stamp collecting. Included in that first edition were articles by such renowned philatelists as Charles Hand on the interprovincials of Union and on the movement of prices of Southern African stamps in Gibbon's latest catalogue, that of 1919, written by Emil Tamsen. There were also prices realised in an auction held by Messrs Plumridge & Co. of London including 10 guineas for a 1d carmine Cape Triangular woodblock (thinned) and £2.12.0 for a Zululand 5 shilling rose, mint. An article on Slesvig was reprinted from *'The Stamp Collector'* while a page of 'smalls' included one from a Lieut. A. Hayne of Kalkfontein North who was looking for Anglo Boer War issues of Vryburg, Schweizer Reneke, Lydenburg and Wolmaransstad. Advertisers included the United Stamp Company, I. Glasser, A. Morgan of Bulawayo, Conrad F. Jacobs, Alec Kaplan, M.P. Vallentine, H.L. Kaplan FRPSL (note!) and Joao dos Santos of Lourenço Marques. There were also notices that had been inserted by the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society that gathered on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Trust Buildings, Fox Street and the Turffontein Philatelic Society that offered to exchange stamps with any stamp collector in any part of the world. It is perhaps hardly surprising that, of the two magazines reviewed above, it was *'The Union Philatelist'* that gave birth in due course to *'The South African Philatelist'*.

'The S.A.Philatelist' as we know it today, made its debut in February 1923. This, though, was not the first magazine to appear under that title. A namesake appeared in November 1895, a typewritten production that ran for six issues. A second magazine under the same name was launched in November 1910 under the auspices of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia. The last issue of that journal appeared in February 1912. Neither of these Philatelic Society productions is accepted as a forerunner to either the *'Union Philatelist'* which gave way to the *'Quarterly Review of Philately'* or to *'The S.A.Philatelist'*, now in its 83rd year of continuous production. That first edition of February 1923 was reproduced in a facsimile edition to commemorate the 50th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa in November 1988. It included notes on new issues and varieties, an article by H.L. Kaplan on Rhodesian rarities and warnings on forgeries of Northern Nigeria, British Central Africa and the Transvaal.

It was the official organ of societies from Johannesburg, Pretoria, the East Rand, Cape Town, Natal, East London and Port Elizabeth as well as the West African Philatelic Society. Space was allocated in the magazine for 'Society News' among which we learn that the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society held a competition for 'imperforates' with a prize of one guinea! Pretoria had been disappointed that a paper by Charles Hand had been cancelled as his 'hinges were damped', this taken to mean that he had been confined to bed with an attack of rheumatism!

My thanks are due to Angus Springthorpe and Jonas Michelson for providing copies of the journals reviewed above.

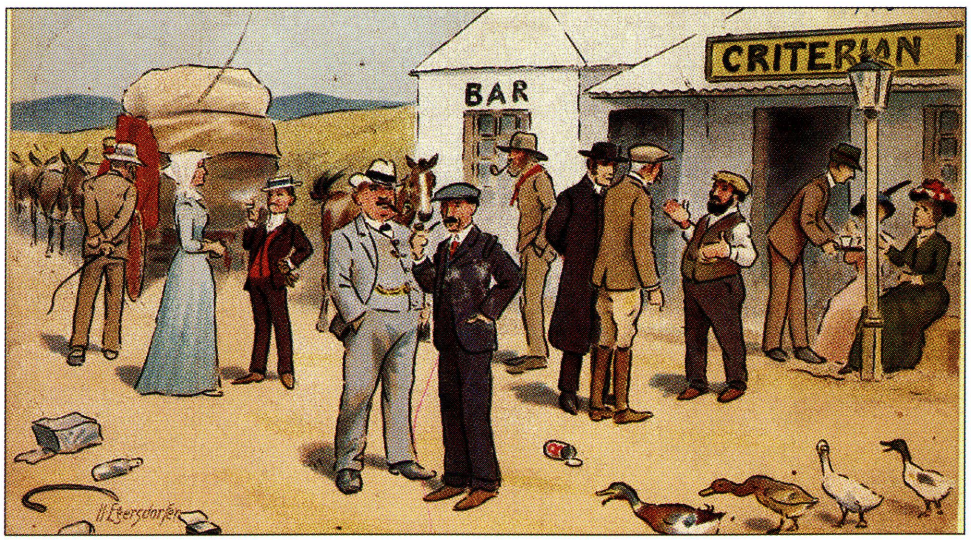
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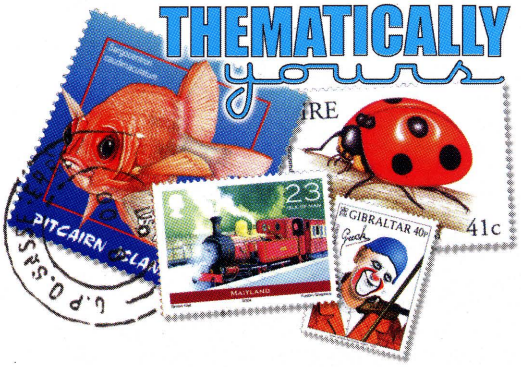
1. Identify PAUL VAN ZEYL t/a RAND STAMP AUCTIONS in this picture;



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Rev J Cassie Carstens, Thematics SA

PRETHEMA 2005

Still want to enter for PRETHEMA 2005? You only need one thematic frame (15 pages), R50 entry fee and an open mind and heart to enjoy it! Saturday 7th May at the Adami Hall, Wren Street in Queenswood, Pretoria (Tshwane). We must have your exhibit on Friday 6th May - send it by post or bring it in person. Entry forms available from the secretary of your society. You can also contact Rev Cassie Carstens (012 653-2279) for more details.

See you there!

THEMATICS SA

Want to get more involved with thematic collecting? Then you must join Thematics SA, the organization for stamp collectors who use themes as the basis for their collections. The aim of Thematics SA is to promote thematic philately in its widest sense, to provide a service to the thematic collector, especially with regard to information and equipment, to bring thematic collectors in closer contact with each other, to serve as a countrywide mouthpiece for thematic collectors, to publish a magazine regularly and to encourage stamp shows, exhibitions and competitions .

You share in the following benefits: ThemNews (bi-monthly magazine - one of the best!), interest groups (aviation, railway, music, religion, history, medicine, trees, birds), a library with specific articles on thematic topics and exchange packets. Contact Robbie Harm at (021) 982-8936 or 082 925 7103 or PO Box 56221, WIERDAPARK 0149.

Thematic Philately = The Art of Philately!

THEMES ON STAMPS

• For 25 years a key feature of Fiji's Regatta Week has been the race between Musket Cove on Fiji's Malolo Lailai Island in the Mamanucas and Port Vila, the capital of Vanuata on Efate. This blue water event covering 530 nautical miles, is more of an ocean rally than a race with the event having its own unique regatta rules.



Fig.1.

This ensures fair play and that the event is carried out in the best spirit of cruising. The event takes place every September and involves 20-40 **BOATS** in an event that can take between 3 and 5 days to complete. Leading boats can measure 60 feet in length and average around 8 knots. **Fig.1.**

• **ROTARY** International was founded by Paul Harris in 1905 - so this is the centenary year for its 1,4 million members. How many members are there in South Africa? Monaco commemorated this event. **Fig.2.**

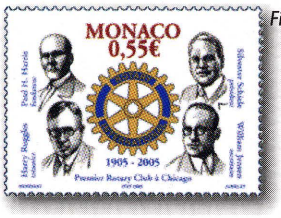


Fig.2.

• I don't think an **ANT LION** (Euroleon nostras) has ever been depicted on a stamp - this honour becomes Jersey, with their Rare Fauna II series. **Fig.3.** The translation of the Latin seems to be *our own European lion!* Somewhere someone has not seen a real lion! Other fauna in the series are the Dartford Warbler (Sylvia undata), Wall Lizard (Podarcis muralis) and Field Cricket (Gryllus campestris).



Fig.3.

• Ever been to **NEW ZEALAND**? Whether you are seeking a haven of peace and rejuvenation or a thrill-seeking, edge-of-the-seat adventure experience, New Zealand offers it all, as visitors from around the world are rapidly discovering. Located between Christchurch and Picton on the South Island's east coast, the settlement of Kaikoura nestles between snow-capped majestic mountains and the awesome forces of the Pacific Ocean. This unique environmental combination has led to a host of eco- tourism activities such as whale watching **Fig.4.** and swimming with dolphins and seals.



Fig.4.

• Winning team in 2006? If you don't back the Netherlands (like I do), then it will have to be Argentine, France, Korea or Nigeria. But NOT - and I repeat, NOT Germany or Brazil. I have my reasons...! In the end, I do hope **SOCCER** will be the overall winner. **Fig.5.**



Fig.5.

• The first **PERAMBULATORS** were a common work of wheelwrights, smiths and wicker workers. The growing demand in the early 20th Century led to the establishment of the first specialized factories producing the two basic types - the four-wheel wickered pram, originally open, later with a textile hood, and the so-called seating pram with a three-wheel undercarriage. Further development followed the fashion trends of the period. The undercarriages became lower, wheels smaller, strap suspension was replaced with spiral springs. **Fig.6.**

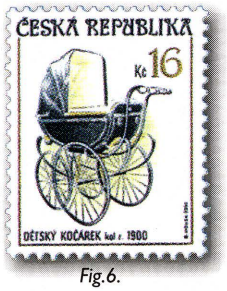


Fig.6.

• The Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea : SA 62 Bloureier) is a large **BIRD** with very long, yellow legs and a strong dagger-like bill. It can often be seen standing motionless for hours on end among the reeds, waiting for a fish to come within reach. Most grey herons nest in colonies high up among the treetops. They eat amphibians, fish and aquatic insects. In South Africa they are quite abundant, but in Åland they have only been immigrating for the past ten years. **Fig.7.**



Fig.7.

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Fig.8.

• **FUNGI** are neither plants nor animals, but are of use to us in diverse ways. Just as plants and animals vary in appearance, fungi exist in many different sizes, shapes and colours. The Straw Mushroom commonly known as the Chinese mushroom, is one of the most widely consumed fresh mushrooms in Hong Kong. **Fig.8.**

• Sweden's winter **BIRDS** remain during the frigid winter months and can be seen pecking at seeds left by thoughtful bird lovers. The Bullfinch (Pyrrhula pyrrhula) is one of Sweden's most common birds. The male has red plumage and a black head. According to legend the Bullfinch attempted to extract the thorns from Christ's crown of thorns, blood staining its breast plumage a deep red. **Fig.9.**



Fig.9.

• **FASHION?** Forget about Paris and New York - Bangkok is the place : modern, eastern, eccentric, amazing. The beautiful shape of a female model, emphasis on her hair, style, face and dress, in short the uniqueness of every creation is illustrated in this very special Thailand issue on Bangkok as Fashion City. **Fig.10.**



Fig.10.

• For human beings, Antarctica is a vast, icy and perennially inhospitable land, approached and inhabited by only the hardiest of souls.

But for **THE EMPEROR PENGUIN** (Aptenodytes forsteri), the continent is truly home - even in winter, when it's the only animal to spend the season breeding on the open ice. With their black caps, blue-grey necks, bright yellow breasts and orange ear patches and bills, these distinctive birds are the tallest of the 17 species in the penguin family. Every winter, once the sea ice has formed, they gather at their breeding ground, the mates of the previous year seeking each other out and spending several weeks renewing their acquaintance. **Fig.11.**

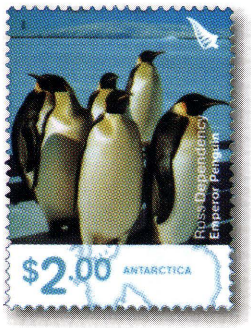


Fig.11.

• The Victoria Cross is the Commonwealth's highest military **DECORATION** for bravery. Lieutenant Alexander Roberts Dunn, the first Canadian recipient, fought at Balaclava during the Crimean War retreat on October 21, 1854. This stamp features the traditional Victoria Cross design. **Fig.12.**



Fig.12.

References

1. *Philatelic Bureau, Port Vila, Vanuata*
2. *Office de Emissions de Timbres-Poste, Monaco*
3. *Jersey Philatelic Bureau, Jersey*
4. *New Zealand Post, Wanganui*
5. *Deutsche Post, Weiden, Germany*
6. *Postfila, Praha, Czech Republic*
7. *Ålandposten Filateli, Mariehamn*
8. *Hong Kong Post*
9. *Sweden Post Stamp News*
10. *Thailand Post Company Limited, Bangkok*
11. *New Zealand Post, Wanganui*
12. *Collections, Canada Post*



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Bonhams

RECEPTION TO WELCOME NEW HEAD OF STAMPS AT BONHAMS

Over 200 people attended a reception held at Bonhams in Knightsbridge on Monday February 7th to welcome Graham Childs as the new Head of the Stamp Department.

The reception started at 6pm. with guests from as far as Scotland and the Channel Islands attending. David Beech, President of the Royal Philatelic Society London, Michael Sefi, Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection and a host of other important collectors and dealers from around the country quickly filled the main auction room gallery to capacity.

Graham Childs welcomed and thanked guests for attending and said that "he would further raise the profile of Bonhams in the philatelic world and looked forward to offering interesting collections and rare items in the coming months. He would also be seeing them at exhibitions and other events".



Top: Graham Childs. Below, left to right: Chris Holden, Brian Asquith, Kirsti Prolingheuer, Glynn Page, Charles Naper, Stuart Henderson.

Bonhams, founded in 1793, is one of the world's oldest and largest auctioneers of fine art and antiques. The present company was formed by the merger in November 2001 of Bonhams & Brooks and Phillips Son and Neale UK. In August 2002, the company acquired Butterfields, the principal firm of auctioneers on the West Coast of America and in August 2003, Goodmans, a leading Australian fine art and antiques auctioneer with salerooms in Sydney, joined the Bonhams Group of Companies. Today, Bonhams is the third largest and fastest growing auction house in the world. It offers more sales than any of its rivals, through two major salerooms in London: New Bond Street, and Knightsbridge, and a further 10 throughout the UK. Sales are also held in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and Boston in the USA; and Switzerland, France, Monaco, and Australia. In addition Bonhams has a worldwide network of offices and regional representatives offering sales advice and valuation services in 14 countries. For a full listing of upcoming sales, plus details of more than 40 Bonhams specialist departments, go to www.bonhams.com.

For more press information please call the Bonhams Press Office on Tel +44 207 468 8259 or +44 207 468 8340 or +44 207 468 8229 ■

Spink Highlights from 2004 Stamps

by Guy Croton, Specialist

2004 saw a very busy year for the Stamp Department, with some sixteen sales in London, Singapore and Hong Kong, comprising over 14,000 lots going under the hammer. A total hammer price of lots sold amounting to in excess of £7.5m, with a healthy average of 80% of all lots finding buyers.

Some notable realisations over the year included:

- Lot 107 from the Miles Rivett-Carnac collection of New South Wales, Laureated issue on unwatermarked paper 3d. dull yellow-green on greyish yellow paper block of fifteen, estimated at £50,000-60,000 set a new world record price for a piece of Australian philately selling for £104,000.
- Lot 412 in the February Stamps and Covers of the World Auction, Malta "One Penny" on 2½d. blue variety surcharge double, estimated at £1,000 - 1,200 sold for an incredible £13,000.



Top: Australia left hand multiple lot 107 sale 4030

- Lot 626 from the Dr. James Foght Collection of Cape of Good Hope Triangular Issues, 1861 "Woodblock" issue error of colour 1d. pale milky blue, the celebrated pair once housed in the Royal Philatelic Collection (part of which sold by Spink in May 2001) estimated £60,000-65,000, Sold for £70,000
- Lot 277 from the October sale of Great Britain Stamps and Postal History, 1d. black lettered OD on entire from London to Leominster dated 6th May 1840 (first day of issue) estimated £25,000-30,000, sold for £34,000.

2005 is looking to be a busy year with 12 sales already planned to date showing a strong and buoyant market. ■



Left: One Penny on 2½d. blue variety surcharge double

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Bonhams 1793

Stamps at Bonhams

Our London stamp department holds a number of specialised auctions a year, with a wide variety of lots ranging from complete collections to individual rarities.

Our team of valuers regularly visit all areas of the United Kingdom.

For a free valuation of your collection with a view to selling through Bonhams or for a catalogue, please contact **Graham Childs on 020 7393 3890, stamps@bonhams.com**

In addition, Bonhams is pleased to support philatelic events at local, federation and national levels.

We have a number of speakers available for society displays at no cost to the society.

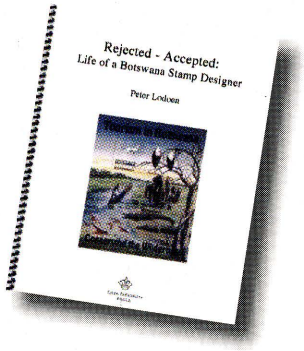


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Book Reviews

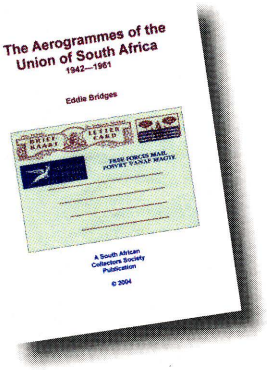
Rejected - Accepted: Life of a Botswana stamp Designer



By: Peter Lodoen
Published by: Krone Publications in collaboration with PSGSA

Dear Friends
The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA) has recently released a new booklet that contains a series of articles that previously have appeared on the pages of *Forerunners* between 1999 and 2004. These are by Peter Lodoen on his adventures as stamp designer for Botswana Post. The first stamps Lodoen designed were for the Papal visit in 1988. The latest (but hopefully not the last) was for the World Post Day of 2004. The Forerunners articles have been revised and illustrations of many more essays have been added. Also included is an introduction as well as a final chapter showing some of the stamps the author would have liked to design had he been given the opportunity. The narrative is written in an easy and entertaining style giving an insight behind the issued stamps. One learns about how the chosen designs came to look the way they do on the issued stamps as getting an insight into the creative work involved, design problems, prominent people behind the stamp scene in Botswana, printer problems, and the rejections that necessarily litter the design process. Get a copy even you have already read the originals. The illustrations in full colour will be worth the effort.

The booklet is published by Krone Publications in collaboration with PSGSA. It is softbound and contains 62 pages in full color. Members in Southern Africa may obtain the booklet by writing to the author at P.O. Box 1088, Molepolole, Botswana. The booklet can also be downloaded for your personal use from http://



www.kronestamps.dk/psgsa/.

The Aerogrammes of the Union of South Africa. 1942-1961.

By: Eddie Bridges
Published by: South African Collectors Society publication

Previous publications have listed aerogrammes under postal stationery but none has been so comprehensive as this present volume. Based on the author's own collection and that of the late Tony Chilton, it is evident that much new material and information have been added to earlier listings. Coverage includes the Stampless and Special Air Mail Letter cards, the Springbok Card and the Military, Civilian and Inland Air Letters. The numbering system of the old Union Handbook/ Catalogue has been retained with minor adjustments to render the text more reader-friendly. The use of colour illustrations throughout assists in appreciating the subtle colour differences that have proved troublesome in the past. The book concludes with a bibliography and a useful checklist and cross-reference table of other major listings.

The book, A4 in soft cover, is available from E. Bridges at The Laurels, 2 Short Lane, Thorpe malsor, Northampshire, NN14 1JT, U.K. tel +44 1356 515200 or email: aebridges@ukonline.co.uk Price £25.

We have been advised of the release of the following volumes:

• *"Philatelic and Postal History Treasures of the National Archives of Zimbabwe"* by John Landau, Ian Johnstone and Colin Hoffman.
Published by the National Archives of Zimbabwe jointly with Shannon Services (Private) Ltd, Harare, Zimbabwe. A4 landscape format, card covers. Price £25 plus p&p form Ian Johnstone, PO Box 2418, Harare. Email: rokpa@mango.zw

• *"They Served Africa with Wings - 60 Years of Aviation in Central Africa"* by WGM Stirling and JA House.
Published by Bookmark Publishing, coffee-table size, price R530 from Clarke's Bookshop, 211 Long Street, Cape Town. Email: books@clarkesbooks.co.za

Essentially an aviation collector's item, this book contains information of value for collectors interested in the airmails of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland. ■

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If you have any books you would like reviewed in The South African Philatelist, please send a copy to: P O Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504.

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to members; concludes with details of Journals listed.

1. "Bradbury, Wilkinson's and De la Rue's Essays for the First British Occupation Issues"
by Alan Drysdall, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, vol 40, Feb 2005, pp1-9.

2. "Ermelo Spoorwegmaatschappij"
by Helmut Hagen and Gawie van der Walt. *The Transvaal Philatelist*, vol 40, Feb 2005, pp16-19.

3. "The Kings' Head Booklets of South Africa"
by Brian Trotter. *The London Philatelist*, vol 114, Jan-Feb 2005, pp2-11.

4. "Otto's Bicoloured Forgeries"
by Alan Drysdall, "The Transvaal Philatelist" no.153, February 2005, p10-11.

•'The Transvaal Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Transvaal Study Circle based in the U.K.; S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email cachetap@lantic.net

•'The London Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London; the S.A. representative Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email frankfam@icon.co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email wannerton@iafrica.com

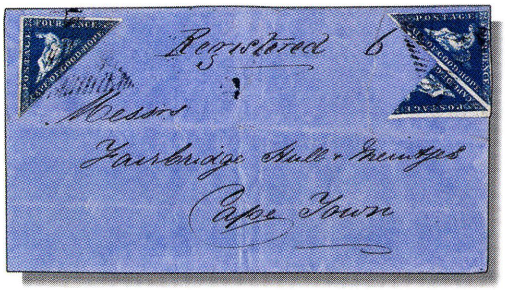
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Foreign Exhibitions

Washingon 2006 World Stamp Exhibition D.C., USA
27 May to 3 June 2006

John Lievsay, the Commissioner-General for this exhibition, has sent out a reminder that the Entry Forms must be accompanied by a copy of the introductory page of the exhibit, as stipulated in IREX 5.1, printed on page 57 of the Bulletin; there will be no 'final application' as mentioned in the GREX. Once submitted, the introductory page may be amended provided the overall concept of the exhibit is not materially changed.

Intending exhibitors should also note the size of the frames as given in IREX para 10 on p59 which specifies a usable display area width of 889 mm; A4 sheets and slightly wider can be accommodated, but significantly wider sheets will be a problem which may require 'trimming' of the width of the first sheet in each row.

Entries should be submitted to the National Commissioner, P.W. van der Molen, by 1 June 2005. Copies of the Bulletin and entry forms can still be obtained; contact the National Commissioner on 011 849 4822 or molens@pixie.co.za also for any further information or look up www.washington-2006.org

Obituary - Claude Juffard

It is with regret that we report the passing away of Claude Juffard. He had been a veteran member of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, a member who could always be relied upon to provide an exhibit at short notice or to support a society project. He made a immense contribution to the Southern Suburbs Stamp Club and more recently, the Southern Philatelic Society.

Being a Parisian by birth, the phialtely of France and particularly its topical aspects were his main interests. He also collected European material in general.

His topical exhibits were always well-researched and appealing. In his quiet way this erudite philatelist made his contribution to the society. He will be missed.
Our sincere sympathy goes to his wife and family.

J.R.F.

2005 SA Commemorative Stamp Issuing Programme

• Lunar Year of the Rooster	09 February 2005	• Shaping the Energy Future	26 September 2005
• Centenary of Rotary	23 February 2005	• Christmas 2005	03 October 2005
• SA Landscapes	06 May 2005	• World Post Day	07 October 2005
• SA Folklore	01 July 2005	• Prevention of Blindness	13 October 2005
• Freedom Charter	24 June 2005	• Pretoria 150	To be announced
• Small Indigenous Mammals)	16 June 2005	• National Orders	To be announced
• 2005 World Year of Physics	16 August 2005		

In future issues of The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

Marianne
by Hans Ulrich

Rotary
by Emil Minnaar

Elements of Federation
by Dr Alan M. Rose

Thematically Yours
by Rev J. C. Carstens

Cape of Good Hope Rectangular Issues Part 2
by Dr Dave Mordant

The South African Philatelist invites the various Philatelic Societies around South Africa to submit a brief and concise history, as well as their current status, for possible publication.

Smalls

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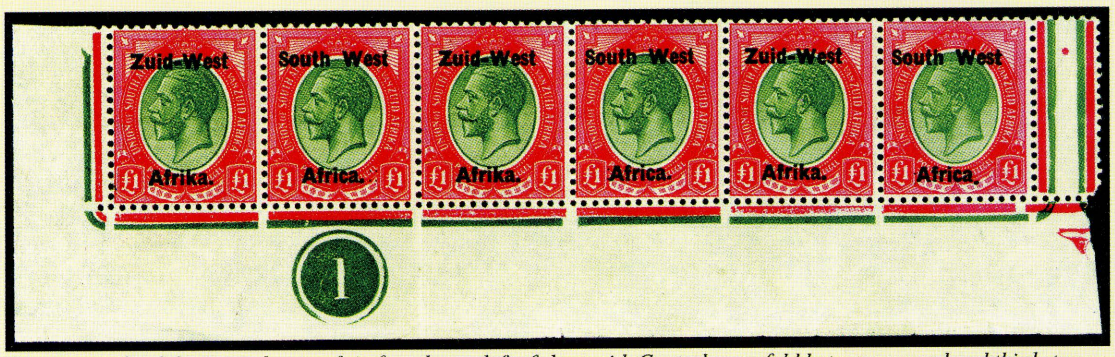
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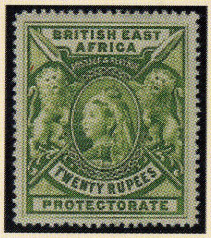
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If "YES" to Question 1, which countries do you collect? (Please correlate, e.g. stamps: *Transvaal and German SWA*; thematics: *African railways, central African birds*)

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c. postal stationery: .....
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e. literature: .....
f. thematics: .....

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.....

QUESTION 6: If "YES" to Question 4, are you prepared to dispose of your collection by

a. direct sale ☐ b. public auction (QSA) ☐ c. postal auction ☐

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b. a visit to a dealer fair? ☐ d. e-mail contact ☐ e. postal contact ☐

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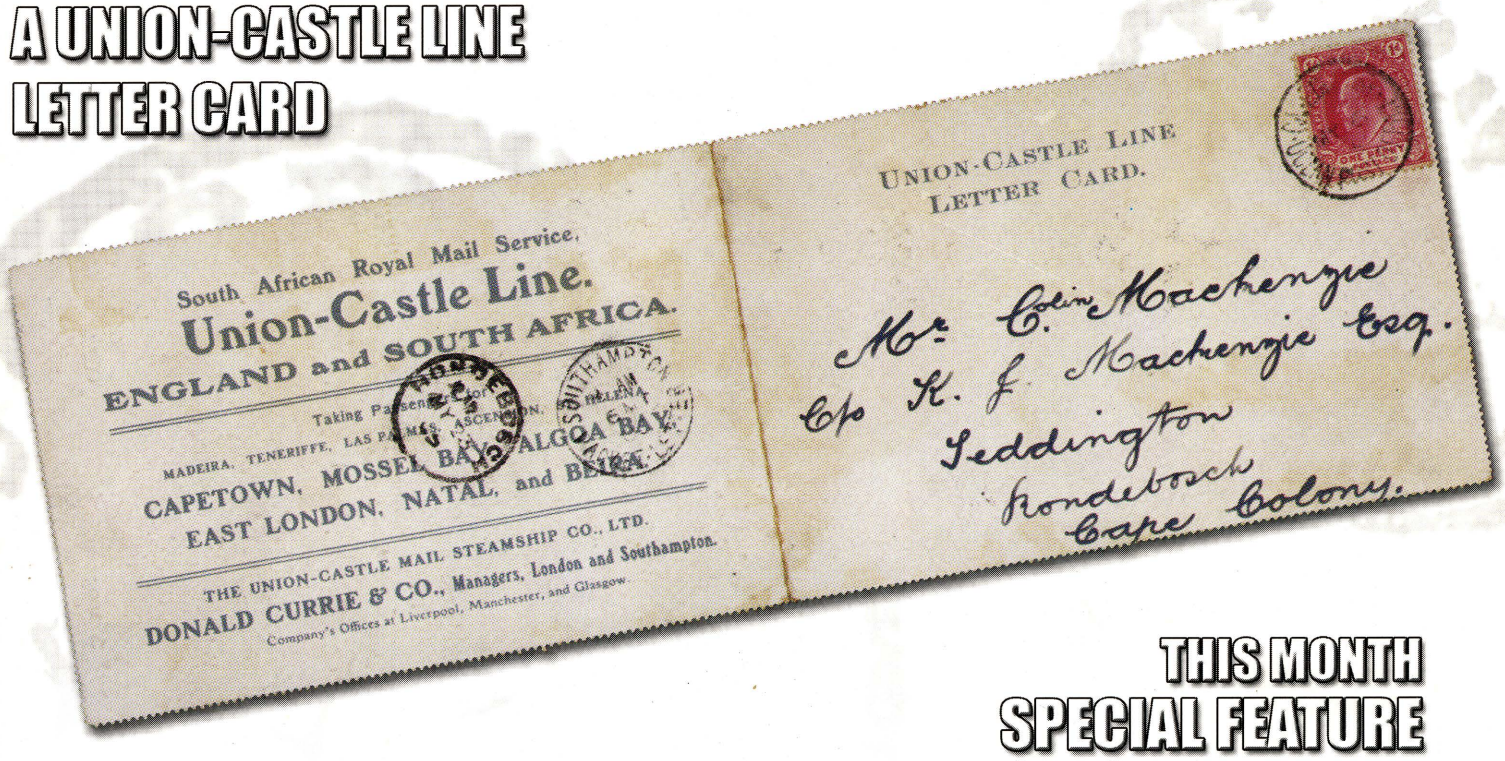
June 2005



The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

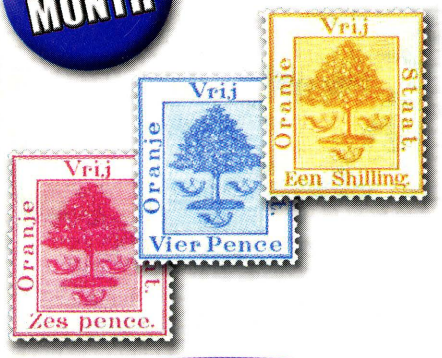
A UNION-CASTLE LINE LETTER CARD



THIS MONTH SPECIAL FEATURE

The story behind the 'Marianne' stamps

THIS MONTH



Value of Design



Lace



Marianne

INSIDE: • Cape Rectangulars Pt 2 • Jack Hagger • Development of Philatelic Literature • Junass 2005

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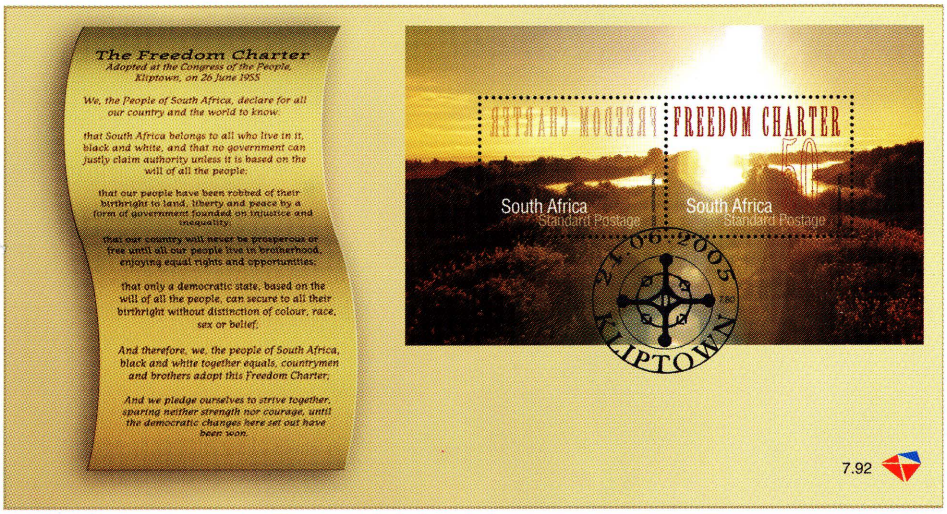
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Discover South African historical and mythical stories through stamps!

50th Anniversary of the Freedom Charter

The South African Post Office will issue a miniature sheet containing two stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of South Africa's 'Freedom Charter' on 26 June 2005.

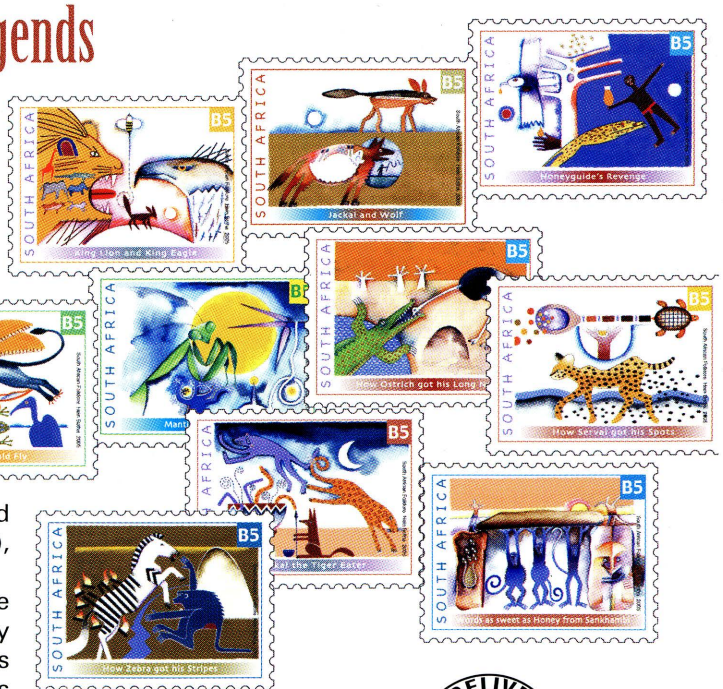
Designed by Thea Swanepoel, the miniature sheet uses the sun rising over the Gariep to symbolise how the Freedom Charter was the beginning of the changes that needed to happen in South Africa. The stamp at the left respresents the creation of the Freedom Charter 50 years ago. Its ideals are not reality yet, hence the words being faded and reflected, and the scene is in darkness. The stamp on the right-hand side represents the present (50th anniversary of the Freedom Charter), with the light of freedom and democracy shining over the landscape and over the whole South Africa.



The lure of South African lore and legends

These stamps celebrate local folklore and will be issued on 1 July 2005. Commemorative envelopes will also be issued.

Designed by Hein Botha, the stamps recall the style of the rock art that recorded so much of the world's ancient history. Yet the colours and use of depth and perspective are modern.



There are ten stamps in the series, featuring the following stories: When lion could fly (Ancient Khoenkhoen languages), How Serval got his spots (A Setswana story), How Ostrich got his long neck (Sesotho), Words as sweet as honey (tshiVenda), Jackal, the Tiger eater (Cape Malay), Jackal and Wolf (Afrikaans), Mantis and the Moon (San), King Lion and King Eagle (isiXhosa), How Zebra got his stripes (isiZulu), and The Honeyguide's revenge(isiNdebele).

Folk tales come out of very specific cultures. They feature characters that their audiences know and experiences they can identify with. The main purpose of oral story telling is entertaining, and as stories are told and retold, the exploits of the characters often become greatly exaggerated and they achieve legendary status. Folk tales are often intended to explain the way things are and the characters often represent certain values: kindness, cruelty, love or hatred.

For more information, please contact: Philatelic Services, Private Bag X505, Pretoria, 0001
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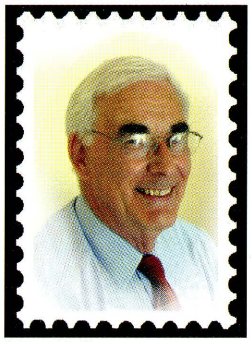
June 2005 Vol 81 No 3 Whole No 870

Large Silver Hafnia 1994, Silver Bronze Pacific 1997, Vermeil APS Stampshow1999, Large Silver Egoli 2001, Federation Plaque 2004

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ISSN 0038-2566

From the Editor



Despite the prophets of doom and gloom predicting the demise of stamp collecting, there seems no lack of activity in the local philatelic world. So far, this year we have news of a number of exhibitions at various levels around the country. The SAPDA Rosebank Stamp Show, including a selection of one framers, was held as usual in April, Prethema is on in Pretoria as we go to press, Sasolburg Filatelievereniging is planning a Mini, there are the Bloem One Framer and Junass Exhibitions in July and the Nationals to be held in Cape Town in October. Sasolburg and Boksburg-Germiston are holding their annual head-to-head in November.

Quietly, things are happening, and this doesn't include the monthly stamp fairs held around the country. I'm sure that there are other exhibitions and displays that we, at *The SA Philatelist*, know nothing about. If we knew in time, we could give a little boost - after all, there's no such thing as bad publicity!

On the same topic - why must all exhibitions be competitive? Public scrutiny and sentencing by a panel of 'experts' can be daunting to a beginner. Why not hold an exhibition as such, i.e. a non-competitive display of stamps just for the pleasure of showing what you have? East Rand did this last year at the local HobbiSport Expo and roped in contributions from other East Rand societies. No prizes, no judging, just fifty frames which stirred up interest with the public. Give it a thought.

Wolfgang Meiss, die President van SAFHA, het in sy boodskap aan die Rosebank Skou te kenne gegee dat die plaaslike seël mark tekens van groei toon. Aanvraag van die publiek is aan die styg. Dit behoort sekerlik nou die tyd te wees om die stokperdjie te bemark en daar is nie 'n better manier as 'n uitstalling om hierin te slaag nie ñ soos hulle sê " 'n prent is meer werd as 'n duisend woorde".

Dr. Alan Rose

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Publishing deadline dates for 2005

August issue	Vol.	81:4.	871 :	10 July
October issue	Vol.	81:5.	872 :	10 September
December issue	Vol.	81:6.	870 :	10 November

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FUTURE EVENTS

JULY 2005

Junass
15 – 17 July
Bloemfontein
Contact: Garry Osthoff
(051) 522 3542

Bloem One Framer
15 – 17 July
Bloemfontein
Contact: Gerda van Zyll
(051) 447 9609
Gauteng Commissioner:
Jan Bakker
(011) 849 7766

AUGUST 2005

Taipei 2005
19 – 24 August
Taipei, Taiwan

OCTOBER 2005

Cape Stamp Show 2005
20 – 22 October
National Exhibition, Cape Town
Goodwood Civic Centre

MAY 2006

WASHINGTON 2006
27 May – 3 June
Washington, USA
Contact: SA Commissioner
Peter v.d. Molen
011 849 4822

ESPANA 2006
(TBA)
Valladolid, Spain

OCTOBER 2006

SA National Exhibition
October (TBA)
Gauteng

NOVEMBER 2006

BELGICA 2006
16 – 20 November
Brussels, Belgium

DECEMBER 2006

INDEPEX'06
December (TBA)
New Delhi, India

2007

Brasiliana 2007
December (TBA)
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

MAY 2008

Israel 2008
14 – 22 May
Tel Aviv, Israel

JUNE 2008

Efiro 2008
15 – 22 June
Bucarest, Romania

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



The winning letter, chosen by the editor, will receive an exclusive Sheaffer pen from STATMARK

Stamp Fairs

Dear Sir,

The following points with regard to dealers in attendance at stamp fairs are intended as constructive criticism:

1. Great service starts with a good attitude. There is only one judge of great service: the customer. Enjoy helping people and note that *all* customers appreciate being treated as important.

2. It is not enough to attend to customers. You have to care about them as well. Listen to what the customer wants. If you listen hard, you can hear what they really need – and create an opportunity for a future sale.

3. A business is successful because of its customers. The customer has a wide variety of choices. If business is not good there must be a reason why customers are staying away!

The customer who is neglected because he or she has only a few Rand to spend, will certainly look elsewhere when the time comes to make those expensive purchases! On-line ordering is fast and efficient and overseas dealers are keen to help fill those gaps at reasonable prices!

Yours sincerely,

Deon Botha
Waverly, Pretoria

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The 'SAOPA' Joint Issue

Dear Sir,

The 'SAOPA' Joint Issue, which the S.A. Postal Authorities issued on the 11 October 2004, will no doubt produce some mixed comments.

I would like to say that I find the selection of the Registered Letter rate for the stamps most unfortunate and surely not a way to advertise South African stamps amongst thematic and young collectors.

The choice of colours for the stamps is also debatable. Surely the picture of a bird will be far superior against a much lighter background.

It is quite tricky to separate the hexagonal stamps in the sheetlet.

Whilst I welcome the idea of a joint issue for the SAPOA countries, considerably more creativity and common sense is required if these issues are supposed to 'develop philately in Southern Africa' as stated in 'Setempe' vol 9, no3 on page 6.

There is however another point which I would like to raise. The issue of copyright. I am aware that there are no patents issued for postage stamp designs. However the hexagonal designs of the 'SAPOA' issue are very unusual – until I found something very similar in the "Michel-Rundschau", the monthly stamp magazine of the German Michel-Catalogues.

The Michau sheetlet [Michel-Block 119] was illustrated in the Rundschau 12/2004 on page 125. Michel also states that this was the fourth issue of these hexagonal stamps in miniature sheet format. I have looked up the previous sets, which appeared in 2001, 2002 and 2003.

It appears that somebody took somebody else's idea here!

Is it permissible for one Postal Authority to use the very unusual design of another country without credits?

I am not aware that there are more miniature sheets with eight hexagonal stamps linked together – except the "SAPOA" sheetlet of Namibia.

E.C. Trumpp

(I am not aware of any copyright on the shape of stamps. Thessaly issued an octagonal stamp over 100 years ago and since then we have had diamonds and triangles from almost everyone, hearts from Tonga and France, circles from New Zealand and the Isle of Man with bananas and other shapes from Tonga. Regarding the layout of stamps on a miniature sheet I know of no copyright regulations – Ed)

Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email saphilatelist@iafrica.com Enquiries about membership can be referred to Robert Harm at robharm@mweb.co.za

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More on TPOs

The article on the Travelling Post Offices of Madagascar in *The SA Philatelist* of April 2005 (p 51) is a welcome introduction to this interesting field of railway philately.

The more recent reference work on the subject is *Madagascar, Rail and Rail Services*, by Colin W. Spong, published by the Indian Ocean Study Circle in June 2003. The 102 page volume was issued free to members of the study circle at the time and is now available at around R150 from the Indian Ocean Study Circle, 50 Firlands, Weybridge, Surrey KI3 OHR, United Kingdom.

Joh Groenewald, RDPSA,
Pretoria



Sandton Library

Dear Sir,

The philatelic literature section of the Johannesburg Reference Library has, this month, been relocated from its central Johannesburg venue to the Sandton Library. This was done to make the important collection of philatelic literature accessible to philatelists and the general public alike in congenial surroundings. Books are displayed on shelves and the reader can browse through fascinating early works.

The philatelic library was originally donated by the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg to the Johannesburg library in 1938, when it was realised that the society could no longer store, maintain and administer its library without the aid of professional librarians. However, little has been added since the 1970s, as philatelists made infrequent use of the library. Its situation, a crowded reading room and difficulty in accessing books were the reasons. Financial constraints meant that the Johannesburg Library could not add to its holdings.

Some fifteen months ago Mrs Mavis Illman, on the advice of a former official of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa, donated the substantial philatelic library of her late husband, Mr Benny Illman to the Federation. I believe this was a serious mistake, as the collection is now stored under adverse conditions at Airborne Park, Boksburg.

The collection has to date not been arranged or catalogued, as Federation does not have a librarian.

This Library is not readily accessible to the majority of members of Federation. If it was the intention of Federation to mail valuable books all over South Africa a catalogue should have been produced. However, mailing books is not wise, as it is difficult, expensive and time-consuming. Books are lost and damaged in the mail. Is the prompt return of books guaranteed, especially where members are incapacitated or die?

Mr Illman lived in Johannesburg and was a member of both the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society. He was never an office bearer of the Philatelic Federation, but supported it initiatives financially.

I feel strongly that the Philatelic Federation should consider donating the Illman Library to the Sandton Library to complement its existing philatelic collection, as the former contains much post-1970 literature. It would be a wise and generous gesture by Federation to the philatelists and the general public of Greater Johannesburg, where the library belongs. Certainly it was not Mr Illman's intention that the collection should go into Federation's archives.

Yours sincerely

Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL FPS of J
Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Obituary
Hannes Meintjes

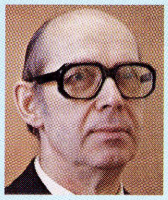
Dit is met leedwese dat die AFV kennisgee van die afsterwe van sy Erevoorsitter Johannes Jacobus (Hannes) Meintjes op 23 Maart 2005. Hannes was gebore op 7 November 1917.

Sy vrou Dora is 'n paar jaar gelede oorlede na 'n inbraak en hartaanval. Hannes het kort daarna 'n beroerteaanval gekry, waarna hy vir omtrent 4 jaar in 'n versorgingseenheid verpleeg is.

Hannes was jare lank voorsitter van die AFV en vir meer as 20 jaar op die bestuur. Hy was 'n verkose lid van Federasie en 'n getroue verteenwoordiger van die AFV by die jaarlikse kongres. Hy was ook betrokke by die reëlingskomitee van die Johannesburg 100 uitstalling in 1986. Sy groot voorliefde was seels van Madagaskar en Noorweë. Hy laat 'n seun, Dr John Meintjes, na wat in Noorweë bly, 2 kleinkinders en 2 agterkleinkinders. Almal is in die buiteland woonagtig.

Mag hy rus in vrede.

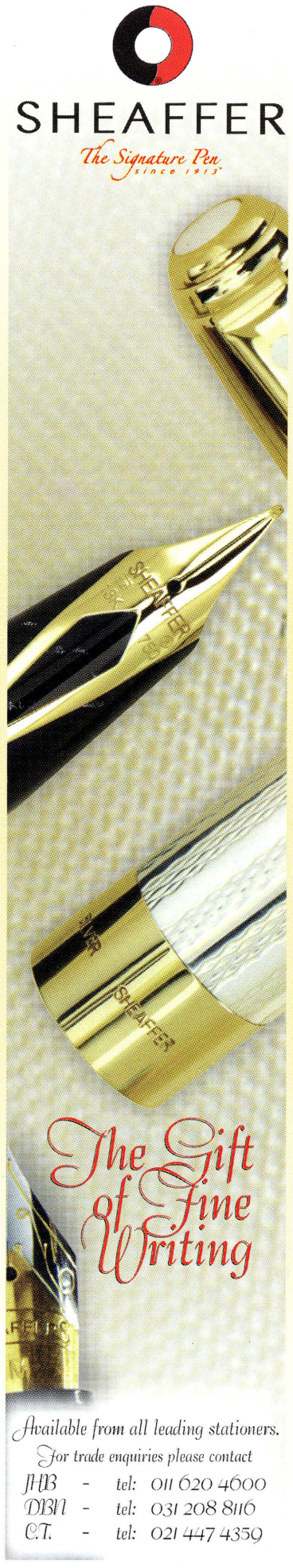
Obituary
Czeslaw Slania



Czeslaw Slania, the foremost engraver of recess printed stamps of modern times died on 17 March 2005, aged 83 years. Born in Poland in 1921 he eventually made his home in Sweden in 1956. His first Swedish stamp was the centenary issue of Gustaf Fröding in 1960. He worked for a number of different countries, not only Sweden, but the success of the commemorative booklet Gustav VI Adolf 90 years, resulted in him being appointed Court Engraver in 1972. Other examples of his work are found in the booklets Travels of Linné, The Göta Canal and Mushrooms. Possibly his most impressive work was his 1000th engraved stamp, and the world's largest, issued in 2000. This was a reproduction of David Klöcker's 1695 ceiling fresco, *Great Deeds of Swedish Kings*, in the Drottningsholm Castle.



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editor's choice

Winning Letter

Dear Sir

Since the suggestions (so vociferously attacked) I made six years ago have proved prophetic, I feel it is time to launch a new red herring.

The philatelic significance of postage stamps is over. E-mail and SMS have established a technology as novel and significantly different as Sir Rowland Hill's invention was a century and a half ago.

The technical use of adhesive fiscal payment receipts has lost meaning and can no longer provide either future historic or forensic interest. The younger generation has identified this reality with no regrets, but we oldies, who cling to our memories, do not want to accept this fact so easily.

The collection of postage stamps as representatives of the postal history of the 19th and 20th Centuries is, and will remain, a fascinating subject within which research will offer possibilities and require unending attention for years to come. Values will remain high but the subject is comparable to medieval altar paintings. They will not be painted any more. What we do in church today is different.

The most popular idea amongst young collectors in Europe is that of personalized postage stamps.

One can start with a minimum edition of 200. Stamp catalogues cannot only ignore them, they must actively object to them. Of course, you would buy up your entire personal edition and remain the only one in the world to possess them. So much for rarity value! Yet there are catalogues out on them. In Austria alone the issues of the last three years fill fifteen catalogue pages. People's interest is not so much to have the stamps but to make them. The 15 minutes glory on television promised to every person on earth uses this vehicle.

Read Friedrich Hundertwasser's Essay on *The Postage Stamp* (1983):

"The stamp is a carrier of messages and a gauge for the culture of a country, messages of Art and Life, not just receipts for payments." Modern life conveys culture differently. A few thousand e-mails per year and hundreds of SMS per month to my office have replaced letters adorned with stamps. Even call centres of banks communicate with SMS only. In a time where pirate international telephone networks obscure the true cost of phone calls and where postage stamps are issued without a value indicator over a period of one year at 6% inflation, correct franking has lost meaning and all use of stamps must automatically be described by that terrible, despised term "philatelic".

Modern communication will prevent interest in further development of postal routes or first day flights from being taken seriously.

How can one be interested in spelling mistakes in advertising slogans at a time when virtually everything is misspelled one way or another, or in misprints or misperfs of current issues? In the printing business a 0,4% error quality is the accepted norm.

Don't bewail the loss of younger enthusiasts. The post office discovered long ago that its role is not to satisfy philatelists, it is to carry information and this is done effectively today by more modern means. The new Rowland Hills are all over the place and they understand extremely well what they have to do.

Interactive human communication means something different today.

To do it is more than to have it.

We have lost out to the internet.

We have gained the web, e-mail and the cell phone.

H.H. Wilreker

Obituary Cecil Duncan

It is with regret that we advise that our Honorary Life Member of the Goldfields Society, Cecil Duncan, passed away on 21 April 2005.

Cecil was a founder member of the society and only missed two club meetings in 16 years.

Mr Meyer de Kock was requested by the family to officiate at Cecil's memorial service which was very poignant for the members of the Club who paid their respects to a loyal and much loved member.

His other hobbies were ship and aeroplane modelling. As a philatelist he specialised in Ships on Stamps, Pitcairn Islands, Tristan da Cunha, South West Africa, South Africa (including the former Homelands), Jersey and Guernsey.

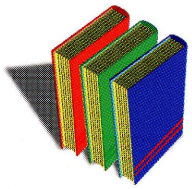
We will remember him.

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Elements of Federation part 2

By Dr Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society

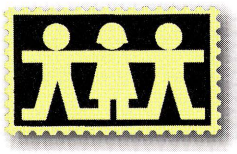
Publications Committee



Chairman
Prof. Okkie de Jager
PO Box 20227,
Noordbrug, 2522.
Tel: 018 294 8057
Email: fskocdj@puknet.ac.za

From time to time Federation publishes books, monographs, or Supplements to *The SA Philatelist* researched or written by members. These are generally on philatelic topics which would not interest the major publishers due to the specialised nature of the contents. Manuscripts submitted to the Committee are assessed for content, production method, potential markets, sales both within Federation and at selected commercial outlets and for overall viability. Not all manuscripts are accepted as material handled is usually of a reference nature or of restricted interest, thus all decisions to publish are made on commercial grounds. Members and potential purchasers may be invited to place pre-production orders at advantageous prices. Proceeds from the sale of published material are credited to Federation.

Youth Committee



Chairman
George Hayman
PO Box 913641,
Thaba Tshwane, 0143
Tel: 012 664 7521

The Committee is dedicated to encouraging youth philately. It has adopted the user-friendly name 'Stamp Mates' to provide assistance and guidelines in setting up and running junior stamp clubs. Advice and training is given to youth leaders via annual Youth Leader Forums and Workshops.

The Mr Yaccy Postal Club operates a stamp packet service for junior clubs, and publishes a quarterly newspaper, *Stamping Around / Seëls Rondomtalie*, which is provided free of charge to members of all registered junior clubs.

An extensive range of philatelic quiz sheets and games is available to enliven junior meetings.

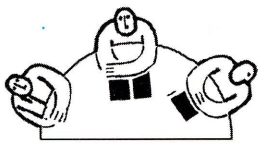
The highlight of the junior philatelic year is Junass, the annual Junior Stamp Show. This is organised by a local junior club with assistance from the Committee, and provides for competitive exhibits at the junior level. Successful exhibits from Junass are frequently entered into international junior competitions.

Membership Secretary

Robert Harm
PO Box 1532
Brackenfell, 7561
Tel: 021 982 8936
Email robharm@mweb.co.za

This new position within Federation has proved its value within the first year of its establishment. The Federation membership database has been reviewed and rationalised. The resultant list has been of value to society secretaries and to the circulation of *The SA Philatelist*. Societies have been able to identify correctly the status of their members. The Treasurer has finally a reliable database on which to base subscription income and the circulation of the journal has become more controlled. The excessive number of copies sent to non-subscribing organisations and individuals has been curtailed with consequent savings in production and postage costs.

Library Sub-committee



Convenor
David Wigston
PO Box 9394
Cinda Park, 1463
Tel; 011 896 2975
Email; wigstj@unisa.ac.za

Federation is in the process of establishing and developing the Federation Benny Illman Library which is situated at the Airborne Park facility, Boksburg. Books, magazines and documents of a philatelic nature are being accumulated and catalogued, and a database generated to inform members of the current holding. New acquisitions will be advised from time to time in *The SA Philatelist*. Procedures for borrowing material and accessing the facility for research and general study are being formulated and will be published when available. Donations from societies and individuals are welcomed.

Expert Committee



Chairman
Michael Wigmore,
RDPSA
PO Box 304
Montagu, 6720
Fax: 023 614 2521
Email:
dcrocker@lando.co.za

Expert opinion on the genuineness of stamps or other philatelic material is available from the Expert Committee, which consists of several locally and internationally recognised collectors. These are drawn from the ranks of amateur and professional philatelists who serve in an honorary capacity. Where second opinions are required, reciprocal arrangements exist with similar bodies in Europe, England and North America.

Fees for the expertising of stamps, covers, postal stationery etc. by the Committee represent value for money since with current exchange rates, they are considerably less than the equivalent service from overseas. Needless to say, South African certificates are recognised internationally.

Tariffs for expertising and procedures for submitting material were published in *The SA Philatelist* , vol 79, December 2003, p 195. Forms for the submission of material are available from the Secretary to the Committee at the address above.

To be continued next issue of SAP

Bloemfontein One Framer

The One Frame Exhibition taking place in Bloemfontein from the 15th - 17th of July is on track. The venue will be the Glass Palace with enough parking and security is good.

The Exhibition will open on the Friday at 11am, and close on Sunday at 4pm. We have had indications from a number dealers, including David Crocker, Mr Thematic, Allan Houghton, Jill Redmond, Dominic Martino, Paul van Zeyl, Clinton Goslin and the South African Post Office, that they will be attending.

It will run concurrently with the Junass 2005 Exhibition and an award will be given to all participating. Late comers may still enter if they contact me:

• Email: rtmtrust@global.co.za • Cell: 082-800-1432

We plan to visit the Anglo Boer War museum and have requested to be taken behind the scenes to see what is in this wonderful museum, but not on permanent exhibit.

Accommodation is advertised in this magazine and can be arranged at Kopano Nokeng:

• Tel: (051) 441-7819 • Email: knokeng@global.co.za

or at Crawford:

• Tel: (051) 436-6161 • Email: crawford@telkomsa.net.

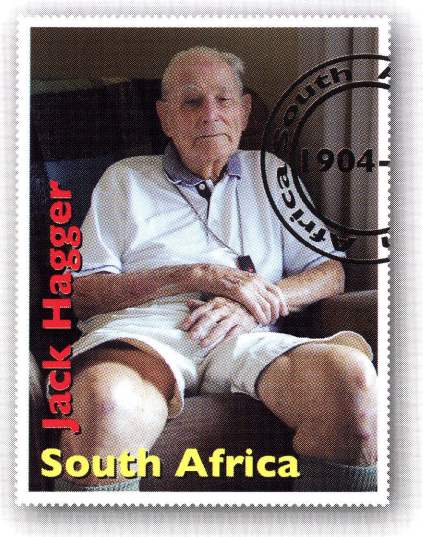
Please ask for special rates.

The Jury consists of Peter van der Molen, Jan Bakker and Emil Minnaar with Neil Cronjé as chairman.

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Jack Hagger, RDPSA

By Janice Botes



In writing this tribute to Mr Jack Hagger, I must excuse my lack of philatelic knowledge up front. The piece is written in awe of one man's life achievements and his continued influence on the many people within South African philatelic circles, rather than with any authority on the subject matter that has inspired him.

Time is a commodity that has the potential to assist the collecting spirit in any collector. In Jack Hagger's case, we must consider and respect the wealth of knowledge collected in his life time, knowledge that he has shared without reserve with anyone eager to learn. Now in his 101st year, Mr Jack Hagger continues to conduct his life with purpose. Strong and independent, his only frustration has become his inability to hear well. He enjoys reading and corresponding and is proud to share the neat files of correspondence he keeps from friends both local and international that share his passion for stamps.

Honoured for many outstanding achievements, and for his research and work on the 'Handbook / Catalogue Volumes I and II,' Mr Sydney John (Jack) Hagger has had the opportunity to sign a Jubilee Edition of this handbook at the opening of the philatelic section of the Sandton Library. Even today, years after these books were first published, they are still considered valuable reference.

Intrigued at Jack Hagger's longevity and his superb positive mindset, we questioned the link between body and mind wellness. Without hesitation Jack Hagger attributed his love of walking from a very young age, to his physical well-being. Getting to and from school when young, Jack was just seven entailed walking miles. "I could walk quickly, and could keep it up for miles," he explained. Jack Hagger came to realise that his love of walking also kept him healthy and continued this practice throughout his life.

Staff at the nursing home where Jack Hagger is now a resident tell how he walks around the car park, with no assistance and with the purpose of men half his age.

The importance of philately also manifested itself in Jack's life from a young age. "At age 12, whilst attending a new school, young Jack was exposed to other scholars from various backgrounds. From all over the East Rand, youngsters made their way by train to the only high school in Germiston. "Boys collected stamps, which they carried around in cigarette tins. The train rides provided an opportunity for us to swap and in a short time I found that I enjoyed collecting, so I also carried my stamps around in a cigarette tin, "explained Mr Jack Hagger. By 1918 he had accumulated some 3,000 stamps.

Before long, he realised that collecting was a serious business. An article in the local newspaper 'The Express' told of a meeting taking place in Boksburg. Together with another boy from the East Rand, Jack Hagger attended the first General Meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society. That was in 1919 and he recalls that the grown-ups made him very welcome. Years later, the Society discovered that Jack Hagger had been at the first meeting and made him a Life Member. It was at this time that his interest in the Union of South Africa became his speciality interest.

As a junior member, Jack Hagger was invited by Mr Cecil Donne to attend a meeting in Johannesburg, were he was shown what albums to buy and given other useful information. Jack Hagger recalls these trips to Johannesburg with enthusiasm as Mr Donne had a motorbike with a sidecar. In 1950 he helped to found the Germiston Philatelic Society, where he served for years on the committee.

Philately was put on hold while Jack Hagger studied for his Accountancy qualifications but resumed again when he was serving his articles and although he was careful about purchasing stamps while his family were young, he enjoyed attending the meetings.

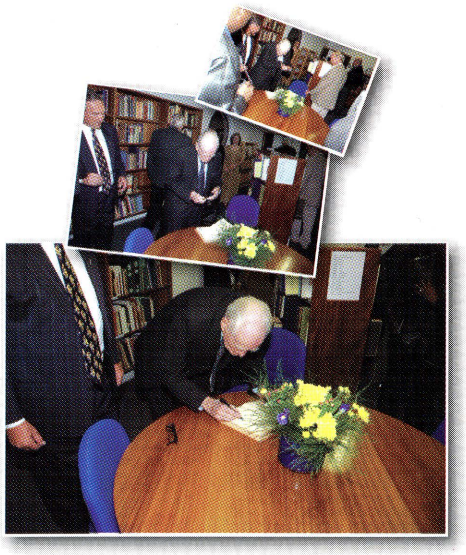
Jack Hagger considers the amassing of a comprehensive collection far more valuable than a 'rare' stamp find and advocates reading and research as the prime motivation behind any good collection.

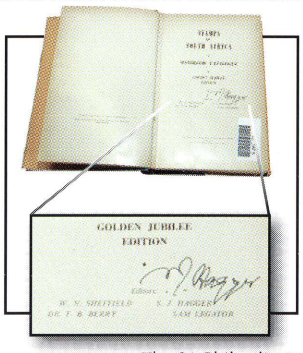
"Once I start on things, I like to correspond with other people who have the same interest in a particular subject," said Jack. One such correspondence is with Mrs Denise Collie who is a member of the SA Stamp Study Circle; Jack Hagger has had a 30-year friendship through correspondence. Mindful of sounding boastful, Jack Hagger prides himself on his willingness to help when asked for support and information from people in the philatelic circles.

In an article published in June 1967, entitled 'Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists,' it was stated that Mr Hagger regarded 1960 as the pinnacle of his philatelic career as this was the year that he was one of the editors working on the Golden Jubilee edition of the Handbook / Catalogue and the year that he served on the Unipex jury.

Jack was also the sole author of a later Handbook, which was published commercially.

Jack paid tribute to another man of stature in Philately, Mr Jonas Michelson, who he says he met for the first time in 1952 in Cape Town, during the 'SA Tercentenary Stamps Exhibition' (SATISE/SADIPU) held in Cape Town, commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the landing of Jan van Riebeeck. Even as a young man, Jack realised that Jonas would be a very useful colleague.





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Marianne

By H.H. Wilreker, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society



When the first postage stamps were brought into use, the average citizen still had a healthy respect for fiscal authority. It was considered natural that the likeness of the ruler of a country should adorn stamps, and kings, emperors and princes were found aplenty. But if monarchs were considered suitable eternal symbols of a country, presidents were not, and France was to experience swings between republic, monarchy and empire until 1870. After that, if we ignore the years of the German occupation, we accept that today's is the fifth Republic.

Where does Marianne come into the story? There are two things to consider. Firstly, French allocates a gender to all its nouns, and this leads the mind in a very natural way, for the terms republic, liberty, equality and fraternity are female nouns, while many of the demigods, muses etc of Greek and Roman mythology are females. France chose the head of Ceres, the Greek goddess of grain and harvest to be an early fiscal symbol. Secondly, the early republicans had certain symbolic figures and images: trousers replaced breeches (hence the nickname '*sans culottes*') and the Phrygian bonnet, a sort of soft headdress that had been worn by freed slaves in Roman times, a sign then of their new status as citizens. It swiftly became entrenched as a modern symbol of rebellion and was an important symbol of the birth of the French Republic.

During the first French Revolution of 1789 (France recognizes two more, in 1830 and 1843), this bonnet was worn by men and woman alike, with the addition of a badge in the new French colours blue, white, red. Later on, and the historic development of this is quite colourful, it came to be limited more and more to women's heads. And soon an image was to emerge of a fictitious person, a woman, half goddess, half simple country girl, heroic as well as young and pretty, and she was to be called Marianne. During the days of the Revolution and after the return of the Republic, in Paris, a woman wearing the Phrygian bonnet was never called Marianne. That name was only used in the provinces where the daily equivalent of '*How zit*' was 'How is Marianne?' (meaning revolution, daily affairs, government etc). Little by little, the name and the symbol 'Marianne' in the sense of 'Republic of France in Revolution' were absorbed and widely accepted throughout France by 1792.

She developed over time, but with her Phrygian bonnet she became, and has remained the recognized, established and registered national symbol of Republican France to this day. Marianne is not limited to postage stamps. She appears on coins, documents, medals, and her bust, inspired over time by a multitude of French beauties such as Brigitte Bardot, Mireille Mathieu, Catherine Deneuve and Laetitia Casta, is found in mayoral offices, city halls, schools and other public buildings country and worldwide. (Your enthusiasm for one of the ladies will give your age away.)

Choosing a king's head is straightforward, the selection of a republican symbol less so. It is a matter of political delicacy, and that is why the Marianne issues of France are so interesting. They result simultaneously from a why, a whence and a how.

How did she arrive on a postage stamp? The third republic after Napoleon III reissued the 'Peace' and 'Commerce' stamps of 1877, which had broken away from the Ceres image. They still, however, show a woman with a classical hairdo. In 1900, after the brief interlude of *Blanc*, Parliament demanded an image that represented the republican spirit. The artist Mouchon provided a design that pleased nobody. Somehow, the lady depicted was still too classical in her demeanor, not enough 'of the people'. In 1902, a redrawn version was issued which didn't please any more people than had the first one. She still was not Marianne.

In between, Marianne had started to sneak in. In 1900, Merson designed a woman, slightly militant in attitude, wearing what is obviously a Phrygian bonnet, meant to counter the steel-breasted 'Germania' from across the Rhine.

And then came *La Semeuse* (the sower) in 1903. These were the first women to appear on stamps wearing the Phrygian bonnet but still not officially called Marianne... Yet *La Semeuse* was Marianne in all but name. Parallel to the *Semeuse* issues, a woman, strictly Greek in posture and without a bonnet, *'Paix'* (Peace), appeared in 1932, still not referred to as Marianne. Then came the German occupation of France when Maréchal Pétain wiped Marianne off the slate.

It must be understood that this 'Marianne-ism' was established before and during the Second Empire (Napoleon III) where it served as a statement around which anti-imperial ideas and forces gathered underground. And since the Third Republic started on very wobbly legs (the Paris Commune had just ended) there was no compelling reason to have Marianne surface in an uncontrolled way.

But by 1944, victory was in sight. The French provisional government prepared for peace and had postage stamps printed in Algiers, depicting the *Arc de Triomphe* and - Marianne.

This was the first time that she was clearly identified as Marianne. From then on Marianne has ruled the roost in ever-changing and often very imaginative designs.

Her position is so firmly established that even the very beautifully designed issue of 1967 by Cheffer, which again shows the harvest goddess, is understood to be, and is referred to as, Marianne, although she does not wear the bonnet. The same holds for the issue of 1977 showing the head of one of the Sabine women after a painting by David (no bonnet) - she is clearly understood to be a Marianne.

The examples that follow should demonstrate the richness of the French passion for their Marianne. All of them have names and are referred to either Pygmalion style after their designer, or according to their appearance.

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There has been an amazing continuity. We are going to go through many of the issues of Marianne and also the equally interesting questions relating to the subject with emphasis on the background of their creation rather than the particularities of the stamp which can be read in Yvert Tellier, Stanley Gibbons or Michel. We shall not be looking at the 15 or so commemorative issues of Marianne, nor those of other countries.

In order to forestall objections to my including stamp issues not strictly identified as Mariannes, let me expand: After the Paris Commune, in 1871, the founders of the third Republic wanted to restore the republican symbols without necessarily encouraging revolutionary movements. So they preferred a crown of wheat sheaves, inspired by the crown of the sun, to the Phrygian bonnet. But the model was followed diversely throughout France and a statue with a wheat crown can be found standing opposite one with a Phrygian bonnet. What she was called depended on social class. The people called her Marianne; bourgeois Republicans talked about '*la République*' and anti-republicans called her, at least once, in a derogatory manner, '*La Geuse*' (the 'slut') or 'Marie-Anne'.

Today the assimilation of the Republic of France into 'la Marianne' is an accomplished fact. She has survived five Republics, wears the bonnet and has shed her former appurtenances such as a pile of arms and a scale.

Now for the details:

With the issue of the first postage stamp in France in 1849 the dilemma began. It was the time of the Second Republic and Napoleon III was not yet Emperor. Charles Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, then President of republican France, had no intention of having his head put onto the lithographers' block (yet). Eugenie de Montijo, a red haired Spaniard of great beauty, became Napoleon's wife only in 1854 and thus did not qualify to appear on a stamp (yet). So the French did what they are said to be good at: *cherchez la femme*.

France chose wisely and set a pattern that was to endure. Ceres, the Roman goddess of grain and harvest was chosen for the first French stamp issue, and forever thereafter images of women (Mariannes) have been the choice for definitive stamp series in France. (Fig 1)

Right at the start, the French came close to a disaster valiantly averted by the Finance Minister. Lack of time prevented the organizing of a competition for a design for the first stamp, and calling on an Englishman was considered. In the end, the quote submitted being too high, the Minister of Finance asked M. Barre, principal


Fig.1.



Fig.2.



Fig.3.



Fig.4.

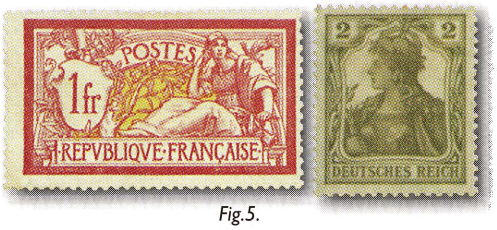


Fig.5.



Fig.6.



Fig.7.



Fig.8.



Fig.9.



Fig.10.



Fig.11.



Fig.12.



Fig.13.


Fig.14.

etcher at the Mint, to make a drawing and the original etching. M. Hulot, printer of banknotes, was in charge of production.

Napoleon III, as Emperor then from 1852 to 1870, put his image on the stamps but after the loss of Sedan on 4 September 1870, the Third Republic was proclaimed and it was swiftly decided to do away with Napoleon's image. Ceres was back and alive but immediately came under German pressure. (It was the time of the Siege of Paris, 1870.).

The provisional government left for Tours and in its flight from the Germans forgot to take postage stamps. The only mint outside Paris able to do the job of printing stamps was in Bordeaux. It was done, and Ceres was back again, but manufacturing was affected by the conditions of the times, such as disorganization and lack of materials, resulting in different shades, papers and gums. In consequence, this issue offers the philatelist an extensive field for research, on and around Ceres, with a number of varieties and defects, if one may call them that.

Paris, Imperial or Republican, hosted World Exhibitions in 1855, 1867, 1878, 1889 and 1900. The underlying rationale was social and commercial progress. Peace and Commerce were icons well understood by the broader public, and were used on postage stamps designed by J.A. Sage in 1876 (Fig 2) and on medals.

In September 1892, in a budget speech to the Post Office after 24 years of Republic, M. Mesureur, Deputy of Paris, requested that the postage stamp of the type 'Sage' should be changed, because he judged the design insufficiently republican. On 9 September 1893 Parliament approved this request for 'a modern, republican and French stamp'. In December 1900 Eugene Mouchon engraved a woman called 'Justice' holding tablets with the inscription 'Human Rights'. (Fig 3)

Public, press and politicians found her ugly. 'Justice' was withdrawn by vote of Parliament (250 against 243), and Mouchon was asked to retouch the lady, but despite her new 'make up', she remained unpopular. (Fig 4)

Just as the mighty Kaiser Wilhelm had 'Germania' look sternly over the Rhine in 1890, a more voluptuous Amazon, referred to as 'Franconia' by Merson, was considered more acceptable for returning Germania's stare, and was granted several reprints until 1932 - and she wore a bonnet. (Fig 5)

The names of the men involved in the creation of a new beauty called '*Semeuse*' were Minister M. Mougeot, Louise Oscar Roty, Mouchon, Minister M. Bérard, M. Lhome and others.

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No wonder that one single design could not satisfy all of them. So La Semeuse appeared in many guises, and is referred to as 'La Semeuse striped' 'with rising sun' (Fig 6), 'without sun', 'on a mound' (Fig 7), 'on flat ground, with breasts', and 'without', 'La Semeuse meager', and 'La Semeuse cameo' but she always wears the bonnet and could be classified as the first 'closet' Marianne.

Only a lady this versatile deserved to hold our attention from her first issue in 1903 until her last one in 1960, which is an exceptional longevity for a stamp issue.

During the years 1932 to 1940, when the countries of Europe were not quite sure which way they wanted to go or which way they might eventually go, a variety of Mariannes in more neutral disguises were considered preferable. One of these was *'Paix'* (Peace) in 1932, holding the olive branch. (Fig 8) A noble gesture but over-traded and degraded to a meaningless, run-of-the-mill item that would find its end in 1939. In 1938 it was good old Ceres again - designed by C Houriez, who was to start an ominous trend away from Peace.

The following year came Iris: personification of the rainbow and messenger of the gods, originally a virgin goddess and later to become the mother of Eros. Engraved by Houriez, she holds a torch instead of the olive branch. (Fig 9) and lasted for one year.

But times were changing... after having made use of existing *'Peace'* stock, the Vichy Government wanted little truck with soft images. It was to be Maréchal Pétain from 1941 to 1944 - wearing a 'bonnet', but a harder one, much harder!

The Provisional Government of 1944 disapproved of Pétain, and was also disenchanted with the ageing goddesses Iris and Ceres. They restarted a love affair with the ever-young Marianne (Série d'Alger). (Fig 10) Typographed at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington D.C., brought to France after the Normandy landing and used in the liberated areas as the armies advanced, this one was first put on sale in Paris on 9 October 1944. Designed by Luis Fernez and lithographed by Charles Hervé, she was the first Marianne on stamps who was clearly meant to be one.

Iris attempted to regain her place and appeared in a new outfit of beautiful fresh colours, but to no avail. Her time was past.

It is interesting to note that Marianne had been clearly accepted as a symbol of liberation. So once liberation was achieved, no one felt comfortable with her revolutionary attributes and images were softened.

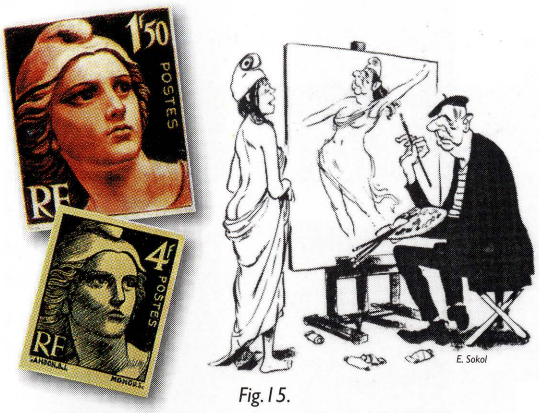


Fig.15.



Fig.16.



Fig.17.



Fig.18.



Fig.19.



Fig.20.



Fig.21.



Fig.22.



Fig.23.



Fig.25.

It seemed time for Ceres to try again, by now a grandmother of 96 years. She was the first stamp of the Second Republic in 1849, and put in her last working appearance in the first definitive series of the new 4th Republic in 1945. (Fig 11)

By then Marianne had been firmly established by Dulac. (Fig 12) For the next half century, there is not even the hint of a thought that another woman could compete. We must accept that at least from 1944 onwards, every new female republican head on definitive issues is a Marianne, no matter what she is referred to in the stamp catalogues.

The years 1945 to 1947 saw the first post-war issue printed in France, designed and engraved by Rivaud, Gandon and Cortot. (Fig 13) Raymonde, wife of Pierre Gandon, lent her features to this portrait. (Fig 14) Her acceptance by a majority in democratic France occurred in 1945, because, as General de Gaulle declared after several attempts of his own (Fig 15). "This will symbolise postwar France".

Marianne's place in postal history now being secured as a woman for all seasons, some sign of reconciliation was called for. On the occasion of the centenary of the French postage stamp Ceres' nobility was confirmed and celebrated in her last appearance, but only as a commemorative. (Fig 16) However, another Marianne was at work, as reprint, surcharge and commemorative, the Marianne by Muller (Fig 17), seen in 1955 in various colours and styles. (She was briefly accompanied by the *La Moissonneuse*.) (Fig 18).

By now a new *La Semeuse* was expected, and a new Marianne came, at the hands of A. Regagnon. She is a real Marianne - with a Phrygian bonnet - baptized 'Marianne at the stern'. (Fig 19) The picture is highly symbolic, for on the 13 May 1958 the putsch in Algeria was still close. The sun is seen rising across the ocean, and the wind blows from the south. 'What is this lonely fisherwoman without hope doing on the sea? Does she regret all the bread she has cast upon the waters?' asked the Paris newspaper *Le Monde*. She appeared only three times: first in 1959, then with surcharge for the benefit of the victims of the dam-burst in Frejus in 1960, and lastly when the Franc devalued by 100 in 1960. She was not particularly beautiful. Her successors came quickly. A Marianne by Decaris (Fig 20) in two-colour typography of inferior printing quality appeared in 1960 and another one engraved by Cocteau in 1961 (Fig 21).

However, undoubtedly it is the most beautiful face of a woman on any stamp issue, in my opinion.

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Designed by Henry Cheffer in 1954, a cousin at one remove of the sculptor Auguste Rodin. Time and circumstances delayed her appearance by thirteen years. When she finally appeared in 1967 (Fig 22) superbly engraved, she was loved immediately and universally. Even modern critics praise her classical elegance, the crown of wheat and laurel, her windblown hair. They called her the 'Ceres' of Cheffer. All this praise would have pleased the creator Cheffer, but he had died 10 years previously in 1957. His Marianne was reissued in 1969 in typography that did not attain the beauty of her former issues.

Quite unbelievably, after the beautiful *Marianne* by Cheffer, a very blunt *Marianne* by Bequet appeared in 1971. Her sole adornments were various phosphor bands. (Fig 23)

By 1977, the French could no longer do without a pretty face on their letters. When one considers that we kiss our stamps before we stick them on, this is no unreasonable request. Gandon did not invent another Marianne, he took a girl worthy of being stolen, a face from Louis David's famous painting: "The Battle of the Romans and Sabines". (Fig 24) It was a colourful display of feminism, and lasted a year.

And then one morning, President Mitterand saw the sun rise red, and felt that FRANCE, introduced by his predecessor Giscard D'Estaing, sounded too right wing. He ordered that all stamps forthwith were to bear the inscription RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE. (Fig 25) It was 1981, and Sabine obliged, with a smile.

This was not enough. 'A raped woman (the Sabine) as the symbol of woman's lib? Never!' His historic *faux-pas* was not held against old Gandon, however, and he was asked to try again. There were enough suitable French paintings to choose from... The result was an image from the painting *La Liberté* by Delacroix. (Fig 26)

In 1989 France needed a new Marianne for the bicentennial of the Revolution. A new Venus could have been drawn from many sources, David again, Manet and more, yet something went very wrong! A ghostlike, aggressive, hollow eyed face, with the sex appeal of a retired guerilla, became the stamp missionary of the New France: the *Marianne du Bicentenaire* (Fig 27), was designed by Luis Briat, engraved by Claude Jumelet and chosen in a competition with 700 entries. For the first time, the lady faces us squarely. 'The three vertical bands and the badge suffice to affirm the republican character of the image. For the coiffure, I would suggest more than only the bonnet in order to show, facing us, a character as contemporary as possible' said the artist.



Fig.24.



Fig.26.



Fig.27.



Fig.28.



Fig.29.

The design was probably misunderstood. She has since been called *The Blind Marianne*.

In 1996, after the now usual competition, President Jacques Chirac confirmed the jury's choice. Claude Jumelet had the pleasure of engraving, for the first time in French postal history, the design of a woman created by a woman, Eve Luguet. It is also the first time, with the exception of the 1944 issue printed in USA, that a French stamp carries the slogan Liberty, Equality, Fraternity. This *Marianne of 14th July* shows her European fibre, symbolized by the stars that speckle the sky.

How much the French care for their Marianne can be seen by the intensity of the involvement of their highest-ranking state officials. Consider the proceedings for their last issue '*Marianne of the French*' (Fig 29): On 13 July 2004 at 13h00, in the Marble Hall of the National Assembly, the president of the National Assembly and the President of *La Poste* unveiled the Marianne who would become the postage stamp of the French people. It is the design of 49 year old Thierry Lamouch, chosen by the president of the Republic, as usual (on the occasion of each new mandate, a President of France instructs the Postal Authorities to issue a new Marianne. He himself, if he is lucky, gets a short-lived commemorative issue. Compare this to some countries where presidents want to feel like kings (over and over).

This last issue is exceptional because the Posts launched a great competition for the whole of France for the replacement of the current issue. More than 50,000 entries were received and five times as many voted for one of the ten finalists. Three billion stamps of the new Marianne will be issued each year.

I have found this exercise heart-warming in our age of e-mail. I have also learnt that if you have created your own republic, you'd better love it!

Acknowledgements:
Marie Hélène Wilreker (translation) and Prof. Denise Godwin (re-reading).

References:

- *L'Echo de la Timbrologie, Le Monde des Philatélistes, Timbroscopie, L'Express, Label France.*
- *Archives du site du governement de Jean-Pierre Rafarin.*
- *Assebbleé nationale - archives*

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Unaccepted Colour Trials for the South African K.G.V £1

By Jeff M. Fine, Society of Israel Philately

Having 30 years experience collecting and studying the 1913/24 South African King's Heads, first S.A.definitives, I was most intrigued to be shown recently some hitherto unknown colour trials in green & orange for the £1 value of this series. This stamp was officially issued only in July of 1916. These trials comprised two paste-up 'sheets' of 18 impressions each (three rows of six) which were stuck down on a white board undoubtedly to establish an overall impression of the proposed colour scheme in sheet format. They would have been produced from combined Die proofs of the head and frame plates with the required value tablets having been inserted. They were rolled out by hand on a proofing press in the selected colours on gummed paper.

The normal procedure was for the one 'sample sheet', or for that matter copies of any proofs/colour trials, to be forwarded to the issuing country for approval (in this case through the South African High Commissioner's office in London) with the second sheet being retained at the printers Messrs De La Rue & Co for reference. At the request of the P.M.G.'s office in Pretoria the orange frame plate colour was to be altered to red and the unaccepted 'sample sheet' of 18 accordingly returned to the printers. The two sheets were then pasted onto a manilla board and affixed into the printers 'day book' where each stamp was defaced with individual crosses and horizontal lines applied across the six rows of stamps (all items had to be accounted for on a daily basis). The date 'May 1914' was applied at the base of the 'sheets'.

The De La Rue postage stamp archives were sold in the mid to late 1970s and this particular lot of trials for the £1 value became 'locked up' as it were in a collection without seeing the light of day again until a few months ago. When this lot was acquired by the new purchaser he was confused by the date of 'May 1914' appearing at the base of the page as he knew the issue date of the series to be in 1913. Why would there be the need for colour trials in 1914 he had thought. However, he had overlooked the fact that the original set did not include the 1½d, 1/3 and £1 values. These were all issued much later with the £1 value appearing in July 1916.

The trials for the £1 value being annotated 'May 1914' was therefore understandable and quite legitimate. The significance of the 'find' had not been appreciated and the purchaser cut the manilla board into two giving him the two original paste-up sheets of 18 impressions each. He then decided to cut the block without the annotation into a block of six and another of twelve impressions. The three pieces as they now stand will be auctioned by Stephan Welz & Co in August of this year.



Lesotho

By David Ambrose, National University of Lesotho

On 21 February 2005, the Postal Administration of Lesotho issued a set of four stamps depicting Basotho Houses. Designed by Makhabane C. Moshoeshoe, they show African traditional houses seen in the Kingdom, and cover the most commonly used postal rates currently in use.

70s this stamp is incorrectly inscribed 70L. The smallest unit of currency is the *sente*, plural *lisente* for which the abbreviation is *s* (as on other stamp issues). L runs the risk of confusion with the larger unit of currency which is the *loti*, plural *maloti* but for which the standard abbreviation is M. Although this design is inscribed 'Mokhoro' (which means cooking hut), a better description of the design would be Rondavel and Kraal. The Kraal behind is for cattle or sheep. 70s is the rate for Lesotho internal postage.

M1. The design is of a rectangular house with a shielded cooking area at lower right. Such rectangular houses are called 'Heisi' in Sesotho from the Afrikaans huis. M1 is the rate for surface postage to countries in Southern Africa.

M1.50 This design has 'Lesotho' placed a second time in the sky at top left, it seems to be an error. Perhaps the intention was a caption such as 'Lesotho homestead' which would in fact be correct. A more detailed description would be 'Lesotho homestead with rondavels and reed fence'. The reed fence is known as *seotloana*. M1.50 is the airmail rate per 10g to African countries.

M2.10 This design is incorrectly captioned. The house depicted is usually called *mathule* in Sesotho, a 'Rondavel with porch. The caption 'Mahlongoa-fat'se' is a corruption of 'Mahlogoa-fatse' which is a dome-shaped house built of flexible branches planted into the ground and joined together at the top. This value is the overseas airmail postage rate per 10g. outside Africa.



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President's Column

The editor has requested an update on Cape Town 2005 and I have pleasure in reporting the progress to date.

The show will be open to the public on Thursday 20th October until Saturday 22nd October. (Please note that the date on the Prospectus is incorrectly stated as the 19th October). The Committee is under the capable hands of Des Hyland, and the Jury is being convened by Hugh Amoore. The venue is Goodwood Civic Centre, about a 20 minute drive along the N1 from the centre of Cape Town. Plenty of parking is available and 24 hour security for the Hall and grounds has been hired.

Some 70+ entries have been received to date (May 21st) giving a total of about 280 frames. The final number is expected to be around 300. The Court of Honour will also be available for invited exhibits. The main sponsor is the South African Post Office, and the usual special exhibition postmark will be made available together with a Post Office stand.

Palmares will take place at Mowbray Golf Club on Saturday 22nd October. Congress will be on Friday 21st October at the nearby Goodwood sports club (about 4 minutes walk from the exhibition).

A feast of 15 dealers have applied for stands so far (about half from overseas). The format of the catalogue has been laid out with various pertinent articles received. Advertising in the catalogue is still available, as is sponsorship for the individual pages. A Juniors corner will be organised with a raffle and other fun events. Specialist Society bookings are:

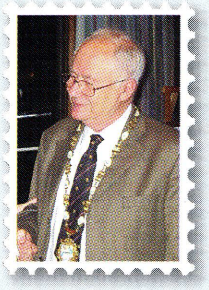
- 20 October - Thematics of South Africa
- 22 October - Rhodesian Study Circle
  The Transvaal Study Circle
  The Bechuanaland and Botswana Society.

The Members and Fellows of the Royal of London will be holding a function on the 21st.

The above is a rather dry recitation of facts , but I hope it will enthuse readers to come to the Cape and enjoy the many and varied events as listed, to say nothing of the many and varied scenic adventures to be experienced.

I look forward to seeing you there.

David Sinclair



PFSA Delegation meets Minister

At the 2004 Congress of the PFSA in Durban, a motion was accepted which requested the Management Committee to set up a meeting with the Minister of Tourism with the view of centralising all the public philatelic collections into one location and promoting it then as a tourist attraction. This task was given to the Convenor of the PFSA Public Collections Committee, the Federation's committee entrusted with task of looking after the collections in public hands.

After some discussion it was decided that the Minister of Arts & Culture would be the most appropriate minister to involve. Therefore a meeting was set up to meet the Minister, Dr Pallo Jordan, in Pretoria on 28 April 2005. A four member team consisting of Peter van der Molen (Chairman of MC), Herbie Schäffler (Vice-chairman of MC), Johan van Wyk (Philatelic Services) and Gawie van der Walt (PFSA Public Collections Committee) met with the Minister at his office in Pretoria. Ron Rong of the PFSA's Publicity Committee prepared an excellent PowerPoint presentation which was shown to the Minister.

The presentation gave a brief overview of the PFSA's activities of the last 75 years, thus establishing our credentials. After that, points were raised for the centralisation of public philatelic collections.

The Minister thanked the delegation and the PFSA for its presentation and said that the matter would be investigated. However, he said one should remember that South Africa functions as a federal state and it might be difficult to convince provinces to give up their collections.

The desire was expressed that this would not be the last contact between the PFSA and the Department of Arts and Culture.

The leader of the delegation, Gawie van der Walt, then presented to the Minister, as a token of appreciation, a folder containing three of the latest issues of the *SA Philatelist* and three issues of *Setempe*.



Gawie van der Walt and Pallo Jordan.

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The Rectangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope Part 2

By Dr. D.G. Mordant, SA Stamp Study Circle

THE PROVISIONAL ONE PENNY IN RED ON SIXPENCE DEEP LILAC OF 1874

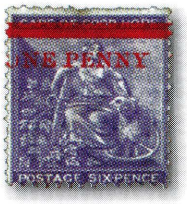
During 1874 a temporary shortage of one penny stamps developed at the Cape because the order placed in April 1874 had not arrived by mid-August; and by 26 August the Postmaster-General reported that his stocks of the one penny value were exhausted. Messrs Saul Solomon and Co. were commissioned to surcharge sixpenny deep lilac stamps to make good the one penny shortfall. Altogether 480 000 sixpenny deep lilac stamps were surcharged with the words ONE PENNY in Roman capital letters and in red ink, and the sixpence value tablet was obliterated by a red bar. It would appear as if more than one printing may have occurred here because two widths of the obliterating bar can be differentiated, namely: 1,5 mm wide and 2 mm wide.

Also the distance between the letters and the obliterating bars is usually 17,5 mm, but a variety is found with a distance of 13,5 mm, which interestingly enough, is the distance between the letters and the obliterating bar of the next provisional surcharge of 1876. Typically, the ink of the surcharge is bright red, but with age this has changed to various shades of dull red and even brown.

As this was a rushed job the sheets were often surcharged out of alignment leading to many varieties like:-

a. An upwards shifting of the surcharge leading to the words 'ONE PENNY' being missing, resulting in a surcharge with only the obliterating bar being present.

b. A downwards shifting of the surcharge resulting in an absence of the obliterating bar, and the stamp therefore being overprinted with 'ONE PENNY' only.



The provisional 'one penny in red on sixpence deep lilac of 1874' with variety downwards shift of overprint.

c. A more pronounced downwards shifting of the surcharge leading to the obliterating bar being over the Cape of Good Hope tablet and the words 'ONE PENNY' 2mm below this.

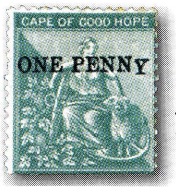
d. The letter 'E' in the word 'PENNY' omitted.

e. Multifarious broken or misplaced letters, e.g.. 'IENNY' instead of 'PENNY'.

f. A pronounced sideways shifting of the overprint either to the right or left.

The delayed order of normal one penny stamps arrived two weeks after the surcharging had been done, on 9 September 1874.

Two years later exactly the same problem developed again. A temporary shortage of one penny stamps again developed at the Cape in 1876 when an order for 2 160 000 stamps dispatched in September did not arrive until the 12th December. On the 22nd November the Postmaster –General pointed out that his stocks of one penny stamps were completely exhausted and that he only had sufficient of the halfpenny value as substitute to last for one week. Messrs Saul Solomon and Co. were again commissioned to surcharge stamps. This time the 'One Shilling Green' issue of 1864 was chosen as rather large stocks were being held at the Cape and the demand was not too great. The result was the provisional 'One Penny in Black on One Shilling Green of 1876', issued during November of 1876.



The provisional 'one penny in black on one shilling green of 1876' with variety dropped 'y' variety.

The surcharge was done in Roman capital letters with an obliterating bar intended to cover the one shilling value tablet. The surcharge and obliterating bar are in deep black and the words and the bar are typically 13,5 mm apart. Of this provisional only 120 000 stamps were surcharged, but, again this was a rushed job and many varieties are found, e.g.:

a. The words 'ONE PENNY' missing; the obliterating bar is thus the only overprint.

b. The obliterating bar omitted, due to shifting of the surcharge downwards; 'ONE PENNY' is thus the only overprint.

c. The obliterating bar across the centre of the stamp with the words 'ONE PENNY' missing;

d. The obliterating bar across the centre of the stamp with the words 'ONE PENNY' 2 mm below it;

e. With the words 'ONE PENNY' over the value tablet and the obliterating bar 2 mm above it;

f. A variety of the letter 'O' in the word 'ONE' is found, the letter being printed sideways or horizontally instead of vertically and thus somewhat egg shaped.

THE PROVISIONAL THREE PENCE IN RED ON FOUR PENCE BLUE OF 1879

In terms of Act No. 25 of 1879, the rate of inland postage at the Cape was decreased from fourpence to threepence per half ounce. This was promulgated in the Government Gazette of 31 October 1879, to be effective from the day thereafter.

The Postmaster – General had had prior warning of the legislation and already had 5 000 sheets of the fourpenny denomination overprinted in readiness. 1 200 000 stamps of the fourpenny blue issue of 1876, without an outer frame-line and with a Crown CC watermark were overprinted in red by Messrs Saul Solomon and Co. during September 1879, and issued on 1 November 1879.

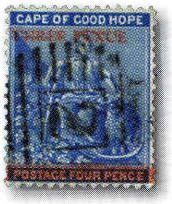
The surcharge consists of the word 'THREE PENCE' in small Roman capital letters and the fourpence value tablet is obliterated by a red bar of which two widths can be differentiated, 1,5 mm and 2 mm. Classically the surcharge is red, although the colour has dulled with age to deeper duller reds and browns. Two distances between the words and the obliterating bar are found, namely, 16,5 mm and 18 mm.



The provisional 'three pence in red on four pence blue of 1879' showing the variation in spacing.

Many varieties of the surcharge are found:

a. At least one whole sheet seems to have been doubly surcharged and issued so.



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b. 'PENCB' for the word 'PENCE'.



c. 'THE.EE' for the word 'THREE', also 'THEEE'.



d. Dropped 'T' in 'THREE'.

e. Dropped 'P' in 'PENCE'.

f. 'THREF' for 'THREE', also 'THRFE'.

g. The word 'THRFF' for 'THREE'.

h. A broken P.

i. Miscellaneous varieties are found from imperfect printing and the use of broken and damaged type, as well as misalignment of the sheets being over-printed.

j. A large 'H' in 'THREE'.

THE PROVISIONAL THREEPENCE IN BLACK ON FOUR PENCE PALE DULL ROSE OF 1880



The provisional 'three pence in black on four pence pale dull rose of 1880'.

With the change in postal rates, effective from 1 November 1879, a continuous supply of threepence stamps became necessary. On being contacted about the emergency, the contractors, Messrs De La Rue and Co. pointed out to the Crown Agents that the preparation of a three pence printing plate would take time and suggested running off 3 000 sheets of the fourpenny plate in a maroon colour and surcharging them immediately. The Crown Agents agreed to this while the threepence printing plate was being prepared.

720 000 stamps were printed in a pale, dull rose colour using the fourpence printing plate by Messrs De La Rue and Co. in London. At the same time the stamps were surcharged by Messrs De La Rue and Co. with the word 'THREEPENCE' in tall thin block capitals across the value tablet of the stamp. These stamps were issued at the Cape during February 1880 and the stocks were exhausted by 19 July 1880.

A constant variety is found where the foot of the 'P' in pence is broken off, making the letter shorter.

Other varieties noted in the surcharge are specimens with a short 'H', and also examples with a short 'T'. One stamp 18 mm wide as opposed to the standard 20 mm has been found used. A long 'H' variety has also been noted.

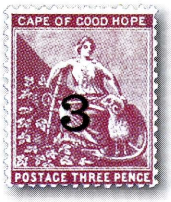


THE THREE PENCE PALE DULL ROSE OF 1880

This was the issue specially prepared to fulfil the change in postal rate at the Cape. It was issued at the Cape on 1 July 1880 in a pale, dull rose colour on Crown CC watermarked paper with the perforation gauging 14 and with white gum. Over 4 500 000 stamps of this denomination were dispatched to the Cape Colony. About 240 000 of these were issued unsurcharged to the public during July. But problems soon surfaced. On 28 May the Postmaster-General drew attention to the fact that his original request for a maroon colour had not been complied with and the pale, dull rose colour was being confused in the Post Offices with the pale carmine-red colour of the one penny value.

The Postmaster-General requested that his request for a maroon colour be complied with and that all threepence stamps in the pale, dull rose colour be surcharged with a large figure '3' by the Government printers, who were Messrs Saul Solomon and Company.

Surcharging began on 26 July 1880 and in excess of 4 300 000 stamps were surcharged. Thus, came into being the Provisional 'Numeral '3' surcharge on the Three Pence Pale Dull Rose of 1880'. These were issued during August 1880 after the original threepence pale dull rose stamps had been surcharged by a large numeral '3' of two different types. It seems as if the stamps were surcharged in panes of sixty at a time.



The number '3' surcharge on the three pence pale dull rose of 1880.

Of the sixty stamps in a pane, 48 were surcharged with a fat numeral '3' measuring 4,5 mm x 3 mm, ten were surcharged with a narrow numeral '3' measuring 5 x 2,5 mm and two stamps on the pane appear to have been unsurcharged.

From strips and blocks that have survived, it appears as if the two unsurcharged stamps were one from row 9, probably number 6, and one from row 10, position unknown.

Many varieties of the surcharge are found due to the irregular feeding of the sheets into the surcharging machine. In the most extreme case this has led to a single surcharge straddling two stamps, so that the individual stamp has two half surcharges, one over the top tablet and one over the bottom tablet of the stamp. This variety is usually classified as a double surcharge.

Five varieties of the fat surcharge are known:

a. The surcharged numeral inverted;

b. The top of the numeral broken off and other breaks in the numeral.

c. A vertical or horizontal pair, one without a surcharge;

d. A misplaced surcharge;



e. An inverted watermark.

Four varieties of the narrow surcharge have been recorded:

a. The numeral inverted;

b. A vertical pair, one stamp without a surcharge.

c. A horizontal pair, one stamp unoverprinted.

d. An inverted watermark.

Three varieties of the combined surcharges have been recorded:

a. A vertical pair, fat surcharge upper and narrow surcharge lower.



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b. A vertical strip of three – fat surcharge upper, narrow surcharge lower and middle stamp without surcharge.

c. A vertical strip of three – fat surcharge upper, narrow surcharge middle and the lower stamp without surcharge.

THE THREE PENCE CLARET OF 1881

The complaint of the Cape Postmaster-General that the pale, dull rose colour of the threepence was being confused with the pale carmine-red of the one penny was acted upon by the contractors, Messrs De La Rue and Co. who then printed the next lot of threepenny stamps in a claret colour. These were issued at the Cape during January 1881.

The claret colour is found with shades varying from pale to deep. The watermark is the Crown CC. The paper is medium white wove, the gum is white and the perforation is comb gauging 14.

In excess of 4 000 000 of these stamps were issued. One variety of an inverted watermark has been recorded.

THE THREE PENCE CLARET OF 1882

During July 1882 a new stamp was issued at the Cape. In all respects this issue was a continuation of the threepence claret of 1881, except that the Crown CC watermark paper was replaced by the Crown CA watermark paper. One variety of an inverted watermark has been recorded. Again varying shades of claret from pale to deep are found.

THE PROVISIONAL ONE HALF-PENNY IN BLACK ON THREE PENCE DEEP CLARET OF 1882



The provisional 'one half penny in black on three pence deep claret of 1882' showing the two varieties of 7-7½ mm and 8mm space between the cancellation bar and the words.

The Post Office Bill, Act No. 4 of 1882, decreased the postal rate on newspapers from one penny to a halfpenny per copy effective on 1 July 1882. The demand by the Post Office for halfpenny stamps was so great that stocks were soon exhausted. On the 30th June the Postmaster-General requested authority from the Treasury to surcharge tickey stamps with one half-penny. The Government printer was handed 1 000 sheets of deep claret stamps for surcharging. The vast majority were on Crown CA paper; however, a few sheets on Crown CC paper were surcharged, although the exact number is not known. The surcharge was applied in panes of sixty stamps, was done in black letters and consisted of the words 'One Half-penny' in two lines with an obliterating bar over the original value of the stamp. Of the overprint on the Crown CC paper, one variety is very well known, namely, the hyphen between the half and penny being omitted. This missing hyphen variety is probably the rarest of all the Cape Rectangulars.

The stamps were irregularly overprinted, with a pronounced shift to the left being especially common, in what is after all quite a rare provisional.

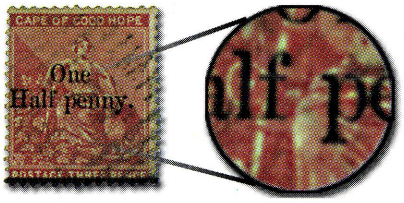
Minor breaks in the letters of the surcharge are found. One specimen of a 'No stop after penny' variety has been found – its status is currently being investigated.

On the Crown CA paper a large number of varieties are known.

The most common are:

a. One case of an inverted watermark has been recorded.

b. The hyphen between the Half and penny omitted;



c. The letter 'p' of penny omitted;

d. The letter 'y' of penny omitted;

e. Various shifts of the overprint leading to the obliterating bar being omitted or found at the top of the stamp; or in various other positions other than over the value tablet.

f. Many varieties of broken letters due to defective type.

g. Shifting of the overprint to the left or right.

h. A gap between 'n' and 'y' of penny.

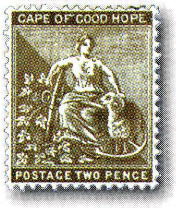
i. The 'penoy' variety



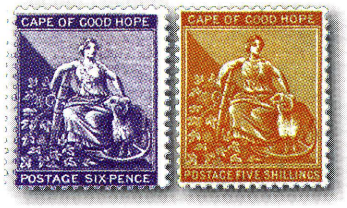
The provisional 'one half penny in black on three pence deep claret of 1882' showing varieties 'penoy' and raised 'ny' in penny.

During 1882 and 1883 a new series of definitive stamps on Crown CA watermarked paper, without an outer frame-line and perforated 14, was issued. The first to be issued was the 'One Penny Red of July 1882' and was issued in that month as well. The colours are basically red with shades apparently the same as those used for the Crown CC printings without the outer frame-line, i.e., pale carmine red, carmine red and deep carmine red.





The new definitive issue of CA watermarked paper of 1882-3. ½d black, 1d red, 2d bistre, 6d mauve, and 5/- orange.



Two varieties are known:

a. An inverted watermark.

b. A penny bisected on cover to give a half-penny value;

In August 1882 the 'Six Pence Mauve of 1882' was issued. The printing plate used was apparently still that manufactured in 1863 from the original die with the outer frame-line intact. The recognised colour is mauve with various shades being known, tending towards the brighter mauve and violet. It seems as if just over 1 000 000 stamps of this issue were issued. As with all the issues with outer frame lines, minor varieties of the frame are found.

One month later on 1 September 1882, the 'Half-penny Black of 1882' was issued. The colours recognised are deep black, black and grey-black with many shades of the latter common. The printing plate used was apparently the same as that used for the

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Crown CC issue with the outer frame-line removed and manufactured from the re-engraved die.

The only variety recorded is that of an inverted watermark, specifically in the grey-black range.

On the same day 1 September 1882 the 'Two Pence Bistre of 1882' was issued. The Post Office Bill, Act 4 of 1882, reduced the inland rate on all letters to tuppence per half ounce or part thereof, effective 1 July 1882. In April 1882 the Postmaster-General requested that a plate be prepared of the same design as that currently in use and to be printed in a shade of brown that could not be confused with the reds and maroons already in use.

For July and August, until the twopence became available, multiples of the penny value were used. The printing plate was prepared from the re-engraved die currently in use for the other values, without the outer frame-line. The colour is basically bistre with shades from pale to deep being recorded.

Three varieties are known:

a. An inverted watermark especially in the pale bistre range. An inverted watermark in the re-touched plate range has not yet been described.

b. A retouched plate.

c. A coarse printing.



The re-engraved plate variety of the 2d Bistre of 1882.

The re-touched plate is one of the very interesting varieties of the Cape rectangular stamps. Apparently the contractors, Messrs De La Rue in London, received an order from the Cape Treasury for 5 000 sheets of the Two Pence bistre value. When they took the plates from the strong room they found that they had rusted but, there being no time to prepare new printing plates, they re-touched the backgrounds where they had rusted, resulting in a re-touched plate variety where the background lines have been re-engraved. A full spectrum of the re-touched plate variety, from heavy re-touching to faint re-touching is found, but only on the Two Pence, as it was the actual printing plates, and not the basic die, that was re-touched. The re-touching is mainly visible in the background, where the regular, parallel horizontal lines have been re-engraved into wavy lines of irregular thickness. To a varying degree the figure of Hope is also found re-touched.

A coarse printing, not to be confused with the re-engraved plate, is also recognised. The coarseness is particularly evident in the background lines (normally regular, parallel, even and unbroken) being of irregular thickness, thus uneven, blotchy and with many small breaks.

During August 1883 the 'Five Shillings Orange of 1883' was issued. It was printed from the same plate as used previously for the Crown CC series with the die used being that of the re-engraved one. The recognised colour is orange (with shades) and only 25 sheets, with 240 stamps per sheet, were issued. Thus, only 6 000 of these stamps were issued and this five shilling orange on the Crown CA paper is one of the rarities of the Cape rectangular series.

The remainder of the Cape rectangular stamps were all printed on paper watermarked with a cabled anchor, a watermark specially prepared for Cape of Good Hope stamps.



The new definitive series of 1884-90 on the cabled function watermark of paper. 1/2d black, 1d red, 2d bistre, 4d blue, 6d purple, 1sh green and 5sh orange.

The first stamp to be issued on this paper was the 'Two Pence Bistre of 1884', issued in December 1884. It was characterized by a bistre colour with shades varying from pale to deep. The paper is medium white wove, the watermark is a cabled anchor, the gum is white and the perforation is of the comb type, gauging 14. The variety with an inverted watermark is known in both bistre and pale bistre colours. Background imperfections are also occasionally found.

The next issue in this series is the 'Six Pence Purple of 1884' also issued in December 1884. The printing plate used was still that with the outer frame-line and the watermark is a cabled anchor. The recognised colours are lilac, purple, mauve, violet and shades of all these. A reddish purple and a bright mauve are relatively rare. The odd background imperfection is occasionally found.

Varieties known are, as with all the outer frame-line issues, defective, broken and missing outer frame-lines. The six penny is also known used, bisected on cover, to give a threepenny letter rate. The inverted watermark variety is known in the purple, mauve and violet shades. It is interesting, but possibly co-incidental that the rare inverted watermarks in the Cape Rectangular stamps are commonest in the 6d violet stamps with the outer frame-line and Crown CC and cabled anchor watermarks.

The next issue in this series was the 'One Penny Red of December 1885' issued in December 1885. It is characterised by a cabled anchor watermark and red colour with shades varying from rose to carmine. Varieties known include it used bisected on cover to give a halfpenny rate and also an inverted watermark has been described. One printing is of the coarse variety in a dull red colour and this shows the odd frame and background imperfection. A dull claret colour is also found.

to be concluded in a forthcoming issue of the SAP

News Item

Delays experienced in the release of the 2004 Year Book have been attributed to non-availability of the 'Spiders sheet' issue which was released in July 2004 at the Junass Exhibition. This sheet was subsequently the subject of a court case for copyright infringement, and all non-issued material was withdrawn pending the outcome. It is understood that the matter has been settled out of court and sheets are available from the usual outlets.

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The Development of Philatelic Literature

By Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA FRPSL,Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

A comprehensive philatelic library, whether in public or private ownership, is essential for the development of philatelists. It may be asked why the access to philatelic literature is of importance. To elucidate this statement one has to consider briefly the history of philately itself and that of philatelic literature.

As we know, the first country to issue postage stamps was Great Britain in 1840, with the Swiss Cantons and Brazil following in 1843. By 1860 some eighty-five postal administrations had issued approximately 1000 different adhesive stamps. Accumulations or collections of these novel "labels" were soon being formed. At first stamps were also used to cover cupboards, furniture and lampshades. However, it did not take long before enthusiasts began to examine and study stamps more critically, as collectable items, and started to trade in them.

One of the earliest entrepreneurs, as early as 1852, to deal exclusively in stamps was Jean-Baptiste Moens of Brussels, Belgium, previously an antiquarian bookseller. Edward Stanley Gibbons of Plymouth in 1854 and William Lincoln of London in 1856 established themselves in England. In 1860 William P Brown of New York became America's first stamp dealer.

An 18 year old John Walter Scott arrived in 1863 in New York City from England "with a small personal stamp collection as his sole asset"! He was to become America's leading stamp dealer, auctioneer and publisher. Scott's catalogue is still being published today.

Large stamp collections were formed in the next few decades in England, France, Germany, the United States and elsewhere.

Sir Daniel Cooper, Judge Phillbrick and Tapling in England, Alphonse De Rothschild, Legrand and Mirabeau in France, Tiffany and Deats in the U.S.A., Breitfuss in Russia, but above all Ferrary amassed vast collections.

There was a need for information about stamps and stamp collecting, as bogus issues, reprints and forgeries soon appeared. Early dealers did not consider it unethical to produce 'reprints' of rare obsolete stamps if they could obtain the printing plates. For instance. Gibbons produced forgeries of Argentina's 1862 issues, Moens reprinted Bergedorf and Roumanian issues, while Scott enhanced the supply of United States locals.

Packets of reprints and facsimiles, advertised as "just as good as the original," were sold at $1-50 a hundred by Scott.

Early philatelists were also offered issues purporting to have been produced by Sedang, Fransz Joseph Land, Bukhara and other imaginary sources.

It became essential to be able to classify and expertise stamps, as well as to indicate what was available. On 1 September 1861 Oscar Berger-Leverault in France issued a twelve-page pamphlet entitled "Timbre Poste". While in December 1861, Alfred Potiquet issued his catalogue partly based on the earlier work. Mount Brown in England issued his "Catalogue of British, Colonial and Foreign Stamps" in May 1862. However, "The Stamp Collectors Guide" issued by Frederick Booty of Brighton in August 1862, with its 200 hand-drawn facsimiles, was the first illustrated stamp catalogue. The "Monthly Advertiser", published by E Moore & Co., of Liverpool, on 15 December 1862, was the first periodical confined to philately.

A plethora of philatelic literature, both books and periodicals, appeared in Europe and the United States. A new kind of collector, the philatelic bibliophile, made his presence felt.

Important philatelic libraries were built up, with collecting of philatelic literature becoming an end in itself. Some of the early books are now very rare, as printing runs were generally small, wear and tear as well as the ravages of wars and inclement climates helped to reduce numbers. This is especially so in the case of the ephemeral, short-lived periodicals and early auction catalogues.

Tiffany and Deats in the U.S.A., the Earl of Crawford in England and Judge Fraenkel in Germany formed noted collections of philatelic literature.

Philatelic societies like the Philatelic Society London (later R.P.S.) and the Collectors Club of New York, which subsidised publications, enabled serious collectors to publish books on specialised subjects in small printing runs.

Beside catalogues, the earliest publications were devoted to the detection of forgeries and fakes. J-B Moens published the first one of these in 1862, entitled "De La Falcification Des Timbres-Poste" written by his brother-in-law, L Hanciau. Edward L Pemberton and T Lewes collaborated in 1863 to publish "Forged Stamps and How to Detect Them" in England.

Soon after this collectors began to study their stamps more thoroughly, as they investigated printing methods, printing plates, printing varieties, perforation, paper and colour variations etc. Specialised articles and handbooks followed. Some of the earlier handbooks contain facsimiles and reproductions of the stamps discussed.

Periodicals often contain important articles and references to current issues, events and discussions. Auction catalogues are a mine of information, as they highlight major items and new discoveries. The excellent illustrations of modern catalogues help with the identification of rare material. Catalogues of "named" collections, like those of Ferrary, Burrus, Caspary, Green and others, are especially important and collectable.

Even exhibition catalogues and bulletins often contain worthwhile literary contributions. For instance, the Bulletin for Washington 2006 contains an article on "Street Cars and The Mail in Washington, D.C."-a topic which was new to me.

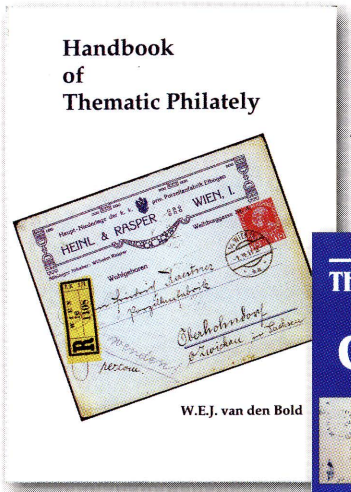
Since the 1930s the discipline of postal history has developed immensely. Nurtured especially by Robson Lowe, who called it the "humanity of philately" it has developed a copious literature of its own. There are articles and books on every aspect of this field, probably the most comprehensive general one being "Collecting Postal History" by D Kandaouroff. Postal developments, routes, postal rates and marking have all been covered, as has every armed conflict and polar expedition.

A further interesting aspect of philatelic literature is that of the lives of noted philatelists. These biographical works cover many famous collectors and dealers, as in "The Royal Philatelic Society" by B Rogers-Tillstone and "The World's Greatest Stamp Collectors" by SM Bierman. It can be seen that our great hobby would be much more limited without the contribution of philatelic literature and its authors. It is my conviction that philatelic experts in their field should put pen to paper and publish their researches and conclusions.

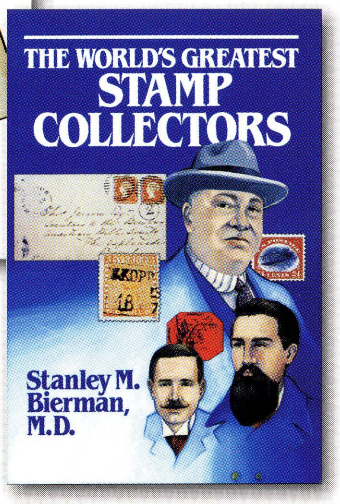
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References:

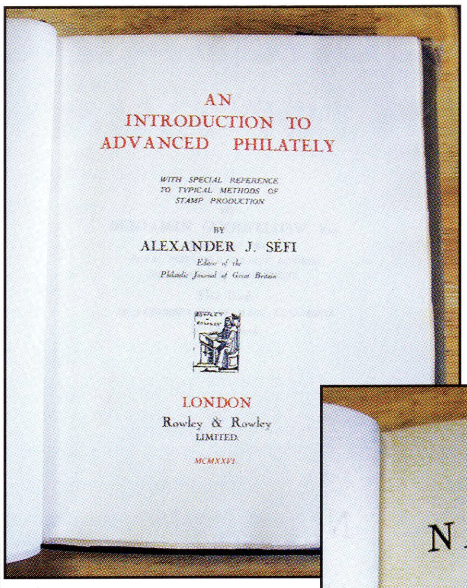
- SM Bierman "The Worlds Greatest Stamp Collectors"
- VE Tyier "Philatelic Forgers. Their Lives and Works"
- Williams LN, Williams M "The Postage Stamp. Its History and Recognition"
- Sir John Wilson "The Royal Collection"



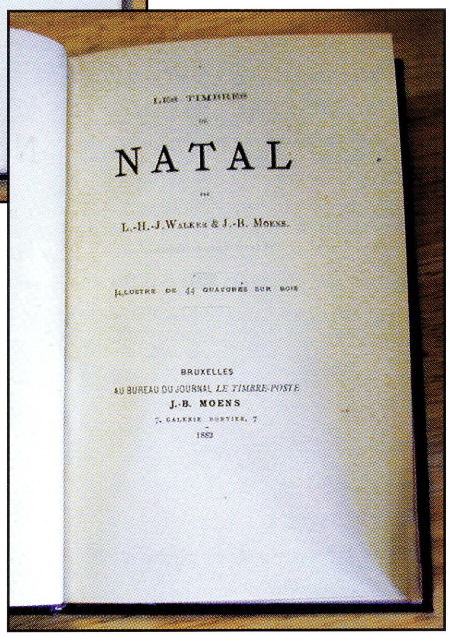
"Handbook of Thematic Philately" by W.E.J. van den Bold. Published, for the British Thematic Association, at Limmasol, Cyprus, 1994. A fine book catering for thematic collectors.



"The World's Greatest Stamp Collectors" by S.M. Bierman, M.D. Published in 1990 at Hollywood, Florida. The cover shows pictures of Arthur Hind, Thomas K. Tapling and James Petrie. A well-written, concise approach to the history of philately, which was followed by a sequel.



"An Introduction to Advanced Philately" by Alexander J. Séfi, published in London, 1926. A rare limited first printing of 250, of which this is number 71.

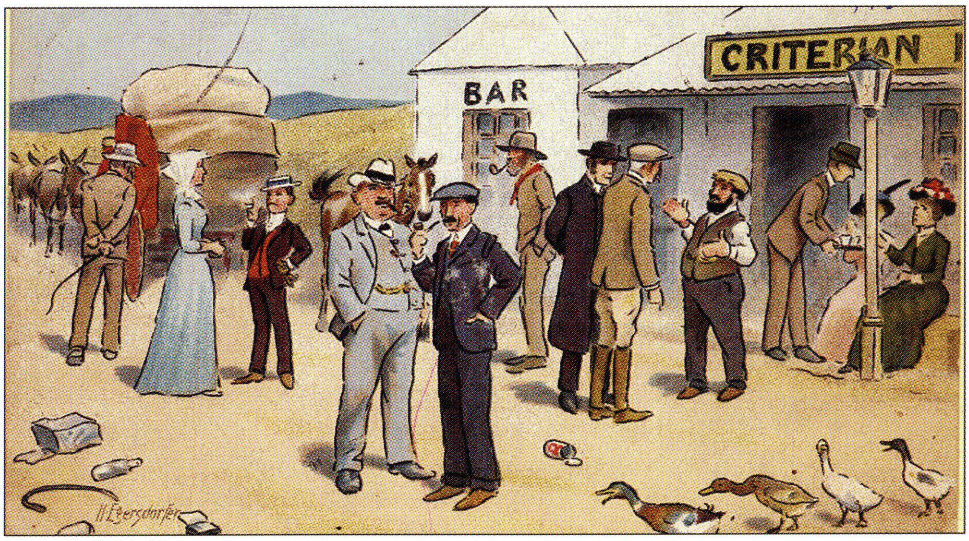


"Les Timbres de Natal" by L.H.J. Walker and J-B. Moens, published in Brussels in 1883. A rare early work, this being number 10 of an edition of 150.

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A major South African Pictorial Collection for Auction

By Howard Green, RDPSA, Philatelic Society of JHB



One of the best Union of South Africa pictorial collections ever formed comes under the hammer at Stephan Welz & Co on 2 August 2005. The collection belonged to the late Professor David W De Villiers of Stellenbosch in the Cape.

The collection can be divided into the following:

1. Archival and proof material, mainly pertaining to the London Pictorials.
2. London Pictorials including the ½d, 1d and 6d Typos.
3. The Pretoria Typos.
4. The Pretoria Roto printings.
5. Hyphenated Pictorials.
6. Official Overprints.
7. Sundry items including some Postage Dues, Postal History and South African stamps overprinted for South West Africa.

• 1. The archival and proof material formed part of Dr De Villiers' London Pictorial exhibit, which was exhibited nationally and internationally and received several high awards. Included are Department of Works essays, De La Rue, Perkins Bacon, Harrison and Waterlow competition submissions and/or die proofs and plate proofs.

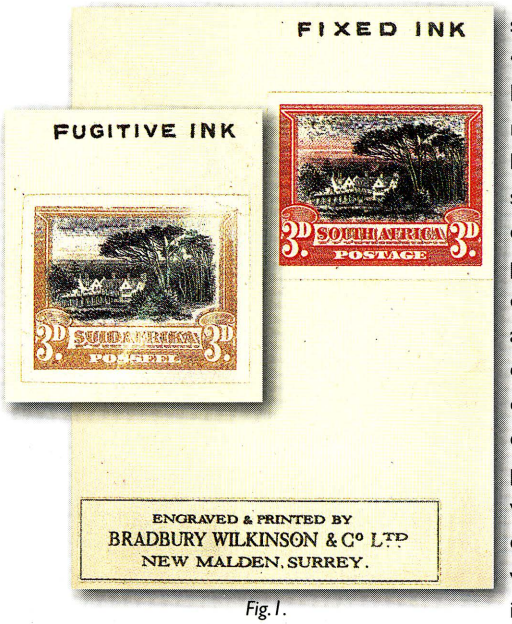


Fig. 1.

Also included in this section, comprising 38 auction lots, are Bradbury Wilkinson die proofs, master die proofs, plate proofs and colour trials. Of particular interest are the presentation cards with two stamps, endorsed 'Fixed Ink' and 'Fugitive Ink'. **Fig.1.** There are also three cut-outs from the folio pages of the Madagascar Director of Posts Archives plus 'Specimen' perforated and handstamped items.

• 2. The London Pictorials include the ½d, 1d and 6d typos plus the 2d to 10/- recess printed pictorials. There are sheet reconstructions, constant and non-constant varieties, including the ½d black & green with the missing '1' in the value tablet, which is regarded as one of the major South African varieties. There are extensive numbers of controls, large multiples, inscriptional blocks, shades, bottom three rows from Printer's Archival Reference Double Pane Sheets with vertical interpanneau gutters on ungummed paper for 2d, 3d, 4d and 1/- values plus gutter blocks and pairs from the same values. The 2d and 4d rare inverted watermarks are included as well as offsets, vignette shifts, oval perfs, 10/- aniline ink printing and many other varieties, a complete exploded booklet plus ½d and 1d coil/roll stamp studies. A wealth of very valuable reference material is included in this section. **Fig.2.**



Fig. 2.

• 3. A very detailed study of the three Pretoria Typos (½d, 1d and 6d) with sheet reconstructions, perf 13½ x 14 tête-bêche blocks of 4 of the ½d and 1d values, ½d left side imperf, ½d top marginal pair with vignettes completely missing and with the vignettes printed on the gummed side, ½d missing vignette due to fold over, perf varieties due to fold overs and fold unders, creased paper varieties, part/complete offsets, marginal perf varieties including double and treble perfs, ½d reversed perforation control pair, 1d corner block of 4 with reversed perfs and many other constant and non-constant varieties. Also included are arrow blocks and control blocks from the various issues. The 6d value includes a top right corner block of 6 with inverted watermark, a marginal pair with major misplacement of vignettes, block with missing perf hole, a pair with double perforations and pair on registered first day cover. A London/Pretoria Typo exploded booklet study completes the section. **Fig.3.**

• 4. The Pretoria Rotos is another very comprehensive section, commencing with four lots of 1929 Darmstadt Trials. The issued stamps include sheet reconstructions, arrow and control blocks, sheet number blocks, ½d tête-bêche strip of 5, 1d tête-bêche gutter strip of 5, coil stamps and many varieties. Besides the many constant printing varieties there are paper joins, creased paper, vignette shifts, missing shading, doctor blade flaws, ½d partly printed frames, smudging, 1d extremely rare issue 4b arrow pairs/block of 6 and rare albino control block, 1d missing frames due to cylinder drying out during machine stoppage, 1d block of 4 with bottom pair frames missing and top pair partly missing and spectacular block of 10 (2 x 5), top pair frames about 85% missing and bottom pair 35% missing with three central pairs frames completely missing, 1d block of 8 with major perf and printing variety due to folded tear in paper, 2d sepia & mauve very rare trial printing pair and marginal single, 2d with 6,5mm upwards perf shift plus Issue 1a largest known arrow block (only total of 9 recorded), 2d partly printed vignettes in block with normal and block partly missing frames, 2d tête-bêche strip of 6 plus 'Economy pane' resulting from booklet production, 3d black & red double pane sheet of 120, 3d blue imperforate pair, with frames omitted and block of 8 with two pairs vignette partly printed, 4d marginal 'ghost' arrows, 6d 'Aeroplane' variety in bottom margin, vertical pair with partially printed vignettes, missing perf hole in vertical pair, etc., 1/- vignette shifts and perf shifts, block of 10 with major perforation shift creating narrow pair of stamps, 2/6 upright and inverted watermarks with numerous shades. Overall a highly detailed and researched section, identifying the many different printings. **Fig.4,5,6,7.**

• 5. The hyphenated pictorials constitute another powerful group, including sheet reconstructions, control, sheet number and arrow blocks, identification of the various printings and constant varieties. Some of the major varieties noted are ½d partly printed frames and 1948 S.A. Cultural History Museum (Issue 17) printings, 1d missing/

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partly missing frames, missing/partly missing vignettes, imperf stamps due to perforation shifts and 1948 S.A. Cultural History Museum (Issue 20) printings, ½d and 1d comprehensive coil stamp study, 1½d pair completely missing vignettes in block with normal, 3d imperf block of 12 from bottom two rows of sheet, 6d apparently unique bottom marginal block of 12 (4 x 3) with interruption of green printing resulting in partly printed bottom two rows, the spectacular 1/- block of 4, bottom pair with variety frame omitted and left stamp upper pair frame partially omitted (ex D. Lamont Smith).

Also included is a study of booklets No 10 to 21 plus 1953 Konya and unaccepted photographic essays. **Fig.8,9.**

• 6. An extensive Official mint and used collection cross-referenced to the Union Handbook, including usage on cover with many varieties, controls, sheet numbers, etc. Among the more important varieties are overprint shifts, double overprints as well as 5/- and 10/- with English overprint at left.

• 7. Sundry items including mint and used collection of Postage Dues with some multiples and varieties, postal history oddments and selection of later issues.



Fig.3.



Fig.5.

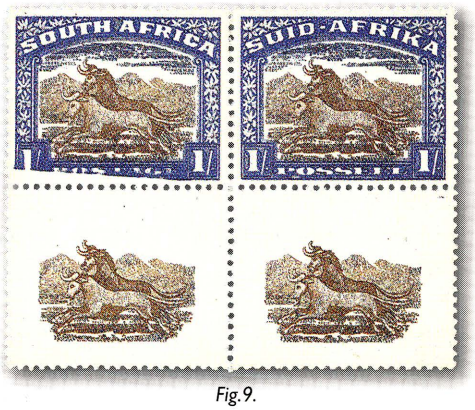


Fig.9.

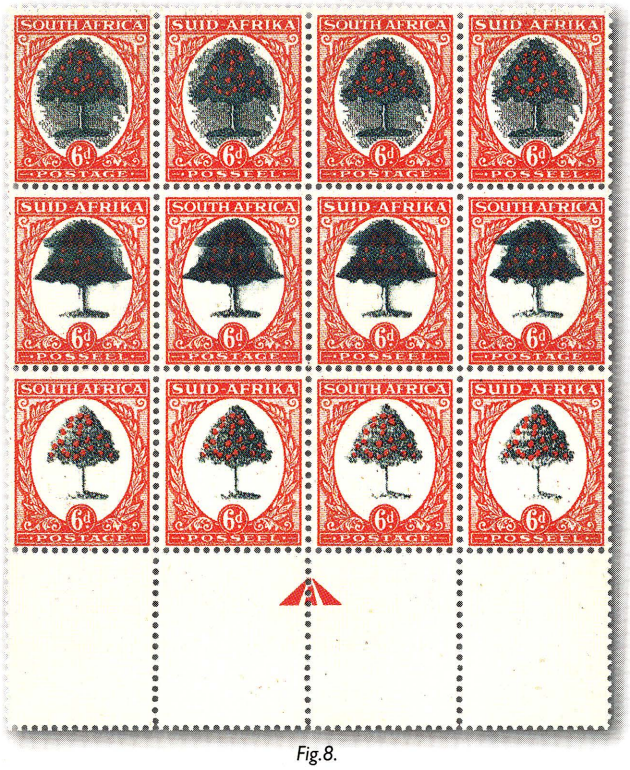


Fig.8.



Fig.6.



Fig.4.

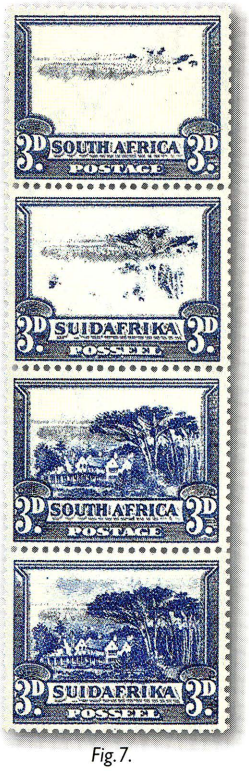


Fig.7.

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The Opening Ceremony of the Sandton Philatelic Centre

The long-awaited relocation of the philatelic literature section of the Johannesburg Reference Library to the Sandton Library has finally been achieved. A cocktail party, attended by philatelists and library staff, was held on Wednesday 20th April 2005 at the Sandton Library.

The function, organised by the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, was attended by members of several Gauteng philatelic societies.

Mr Clive Carr welcomed the guests on behalf of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, as did Mrs D Horne in the name of the Sandton Library.

Your scribe followed with a brief overview of the significance and history of philatelic literature. Mr Granville Shenker, Regional Manager of Library Region 8, gave an address on the history, growth and extent of the philatelic literature of the Johannesburg Reference Library.

He mentioned that the Sandton Library Philatelic Centre "was established with the co-operation of the City of Johannesburg library services and the Philatelic Society (of Johannesburg) so that with a visible, accessible collection continued growth would be achieved".

Mr Jack Hagger, RDPSA then cut the ribbon to officially open the Philatelic Centre to the public. Mr Hagger, who recently celebrated his one-hundredth birthday, signed a copy of the "Union of South Africa Handbook" which he had co-authored in 1960.

The philatelic library was open for inspection after the ceremony. Guests were able to browse through the first portion of some 2000 books, including rare and wonderful early works. This concluded a successful evening.

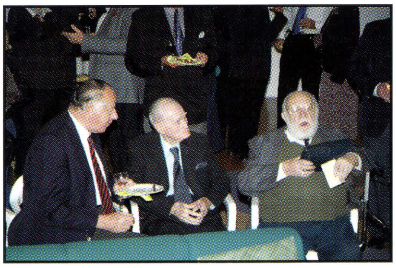
JRF



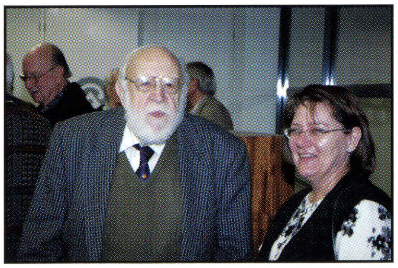
Sandton Square by evening light.



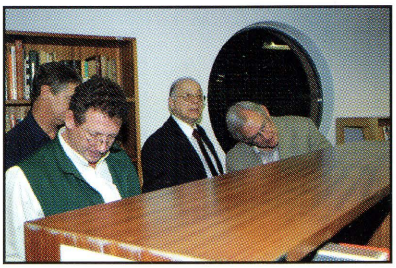
Jack Hagger officially opening the Philatelic section of the Sandton Library.



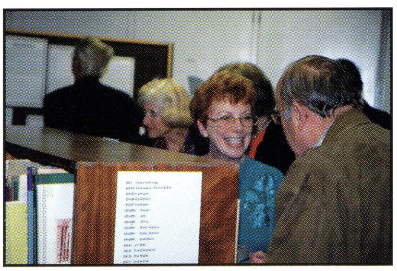
Peter van der Molen RDPSA, Jack Hagger RDPSA and Jonas Michelson RDPSA



Jonas Michelson RDPSA and Janice Botes (Managing Editor of the South African Philatelist)



Dr Ian Matheson, Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA (member of the SA Philatelist Board) and Robin Messenger.



Jill Redmond (Federation Secretary)

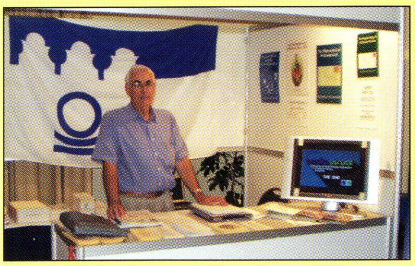
Rosebank Show

The Rosebank show 2005 took place on the usual venue - the Rosebank Hotel from 29th April to 1st May. Some 16 dealers, including four with overseas representation were present, additionally, the SA Post Office, Stephan Welz & Co and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa attended. (The PFSA thanks the SAPDA Executive for provision of a stand for publicity purposes.) Dealing was reported as being slow initially but picking up later.....adequate but not outstanding. Indeed, the demand for postcards was said to be the major trend.

Modest dealing levels contrast with the memory of previous years when it was difficult to move in the crush of buyers and visitors. One wonders if the monthly fairs do not give dealers too much exposure so that Rosebank is seen as 'just another fair', albeit in an up-market venue. There is certainly an impression that the show has lost some of its zest and excitements.

Exhibition frames displayed one and two frame exhibits on the theme "Glimpse of our African past". Although interesting philatelically, they were not really attractive to the public. Postal history covers cancellations, post office documents, etc. do not excite the man in the street. One overheard comment queried, "Where are the stamps?" Further, the mixture of horizontal and vertical mounting , compounded by a lack of visible page numbers made reading difficult. Perhaps a little more attention to selection and preparation would make future shows more attractive to the public.

The final comment is on the lack of publicity. Is the Show ever advertised anywhere other than in Philatelic circles? In general , we are not good at publicity , witness the Cape Town National of 1997. We saw no posters, no press adverts and on opening day groups of us were wandering around the Civic Centre Complex looking for the exhibits. Not a single sign was up. If we want to attract visitors and custom, events such as the Rosebank and the National must be advertised to the public.



Dr Alan M. Rose (editor of the SA Philatelist)

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The Value of a Design - and Vice Versa

Part 1 of a short series looking at Philatelic Mysteries of the Orange Free State

By Robert Allison, OFS Study Circle

The design of the basic definitive stamps of the Orange Free State was simplicity itself. It was chosen by President Brand in 1865 and he sent drawings to De La Rue and Co. in London with a request for a supply of stamps in three values, one penny, sixpence and one shilling, these being for newspapers, letters and registration respectively.

Now the State, an independent republic since 1854, did not have a lot of money and it is perfectly understandable that the President did not wish to spend huge sums of money on this, by now, necessary project. The total cost of the dies and plates (each containing 240 stamps) for the three values came to £335 and the stamps were printed at the rate of eleven pence per thousand including paper, printing, gumming and perforation [1]. The initial supply consisted of 770 sheets of the 1d brown, 460 sheets of the 6d rose and 140 sheets of the 1/- in orange-buff. My calculator tells me these would have cost a further £15, giving a grand total of production and supply of £350.

Of course, good and quick communication over long distances was not as it is today so, although President Brand had drawn an olive tree as the central design, the De La Rue artist interpreted it as an orange tree and added a few oranges amongst the leaves! Although the state was named the 'Orange' Free State, in association with the Orange River its southern boundary, it is unlikely that there was, in fact, an actual orange tree in the country at that time! By the time the error was realised the printing process had gone too far; the oranges on an olive tree were accepted and the three values were issued on 1st January 1868.

In due course additional values were ordered and issued: the 4d blue and 5/- green in 1878, the ½d, chestnut and 3d ultramarine in 1883, and the 2d mauve a few months later. The ½d, 1d, 6d and 1/- were later re-printed in new colours, yellow, purple, blue and brown respectively, although the 6d value in blue was used only for telegraph purposes before 1900. (Fig. 1.)

At a first glance all looks fine. But the really odd part of the design is found in the values themselves which do not conform with each other as one might expect.

From a stamp-size artist's drawing (Fig. 2.), which closely resembles the finished stamp, it is supposed that the shilling value was designed first and the other values based on it. But then, having given the 'Shilling' a capital 'S' why were not the 'penny' of the 1d value and the 'pence' of the 6d value also given capital 'p's? (Fig. 3.)



Fig.3.

Looking closely at the 6d value, the lower case 'p' looks quite sorry for itself when compared with the 'p' of the 'penny' on the 1d value. The top serif is weak and the down stroke actually breaks the inner line of the frame at the bottom. Not so with the 1d value. The one point of uniformity, however, can be seen in the fact that all three values have a stop after the currency. This was not the case with the next value printed ten years later.

When the 4d and 5/- values were engraved in 1877 they were given contrary treatment to the earlier values. The 4d was given a capital 'P' for 'Pence' and there was not a stop at the end. Like the 4d, the 5/- (Vyf Shillings) had capitals, 'V' and 'S', and again no stop at the end, as the stop that is there is in respect of the abbreviation of 'Shillings' to 'Shillgs'. But why this abbreviation? The 'S' has been started before the 'S' on the 1/- value, so with similar spacing there would have been ample room to get the 'Shillings' in full, with or without the stop at the end. The different style of letters - see the sloping serifs of the 'i' and 'll' - perhaps indicates that a different engraver was at work.

Five years later, and three further values are issued: the ½d, 2d and 3d. This time the 1868 practice of having a stop at the end of all three values is adopted. But the 'penny' of 'Half penny' has a small 'p', while the 'Twee Pence' and 'Drie Pence' have upper case 'P's! Another letter difference is seen in the 'r's of 'Vier' and 'Drie'.

One can only conjecture at the reason for this lack of uniformity. My own opinion is that, in the absence of direction from either the Free State, or its London Agents, the engraver took the opportunity to use his discretion to bring interest to a design which, although delightful in itself, perhaps became a bit boring when applied to every value and every stamp! In a small way an attempt was made to give each value its own individuality, perhaps emboldened by the memory of growing oranges on an olive tree - and getting away with it!

Does anyone know the answer? Or are we left with an intriguing Orange Free State mystery?

Reference:

1. The De La Rue History of British & Foreign Postage Stamps 1855-1901 by John Easton, published by Faber and Faber, London for the Royal Philatelic Society London.



Fig.1.



Fig.2.

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Lace

By Dr Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society

The Beginnings

Whilst remnants of lace-like materials have been recovered from Egyptian tombs, there is still no certainty as to the true origin of lace. Evidence is that the techniques have existed for over 3000 years for making openwork fabrics, but more for utility than decoration. Fishing nets are merely coarse, open work fabrics knotted at the corners, and buratto, a strong woven gauze used to sieve flour in Italian kitchens, a utilitarian form of a réseau or net ground. However, it is only in the last 500 years or so that these techniques have been refined to produce the delicate, decorative fabric that we know as fashion lace.

Lace fabrics may be resolved into two basic types, needlepoint and bobbin lace. The former uses a single thread and decorative patterns are made by hand-stitching with a needle. Variations of this process include knitting, tatting, crochet, cut and drawn work. In contrast, bobbin or pillow lace uses multiple pairs of threads which are plaited and twisted around pins pricked into a card and which delineate the pattern. The pins are stuck into a pillow and from them hang dozens of pairs of bobbins on which the threads are wound. The process is more akin to weaving and has similarities to macramé work.

History

Historians tell us that lace may have originated in the Levant some 2000 years BC, and travelled around the eastern end of the Mediterranean into Europe. The State of Venice has laid claim to being the cradle of lace making in Europe. Noted in early times for its needlepoint lace, Venice also claims documentary evidence for bobbin type lace as early as 1476. Other claimants to the first lace are Spain, where it was allegedly introduced by the Moors during their occupation of that country and Flanders which boasts an altar piece of 1495 showing lace being made with bobbins.

By the beginning of the 16th Century most European countries had embryo lace industries including England, where legend has it that Kat Stitch, a form of needle lace, was introduced to the women of Bedford by Catherine of Aragon during her imprisonment at Ampthill in 1531. Evidence again that lace was known in Spain from early times.

On the continent lace making was concentrated in Flanders and northern France. Many Flemings were Protestant by inclination and suffered persecution from the Catholic authorities, first Spanish, and later French. In 1563 many Protestants fled from the persecutions of Phillip II of Spain to England where the lace makers among them settled in the South and East Midlands. Again in 1572, a second wave of Protestants - Huguenots who survived the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre (1) engineered by Charles IX of France - joined their countrymen in England bringing new ideas, patterns and techniques. A temporary respite in religious persecution came in 1598 when Henri IV of France proclaimed the Edict of Nantes (2) which gave freedom of religion to all in that country.

In the early 17th Century, lace making in England flourished under Charles II, and also on the continent in France and the Low Countries. In England, there was a temporary setback during the Interregnum, 1649-1660, when Cromwell's Commonwealth Parliament frowned on such frivolities of dress as lace decoration. Needless to say, the ladies still wore their 'religious petticoats' and 'holy embroidery', though little was on public view. In contrast, Louis XIV and his chief minister Colbert, enticed Venetian lace makers to establish schools in northern France to avoid the crippling import duty on foreign lace. This resulted in schools and styles of lace such as Lille and Valenciennes.

Despite this encouragement the industry in France suffered its third setback in 1685 when Louis, under pressure from the Jesuits, revoked the Edict of Nantes and religious persecution again drove out many artisans. This time the exodus was from the Artois, Paris and Normandy regions of northern France toward the West Country counties of England reinforcing the lace traditions in Honiton, Blandford, Beer and Sidmouth. Others joined their countrymen in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxford and Northamptonshire.

By the 18th Century lace was again in favour as it followed the fashions of the French court under Louis XV and XVI. In England, James II and Queen Anne did their best to encourage local industry by banning the import of French lace, but strangely, not that from Flanders. However, the demand was sufficient to make the smuggling of French lace second only to that of French brandy. Lace was a dress item for both men and women at all levels of Society, such that a popular saying claimed that many were 'wedded, bedded, hanged and buried in lace'. To meet the demand for regular lace, the work of inmates of prisons and workhouses was changed from spinning and weaving to lace making.

On the continent, Caen, Chantilly (white lace from flax and black from silk), Alençon and Mechlin became popular names for the fashionable who used lace everywhere: gloves, shoes, caps, aprons, ruffles and kerchiefs as well as decoration on underwear. Toward the close of the century the French Revolution brought about the final flight of lace



Fig.1.



Fig.2.



Fig.5.



Fig.3.



Fig.4.



Fig.6.

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makers to England, Germany and Denmark; this time for political rather than religious reasons. Such craftsmen were associated with the excesses of the aristocracy, and targeted, along with their masters, by the revolutionaries. The subsequent Directoire fashions were more severe and lace was considered rather decadent. In England the onset of the industrial revolution sobered fashions, and men no longer wore lace, except on clerical vestments. Additionally, attempts were afoot to mechanise the production of lace and by 1810 John Heathcote had developed a machine-made net ground which could be decorated with hand-made motifs. Whilst lace makers fought the mechanisation of their industry it was purely a question of time before machine lace was produced cheaply and in quantity.

Hand-made lace as a fashion fabric had a revival in the mid 19th Century with the Empire lines of France and a growing prosperity of the middle classes. Led by society ladies, and royalty in particular, the revival saw the appearance of lace gloves, parasols, fans, overskirts on crinolines, handkerchiefs, collars, cuffs, undersleeves and underwear as well as more mundane items such as tablecloths, antimacassars and bed linen. Cluny lace, derived from Maltese & Italian designs was very popular.

The revival was, unfortunately, short-lived, and although a variety of 'peasant laces' exist in rural areas throughout Europe and other parts of the world, (taken there by missionaries' wives and other colonisers). Hand-made lace is currently the domain of enthusiastic amateurs and some of the more tourist conscious centres.



Fig.7.



Fig.8.

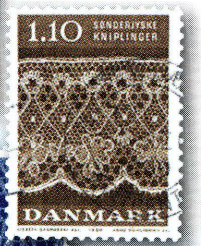


Fig.9.



Fig.10.



Fig.11.



Fig.12.

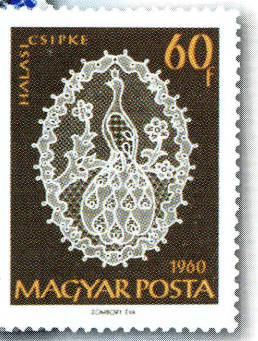


Fig.13.



Fig.14.



Fig.15.



Fig.18.



Fig.16.



Fig.17.



Fig.19.



Fig.20.

Materials

Lace making equipment is relatively simple, being basically a pillow, bobbins, thread, pins and needles. Flemish pillows generally have a rectangular base and are filled with straw or meal, dried and hammered until solid (3). The centre section may be movable to accommodate long edgings. French pillows use a small roller in the centre of a mushroom shaped pad for the same purpose (4). Bolster-shaped pillows were common in many areas as they could be rotated to accommodate pieces of various shapes and sizes. As a general rule, pillows were supported on tables, chair backs, the worker's lap or on a frame known as a 'horse' or 'maid' to hold the work at a convenient height. Local variations were common as exampled by Spanish or Maltese pillows which were worked along the length rather than round the circumference.

Continental bobbins, known colloquially as 'thumpers', are made of wood with a heavy base (4,5) to keep the thread taught. In contrast, English bobbins are slender and rely on a spangle of glass beads to give the necessary weight and tension. Fruit woods are favoured as these have fine close grains which do not snag the threads. Ivory, whalebone, brass, silver, iron, pewter and other materials have been used for bobbins with pewter, silver or brass inlays as decoration on wooden ones. Many were made as personalised gifts to loved ones, and are collectable items in their own right.

Fish bones were used initially as pins to delineate the pattern and to separate threads, giving rise to the old name of 'bone lace'. Modern usage calls for brass or stainless steel pins.

Threads used for lace have undergone many changes over the years. Linen flax was the original as it gave a strong, durable fabric. In the early 1700s 'gassed' cotton thread was introduced as a cheaper alternative. Cotton and linen are still the most favoured threads although lace has been produced using silk, aloe fibre, wool, horsehair, gold and silver wire as well as synthetic materials in recent time.

Styles

As mentioned earlier, lace makers were often forced to travel. Thus, although a particular style of lace may have been characteristic of an area, as the artisans moved they took their style with them and also acquired the styles, patterns and stitches of the region in which they settled. It is thus not always possible to ascribe a piece of lace with absolute certainty to a particular area but rather to indicate that it is a typical of a certain style or region.

Filet, or lacis, was a needlepoint lace made by embroidering a square net ground. The 16th Century Spanish example (6) is in silk. Spanish travellers took their skills to Madeira where a broderie anglaise style developed (7), as well as a sol or reudas lace (8).

This was a mixture of drawn thread work and needlepoint. Further afield, Bilro and Nanduti laces appeared in the Spanish and Portuguese controlled areas of South America. Bilro had a very open texture although the plaits, cloth stitch and point ground were typically European. Within Europe the movement of lace makers was more evident.

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Laces from Tønder in Denmark (9) could equally have been made in Buckinghamshire, Belgium or northern France. All have designs that use similar honeycomb and point ground nets with a heavy gimp thread.

Guipure laces, that is, with the main elements held together by woven links called 'brides' or 'bridges', were produced in Bruges (10), Lustenau and other centres, but differed in the detail of their designs. Torchon patterns (11) were also common in many centres throughout Europe. Lace from Sri Lanka (12), probably started by missionaries' or administrators' wives, is quite delicate, whilst the more robust Russian lace, Vologda, often uses brightly coloured threads. Modern lace makers seem to concentrate on small pieces (13, 14, 15) and have moved away from the long runs of geometric or floral edging of the past. Many are stand-alone pieces or intended as decoration for larger items. However, all continue to use the same stitches and techniques but in different, innovative and eye-catching designs. To date, two so-called 'lace stamps' have been issued, but the production is more akin to machine embroidery than lace (16).

Uses

Before the 16th Century lace was used largely for utilitarian applications such as tablecloths, runners, curtains and in the church for altar cloths (17) and vestments (18). Only by the middle of the century did it become a fashion fabric. The first major application with which we are familiar is the Elizabethan ruff (19).



Fig.21.



Fig.22.



Fig.23.



Fig.24.

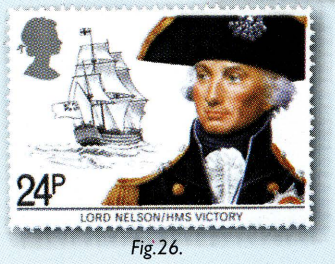


Fig.26.



Fig.28.



Fig.29.



Fig.30.


Fig.32.


Fig.31.



Fig.33.



Fig.34.

This was a collar made from muslin or linen edged with reticella needle lace which was pleated and starched into its familiar concertina form. Pleats were either horizontal or vertical. Being up to 20 metres long, 30 cm wide and heavily starched, one wonders how comfortable these were to wear.

By the early 17th Century collars were simpler, as a single layer, either starched or wired into a standing collar or gollila (20), or as a loose 'falling collar' (21) complimented by standing cuffs. The width of the band of reticella lace, frequently of a geometric pattern, was often indicative of the prosperity of the wearer.

Lace was worn by both men and women, and neither were children exempt from the fashion stakes (22). The ladies took the falling collar to the extreme and adapted it to become a 'palatine' or 'pelarine' which covered the shoulders (23).

Not only was lace a costume decoration but also a hair accessory. The Duchesse de Fontagne, mistress of Louis XIV, improvised her head dress after a hunting accident, and the fontagne was born (24). A wired frame, usually covered in lace, became *de rigour* for ladies of fashion with the height of the structure indicating the wearer's status.



Fig.25.

During the 18th Century as wigs became shorter, the neck was exposed and cravats became a major item of dress for men (25). Wound around the neck before tying, the ends were frequently decorated with lace. With time these converted to the jabot (26), a lace-trimmed panel hiding the front join of a shirt or dress. Whilst men had been the major users of lace up to now the ladies were not to be left behind. Lace decoration on dresses, hems, collars, cuffs, necklines continued through to the 19th and 20th centuries (27,28). However, the majority of this was machine-made and did little to revive the failing hand-made lace industry.



Fig.27.

The royal ladies of England, Queens Victoria (29), Alexandra and Mary, and Queen Emma of the Netherlands (30) all wore lace as of habit to support the local industry but the revival was short lived. Present day use of hand-made lace is limited; despite the cost, the principal application is as part of local traditional costumes, many of which are handed down within families (31, 32). Whilst all brides look good in lace (33), whether hand- or machine-made, the Royals continue the tradition of christening new arrivals in a gown of genuine Honiton hand-made lace first used for Albert Edward, Prince of Wales in 1841 (34). We can only be thankful that there are sufficient interested people to keep this delightful skill alive.

STAMP FAIRS
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A Union-Castle Line Letter Card

By Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA FRPSL,Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

While many interesting items can be found in scratch boxes this one certainly was not.

The dealer who located this fascinating piece of postal history was aware that it was a nice find. Neither she nor I had seen one of these before - an advertising letter card, as the inscription indicates.

The perforations show that an outer margin has been removed to enable one to open the letter card. The back of the card shows the Union-Castle Line's ports of call and that Donald Currie & Co., of London and Southampton were the managers of the service.

The inside right half shows the menu of R.M.S. Kildonan Castle, Commander J Tyson, for the First Class Saloon Dinner of May 5 1905. The left half shows a reproduction in colour of a mail steamer by one Charles Dixon and has a small space for a message.

The letter card was written on the Kildonan Castle, on the northbound journey and addressed to Rondebosch, Cape Colony.

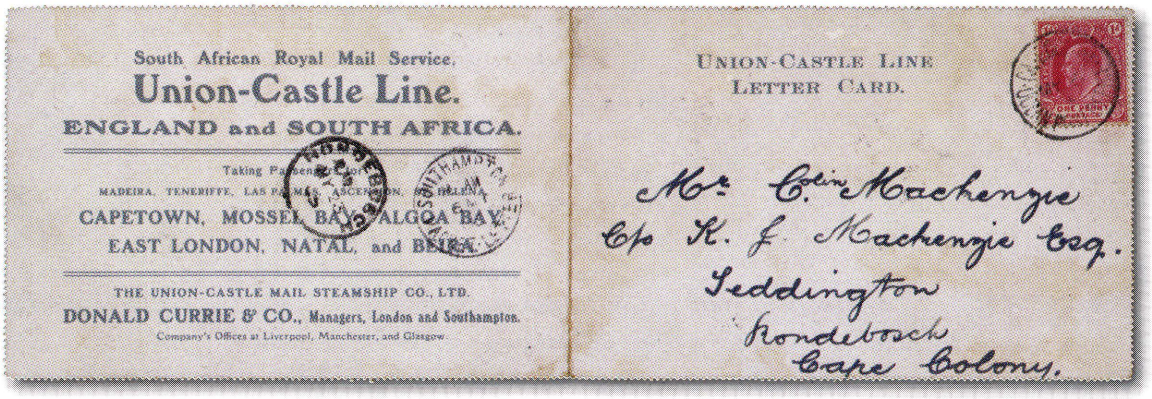
The Cape Colony Ocean Post Office cancellation dated May 6 05 was applied, as all mail was dated on the date of arrival at Southampton or Cape Town respectively.

A Southampton Packet letter 6 May 1905 cancel indicated receipt and that the letter card returned by Kinfauns Castle, which arrived in Cape Town on 23 May 1905. The reverse shows a Rondebosch receiver of that date.

The advertising matter on the card is interesting in that it lists ports of call as far as Beira, as well as the Atlantic Ocean islands the Union-Castle Line serviced.

Although there must be more of these letter cards around as they were issued for commercial purposes, this appears to be a scarce item.

I would appreciate it if readers would report any other Union-Castle Line letter cards, as well as the name of the ship involved. It would also be interesting to note when they were first issued and their period of use.



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Rev J Cassie Carstens
Thematics SA

PRETHEMA 2005

We had nine one-frame exhibits at PRETHEMA 2005, and quite a variety! From owls to a baobab, from a symphony orchestra to national anthems. The winner was Wobbe Vegter with *2001 United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilized nations* - congratulations! Second prize went to Lappe Laubscher with *Golf* and third prize to Cassie Carstens with *Adansonia digitata.* We would like to see more exhibits from outside Tshwane - perhaps next year?

BLOEM ONE-FRAMER

And now it is time to support the Free State, not the Cats or Cheetahs (rugby) or even the Rose Festival, but their one-frame exhibition from 15-17 July in Bloemfontein. Yes, yes, yes, I know it is in the middle of the winter, but sending in your exhibit, an actual visit to the exhibition and a friendly chat with all the Bloem-friends, will bring much warmth in your heart and new ideas in your head and enough motivation to start afresh with that shoebox full of stamps.

THEMES ON STAMPS

• The Transvaal Castle was brought into service in the early 1960's by the Union-Castle Line. There was accommodation for 728 passengers and, usually, the old class divisions were dispensed with and all the public rooms and open decks were shared. Another innovation was the introduction of waitresses, with the agreement of the (British) National Union of Seamen. After a long and illustrious career, the **SHIP** was laid up in the Bahamas until eventually being sold for scrap in 2003. Ever been on the Transvaal?!



• The apricot **TREE** (*Prunus armeniaca*) belongs to the rose-family (*Rosaceae*). It bears fruit, sheds its leaves and reaches a height of 8-10 meters with an almost round foliage. It blossoms from April to May (in the northern hemisphere), sometimes before the leaves appear. The blossoms are round, white or rosy, with five petals and numerous stamens. The fruit is round and yellowish when it ripens. The apricot-tree, which is native to China and Central Asia, is cultivated and very common in many areas of Cyprus.



• The lack of **FAUNA** in Iceland ironically has the effect that they now concentrate on small animals and insects - like the house mouse *(Mus musculus)* and the house fly *(Musca domestica).* Will it perhaps be possible to send them some of our overcrowded elephants from the Kruger Park, or some impalas or mossies (birds) or other goggas? Just to give them a wider variety and some vision on nature beyond their icy borders...!



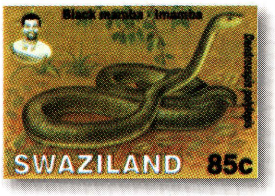


• We read in Exodus 7:12 that *"...each cast down his rod, and they turned into serpents".* Now in all my 50+ years, through all my theological studies and suffering with the Hebrew language (very thick dictionaries), I always thought that those **SERPENTS** were snakes (Egyptian Cobras or something). But now, in my old age and nearly at the end of my ministry in the church, the Israel Postal Authority tells me that those serpents were actually *crocodiles* - in fact, the Nile Crocodile! Can you believe it!



I will have to start all over again and teach my congregation that a serpent is NOT a snake, but an ugly crocodile! And that the snake which beguiled Eve in Paradise, was also a crocodile...?! How on earth did Moses and Aaron grab the 'serpent' by its tail?

• Now the *Black Mamba* - THAT is a **SNAKE**, my dear philatelic reader (and bible student)! It is the biggest venomous snake in Africa, normally 2-3 meters long, and extremely fast. Not black, but grey to olive. Bites to humans usually result in death within 24 hours if not treated. Active and nervous, it seems to attack without provocation. In fact, it does so if its opponent is blocking the way to its home, usually a cave, hollow tree, or old termite nest. (Yes, yes, yes, even Moses would not grab this one by the tail...!)



• This year is the 200th anniversary of the **BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR**. The best part of this illustrious British history is where Admiral Nelson is killed during the battle and his body then preserved in a cask of brandy. Later at Gibraltar it was changed to spirits of wine. Oh, to arrive in heaven with a smell of brandy all over your soul - how on earth did he explain it to Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates?!



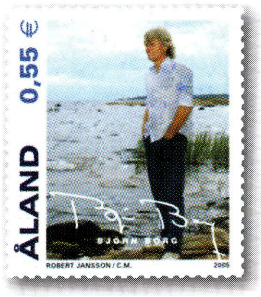
• **HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON**, the master of story-telling, was born in the Danish city of Odense on Tuesday 2 April 1805 - the bicentenary of his birth will be celebrated all over the world this year. Which one of his stories is your favourite?



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The Ugly Duckling, the Little Mermaid? It was his father who opened up the rich and cultural world to this little boy, with everything from fairy tales and puppet theatre to readings of Holberg's comedies. What a wonderful legacy he left us!

• Björn Borg, born in Södertälje, Sweden, was the youngest **TENNIS** player ever to participate in the Davis Cup tournament at the age of 15. This fivefold Wimbledon champion (1976-1980) was world champion in 1978, 1979 and 1980 and has won a total of eleven Grand Slam titles. In 2000, Björn Borg was designated as Sweden's sportsman of the century, a distinction he himself values highly.



• The Leopard Orchid (*Ansellia africana*), so called because of its brown-spotted yellow flowers, has a widespread distribution throughout Africa (and also in South Africa). Its incredibly fragrant flowers are highly variable, ranging from being totally yellow and unspotted to being so spotted that the flower appears black. An unusual feature is the fine pointed roots, which point upward and form a dense mat around the pseudo-bulbs. This dense mat traps the debris and nutrients on which the **ORCHID** feeds.
In Africa, it has been traditionally used as a love charm and as an antidote for bad dreams.



• Did you also own a Volkswagen Beetle in the 60s and 70s? How I long for those days - 8-10 of us cramped in the **CAR,** two shows at the drive-in on Saturday nights. In my day the beetle was painted by hand in all the hippie-colours of the rainbow, and chugging along the motorways - reliable but quite expensive on petrol! But nobody cared - it was pure fun to drive in a Beetle! (My children do not understand or appreciate these old-time stories!)



• And now a classic story! *Heisi* is a name given to a modernized Basotho **HOUSE.** The word 'heis' is derived from the Afrikaans name for 'house' (= huis), and was introduced by the missionaries when they settled in Lesotho. Jy woon darem in 'n baie klein huisie, jong! Eish!



References

1. *The Bahamas Philatelic Bureau, Nassau*
2. *Cyprus Postal Services, Nicosia*

3+4.Iceland Post, Reykjanesbaer

5. *Israel Postal Authority, Tel-Aviv*
6. *Swaziland Stamp Bureau, Mbabane*
7. *Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau, Gibraltar*
8. *Post Denmark, Arhus*
9. *Alandsposten Filateli, Mariehamn*
10. *United Nations Postal Administration, Europe*
11. *Jersey Philatelic Bureau, Jersey*
12. *Lesotho Philatelic Bureau, Maseru*

Junass 2005

Junass 2005 is to be held in Bloemfontein during 15-17 July 2005. The planning is in full swing and the first entries have been received. Some 80 frames are envisaged, and Mrs Gerrie Conradie was invited to head the jury.
So far at least 10 dealers have promised to be present.

The theme for the Club exhibits is Farming (Boerdery), which complements one of the major activities of the host area. The date falls within the school holidays, and a One-Frame exhibition will be held together with JUNASS 2005. This gives the opportunity for the whole family to participate in philatelic exhibition. It is furthermore envisaged that the philatelic events will form part of the Volksblad Arts Festival. This means that ART can be experienced in Bloemfontein from the micro to a macro scale! To finally persuade the parents to attend, the children should point out that Bloemfontein is in the centre of the country and therefore within a reasonable distance from all corners of South Africa.

The OFS Youth Philatelists are awaiting you at JUNASS 2005.

Jurielede

Voorsitter	- Gerrie Conradie
Visie Voorsitter	- Harry Birkhead
Sekretaris	- Jill Redmond
	- Jan van Beukering
Leerling beoordelaar	- Gary Osthoff
Waarnemer	- George Heyman

Henk de Lange

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SG 160a with Gash in Ear variety

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TAIPEI 2005 International Exhibition

We are pleased to report that all eight South African entries to Taipei 2005 have been accepted. They are as follows:

Dr I. Matheson - Kelantan
P. Flanagan - Small Arms Issue of Rhodesia
L. Hefferman - Cape of Good Hope Rectangular Issues
D. Scheepers - Madagascar
M. Wigmore - Natal
E. Bührmann - To Pay
H. Küssing - German Inflation Period
N. Polakow - SA Airmail

Howard Green RDPSA is the South African Commissioner and also a Juror. Emil Minnaar is travelling as Assistant Commissioner.

Foreign Exhibitions

Washington 2006 World Stamp Exhibition D.C., USA
27 May to 3 June 2006

Entry Deadline* - End of June 2005
* defined in Collins Concise Dictionary as "n. a time limit for any activity".

Entries together with Introductory Page should be submitted to the National Commissioner, Peter van der Molen, P.O. Box 12508, Benoryn 1504.

For Entry Forms or queries, contact Peter on 011-849-4822 or 083-235-4794 or molens@pixie.co.za . Further info may be found on www.washington-2006.org

Please note that in addition to Frame fees for Washington, there will be a PFSA levy of R50 per frame towards Commissioner costs.

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PRETHEMA 2005

Prethema, the annual one frame show of Thematics SA, was held at Adami Hall, Queenswood ,Tshwane on 7 May 2005. Nine one frame exhibits were on show with such wide ranging subjects as Christmas, The Symphony Orchestra and Owls.

The winners were:

1st - Wobbe Vegter : 2001 UN Year of Dialogue among Civilizations
2nd - Lappe Laubscher : Golf
3rd - Cassie Carstens : Adansonia digitata. The Baobab Tree.

Interest from visitors to the fair was good with a regular stream of viewers around the frames.

Pacific Explorer 2005

The South African exhibits were in general well received by the jury teams concerned and some notable results achieved. I will of course be preparing a much fuller report on the whole exhibition and will also at a later time be providing individual exhibitors with a breakdown of the points achieved, but for the now the medal awards are as follows:

- Patrick Flanagan - Small Arms BSAC.
  Vermeil - 83 points.
- Prof. Franco Frescura - PO Cape of Good Hope.
  Large Vermeil - 87 points.
  Felicitations for treatment and significance (the only entry in a large literature class to receive felicitations)
- Emil Minnaar - Bavaria.
  Silver - 71 points
- Dr Neil Cronje - Southern Nigeria.
  Vermeil - 80 points.
- Prof. Okkie de Jager - The Postal Rates, Routes & Regulations of the Union of South Africa 1910-1939.
  Gold - 90 points.
  Felicitations for research.
- Dr Dennis Wolmarans - Union Penny Ship.
  Large Vermeil - 88 points.

Michael Wigmore & David Crocker

If you have any books you would like reviewed in The South African Philatelist, please send a copy to: P O Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504.

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to member's; concludes with details of Journals listed.

1. "Mail of the Mau Mau Insurrection"
by Bill Colley, FRPSL, *The London Philatelist*, vol 114, April 2005, pp 99-108.

2. "Stellaland's Stars"
by Richard Sirot. *Stamp Magazine*, vol 71, April 2005, pp 56.

3. "Nyasaland Protectorate Double Overprint"
by Alan Drysdall, RDP, FRPSL, RDPSA. *The London Philatelist*, vol 114, May 2005,No 1325, pp 138-9.

4. "SG41a - The Small Figure '1' Revisited"
by Brian Hirst, "The Runner Post" no.62, March 2005, p 1504-1506.

5. "Checklist of Botswana Postmarks (2nd Series)"
Part 3, Offices Beginning K to L, "The Runner Post" no.62, March 2005, p 1512-1526.

•'The Transvaal Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Transvaal Study Circle based in the U.K.; S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email cachetap@lantic.net

•'The London Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London; the S.A. representative Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email frankfam@icon.co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email wannerton@iafrica.com

•'The Runner Post'
is the Journal of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society based in the UK. S.A. representative is Alan MacGregor, email alan@rhodesia.co.za

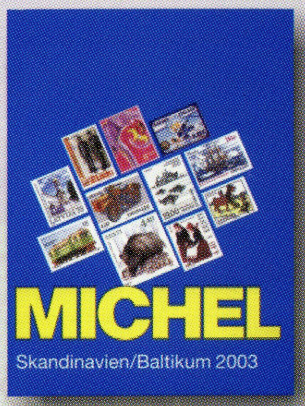
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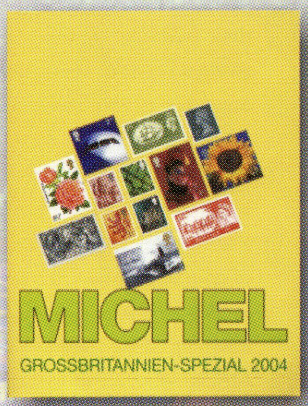
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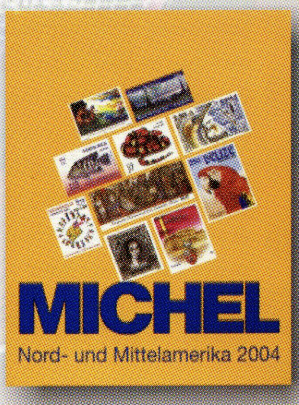
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Rhodesian Study Circle

18th Annual Conference 16/17 April 2005 Leamington Spa, U.K.

It was befitting that I should attend the conference in U.K. this year it being the end of my three year term as President of the Rhodesian Study Circle. The venue at the Falstaff Hotel in Leamington Spa which has been used by the RSC for a good number of years now is well located in the Midlands of England and as such can be reached within two to three hours from most quarters of the country. (In fact a successful joint meeting of the South African Philatelic societies was held at the same venue in November of last year). The RSC had also decided to hold their AGM during the conference week-end giving a broader spectrum of members the opportunity to attend and participate in the deliberations.

A total of 33 members plus a number of wives attended with most arriving during the afternoon/evening of Friday 15 April which of course resulted in a fine chit chat evening getting to know everybody and including the downing of a good few pints/bottles of South African wine (who would have guessed). The morning session on Saturday comprised two displays; 'U.D.I. 1965-1980' by Keith Harrop and 'Uprated Postal Stationery' by Kevin Ashworth, with participation from the floor being most illuminating. After lunch we were treated to an in-depth display and discussion session on the Double Heads issue of the B.S.A.C. presented by Colin Hoffman (Chairman of the RSC) and Steve Reah-Johnson from the U.S.A. At 4pm we all attended the AGM and in the evening a formal dinner was held.

At the AGM a new class of Life Membership was confirmed in respect of members who had 50 or more years membership of the circle and two members qualified. They were both present: Alex Lawrence, who joined in 1952, and Christopher Cooksey, who joined in 1955, and accordingly both were duly elected. Christopher Cooksey was also elected incoming President of the RSC for a three year term with the formal handing over of the 'stamp' of office taking place at the evening dinner; a most convivial affair.

The Sunday (both morning and afternoon) was devoted to members displays of up to a maximum of 20 sheets and covering all aspects of Rhodesian philately. What a cross-section of interesting and well researched exhibits - a real feast with the depth of knowledge displayed quite overwhelming. The camaraderie engendered by a week-end conference of this nature cannot be over emphasised and our grateful thanks to Kevin Ashworth who has been organising these events for the past 12 years.

Danny Swart, RDPSA

For further information regarding the Rhodesian Study Circle contact either Danny Swart in Johannesburg at:
(011) 880-3125
e-mail: danny.swart@sothebys.co.za
or Don Mitchell in Durban at:
(031) 564-6346
or Dave Morton in Cape Town at:
(021) 913-6461
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The South African Philatelist invites the various Philatelic Societies around South Africa to submit a brief and concise history, as well as their current status, for possible publication.

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- BE Postmark by A. Robert Allison
- Rotary by Emil Minnaar
- JIPEX sheets of 1936 by Danie Scheepers
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- Cape of Good Hope Rectangular Issues - Part 3. by Dr Dave Mordant

Errata

Regarding SAP April 2005 Vol 81:2 868

- Page 046: 'The Rectangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope' has incorrect order for the first set of stamps and captions inadvertantly transposed.
- Page 056: 'Waterlow and Sons Ltd. Postage Stamp Printers' has the author Colin Fraser with incorrect titles of RDPSA and FRPSL.



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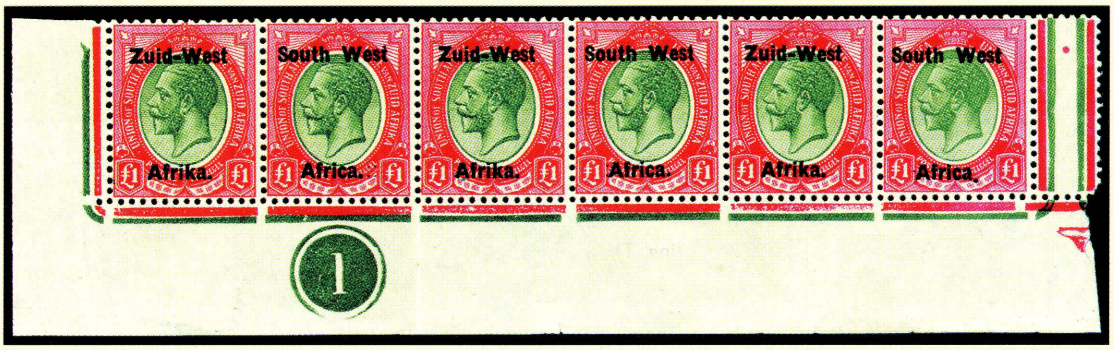
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SHAPING THE ENERGY FUTURE

Increasing evidence points towards the earth becoming warmer – a climate change with potentially catastrophic results for the planet. This is caused largely by CO^2 emissions, a by-product of coal and oil combustion. Once these fossil fuels have all been burned, they cannot be replaced. The focus is now on renewable energy sources – energy that does not emit pollution when it is harnessed. To emphasise the importance of this issue, the South African Post Office will issue this set of stamps featuring renewable energy sources on 26 September 2005. Designed by Sulet Schulze, as a project in her third year of Graphic Design studies at the University of the North West, the stamps feature wind power, solar power and water energy.





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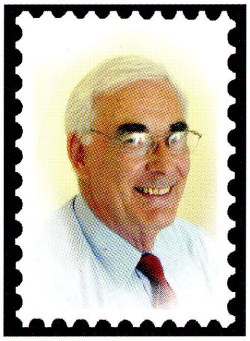
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From the Editor



Since we took the hot seat at *The SA Philatelist*, an observation has been made that collecting seems confined to the northern provinces of the country. To be more accurate, those willing to write of their collections or on philatelic topics reside mainly north of Bloemfontein. A quick glance through our pages since early 2002 shows 11% of authors are based in the south, 8% are overseas but the main body of contributors is up in the north.

There seems to be no logical explanation for this phenomenon. We know there are distinguished philatelists down south, and many active societies, but why so few contributors to Federation's journal? We cannot believe that all our southern colleagues are all literary shrinking violets.

Whilst none of us claims to be a candidate for the Booker Prize we feel there should be no anxiety about putting pen to paper. At The Philatelist we can help by editing - we are adept at correcting errant apostrophes, joining split infinitives and the like. Occasionally we may exercise Editorial privilege and shorten articles or letters, or in the extreme, decline publication. Technical requirements for submission of articles are contained in each issue with details of electronic transfer. We can scan original material for illustrations and return.

So, the gauntlet is down - to all collectors in Cape Town and George, Upington, Port Elizabeth and Durban, share with us all the good things you collect. Much of the pleasure of collecting comes from sharing one's treasures, or one's thoughts with other, like-minded people.

Articles can be short, or not too long: 3500 words plus illustrations are about the maximum before readers lose interest - and a good picture speaks volumes.

Dr. Alan Rose

The editorial board:

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FUTURE EVENTS

AUGUST 2005
Taipei 2005
19 – 24 August
Taipei, Taiwan

OCTOBER 2005
Cape Stamp Show 2005
20 – 22 October
National Exhibition, Cape Town
Goodwood Civic Centre

MAY 2006
WASHINGTON 2006
27 May – 3 June
Washington, USA
Contact: SA Commissioner
Peter v.d. Molen
011 849 4822

ESPANA 2006
(TBA)
Valladolid, Spain

OCTOBER 2006
SA National Exhibition
October (TBA)
Gauteng

JUNASS
(TBA)
Gauteng

NOVEMBER 2006
BELGICA 2006
16 – 20 November
Brussels, Belgium

DECEMBER 2006
INDEPEX'06
December (TBA)
New Delhi, India

OCTOBER 2007
PEZAPEX 2007
National Exhibition incorporating JUNASS
17 – 20 October
Port Elizabeth

DECEMBER 2007
Brasiliana 2007
December (TBA)
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

MAY 2008
Israel 2008
14 – 22 May
Tel Aviv, Israel

JUNE 2008
Efiro 2008
15 – 22 June
Bucarest, Romania

JULY/AUGUST 2008
China 2008
July/August (TBA)
Beijing, China

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



The winning letter, chosen by the editor, will receive an exclusive Sheaffer pen from SSC SILVERAY STATMARK COMPANY

Philately Costs

Dear Sir,

I totally agree with Mr Fourie's letter in your April issue. Not only are RSA stamps too expensive, but there are too frequent issues. I also question the need for high value stamps such as R6.30 and R12.60. In the UK they manage with £1, £2, £3, £5 and £10. How soon before we have a R50 stamp?

Miniature Sheets are also not required. Rarely if ever used for postage, they are only to fleece collectors. In a larger spectrum, the over-issue of stamps by most countries can only harm philately and discourage collecting.

Rex Osborne
Philatelic Society of KwaZulu Natal

TPO Postmark

Dear Sir,

The earliest known TPO postmark was reported by Mike Walker in *"The South African Philatelist"* of December 1987, as **29 January 1884**. H.S.Hagen and S.P.Naylor reported in their book *"Railway Postal History of South Africa"* (1998) an earlier mark dated **12 June 1883**.

Attached please find a scan of an One Penny QV postcard (as shown below), tied with O'Okiep 2 June 1883 and a BONC 200 (proving piece), and addressed to Cape Town. The card travelled of course by postcart down to perhaps the Boland? and entered there the Travelling Post Office for the last stretch by rail to Cape Town. It received the mark **T.P.O. 8 June 1883 UP** and reached Cape Town the same day.

This card dates **4 days earlier** then previously recorded.

Dr. Franco Frescura writes in his book *"The Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1910"* that the Travelling Post Office was instituted on a regular basis on 14 May 1883 and ran daily from Cape Town to Victoria West Road.

I would be interested to know what the postal route was by that time and on which station the postcard would have entered the Travelling Post Office. Can anyone help?

Looking forward to hearing from you.

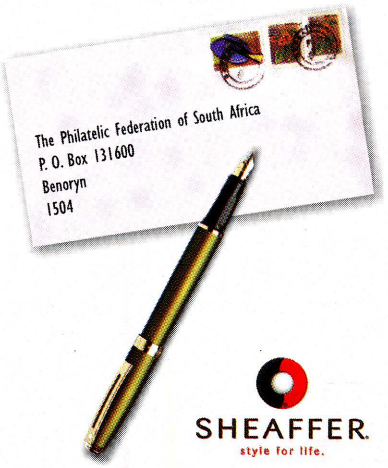
Yours sincerely,

Bram Leeflang
FVZA Netherlands



Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email saphilatelist@iafrica.com Enquiries about membership can be referred to Robert Harm at robharm@mweb.co.za

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Perforation Anomalies

Dear Sir,

In studying the old and new designs of the ½ c and 1c, and the 1½ c face values of the first SA Definitive series of 1961-1974, I have come across some anomalies in the measured perforations as compared with those quoted in the SA Stamp Colour Catalogue. Variations occur as either a reversal of the quoted perforation values, or as different numerical values for one of those quoted.

My measurements were made using the perforation device and gauge according to the instructions on page ii of the 2003/2004 SASCC, 26th edition. As I have not seen any reference to variations in perforations on these stamps in the literature, I am bringing this to the attention of readers in the hope that someone can provide an explanation. For anyone interested in the exact variations I have found, I can provide tables giving comparative measurements.

VA Polentas

Communication to Mr Polentas via the Editor

letters continued on page 133

Obituaries

Helmuth Hagen

Helmuth Hagen passed away 26th May 2005 after several months of illness. Born and educated in Cape Town Helmuth worked for most of his career as a civil engineer for the SAR, later Transnet. He retired as Group General Manager (Technical Services and Portnet), but continued his association with the Transnet Foundation Heritage, the former Railway Museum. He was a veteran railway philatelic collector, exhibiting regularly at national level. His award winning collection 'The Language of Thematics' was produced as a supplement to The SA Philatelist in June 1974, and further magazine articles followed regularly. His two books, *'Railway Stamps of South Africa'* (1985) and *'Railway Postal History of South Africa'* (1998) written in conjunction with Stan Naylor were published by the PFSA. He was co-Editor of *'Railways Africa'*, and a founding member of the Railway Thematic Group. In the Postmark and Postal History Society his extensive knowledge, regular attendance, and contributions were appreciated and valued.

He was a gentleman, and will not be forgotten.

AB

Bertie Simpkins

The doyen of the West Rand Philatelic Society is no more and we will not see his like for a long time to come.

On the morning of 21 June 2005 Bertie Simpkins passed away after a long illness in his 91st year. His influence on this Society will be long felt.

Bertie joined the Society in 1947 after his return from up North where he had served in the Rand Light Infantry during the Second World War. With petrol rationing still in force and few cars available, he would catch the train from Johannesburg after work and Jack Burrell would meet him at Krugersdorp station. After dinner with the Burrells, he and Jack would attend the meeting, which was then held in one of the Committee rooms at the Krugersdorp Town Hall. He would then catch the train back to work the next morning, having slept over at Jack's house.

His attendance at meetings (but not his interest in philately) was broken for some considerable time during the sixties when he was engaged in writing the history of his regiment, the RLI. On his return to Society affairs, he served for many years as Secretary/Treasurer of the Society and subsequently as Treasurer when the two posts were split up. He also presented a trophy to the Society to be awarded for services to the Society and was elected an Honorary Life Member in the nineteen eighties.

His encouragement helped many members of our Society to become better philatelists. He was generous both with his knowledge and in helping members with material. Seldom would he come to a meeting without a few stamps or covers for one or other member and his enthusiasm for helping young collectors was well known. He touched everyone in the Society in a very special way.

Never one to sit idle, after his retirement, he went to work and "did the books" for Coen Slagt at Arcade Stamp Shop and later worked for a time at Sotheby's (now Stefan Weltz).

He formed a good collection of Cayman Islands on a limited budget, which he sold when he started on a collection of the Postal History of Walvis Bay.

This collection has added many details to the knowledge of the Postal History of the area. He also started what he considered a fun collection of farthing stamps. This is now safely in the hands of Ron Rong. Always interested in preserving history in whatever form, he put together the story of his life in covers and letters. This he passed on to the Society for safekeeping. It is intended that it will be shown at a meeting shortly.

He has left a legacy to the Society which will be hard to match and impossible to exceed.

Goodbye my friend, we will miss you.

MB

I have known Bertie since Jipex in 1936 when both of us were members of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, I a junior, he a senior. He participated actively with the security in the hall during the exhibition.

Subsequently we were together in the Rand Light Infantry, although in different companies.

After the war he stayed on in the Regiment eventually to become its Commanding Officer.

When he was occupied with the writing of the history of the Regiment I had the honour to be serving on the historical committee assisting him and from then on our friendship developed. Subsequently both of us were elected Honorary Life Vice Presidents of our Regimental Association.

Last year we gave him a Luncheon party on his 90th birthday, attended by many of his old comrades and he was then in full spirits. Regretfully from then on his health failed him.

Not only his philatelic friends but all his army friends will miss him.

JM

Ian Gourlay

Ian Gourlay of the Randburg Philatelic Centre passed away suddenly on 27 May 2005. Ian joined the Centre at its inception in 1994 on retiring from his own computer graphics business. He was an affable character who would readily chat for hours with a customer and also became well known in Natal, being a regular attender of the Rob Roy Hotel auctions.

DM

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GOING TO THE FAIREST CAPE FOR ... THE 2005 CAPE TOWN NATIONAL?

**Well, many foreign dealers are, and so are Gauteng's fairest.
The locals are also joining in. Why not break away as well?
Superb mountains and winelands await you.**

**The Show is likely to be another highlight. Experience all its facets
- great exhibits, good company and generous dealers!**

**The National will be held at the Goodwood Civic Centre
from Thursday 20 October to Saturday 22 October,
from 10:00.**

Foreign dealers:
**Ian Shapiro of Argyll Etkin, Bill Barrel, Graham Childs of Bonham's,
David Morrison, David Parsons of Spink & Sons, Gerald Bodily and John Taylor**

Gauteng dealers:
**Coen Slagt of Arcade Stamp Shop, J-P Warton-Hood,
John Sandilands, Alan Houghton or Mr Thematic, Wolfgang Meiss of Philimpex,
Morné de la Guerre & Howard Green of Stephan Welz & Co,
and Paul van Zeyl of Rand Stamps**

Dealers from the fairest Cape:
**Alan MacGregor, Mike Deverell, Andy Kriegler, David Crocker, Michael Wigmore,
Richard Johnson, Ken Joseph, Neville Mildenhall
and Henk de Lange, our coordinator (e-mail: hdelange@global.co.za; tel: 021-790 7536)**

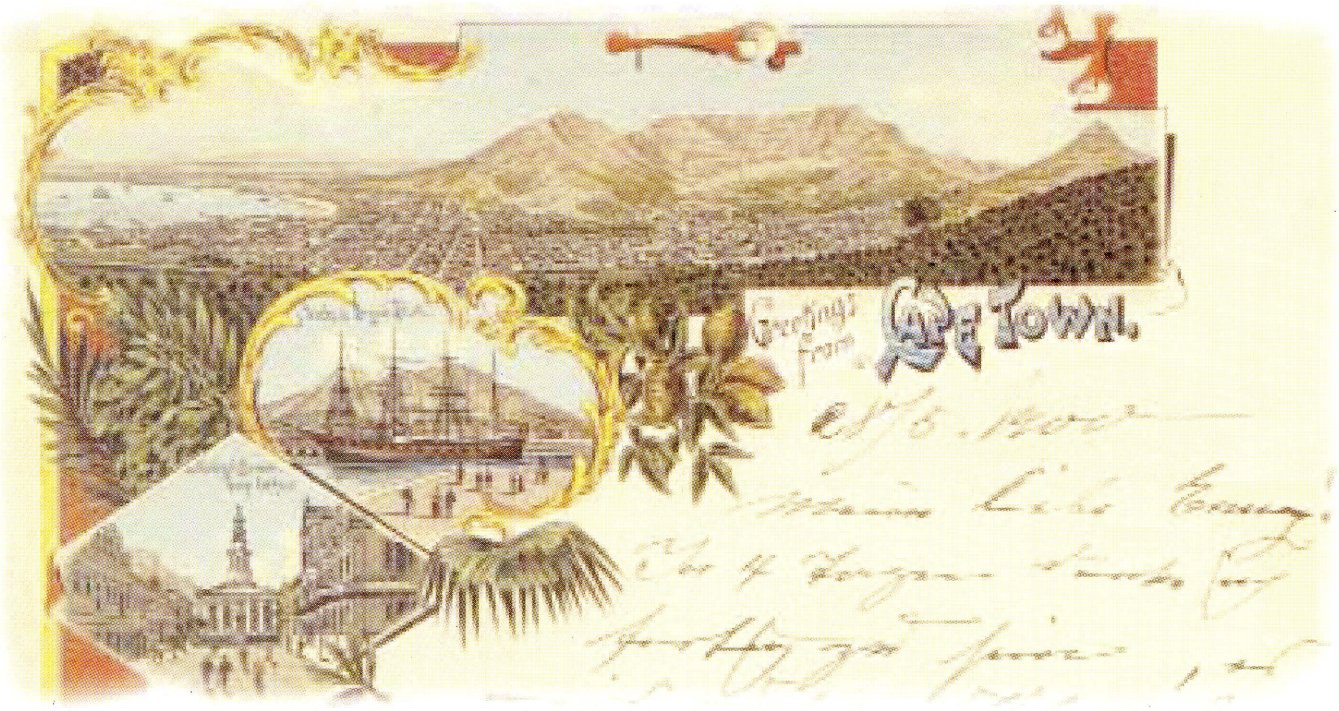


Illustration: collection John Sandilands

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Bureaucracy Gone Mad! - DDR, 1950

By Herbert Badstübner, Maritzburg Philatelic Society

If we think that collecting is fraught with difficulties in this modern day, perhaps we should be grateful that we are not living in the Deutsche Demokratische Republik (DDR) following the end of WW II. This story illustrates some of the problems faced by collectors in the 1940s and 50s.

In June 1945, all organisations across the whole spectrum of social culture, religion and sport were closed down and only at the beginning of 1954, under the umbrella of Government Central Control offices, were they allowed to function again. Applications for permission to operate in the fields of sport, culture and technology were assessed by the above government bodies, which also gave approval to activate new clubs and organisations. Stamp collecting came under the 'Zentrale Kommission Philatelie' and was classified as Kulturbund (Culture). Membership of a club was attained by declaring your interests - as well as the value of your collection. Exchange of philatelic material was only possible through your club's register, and any false declaration and dealing could lead to the confiscation of your entire collection. Indeed, several collections, known to have been confiscated, appeared some years later on auction in West Germany, described as 'DDR property'.

The cover illustrated is a simple FDC that Dr Hermann Gruhl wished to send to a friend in South Africa. The envelope can be identified as the official article by the code lettering on the lower right hand corner: 111/18/97 Lp25624/54. This was matched by the single 'Day of the Stamp' commemorative, (issued 23.10.54) in the top right hand corner. This commemorative was only released by the Post Office on the day before its official issue, and only to people with a Philatelic Membership Card produced to the Counter Clerk.

The total postage, including registration, of DM 2.55 was completed by four 'five year plan' definitives of 1953 overprinted with new values (issued 1.10.54), and the two commemoratives of the 5th Anniversary of DDR (issued 6.10.54).

Having obtained his commemorative, and added the necessary postage, Dr Gruhl handed the unsealed envelope to the Club Chairman or Secretary who in turn passed the open letter for approval to the office of the Commission in Karl Marxstadt (ex Chemnitz), some 30 km away.
After examination and approval of the contents, the official attached a green label to the cover and tied it with the appropriate official cachet.

This label, identified as 359/F43 ZKPH-14120, is affixed to the lower left hand corner of the cover, and is similar to a registration label. It has a green frame and the inscription Tauschsendung, which describes the letter as Exchange material. An identical green label was enclosed, given for the addressee's return consignment of equivalent value.

Poor Dr Gruhl had assumed that the Zentrale Kommission Philatelie would recognise the urgency and significance of this consignment and give the letter the first day cancellation he wanted. However, officials at the Zentrale were government bureaucrats and not interested in stamp collectors, only in doing what they were instructed to do by their superiors. To cancel letters was not part of their job; clerks in the Post Office were paid to do that! So eventually the open letter was returned to the Club two weeks later and handed to Dr Gruhl. It remained for the good Doctor to lick the flap of his letter and hand it to the local postal clerk for dispatch to South Africa.

Happily, the letter arrived safely in South Africa, with the exchange material, and is back-stamped 28 Nov 1954 Wartburg.
The result is a somewhat delayed FDC, but an interesting story. Hopefully, Dr Gruhl timed later covers to allow for bureaucratic delays.



King George V £1 Colour Trials

It has come to the attention of *The SA Philatelist* that the Unaccepted Colour Trials of the SA King George V £1 stated in the June issue (Vol 81, No 3, page 080) as coming up for auction in August by Stephen Welz, have been withdrawn from auction. We believe the provenance is uncertain and the authenticity of the material is in doubt.



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www.philimpex.co.za

FEDERATION &
SOCIETY NEWS
www.philatelysa.co.za

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Jipex - A Success Story

By D. Scheepers, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Mention the word JIPEX and every South African stamp collector immediately conjures up images of hundreds of little green and red, overprinted miniature sheets. It is, however, a bit like saying Charlize Theron is a human being. True on both accounts, but each can generate a great deal of excitement. I will elaborate only on JIPEX.

Our story begins in November 1934 when the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg (PS of J) first announced, at one of its monthly meetings held at no less a venue than the Carlton Hotel, its intention of staging an International Philatelic Exhibition in 1936, during the time of the Jubilee celebrations of the discovery of the Witwatersrand gold reef. That year would also mark the centenary of the Transvaal. This, the second International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in South Africa, would later become known as JIPEX.

For such an auspicious occasion it is not surprising that letters soon appeared in *The South African Philatelist* suggesting that a special commemorative be issued. In a 1935 Society News column, the East London Philatelic Society proposed that they should write to Congress to request the Government, through the Postmaster-General, that commemorative postage stamps be issued. It was thought that a set of three or four low values should be printed and that designs might be called upon from the public.

One such essay for a miniature sheet has surfaced and is illustrated. It is composed of four low value stamps depicting various historical scenes.



JIPEX Essay (shown at 40% of original size)

You will note the letters I.P.C.U.A. for International Philatelic Congress Union Africa.

On the flip side of the coin were many philatelists opposed to the idea of an additional issue. Dr. Harvey Pirie expressed the view that stamps should be for payment of postage exclusively and not to provide additional funds for anybody. If you consider this statement and the fact that after 35 years of Union only three commemorative issues had appeared it really sounds like something that, in the light of today's approach, could be submitted to 'Ripley's Believe It or Not'.

The Post Office, through the Postmaster-General, had the final say and refused to consider any additional issue. As late as September 1936 it relented and offered to make available sheets of ½d and 1d stamps which were left over after preparation of the B10 Advertisement Booklet and offered to have them suitably overprinted.

The Exhibition Committee of the PS of J was surprised but gratefully accepted the offer. The overprint is well documented as is the plating of the miniature sheets into the full original sheets. In the case of the 1d a knowledge of the different combinations of the adverts is all that is required. As a smaller range of adverts were used with the ½d value and there are thus only ten arrangements, one also needs a list of positional varieties on the stamps to effect plating. To complete a plating today would amount to a fair challenge.

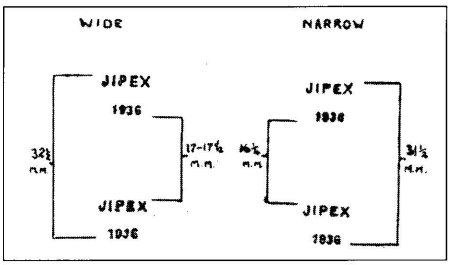
Of interest are a number of stamps showing 'trial' overprints. There are examples with different fonts, red or black inks, upright or inverted and with or without the date.



"Trial" overprints.

There is no reference to these 'trials' and though it is conceivable that trials would have been done prior to deciding on an overprint which would be used on thousands of stamps, they may well be bogus.

As is usual with overprints there will always be varieties. Although one form was used throughout, there is a relatively thick and thin overprint. This is due to variations in the thickness of the paper. Panes 5, 6 and 7 of both values had a wider overprint spacing of 32.5mm instead of 31.5mm - see diagram. This error occurred when setting the letterpress due to a transposed space filler (a lead placed above instead of below).



The advertisements which appeared above and below the miniature sheets also deserve a brief description. The ½d value had eight different adverts which were all reserved for the Post Office. The 1d had twenty different advertisements of which eight were Post Office related and were the only adverts to appear in the bottom row. Of the twelve private adverts which appeared on the top row, only the one by Robertson Stamp Co was not directed at smokers.

Official figures, supplied by the P.M.G., indicate that 105 189 sheets of the ½d and 127 554 sheets of the 1d stamp were overprinted. The idea behind these stamps was to attract people to the exhibition and, therefore, they would only be sold at the exhibition and for this purpose the PS of J would be given the status of a Postal Agency. It was decided that only a certain amount would be sold each day and that each person would be limited to a purchase of two of each.

This resulted in long queues as people rejoined the queue to purchase more. It was also decided that collectors who were unable to attend and who submitted postal requests to the Postmaster of Johannesburg would be allowed one miniature sheet of each value. Bulk requests would be evaluated later depending on sales. Applications poured in amounting to many times the full issue.

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The queue at JIPEX Post Office

A miniature sheet of each value is illustrated showing a 'SPECIMEN' overprint in violet on each stamp and with a tick next to each of the marginal advertisements. One such miniature sheet of each value is known, but more may have been produced, probably to confirm all layout details prior to printing. Miniature sheets were also submitted to the U.P.U. as is shown by an example having only the top left hand stamp, handstamped 'SPECIMEN' in violet. These latter examples emanate from the record files of a Portuguese receiving authority, possibly Portuguese Goa.



JIPEX ½d sheet handstamped "SPECIMEN" diagonally in violet.

Although there are a few minor errors specific to this issue there is one spectacular major error where one miniature sheet of each value is known misperfed horizontally and vertically. This resulted in wide margins on the left, a double row of adverts at the top and a single row of adverts plus a blank margin at the bottom. There is no margin along the right hand side. One of the minor errors shows smudged margins because the plates were not always kept scrupulously clean. Marginal inscriptions can also be found partially imprinted on stamps.

A special souvenir cover which was issued by the organisers is well known. They ranged in colour from cream to white and were sold for 3d each. It is said that over 25 000 were sold and this would have realised about £320. To bring this into perspective you must consider that one could have bought a brand new Ford motor vehicle for £175 and an annual subscription to the S.A. Philatelist was 5/- per annum, including free postage to any part of the world.

There was such an extraordinary demand for these covers that a number of extra printings had to be done. It is possible to identify the different printings by examining existing differences. The simplest way is to examine the upper inscription on the cover and to compare the position of '1936' in the second row with the word 'PHILATELIC' above it.

A certain number of covers in the first printing had the red colour in the lower half of Africa omitted. Many collectors would not accept these as they were considered to be imperfect. Imagine that!

On the final day of the philatelic exhibition there was a tremendous fever to obtain the last day cancellation and official covers were soon sold out. In a frantic bid, collectors made use of anything at their disposal such as souvenir telegrams, Post Office pamphlets and plain covers. The organisers also produced an emergency cover by typing on plain white envelopes and several hundred of these were sold at 3d each.

Covers could be registered and a special cachet was prepared for the exhibition Post Office with the wording 'PHILATELIC EXHIBITION / FILATELISTIESETENTOON-STELLING JOHANNESBURG'.

An interesting feature at the Empire Exhibition was the Mini Town in the amusement park which was erected and manned by midgets. They had their own 'Post Office' and an unofficial handstamp which can be found on JIPEX covers. On the first day of the philatelic exhibition the midgets bought many of the JIPEX miniature sheets by rejoining the queues repeatedly and these they then sold at a premium.



A special publicity folder which advertised the services of the Post Office was produced and could be posted like a postcard. It was in the shape of a post-box and printed in red with space on the reverse for an address. If one applied a 1d stamp it could be cancelled with the philatelic exhibition postmark and delivered to the addressee.

The exhibition which was held in two adjoining halls at the Empire Exhibition was a resounding success, boasting many top exhibits and an attendance that exceeded 25 000.



The official JIPEX covers.(shown at 60% of original size)

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Although no revenue accrued to the organising committee from the sale of the miniature sheets, nevertheless, it was one of the few exhibitions worldwide that was able to pay its own way. The Grand Prix was won by J. Herbert Curle for his magnificent Transvaal exhibit. Incredibly there was no award made for a Union collection as the only one there was in the section for juniors.

I would like to conclude with a quote by Emil Tamsen, RDPSA. He said, "JIPEX came, JIPEX lived and JIPEX will never die". Nearly seventy years later this statement still holds true.

References used and acknowledgements:
- Dr. A. Kaplan - *The JIPEX Stamps*
- *The South African Philatelist* - various issues between 1934 and 1937
- E. Tamsen - Rambling notes on JIPEX



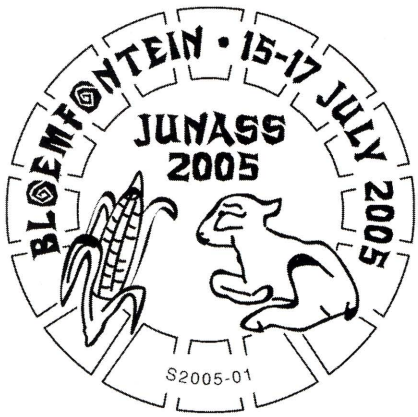
Cover showing the 'unofficial' Midget Town postmark (shown at 60% of original size)



Post Office publicity folders

Exhibition News

Jury Report - JUNASS 2005



It was a privilege and an honour to act as the chairperson of the jury for JUNASS 2005. Congratulations to the organising committee for a well organised and successful exhibition.

In die Sterklas, wat geskep was om nuwe uitstallers aan te moedig om deel te neem, was daar vanjaar sewe uitstallings. Hierdie uistallings was almal van O.V.S. Jeugfilatelie en is sekerlik 'n aanduiding dat die klub op die oomblik 'n boeitydperk beleef. Twee van hierdie uitstallings was van so 'n standaard, dat dit verskuif is na die medaljeafdeling en hulle het nie alleenlik silwer bronze toekennings ontvang, maar ook spesiale toekennings verower.

Six exhibits from the thematic class were moved to the open class and were judged according to the rules for topical and other exhibits. It is important that exhibitors or their youth leaders should specify in which class their exhibits should be placed. Please make sure that your thematic exhibit is not a topical or subject exhibit and enter it in the correct class.

Daar was geen goud of vermeil toekenning, maar die uitstallings het oor die algemeen 'n goeie standaard gehad met slegs twee brons toekennings en geen sertifikate nie. Wat verblydend was, is dat baie van die uitstallers so mooi ontwikkel het, elke keer wat hulle uitstal, kan ons sien hoe hulle in die stokperdjie groei en hoe hul uitstallings verbeter het.

Every year each exhibitor receives written comments from the jury with suggestions on how to improve their exhibits. Some of the children did improve their exhibits according to these comments, but unfortunately some exhibits were re-entered unchanged, leaving the jury no option but to deduct marks.

Many thanks to the members of the jury who gave their time to judge the exhibits. To Harry Birkhead RDPSA (Vice chairman), Jill Redmond RDPSA (Secretary), Jan van Beukering and Gary Osthoff (learner) - you were a great team!

Congratulations to all the exhibitors, we appreciate the effort and time you put into your hobby - well done. Read your comments, follow the suggestion and please re-enter your exhibits next year.

Gerrie Conradie, Chairperson
JUNASS 2005.

Results on facing page

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Details Recorded of East African Army POs during World War II



By Joh Groenewald, RDPSA

A first-ever comprehensive recording of the East African Army post office datestamps and their associated censor markings has been completed by the South African World War 11 study group. A total of 575 covers with the double-circle EA APO postmark has been recorded.

Rory Ryan, the group's leading student of the East African military posts during the WW, says the objective was to get a window on the occurrence of these postmarks and to try and trace the censor cachets which in many cases were linked to specific military units.

The recording includes dates, destinations, censoring devices, stamps used if any, stationery used if significant, and additional information, Research associates of the SA WWII study group provided initial information and members of the East Africa Study Circle contributed. One of them, Bill Colley (80) of Glasgow, provided extensive information on about 150 covers.

Rory says the recording focused on the use of the double-circle EA APO postmarks in Africa during the 1939-1945 war. During a late stage of the war some of these army post offices also saw further service in Ceylon, India and Burma

And, during the earlier stage of the war (1940-42) when the Allied force moved into northern Kenya and thence to Ethiopia, Italian Somaliland and British Somaliland, and even Eritrea, many of these postmarks were used in association with South African censor marks. In fact, the East African army post offices replaced many of the South African ones as the military postal services were amalgamated, yet clearly South African personnel were still involved.

A good part of the 575 items recorded were for EA APO 2, the military base post office in Nairobi. It does seem, however, that a number of the 142 items with the EA APO 2 postmark came from elsewhere, perhaps brought by air force pilots from outlying places to be posted at Nairobi.

The second most frequently seen postmark was EA APO 60, which was used at Addis Ababa after the South African forces liberated the Ethiopian capital from Italian colonial rule in April 1941 (49 covers).

Quite a number of the items from Ethiopia and Somaliland are captured Italian envelopes, used by the South African soldiers for writing home.

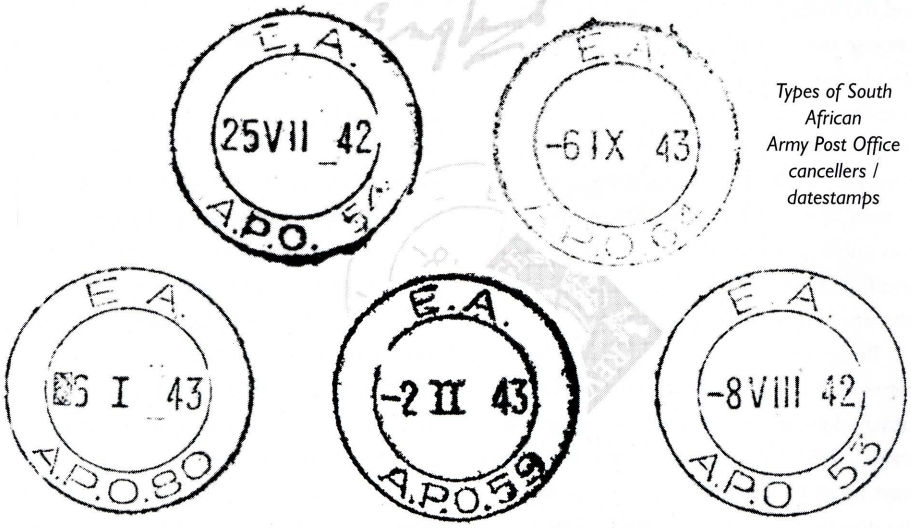
Of interest is the increasingly severe censorship of "Honour" envelopes and air letters. These "active service" (stampless) envelopes were designed to avoid the need for censorship, and the writer had to pledge "I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters".

The pledge did not stop the censors. It seems to have been a magnet. Only one of the 19 Honour items recorded escaped censorship. Initially (1941) only one censor per item was involved, but as the war progressed, more and more censors perused these family letters and censor marked the Honour envelopes.

The one censor rapidly became two, already in 1941. A number of items of 1943 and 1944 show signs of three and four different censors, while an "Honour" air letter of as late as 1945 shows evidence of five, four different censor cachets plus one censor sealing label.

Rory says details of about 2000 EA APO postmarked covers will be needed before significant conclusions about their relation with specific, numbered censor cachets can be drawn. Meanwhile he has made the full list available to all collectors who contributed information thereto.

Address: Prof Rory Ryan, PO Box 1683, Halfway House 1685.
Email: rpr@lw.rau.ac.za



Types of South African Army Post Office cancellers / datestamps

Sam Legator Grand Prix
- Avi Barit - The Lesotho 1984 Butterflies

Stampmates Trophy
- Shimon Barit - Errors on the Stamps of Great Britain

Fanie Vermaak Junior Grand Prix Silver
- Nicholas Britz - The World of Cricket

Fanie Vermaak Junior Grand Prix Bronze
- Merlind Osthoff - Soogdiere en hul gereedskap

Wigmore Junior Grand Prix
- Chris Strydom - Die Diereryk

Conradie Trophy
- Avi Barit - The Lesotho 1984 Bird Stamps

Setempe 2000 Trophy
- Stephanie Thomas - Ponderous Pachyderms

Derek Brown Centurion Shield
- Chris Strydom - Die Diereryk

Rapportryerkorps Wierdapark-Trofee
- Merlind Osthoff - Soogdiere en hul gereedskap

Ratcliffe Trophy
- Ilka Schwella - Erfenis op Suid-Afrikaanse seëls

Material Handling Systems Trophy
- Kim Walter - Fauna and Flora van die Bybel

David Stern SIP - Club Awards
1st Port Elizabeth Junior Society - Farming in Southern Africa
2nd Nigel Junior Stamp Club - The Many Faces of Farming
3rd OVS Jeugfilatelie - Gemengde boerdery

Mr Thematic Cash Award
- Alexander Benjamin - Birds from around the World

Four Stars
- Talitha Louw - Voëls – en wat hulle eet

Three Stars
- Danielle-Verné Louw - Kersfees op seëls
- Ilka Schwella - Sport
- Pieter vd Merwe - Wilde Katte
- Carla vd Merwe - Tekens en simbole

One Star
- Keagen van Tonder - Historical Buildings of the World
- Kyle van Tonder - The Exploration of Space

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Stuivers, Skillings and Rixdollars

The means of payment at 'een poskantoor der oceanen'

By Ds Pauw Steyl, OFS Philatelic Society

The story of the use of Rixdollars, skillings and stuivers in the Cape post office from 1792 onwards provides intriguing reading matter. Before coming to the real story, I want to take you further back in history.

The States General, highest authority of the United Republic of the Netherlands, founded the Dutch East India Company (DEIC) on 20 March 1602. In Dutch it was known as the Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC). The Company had a board of seventeen Directors (The Council of Seventeen), comprising eight from Amsterdam, four from Zeeland and one each from Delft, Rotterdam, Hoorne and Enkhuizen. The seventeenth member was nominated alternately by the other chambers, except Amsterdam.

The VOC was a large trading organization with extended commercial interests. By the middle of the seventeenth century the Company owned trading posts at the Cape, in Mauritius, Persia and on the west and east coasts of India, China, Formosa, Ceylon, Japan and the Indonesian group of islands. Batavia became the head office of the Company's possessions in Asia. Each of the Company's outposts was governed by a Council of Policy presided over by the local commander or governor. When Jan van Riebeeck arrived at the Cape on 6 April 1652 the system was implemented there. At that stage the unofficial post office at the Cape was named 'the post office of the oceans'.

Being such a large trading organization between Europe and the Indies the VOC attached great importance to sound postal traffic. Official documents were carried both ways as swiftly as possible by ship or along the overland route via the Middle East. This route ran via Marseilles, Livorno, Venice to Aleppo and Gamron. Servants of the VOC were allowed to send mail to and from Asia, although private mail had a very low priority. Due to the strict censorship by the VOC, this system was not very popular.

At the Cape the number of free burghers increased with time to such an extent that the need for transmission of private correspondence became essential. With regard to the carrying of early correspondence from the Cape, Goldblatt says in his book *"The Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope"*: (senders of letters) ".... had to rely entirely on their own resources to ensure that letters were carried "by favour" of passengers, or captains and sailors of private ships. Whether the correspondence was transmitted free, or remuneration was paid, was presumably a matter of arrangement between the sender and the carrier."

The VOC introduced packet boats in September 1788. At the same time a primitive system, called 'port money' was implemented. Letters to be transmitted to the East via the Cape were classified by means of wooden forms in nine different sizes.

Size one	-	6 stuivers
Size two	-	12 stuivers
Size three	-	1 guilder
Size four	-	2 guilders
Size five	-	3 guilders
Size six	-	4 guilders
Size seven	-	5 guilders
Size eight	-	6 guilders
Size nine	-	7 guilders

Paying port money on letters was also in use at the Cape. Perry Moree, in his book *"Met vriend die Godgeleide"* says "Alle vestigen van de Compagnie waarop rechtstreekse vaart bestond (de Kaap, de Indiase kantoren, China en Ceylon) ontvingen eigen exemplaren van die hierboven beshreven houten vormen...." (All Company outposts on the direct ship route - the Cape, the Indian offices, China and Ceylon - received their own wooden forms as described above). Seeing that no official postal service was yet established one cannot compare port money with postage. One can at least say that the payment of port money was the forerunner of paying postage.

It is safe to say that the first lines in the postal history of the Cape of Good Hope were written in 1788. The Council of Policy at the Cape was instructed by 'Head Office' in Amsterdam to investigate the possible establishment of postal facilities at the Cape. The central figure in this investigation was Pieter Hendrik Faure, clerk to the office of the Secretary. It was, however, not before 28 December 1791 that the Council of Policy passed a resolution to establish a post office at the Cape. Faure's financial report to the Council of Policy on 13 January 1792 indicated that the establishment of a post office would not be a financial risk to the VOC, as over the period 1788 to December 1791, he had received some 7000 gulden in 'briefporten'.

On 2 March 1792 a post office came into being following a proclamation signed by the acting Governor, Johan Isaac Rhenius. A room in the Castle initially served as the post office. Adriaan Vincent Bergh, nominated as postmaster, was directly responsible to W F van Rheede van Oudtshoorn, the newly appointed postal commissioner, and Aegidius Binct Ziervogel was appointed as letter carrier.

One could say that Rhenius' proclamation was the handbook according to which postal affairs had to be run. It gives some interesting information about postmaster Bergh's obligations. He was required among other things

- to be on duty every day from 9am-10am except Sundays to receive and transmit mail for overseas destinations. At first only overseas letters and packets were handled.
- to notify the public of the arrival and departure of the next "schip of pacquet boot".
- to inform the public of the time of final acceptance of mail to be dispatched overseas as well as the time when letters and packets would be available for collection after paying the applicable postage. Postmasters received four stuivers for every letter. The public received all the necessary information by means of a notice board at the post office.

To mark letters dispatched by packet boats and later through the official postal system the VOC issued four copper handstamps bearing the VOC logo with four different denominations: one for 6 stuivers and one each for 1 guilder, 2 guilders and 3 guilders.

Goldblatt says :"The first postal marking associated with the Cape is the VOC handstamp", and then asks, "but was it ever in use at the Cape?"

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Postal historians have different views and answers on this question. In his book "*The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1853 and the Postmarks 1853-1910*", Jurgens gives a definitive "yes". He bases his viewpoint on the grounds of two covers dispatched from London and St Helena to the Cape both bearing the VOC 6 stuiver handstamp. Goldblatt admits that both covers bear the 6 stuiver VOC handstamp, but differs from Jurgens on the following grounds:

- no letter has been noted *originating* from the Cape and struck with the VOC mark.
- all covers seen by reputable Cape postal historians are addressed *to* and not *from* Cape Town.
- four different VOC marks have been noted on letters addressed to Cape Town. The small post office at the Cape would not have been issued with four of these stamps.

Perry Moree is however convinced that the four different handstamps were used at the Cape. His argument is based on two letters from the Chamber of Amsterdam (16 and 19 August 1788). In the first letter the chamber stated that "neegen formaaten van hout en vier kopere stempels ..... bij de eerstvolgende gelegenheid opgestuurd zouden worden". (Nine wooden forms and four copper stamps would be dispatched at the first opportunity). According to the letter of 19 August the Chamber of Amsterdam confirmed the dispatching of the wooden forms and copper stamps (also to the Cape).

Moree further refers to a letter of 12 June 1790 in the VOC archives. It was written by the widow of a Cape citizen, D Lamberti, to "kapitein-luitenant" J Christiaan of the ship Horssen at the time being in Asia. The letter was probably first sent to Batavia but not being delivered, sent on to Amsterdam. The letter bears two 6 stuiver VOC marks, as being a size two letter 12 stuivers were applicable as port money.

Moree also refers to Pieter Hendrik Faure as acting "postmaster" at the Cape (1788-1791). Moree says that Faure informed the Council of Policy in his financial report of 13 January 1792 that he received a few unstamped letters which he provided with the VOC stamp. "Ook had hij enkele brieven die niet waren gestempeld van een VOC-stempel voorzien...". Whether the VOC 6 stuiver stamp was ever used at the Cape is still an unanswered question which will be debated by postal historians in times to come.

Payment of postage at the Cape tells a very interesting story. Goldblatt says that by 1792 a form of postal registration was already in place which stipulates: "For greater security of letters or packages sent by inhabitants, or on behalf of others, to Europe or the Indies, the postmaster on payment of four stuivers per letter or package will record such in a book to be permanently kept in the Post Office and he will place his signature either above or below the seals on such letters or packages".

The ordinary postage on mail arriving at the Cape bearing a stamp indicated that a fee had been paid on dispatch overseas. In addition to this an amount was to be collected on delivery. Goldblatt gives the detail:

Fee paid on dispatch	Amount to be collected on delivery
6 stuivers	8 stuivers
12 stuivers	16 stuivers
1 guilder	24 stuivers
2 guilders	48 stuivers

and so on in the same ratio.

By 1798, Rixdollars, skillings and stuivers were in regular use for Postage. A single sheet letter cost 1 skilling, a double sheet letter 2 skillings and small packets were charged at 1 skilling an ounce.

During the Dutch occupation, 1803-1806, the relationship to British sterling was:

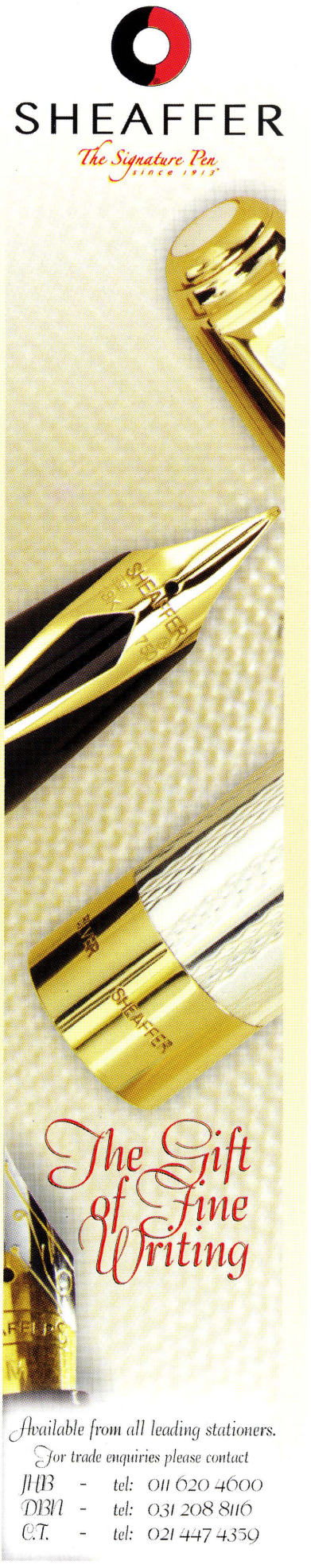
1 stuiver	=	1 d
1 skilling	=	6 d
1 Guilder (Cape)	=	1s 4d
1 Rixdollar	=	4s

In 1805, an 8 ounce packet from Cape Town to Graaff Reinet, Algoa Bay, Mossel Bay and Plettenberg Bay was charged 1 Rixdollar (4s), but by 1816 the charge was 16 Rixdollars, with single, double and treble page letters being charged at 4 skillings, 1 Rixdollar and 1 Rixdollar 4 skillings respectively.

After the second British occupation in 1806 the Dutch coinage depreciated in value and by 1825 the British currency at the Cape was as follows:

1 stuiver	=	1/2 d
1 skilling	=	2 1/2 d
1 Guilder (Cape)	=	6d
1 Rixdollar	=	1s 6d

Archives are always a rich source of information. While researching in the Cape Archives I found a letter about Rixdollars, skillings and stuivers collected at the Cape Post Office.



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The Secretary to His Majesty's Commissioners of Inquiry in London requested the Postmaster General in Cape Town, Robert Crozier, to provide him with a return of the amount of postage collected at the Cape Post Office. Crozier's return is reproduced in Table 1 at end of article.

Looking at Crozier's information an interesting observation could be made. Judged by the amount of postage collected at the Cape Town post office during the first British occupation (1798-1803) and the Batavian Republic (1803-1806), the inhabitants of the Cape had limited correspondence. This was presumably caused by the fact that only overseas and official mail was handled and that no official inland postal routes had been established. Although Governor Janssens did improve the postal system during the Batavian Republic, things deteriorated slowly but surely. It was not until the second British occupation that the postal system showed real improvement. The amount of postage collected increased steadily consequent on the introduction of inland postal routes.

By 1826 the Dutch currency was only a nostalgic memory. It was replaced by British Sterling of pounds, shillings and pennies. Rixdollars, skillings and stuivers as means of payment at the Cape post office played an important role in the early postal history of the Cape.

References

- Goldblatt, Robert : *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope. Cape Town*, 1984.
- Moree, Perry : *'Met vriend die Godgeleide'*, Walburg Pers, Zutphen.
- Jurgens : *The Handstuck Letter stamps of the Cape of Good Hope 1792 - 1853 and the Postmarks 1853 - 1910,* Cape Town 1943.
- Cape Archives GPO 6/1 : Letters dispatched miscellaneous 1825-1827. Volume 6/1 (1825)

Table 1

John Gregory Esq,
Secretary to HMC of Inquiry

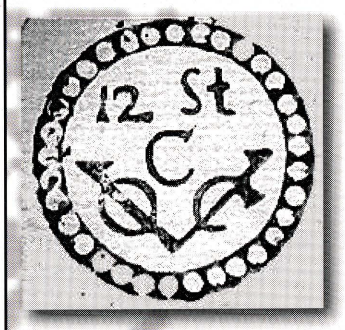
General Post Offices
6th October 1825

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to transmit for the information of His Majesty's Commissioners of Inquiry a return of the amount of postage collected in this office since the year 1799 to 31st December 1824 inclusive.

Years	Rds	Sk	St	Years	Rds	Sk	St	Years	Rds	Sk	St
1798	886	6		1807	4032	7	1	1816	9298	1	
1799	1059	3		1808	4694			1817	12025	2	
1800	1133	6		1809	4224	7		1818	12270	1	
1801	1376	6		1810	5089	5		1819	13164	2	
1802	846	1	3	1811	4364			1820	18865	1	2
1803	486	5		1812	6290	7		1821	22197	5	2
1804	432	2		1813	6311	4		1822	26080	5	
1805	265	3		1814	6381	2		1823	26846	2	2
1806	2503			1815	9193	4		1824	27640	6	4
								Total RDS	227,964	7	2

Robert Crozier



VOC postmark

SPOT A WINNING DEALER!

... IN JUST TWO QUICK STEPS

1. Identify PAUL VAN ZEYL t/a RAND STAMP AUCTIONS in this picture;



then -

2. Contact him to discuss how we can help each other, to get a "win-win" (auction or direct sale) result at:

e-mail: paulvz@mweb.co.za; Tel (012) 329-2464; Fax (012) 329-3157

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Bonhams 1793

Fine Great Britain Stamps in London in September



Graham Childs will be in Johannesburg October 17 and 18 and will be attending the National Stamp Show in Cape Town from October 20th to 22nd. He looks forward to seeing clients at these venues. Please contact him for further details.

Illustrated: 1966 British Birds 4d Block missing black, blue, bistre and brown estimate £2,500 to £3,000 in our forthcoming sale on 21st September.

Enquiries
Graham Childs
+44 (0) 20 7393 3890
stamps@bonhams.com

Bonhams
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London SW7 1HH
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The Rectangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope Part 3

By Dr. D.G. Mordant, SA Stamp Study Circle

The next issue in the first Cabled Anchor series is that of the "One Shilling Green of 1885" issued in December of 1885. The motivation was that, early in 1885, the Cape Government amalgamated the administrations of the Cape postal and telegraph departments and simultaneously authorized the usage of postage stamps for the pre-payment of telegrams. The minimum rate per telegram was one shilling and the stamps were affixed to the message forms. Prior to this, telegrams had been paid for in the separate telegraph offices in cash. This of course greatly increased the demand for one shilling stamps. In this issue the original printing plate with the outer frame-line was still used. The colours are recognised as being green, blue-green and yellow-green and shades thereof. The blue-green colour was apparently issued in 1889. The stamp is also characterised by the Cabled Anchor watermark. Varieties known include outer frame-lines of varying consistency due to wearing of the printing plate, and an inverted watermark in the green and yellow-green shades.

The next stamp in this first Cabled Anchor series was the "Half-penny Black of 1886" issued in January 1886. It is characterised by a Cabled Anchor watermark and printing plates without an outer frame-line. The recognised colours are black and grey-black with shades of both. An inverted watermark variety has also been described. One of the printings is of the coarse type, but does not appear to be from retouching of the plate. The odd stamp also shows background imperfections, but these do not appear to be constant varieties.

The next issue in this first Cabled Anchor series is the "Five Shillings Orange of 1887" issued in July 1887. It is has a Cabled Anchor watermark; the die used was the re-engraved die without the outer frame-line and the colour is orange, with shades tending to orange-yellow.

The last issue of this series was the "Four Pence Blue of 1890" issued in June 1890. The reason for this relatively late issue was that in 1879 the Colonial inland letter rate was reduced to threepence. In consequence thereof, demand for fourpence stamps declined dramatically and stocks of the Crown CC stamps, last dispatched in November 1879, lasted for another ten years.

On 1 October 1888 the postal rate from any part of the Cape Colony to the United Kingdom was reduced from sixpence to fourpence. New stocks were ordered and received in October 1888 on the anchor watermarked paper, but were not required until 1890. The stamp has the characteristic Cabled Anchor watermark, the re-engraved die without the outer frame-line having been used. It appears as if new plates were prepared, as the constant variety stop after "e" in pence, found in the Crown CC series does not seem to occur. The colour is blue with shades varying from bright to deep.

Effective 1 January 1891, the rate of postage to and from the United Kingdom and the Cape Colony became 2½ pence per ½ ounce or fraction thereof. The charge on the letters posted in the Colony for the continent of Europe became three pence per half ounce or fraction thereof. While a 2½ pence plate for the newly required denomination was being prepared, Messrs De La Rue and Co. ran off 12 660 sheets of the threepence value in a magenta colour and then surcharged them with "2½d" in black numerals and letters before dispatch. Classically the whole overprint is 6 mm high and 8,5 mm wide.

They were issued at the Cape in March 1891 and were distinguished by the surcharge "2½d" in black over the value tablet. The stamp itself is the "Three Pence Magenta" with shades varying from pale to deep and has a cabled anchor watermark. Altogether, just over 3 000 000 stamps were so printed and surcharged.

Normally the "d" of the surcharge has a horizontal serif that is blunt at the point. Also the "l" in the fraction normally has a sloping straight serif and the fraction bar usually measures 2 mm in length.

Varieties of this issue are to be found in the overprint and are many and numerous. Each of the five components of the surcharge are found with minor breaks. If one examines the surcharges minutely, then a multitude of minor variations can be found in each of the five components that go to make up the surcharge.

The main varieties are:

a. The "1" in the fraction with a horizontal serif. This is found, on each pane, as number two in the second row and number one in the ninth row, stamps number 8 and 49.

The serif classically joins the "1" at its apex, but occasionally joins somewhat below the apex.



The provisional 2½d in black over the three pence mauve of 1891 with variety 'horizontal serif to 1' on stamp four.

b. The "d" in the fraction is found with a sloping serif.

c. The "d" after the fraction is found with a pointed serif.

d. The fraction bar is smaller than normal, and sometimes arched as opposed to the normal straight and horizontal.

e. The sloping serif of the "1" is arched rather than straight.

In June 1892 the "Two Pence Half-penny Sage Green of 1892" was issued. Its function was to replace the recently surcharged threepence magenta stamps and thus to fulfil the new postage rate of 2½ pence per half ounce or fraction thereof between the Cape and United Kingdom.

This issue was prepared from the re-engraved master die of Hope seated upright without an outer frame-line and engraved with the new value in numeral instead of words because of a shortage of space. To prevent any confusion, a value tablet was inserted in the upper-background and the value, 2½d, was engraved in this tablet.

The stamp is characterised by a Cabled Anchor watermark, a sage-green or olive-green colour, with pale shades of both and, of course, no outer frame-line. It is comb perforated measuring 14.

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In 1892 Messrs De La Rue and Co. had reported that the one penny printing plate had become too worn for further satisfactory use and it was decided to introduce a new design. Early in 1893 an order was given to Messrs De La Rue and Co. to prepare a new master die and printing plate from the accepted design of Mr Mountford.

Simultaneously it became apparent that the colony could run out of one penny stamps as the new design had been delayed. It was decided to surcharge surplus twopence bistre stamps, pending the arrival of the new one penny denomination.

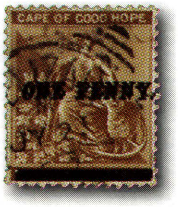
THE PROVISIONAL "ONE PENNY IN BLACK ON THE TWO PENCE BISTRE OF 1884"

Two Penny pale bistre and deep bistre stamps were surcharged by the Government printer, Messrs W A Richards and Sons in Cape Town in panes of 60 at a time and issued during March 1893. Altogether 10 000 sheets were surcharged, giving 2 400 000 stamps. The stamps were overprinted with the words "ONE PENNY" in black across the middle of the stamp. The words are in Roman capital letters and the original value tablet is obliterated with a black bar. The bar was set up, one for each stamp individually, and not in a continuous line.



The provisional 'one penny in black on the two pence bistre of 1884'.

A large number of varieties of this overprint have been recorded. The main one is the double surcharge. It appears as if only one or two sheets were surcharged twice and issued in Port Elizabeth, as all known examples bear this postmark. It is only known used.



A second well known variety is the no stop after PENNY. This occurs on two stamps per sheet of the first overprinting, namely the the sixth stamp in the first row, number 6 and the sixth stamp in the seventh row, number 42. These constant varieties prove that the sheet was overprinted one pane of 60 at a time, but the missing stop varieties are not constant as more than one overprinting was done.



The provisional 'one penny in black on the two pence bistre of 1884' showing the variety 'no stop after penny'.

Many stamps appear to have a missing stop due to a shift to the right of the surcharge, but this is only because the actual stop has been removed during the perforating process, or occasionally printed on the adjacent stamp.

By the same token many overprints are shifted to the left.

Other varieties known are:

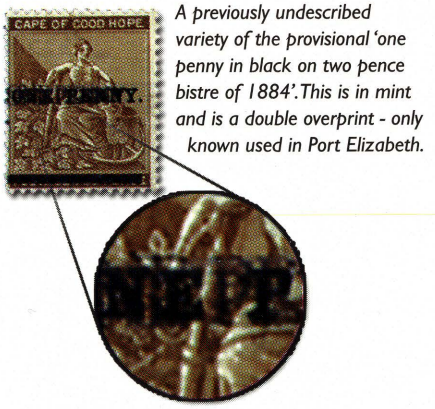
a. The broken "O" in "ONE";

b. The obliterating bar omitted due to misplacing downwards of the surcharge;

c. A large space between "N" and "Y" of "PENNY";

d. A large space between the "O" and "N" of "ONE" and "N" and "E" of ONE;

e. Breaks in the cancellation bar of varying extent;



A previously undescribed variety of the provisional 'one penny in black on two pence bistre of 1884'. This is in mint and is a double overprint - only known used in Port Elizabeth.

f. A single example of a probable triple surcharge on a mint specimen has been seen by the author.

g. There are many varieties in the overprint of broken letters, weak letters, and letters out of alignment. In fact varieties of each of the letters that go to make up the surcharge, plus varieties in the cancelling bar can be found with minute examination; e.g., "OHE" instead of "ONE".

h. Rarely, a comma after the "Y" instead of a stop.

Six months later in October 1893, the new "One Penny Red of 1893" with the new design, was issued. The stamp was designed by Mr Mountford of Cape Town and still has Hope as the central theme, but she is depicted standing upright, with her right arm on the anchor. The lower background is of Table Bay with a steamer on the ocean on the right, and Table Mountain and the sky are the upper background.



The one penny red of 1893 - the first new design in Cape Rectangulars for thirty years.

The stamp is characterised by the Cabled Anchor watermark and is found in many shades of red, running from rose through to carmine. The perforation, gum and paper are the same as for the other Cabled Anchor issues. The inverted watermark variety is also found, but relative to the number of stamps issued, is rare. One printing seems to have been over-inked as shown by the thickened background lines. The odd frame break is also found.

In 1892 Messrs De La Rue and Co. reported that the printing plates for the one shilling value had become too worn for further use, these being still of the original design with the outer frame-line prepared thirty years earlier. They were instructed to prepare a new die and printing plate, this being done from the re-engraved master die without the outer frame-line.

In December 1893 a new "One Shilling Green" was issued at the Cape, this being the first one shilling issue without an outer frame-line. It has a Cabled Anchor watermark and a blue-green colour with shades varying mostly to the deep end of the spectrum.

As from 1 January 1895, the Cape Colony joined the Universal Postal Union. The Universal Postal Union stipulated specific colours for some denominations and this led to a general change in colour in the Cape Cabled Anchor rectangular stamps between 1896 and 1898.

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The new issues of 1896 - 98 to comply with U.P.U. regulations ½d green, 2d chocolate brown, 2½d ultramarine, 3d magenta, 4d sage green, 1sh yellow-ochre, 5sh brown orange.

The first to be issued in the new colour was the "Two Pence Halfpenny Ultramarine of 1896". It was issued in March 1896 with shades tending to pale ultramarine. The same printing plates were used that had been employed to print the two pence halfpenny sage green of 1892. Thus, this issue also contains the additional value tablet in the upper right hand corner of the background.

In May 1896 the one shilling value was issued in a yellow-ochre colour. Green had been the colour of the one shilling value at the Cape since 1858, but the Universal Postal Union had decided on green for its halfpenny value, thus a change in colour was required and yellow-ochre was chosen.

The next stamp to be issued in this series was the "Five Shillings Brown-Orange of 1896" issued in June of that year. The only change in this issue compared with the release of July 1887 was one of tint. This orange colour is deeper from the addition of brown to the ink.

Then the "Half-penny Green of 1896" was issued in December of that year. This colour change was to fall in line with the Universal Postal Union regulations of green for the Half-penny value. In colour the stamps are basically yellow-green with shades tending towards the pale tints. However, a distinct blue-green colour is also recognised and is quite rare. An inverted watermark variety used at Trappes Valley on 4 November 1898 has also been found.

Three months later in March 1897, the "Two Pence Chocolate Brown of 1897" was released. Apparently, the same printing plates as those of the previous two penny bistre stamps were used. Differentiation is only really possible by the characteristic chocolate brown colour, and to some extent the date of usage can be an indicator.

In the same month the "Four Pence Sage Green of 1897" was issued. Knowing that the Universal Postal Union stipulated blue for the two-pence half-penny value, the Cape authorities decided to use the discarded sage green colour for the fourpence, thus, in fact, bringing about a direct switch in colour between these two values.

The last issue in this second series of Cabled Anchor watermarked stamps with the change in colours was the "Three Pence Magenta of 1898" issued in September of 1898.

The demand for three pence stamps decreased when the postal rate to and from the United Kingdom was decreased from threepence to two pence halfpenny per half ounce, from 1 January 1891. The supply of threepence stamps on Crown CA watermark paper, first issued in 1882, sufficed until 1898.

The stamp is characterised by a Cabled Anchor watermark and a bright magenta colour and, in fact, is the same as the threepence magenta printed by De La Rue and Co. in 1890 and simultaneously surcharged "2½d" by them and issued as such in March 1891. This was re-issued this time without surcharge.

THE HALF PENNY GREEN OF 1898



In 1895 the Cape authorities decided that as the printing plates of Hope seated upright became too worn for further use, they would gradually be replaced by Mr Mountford's new design as had been accepted for the one penny of 1893. In 1898 it was reported that the old halfpenny printing plate was no longer useable. Thus, in October 1898 a new halfpenny green was issued at the Cape on Cabled Anchor watermarked paper of medium white wove type, perforation was the comb type gauging 14 with the colour being various shades of green, the design being that of Mr Mountford. A specimen with an inverted watermark and used in East London on 17 April 1902 has been found. A blue green colour is also found, but is rare.

THE ONE PENNY COMMEMORATIVE RED OF 1900

The Imperial Penny Postage only came into force at the Cape on 1 September 1899. To commemorate this Mr E Sturman, a member of the staff at the Cape Town Post Office, designed a stamp to be used for this penny postage. The central theme of the design is a view of Table Bay with Table Mountain and Lions Head as the background and a ship on the bay as a foreground.

The stamp was issued on 1 January 1900 and is found in red with shades varying from rose-red to carmine.



The one penny red turn of the century commemorative of 1900.

The watermark is the Cabled Anchor, the perforation is of the comb type gauging 14, the paper is of medium white wove and the gum is white. Imperforate stamps found in pairs and in blocks are from proof sheets.



The one penny red turn of the century commemorative of 1900 in imperforate form.

THE THREE PENCE MAGENTA OF 1902

In March 1902 a new threepence value was issued, being a continuation of the move towards all the Cape issues being of the Hope standing series designed by Mr Mountford. In the event this one proved to be the last.

It is characterised by a distinct magenta colour, the watermark is the Cabled Anchor, the perforation is of the comb type gauging 14, the paper is medium white wove type and the gum is white.

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The three pence magenta of 1902

THE EDWARDIAN CAPE OF GOOD HOPE RECTANGULARS



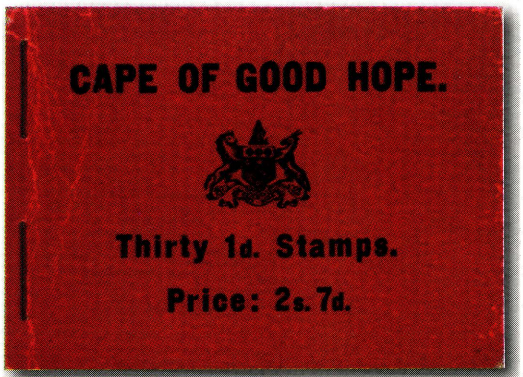
The Edwardian Rectangulars of 1902-1904. ½d green, 1d red, 2d brown, 2½d ultramarine, 3d magenta, 4d olive green, 6d mauve, 1sh yellow ochre, 5sh brown orange

Finally the Cape of Good Hope rectangulars were completed by the issue of stamps, depicting the head of King Edward VII of Great Britain, between December 1902 and October 1904. The central theme is that of a profile portrait of King Edward VII, the outer design being different for each stamp. All the stamps have a Cabled Anchor watermark, perforation of the comb type gauging 14, are printed on medium white wove paper and have white gum.

The first one to be issued was the "Edwardian Half-penny Green of 1902" issued in December 1902 in a characteristic green colour.

This was followed by the "Edwardian One Penny Red of 1902" also issued in December 1902 and is known in a wide variety of red tints.

Varieties of this one penny stamp are the shading in the background to the right of the King's head being almost absent, while another constant variety on one stamp in a sheet is a spot of colour between the "O" and "N" of "ONE". Other varieties are an inverted watermark, and an inverted and reversed watermark. An aniline printing is to be found.



The rare thirty 1d Edwardian booklet priced at 2/7, being 2/6 for the stamps and 1d for the booklet.

The next issue in this series was the "Edwardian One Shilling Yellow Ochre of 1902" also issued in December 1902. So in December 1902 the halfpenny green, the penny carmine and the one shilling yellow-ochre were issued. Various shades of yellow-ochre, especially tending towards the darker hues, are found.

Two months later the "Edwardian Five Shillings Brown-Orange of 1903" was issued in February 1903 and is a characteristic brown-orange colour.

In the same month, February 1903, the "Edwardian Four Pence Olive Green of 1903" was issued in its characteristic olive green colour, with lighter and darker shades also found.

In the following month, March 1903, the "Edwardian Six Pence Mauve of 1903" was issued at the Cape. It is known in the colours mauve, bright mauve and lilac. Like the 1d red, an aniline printing has been recorded.

In the next month, April 1903, the "Edwardian Three Pence Magenta of 1903" was issued in the characteristic magenta colour. A variety with an inverted watermark is also found.

One year later the "Edwardian Two Pence Halfpenny Ultramarine of 1904" was issued in March 1904. This stamp is the rarest of the Edwardian ones as the 2½ pence denomination did not find much use during this Edwardian period, there being no specific postal rate applicable. A single variety with no watermark has been found.

Six months later the "Edwardian Two Pence Brown of 1904" was issued in October 1904 and is of a characteristic brown colour. A dark black-brown colour is also known as well as a variety with an inverted watermark.

These Edwardian stamps were the last issued at the Cape as the Union of South Africa was formed on 31 May 1910, and thereafter the Union of South Africa stamps were gradually introduced as the provincial stamps became used up.

And so, over a period of 46 years from 1864 to 1910, the Cape had 56 different rectangular issues beginning with Charles Bell's design with the outer frame-line; the same design without the outer frame-line appearing in 1871. During the short interval of 10 years between 1893 and 1902 when three denominations were issued according to the design of Mr Mountford with Hope standing; and one according to the design of Mr Sturman where Table Mountain, Table Bay and Lions Head are the main part of the design together with the crest of the Cape of Good Hope. The period ended up with the Edwardian series of 1902 to 1910.

The stamps, of course, are only the basis to the philately of this period, for once one has studied the stamps in detail, one can then move on to the postmarks, the barred numeral cancellers, the postal history, the social history and any of the aspects of Cape philately of the period that one wants to study and enjoy. In particular, over the last fifteen years, extensive detailed studies of each Cape of Good Hope post office, its history and postmarks, have been published by Dr Franco Frescura, the late Ralph Putzel, and Alex Visser. The information in these works is incredibly detailed and voluminous. Nevertheless it is great fun to add information to their published tomes, one of the great attractions being that postmark material of the Cape Rectangulars is still available at affordable prices.

Finally the annual catalogues published by Stanley Gibbons and especially Lutz Heffermann make every effort to keep up with the new findings in the Cape Rectangular period. Considering that the last serious work in this field seems to have been published by Gilbert Allis in 1930, all philatelists in this field owe a debt of gratitude to these cataloguers for keeping the field alive, while serious studies of the stamps and their varieties and their overprints have been conspicuously lacking.

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Rotary International

By Emil Minnaar, East Rand Philatelic Society

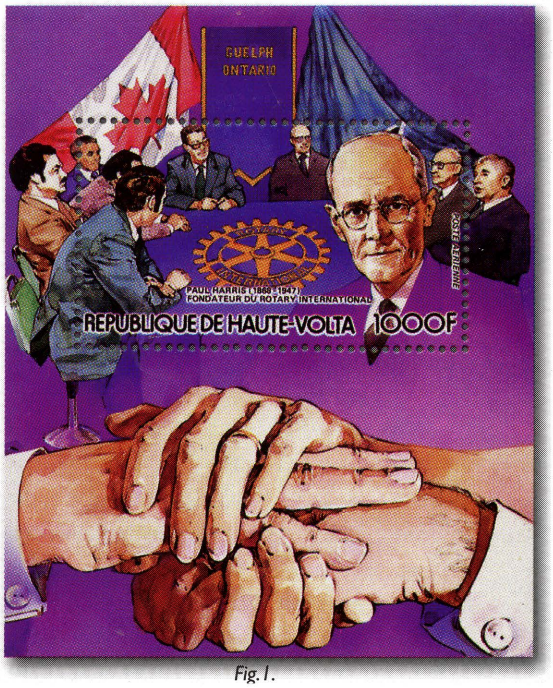


Fig. 1.

Rotary International, a civilian club, was founded in the United States on 23 February 1905 by Paul P. Harris, a Chicago attorney. His aim was to foster the "ideal of service" as a basis of enterprise, to encourage high ethical standards in business and the professions, and to promote a world fellowship of business and professional men. The name Rotary was proposed because meetings were to be held in rotation in members' offices, (Fig 1). In 1912 the name became the International Association of Rotary Clubs; the present name, Rotary International, being adopted in 1922.



Fig.2.

Rotary is made up of business and professional leaders who work to better their community and build an understanding of peace in the world. It is a non-political, non-religious humanitarian organisation whose objectives are best summed up in its principal motto, "Service Above Self". In conforming to this, Rotarians embrace a code of ethics called the "4-Way Test", formulated in 1932 by Chicago Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor, (Fig 2).

Over 130 nations have honoured Rotary International and the objectives and accomplishments of its 1.3 million members in more than 31 000 clubs in 166 countries by issuing more than 2 000 commemorative stamps and other philatelic items. Great Britain is the exception here as its postal regulations preclude the Queen's head from appearing together with the logo or emblem of a private organisation. (This is to prevent any suggestion that she might be endorsing the product or service). This rule appears to have been forgotten on one occasion as the stamp design for a 50th anniversary Air Letter for Guernsey shows, (Fig 3). From the first issue in 1931 to the most recent commemorative, almost all Rotary stamps share a common feature in that nearly every one bears the cogged wheel emblem of the organisation somewhere in the design, (Fig 4).

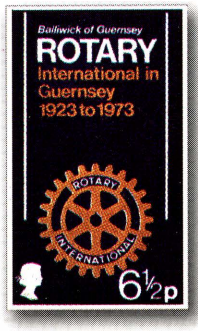


Fig.3.



Fig.4.



Fig.5.

Rotary-on-Stamps

Rotary-on-Stamps is one of Rotary International's World Fellowship Activities. This Fellowship was founded in 1957. It developed its own publications, including a bi-monthly bulletin and a comprehensive handbook. The first recognition of Rotary on a stamp was by Austria in 1931 on the occasion of the Rotary Convention held in Vienna that year. The scenic issue was overprinted with a red, blue and gold Rotary emblem, (Fig 5).

Subsequently, many nations have complimented Rotary philatelically, commemorating significant local anniversaries. Club banners are shown in Figs 6 and 7, and the portrait of the founder, Paul P. Harris appears frequently. Rotary's consistent record of international service is indicated by the inclusion in the design of a world map to indicate the global reach of the organisation, (Fig 8).



Fig.6.



Fig.7.



Fig.8.

Community Service

The services of Rotary to their local communities are recognised, by many countries with the issue of a stamp. This advertises the event to the public, and provides local clubs with a fund-raising opportunity by way of souvenir envelopes. Often the postmarks are quite intricate with as much attention being given to the design detail as to the stamp itself.

A 1960 Rotary souvenir sheet from Chile was overprinted in 1962 to raise funds for the United Nations campaign against malaria, (Fig 9). The donation of a light aircraft in 1970 to the 'Flying Doctor Service' in Tanzania was recorded on stamp, (Fig 10), and the Republic of Togo honoured its local Rotary organisation in 1980 for its contribution to scouting in the 'South Pacific Jamboree' with a die-cut, self-adhesive issue, (Fig 11).



Fig.11.



Fig.9.



Fig.10.

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One of the most significant of Rotary's programmes worldwide was the goal of immunising all children of the world against polio and other crippling diseases by the year 2005. Working in partnership with non-governmental organisations and national governments through its 'Polio Plus' programme, Rotary is the largest private-sector contributor to the global polio eradication campaign. Rotarians have mobilized hundreds of thousands of 'Polio Plus' volunteers and have immunised more than one billion children worldwide.

The 2005 target date for certification of a polio free world has arrived and Rotary has contributed half a billion dollars to the cause. Grenada was the first country where Rotarians accomplished this goal which included the vaccination not only against polio but tuberculosis, tetanus, diphtheria, measles and whooping cough. The central design of the commemorative stamp from Grenada features the 'Pistol of Peace', an injection instrument invented by a Rotarian and now used worldwide, (Fig 12). The Western Hemisphere was declared polio free in 1994, the Western Pacific in 2000 and Europe in 2002.

A second international project undertaken by Rotary is the '3H Programme', amplified as 'Health, Hunger and Humanities'. Stamps of Maldives, Figs 13, 14 and 15, illustrate the logos used for this project. The programme was also depicted in an unissued design of Swaziland of 1985, (Fig 16), but one of the accepted designs, (Fig 17), depicts the Rotary motto "Service above Self" and shows children participating in a feeding scheme.



Fig.13.



Fig.14.

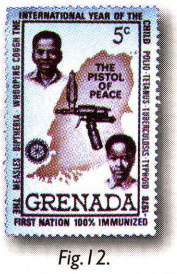


Fig.12.



Fig.15.

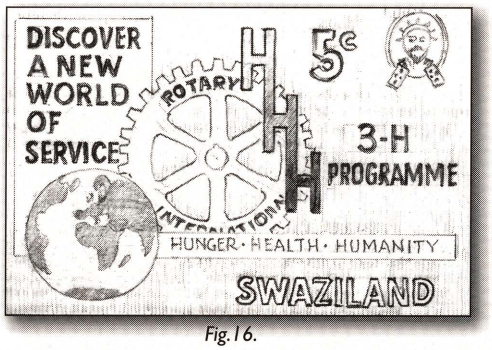


Fig.16.



Fig.17.

Fig.18.

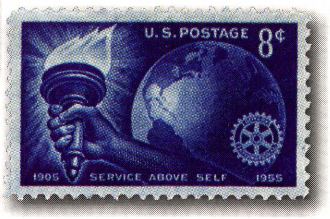




Fig.19.

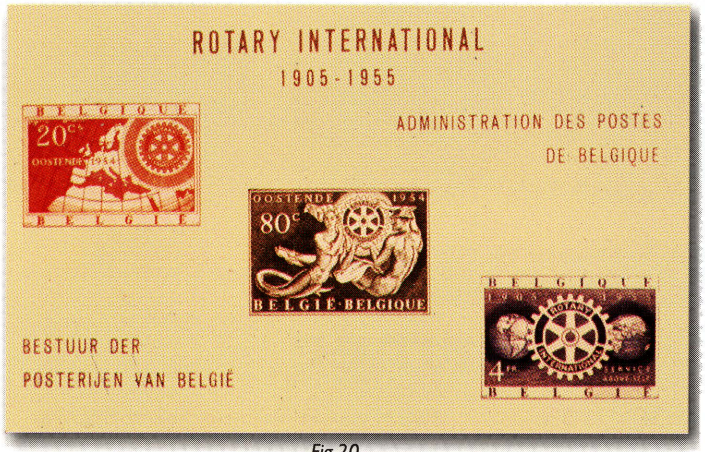


Fig.20.



Fig.21.

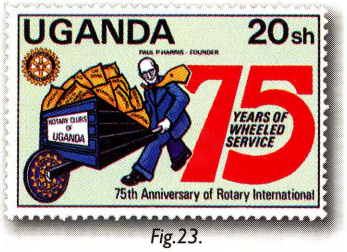


Fig.23.

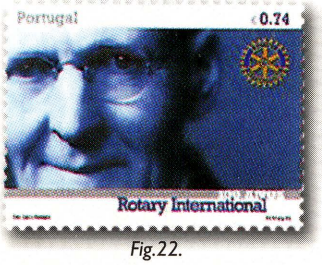


Fig.22.



Fig.24.

Anniversaries

Over the years Rotary anniversaries have been commemorated philatelically by many countries. In 1955, 29 countries issued commemorative stamps saluting the organisation's 50 years of existence. The largest issue was the 80 million stamps produced by the United States showing the torch of liberty shining over the world, (Fig 18). The 8c denomination was the overseas airmail rate at the time.

The Australian contribution, (Fig 19), illustrated another Rotary objective: World Peace through International Understanding and Fellowship. The grouped flags' behind the world globe with the rotary emblem prominently displayed, is typical of many of the commemoratives issued. One issue that almost didn't make it was the Belgian souvenir sheet, (Fig 20), money from the sales of which was to be directed to government charities and the Red Cross. This almost came to nought as financial manipulations brought a vote of no-confidence in the Chamber of Deputies which was only rejected by three votes!

1980 saw the 75th anniversary which heralded a flood of stamps onto the philatelic scene to celebrate the occasion. Zimbabwe was the first to picture the 75th logo, (Fig 21). Other countries also used this logo in their designs although many featured the founder, Paul Harris, (Fig 22); one even shows him pushing a wheelbarrow loaded with Rotary projects, (Fig 23). The Argentinean stamp, (Fig 24), reinforces the Rotary concept of world peace with the anniversary wording uniting the globe and the Rotary emblem.

South Africa was one of many countries celebrating the centenary of Rotary this year, (Fig 25). The two stamps depict first, the cornerstone project of Rotary since 1985: the eradication of polio in the world and second, the role played by Rotary through education and employment. Similarly the issue from the Marshall Islands on 23rd February this year (Fig 26) celebrates the Centenary of Rotary International and the Victory over Polio.

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The Rotary Foundation

An endowment fund, set up by Rotarians in 1917 "for doing good in the world", became a not-for-profit corporation known as 'The Rotary Foundation' in 1928. On the death of Paul Harris in 1947, an outpouring of Rotarian donations made in his honour, totalling US $2 million, launched the Foundation's first programme - graduate fellowships, now called Ambassadorial Scholarships. Today, contributions to the Rotary Foundation total more than US $80 million annually, and support a wide range of humanitarian grants and educational programmes that enable Rotarians to bring hope to millions and promote international understanding throughout the world.

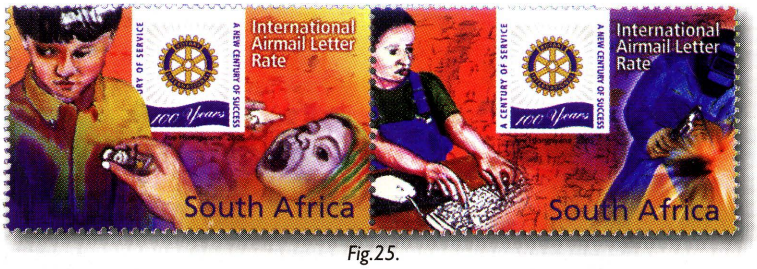


Fig.25.

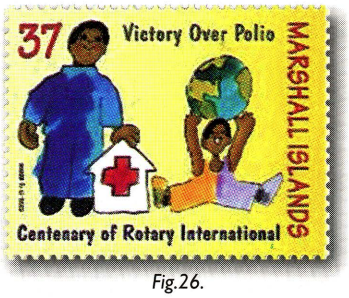


Fig.26.



Fig.28.

The Future

As it approached the dawn of the 21st century, Rotary worked to meet the changing needs of society, expanding its service to address such pressing issues as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger and children at risk, (Fig 27). The organisation admitted women for the first time (worldwide) in 1989 and today claims more than 145 000 women in its ranks. Also in 1989, Rotary clubs were chartered in Budapest, Hungary and in Warsaw, Poland, and 1990 saw the first club chartered in Russia: the Moscow Rotary Club. The goal of Rotary for the future is epitomised in the Argentine stamp shown in Fig 28: as a dove of peace carrying an olive branch - to solve all the problems of the world.

This brief summary of Rotary International on the stamps of the world is eclipsed by that in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C, believed to be the most complete collection of Rotary philately to date.

Note: stamps and miniature sheets are not actual size.

References: Rotary International - Website, and Rotary-on-Stamps - Website and Audio Visual Slide Show.

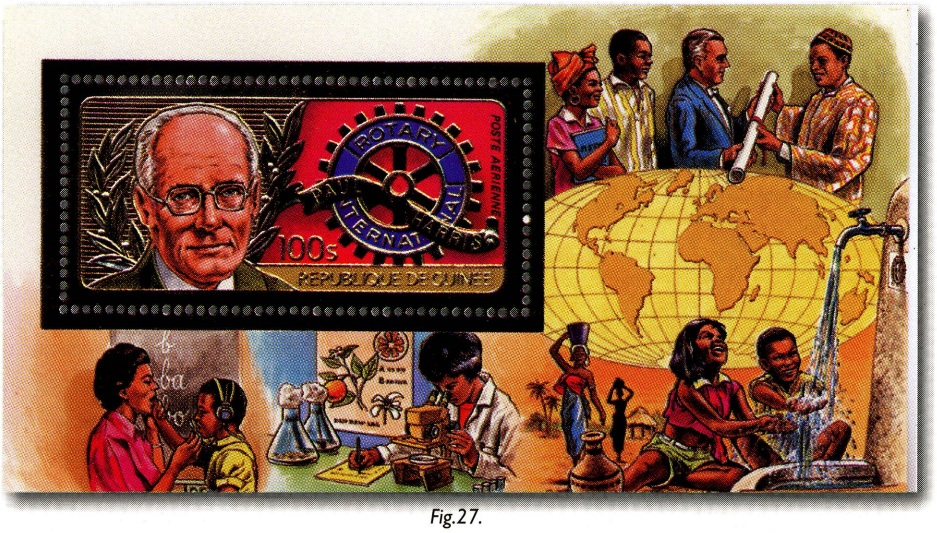


Fig.27.

Exhibition News

Jury Report Bloem One Framer

The Bloem One Framer took place from the 15th to the 17th of July in the Civic Centre (Glass Palace) in Bloemfontein. There were 36 entries resulting in the following awards, seven emerald, eight ruby, eleven sapphire, and six aquamarine. One was not judged and was moved to the court of honour.

The jury consisted of Neil Cronjé (chairman), Emil Minnaar (secretary), Jan Bakker and Peter van der Molen as members. No learners were involved. All these gentlemen had judged at least two previous one frame exhibitions before

The standard of the Exhibits was much better than in previous years and it is really wonderful to see the improvement that has taken place since I judged the first One Frame mini Exhibit at SAPDA in 2003 as chaiman. The selection of material and subject has also improved substantially.

There were also many new Exhibitors that participated in this competition. The biggest problem is still that the principal of One Framers is not always adhere to. A One Framer must be a limited subject that can not be easily expanded to more than one frame. Within this One Frame a complete "story" must be told.

There were only two exhibits that were judged as Topical. There were also some that were moved from open class to either thematic or general class in order to obtain a higher award.

I would like to congratulate the participants on their awards and hope that the jury reports will help them to improve their exhibits further.

Regards

Neil Cronjé (CHAIRMAN)

Results

Diamond 90-100%

• Mr DG Crocker	- Batum
• Mr H Birkhead	- Wolmaransstad 1899-1902
• Mr H Birkhead	- Schweizer-Reneke 1900-1901

Emerald 80-89%

• Mr L Hefferman	- The 1st rate CGH 1853-1864
• Mr S Everest	- Maltese Cross Postmarks
• Mr C M Mobsby	- Semi-Official Airmails
• Dr D Wolmarans	- Union Darmstadt Trials
• Mr A Fischer	- Rhodesian Forces Mail
• Mr G vd Hurk	- The Mittelholzer Flights
• Mr G vd Hurk	- The Story of a Swiss mountain

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215th Stamp Auction
8.-10. September 2005

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GERMAN SOUTHWEST AFRICA
and
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE



SG # 7 a mint



SG # 13 unused



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SA takes the Laurels



An award for the FIFA Centennial stamp contest was won by Philatelic Services of the South African Post Office. The stamp, designed by Thea Swanepoel, Philatelic Service's artist, won the first prize. The prize included a precious and unique FIFA Centennial medal made of 100% gold and a personalised winner certificate signed by the FIFA President, Mr Joseph S Blatter and the FIFA General Secretary Dr Urs Linsi. The January issue of the FIFA Magazine has featured the FIFA Centennial stamp contest winner.

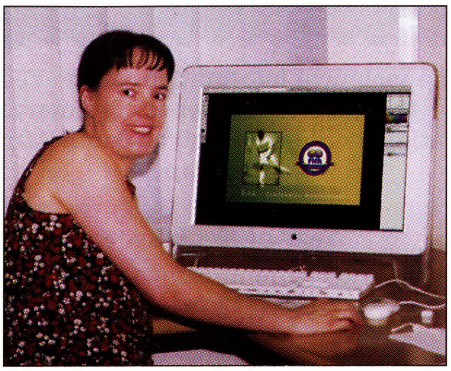
The stamp was selected as the favourite FIFA Centennial stamp from the 80 entries from 50 countries by a jury of football celebrities headed by FIFA's Joseph S Blatter and international football legend Pele.

Stamps from Germany and Hungary came in second and third place respectively.

Blatter, Pele and the other members of the Jury - FIFA General Secretary, Dr Urs Linsi, Franz Beckenbauer, Michel Platini, Roger Milla, Charmaine Hooper, Abdulla Majid, Wynton Rufer and the remaining members of the Football Committee - met in Zürich on 23 September 2004 to pay tribute to each and every one of the member associations whose postal service had created stamps to celebrate the FIFA Centennial.

"Each association stamp had such a wonderfully individual flavour. All focused on football themes, often using colours or images particularly associated with that country or region of the world", said Blatter. "It was therefore extremely difficult to choose the top five. In my mind , they are all winners, and the football family thanks them for their efforts in contributing to this historic year".

The stamp was issued on 15 May 2004 to mark FIFA's 100th anniversary.



Thea Swanepoel, Philatelic Services artist, the designer of the award winning FIFA stamp.





The Advent of 'Virtual Stamps'

Dr JR Frank RDPSA. FRPSL - Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

It was inevitable that virtual stamps would appear on the South African philatelic scene. According to The Concise Oxford Dictionary, 'virtual' means "that is such for practical purposes though not in name or according to strict definition".

The South African Post Office introduced virtual stamps in a move to become technologically more advanced, reduce costs and enhance profitability. The practical objective was to enable Post Office staff to establish the tariff and print one stamp, on demand, and in so doing avoid the use of multiple franking.

A pilot project, which was to run for three months, but was extended, was launched in January 2004 at four Gauteng post offices: Bryanston, Menlyn Centre, Kempton Park and Johannesburg International Airport. These were chosen as branch offices with high stamp sales and using different major mail sorting centres, i.e. Witspos, Pretoria and Germiston.

The stamp design was by Philatelic Services artist Thea Swanepoel. It included elements of a World Soccer Cup Commemorative, as the South African Post office was a major sponsor of the Soccer World Cup Bid.



Self-adhesive stamps, or labels, perforated 10 x 10, and bar-coded were printed in rolls of one hundred by Schlumber of Randburg using a special ink which is picked up by the post office automatic sorting and cancelling machines. These labels can be obtained with any value up to R5000. The machine required for printing the value is 'loaded' with R10 000 at a time and has to be 're-loaded' when this amount has been utilised.

The South African Post Office has reported that over a period of two months nearly 200 000 virtual stamps were sold at the four post offices, although it must be borne in mind that one stamp per transaction was used.

The income generated by these labels was found to exceed expectations. From the public's point of view, however, there was the disadvantage that one had to join the Post Office queue to post a single letter. (Surely there is scope here for an automatic coin-in-the-slot machine?).

Although seemingly succesful the trials were ended, and have not been re-introduced, as the bar-code identification by the cancelling machines did not function correctly. This may explain the letter seen by the author with an R0-01 label which successfully negotiated the current postal system.

The Post Office's *Setempe* magazine also reports that many philatelists were impressed by the 'virtual stamp concept'. I leave this one to the readers' imagination.

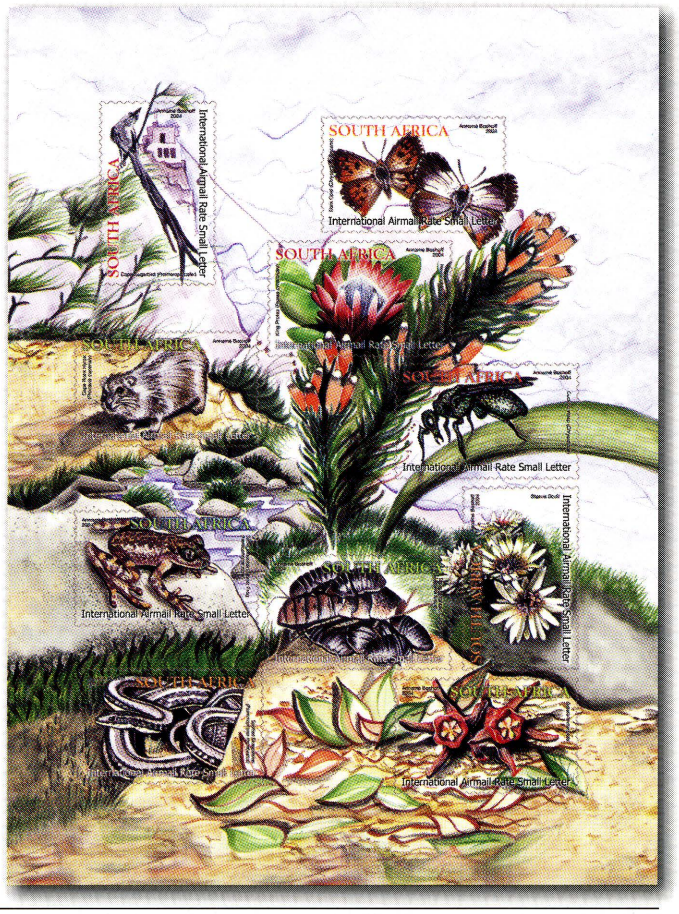
The author would like to thank the editor of the RSA Stamp Study Group Newsletter and Mr Robin Messenger for their assistance in the preparation of this note.

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Gold Medal for Stamp Design

We were informed by the Managing Director of Southern Colour Print, New Zealand, where some of our commemorative stamps are being printed, that they have won a gold medal for our Ecology of Table Mountain stamp sheet at New Zealand's recent Pride in Print competition. These awards are a real honour and reflect not only excellence in printing and finishing but also in subject and design.

What makes the achievement even more special is the fact that it formed part of our continued relationship with the Art Department at the North West University in Potchefstroom, in our endeavour to promote stamp design amongst local artists, and the design of the stamp sheet was done by one of their students.



President's Column

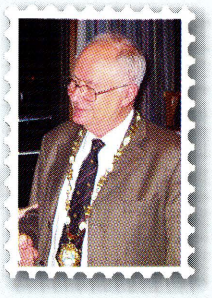
I am happy to report that the final number of competitive frames booked for Cape Town 2005 is just over 400 with a further 40 reserved for the Court of Honour. Three literature/electronic media entries have also been received..The die for the medals is being cut by Pagliari and will be of the same size (50mm) and type as presented by Port Elizabeth. A handsome medal well worth `the wear of winning'. The acceptance letters have been posted and may I respectfully remind exhibitors that a request by the Jury is to continue the innovative idea of enclosing a `synopsis' page with their introductory page. This synopsis page does give competitors an opportunity to inform the jury fully about their collections, giving information that does not fit into the collection write up itself or is not appropriate for the `Introductory' page. I shall certainly take the opportunity of pointing out a few minor rarities that are on display in my collection and some of the many intricacies of the varieties of my beloved Australian 1d Reds. Maybe that will put the Judges into a good frame of mind (pun intended!) .

As I type, JUNASS 2005 is in full swing and that is combined with the 'Bloemfontein 1 Framer' exhibition. Both highly laudable events. There are many who feel that one frame exhibitions will encourage the new collector to `have a go'. As far as Junior Philately is concerned, I am struck by the hard work and dedication of the collectors who give of their time to help the young people in this country, whether in the capacity of mentor or in the capacity of Judge and/or Organiser. Anyone who has looked at the Junior exhibits at a JUNASS will realise the success of their efforts. Although the overall number of entrants may appear small, one shouldn't forget that for every entrant there are undoubtedly many more youngsters who have observed these collections at some point along the line and have admired the results and determined to emulate the results. It is thus that the seeds for the future of Philately in this country are, hopefully, sown in exactly the same way that a youngster may see his football 'hero' perform and so determine to be a star himself.

Since we are on the subject of Juniors I would issue the challenge to collectors to get involved with their local Junior school. Offer to start a club or help a teacher to run a club. There is no doubt in my mind that if children in Junior schools are exposed to the fun of stamps then they will become collectors. Sadly, in this world of electronic devices, so many kids never have that opportunity.

Give it a thought!

David Sinclair



Post Office

Post Office Museum

Following the robbery at the PO Stamp Stampwise Museum in Church Square, Pretoria last year, the Museum was closed to the public pending enquiries by the Post Office and the SA Police Services. Whilst the Museum has now been reopened to the public as from 2 May 2005, much of the historical and rare material has been removed for the time being, and regretfully is not available for viewing or research. The Museum is open to the public Monday to Friday.

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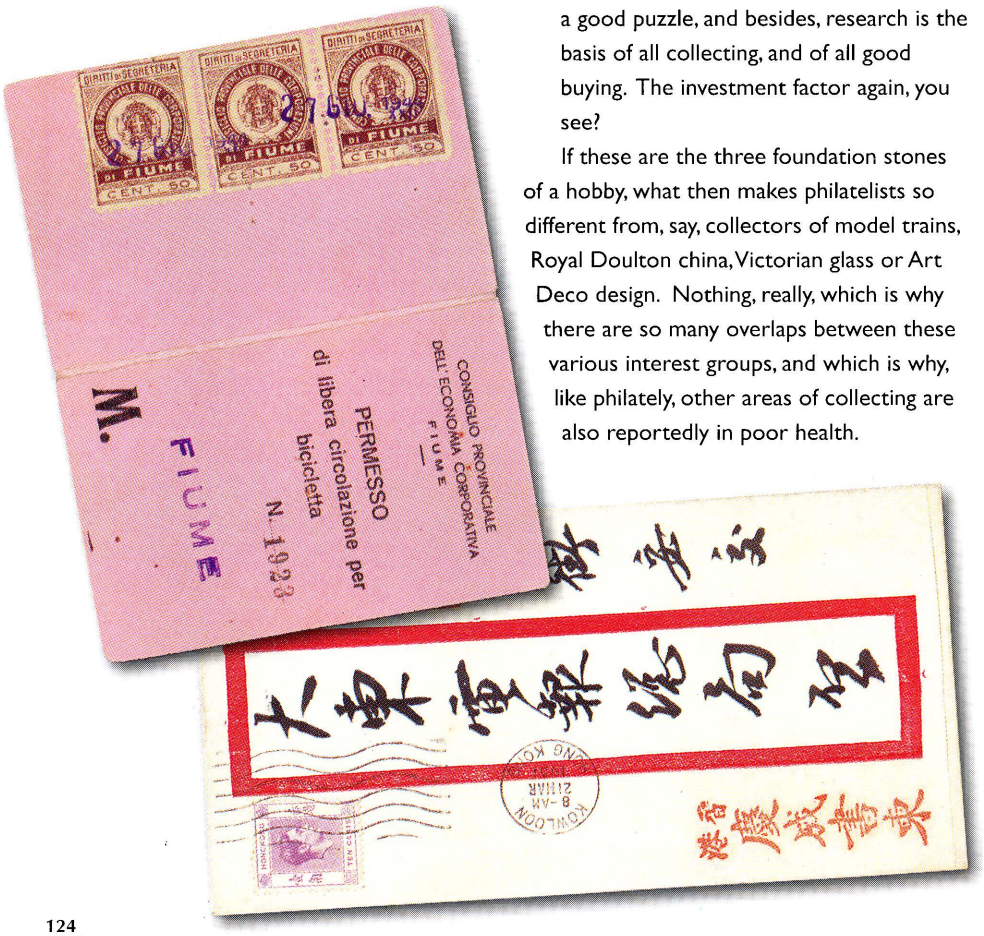
The AH! Factor

A New Way of Exhibiting a Very Old Way of Collecting

By Prof. Franco Frescura, The Philatelic Society of KwaZulu-Natal.

Now that the 'Open' class of exhibiting has become an established fixture of national philately, the time may be ripe for us to start re-examining some of the other long-cherished values and principles of stamp collecting. Philately, we are constantly warned, is 'in dire straits', and by all accounts has been there for some time. The rising use of faxes and e-mails for our correspondence, and the increasing popularity of video games amongst the youth are the two most frequently quoted excuses as to why so few new people are joining our fraternity.

However most people are forgetting that the SA Post Office still handles some 9 million letters per day, 27% of which still use stamps, that the vast majority of our population have no access to the electronic media, and that most philatelists only enter the hobby after the age of 35, well after computer games have ceased to be a factor in their lives. The truth is that "snail-mail" is likely to remain a fixture in our society for at least the next generation or two, and that people only turn to a serious hobby once they have married, settled down to a job and a family, and begin to have a small disposable income which won't be missed from the family budget.



Please also note how I deliberately use the word 'fraternity', meaning a fellowship of men, to describe philately. The female equivalent is 'sorority', and is seldom, if indeed ever, applied to describe gatherings of stamp collectors. So, if the average gathering of philatelists is normally a gathering of men, then we can assume that the rules and values that govern philately as a hobby are those of men.

The reality therefore is that if our hobby is failing, it is for different reasons than the inevitable march of technological progress. As always, we are in competition with other hobbies, which offer more or less the same advantages as philately, and the same opportunities for networking and for intellectual pursuit. Generally I would group these benefits under the following headings:

a. Fellowship, including the opportunity to get out of the house every now and again, to meet new people, to have a good laugh and generally enjoy oneself.

b. Investment. Yes, I know, it is a dirty word, but it is a reality, so live with it. Show me a person who does not enjoy snapping up a rarity for next to nothing and I'll show you a liar.

c. The pursuit of knowledge. We all enjoy a good puzzle, and besides, research is the basis of all collecting, and of all good buying. The investment factor again, you see?

If these are the three foundation stones of a hobby, what then makes philatelists so different from, say, collectors of model trains, Royal Doulton china, Victorian glass or Art Deco design. Nothing, really, which is why there are so many overlaps between these various interest groups, and which is why, like philately, other areas of collecting are also reportedly in poor health.

Although there are some notable differences between philatelists and other hobby groups, there are also some strong commonalities. Take, for example, the fact that most collections of stamps today also include a strong research component. This includes the history of a stamp issue, its design and printing, and ultimately its functional usage. Many collectors also use aesthetic criteria as a basis for their acquisitions, while others care little about history or aesthetics, but have a feel for the market-place. The description of a collector can include any one, or more, of these factors. This means that philately has potential links to any number of specialised interest groups concerned with the research of genealogy, local customs, railway infrastructure, social history, art and artefacts, curiosities, and investment, and might look to all of these to increase its membership base.

So, if we can agree that philatelists belong to a larger community of collectors; that many collectors will seek out the company of like-minded beings; that collectors will collect, at least in part, according to aesthetic preference or investment; and that the decline in the collector's market in general cannot be blamed upon the electronic communication media, but upon changing social and economic circumstances; then we have some sound principles upon which we can plan our future actions.

There is strong evidence to show that many changes in the collector's market can be ascribed to the evolving role of women in society, and the changing nature of marriage and the nuclear family. Greater gender equality in the home and in the work place has meant that household budgets are no longer under the sole control of patriarchal males, with unhindered access to its surpluses. This has limited their buying power, and thus also, their influence in the hobby. It has also placed moral limitations upon the purchase of expensive collecting items, the pieces which normally impress juries and gain awards. Most importantly, however, gender equality has given women access to surpluses of their own, allowing many of them to play a more prominent role in collecting.

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But where are these new women collectors in philately? Quite clearly the hobby remains patriarchal while women collectors channel their resources into other areas, such as porcelain dolls, fine silver, jewellery, china and furniture.

I strongly believe that one of the keys to the survival of philately will be our willingness to break this gender deadlock. This, and our ability to maximise on our strong points, of good company, investment and intellectual pursuit, might open our doors to new, and previously unplanned-for recruits. Before this can happen however, we need to also re-examine our traditional collecting habits, and how these are reinforced by that annual 'rite of passage', the National Exhibition, how this is presided over by a jury usually dominated by men, and the role in this ritual played by Federation and its system of rewards.

There is no doubt that male collecting is a high testosterone affair, where the rare, the highly priced and the esoteric play a large role. Collections are evaluated by rarity (and hence price) factors, and although research does play a role, in reality most write-ups do not exceed the data obtained from most catalogues or handbooks. While one cannot underestimate the role that many dealers play in the running and, indeed, perhaps even survival of the hobby, the conclusion that their financial well-being is reliant upon their ability to sell highly priced items on the market is regrettably inescapable. 'New' research, while highly regarded, is useless unless it is accompanied by material of a 'respectable' vintage, and while a number of dedicated people dutifully continue to record the modern and the common for the sake of future and often as-yet-unborn generations, they have to suffer manfully (another gender specific term) while dilettanti with obscene budgets are rewarded with national honours. Women who exhibit nationally are judged by the same standards, that is to say, by how well they can perform like men.

I believe that most of us, male and female collectors alike, are drawn by what I have called the 'Ah! Factor', the visually exciting, the hauntingly beautiful, the finely drawn, the inspirational and the seldom seen, the item which stands out in a dealer's box or the auction sale and makes us exclaim "Ah!" The truth of an "Ah!" item is that we seldom find more than one or two of them, certainly never enough to fill one frame, let alone a full three or five frame exhibit. They almost never fit in with our main collecting theme, but nonetheless we buy them, to hoard and cherish, and occasionally to look them over.

I also believe that men are more regimented in their approach, and will collect and research a theme, a country, or an issue with single-minded thoroughness, bringing together the common and rare alike into an exhibit which often dissects the subject to dreary exhaustion. That is why Federation, its National Exhibition, and its juries are all dominated by men. Women, on the other hand, are more guided by the visually stimulating and the socially responsive, where an item has an underlying subtext which links it to the people who made it. After 44 years of stamp collecting I now believe that women are more drawn to the "Ah! Factor", and this is why so few of them show their treasures beyond a society level, or indeed exhibit them at all. Unlike men, who display their cars, homes, families, mistresses and collections as an extension of their virility and as a means of defining their social and economic self, women use their collections discreetly and as an expression of their private selves.

In this argument, therefore, I advocate a return to 'original' collecting values, using 'original' as in fifteenth century original rather than in the sense of a vague "dem gooood ol' days". Historically, collecting was not about amassing every known type of butterfly, or animal, or book, but rather about bringing together objects and artefacts which delighted the senses, aroused wonder, excited intellectual curiosity, and somehow allow us to arrive at some conclusion about the human condition. By all means, continue with the national exhibitions in their present format, after all recognition of philatelic excellence is an important part of our life, but let us put aside at least 25% of each exhibition to a non-competitive class called 'The Printed Ephemera' where non-philatelic visitors can jump from Napoleon's autograph on one page to a sheet of Indian matchbox covers on the next, where my father's wartime 'Permit to Circulate on a Bicycle' can sit cheek by jowl with envelopes scripted in fine Chinese calligraphy and WWI cinderella labels. Stamps, at their most basic, are after all just another manifestation of printed ephemera.

Let us then open our doors to personal journeys of discovery, family histories and open admissions as to what makes us all tick and sparkle as individuals. Let us use philately as a base for social understanding and increased fellowship, where we can safely display our treasures without fear of scorn,



or judgemental mutters about jam labels, or the 'horrors of Uhuru', or the excesses of Philatelic Services, or even a predilection by some for first-day covers. I am quite certain that, like me, many advanced philatelists are also closet FDC collectors, and although we may never show these at a Philatelic Exhibition, they still give us a great deal of pleasure.

So! Let us lay siege to the boring, the constricted, and the hide-bound. Let us return, at least in part, to the innocent days of philately, when national exhibitions still allowed for the personal, the original and the idiosyncratic. Let us give stamp exhibitions back to the collectors, and give youth and women their full and rightful voice. Allow youth to exhibit alongside mature collectors and not as a separate group. We can still award the mighty intellects and the gloriously obsessive amongst us: they are, after all, at the pinnacle of the hobby, but let us also recognise that their lofty perches are unattainable to most collectors, and are thus intimidating and supremely uninteresting to all but a small minority. The small and personal collection, on the other hand, is the common matrix from where all philatelic exhibits arise, and it is up to us to give them their rightful place in the order of philatelic things. It is thus and only thus that we can hope to extend the demographic base of our hobby, and, need it be said, even find future purchasers for our current collections.

FEDERATION & SOCIETY NEWS visit www.philatelysa.co.za

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The 'B.E.' Postal Marking

Part 2 of a short series looking at Philatelic Mysteries of the Orange Free State

By Robert Allison, OFS Study Circle

Most postmarks are self explanatory but there is one in the range of Orange Free State marks which has puzzled collectors for many years and even now, well over 110 years after its introduction, the reason for its use has not been ascertained and the words which the initials 'B.E.' represent are still not confirmed. Yet, on stamps, it is quite a common mark.

The stamps on which the initials are most frequently found are the halfpenny and penny but, apart from the five shillings, most higher values in use from 1891 onwards have been seen cancelled with this mark. However, apart from one postcard, no other cards, covers or complete newspaper wrappers prior to 1900 have been recorded showing the mark. The postcard [1], a one penny definitive card, is postmarked P.K. Agent Ventersburg Road FE 18/ 94 and is addressed to Germany (Fig. 1.). To make up the rate to Europe it has an additional halfpenny stamp which apparently was not cancelled at Ventersburg. The stamp bears the B.E. cancel with a transit Bloemfontein circular date stamp 19 FE/ 94 alongside. Why was the B.E. canceller used here instead of just cancelling the stamp with the circular date stamp?

The mark continued to be used during and after the Anglo-Boer War. After the occupation of Bloemfontein in March 1900 the basic definitive stamps were overprinted with 'V.R.I.' and the value. Quite a number of newspaper wrappers with VRI stamps have been recorded so cancelled, which inclines one to the view that the handstamp was used specifically for newspaper mail (Fig. 2.). The B.E. postmark has been recorded on registered covers, some probably philatelic, and also on postcards (not philatelic) which have had to be re-directed to destinations outside the Free State. The latest recorded use, on a re-directed postcard, appears to be October 1903 (Fig. 3.) However, a souvenir card dated 8 February 1904, on which the handstamps in use at the Bloemfontein Post Office at that date have been impressed, does not record the B.E. mark (Fig. 4.).

Perhaps readers will, by now, be thinking of plausible explanations for the solving of this 'B.E.' puzzle, so I give a few more clues, which are hopefully not misleading 'red herrings'!

a) First, I have not seen either a wrapper, card or cover bearing the mark addressed internally, that is, within the boundaries of the Orange Free State.

b) Secondly, if we accept the theory that it was used primarily for newspapers, it is useful to know that in 1892 the O.F.S. Volksraad (Government) decided that all newspapers and periodicals should be allowed to pass post free within the Free State. In July 1893 this was amended, restricting the concession to those printed and published within the Free State. In the year ended 28th February 1894 the P.M.G. reported a consequent theoretical loss of revenue amounting to £931 18s 8d.[2]. It is not known for how long this was allowed to go on but, in the absence of information to the contrary, it is assumed the concession was still in operation at the time of the occupation in 1900.

c) Thirdly, in 1854 when the Republic was formed, it was agreed that Dutch should be the official language. So one might presume that the initials B.E. stand for words which are Dutch, or Dutch/Afrikaans. For example, Betaald (Paid) perhaps comes to mind. However, the Free State had experienced a few language problems with their postmarks over the years. The first date stamps of 1872 had 'O.F. STATE' in the lower half. The next ones, issued in 1874 had the correction 'O.V. STAAT'. All went well until 1893 when a new Bloemfontein 22 mm. c.d.s was brought into use which had 'ORANGE FREE STATE' in full. The offending words were soon removed and replaced with 'O.V.S.'. It should be noted that this was around the time that the 'B.E.' handstamp would have been ordered, so the initials could be for English words. In this context 'Beyond Environs' has been suggested, indicating mail going beyond the Free State's boundaries. However, the popular assumption is that the initials stand for Dutch/Afrikaans words.

d) It should be noted that there is a full stop after both the 'B' and the 'E', indicating that each word probably has sufficient meaning to stand on its own. If so, such meanings as, for example, 'Beyond Environs' and 'Paper Rate' are excluded.

e) Although no complete newspaper wrappers of the republican period have been recorded with the mark, a few republican stamps on parts of wrappers are known. Two of these have partial B.E. set off images on the back of the piece, caused possibly by the wrappers being placed on ones which



Fig. 1.

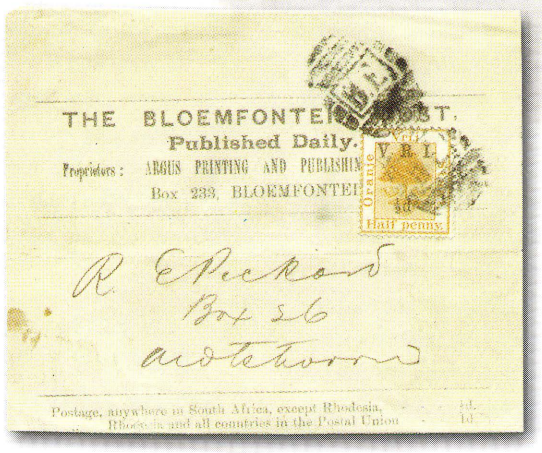


Fig. 2.

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had just been handstamped before the ink had dried. Figure 5b. is such an example. This has led to the theory that the wrappers were stamped and handstamped by the Post Office before being given to the publication proprietors who would then wrap the papers and return them to the Post Office for mailing [3]. Unfortunately, without complete wrappers we do not know whether these were then used for both internal and external mail, or just the latter. The set off print has not been recorded on the backs of the wrappers with V.R.I. stamps, such as the one illustrated (Fig. 2.).

Finally, here are a few suggestions, in no particular order, that have been made over the past fifty years or so, mainly by members of the Orange Free State Study Circle. With many Afrikaans speaking collectors in Southern Africa and beyond, is it possible that someone from a wider reader audience may be able to provide us with the real answer to this OFS mystery? I hope so.

B.E.

Betaald (Paid) Expeditie (Express or Despatch)
Bladen (Paper) Ekstern (External)
Bloemfontein Envelop (Paper wrapper)
Beyond Environs

References:

1. Michael J. Smith Collection.
2. Reports from the Postmaster-General of the Orange Free State for the Years ended 28 February 1893 and 1894.
3. Orange Free State Study Circle Bulletin No. 166, March 1997, pp2540/1. 'That "B.E." Canceller - The Answer?' by G.W. Halmo. Also various other articles and references in the OFSSC Bulletins 1953-2004.



Fig.3.

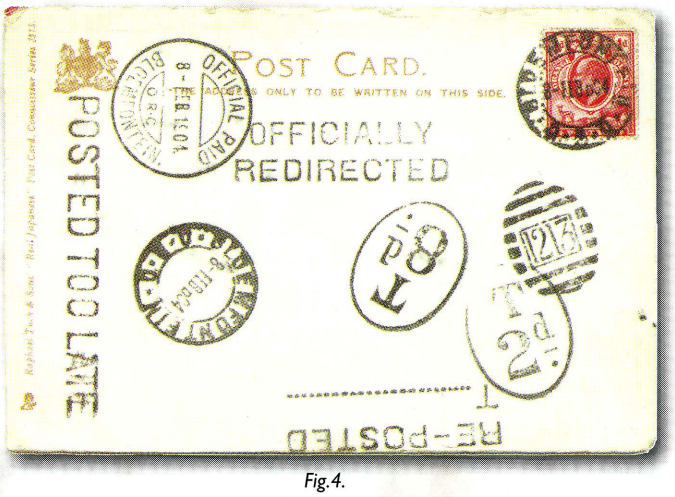


Fig.4.



Fig.5a. Original cancel

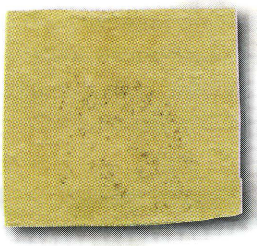


Fig.5b. Original offset BE postmark



Fig.5c. Digitally enhanced offset BE postmark

Item of Interest

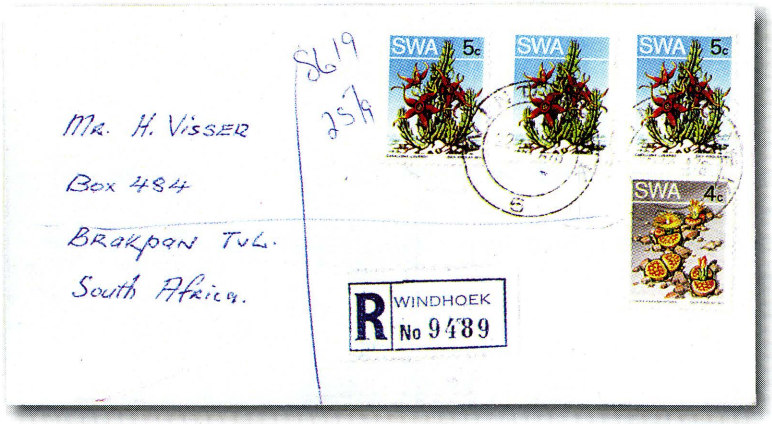
A 'Taxing' Puzzle

By M. Viljoen, Pretoria Philatelic Society

This registered cover, posted in Windhoek on 22 IX A78, has a number of unusual features. It was delivered to Brakpan where it received a 25 IX 1-78 arrival stamp on the reverse. The required postage in South West Africa at the time was the standard letter rate, i.e. 4c, plus a 20c registration fee, totalling 24c. As the stamps applied only amounted to 19c, a tax of 10c (2x the deficit) should have been levied.

Two queries arise. First, the cover carries a manuscript addition in blue ink, 8619 (or is it SC 19?), plus the date 25/9, which must have been added at Brakpan. This being so, why was the 10c tax not added at the same time?

The second point is with the centre stamp which is the 5c, missing black, (SASCC 254a). Is this what confused the postal authorities at both Windhoek and Brakpan? Not sure of what stamps had been applied, they were unsure of the penalty.



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On the Fringe

By Chris Mobsby, RDPSA, FRPSL, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

I get the impression that local stamps, that is to say stamps of a limited validity, are gaining in popularity. This observation is based largely on the ever-escalating prices that better material is fetching at auction nowadays. Even among 'Cinderellas' there are items that attract the description 'classic', the likes of the stamps of the Suez Canal and the Orient Express, the Lady McLeod of Trinidad, the Wells Fargo Pony Express, India's Scinde Dawk, the pre-1900 issues for a number of Swiss hotels and remote goldfields in Australia to name but a few. This type of 'fringe' material is frequently accepted as a logical inclusion in collections of the country in question and, more often than not, adds a little spice to what might otherwise be a fairly conventional exhibit. Nor is this tendency limited to the more elusive local posts of the Nineteenth Century. Even such comparatively modern phenomena as prisoner of war camp stamps of World War II and the British strike posts of 1971 have gained a measure of respectability with the passage of time and are now eagerly sought after. Certainly, I am finding it more and more difficult, not to mention expensive, to acquire fresh material for my collection of the issuing authorities of the world. However, I have chosen a further twelve local authorities to illustrate in this episode, the fourth of an irregular series on what I consider to be a fascinating adjunct to regular philately.

Many of the covers purporting to have been handled by these local postal services are in fact of a 'philatelic' nature, meaning that the stamps were cancelled by favour and that, in all probability, the envelope left the agent's office for the first time when you bought it. Isn't it strange that we use a perfectly respectable word like 'philatelic' in a derogatory sense when describing such covers? Certainly, many of the stamps issued in the name of various islands off the coast of the British Isles have never had a postal service to call their own and yet covers abound. I try to be particularly objective when deciding whether 'authorities' of this nature should be included in my collection or not.

There are no such reservations about the first item for discussion in this article. Great Barrier Island lies 65 miles from Auckland, New Zealand, in the Hauraki Gulf. With the establishment of copper mining in 1897, a pigeon post was established to supplement the weekly steamer visits. The stamps of 1898 for the first company, *The Original Great Barrier Pigeongram* Service, have some claim to being the first airmail labels in the world. At the insistence of the Post Office, the inscription was changed from 'Special Post' to 'Pigeongram'. A rival and cheaper service, *The Great Barrier Pigeongram Agency*, was founded in 1899. The commercial flimsy illustrated (fig.1.) was charged six pence for the flight from Port Fitzroy on the island to the mainland. The message, dated and cancelled 16 March 1900, reads, "Dear Ratjen, I got your letter by mail this morning and at once notified Jack with the result of the assay - he is more than delighted. I will send you further samples when we break down again - send a couple of bottles of whiskey with the other tackle on Wednesday. Harry Murdoch". The reverse journey cost one shilling, it being more difficult to train birds to reach the island. Both services closed in 1908 when cable communications were established to the island.

One country that had more than its fair share of local postal services was Colombia. The rugged terrain of that country has, until comparatively recent times, provided a considerable obstacle to efficient governmental postal services. Consequently, a number of private carrier companies were granted licenses to carry the mail. For the Correo Rapido de Santander, the fee for express delivery was identical but additional to the government postal rate. The fragment of a 1930 cover shown (fig. 2.) bears 4-cent stamps of both the government and the company, and was, it is surmised, carried from Bucaramanga to Bogota. There is also a 20-cent stamp of the Sociedad Colombo-Alemana de Transportes Aéreos (SCADTA), a private airline with government contracts for handling airmail.

As undertaken in previous articles in this series, I have managed to include a couple of articles with a South African connection. That connection for the next stamp is a little tenuous although it was the Norwegian Consul in Cape Town who authorised the overprinting of stamps of his country in February 1934 on the occasion of the visit of H.M.S. Milford to Bouvet Island - 'Oya' in Norse - in the Antarctic. Of the 30-öre blue shown (fig. 3.) it is recorded that 395 copies were overprinted and of these 243 were used.

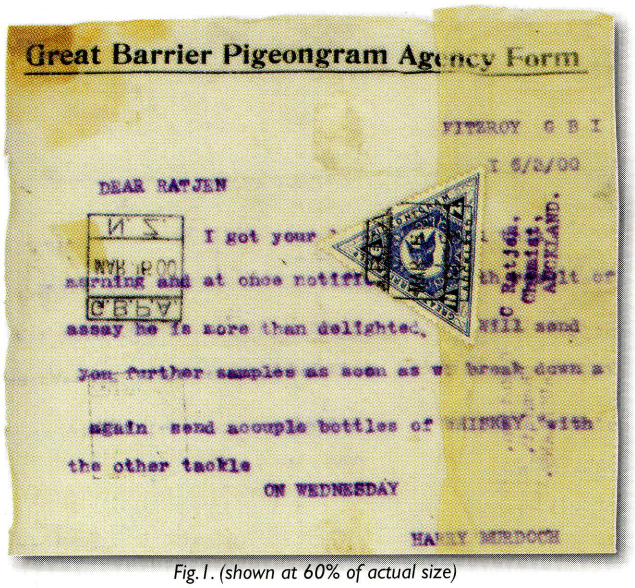


Fig. 1. (shown at 60% of actual size)



Fig.3.



Fig.2.

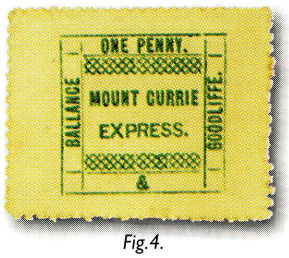


Fig.4.

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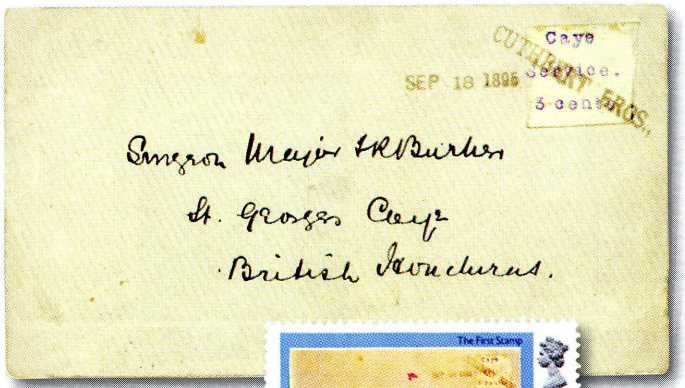


Fig.5. (shown at 60% of actual size)



Fig.6.

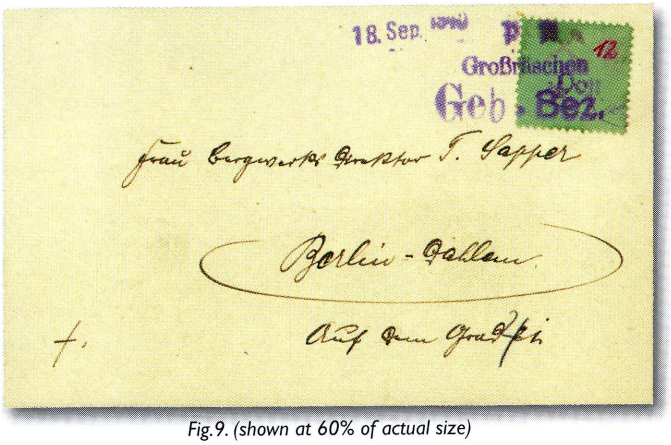


Fig.9. (shown at 60% of actual size)

This compares with 400, 100, 999 and 799 overprinted for the 5-öre magenta, 7-öre green, 10-öre green and 20-öre scarlet respectively with usage amounting to 268, 69, 305 and 261 for each of those values. A much firmer South African connection may be afforded to the stamps of the Mount Currie Express. This was an independent postal service in East Griqualand run by the firm of Balance & Goodliffe using a system of native runners. Operating from 1874 to 1877, the service was intended in the main for the company's post to Harding but residents of the local community could mail a letter for one penny using the stamp (fig. 4.) or for sixpence if unfranked.
A splendid occasional paper by Tom Mullins on the Mount Currie Express appeared as a supplement to *'The Post Office Stone'* in September 1982.

The next cover (fig. 5.) also comes from a well-documented source. St. George's Caye is the largest of innumerable islets in the Caribbean off the coat of Belize. Sydney Cuthbert, a wealthy local merchant of Scottish origin, built a holiday home on the island.
He bought a yacht in which he carried the mail for the islanders between St. George's and the mainland, then known as British Honduras. In 1894 and 1895, a 3c stamp was sold in order to help defray the running expenses and to eliminate abuse of the service. Somewhat unusually, genuine stamps never seem to be found in mint condition or even off cover and with only some thirty covers known it could quite conceivably prove to be a desirable item in a collection of British Honduras.
Normally, stamps that are relegated to the appendix of the Stanley Gibbons catalogue would not find a place in my collection. Such a classification indicates that the stamps were in excess of the postal requirements and this is certainly true of the issues for the Cayes of Belize, the chain of several hundred islets, coral atolls, reefs and sandbanks off the eastern seaboard of the country. However, a set of stamps appeared in 1984 to mark the ninetieth anniversary of the Caye Service stamp described above. This in itself would not be sufficient to grant any degree of respectability to the Cayes issue.
However, the 10-cent stamp in the set (fig. 6.) can be seen to bear the image of the actual cover shown 'live' in figure 5. This came about when the previous owners of the item in question lent it to the printers, Questa of London, during the preparation of the stamp designs thus justifying, in my eyes at least, its inclusion in this article.

Christmas Island, Kiritimati in the vernacular, one of the Line Islands and thus part of the Gilbert & Ellice Group, was discovered by Captain Cook on 24 December, 1777, hence the name. The Central Pacific Coconut Plantations Ltd. was run by Father Emmanuel Rougier who, in 1916, issued a five-cent stamp showing the mail-carrying schooner, the 'Ysabel May', subsequently destroyed by fire in October 1918 and with, incidentally, the misspelling 'cocoanut'.
This was provided in order to defray the cost of transshipping mail to Papeete in Tahiti.
A group of Europeans was to settle on the island in January, 1918, and the date-stamp on this piece - 11 January 1918 - coincides with the earliest strike recorded (fig. 7.).
The late Norman Williams, doyen of Cinderella philately, determined that the seemingly multicoloured stamps were relief printed using a colour separation process involving only yellow, red and blue and not by five-colour chromolithography as suggested in earlier literature.



Fig.7.

The carriers' posts of the United States are a prodigious source of local stamps, 'local' because they covered the cost of the delivery of the mail only between the end point of official deliveries and the street address at a time when the government service was limited to the transportation of the mail between post offices. Just such a service was Pomeroy's Letter Express that operated throughout the state of New York providing a link with such services as the National U.S. Mail and with private carriers, the likes of Boyd's City Dispatch. The stamps issued in 1844 (fig. 8.) were particularly finely engraved and recess printed and bore the exceptionally minute expression of value - "20 for $1" - at the foot of the design.



Fig.8.

Immediately after World War II, many towns in East Germany were obliged to print provisional stamps as the Soviet authorities had not foreseen the need for such essential items. Typical of these emergency stamps were those used in the East German town of Grossräschen where various labels were adapted for postal service through a combination of manuscript and hand-stamped

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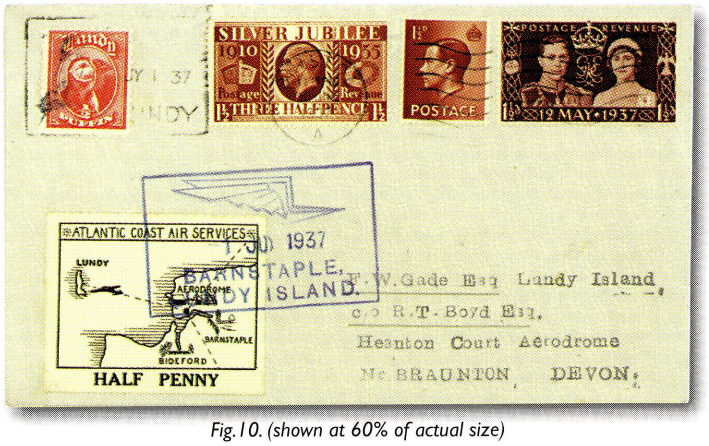


Fig.10. (shown at 60% of actual size)



Fig.12.

surcharges and overprints. That used on the mourning cover illustrated (fig. 9.) shows the crossed hammers emblem of the town and has been cancelled in addition with the hand-stamp "Geb.Bez" (Gebühr Bezalt) meaning Fee Paid.

I have, perhaps, tended to be somewhat disparaging when mentioning the so-called carriage labels ascribed to various islands off the coast of Great Britain. One such perpetrator of postage stamps, however, that does meet the necessary criteria when its status as a bona fide issuing authority is being assessed is Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel. Lundy first issued stamps in 1929 and continues to do so to this very day making it the oldest local authority to have remained in unbroken operation. The island had a permanent population of around forty inhabitants some fifty years ago but this number has dropped to eighteen in recent years, a figure that, nevertheless, is inflated considerably in the summer months by tourist traffic. Added to this, it maintains a regular postal service to and from the mainland and upholds a reasonably strict stamp-issuing policy. The 1937 cover shown (fig. 10), albeit somewhat contrived with its G.B. 1½d stamps of three different reigns, was sent from Bristol to Barnstaple Aerodrome and then flown to the island by Atlantic Coast Air Services for which a halfpenny airline stamp was added. A ½-puffin stamp was included for local delivery. The puffin and the penny were on a par at the time. Two different pictorial cancellers were used on this triple authority cover.

Nineteenth Century Britain was redolent with private companies dedicated to the delivery of parcels, express post, circulars, telegraphs and local mail, not to mention railway letters. Other than the last of these, the majority of private services were to be suppressed or nationalised by 1906. The firm of Clark & Co. was formed in Edinburgh in 1866 for the purpose of delivering circulars more cheaply than the government and sold stamps at a farthing each. Oddly, the first and third stamps in the strip illustrated (fig. 11.) can be seen to be 2 millimetres wider than the other two, a recognised variety of this issue. Clark's was in opposition to Brydone's Circular Delivery Company but a court action by the Postmaster General led to their closure in 1870. Nevertheless, their action had the desired effect of forcing the G.P.O. to reduce its rate for the delivery of circulars.

The final stamp illustrated in this instalment of a series of articles on the local posts of the world was issued for the Sovereign Order of Malta (fig. 12.). This organisation traces its history back to the Order of St. John of Jerusalem that was founded in Rome in 1790. Confounding its status as a mere 'local' postal authority, the Order has signed mail agreements with various foreign countries including Argentina, Liberia and Italy. Stamps were first introduced by the Order in 1966 and have invariably exhibited a fine standard of printing. Should I have the opportunity of producing a further instalment in this series, I would like to introduce you to, among others, the stamps of the Wells Fargo Pony Express, the German Fieldpost in Tunisia and the British Railway Authority, in China, that is!

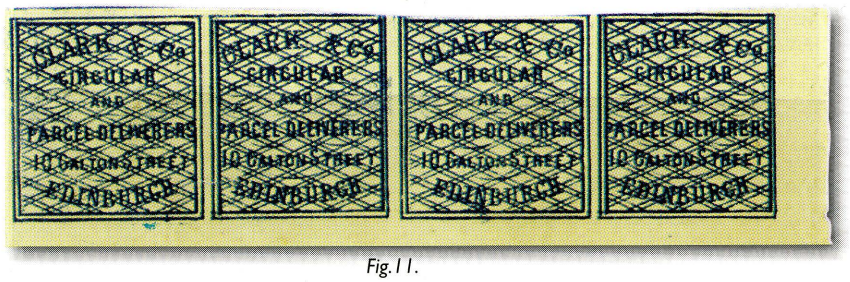


Fig.11.

Henk de Lange

Please visit my website for other fine Rhodesian Double Heads

Buyer of pre-1960 Southern Africa Stamps and Postal History

P.O. Box 26261 Hout Bay 7872
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SG 160a with Gash in Ear variety

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Hobby-X Cape Town 2005

By Martin Crawford, Western Cape V-P

Cape Town Hobby-X was held from 2 to 5 of June and Philately was represented again this year thanks to the manpower of some of the Western Cape clubs and to the stall sponsorship by Federation. It was held in the Cape Town International Convention Centre and this was the first time Philately had been represented at the new venue. The public said they were pleased to see a 'traditional hobby' (i.e. stamp collecting) back at the show. Apparently, the organizers had come under fire last year for the dearth of such hobbies.

Pinelands Stamp Circle provided three frames, which were positioned at the sides and rear of the stall with exhibits being rotated every few hours. Apart from displaying exhibits, we publicised the eight Western Cape stamp clubs, as well as the upcoming National Exhibition in Goodwood. We also had scratchboxes and cheaper material for sale in aid of the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

Our stall received attention not only from stamp collectors, but also from découpage and collage makers, as well as scrapbookers. Some were looking for stamps issued in a particular year, or postmarks with specific dates corresponding with the birthdate of a child. Bags of kiloware were also snapped up by these hobbyists. We had cases of some design hobbyists purchasing stamps and covers in order to scan them and offering to return the items later so we could re-sell them.

We exhausted our stock of flyers giving details of Western Cape Clubs on the second day and had to reprint twice. We had the usual enquiries from people who had inherited a collection and wanted it valued and others who had stamps they just wanted to get rid of. Happily we discovered a number of 'closet collectors', some of whom were interested in joining a club 'to see how it is done' and we recorded the names of such people so we could follow up with a club newsletter. We also made contact with some former collectors who wanted to return to the hobby as they were now retired and had the time available.

An issue that emerged is that there is a body of 'homeless' collectors in the true Northern Suburbs of Cape Town, and here I am referring specifically to Milnerton, Tableview and Melkbos. There has been terrific growth in these areas in the last ten years and there are no local clubs for these collectors to join. Currently, their nearest clubs are Pinelands Stamp Circle or Bellville. If anyone is keen to start a club in these areas and would like assistance in this regard, they are welcome to contact me.

My thanks again to the Promotions Committee of Federation for the stall sponsorship and to the members of Pinelands, Bellville and the one Royal member who helped man the stall. I hope our efforts over this weekend will bear fruit.



Marilyn and Martin Crawford manning the stall

The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- a printed proof copy of the text.
- a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.
- a corrected final draft of the article in a Word document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.
- scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Rosebank, where the team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.



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Rev J Cassie Carstens
Thematics SA

BLOEM ONE-FRAMER

A special word of thanks and congratulations to the Vrystaters for a successful show. It was quite nice to be there (in the Glass Palace!), had some lovely sunny weather, enjoyed all the exhibits (at least most of them), visited the friendly dealers and had uplifting chats with lots of philatelic friends.

Congratulations to all the thematic/topical participants (14 out of 35) and also the two "winners": in the *thematic* section it was Richard Oliver (Kimberley) with *The Elephant and Asian Society* (Ruby), and in the *topical* section Garry Osthoff (OFS) with *Erikas van Suid-Afrika* (Ruby). We should have this kind of show as a regular annual event in wintertime – perhaps in conjunction with the JUNASS? Who will be the hosts in 2006?

THEMES ON STAMPS

• Under the threat of extinction, **PANDAS** are an endangered species. China, where the panda originates, is greatly committed to preserving this species, especially because of its historical significance to the country. *Teawan* and *Teawee* are two pandas presented by China to Thailand to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Thai-Chinese diplomatic relations.



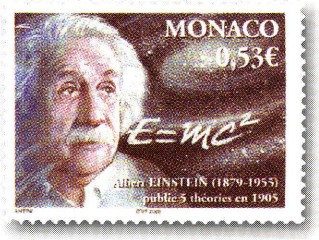
• Vårdö, the archipelago municipality situated nearest Åland, has a population of approximately 400. A cable-ferry operates day and night between the islands of Töftö in Vårdö and Prästö in the neighbouring municipality of Sund. Vårdö's rather expansive archipelago consists of a varied natural landscape, from shady forest meadows on the main island to barren skerries in the outer archipelago. Featured on the stamp is a knotty **PINE** (*Pinus sylvestris*), beautifully extending over the beach.



• Sorghum could probably be described as the staple **FOOD** crop of the Botswana, as it forms a major diet in a traditional Botswana menu. The grains of sorghum are pounded into flour to make porridge (bogobe). The porridge can be prepared as motogo (soft porridge) and taken at breakfast or prepared for lunch as thicker paste and eaten with meat or vegetables. It can also be made more tasty by adding madila (sour milk) or cooked in melon (lerotse) juice to taste sweet. Some people ferment the flour to make ting, which tastes sour. The other popular use of sorghum is for beer brewing.



• **SCIENCE** never was my strong point, in fact I hated the subject at school. So I know very little about *Albert Einstein* and his theories, and especially $E=mc^2$ (whatever that means!). This year is the 100th anniversary of the publication of Einstein's 5 theories. The only comfort I have is that Albert's primary school teacher thought he was a little bit dumb! What a teacher!



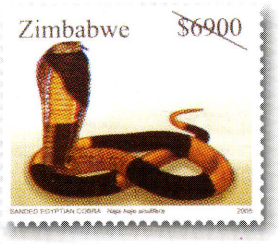
• There are some 18,000 species of **FLOWERING PLANTS** native to Australia, grouped in about 200 families. Like the continent's distinctive fauna, the flora has evolved in isolation for 50 million years, and many plants and flowers are found nowhere else in the world. The Sturt's Desert Pea (*Swainsona formosa*) is a prostate biennial or annual plant which grows in arid regions of the Northern Territory and all mainland states except Victoria. The leaves and stems are covered in downy hairs and the vivid red flowers are about nine centimetres long and arranged in clusters of six to eight on short, thick erect stalks.



• Most **CHILDREN** in Greenland are fine and are growing up in social and economic security. But for far too large a group of children in Greenland looks quite different. They are growing up with alcoholic parents, their homes are characterized by violence and the parents' lacking ability to provide the most basic care like food, clothes, safety and security. Far too many children are marked by neglect, including sexual abuse. Many children and juveniles have untreated traumas from grief and loss, which nobody in the family is concerned about. (Sounds just like South Africa!) The role of the *Save the Children Fund* is that of the activator and provider of counseling on the basis of experience, in order to subsequently hand over the activity to the individual municipalities.



• The Egyptian Cobra *(Naja haje annulifera)* has a dark brown or black band across the throat. A banded phase also occurs, in which the dark dorsal surface of the body is regularly interspaced with narrower, light yellow crossbands. Typically a savannah species, it occurs from sea level up to 1,500 metres. Its habitat is disused termitaria, hollow logs or rocky outcrops where they are used as retreats and provided it is not disturbed, the **SNAKE** might remain in a particular area for many years. It is largely nocturnal and will prey on toads, frogs, lizards, rodents, birds and their eggs, as well as other snakes. It lays up to 25 eggs. This is the one that bit Cleopatra, the Ancient Queen of Egypt, in the breast! What a bite!



• *Cork* has been designated the European Capitral of Culture 2005 by the European Union. This great accolade has led Cork to develop a programme of events that will

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be the biggest and most exciting of its kind in Europe in 2005. A wonderful **CITY** of restaurants, theatres, sports venues, pubs and clubs, Cork intends to pull out all the stops and create a unique atmosphere never before seen in Ireland.



• The Cayman Islands are the realm of two giant **REPTILES,** found nowhere else in the world. Grand Cayman is the domain of the most endangered iguana on earth, the *Grand Cayman Blue Iguana.* Blue Iguanas have been critically endangered for over a hundred years; at one point less than 20 survived in the wild. But with control of the introduced populations of dogs, cats and common iguanas, adults will again reach their full majestic length of five feet and live out their considerable lifespan, which may approach that of a human. (Maar laat ek jou 'n ding vertel: as ek so 'n groot gogga in die nag sien, hardloop ek 'n gat deur die osoonlaag!)

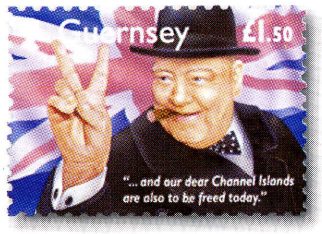


• The bond between man and **DOG** has its roots in the depth of time. The dog was one of the first animals to be domesticated by man, to be used in hunting, as company and security.



The dog is a clever, obedient and dedicated animal. The close contact between man and animal creates a degree of dependence between them which is paralleled by non other. A loyal and dedicated dog is the best friend that man can have.

• **WORLD WAR II –** all the horror, all the heroic deeds, all the stories, all the memories, all the facts, all the fiction. My dad fought at El Alamein, served also in Egypt and Italy, a Major in the South African Army. In the fifties, as small children in the house, we could not get enough stories out of him – we were glued to his lips! And now, sixty years away, it has become real again – with all the realistic and interesting stamps. Wish my dad could share in it all!



• Come now, come now, come now…. Prince Charles and Camilla make a beautiful couple, and I wish them the Good Lord's blessing on their marriage.



References

1. *Thai Stamp Bulletin, Thailand Post, Bangkok*
2. *Alandsposten Filateli, Mariehamn*
3. *Botswana Philatelic Bureau, Gaborone*
4. *l'Office des Emmissions de Timbres-Poste, Monaco*
5. *Australian Stamp Bulletin, Ferntree Gully, Victoria*
6. *Greenland Collector, POST Greenland, Tasiilaq*
7. *Zimbabwe Posts, Harare*
8. *Irish Stamps Collectors News, Philatelic Bureau, Dublin*
9. *Philatelic Bureau, Cayman Islands*
10. *Cyprus Postal Services, Nicosia*
11. *Philatelic News, Guernsey Post, St Peter Port*
12. *Royal Mail, Edinburgh*

letters continued from page 103

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus

Thematic and/or Topical?

Let us go back to the drawing board. A *thematic* exhibit has a specific theme, an interesting storyline and a clear ending, viz "Jan van Riebeeck – His First Ten Years at the Cape". A *topical* exhibit has the same topic throughout; there is no storyline, no cut-and-dried ending, no development as such, viz "Cat Families" (each family on a page, just showing the different species). These two classes were on the floor at the BLOEM ONE FRAMER – and I am personally confused with the viewpoints and statements of the judges. One thing is sure: thematic judging still has a long way to go in South Africa.

I would like to suggest an extra category, viz *Omnibus* – here we have an omnibus set of stamps depicting the same theme/topic by several countries, viz "United Nations 2001: International Year for Dialogue between Nations". Lots and lots of countries with the same picture -- impossible to tell a story, impossible to create a suitable ending.

What do you think of these three possibilities?

Rev J Cassie Carstens
Thematics SA

(I think we are all concerned by the verdict of juries from time to time. Perhaps the question of thematic judging should be raised with the Judging and Ethics Committee - Ed)

Production Quality

Sir

Friends have been complimentary about the visual appearance and quality of production of the Philatelic Federation's latest publiction. *The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke.*

Their compliments are actually for the Federation's honoray treasurer, Emil Minnaar, who with enthusiasm and dedication spent many computer hours to get the text and illustrations into shape.

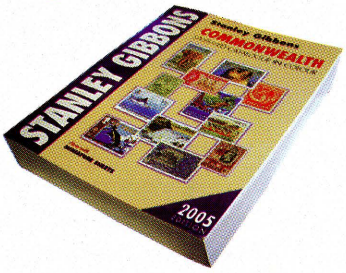
The Federation is fortunate to have a selfless and versatile volunteer of this calibre working in the interests of South African philately.

Joh Groenewald, RDPSA
co-author, Pretoria

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Book Reviews

Simplified Commonwealth Catalogue 2005



Published by: Stanley Gibbons Publishers

This latest in the Stanley Gibbons library of catalogues is an abstract of all Commonwealth stamps listed in the 2005 Simplified Stamps of the World. In addition to listing stamps issued by Commonwealth countries since the Penny Black, it is greatly improved by the inclusion of miniature sheets issued by these countries, although the latter are occasionally difficult to locate. It is presented in the usual SG four column format, with full colour illustration and price guidelines. The brief historical and currency notes for each country which are characteristic of Gibbons are included.

This volume is a useful guide for both Commonwealth and thematic collectors of nearly all grades, containing as it does, much information in an easy-to read and compact format obviating the need for cross referencing between several different catalogues. It is a necessary addition to the library of any Commonwealth philatelist.

297mm x 230mm, soft bound, 1224 pages. ISBN: 085259-591-3. Pub: Stanley Gibbons Publications, Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 3SH. England. Price £44.95.

New Anglo-Boer War stamp book gets good reception



By: Harry Birkhead and Joh Groenewald

The latest publication of the Philatelic Federation, *The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke*, was well received by philatelists as well as historians when first copies were sold in Bloemfontein last month (July 2005).

Following on the success of *The Wherewithal of Wolmaransstad*, the first in the Federation's series on the "town issues" of stamps during the Anglo-Boer War, the Schweizer-Reneke book lists the names of no less than 68 pre-publication subscribers. In Bloemfontein, more collectors rushed to get copies.

The new book is similar in lay-out and appearance to the Wolmaransstad book but is presented in ten chapters, rather than sections and snippets. It lists all known permutations of the Schweizer-Reneke stamps, and all known covers.

A bonus is an insert which supplements the Wolmaransstad book, which was published in 1999, and adds information which then surfaced around the centenary of the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902.

Only six stamps are catalogue listed for Schweizer-Reneke. Co-author Harry Birkhead RDPSA says the 60-page book confirms the old saying that "philately starts where the catalogue stops". He says that, in addition to a detailed description of the stamps and their use, a reference work should include some historical background to give perspective to such a stamp issue.

The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reineke is available from the Philatelic Federation, PO Box 9248, Cinda Park 1463, at R230 (postage and packaging included).

If you have any books you would like reviewed in The South African Philatelist, please send a copy to: P O Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504.

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to member's; concludes with details of Journals listed.

1. "The Second UK Congress of Southern African Philatelic Societies"
by CE Oliver, *The Springbok*, vol 53, no 1, (289), 2005, pp 17-20.

2. "Union of South Africa - The First Pictorial Stamps"
by John Shaw, *The Springbok*, vol 53, no 1, (289), 2005, pp 21-22.

3. "Union of South Africa - Official Revenue Cancellations"
by Giovanni Palazzo, *The Springbok*, vol 53, no 1, (289), 2005, pp 24-25.

4. "The 1d Ship Stamp Issue of the Union of South Africa Overprinted for Consular Use"
by Eddie Bridges, *The Springbok*, vol 53, no 1, (289), 2005, pp 29-30.

5. "1½d Official Horizontal Overprint - The Final Chapter"
by M Maltby and Eddie Bridges, *The Springbok*, vol 53, no 1, (289), 2005, pp 31-33.

6. "The Vurtheim Five Pounds - Twenty Years On"
by John Kaupe, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, vol 40, no 2, (154), 2005, pp 29-56.

7. "The Sea-borne Mails of Natal, 1863-1868; part 4"
by John Dickson, *Natal & Zululand Post*, vol 9, no 1, (33), 2005, pp 1-17.

8. "The Royal Navy and the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879"
by John Dickson, *Natal & Zululand Post*, vol 9, no 1, (33), 2005, pp 18-24.

9. "Display Cards and Colonial Issues of King Edward VII"
by Colin Fraser and Richard Maisel, *The London Philatelist*, no 1325, May 2005, pp 123-136.

10. "Rotogravure and Planographic Printing Presses of the Government Printer, Pretoria, 1930-1990"
by W.J. Quick, *Forerunners*, no 51, November-February 2004/5, pp 53-61.

11. "Surcharged Stamps of Lesotho, 1986-1991: Part 2, SG 719 to 724"
by Morgan Farrell, *Forerunners*, no 51, November-February 2004/5, pp 63-73.

•'The Springbok'
is the Journal of the South African Collectors' Society; Editor E. Bridges, email aebridges@ukonline.co.za

•'The Transvaal Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Transvaal Study Circle based in the U.K.; S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email cachetap@lantic.net

•'Natal & Zululand Post'
is the Journal of the Natal and Zululand Study Circle based in the UK. S.A. representative is Roger Porter, email rogport@kznwildlife.com

•'The London Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London; the S.A. representative Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email frankfam@icon.co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email wannerton@iafrica.com

•'Forerunners'
is the Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa based in the USA. S.A. representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email ulib@mweb.co.za

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The Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa

2005 UP-DATE ON THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Through the pages of the SA Philatelist I would like to bring our readers up-to-date with the latest developments regarding A.S.S.A.

During the early part of 2004 a group of members got together to ensure that A.S.S.A. remained fully functional and that the much sought after Aeroletter which was last published in May 2002 was resuscitated. I am pleased to be able to report that A.S.S.A. is alive and well and is supported by an active membership not only throughout Southern Africa but also in the United Kingdom, the USA and Europe. New members are being encouraged to join and I am pleased to be able to confirm that we have been successful in growing our membership satisfactorily over the past six months. Anyone who may be interested in air mails of Southern Africa in particular and is keen to further their knowledge in this fascinating field of study and research is invited to contact the Society where they will be able, for a nominal subscription, to participate and develop their hobby with the help and assistance of a number of very experienced and renowned Aerophilatelists.

Due to the wide geographic spread of our membership it is unfortunately not possible to hold regular meetings. Notwithstanding this, however, effective communication is being achieved through the medium of electronic mail and personal contact. Regional meetings in South Africa are encouraged and it is hoped that members will continue to get together on an ad hoc basis whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Edition '91' of our Aeroletter will have been issued to all members by the time this article is published. It has proven to be a bumper edition full of interesting articles and information which has met the high standards achieved in past years. The Aeroletter specifically focuses on issues related to Southern Africa but is not restricted to this field of study only and will extend to other aspects of aerophilately should they be deemed appropriate. At this stage it is the intention of A.S.S.A. to issue two editions of the Aeroletter per year.

A.S.S.A. is an affiliated member of both the International Federation of Aerophilatelic Societies (FISA), and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. Part of the aims of A.S.S.A. are to promote interest in Aerophilatelic postal history of South and South West Africa (Namibia) and embark upon any other activity that may promote this aim and in so doing contribute to the science, practice and enjoyment of the hobby.

It is hoped that this letter will clarify the current status of A.S.S.A and we sincerely trust that A.S.SA will continue to prosper and grow for many years to come.

If you collect Airmails of Southern Africa and want to keep up-to-date with developments in the field of Aviation - Join the Society now and receive a copy of a bi-annual Aeroletter full of interesting information and articles for both the specialist and the collector.

Contact: D.G. Morton (Secretary/Treasurer)
E-mail: dmorton@mweb.co.za
Postal: 2 Anemone Avenue, Welgedacht, 7530
Neville Polakow
E-mail: nevillep@intekom.co.za
Postal: 149 Cape Road, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth 6001

The South African Philatelist invites the various Philatelic Societies around South Africa to submit a brief and concise history, as well as their current status, for possible publication.

In future issues of

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

Weighing the Mail
by Ds Pauw Steyl

Union War Issues
by Dannie Scheepers

Batum
by David Crocker

Revenues
by Clinton Goslin

Thematically Yours
by Rev J. C. Carstens



SMALLS ADVERTS

Small advertisements are accepted from Federation affiliated members at no charge. Ads can be inserted for two consecutive issues. Maximum 30 words. Material must be typed or printed for clarity, and the home society of the advertiser indicated. (Not necessarily for publication). Dealers and non-affiliated advertisers will be charged for classified advertisements at the rate of R50 per column cm per issue. Copy should be sent timeously - see page 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

Wanted: Tvl, OFS, Natal and Cape Town overprints as well as Union ditto and Douane. Loose stamps or covers. Fair prices paid. Please contact Rex Osborne.
2 Beacon Rd, Bluff, 4502, RSA

Exchange: Gerald Hoiler offers used/mint stamps from **France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany** for fine used Southern Africa.
Email: Gerald.Hoiler@zschokke.ch

Exchange: Robert Ross will exchange **Australian stamps & coins** for similar South African material for his children. Contact at:
Locked bag 3000, Potts Point,
NSW 2011 Australia.

Rhodesian Study Circle (RSC)

During the forthcoming National Exhibition in October, the RSC will be holding a meeting open for all interested parties to attend on Saturday the 22nd October 2005 in the Meeting Room at the Goodwood Civic Centre from 13h00 to 15h00.

An address will be given by the RSC chairman Colin Hoffman after which the meeting will be open for the presentation of individual items of interest by attendees. For more information contact Adrian de Bourbon: Tel: (021) 762 6599
E-mail: bourbon@telkomsa.net
or Dave Morton (before 20 September)
Tel: (021) 913 6461
E-mail: dmorton@mweb.co.za

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Audio-Visual Committee

PO Box 975, Kloof 3640
e-mail: pfsasec@mweb.co.za

Order Form for Audio-Visual CD's

Audio-Visual Slide Shows have been converted to CD format and are listed in the table below. The cost per show is R50 (inclusive of postage within SA, SADEC countries add R20 per CD and Foreign add R25 per CD). Please indicate your order by entering a cross in the appropriate block alongside the title.
Payment may only be made by local cheque, payable to 'Philatelic Federation of South Africa', or by electronic transfer (free of bank charges) to:
Standard Bank; Branch Code: **012 542**; Account Number: **023 304 669**.
Please enter your "Surname - AVC" into the "Depositor's name or reference" section of the deposit slip or EFT form.
Proof of payment must accompany your order. Enquire via e-mail for postage on bulk orders.

Name	Qty	Name	Qty	Name	Qty
Yachts and Dinghies		Tristan da Cunha		Monaco - Part 1: History	
Picture Postcards		Postal History of the Transvaal		Monaco - Part 2: Postage Stamps	
Pitcairn Island - Home of Mutineers		Postal History of German SWA		The Ship Issues of SWA	
20 Questions - A Philatelic Quiz		Bridging the Atlantic by Airmail		SA Aerograms	
With Heart and Soul		Mafeking Blues		A Tour through SA	
Rugby		Collecting RSA - Part 1		Jewels on the Wing	
Beauty and the Beast		Collecting RSA - Part 2		The Rhodesias - Some Postal History - Part 1	
The Splendour of Egypt		In Pursuit of a Hobby		The Rhodesias - Some Postal History - Part 2	
Revenue Stamps of the Union of SA		Endangered Species		The Waghom Story	
A Tour through South Africa		Doctoring Postage Stamps		The Humble Cape Rectangular	
Postal History of the Suez Canal		Prehistoric Rock Art		Anglo-Boer War	
Behind the Stamp		Rotogravure Printing Trials		Angels of Humanity (Red Cross)	
Beauty and the Beast		Orange Free State - Part 1		Stamp Booklets of SA	
SA Defense Force Mail		Orange Free State - Part 2		Beauty and the Beast	
The Printing of Stamps in SA 1963-1968		The King's Head Stamps of SA		Fairy Tales	

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Insert to SA Philatelist August 2005

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Federation Resource updated - Utilizing Modern Technology

Conversion of Slide Shows to CD

The Management Committee resolved at the end of 2004 to implement the proposal of the Audio-Visual Committee to convert the Audio-Visual slide shows that are copyrighted to the PFSA to CD format. The reasons for this decision were that there had been a decline in the number of requests from member Societies, and also, because of the age of some of the slides, these will start to deteriorate, and valuable information could be lost.

After six months of investigation and trial conversions, the Committee determined that the Scala programme is the most suitable vehicle for the conversions. Some of the features are that it is a self-loading programme that can be used on most PCs and also on DVD recorders. The shows have an average duration of 25 to 35 minutes.

The conversion costs are an average of R850 per show depending on the duration of the show. The Management Committee budgeted R20 000 for the conversion of a limited number of shows. Subsequently, the KwaZulu-Natal Society has donated R61 000, which will cover the cost of the conversion of all the shows copyrighted to the Federation. This magnificent donation has been made to promote stamp collecting and philately in South Africa. The Management Committee has therefore requested the Audio-Visual Committee to make available to each member Society a complete set of Audio-Visual CDs at the cost of reproducing the CDs from the master copies.

The conversion of all the shows will be completed by the end of 2005. The Audio-Visual Committee will circulate Societies early in 2006 with details of the shows available and the cost to each Society. In the meantime, individual shows that have been converted are available for sale to anyone who wishes to purchase them. The cost is R50 per show (including postage). Order forms are included in this issue, and updated lists of completed shows will be included in future issues. A SAPDA dealer has agreed to market certain shows on e-bay. The funds from all these sales will go towards expanding the database of this wonderful resource that the Philatelic Federation of South Africa has developed.

Insert to SA Philatelist August 2005

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October 2005



The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE



THIS MONTH SPECIAL FEATURE

Traditional Philately: The Union War Issues

THIS MONTH



The Bridge



Cinderellas



Paper Jewels

INSIDE: • New SA Stamp Issues • Society News • The New Grand Prix Medal • Tribute to Jonas Michelson

October 2005
R19.95 VAT incl
ISSN 0038-2566
Vol 81:5 872
www.philatelysa.co.za

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Federation Literature

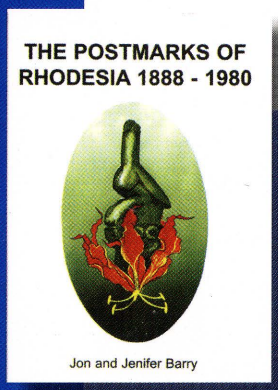
Students of Southern Rhodesia have a great opportunity to get to know the postmarks issued between 1888 and 1980. The "Rhodesia Postmarks" book was a love of labour of the Barrys, and it shows.

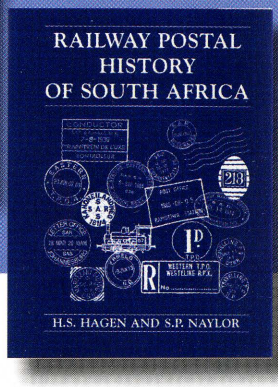
The "Railway" is a must for all South African collectors. The postal history has been superbly research and presented and will be the definitive work for the foreseeable future.

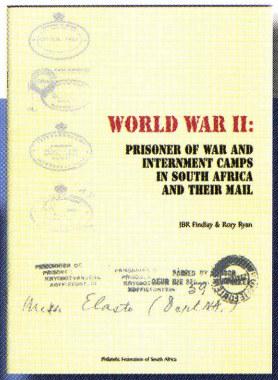
Researchers Findlay and Ryan comprehensively addresses the neglected area of "WW II Camps in South Africa". The book has been well received and is already generating renewed interest in military history.

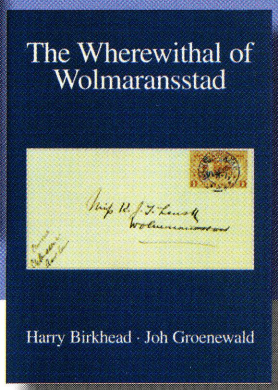
Readers will recall that the "Wolmaransstad" book covers a highly interesting phase of the Anglo Boer War in the Western Transvaal. The authors really get to grips with the related philatelic difficulties.

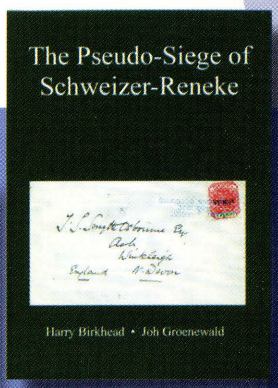
Original research and pictures not published before are a feature of this study by Harry Birkhead, who has formed the finest-ever collection of these "town issues", and Joh Groenewald, likewise a student of Anglo-Boer War philately.











ORDER FORM

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email: pfsasec@mweb.co.za

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Railway Postal History of South Africa	330.00	35.00	70.00	80.00	87.50
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The Wherewithal of Wolmaransstad	140.00	10.00	20.00	22.00	30.00
The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke	220.00	10.00	20.00	22.00	30.00
Combo Set of Wolmaransstad and Schweizer-Reyneke	325.00	10.00	40.00	44.00	60.00

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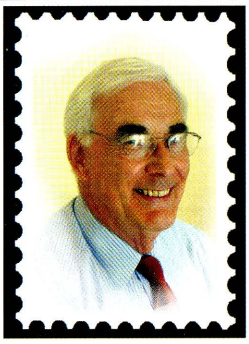
October 2005 Vol 81 No 5 Whole No 872

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From the Editor



Pretoria Commemoratives
What's in a name?

The series of stamps, postcards and envelopes commemorating the establishment of Pretoria 150 years ago, which was due for release in September, has, according to a Press statement, been put on hold. A spokesman for the Post Office has stated that the issue was being held over pending the final decision in the controversy surrounding the name change from Pretoria to Tshwane. It was stated that no costs in the production of the issue had been incurred to date, and further, that designs could not be released 'for technical reasons'. What contradiction! If designs cannot be released then the implication is that they exist - and if they exist, then costs have been incurred. Maybe the Post office should come clean and admit political hesitation.

Unfortunately, one cannot change history by ignoring it. The City of Pretoria has been in existence for 150 years and has a proud history. There is no logical reason why this fact cannot be commemorated, irrespective of a future name change. It is only natural that South Africans should wish to put this on record; and what better means than on its stamps. A commemoration of Pretoria would be an attractive addition to our collections and a splendid advertisement for the country. If cancelled, as seems likely, local philatelists and the public will be disappointed and dismayed; overseas collectors will be puzzled and incredulous at this narrow attitude.

Dr. Alan Rose

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December issue	Vol.	81: 6.	873 :	04 November
February issue	Vol.	82: 1.	874 :	16 January
April issue	Vol.	82: 2.	875 :	10 March

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FUTURE EVENTS

OCTOBER 2005
Cape Stamp Show 2005
20 – 22 October
National Exhibition, Cape Town
Goodwood Civic Centre

MAY 2006
WASHINGTON 2006
27 May – 3 June
Washington, USA
Contact: SA Commissioner
Peter v.d. Molen
011 849 4822

OCTOBER 2006
SA National Exhibition
October (TBA)
Gauteng

JUNASS
(TBA)
Gauteng

ESPANA 2006
7 – 13 October
Valladolid, Spain
Contact: SA Commissioner
Emil Minnaar
083 230 5430

DECEMBER 2006
INDEPEX'06
December (TBA)
New Delhi, India

OCTOBER 2007
PEZAPEX 2007
National Exhibition incorporating JUNASS
17 – 20 October
Port Elizabeth

DECEMBER 2007
Brasiliana 2007
December (TBA)
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

MAY 2008
Israel 2008
14 – 22 May
Tel Aviv, Israel

JUNE 2008
Efiro 2008
15 – 22 June
Bucarest, Romania

JULY/AUGUST 2008
China 2008
July/August (TBA)
Beijing, China

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



The winning letter, chosen by the editor, will receive an exclusive Sheaffer pen from SHEAFFER style for life.

Topical or Thematic?

Dear Editor

In the August issue a line of distinction between topical and thematic exhibits was suggested. It adds to the explanations that I have heard over the last months. Let me add one more. I illustrate from the world of music. If the same melody line recurs, that is a theme. When, on the other hand you hear an overture, a dance and a wedding march that have no resemblance in melody, mood, rhythm or otherwise they do not belong together except when justified by the correct heading. (Mendelsohns' Incidental Music to a Midsummernights's Dream). It has some logic to use the word topic for the announced direction of an assembly when you can not by looking at the (repetitive) content observe whether there is anything that recurs. Thus the topic of a speech will be Causes of the First World War. Under that heading may be the theme of the instances of wrong decisions that were linked to physical illness.

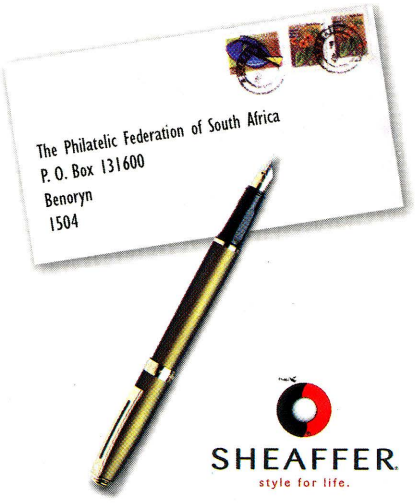
Test philately in practice. A club member recently exhibited Thailand stamps of 1947 (King Bhumibol set) together with Iceland sets of the 1950s (power plants and waterfalls included) and other dissimilar designs and countries. Is that topical or thematic? They get together only when you are informed what topic is under examination. There is no development.

Outside fields where (logical) distinctions have developed, the starting point must be the ordinary meaning of words. The Concise Oxford Dictionary gives the primary meaning of topic as theme and that of theme as being topic.

Secondly a well respected philatelist has suggested that there is nothing more to the distinction than Americans using only the word topical while Englishmen prefer thematic, both only signifying that the collection is not according to political units, mostly single countries.

Thirdly, neither of the terms in itself implies or excludes development. The requirement of a storyline is a philatelic gloss. Philately can of course add to arbitrary rules - at the cost that it does not serve to attract or to breed respect.

Fourthly, it is the suggested distinction that creates the need for even more distinctions. The August issue suggested a new class called omnibus. At a recent nine-page gathering there was a so-called open class. I have not heard reasoning towards any of those distinctions. It is concededly convenient to have some term to signal that a country exhibit (or a group of areas) was not intended. But beyond that no classification says much about the scarcity of material, their quality, the 'research' of the exhibitor or the attractiveness of the exhibit. If it creates no difficulty for the jury and there is no other reason for the distinction, why make a distinction? Secondly, what really is a story and development? Does it exclude the designs of, proofs for, and the history of plate wear of the 1d Union ship?



Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email saphilatelist@iafrica.com Enquiries about membership can be referred to Robert Harm at robharm@mweb.co.za

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Why is a such a collection a (partial?) country collection and not a thematic collection? Is an exhibit of the joint issues of Australia more thematic if it follows a historical sequence proving 'development' than if it turns attention to the choice of designs.

It is the introduction of sub-rules for thematic collecting which now creates the problems. Such as what to do with page after page of Queen Elizabeth crowning. Will omnibus or open be marked differently? If so, why? Will the Boeing aircraft depicted by all countries be omnibus? And if the chosen sequence proves the alteration of the models of Boeings as they were produced?

Concededly one distinction is inherent. When it comes to exhibiting visually disparate material i.e. where the contents of the pages do not in themselves proclaim a common thread, the heading will either cause everything to come together or spoil the exhibit. A collection which is so dependent upon sticking to the chosen topic for discussion is, I think, better described as 'topical'.

Yours

HCJ Flemming

(PS: The topic for the Thailand, Iceland, etc exhibit was Foreign Stamps printed by English printers.)

Inflationary Tales

In the June 2005 issue of the *Rhodesia Study Circle Journal*, Adrian de Bourbon reports on the massive increases in the denominations and total face values of Zimbabwe definitive issues over the years. Not quite as dramatic or as rapid as the German inflationary period of the 1920s, these figures are quite startling, particularly for those not directly involved in the situation. The causes are primarily attributed to the massive inflation being experienced in conjunction with the decline in value of the Zimbabwe dollar. There are also comments on the variations in the quality of printing, particularly with respect to colour found in the reprints of the Fifth Definitive Issue.

Issue	Date of Issue	No in Issue	Highest Value	Total Face Value
1st	18-04-1980	15	$2	$4.61
2nd	21-08-1985	22	$5	$11.70
3rd	02-01-1990	18	$2	$6.14
4th	17-01-1995	16	$10	$21.15
5th	25-01-2000	18	$100	$249.41
6th	08-02-2005	10	$100000	$312400.00

JIPEX Overprints



Dear Mr Scheepers,

I was very interested to read your note on the JIPEX overprints in the latest *South African Philatelist*; and interested in particular by the "trial" overprints that you mention and illustrate.

I have similar-looking inverted and red DOUANE overprints; I wonder whether they have a similar origin. The type in my red and inverted DOUANE overprints looks the same as the type used in the normal black DOUANE overprints and also looks the same as the type used for the OFFICIAL overprints, and the spacing is similar. I thought it was unlikely that my red and inverted DOUANE overprints were trials mainly because it seems unlikely that anyone would produce this combination deliberately or accidentally during a trial; I also thought it was unlikely that they were forgeries because they would have had little or no value; and so thought they had probably been made by someone who had access to the type and machinery on which the genuine overprints were being made at the Government Printers, and was just fooling around or showing off to stamp-collecting friends. They appear, on the basis of the stamps used (e.g. halfpenny Issue 4/4a) to have been made at about the same time as your JIPEX "trials".

I'd be grateful to hear what you think about this suggestion. I'd be very interested to make a dose comparison of the type and inks used in order to test this suggestion: the overprints use several of the same vowels, and I have access to a colorimeter. Are the JIPEX "trials" you illustrate in your collection? If so, would it be possible to borrow some of them to take photographs, make measurements, and scan colour? If they are in someone else's collection, I would be very grateful to be put in touch with them.

With very best wishes and congratulations on an interesting article,

Sebastian Payne

(Mr Scheepers is replying to this letter directly. Anyone else with information may reply to the editor - Ed)

BE Marking

Dear Editor

I respond to Robert Allison's invitation for suggestions about the BE marking. What he has stated provides adequate reason to infer that the canceller was related to foreign mail. It may therefore be attractive to infer that the 'B' denotes BUITELANDS. But that creates problems with the "E'. [That could, though, denote EXPEDITIE or EXCHANGE.]

More attractive is the suggestion that it stands for B(LOEMFONTEIN) E(KSTERN) to signify Bloemfontein-Foreign-Mail.

The post 1900 use sheds only unreliable light about why the letters B and E were chosen more than ten years earlier by a previous administration that used a different language. Under British methods the BE canceller may have lost its original use and, lying around, could be put to any new use.

Perhaps it was physically moved to a place beyond the counters and the sorting offices and there used to mark newspapers that could pass free of censorship. It could have been used for bulk postings of items such as newspapers. Such developments could explain the souvenir card (Fig 3) if the philatelist obtained only handstamps that were at the on-site operations of 1904?

Yours truly,

Spectator



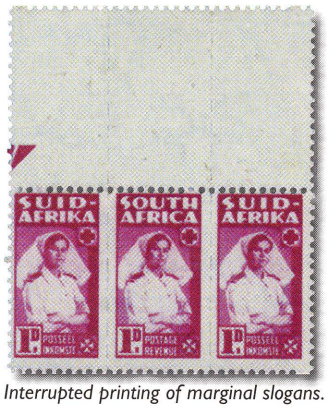
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The Union War Issues

By Danie Scheepers, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg



Interrupted printing of marginal slogans.

The outbreak of the Second World War plunged the South African Cabinet into such turmoil and conflict that it threatened to bring down the government.

The Prime Minister, General JBM Hertzog, and his supporters felt that South Africa should maintain the same relations with the belligerent countries whilst honouring the Simonstown Agreement. General JC Smuts headed those who felt that relations with Germany should be severed. Eventually the House of Assembly decided by a vote of 80 to 67 to declare war on Germany. General Hertzog resigned and General Smuts took over as Premier.

The year 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the peace treaty that ended the horrific World War II. It is a pity that amongst the usual plethora of commemoratives planned for this year, there was no decision made to include a tribute to those South Africans who risked their lives in the quest for peace.



Is there world peace? The beauty and therapeutic value of philately is that we do not have to probe depressing questions of that nature. Instead, we may engross ourselves in an absorbing study of South African War Issues in their large and small formats and perhaps examine a question that has been raised. Are the War Issues correctly classified as commemoratives?

This question has been asked because:

- 1. The Union War Issues, in their two formats, ran for many years. This differs from other commemoratives which are usually only available for a few months.
- 2. The stamps of the Union War Issues also featured many different printings from a number of cylinders. The extent is unusual for commemoratives.

On the other hand, they do not fit the usual blueprint for definitives for the following reasons:

- 1. They were individually issued over a period of months unlike definitives which are generally released together as a unit.
- 2. They did not replace the existing definitives but ran concurrently with them, the public being free to purchase either.
- 3. They did not add any additional values but merely duplicated the existing ones already to be found; the 1/3d Signaller which appeared later being the only exception.
- 4. They did not offer the full set of the values required for a definitive issue of the period.
- 5. There are examples of other commemoratives, particularly during the nineteenth century, that were sometimes used for long periods. This caused the distinction between commemoratives and definitives to become blurred.

After considering the above it is clear that they fit the description of 'commemoratives' better than they do that of 'definitives'. It could be regarded that they honoured the people involved in the war. The War Issues also attempted to further the cause of the South African war effort. The Small War Issue with its marginal slogans, which appeared later, encouraged people to "Buy Union Loan Certificates" and to "Make National Security Your Own".

Coen Slagt RDPSA has shown me a most interesting page of photographic essays, which is illustrated here (below left and front cover) with his kind permission. It shows some of the well known accepted designs but in addition some that were rejected and others that were modified.

Designs for the issued ½d and 1/- values are included. Of special interest are designs for a 1/3d value. This indicates that thought was already being given to releasing such a value even though a 1/- value appeared instead. It could explain why the 1/3 value which appeared later did so in the large format as the seeds had already been sown. It would also appear that the design for the Small War airman was based on the horizontal essay for an airman if one compares the shading. The most thought-provoking essay shown is the rejected 2d design showing a black soldier.

Given our history, this could cause quite a few raised eyebrows. It prompted me to search the records and in doing so, I found that there were an estimated two million plus South African volunteers in the war, of which about 120 000 were black. Black volunteers were not allowed to be armed and were thus constrained to non-combatant duties. A request was evidently also made to Britain not to arm black soldiers from the neighbouring states of Bechuanaland and Basutoland. It has also been contended that the war had an important influence on the minds of many serviceman who returned to South Africa with a new perspective on existing race laws.

The first value of the War Issue to appear, probably because it paid the overseas letter rate, was the 3d 'Women's Services' issued on the 1st August 1941. The remaining values appeared in the following order: 4d Artillery, 20 August, 1941; 6d Electric Welding, 3 September 1941; 2d Sailor, 15 September 1941;



Doctor blade variety

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1d Nurse, 3 October 1941; 1/- Tank Corps, 27 October 1941; ½d Infantry, 19 November 1941; 1½d Airman, 12 January 1942. The 1/3d Signaller only appeared on 2 January 1943 and was intended primarily for the prepayment of airmail fees.

The Signaller is interesting because it appeared in the large format some six months after the reduced format had already started to appear. The larger format was used in spite of the existing concerted drive to save paper. It is the only war stamp to be an additional value to the pictorial definitives and it differed from the other large war stamps in that it appeared with marginal slogans, similar to those of the Bantams, on two of its three issues.



The *SA Philatelist* of March 1942 reported that "The Union War Stamps appear to be pleasantly free from varieties". Indeed the only major variety was the interrupted printing of the marginal slogan on the 1/3d Signaller. An interesting variety to watch out for occurred with the 1/- value. J.H. Harvey Pirie describes it as "A sheet of the 1s in which there was one Springbok's head missing in each alternate row of watermarks running through the 3rd vertical row of stamps". Jack Hagger describes it as "One head very faint in the watermark". This error probably occurred as a result of damage to the dandy roll.

During the war there was an urgent need to save various commodities such as petrol and paper, with the latter being of particular interest to philatelists. Various measures of economy with regard to paper saving were introduced. The large format war stamps were modified and brought out in a much reduced size known as the Small War Issue. This issue became known simply as the 'Bantams'. The move saved sufficient paper for the printing of 955 million stamps.

Furthermore, people were encouraged to re-use envelopes and many examples of repeated re-usage are known. This was, however, only sanctioned for local mail as re-usage was not allowed for foreign mail. Any envelope re-used for foreign mail would receive the two-lined, boxed cachet "CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS/ IN STRYD MET DIE REGULASIES". No restrictions were placed on re-used covers entering South Africa.

Even The SA Philatelist of January 1945 had the following message for its readers. "We regret that we cannot accept any more subscriptions for The South African Philatelist. The quota which we are allowed by the paper controller is now completely booked up and there is no immediate prospect of being allowed any more."

The introduction of the 'Bantams' gave to the world a unique stamp format. To this day, it is one of the few stamps to have both perforations and roulettes. This feature, coupled with the innovation of printing slogans on all four sheet margins alternately in English and Afrikaans, has made this a most fascinating issue to collect.

To add even more spice, whereas the Large War Issue was comparatively free of varieties, the Bantams abound with numerous errors, many of a spectacular appearance. The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910 – 1961 handbook by S.J. Hagger RDPSA describes this issue in great detail with regard both to the various printings and the varieties. I will, therefore, restrict myself to mentioning only those varieties which are not listed. Although these are all of a non-constant type, they do add further interest to a collection and indicate the problems that were experienced in their production.

• 1. Dry Printings: the 1½ d value as well as the 1d value are known. They are so pale that parts are albino.



Interrupted printing

• 2. Interrupted printing of the 2d value: the handbook does not stipulate but there are two distinct variations of this variety. In the one instance there is a gradual fading of the printing culminating in albino stamps. The fading takes place from the top of the sheet downwards. The perforations are misplaced and run through "South/Suid". In the other instance, the printing does not fade gradually up to the totally albino stamps but remains at full intensity until it suddenly ceases. Here the top part of the sheet shows the albino stamps. The perforations are also misplaced, but to a greater degree so that they pass through the nose of the sailor. Both are from issue 4 or 5.



Interrupted printing showing gradual fading of the print until it becomes a blank.

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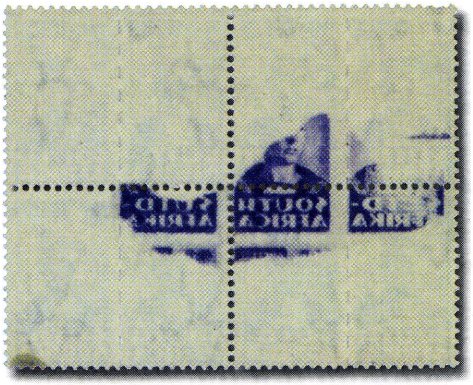


Misplaced perfs. and interrupted printing showing a sudden stop of the printing.

• 3. Misplaced perforations: the handbook describes this variety on the 2d as "V12 Misplaced perforation (through the centre of the stamp)." This is a simplification as the perforations are known misplaced at various levels leading up to the centre.

• 4. Offset of stamps: occurs in the 1d and 2d values.

• 5. Offset of paper join indicator: various values. It takes the form of a broad band of pink colour across the face of the stamps, similar to the warning one finds on the old-fashioned till rolls.



Offset.

• 6. Missing roulette: missing roulettes are recorded on four values, two of which are printed as triptychs. Normally the roulettes are omitted between each stamp of a triptych, but in the case of the 1d value there is an example with the roulette only missing between one pair of a triptych.

• 7. Missing watermark: this is an intriguing variety occurring on the 6d value which was listed in the 1964 and 1979 editions of the handbook, but which was omitted in the last edition printed in 1986. It was also not listed in the 1952 Van Riebeeck Tercentenary edition. To date only one block of four stamps is known showing the watermark missing from each stamp. As the watermark is easily seen and the series was well studied, it is obvious that this error must have occurred due to a small portion of paper not receiving the watermark impression during its manufacture. This variety occurred on Issue 3.



Doctor blade smear.

• 8. Doctor blade smudges and smears: occur on various values in glorious, messy colour.

There is still so much more to be said about the Bantams. About the intriguing case of the 'Bee Swarm' cylinder of the 1½d Airman or the mysterious cylinder 7 of the 2d Sailor. Did it exist? Perhaps at another time.

Clearly, good things really do come in small packages.

With acknowledgment to:

- Alhadeff, Vic. 1979. *South Africa in Two World Wars*. Cape Town: Nelson.
- Hagger, S.J. RDPSA. 1986. *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa*. Reijger Publishers Limited.
- *The South African Philatelist* – various issues.
- *The Springbok* – various issues.

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SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

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An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- a printed proof copy of the text.
- a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.
- a corrected final draft of the article in a Word document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.
- scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Rosebank, where the team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.



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and Henk de Lange, our coordinator (e-mail: hdelange@global.co.za; tel: 021-790 7536)**

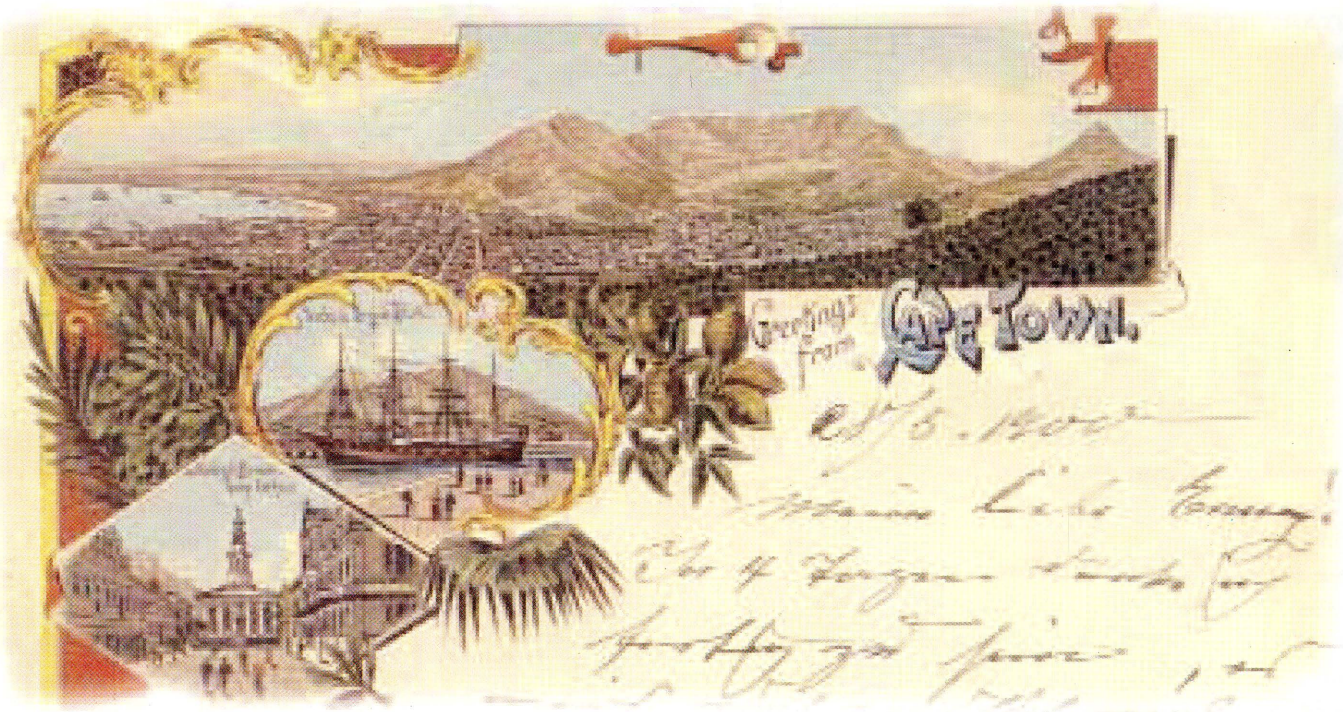


Illustration: collection John Sandilands

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New South African Stamp Issues

2005 Commemorative Issues

By Robin Messenger, South African Stamp Study Circle

9 February 2005 - LUNAR YEAR OF THE ROOSTER



Denominations: R12.05, Registered Letter (i.e. Standard Postage Rate of R1.70 plus Registration Fee R10.35).
Artwork: Denis Murphy.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Format/ Size: Miniature Sheet, 105 x 65mm, incorporating a vertical format stamp, 29 x 38mm depicting a rooster.
Perforation: 14.5 x 14
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: Yellow-green 4mm band on left and bottom margins of stamp.
Cylinder Numbers: None
Sheet Size: 506 x 706mm comprising 28 units arranged in seven rows of four.
Quantity: 25 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative Cover: 7.86, Standard Size (190 x 102mm), of which 6 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.75, Bronkhorstspruit 09.02.2005.

23 February 2005 - CENTENARY OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Denomination: 2 x International Airmail (small) Letter Rate (R4.00) printed in se-tenant pairs.
Artwork/ Design: Joe Hlongwane, Philatelic Services' Artist. The first stamp shows the 2005 Rotary theme 'eradicating polio in the world'. The second stamp features the role played by Rotary in helping youth through education and employment.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp Size: Horizontal format, 48 x 30mm.
Perforation: 14, comb.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: 4mm band at left and bottom margins.
Sheetlet Size: 126 x 180mm comprising ten stamps in five rows of two (i.e. Five se-tenant pairs).
Cylinder Numbers: 7876, 7876, 7877 and 7878.
Sheet Size: 506 x 706mm comprising three rows of three sheetlets.
Commemorative Cover: 7.87, standard size of which 6 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.76, Cape Town 2005.02.23.

26 April 2005 - THE NATIONAL ORDERS OF SOUTH AFRICA



Denomination: 6 x International Airmail Letter Rate (R4.25).
Layout/ Artwork: Thea Swanepoel from artwork supplied by Bureau of Heraldry.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography and gold foil embossing.
Format/ Size: Vertical, 29 x 37.5mm. Six different designs arranged in a sheetlet of two rows of three.
Perforation: 14.5 x 14, comb.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: yellow-green 4mm band on left and bottom margins of stamp.
Sheetlet Size: 530 x 610mm, comprising 12 sheetlets in four rows of three.
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative Cover: 7.90, standard size of which 8 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.78, 2005.04.26 Pretoria.

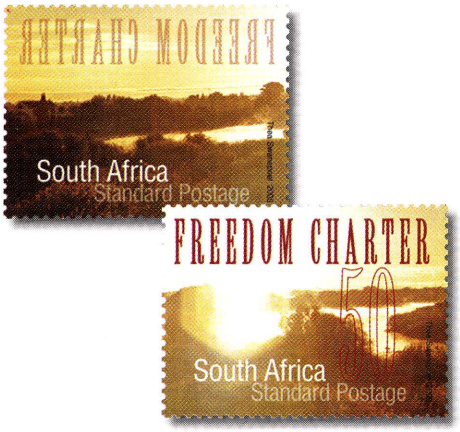
6 May 2005 - SOUTH AFRICAN LANDSCAPES

Denomination: 10 x International Airmail Postcard Rate (R3.65).
Artwork: From paintings by Erik Laubscher, Maggie Laubser, Walter Battiss, Lallitha Jawahirilal, Lucky Sibiye, Sophie Masize, Trevor Makhoba, Johan Kramer, Gladys Mgudlandlu and Usha Seejarim in Iziko South African Gallery.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp Size: Horizontal format, 37.5 x 29mm. Ten different designs.
Perforation: 14.3 x 14.2, by Gammerler S perforator.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: Yellow-green 4mm band on right and bottom margins of stamp.
Sheetlet Size: 105 x 175mm.
Cylinder Numbers: 7879, 7880, 7881 and 7882.
Sheet Size: 706 x 520mm comprising ten sheetlets arranged in two rows of five.
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative Covers: 7.88 and 7.89, each of standard size and of which 8 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.77, 2005.05.06 Nieuwoudtville.

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26 June 2005 - 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ADOPTION OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER



Denomination: 2 x Standard Postage Rate (R1.77).
Artwork: Thea Swanepoel.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Format/ Size: A miniature sheet of size 105 x 65mm containing a se-tenant pair of horizontal stamps, each 37.5 x 29mm.
Perforation: 14.3 by a Bickel L perforator.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: yellow-green in a 4mm band along the bottom margin of the stamps and an 8mm band over the perforation separating the two stamps.
Cylinder Numbers: None.
Sheet Size: 710 x 512mm comprising 25 units arranged in five rows of five.
Quantity: 25 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative Cover: 7.92 standard size of which 6 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.80 24.06.2005 Kliptown.

1 July 2005 - THE LURE OF SOUTH AFRICAN LORE AND LEGENDS

Denomination: 10 x B5 Domestic Rate (R3.75).
Artwork: Hein Botha.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Stamp Size: Horizontal, 37.5 x 29mm.
Perforation: 14.5 x 14 by Gammerler S perforator.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: Yellow-green 4mm band on left and bottom margins of stamps.
Sheetlet Size: 105 x 175mm with ten different designs arranged in five rows of two.
Cylinder Numbers: 7891, 7892, 7893 and 7894.
Sheet Size: 705 x 510mm comprising 10 sheetlets arranged in two rows of five.
Quantity: 30 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative Covers: 7.93 and 7.94, each of standard size and of which 8 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.81, Cape Town 01.07.2005.



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7 July 2005 - WORLD YEAR OF PHYSICS 2005

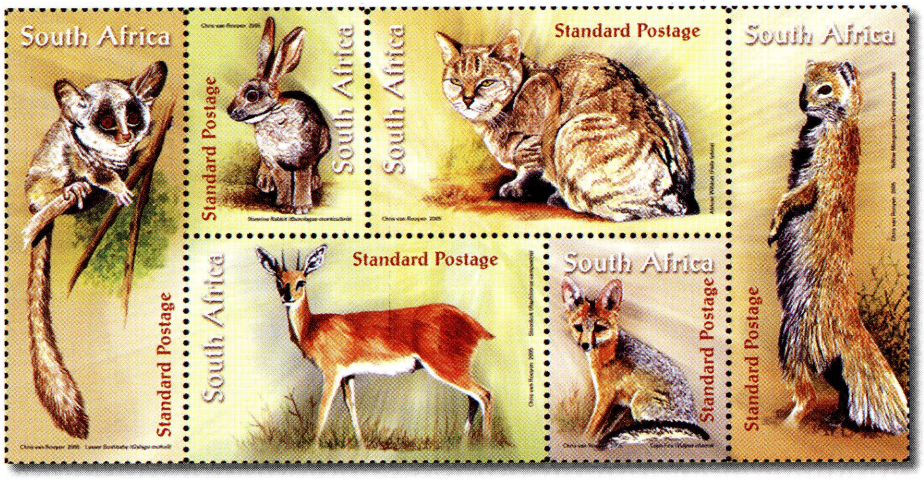


Denomination: Airmail Postcard Rate (R3.65).
Artwork: Rachel Ackerman.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Size: Vertical format, 29 x 37.5mm.
Perforation: 14.5 x 14 by Gammerler S perforator.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: Yellow-green 4mm band on left and bottom margins of stamps.
Sheetlet Size: 175 x 105mm containing ten stamps arranged in two rows of five.
Cylinder Numbers: 7895, 7896, 7897 and 7898.
Sheet Size: 510 x 705mm comprising ten sheetlets arranged in five rows of two.
Quantity: 25 000 sheetlets.
Commemorative Cover: 7.95, standard size, of which 8 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.82, Pretoria 07.07.2005.

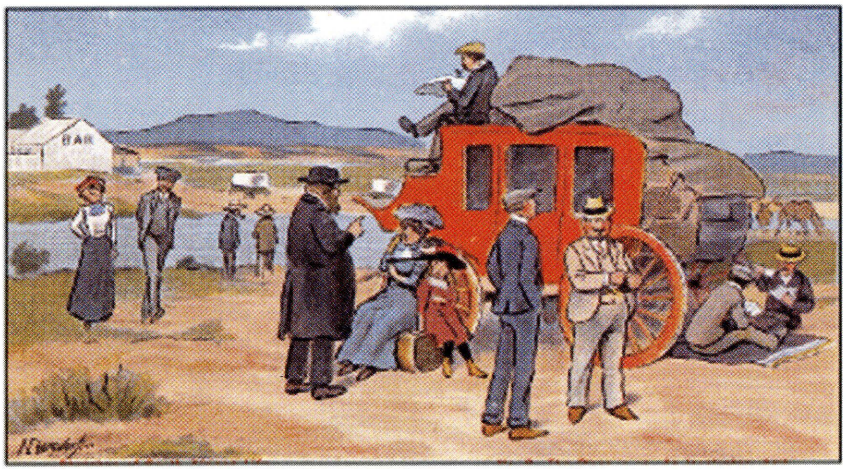
15 July 2005 - SMALL INDIGENOUS ANIMALS (JUNASS)

Denominations: 6 x Standard Postage Rate (R1.77).
Artwork: Chris van Rooyen.
Printer: Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Process: Offset Lithography.
Format/ Size: Miniature sheet, 144.5 x 90mm incorporating six stamps depicting small indigenous animals found in South Africa, of three different sizes. Two of size 24.3 x 60mm (Lesser bushbaby and Yellow mongoose); two of size 24.3 x 30mm (Riverine rabbit and Cape fox); and two of sixe 48.6 x 30mm (African wildcat and Steenbok).
Perforation: 14 by Bickel S perforator.
Gum: PVA tasteless tropical.
Phosphor: Yellow-green 4mm band on bottom and left margins of each stamp.
Cylinder Numbers: 7887, 7888, 7889 and 7890.
Sheet Size: 520 x 710mm comprising ten miniature sheets arranged in five rows of two.
Quantity: 30 000 miniature sheets.
Commemorative Cover: 7.91 of standard size of which 8 000 were produced.
Canceller: 7.79 2005.07.15 Bloemfontein.

Acknowledgements: The above information was collated from the newsletters of the RSA Stamp Study Group of Pretoria, and also *SETEMPE*.



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Dr. J. R. Frank, RDPSA FRPSL HLFPS of J

Fifty Years of Membership of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

By R. von Varendorff, President of PS of J

The PS of Johannesburg devoted its meeting on 23 August 2005 honouring one of its most outstanding and active members, Dr. Joachim R. "Achi" Frank. When he joined the Society in July 1955 stamp collecting was a far more widespread hobby than it is today (remember, there were neither computers nor television then): the PS of J had over 500 members and there was even an active Junior Section, to which he belonged. In his speech Dr. Frank gave us a brief insight into the stamp scene of those heady days: the leadership of the Society under Dr. J. Harvey Pirie, the stamp dealers operating in Johannesburg (Robertson, Hoffman and Osborne among others), his mentors Geoffrey Schoyer and Fanie Vermaak RDPSA and the way stamps were collected then.

It was Mr. Schoyer who encouraged his interest in the stamps of Canada, an interest and a fascination, which he has kept all his life and which has led him to assemble one of the best collections of Canada. The members and friends of the Society, who came to honour Dr. Frank, were privileged to see a selection of this collection which he had brought to the meeting. A truly magnificent display of rare stamps - with most shown on cover as well.

A particular field of Interest of Achi Frank is the mail of the Canadian Contingent which took part in the Anglo-Boer (Second



South African) War. After tea he put up a selection of mail from and to these troops; something rarely seen. However, Dr. Frank's philatelic interests are not limited to Canada alone. From his widespread collection he also brought along a collection of South African Maritime Postal Markings on cover. This is another difficult field of S.A. philately of which he is very fond. Some of the items displayed are discussed on page 148.

The members of the Society have learnt to value Dr. Frank's equanimity and friendliness, but most of all we appreciate his remarkable ability to pass on his enthusiasm for philately to others. This ability stems not only from his pride in his own superb collection but also from his vast knowledge of stamps (he has won the Inter-Society Quiz many times over). He is always prepared to answer questions and help other philatelists.

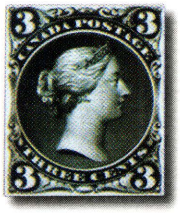
For many years Dr. Frank served the Society in various capacities, including as President, and is still on the Committee today. The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg is truly privileged and thankful to count such an eminent and dedicated member in its ranks.

Unfortunately, in life happiness is often tinged with sadness somewhere. Thus, while the PS of J was honouring one of its stalwarts it has to mourn the passing away of three of its senior members, Bertie Simpkins, Derek Reeves and most recently, Jonas Michelson, who joined the Society in 1936 and was its Honorary Life President.

We will miss them.



Canada - 1868 issue on 12 june 1871 cover from Montreal to Plymouth, England. Eight cents British packet rate via New York. Oval red cachet of United States despatch agent. B.F. Stevens. London. (shown at 75% of actual size)



Canada - 1868 - Die Essay of 3 cents value in blue-green



Canada - 1868 - Pair of colour trial plate proofs of 3 cents value in dull purple.



Canada - 1890 - Small Queen issue mint imprint block of six cents plate "C"

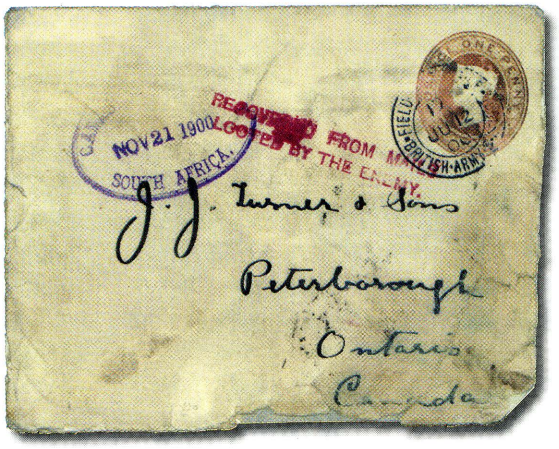
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Canadian Contingents in the Second Anglo-Boer War

By Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA, FRPSL, HLFPS of J, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Mail from and to the 6000 Canadians serving in the British forces during this conflict has always been of interest. A cover sent from Field Post Office 17 at Karee on 12 June 1900 was intercepted by the Boers and eventually recovered by British forces. It bears a red handstamp "RECOVERED FROM MAILS LOOTED BY THE ENEMY" and a violet cachet of the Canadian Contingent applied at the Cape Town Base Post on 21 November 1900. The cover has a Peterborough backstamp (Fig.1.).

An impressive YMCA Patriotic cover from Field Post Office 32 at Donkers Hoek, endorsed "On active service stamps unobtainable", sent on 14 August 1900, passed through the Base Post Office on 18 August 1900 (Fig.2.).



(Fig.1.)



(Fig.2.)

South African Maritime Postal Markings

The British Ship Letter Act of 1815, repealed in 1819, increased the rates of postage to and from the Cape and the East Indies. The Cape Town post office was issued with a dated handstamp inscribed "Cape of Good Hope Packet Letter". It was South Africa's first dated handstamp. A cover rated 10 shillings and 6 pence, an enormous sum a the time, to London is shown (Fig.3.).

An interesting cover with Mauritian franking to Durban, with Durban Maritime markings is shown in Fig.4. While the regulations stated that mail had to be delivered to the post office the port of arrival immediately on docking, the cover was sent to the Union-Castle Agency in Durban. It bears an endorsement of "This letter was received per Ship's Box. The Union-Castle-Mail Steamship Co. Ltd. Natal agency, Durban".

The Paquebot cancel has been applied over the shipping line handstamp and the postmark is that of Point 3 July 1909.



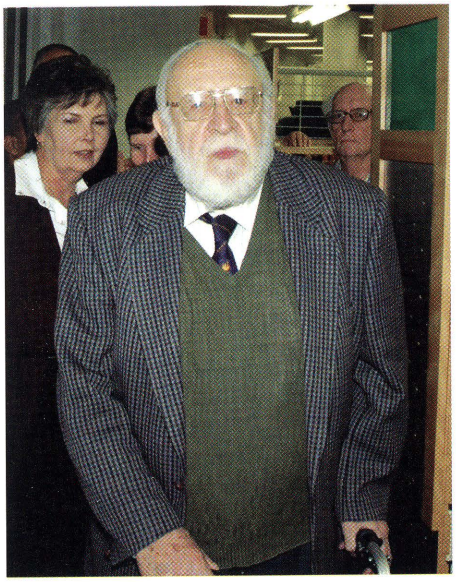
(Fig.3.)



(Fig.4.)

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Jonas "Mike" Michelson, RDPSA (1917-2005)



It is difficult to think of anyone who could have done more in their lifetime to further the hobby of philately in South Africa than Jonas. This was the man of whom, on his election to the top post in Federation in 1987, Joh Groenewald wrote "Our new President is indeed worthy of the title 'Mr.Philately', and we are proud to bestow that title". Since his death after an operation on 25 August, the office of the *S.A.Philatelist* has received numerous tributes to Jonas, not the least from Philip Robinson of the *Rossica Society of Russian Philately* in Europe who highlighted his collections of both Latvia, his "home" country, and of Russia as well as the fact that he had printed and published *"The Postal History of Imperial Russia in Pro-Independent Latvia"* as recently as 1995.

Jonas was, in fact, born in the Ukraine but grew up in Riga, the capital of Latvia, and followed his father to South Africa in 1934. Although awards for his Latvia collection ranged from a Certificate of Participation at Jipex (as a junior) in 1936 to a gold medal in Port Elizabeth in 1962, it is perhaps for his tireless work on the administrative side of the hobby that Jonas will best be remembered.

His association with the organisation of philately in South Africa began in 1952 when he was appointed as both Treasurer and Secretary of Federation. Half a century later, he set the incredible record of attending fifty consecutive annual congresses of the national body. He was chosen to be President of Federation in 1987 and, after completing his term of office, he was elected unanimously to the position of Honorary Life President.

The S.A.Philatelist also owes Jonas an enormous debt of gratitude. At various times he held the positions of Business Manager, Advertising Manager, Editor, Printer and even sponsor. It seems unlikely that the journal would even have remained in print without the time and effort that he lavished upon it.

Even during the last few months of his life he remained a highly respected and valued member of the Editorial Board of the new-look *S.A.Philatelist* and, when no longer sufficiently mobile to attend committee meetings, continued to check and edit contributions to the magazine within the confines of his apartment.

He chaired the organising committees of the National Exhibitions held in Johannesburg in 1969 (ZAR100) and in 1977 (Rand77) and was invited to serve on numerous committees aimed at the improvement of the standards of philately in South Africa. His dedication to the hobby was rewarded in 1965 when he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa.

In the 1980s, he was an active member of the Military Mail Study Group and, perhaps not surprisingly, accepted recently the role of Patron of the newly formed South African World War II Study Group. The South African Philatelic Dealer's Association (SAPDA), the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society, possibly among others, were all pleased to be able to bestow Honorary Life Membership on Jonas.

He could also boast a forty-year membership of the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging. He even found time to collaborate, with Dr Tom Berry, on a history of the Federation from 1928 to 1973, a publication that he updated, with the help of Howard Godwin, in 1987 for distribution at the Congress of 1988.

Other awards, at national or society level, included the Skinner Cup, the W.E.Lea Cup, the Ernest Hunt Cup and, from the Latvia Philatelic Society, a floating trophy and a Gold medal for services to the philately of that country.

Amazingly enough, Jonas led an extremely active double life being an enthusiastic member of the Rand Light Infantry Regimental Association, having seen active service in North Africa during the Second World War and holding the position of Honorary Life Vice-President of the Springbok Legion as well as being the Editor of their journal, *The Springbok*.
He was widowed, tragically, after a robbery at their home in 1994 and it is our earnest hope that Jonas and Rene are now happily reunited.

C.M.M.

Addenda to the August issue

As it had not been possible to publish the photographs of Bertie Simpkins and Helmuth Hagen whose obituaries appeared in the last issue of *The South African Philatelist*, (August 2005, Vol 81 No 4), their images are now included.



Helmuth Hagen passed away 26 May 2005



Bertie Simpkins passed away 21 June 2005

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Russian Intrigue

By Chris Mobsby, RDPSA, FRPSL, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The cover shown might well fulfil Franco Frescura's requirements as alluded to in his article on the "Ah Factor" as related in the August 2005 edition of the SA Philatelist.

Certainly, the handsome, three-colour, 24-kopeck franking makes it aesthetically pleasing as do the bold cancellations of Odessa (4 Nov 1871) and the transit mark, in blue, of Strasbourg on the French side of the German border that is dated 21 November 1871. However, that already raises a question. Why would such a letter have spent more than two weeks in transit between Russia and France?

The answer, of course, is that it didn't. Until 1918, Russia adhered to the Julian calendar that was thirteen days behind the Gregorian calendar as used in most of Europe. Thus, in this particular case, only four days elapsed between dispatch and delivery. The name of the forwarding agent in the blue, oval handstamp on the left of the cover defies attempts at deciphering although it can be seen to have been applied in Odessa.

To the right of the address there is what appears to be a partial "A over PD" handstamp which, it is surmised, indicates that the letter was prepaid to its destination (French : Payé A Destination). Partially overlying this strike, or so it seems, there is a maroon oval handstamp in the Cyrillic alphabet with the lettering reading "ФРАНКИРОВАНО". Could this be a railway marking indicating its passage over the Carpathian Mountains in Romania en route to Austria? There are certainly transit marks on the reverse of the cover applied in Wien, that is to say Vienna, and clearly dated 19 November and the receiving mark of Paris on the same day that it passed through Strasbourg, 21 November. All in all, a quite intriguing cover.



(Shown at 75% of actual size)

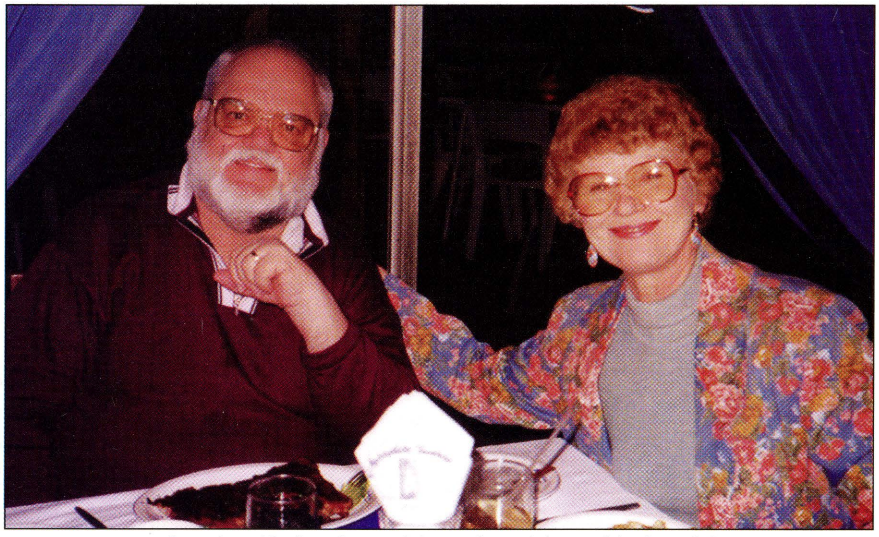
The Derrick A. Byrom Legacy

Federation has been most honoured to have received this legacy, an unequalled collection of postmarks and postmark data of Zimbabwe covering 20 years from independence in 1980. This legacy was offered by Mrs Barbara Byrom to Federation in memory of her late husband, for safe keeping and to be made available to interested persons for reference, research and publication purposes.

Derrick Byrom was born in Rhodesia on 12 June 1938 and died on 9 November 2000. He was the accountant of a correspondence college in Harare which enabled him to access and save numerous items and postal markings which had never been heard of by fellow members of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society of which Derrick was President in 1987/89. He was also exchange superintendent of that society from 1985 to 2000 where he had first access to approval booklets entered by members and others.

This collection is well organised and the principal part consists of firstly 14 albums arranged alphabetically with at least one page per office, each with postmark cut-outs and on cover, and secondly a manuscript (with a copy on diskette) detailing the postmarks at each office complete with a typology. There is much additional material to support the main collection.

Federation's thanks are also due to our Hon Life Vice President, Joh Groenewald RDPSA, for facilitating this legacy and for providing an extensive description which is summarised above. Any members interested in viewing this collection should register their interest with Federation's Librarian, Dave Wigston, at wigstdj@unisa.ac.za



Derrick and Barbara Byrom, the compiler and donor of the Derrick Byrom Collection of Zimbabwe Postmarks 1980 – 2000.

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The Bridge - How Far?

By Dr Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society

Over the years, man has developed by exploration, trade, communication and even war. These activities have promoted, and in turn been promoted by the development of the bridge. As man has progressed, so has the science of bridge building, responding to the demands for greater capacity and longer spans. In this attempt to assess how bridge building has progressed, the criterion chosen as the yardstick is the maximum span. Long spans have always been sought after to give minimum obstruction below the bridge deck in the form of piers and supports, and obviously, to be able to clear the widest obstacles.

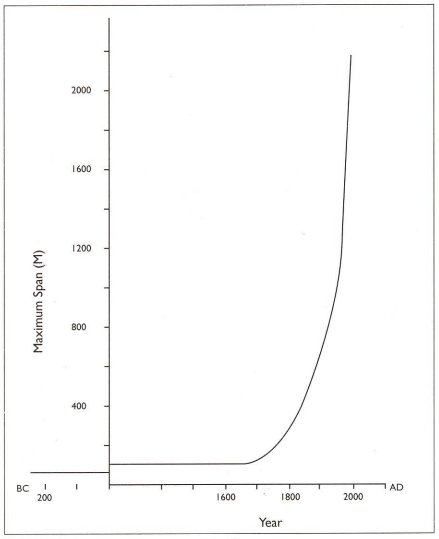
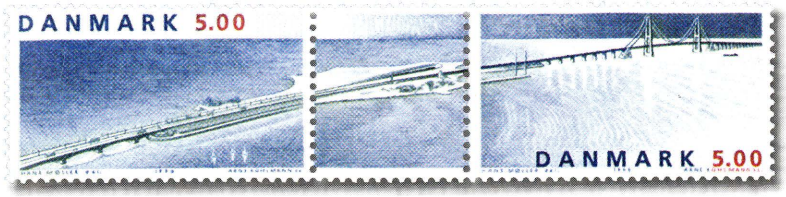


Fig.1.

Fig.1, illustrates the change in the maximum span shown by bridges over the Centuries. From before Roman times up to the mid 18th Century, the available materials, that is, stone (later brick), and wood have limited the spans achievable. Over a period of almost 1800 years, bridges had increased in length from less than 20m to just under 100m. Only in the last 300 years, with the advent of steel and to a lesser degree concrete, has any progress of consequence been made, and in this relatively short period the rate of change has been almost exponential in nature. These materials have allowed the expertise and ingenuity of engineers and designers to flourish beyond all previous imagination. However, when faced with a graph of this shape, the questions which need to be asked are whether this rate of increase can continue, and what are the factors which will limit it?



The first bridges were in all probability derived from fallen trees, and later from trees felled deliberately. These were the first beam bridges, with spans of 10 to 15m at most (2). In reality, the span was the height of a tree that could be felled and manhandled into position. The cantilever principle increased the span, and combined cantilever and beam bridges of 30m or more have been reported from China, Nepal and other regions of Asia (3).

The first bridges of any length were suspension bridges developed in the East and based on load bearing cables of plaited bamboo, 50mm in diameter. The deck was invariably laid on these cables rather than suspended from them as is current practice. Spans of 60m were achieved in this way (4). Archeological evidence indicates that the Maya civilisation of Mexico had bridges of 180m span in the 7th Century probably using plaited vines (liana) as cables. A variation is the basket bridge which had the deck structure made of vines woven around the suspension cables (5). These are still found in South America, Nepal, northern India and other remote area with spans up to 100m being not uncommon.

Natural arches, worn by water and/or wind erosion, were used where they existed, but obviously, these were not available to order. A prime example is the Puente del Inca in the Andes whose 30m span was used until 1910 by mule cavalcades transferring passengers between rail-heads in the Cumbre Pass on the Chile and Argentine border (6).

Arch bridges, inspired by natural arches, but developed from beam bridges were the last to appear. The arch first appeared as a structural feature in Mesopotamia in the third century BC, but was considerably refined by the Romans who were the first serious bridge builders in the Western world. They developed the arch ring, comprised of wedge-shaped stones (voussoirs), locked in place by a keystone. The arch was semicircular, a design which transferred the weight to the piers and foundations and allowed each arch to be self-supporting (7), The disadvantage of this design is that the aspect ratio, i.e. the ratio of rise to span, is 0.5, which means that large spans are not possible as the height of the roadway cannot always be accommodated. Roman bridges are characterised by small arches, up to about 30m, rather than large ones (8).



In Europe, the period 150 to 1200 AD was the dark age in terms of bridge building. The decline of Roman influence resulted in a loss of technical expertise and skills. Development was non-existent, maintenance suffered, the use of stone declined, and such bridges as were built were often in timber. Being a non-durable material, little now remains from this period for the engineering historian.

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However, in the East, 6th Century Chinese engineers were building bridges with aspect ratios of only 0.27. The An Chi bridge (9), had a rise of only 13m with a span of 48m, and open spandrels, a feature used in the West only much later.

From the 12th Century onwards, stone returned as a structural medium and the design of bridges improved aesthetically but unfortunately for the record book with little improvement in span. Packhorse bridges went higher, to give room for river traffic, but spans were still limited. Gothic arches, popular in medieval times, achieved the same result and looked more attractive (10). Multi radius arches appeared in the 15th and 16th Centuries in the form of elliptical, parabolic and segmented arches (11). Whilst all were functional and attractive, spans did not increase beyond 60 to 70m.

Whilst stone was the major constructional material after about 1200 AD, wood was by no means out of favour, particularly in rural areas. The trestle continued to be the easiest and the preferred design, and many fine examples exist both in Europe and the East. In the 16th Century Italian Andrea Palladio developed the truss, and the principle of the king- and queen-post and of applying this to bridge construction. His initial efforts produced spans of 30m which were later extended to 60m. Unfortunately, his thesis on trusses and design lay neglected until the late 18th Century. In the 1700s short span timber arches were common in Japan, but it was in Europe and the States that the real advances were made.

By 1758, the Grubenmann brothers had built a timber catenary arch bridge of 119m, at Wettingen, Switzerland. In the States, Wernag threw the Colossus bridge across the Schuykill at Fairmount in 1812. True to its name, this had a span of 109m and a rise of 6.5m giving an aspect ratio of only 0.06.

Over a period of almost 2000 years the span of stone and brick arches advanced from 20m to about 100m, the record being Augusta at 97m. This would appear to be the limit, since given current design technology and the availability and ease of use of alternative materials it is improbable that this will be exceeded. The deadweight of stone arches and the massiveness of the piers and abutments necessary opposes any further development.

In Europe and the western world, the Industrial Revolution brought with it a host of new materials; cast iron was used in 1781 for the 31m span at Ironbridge in the Severn Gorge in Shropshire, England (12). Other cast iron structures followed, but the brittleness of the material was a handicap and no advance in span was achieved. In the early 19th Century wrought iron became available. The malleability and ductility of this was an immediate advantage to engineers and Telford's suspension bridge across the Menai Straits in 1826 using wrought iron chain links took the maximum span to 177m (13).

The Danube was bridged by the dark brothers in 1849, joining Buda and Pest by a similar bridge of 200m span (14).

The new materials brought with them a new breed of engineers and men of imagination who could exploit them. Telford and Brunei in Britain, Seguin (15) and Eiffel (16) in France and Fleming and Gzowski (17) in Canada all produced structures that were not only functional, but elegant and attractive, many of which are still in use. The 19th Century saw a plethora of engineering feats using wrought iron and the later development of steel. Trusses were back in fashion and in many variations: Warren, Pratt, Baltimore, K-type, Burr and Town Lattice trusses pushed bridge spans out to 230m.

Inspired by the riveted wrought iron tubes of Stevenson's Britannia Bridge, an addition to the scene in the 20th Century was the welded box girder bridge (18). Compact and economical it allowed spans up to 300m.

Major advances in materials of construction were made with the advent of concrete, reinforced at first, and later pre- and post-stressed. Spans did not significantly extend the 300m mark, but the principal advance was in designs which introduced a new grace and elegance into bridge design (19).

In terms of span, the big jump occurred in 1889 breaking the 500m barrier. Following the destruction of the first bridge across the Firth of Forth in a storm, the 519m span of the cantilever railway bridge took the world's imagination. This in turn was eclipsed in 1917 by a similar design with a 549m main span over the St Lawrence river in Canada (20), which held the world record for several years.





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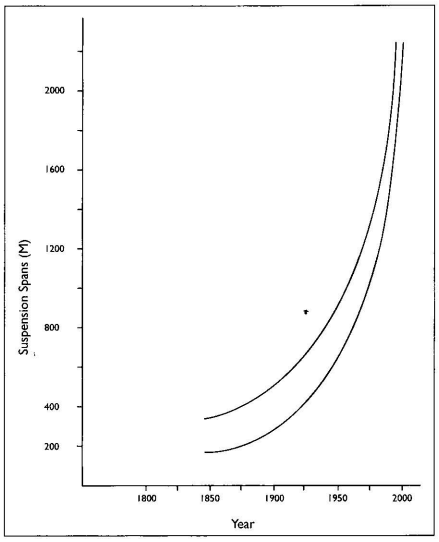


Fig.25.

In the 1930s a massive two-hinged arch (21) provided road and rail connections between Milsons Point and Dawes Point across Sydney Harbour, Australia. This, together with the Bayonne bridge and later the New River Gorge bridge created records for hinged arch bridges, although not for maximum spans. The enormous weight of steel in these structures has allowed their carrying capacity to be increased considerably over the years. More recent designs have been much lighter and graceful, albeit of shorter span (22).

In the past three or four decades, a newcomer has become popular, the cable stayed bridge, which employs a conventional box girder or concrete deck supported by cables from one or more towers (23). Whilst designs have been aesthetically pleasing, spans have not exceeded 900m.

As mentioned earlier, the plaited bamboo or liana cables used on primitive suspension bridges allowed them to outreach their fellows, and it is this same design that overshadows all others in the construction of long-span bridges today. The early work with wrought iron and even steel chain links was quickly superseded by the use of steel wire cables. These were of parallel wires laid and bound together and clamped into cables anything up to 900mm in diameter. The technique of aerial cable spinning in situ, developed in the late 19th Century, to form multi-strand parallel wire cables merely confirmed the suspension bridge as the only feasible design for ultra long spans.
The scene was set for designers and engineers like Lindenthal, Ammann (24), Freeman, and Roberts.

The graph, Fig.25., summarises the growth of the suspension bridge over the last 250 years: From 483m in 1883 (26), through 1013m in 1966 (27), and 1410m in 1981(28) to 1990m in 1998. No other design comes near to achieving such spans. By the turn of last century, the Great Belt bridge in Denmark, at 1624m, and the Akashi Kaikyo bridge in Japan, 1990m, had both created new records. However, not even these are considered as being nearing the limit. Conceptual designs are in hand for a 2000m crossing over the Sea of Marmara, Turkey, an incredible span of 3300m for the Straits of Messina and a mooted crossing of the straits of Gibraltar with a series of spans ranging from 1500m to 5000m.

It seems inconceivable to the layman that the graph of Fig.1. can continue upwards at the present rate; and that some levelling off must occur eventually. The spans suggested above are just too great to contemplate. Materials, seismic activity, curvature of the earth, aerodynamics and finance are among the factors which have to be considered in the design and construction of ultra long-span structures. Of these, the experts agree that only the last two have any real significance at the present time. Technologists assure us that materials are adequate, and engineers confirm that seismic activity and the earth's curvature are already accommodated in current design programmes and calculations. Since the Tacoma Narrows bridge disaster in 1940, wind tunnel testing of models has become standard practice to prove deck design with respect to depth, stiffness, airflow and aerodynamically induced resonance. Despite this, it is admitted that there are still many unknowns to be faced when suspended structures of between 2000m and 3000m are exposed to the vagaries of the elements, particularly the wind. This last point does nothing to reassure those of us who have doubts or phobias about traversing suspended structures over 2000m long.

Undoubtedly the most significant factor is financial rather than technical. The enormous cost of financing such structures requires complex funding - and backers require returns on their investments. Returns depend on usage and the tolls generated; witness the under-estimated usage of the Humber crossing, and the consequent low level of income generated.

Most recent bridges have been built on design/construct/operate contracts so that contractors are fully aware of all the problems. New ventures in the future will have to show indisputable viability, and this will become harder to achieve as costs continually rise.
It is possible, despite the optimism and abilities of the technical experts, that the ultra long-span suspension bridge is approaching a limit, or at least, a slowing-down in its development. How much further it can go remains to be seen. However far that may be, though, it will doubtlessly be recorded on a stamp.





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German South West Africa—A Postal History 1849-1926



1888 (19 Oct.) "Deutsche Colonial-Gesellschaft für Südwest-Afrika" envelope to Germany bearing 20 pf pair, cancelled by "Otyimbingue/Deutsch Südwest-Afrika" c.d.s.

1916 South Africa £1 block of four cancelled by "Windhoek/S.W.A." c.d.s. (16.1.22)



1885 (Sept.) envelope from "Dr. A. Schenck Walfischbai S.W. Africa" to Germany bearing St. Helena 3d on 6d and 6d pair applied in transit

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1896 registered envelope to Berlin bearing 20pf pair, cancelled by manuscript "Cape Cross/Deutsch Südwest/Afrika/14.III.96", with provisional registration label



1914 first flight Usakos to Karibib



1914 (18 July) piece bearing 5pf pair cancelled by "Omitara/(Deutsch-Sudwestafrica)" c.d.s., one of the great cancellation rarities of German Southwest Africa

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Paper Jewels

By Howard Green RDPSA, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The 18th Asian International Stamp Exhibition was held in Taipei, Taiwan from 19 to 24 August 2005. The exhibition was held under the patronage of F.I.A.P. with F.I.P. recognition. There were 213 competitive exhibits in 1556 frames. 22 countries participated including 8 entries from South Africa.

Howard Green (Juror and Commissioner) and Emil Minnaar (assistant Commissioner) attended the F.I.A.P. Congress as delegates plus a seminar on Postal History. South African customs and other formalities for temporary export of exhibits are becoming more stringent with a permit now also required from the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

Judging took place over a period of three long days. The standard of judging by the jury of 26 jurors and 8 apprentices was extremely high with knowledgeable jurors for every class of exhibit. The depth of knowledge shown for each and every exhibit was surprising and it is important for more South African judges to be exposed to this level of judging.

The organization of the entire exhibition was excellent with great emphasis placed on punctuality. The exhibition was in the Taipei World Trade Centre Exhibition Hall. Attendance was overwhelming with people apparently queuing from 3:00am for the 10:00am opening on day 1. The hospitality of the Chinese was marvelous from arrival to departure. No expense was spared with the exhibition being totally funded by the Philately Department of Chunghwa Post Company.

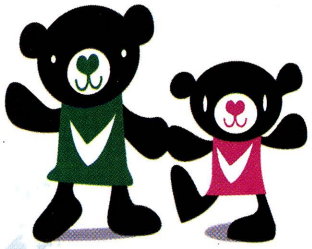
Chunghwa Post Co. (Chinese Post) who were the main sponsor of the event, provided funding of approximately R8 million. Twenty-two countries took part in the Taipei 2005 Stamp Exhibition showing off their distinctive colours when the six-day exhibition opened at the Taipei World Trade Centre Exhibition Hall on the 19th August.

There were more than 138 booths at the exhibition hall representing Postal Administrations and Dealers who catered mainly for stamp collectors rather than serious philatelists. Stamp dealers at the show promoted many items of a thematic nature but one US booth featuring a "Large Dragon" set of stamps from the Qing Dynasty attracted a lot of collectors on the opening day.

The Logo and Mascots of Taipei 2005

The logo is the Taipei 101 tower, the world's tallest skyscraper which is demonstrating Taiwan's new vibrancy.

The Formosan black bear, which is indigenous to Taiwan, had been chosen as the mascot of the exhibition. An affectionate Bear couple, the larger of the two bears is known as 'Big Bear' and the smaller as 'Sister Peach'.



The 'Lion Head' shown is dancing to welcome guests.



Among the 1,556 frames on display and of extreme importance in Asian philately were the "Flying Geese" stamps issued in the early 1950s, the unique Flying Dragon postage stamps for express-mail items used during the Qing Dynasty and the rare "Red Colour" revenue stamps currently estimated to be worth around R20 million.

But it was the personalized greeting stamps and postcards featuring popular model Lin Chi-ling that sold like hot cakes, with a long queue forming outside the exhibition hall before the show's opening. Of only 10,000 printed, 2500 of the Lin postcards were for sale during the exhibition. Many of Lin's fans arrived at the convention centre early the previous morning to make sure they got hold of one of the personalised stamps and postcard sets.

During the event, Chunghwa Post donated 10,000 gifts by prize draw. Visitors also had the opportunity to have their own personalised stamps and postcards made. To introduce the beauty of Taiwan and its unique characteristics, Chunghwa Post issued a series of eight separate souvenir sheets before and during the exhibition.

Philatelic Rarities on display

The sponsors purchased R400 million worth of insurance cover for the rare and valuable stamps on display.

- Mauritius: The most famous stamps in the world – by courtesy of Mr. David Feldman. 1847 Post Office issue One Penny red and Two Pence blue – the only known die proof, both values in final original colours.
- India: Asia's first stamp - by courtesy of Mr. David Feldman. 1852 - ½ Anna Scarlet "Scinde Dawks" unused "Scinde Dawks" were issued in a rare embossed form on white paper, blue paper and on Red Wax. Inscribed "Scinde Dawk District", "Dawk" meaning "Post" it confirmed the postal use. In the centre is the logo of the East India Company, with the talismanic "4" above. The red wax examples always have tiny imperfections due to their obvious delicate nature also by courtesy of Mr Feldman.



1852 - ½ Anna Scarlet "Scinde Dawks

By 1852 Sir Henry Bartle Frere, appointed commissioner of Sind, had put the district on the road to prosperity.



1847 Mauritius Post Office issue One Penny red and Two Pence blue

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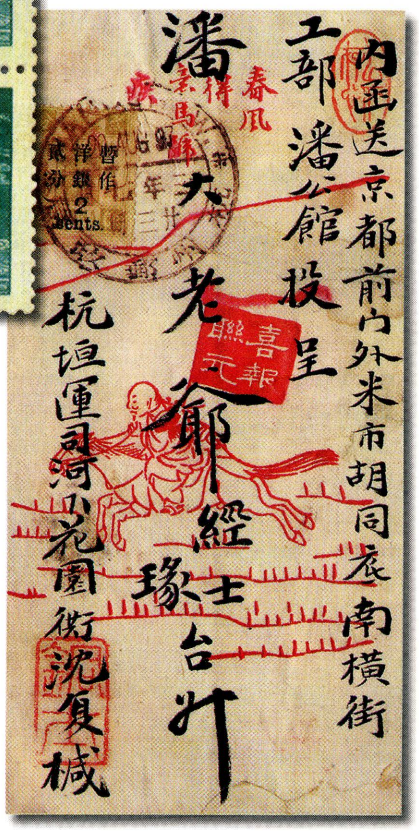
He recognised the importance of the posts and issued postage stamps. They were not only the first stamps issued in the Indian subcontinent, but in the whole of Asia.

Only two known unused examples of this stamp are known. This one originates from the famous collection of Maurice Burrus.



Left: Block of six "Flying Geese" issue.

Below: 1897 cover from Hangchow to Peking (60% of original size).



• China: Block of six of the "Flying Geese" issue overprinted with small characters, containing one "200" double overprinted on top right stamp. 1897 domestic cover from Hangchow to Peking. Affixed a 2c large figure, surcharged Dowager, cancelled by Hangchow dollar Imperial dater.

South African Exhibitors

Eight South African exhibitors fared very well, achieving the following results:

Traditional

• Michael Wigmore RDPSA
Natal - the Victorian Era Stamps of Perkins Bacon & De La Rue – Gold (91) plus Special prize

• Lutz Heffermann
Cape of Good Hope Rectangular Issues 1864 - 1904 – Gold (90)

• Patrick Flanagan
The Small Arms of Rhodesia (BSAC) 1892 - 1912 – Large Vermeil (86)

• Ian Matheson
Malaya - State of Kelantan – Vermeil (83)

• Daniel Scheepers
Madagascar – Vermeil (84)

Postal History

• Herwig Kussing
During the Inflation Period from 1919 - 1823 – Vermeil (80)

• Emil Bührmann
To Pay – Large Silver (78)

Aerophilately

• Neville Polakow
South African Airmails – Large Vermeil (88)
Plus Special prize (Best in class)

President's Column

Wondering what to write for this final article and thumbing through recent magazines, my eye was caught by a discussion in the *American Philatelist* entitled `The State of our Hobby' by Wade C. Saadi, a `Director-at-Large' of the APS. (p678 August 2005).

Wade Saadi has e-mailed to give me permission to quote him, and this I would like to do. He starts his article with comments about life as it was in the 1950's when stamp collecting was the King of Hobbies (and my Saturday mornings were spent taking a 2½d bus ride to Stanley Gibbons). Nowadays, he goes on to say, subscriptions to magazines that deal with the hobby have declined. The average age of collectors has increased and he adds `Stamp stores are all but gone'.

All too familiar laments, to be sure, but Wade then goes on to suggest what should be done about it. And this is where my interest was really aroused. Here are some of his ideas:-

1). Support existing youth programmes, check out their websites as well as other children friendly sites. He lists several and I quote one at random: Stamp Collecting for kids: http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/8406/

2). Engage your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews etc. in the hobby. Get them started at an early age. Supply them with stamps, let them enjoy the experience of completing sets. Wade adds an important point "Let them decide what to collect".

3). Help foster a "Youth Programme" in your stamp club, religious fraternity, local cubs/scouts, YMCA etc.

4). Have a Youth Day at your stamp club; make it interesting, capture their attention and imagination.

5). Kids love computers and the Internet: Go 'on-line' with them to the National Postal Museums website and do a tour.

He ends by saying:

Just consider the pleasure you derive from collecting and let that be your motivation to do something to encourage others into the hobby. If we each create ONE new collector, a giant step will have been taken towards perpetuating a pastime that has given us so much.

During the course of writing these columns I have exhorted collectors in South Africa to do much the same thing. I therefore close this series with the hope that action will be taken. In the same way I expect Wade Saadi hopes for the same thing.

Fellow collectors, lets face facts.. it is VERY DEFINITELY up to us to make a difference. You CAN and SHOULD do so.

David Sinclair



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Of a Lower Caste

By Chris Mobsby, RDPSA, FRPSL, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

The title that I have chosen for this episode of an irregular series of articles on the local stamps of the World is not one to which I myself subscribe. It is, however, a widely held opinion that the majority of stamps that were not issued by a member of the Universal Postal Union are "beyond the pale" and should not, therefore, appear alongside the likes of the Penny Black, the Cape Triangular, Hermes Heads or Montevideo Suns. Nevertheless, it is my earnest hope that these notes will help in convincing you, the reader, that there is some merit in the likes of the Russian Zemstvos, the Mount Currie Express, Tierra del Fuego and the Chinese Treaty Ports. Certainly, I have tried to limit my selection, both in my collection and in these articles, to those stamps that served genuine postal services, albeit beyond the ambit of governmental jurisdiction. In doing so, I hope that I will be able to introduce you to some of the romance and intrigue, the history and significance of that branch of Cinderella philately devoted to local posts.

Although, as I have said, these notes constitute an irregular contribution to the *S.A.Philatelist*, they have tended to slot into a fairly consistent pattern. In each article I have discussed and illustrated a dozen local authorities of which, to emphasise the validity of this division of our hobby, four have been pictured on cover. In the last episode (August 2005), I promised to bring to your attention the British Railway Administration in China, the Wells Fargo Pony Express and the German Fieldpost in Tunis. In 1900, Indian stamps were overprinted for the Expeditionary Force (C.E.F.) that had been despatched to suppress the Boxer Rebellion in China. Similar issues were made for the garrisons between 1904 and 1909 and again from 1913-1920. The cover shown (fig.1) also bears an 1898 issue of China surcharged "Five Cents" and overprinted "B.R.A." for British Railway Administration. These stamps were used for the collection of a late letter fee on letters posted in a railway postal van. The special canceller reads "Railway Post Office Tientsin" - other offices were set up at Peking, Tongku, Tongshan and Shanhaikwan. The system was in operation officially for one month only - from 20 April to 20 May 1901. Strikes on the reverse of the cover read "PASS OFFICE P 10 MY.01 8.A.M." and, secondly, "F.P.O. No[4] 11 MY.01" which fall neatly into the period during which the service was in operation. There is, perhaps, some doubt as to whether or not this stamp with the "B.R.A." overprint constitutes a local issue. Although it could, apparently, be affixed to official correspondence, its use in general was limited to mail already franked with Indian stamps overprinted "C.E.F.", stamps of other allied contingents or, to a limited extent, by the civilian population, with issues of the Chinese Imperial Post.

Thus, its validity was certainly limited, one of my definitions of a local post.

Wells, Fargo & Company took over the well-known Pony Express in 1861. The company, then ten years old, owed its name to its founders, William George Fargo and Henry Wells. Mail carried by the service was transported on horseback between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California. The distance of some two thousand miles was covered in ten days. A government contract for carrying the mail on a route that included San Francisco, Sacramento, Placerville and Virginia City was implemented in April 1861. Mail for these destinations was carried in the company's pre-paid envelopes, 10 cents for the first ½ounce and 10 cents for each additional ½ounce.



Fig.4. (Shown at 60% of actual size)



Fig.5.

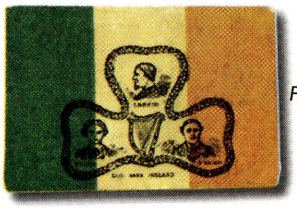


Fig.6.



Fig.1. (Shown at 75% of actual size)



Fig.2.



Fig.3.

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Fig.7. (Shown at 60% of actual size)



Fig.9.

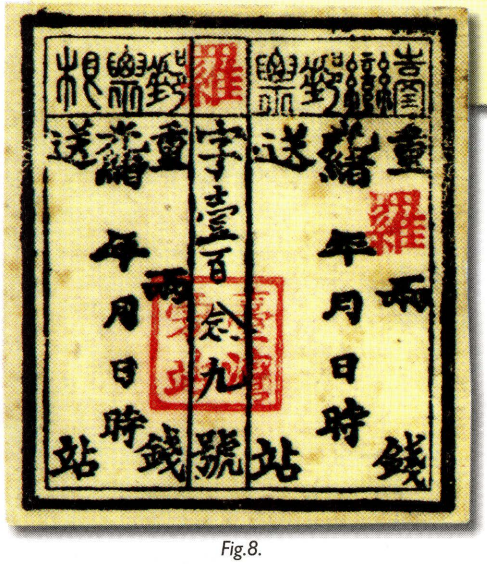


Fig.8.

For destinations outside the limit of the contract, an additional $2 per ½ounce was raised and this charge was catered for by the issue on 1 April of $2 and $4 stamps. The mint block of four shown (fig. 2) appeared in July 1861 when the postal rate was halved to $1 per ½ounce. Other mail routes operated by the company extended as far north as British Columbia, to northern Mexico in the south and right across the country from New York to San Francisco. Wells Fargo amalgamated with a number of other companies in 1918 to form the American Railway Express Company.

Between 1942 and 1945, Germany issued stamps for a number of its post offices in the field in and around the Mediterranean. Commonly, these depicted a transport aeroplane or the German eagle. However, a distinctive design including a palm tree and a swastika was used for the issue of March 1943 for the German Fieldpost in Tunis during the North African campaign. The stamps could only be used on parcels from Tunis to Germany for which service a regular 20-pfennig stamp was also required. Some 800 000 copies of the stamp were printed but of these about 600 000 were destroyed. The copy shown (fig.3) is unusual in that it incorporates a vertical paper join some 5½ millimetres from the left-hand side of the stamp.

During the last few months of the British Mandate over Palestine, hostilities between Arabs and Jews led to the establishment of eight local postal services, four of which used Jewish National Fund labels with the Hebrew overprint "Do'ar" meaning Post.
The agricultural settlement of Rishon-le-Zion (First of Zion) was a Jewish enclave and was surrounded by Arab encampments during this so-called interim period. A daily mail service to and from Tel Aviv was maintained by using an armoured car for which a charge of 40 mils per letter was levied. The service ran from 5 April to 7 May 1948 and distinctive stamps were sold at a workers' restaurant in the village. The cover shown (fig.4) was carried on the day before the service closed and ten days before the national Hebrew Post ("Do'ar Ivri") came into operation. Interestingly, this was not the first stamp to be produced in the name of Rishon-le-Zion or Rischon-Le-Zion as it was spelt in 1904. On that occasion, the stamp, which bore the Star of David and an inscription in Hebrew, represented a fee of 10-paras entitling mail to which it was affixed to be delivered locally by the Austrian Levant Post Office. It is believed, however, that the prime reason for the issue of the stamp was to raise money for the Jewish National Fund.

Between 1929 and 1946, many stamp-issuing authorities arose in China as the Communists whittled away at the Nationalist influence. My own checklist includes nearly seventy of these enclaves. Close to provincial boundaries, they were known as Border Areas. One such authority was the Su-Chung Area of Central Kiangsu north of Shanghai for which the overprint shown (fig. 5) indicated that the stamp was for internal use only.

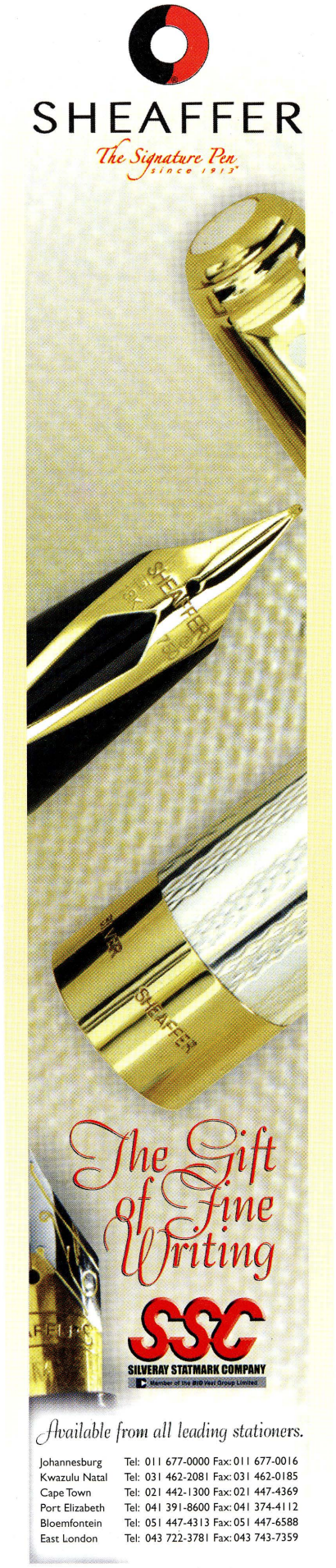
I must own up to some reservations about including the next item. The Sinn Fein labels (fig. 6) portraying the Manchester Martyrs - Allen, Larkin and O'Brien - were produced by Irish rebels in 1916 and although primarily for propaganda purposes their postal use has been recorded. This particular copy was found in the rubble of a demolished museum in Gloucestershire. At that stage it was mounted on a cardboard plaque on which it was stated that it had been recovered from Liberty Hall (Dublin) during the Irish Rebellion.

International Airlines Limited operated a short-lived airmail service between London and Plymouth via Portsmouth and Southampton, a service known as the Western Air Express. The first flight cover shown (fig. 7) was signed by the pilot, S.L.A.Scott, and originating as it did from Croydon and with no destination beyond Plymouth Airport, did not require the



Fig.10. (Shown at 75% of actual size)

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customary additional G.B. penny-halfpenny stamp to cover the cost of onward delivery.

In the first of these articles I cited the Tati Concessions one-shilling carmine as perhaps my favourite local stamp. The next item has never been very far behind. It is a mint, and thus undenominated official stamp of a type that was in use in Formosa, now Taiwan, between 1886 and 1895 and is complete with a control mark in red (fig. 8). In use, the right-hand side was affixed to the letter and the weight, charge, date and destination were inserted by hand. The left-hand portion of the stamp was retained as a counterfoil. Printing of the stamps was from a wooden die and arranged in sheets of five in the same format as the spots on dice or dominoes.

The Sociedad Colombo-Alemana de Transportes Aereos, commonly known as SCADTA, enjoyed a monopoly of internal mail services in Colombia in the 1920's and produced stamps to assist with accountancy procedures. These were available at the various international consulates and were used to frank mail destined for Colombia that was then inserted in a second envelope bearing the stamps of the country of origin. On arrival in Barranquilla, the inner letters were then extracted and airmailed to their ultimate destination. The double system of envelopes proved to be very inconvenient and eventually the U.S.A., Germany, Switzerland, Great Britain and Holland agreed that SCADTA stamps could be used alongside their own. Later, it became possible to prepay the Colombian inland fee in the country of origin and the need for the consular overprints began to fall away. A general issue appeared in 1929 but the use of the overprints has been noted as late as 1934. The fragment of a cover shown (fig.9) demonstrates the use of SCADTA overprints and national stamps in tandem. A 30-centavos overprinted "H" (Holanda) for the Netherlands and the regular Dutch issues are all tied by a boxed ship's cancel "KWLM/SS STUYVESANT" dated 16 August 1929 and by the date-stamp Barranquilla 6 September, indicative of a 21-day Atlantic crossing.

The absence of a governmental postal service in Turkey prior to 1863 gave impetus to the operations of a number of private mail carriers. One of several sea-going mail carriers was the grandly named Turkish Admiralty Steam Ship Company that served Costantinople, Broussa, the destination on the cover illustrated, and Smyrna. The adhesive on the cover illustrated (fig. 10) was in use in 1859 and 1860 and required that the appropriate fee, in this case 2 (piastres), be entered in manuscript, this also acting as a canceller. The handstamp of "P.P." with an anchor stands for Porto Pegato or Post Paid and has been ascribed to another company - Piroscafi Ottomani or the Italian Steamship Company that was known to operate out of Constantinople and to have held government mail contracts. The cognoscenti are of the opinion, however, that these two authorities were, in fact, one and the same company.

In 1896 a black, typeset label was issued in Bloemfontein for the use of the mounted police in the Orange Free State for official correspondence. The words "In Dienst" mean On Service while the letters "R.D.M." stand for the Rijdende Dienst Macht. At the end of 1899, mail of the Boer forces in the O.F.S. and the Northern Cape could be posted free of charge and the RDM label which acted as a frank has been recorded in use as late as 28 April 1900. The copy shown (fig. 11) can be identified by the yellow tinted paper as the last issue, that of 1899. The issue of 1896 included only eight lateral ornaments compared with the nine of the two later issues.

To live up to my aim of including at least two items of Southern African interest in each article, my last offering is a used copy of the semi-official stamp issued by Central African Airways that flew the mail between Salisbury, now Harare, and Bulawayo some fifty years ago. It is recorded that express letters were accepted at the two airports up to thirty minutes before each flight. The service was commenced in 1955 for which a sixpenny stamp was issued. This was increased to one shilling in 1963 but rocketed to three shillings and sixpence later the same year. One dreads to think how many thousand dollars the same service would cost if it were still running today?



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.

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Stephan Welz Record Sale

The three session sale held by Stephan Welz and Co on 2 August 2005 broke a number of records for the firm.

Firstly the auction achieved their highest total yet for a stamp sale at hammer price R3 542 670.00; add to that the buyer's premium of R531 400.50 and you have a grand total of R4 074 070.50.

Secondly the highest total for a single owner collection was achieved with the sale of the South African pictorial collection formed by the late Prof D.W. de Villiers at a gross figure of R1 931 505 (a total of 253 lots which kick-started the third session), and thirdly the highest price paid for a South African item at auction was recorded for lot 851 at R109 250. This was the block of four of the hyphenated 1/- Gnu issue with frame completely missing on the bottom pair and partly omitted on the top left stamp.

In the morning session of the auction which commenced with general/specialized collections estimates were exceeded virtually across the board: Lot 2 a general 'old time' study reached R36 800 (estimate R5000-6000) while a Rhodesian collection (lot 20) was sold for R48 300 against a pre-sale estimate of R6500-7500. A clean British Commonwealth collection (lot 26) estimated at R70000-80000 achieved R86 250.

Also in this earlier session there was a recent find of revenue documents relative to Bechuanaland which created considerable interest. The adhesives were amazingly fresh and in rare multiple frankings. The highest prices achieved were for lots 114 at R32 200 (est R16000/20000) and lot 122 R34 500 (est R25000/35000). The former document included in the franking 2 x 1/- unappropriated dies surcharged £5 while the latter had a strip of 5 of these scarce 1/- surcharges.

Better material throughout the sale did extremely well in line with what has been noted on the more recent sales overseas and items worthy of recording are indicated below:

1.) The Falkland Islands 1933 Centenary Issue £1 value in mint corner block of four R64 400 (est R26000/30000).
2.) A mint G.B. 1d Black from plate 5 R34 500 (est R24000/28000).
3.) A double vertical row of 20 Orange Free State stamps overprinted V.R.I. and showing varying degrees of an inverted double printing of the basic stamp R10 925 (est R3000/4000).
4.) A £1 Rhodesian Double head in carmine & blue-black with 'extra curl' variety R11 500 (est R7000/8000).



5.) South African 1924 Dept of Public Works essays (per front cover of the auction catalogue) R32 200 (est R16000/20000).
6.) South African 1927 1d Ship in block four showing tête-bêche variety R25 3000 (est R12000/14000).
7.) South African 1930/45 1d Ship issue in mint block of ten (2 x 5) with three central pairs completely missing frames and two outside pairs frames partly omitted R43 700 (est R35000/40000).
8.) The South African £1 King's head issue pale olive-green & red in top right corner control block of four R51 750 (est R20000/25000).

The results can only be good for the whole stamp market.

Prices indicated include buyers commission.

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to member's; concludes with details of Journals listed.

"Journey to the Past: The Camel Post to Mier" by Werner Seeba and "The Mier Camel Post Told by the Postmaster-General's Annual Reports" by Peter Thy, *Forerunners*, no 51, November-February, 2004/5, pp 74-77.

2. "The Beginning of Airmail Services" by H.U. Bantz, *Forerunners*, no 51, November-February, 2004/5, pp 82-84.

3. "Revisiting the SWA Type I Forged Inverted Overprints" by Mike Tonking, *The Springbok*, Volume 53, no 2, 2005, pp 54-58.

4. "Transvaal Gold Mines & Chinese Labour" by Brian Trotter, *The London Philatelist*, Volume 114, no 1328, September, 2005, pp 250-258.

5. "A Possibly Unique Transvaal Forgery" by Alan Drysdall and John Kaupe, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, Volume 40, no 153, August 2005, pp 57-58. (Also published under the title "Transvaal £5 Forgery" in *The London Philatelist*, no 1327, July/August, 2005, pp 235-236.

6. "Albert Kuit, Postmaster Extraordinaire" by Garth Kruger, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, Volume 40, no 3 (155), 2005, pp 59-62.

7. "Letters from a Railway Telegraphist" by Alan Harley, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, Volume 40, no 3 (155), 2005, pp 63-64.

8. "Annual Reports of the Transvaal Postmaster-General, 1903-09, etc" by Joh Groenewald, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, Volume 40, no 3 (155), 2005, pp 66-74.

9. "Sallo Epstein in Durban" by Alan Harley, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, Volume 40, no 3 (155), 2005, pp 75-76.

10. "Frey & Kirsch Revisited" by Bram Leeflang, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, Volume 40, no 3 (155), 2005, pp 78-79.

11. "Seychelles: Two Early Enhanced Covers and a Dubious Mauritius 'Post Paid'" by Sue Hopson, *The London Philatelist*, no 1327, July/August, 2005, pp 194-196.

12. "Circular Framed Postal Due Markings Continued." by Jan Stolk, *Forerunners*, no 52, March-June, 2005, pp 115-118.

Journal References continued on page 168

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Elements of Federation part 3

By Dr Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society

Public Collections Sub-committee



Convenor
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Email: cachetap@lantic.net

The fact that many collections have, in the past, been donated to libraries and similar institutions is a matter for concern to Federation. The current whereabouts of several collections are unknown, as is their condition and the availability of access to the public.

The function of this Sub-committee is to compile a database of collections in public hands, and to inspect such collections to ascertain their condition, the storage facilities, level of security, etc. The Sub-committee is able to advise custodians of collections on the correct preservation conditions, ie. temperature, humidity, dust, use of protective covers etc.

A further role is to monitor, and if necessary, investigate the provenance of philatelic material coming onto the market that may have been obtained illegally from public collections. Collections in public hands are seen by Federation as part of the cultural heritage of the country and to be protected by any means available.

Philatelic Foundation of SA



Chairman
Coen Slagt RDPSA
PO Box 75894,
Lynnwood Ridge, 0040
Tel: 012 361 4507

Although not an integral part of Federation, The Philatelic Foundation is a closely associated body. Unfortunately there is generally much confusion as to the role of Foundation in the philatelic world in South Africa. Founded in 1975, Foundation is a registered Section 21 company whose prime role is the promotion of philately. To this end, it uses investment income as directed by Council. This body comprises two members each from the SA Post Office and Federation, and a further three RDPSA's elected by their peers. The last three members have no affiliation with either of the other parties and act in a Trustee type role.

The method of utilising Foundation funds, and the amounts involved, are entirely at the discretion of the Council. Although some of its members are nominated, they act solely in their private capacities and owe no allegiance to their nominating bodies. In its function of promoting philately, Foundation currently covers the production costs of *The SA Philatelist* and the rental cost of the Airborne Park storage facility. In the past it has sponsored exhibitions and funded other philatelic related activities.

New Issues Liaison Sub-committee



Convenor
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Cinda Park, 1463
Tel: 011 896 2975
Email wigstdj@unisa.ac.za

Annually the SA Post Office calls for suggestions for the designs of new stamp issues approximately two years ahead of the proposed date of issue. This Sub-committee encourages proposals and suggestions for new issues from societies and readers of *The SA Philatelist*, edits the motivations where necessary and submits them with recommendation to the Post Office Stamp Programme Committee on behalf of Federation. The Convenor represents Federation on this Committee and lobbies for acceptance of the proposed designs.

Commissioners

The concept that Commissioners at international exhibitions have an easy time is misplaced; in fact they work hard. After their appointment by Federation, they are responsible for promoting the exhibition, drumming up entries, distributing entry forms, collecting fees, organising bank clearance formalities and submitting the summary sheets to the organising committee. When entries have been accepted, they must collect the entries, ensuring suitable packaging has been given for air travel.

Ideally, all entries should travel as cabin luggage, as the Commissioner is responsible for them at all times. Usually this involves discussions and arrangements with the airline. In exceptional cases it may mean booking an extra seat and having them with him in the cabin! Customs clearance can be a nightmare, both here in South Africa and at the other end. Customs Officials are often not well informed on stamp collections and do not appreciate what exactly is involved. Thus long negotiations are not uncommon before entries are released. Sometimes officials from the organising country's philatelic world are present and can help. An added problem recently encountered is that a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency in Cape Town is now required for temporary export of such material. (With luck this only takes two months to obtain).

At the venue, the Commissioner must book in all entries, and is responsible for overseeing the correct mounting, and later dismounting, of all exhibits in his charge. He must be present when this is done. He is the focal point for liaison with the host organising committee and should be available for problem resolution at all time. Briefing sessions are held for Commisioners, with FIP announcements and other information given non-stop. Evenings are for the occasional dinner and networking with colleagues from other federations. If our Commissioner is also a juror, then he must attend jury meetings, judge entries and assist in summary activities. Generally there is little time even for viewing other exhibits. Awards made to entries are collected at the end of the exhibition, and then the whole process starts again in reverse - dismounting, packing, transport, customs, airlines, customs again, then return of entries to owner - and a report to Federation! Occasionally there is time to sightsee in the host country but this is the exception.

Promotions Committee



Chairman
Ronald Rong
PO Box 35192,
Menlo Park, 0102
Email ronald.rong@telkomsa.net

The prime instrument of the Committee is the Federation website which is currently being upgraded. The intention is that this will be an interactive site providing information not only on Federation but from which members can obtain details of Federation and Society activities on an on-going basis.

The Committee works closely with the Membership Secretary on a central database for members, with the Funding Committee and Philatelic Services on the advertising and distribution of Audio-Visual CDs and the possibility of an annual miniature sheet from the Post Office with funds accruing to Foundation. Where major exhibitions or other activities are planned the Committee is available for advice on advertising and sponsorship.

To be continued in future issues of SAP

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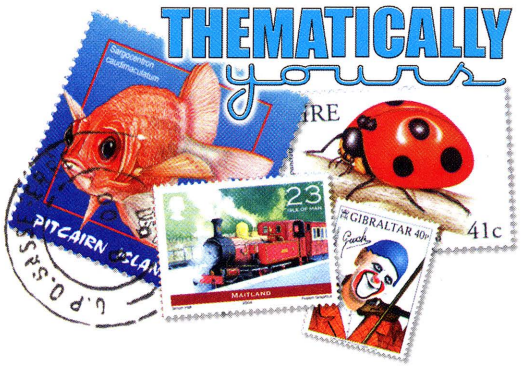
Graham Childs will be in Johannesburg October 17 and 18 and will be attending the National Stamp Show in Cape Town from October 20 to 22. He looks forward to seeing clients at these venues. Please contact him for further details.

Enquiries
Graham Childs
+44 (0) 20 7393 3890
stamps@bonhams.com

Illustrated: Boer War P.O.W. mail to Bermuda. To be offered in the 'Devonshire' Collection of Bermuda on 15 November 2005.

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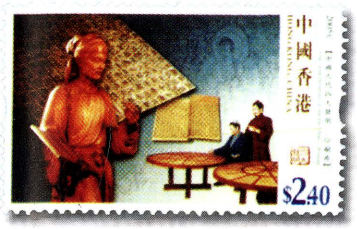
THEMES ON STAMPS

• *Greta Garbo to stage comeback.*

What wonderful news! Born in 1905, Greta Garbo is one of the biggest **MOVIE STARS** Sweden (the world!) has ever produced. Garbo launched her motion picture career with a breakthrough role in 1924. At the age of 19 she was cast in the silent movie "The Atonement of Gösta Berling". She moved to America a year later, starring in a string of major Hollywood productions that included Anna Karenina, Mata Hari, Queen Christina and (perhaps the greatest of all) Camille. Garbo was one of the few actors able to make the transition from silent film to talkies in the 1930s. In fact, her seductive voice earned her legions of fans (*I want to be alone...*). She died in 1990.



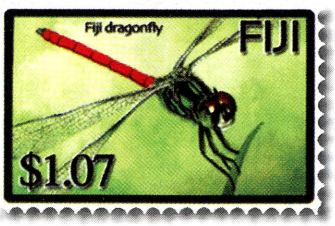
• Ancient China had an advanced understanding of the sciences of physics, engineering- chemistry and astronomy. Their numerous **DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS** have shaped the development of science and impacted on human civilizations around the world. This Hong Kong stamp features a statue of Bi Sheng, the man credited with the invention of movable type printing between AD 1041 and 1048, together with a printing plate, a book so printed and swivel compositor's trays. (And we thought Gutenberg's invention in 1453 was the greatest event since AD 1000?!)



• The new **POPE** on a stamp? Well, not actually on a stamp, but a stamp label on the miniature sheet. Pope Benedict XVI has traveled to Cologne, Germany in August 2005 to celebrate the 20th World Youth Day - this has been his first trip to his German homeland since his election as Pope on 19 April 2005. The young people have gathered to consider the theme: "We have come to worship Him", the words with which the Wise Men of the Gospel of Matthew reveal the reason for their own pilgrimage.



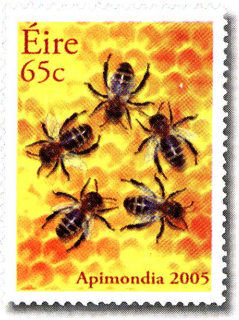
• Dragonflies and their close relatives the damselflies together make up a family of **INSECTS** called the Odonata, with about 5000 species worldwide. Dragonflies rest with their wings open, and have larger eyes and generally larger bodies than damselflies are perhaps the most attractive looking insects after various butterflies and beetles. The wings of some dragonflies are completely transparent, though all species have at least one coloured window or "stigma" at the front of each wing. The bodies and faces also come in a veritable rainbow of different colours and often different parts of the faceted eyes have different colours.



• **MARKING THE OCCASION** - a wonderful way to celebrate special occasions such as engagements, weddings, birthdays, the birth of a baby, Christmas, etc. By sending this greetings to friends, loved ones and overseas guests, you provide them with a special memento of your country (in this case Australia). This "Southern Cross" design is suitable for use by sporting clubs, entertainment and business groups.



• The international Apimondia Congress was held in Dublin from 21 to 26 August 2005. Apimondia promotes co-operation of beekeepers' associations, scientific bodies and individuals involved in apiculture worldwide. The predominant **BEE** in Ireland is the Dark European Bee (Apia mellifera). Due to the cool damp climate the beekeeping season is short, with the main honey flow occurring between mid June and the end of July. Wild flora adds to the flavour of Irish honey and in certain areas nectar sources such as lime, fuchsia and bell heather can give delicious distinctive flavours.



• **BUTTERFLIES** are in the order of insects called Lepidoptera. They are most famous for their four wings that are usually covered by coloured scales, but also have a head, thorax, abdomen, two antennae, six legs and a coiled proboscis for drinking liquids such as flower nectar. There are more than 20,000 different kinds of butterflies in the world. The majority are found in tropical environments, and butterflies are important as plant pollinators and as food for other animals (birds, mammals, spiders and other insects.)

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• The Graylag (Anser anser) lays its eggs on lowland all around Iceland and is the most common species of **GOOSE** in the country. The majority of the Icelandic stock sojourn in Scotland during winter.

The population was recently estimated at 80,000 individuals. The Graylag lays 4-6 eggs and subsists on wild and cultivated plants.



They seek out cultivated land, especially in Autumn. Graylags are widely hunted and make for excellent food. (What a shame!).

References

1. Posten Post Stamp, Sweden
2. Hong Kong Post, Hong Kong
3. Isle of Man Post, Douglas, Isle of Man
4. Philatelic Bureau, Suva, Fiji Islands
5. Australian Stamp Bulletin. Femtree Gully, Victoria
6 + 7. Irish Stamps, Philatelic Bureau, Dublin
8. Iceland Post, Reykjanesbaer, Iceland

Archival News

The New Grand Prix Medal

The Grand Prix is the premier award, for the best exhibit, made at every National Exhibition held under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation. Up to 1973 this was normally a piece of art or similar which the winner would keep. In 1974 the Post Office presented the State President's Trophy as a permanent Grand Prix floating trophy. This handsome trophy, made of stinkwood and solid silver with enamelled inlays, stands an impressive 66 cms tall and the winner is allowed to have it only during the Palmares prize giving ceremony for photography purposes, after which it reverts into safe keeping until the next exhibition.

However, the winner of the State President's Trophy also receives, to keep, a gold medal. The last of Federation's stock of State President's gold medals was awarded at Dursapex 2004. At Federation level it was decided that continuance of this prestige medal was imperative. Since the Federation was advised that the term 'State President' was no longer applicable, the State's coat-of-arms featured on the obverse had changed and State sponsorship was unlikely, Federation decided to rename the medal to 'The Grand Prix' and fund its provision including preparation of new dies.

Accordingly, Herbie Schaffler as Federation's Awards Custodian arranged for development and approval of artwork and the manufacture of a batch of 10 medals.

Both sides of the new medal are shown. Struck by the Gold Reef City Mint of Johannesburg in 9ct gold, with a diameter of 50mm and a weight of 2 troy ounces (62.2 grammes), this medal on the obverse features Federation's coat-of-arms and on the reverse an image of the Grand Prix Trophy, with space for engraving the awardee's name and exhibition details.

This handsome new version of the medal is now available to be awarded for the first time at the Cape Stamp Show 2005. The main Grand Prix Trophy remains of course in use and there is no intention of renaming or altering this important piece of Federation heritage.





Henk de Lange

Please visit my website for other fine Rhodesian Double Heads

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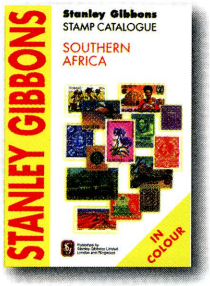


SG 160a with Gash in Ear variety

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Book Reviews

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue: Southern Africa



Published by: Stanley Gibbons Publishers

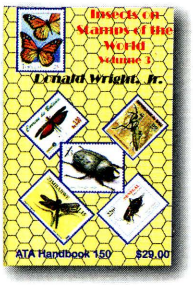
This volume covers Southern Africa. As well as the pre-Union, Union and Republic issues of South Africa, it includes the Homelands issues and Botswana (Bechuanaland), Lesotho (Basutoland), Namibia (South West Africa) and Swaziland.

Printed in the familiar three column format, prices are given for covers (up to 1945), miniature sheets and booklets.
Up to 1952 prices are from the Gibbons 2005 Commonwealth and Empire Catalogue. Later prices are specific to this volume. The majority of illustrations are in colour, with exceptions noted in some of the Boer republics which are in black and white. The preamble contains eight pages of useful information and guidelines with Gibbons' definition of selected philatelic terms. A further three pages contain a five language philatelic glossary.

This new volume is as comprehensive as the 'Part 1' British Commonwealth catalogue but lighter. The layout is good and easy to use making this a useful addition to the library of any Southern Africa collector.

Scale of 297mm x 230mm, soft bound, 128 pages. ISBN: 085259-594-8. Pub: Stanley Gibbons Publications, Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 3SH. England. Price £19.95.

Insects on Stamps of the World, Volume 3



Published by: American Topical Association
By: Donald Wright, Jr

This volume continues Wright's previous ATA Handbook no. 123 which ended in 1991. This handbook, number 150, covers issues from the beginning of 1992 through to the end of 2002, and some in 2003.

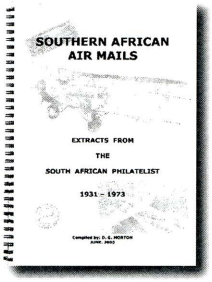
Additional to regular stamp issues it includes stylised, unidentified and implied insects on labels and 'illegal' issues from various countries, but omits more formal material such as postal stationery (excepting the US), cinderellas, locals, revenues and seals. No explanation is offered for this selection.

Content is presented in two sections: Part 1 by country and Part 2 by Taxonomic Order and Family. Latin names, common names, family and sub-family are listed wherever possible. Stamp identification numbers are taken from Scotts Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue. Illustrations are confined to six colour and four black and white pages. Whilst more would be welcome, the sheer volume precludes this being done comprehensively.

This well-researched volume has been prepared by an acknowledged expert in the field and is essential reading for entomological philatelists. Potential readers should note that this is a handbook, not a catalogue i.e. no prices are given.

Handbook no. 150 published by the American Topical Association, 2005. ISBN 978-0-935991-52-2. Soft brand, A5 format xiii + 460 pages. US $29.00 from ATA, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057 USA.

Southern African Air Mails, Extracts from the South African Philatelist, 1931 - 1973



By: D.G. Morton.

For those readers with an interest in the air mails of South and South-West Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Portuguese East and West Africa who do not have access to copies of *The South African Philatelist*, this book is a MUST. From 1931 onwards a regular column entitled 'Air Mail Notes' was published in this monthly magazine which was written by legendary authorities such as L.A. Wyndham, I.H.C. Godfrey and I. Greenbaum during the pre-war years and by Capt. M.F. Stern and I.H.C. Godfrey during the post-war years.

Their 'notes' are a goldmine of information and perhaps the highest recommendation I can give is to say that I obtained copies of the 'Air Mail Notes' over fifteen years ago and they are now looking very worn through constant reference to them because they contain so much detailed information that cannot be found elsewhere. Having said that, I should point out that Wyndham based parts of his 1936 book, '*The Airposts of South Africa*' on the notes he wrote for the *South African Philatelist*. I very much like the fact that the writers' information was first-hand and not obtained from other authors. They were on the spot at the time the history we are so fascinated by was being made and they had access to the current postal notices, newspaper announcements, airline publicity, etc. In addition, they often wrote to postmasters to obtain detailed information and sometimes attended an event in person.

The first 85 pages of the book cover the pre-war period and include detailed reference to the development of Imperial Airways' African and Eastern routes and the feeder services of Union Airways (later becoming South African Airways), South-West African Airways, RANA and DETA in Portuguese East Africa. There is also a series of articles on all three stages of the EAMS, an excellent history of the air mails of Nyasaland and much, much else. The wartime air letters and later aerogrammes receive detailed attention and the last 70 pages provide much information relating to the opening and development of post-war air services, both internal and international, relating to Southern Africa.

The quality of the photocopying is inconsistent because the original journals were in varying condition and being bound, did not always allow 'flat' copying. However, all the articles are legible and most are perfectly good copies and the wire ring binding provides easy flat opening. I can only repeat for emphasis my opening statement that if you do not have this material already, should you decide to obtain a copy, you will be delighted with the wealth of information it contains. Highly recommended!

Peter Wingent

Ring bound, A4 size, 192 pages. Published by and available from the author, 2 Anemone Avenue, Welgedacht 7530, Republic of South Africa (email: dmorton@mweb.co.za). £20 or R250 or US$35 plus P&P (£9 airmail to UK and Europe, surface £5; $15 airmail or $9 surface to the USA; R10 airmail anywhere in RSA). Payment in pounds sterling accepted from purchasers outside South Africa).

If you have any books you would like reviewed in *The South African Philatelist*, please send a copy to: P O Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504.

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Journal References continued from page 161

13. "Surcharged Stamps of Lesotho, 1986-1991: Part 3, SG 725 to 732"
by Morgan Farrell, *Forerunners*, no 52, March-June, 2005, pp 97-109.

14. "Registered Mail in th Second South African Republic"
by Tim Bartshe, *Forerunners*, no 52, March-June, 2005, pp 119-125.

- **'The Springbok'**
is the Journal of the South African Collectors' Society; Editor E. Bridges, email aebridges@ukonline.co.za
- **'The London Philatelist'**
is the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London; the S.A. representative Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email frankfam@icon.co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email wannerton@iafrica.com
- **'Forerunners'**
is the Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa based in the USA. S.A. representative is Dr Uli Bantz, email ulib@mweb.co.za
- **'The Transvaal Philatelist'**
is the Journal of the Transvaal Study Circle based in the U.K.; S.A. representative is Gawie van der Walt, email cachetap@lantic.net

The South African Philatelist invites the various Philatelic Societies around South Africa to submit a brief and concise history, as well as their current activities, for possible publication.

Foreign Exhibitions

Washingon 2006 World Stamp Exhibition D.C., USA
27 May to 3 June 2006

Entries for this exhibition are now closed. The National Commissioner Peter van der Molen has submitted 2 Literature entries and 16 'stamp' entries for a total of 100 frames. Advice of accepted exhibits is expected by end September 2005.

This promises to be one of the best exhibitions of recent years an persons interested in visiting should view their website at www.washington-2006.org

New SAPO Curator

We learn from the September edition of the "Philatelic Exporter" that Albert Mahlangu has been appointed curator of the new South African Post Office Museum in Church Square in Pretoria. Well versed in Cultural History and Museum Technology, he has ambitious plans for the Postal Museum including its expansion to include all types of post office artefacts and equipment, a shop and guided tours.

We wish him the best of luck in a project which could do much to encourage the hobby of philately.

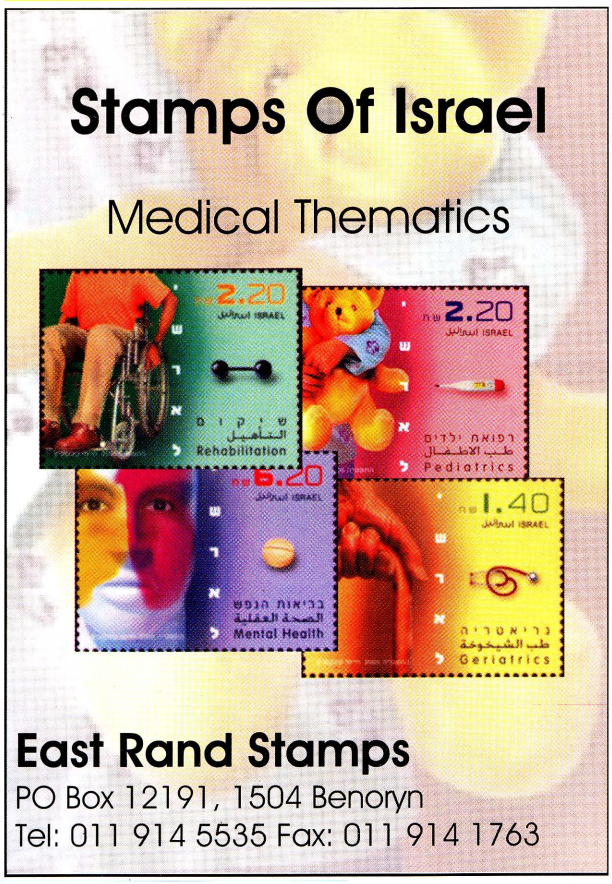


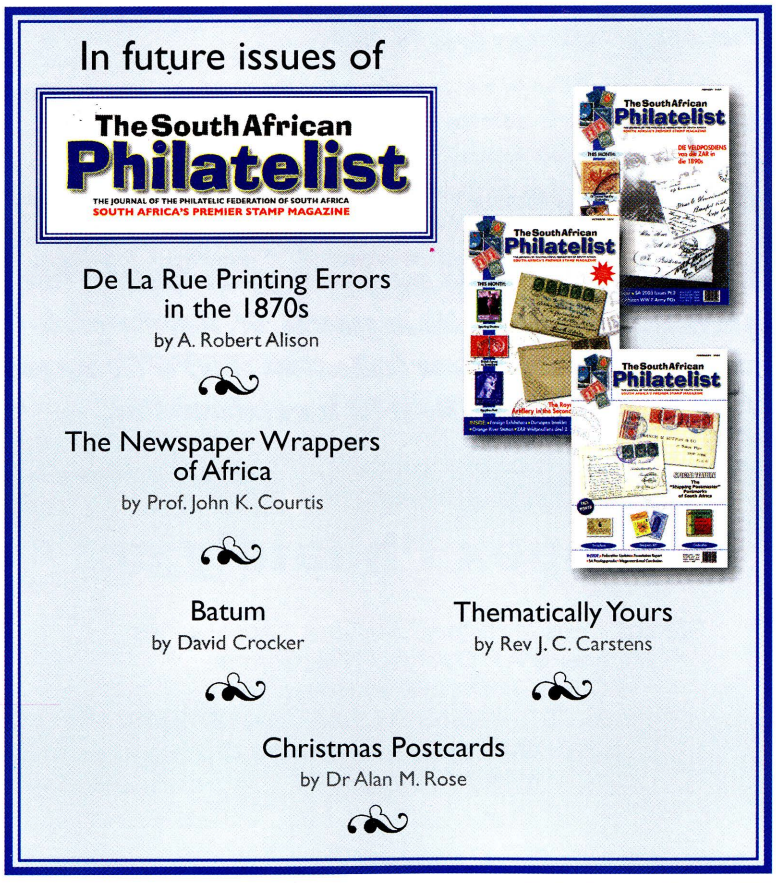
SMALLS ADVERTS

Small advertisements are accepted from Federation affiliated members at no charge. Ads can be inserted for two consecutive issues. Maximum 30 words. Material must be typed or printed for clarity, and the home society of the advertiser indicated. (Not necessarily for publication). Dealers and non-affiliated advertisers will be charged for classified advertisements at the rate of R50 per column cm per issue. Copy should be sent timeously - see page 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

Exchange: Andrew Duncan offers **Homelands collections (including postally used)** in exchange for fine used pre-1970 Holland and Colonies.
Email: aeduncan@ebucksmail.com
or tel: 082 418 4214

Exchange: Offer Mint Taiwan 1970s-2000 wanted mint or very fine used airmail, semi postal Europa. Contact Maurice Wang.
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Bridges



The South African Philatelist

THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

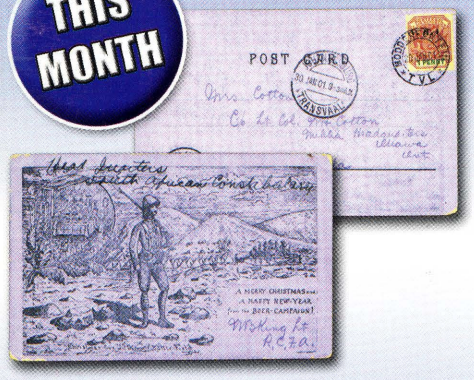




THIS MONTH SPECIAL FEATURE

Imperial Airways Christmas Mail

THIS MONTH



The Boer Campaign



First Christmas Stamp?



Newspaper Wrappers

INSIDE: • De La Rue Printing Errors • Roll of Honour • Postal Newspaper Wrappers • Cape Stamp Show

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Celebrating Christmas in Africa







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The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

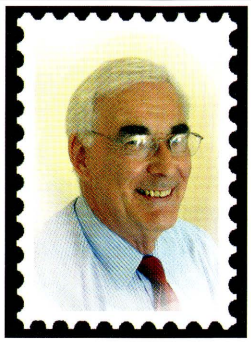
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Large Silver Hafnia 1994, Silver Bronze Pacific 1997, Vermeil APS Stampshow1999, Large Silver Egoli 2001, Federation Plaque 2004

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From the Editor



Another Congress and National Exhibition have come and gone. The National was a good one and Cape Town is to be congratulated on its efforts. On the topic of exhibitions, I see that the Pretoria clubs are combining to present a One Framer in June with an entry from each of the Gauteng clubs. This is just another variation on the exhibition theme. Does this mean that a one framer of one form or another will become an annual feature of the philatelic calender? This format, although not officially sanctioned by FIP, is certainly becoming popular and is a good introduction to exhibiting for novices.

Congress itself certainly aroused more feeling and passion than usual, although in retrospect one wonders if delegates were on the right tracks. There was more talk and emotion about dotting the 'i's and crossing the 't's in the constitution than there was on stamp collecting. A stranger sitting in would have thought us a bunch of barrack-room lawyers, not stamp collectors. Congress should surely be about collecting stamps and promoting the hobby – *and honouring those who have served us so well over the years*– rather than quibbling about proxies. Perhaps some of us should be reassessing our priorities.

In welcoming Ian Matheson as our new President we not only have a philatelist of note, but also someone with the capacity to think clearly, and where necessary, laterally. This is perhaps what philately in South Africa needs, to move on from the stereotype of collecting and to look at new options – one framers, open class, a reassessment of thematics… Traditional philately, like the poor, will always be with us, but the modern collector sees things differently and seeks to express himself differently, and Federation must move to accommodate changing needs. Congratulations Ian, on your appointment. We wish you well in the coming year, and look to moving forward under your presidency.

Dr. Alan Rose

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Publishing deadline dates for 2005/6

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FUTURE EVENTS

MAY 2006
WASHINGTON 2006
27 May – 3 June
Washington, USA
Contact: SA Commissioner
Peter v.d. Molen
011 849 4822

OCTOBER 2006
Stampex 2006
26 - 28 October
Pretoria Natural History
Cultural Museum
Contact: Wolfgang Meiss
011 805 5318

JUNASS
(TBA)
Gauteng

ESPANA 2006
7 – 13 October
Malaga, Spain
Contact: SA Commissioner
Emil Minnaar
083 230 5430

DECEMBER 2006
INDEPEX'06
December (TBA)
New Delhi, India

OCTOBER 2007
PEZAPEX 2007
National Exhibition incorporating
JUNASS
17 – 20 October
Port Elizabeth

DECEMBER 2007
Brasiliana 2007
December (TBA)
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

MAY 2008
Israel 2008
14 – 22 May
Tel Aviv, Israel

JUNE 2008
Efiro 2008
15 – 22 June
Bucarest, Romania

JULY/AUGUST 2008
China 2008
July/August (TBA)
Beijing, China

OCTOBER 2008
Pretoria 2008
National Exhibition and Congress
October (TBA)
Pretoria

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



The winning letter, chosen by the editor, will receive an exclusive Sheaffer pen from SHEAFFER style for life.

editor's choice
Winning Letter

Pressure Adhesive Prepaid Postage: Advisory Notice

Dear Sir

During the course of 1998, while still Senior Manager, Philately, at the South African Post Office, I was instrumental in the introduction of *"pressure adhesive stamps"* better known to the public as *"peel-and-stick"*. This was only done after extensive tests, an examination of the various papers and gums available, and the repeated assurances of our Australian printers, SPRINTPAK, as to the archival quality of its product. I am pleased to report that, to date, the South African stamps have stood up to the tests of time and local climate, and thus far appear to have met the archival requirements of local philately.

Regrettably this has not been the case with some pressure adhesive material currently in my reference collection, all of which appears to have originated from the security printing firm of Enschede, in Holland. These include the following:

- Namibia *"Postcard Rate"* issue of 1997, depicting a leopard. Three sheets inspected.
- Netherlands *"Housing"* issue of 1997.
- Netherlands *"Christmas"* issue of 1995.
- Dutch Antilles *"Christmas"* issue of 1996. Three sheets inspected.
- Printer's sample bearing the profile portrait of *"Joh. Enschede"*, received in 1998. Two sheets inspected
- Netherlands 80c and 160 cent stamps in strips.

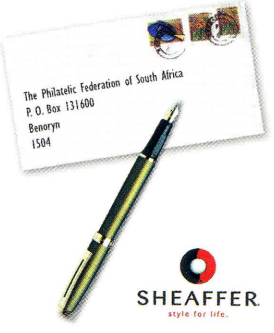
In each case of the above, sheetlets have shown signs of gum *"weeping"* along their edges, as well as inside the die-cut lines of individual stamps, resulting in their adhesion to the Prinz Pro-Fil pockets they had been stored in since 1998. On the other hand similar products originating from Australia and New Zealand (printed by Sprintpak), USA, Canada and Singapore (Ashton-Potter), Singapore (Avery Dennyson), Marshall Islands (MIPS), Ireland (Irish Security Printing), Bosnia-Herzegovina, DPR Korea, Kiribati and Moldova (PostLine), and Venezuela, Norway, Tonga and Norfolk Island (printers not known), all dating from 1995 onwards and stored under the self-same conditions, have shown no signs of distress.

Samples of GB stamps which, I was given to believe at the time, were also printed by Enschede for Royal Mail have not, to date, shown evidence of deterioration.

It is my duty therefore to advise collectors that, in their best interests, all issues mentioned above, should now be isolated in order to prevent the contamination of other products in their collections. This could happen through the transfer of gum onto such storage containers as stock-books, Pro-Fil type pages, exhibition pages and covers, which are then reused to store other, more conventional, philatelic products, such as stamps and covers. Should the degradation of these products continue, it is my opinion that damage will also inevitably spread to the face of the stamps.

continued...

continued...



Contributions and letters for the publication must be forwarded to Editor S.A. Philatelist South Africa, PO Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 or email saphilatelist@iafrica.com Enquiries about membership can be referred to Robert Harm at robharm@mweb.co.za

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Under such circumstances collectors wishing to include these mint in their collections will be left with no alternative other than to stick them down on a piece of paper and then float off the printed surface in water, leaving the gum behind. **This however, should only be done as a last resort.** The cleaning of these stamps with benzine is similarly **NOT** advised, as this might lead to more rapid deterioration of the gum, colour changes or the removal of the printed surface.

Because this problem at the moment appears to be limited to Enschede products, I believe that any other pressure adhesive issue produced by this company should also be subjected to intensive and critical scrutiny.

Finally I believe that the Netherlands Post Office (RTF Post) should be held accountable for its product, and that, in the interest of philately, an investigation should be conducted into the origins of the paper used. This must also include the supplier/manufacturer of the paper, and whether the use of such materials is limited to Enschede, or has also spread to other security printing companies.

While I do not wish to spread undue alarm, the appearance of pressure-adhesive materials manufactured to defective specifications at best confirms the reservations that philatelists have long held on the subject, and at worst represents a recurrent fear that the contamination of gum could spread, via the use of storage books and album pages, to other more precious stamps.

I must stress that the material used by other security printers in my (fairly extensive) reference collection have not, to date, shown signs of deterioration. The Enschede case, on the other hand, brings the entire pressure-adhesive industry into disrepute, and I believe that philately needs to re-examine the continued use of these products, specifically when this is done by postal authorities who have failed to implement the necessary quality controls over their products.

Yours

Prof Franco Frescura
Formerly Senior Manager: Philately
South African Post Office, 1994-1999

Overseas Compliments

Dear Editor

Yesterday I received the last issue of the SA Philatelist in an envelope and wonderfully franked with miniature sheets.

The magazine itself is a joy to read also. There are more areas which catch the light of attention; even the cinderella and revenue area which I collect from South Africa and surrounding areas. The Swaziland article was more detailed than ever recorded in the latest revenue catalogue. I don't know if it's possible to write an article about the revenues of South West Africa and Namibia for the magazine. Especially Namibia is unknown on the revenue area.

Carry on this way and the readers will keep showing their appreciation!

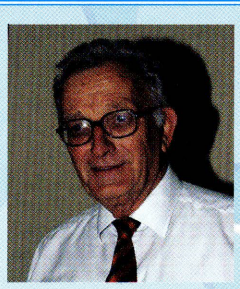
Kind regards

Oscar van der Vliet
Secretary of the Dutch revenue society NVFF

letters continued on page 202

Obituaries

Louis Kingma



His many friends in the philatelic fraternity will find it difficult to come to terms with Louis' death. He had attended the monthly meeting of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society on 14 September and had appeared to be his normal, ebullient self. However, it became painfully evident at a committee meeting a few days later that there was something seriously amiss and (his was confirmed in the course of fleeting visits that he paid to the European Interest Circle on 28 September and the Sandton Stamp Fair on 8 October.

In retrospect, it became evident that he had been busy tying up loose ends, in particular his commitment to accept the appointment as Federation's Regional Vice-President for Eastern Gauteng, a role that he suspected he would not be able to assume. Our fears were justified when, in spite of two major operations, he passed away in hospital during the afternoon of 13 October.

Louis was born in the Dutch province of Friesland and came to South Africa as an 11-year old shortly after World War II. He attended Jeppe Boys High School and obtained his CIS through Unisa after which, in 1963, he joined the Industrial Development Corporation.

By dint of hard work and a particularly incisive mind, he rose to the position of Company Secretary and assumed, at various times, executive responsibility for Money Market Investments, Foreign Borrowings and Financial Reporting as well as being involved in IDC's Export and Import Finance Schemes.

Former colleagues recall his fairness, approachability and decisiveness and also the fact that, while on overseas trips, he would make a point of seeking out the local stamp shops.

Since his retirement in 1994, he had been a highly esteemed member of the Credit Committee of the Rand Merchant Bank. It is hardly surprising that he was well regarded as a bridge player (for which Thursday evenings were inviolable) and as a golfer at which sport he had at one stage been able to boast a single-figure handicap.

Although a comparative newcomer to the world of organised philately, Louis quickly established a reputation as an extremely keen and competent philatelist. Notably, he had an eye for attractive covers and in particular classics from Great Britain, Holland, France and the U.SA.

A little more than a year ago, he established the European Interest Circle, a series of monthly meetings in the comfort of his "home from home" at the Country Club in Woodmead where, some years ago, he had been the chief motivating force in the establishment of indigenous trees and where he could indulge in another of his pastimes, that of bird-watching. At the "Eurocircus", he was able to enjoy good food and wine, another passion, and talk stamps with fellow enthusiasts. This branch of the Wits Society will stand as a memorial to his enormous enthusiasm and, whether we were his friends, business colleagues, bridge or golfing partners, he will live long in our memories.

Our very deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, Val, and to his children, Jetske and Graham.

C.M.M.

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President's Column

I open my account as incoming President by thanking David Sinclair for his contribution over the past year, both as President of Federation and also as the Chairman of another 'interesting' Congress. May your contribution to junior philately also bring much pleasure to all concerned, David! I hope you are still a prominent player on the philatelic scene for many years to come. We have just enjoyed another fine National Exhibition in the Cape. Des Hyland and his team certainly put the Goodwood Civic Centre on the map. I have not seen as many visitors to any National in recent years, the lighting was good in most places, there was plenty parking for all. The facilities were matched by a fine selection of exhibits. The balance between serious philatelic theses, historical treats, thematic studies and postcard exhibits was just right. The single frame exhibits proved just what a successful introduction this field has become and the open class is, in my opinion, the secret to bringing newcomers into our wonderful hobby. When I invite a non-philatelist to view an exhibition I am most likely to find something to catch his attention in this class of exhibits. Another feature that caught my fancy was the junior quiz, where prizes were donated for youngsters who answered all their questions correctly. This exercise involved visiting many parts of the show (including even a dealer's stand) to seek out the necessary answers. Many entries were received, thanks largely to the schools, which participated in organized visits to the show. It is not easy to cultivate a philatelic interest in today's frenetically active juvenile calendar. However there is still much growth potential. Children still love to collect (so do adults!), whether it be bubble-gum wrappers or cards bearing images of sport-stars. The History Channel on TV and a belated attempt to upgrade our historical sites and museums for the tourist business are also serving to kindle some interest in something outside computers and the Cartoon Channel. However nothing will happen without the dedicated support of the older generations. Now that the Cape has set a standard let's all offer support to our friends from SAPDA, who are staging the show in 2006. Whether the requirement is for time, advice, exhibits or even sponsorship we must pull together to make it the philatelic highlight of the coming year. Another cause, which deserves our support is the "Gautheme 06" thematic / topical show scheduled for 1 April 2006, to be organized by Uli Bantz, David Beyers, Mike Jackson and the energetic Cassie Carstens. The thematic collectors are also doing fine work in bringing their interest into the public eye. Cassie's articles in SA Philatelist are eye-catching and interesting and ThemNews, the publication of Thematics Southern Africa is looking splendid with the inclusion of colour printing on some pages. All the above seems like good news for our hobby. However, there are still areas in serious need of attention. Therein lies the challenge for Federation in the year(s) ahead. The greatest challenge is to ensure that Philately in SA continues to be run on sound business principles. Societies should be able to run for a number of years on a shoe-string budget but long-term sustainability requires an organized body to link the Societies. This body supports promotion of the hobby. It interfaces with other similar bodies from other countries to share learning. It provides support services for those who wish to take their interest to a higher level. It arranges get-togethers for fellowship, study and fun. It helps the societies to deal with the low periods, which may threaten their existence. But such a body costs money and, unfortunately, the services are intangible to many. We will happily (?) shell out a couple of hundred rand on a stamp, a dinner, a half-day excursion or a garment, but we resist the expenditure necessary to guarantee our own success. Thankfully we receive outside assistance to supplement our Federation subscriptions. So, where, specifically do I see our current challenges?

- We must ensure that our Federation resources are spent wisely with an eye to sustainability. Any short-term decision must not reduce our chances in the future of funding our support structures and delivering on the required services. We must run our show like a business and this will require responsible professional decision-making.
- We must recognise that the SA Post Office has much common ground with the collecting fraternity and together we must do something to exploit the synergy. The Post Office is also trying to run a business. They are trying to sell commemorative stamps yet my local post office does not stock them. They are applying their mind to meaningful topics to bring great South African themes to the fore. They have now published a beautiful catalogue detailing their unsold stock from past years, and are offering it to the public. Much is unsold because we never saw it in the PO. Now we threaten the livelihood of dealers by selling these past issues at face value! We are both trying to play the same tune, yet it seems we are each reading different pages of the music. Our challenge is to give full assistance to help the Post Office to promote their product as it serves both of our causes. They were not represented at Congress due to other commitments. We must get closer to them.
- We must narrow the divide between stamp collectors and serious philatelists. We must spend more time seeking common ground rather than dwelling on the differences between the two groups. There is plenty space for both parties on the same playing field and the present differences are helping nobody. There must be a better model that does not undermine the sustainability of our business viability.

Congress business occupied a full day, coming to a close at 6pm in the evening. We were not talking about stamps and exhibitions or about growing our support base. We were discussing constitutional issues and finances and we referred more to our problems than to possible solutions.

We would do well to build on the old motto "Unity is Strength". That is surely our focus for 2006.

Regards,

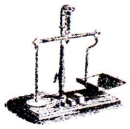
Jan Matheson



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Weighing the Mails

By Ds. Pauw Steyl, OFS Philatelic Society



Charles Piers acted as Postmaster General at the Cape from 1869-1873. In 1872 he realised the need for the updating of the different scales being used in the General Post Office in Cape Town at that stage. In order to do so he wrote to the General Post Office in London on 5 April 1872 asking particulars respecting the scales used for post office purposes in the United Kingdom.

Under cover of the following letter he received a report from the storekeeper of the General Post Office in London, dated 21 May 1872.

Registered No. 65.969
General Post Office, London
May 23.1872.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 5th ultimo, No 592, I have the pleasure to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a report from the Storekeeper of this Department, furnishing all the information you require respecting the scales used for Post Office purposes in this country.

I am,
Sir
Your most obedient servant,
*..... Page**

The Postmaster General
Cape Town

(* Page's signature is illegible but one of his initials seems to be E. At the time when the letter was written a Mr. Edward Page was Inspector General of Mails in the Postal Department in London. I think one could accept with a great extent of certainty that he was the author of the letter.)

The storekeeper's report gives us an interesting look into the weighing instruments used when letters and packets were dispatched and received in days gone by. It reads as follows:

Copy of report of Storekeeper, General Post Office, London dated 21 May 1872

I beg to state that all post offices in the United Kingdom are supplied with a pair of scales for weighing letters, and another pair for weighing packets. Also that the principal Head Post Offices are supplied with Ladder scales for use at the public counters, and for use also in the sorting office, for surcharging letters that have been insufficiently prepaid.

The weights supplied with the different kinds of scales are as follows –

- *1. For the scales used for weighing letters, which is a half ounce balance, a 4 oz, 2 oz, 1 oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz, 1/3 oz and 2/3 oz weights are supplied, making a maximum weighing power of 9¼ oz.*
- *2. For the scales used for weighing packets a 7 lb, 4 lb, 2 lb, 1 lb, 8 oz, 4 oz, 2 oz and 1 oz are supplied, making a maximum weighing power of 15 lbs 1 oz.*
- *3.The ladder scales have three trays to them, which rise by gradations of 1/2 an ounce each, and each pair of scales is supplied with a 4 oz, 2 oz, 1oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz, 1/3 oz, 2/3 oz weights, making a maximum weighing power of 10 1/4 oz.*

I enclose herewith a drawing of each of the scales referred to, together with the name and address of the maker of each of the scales used by the department.

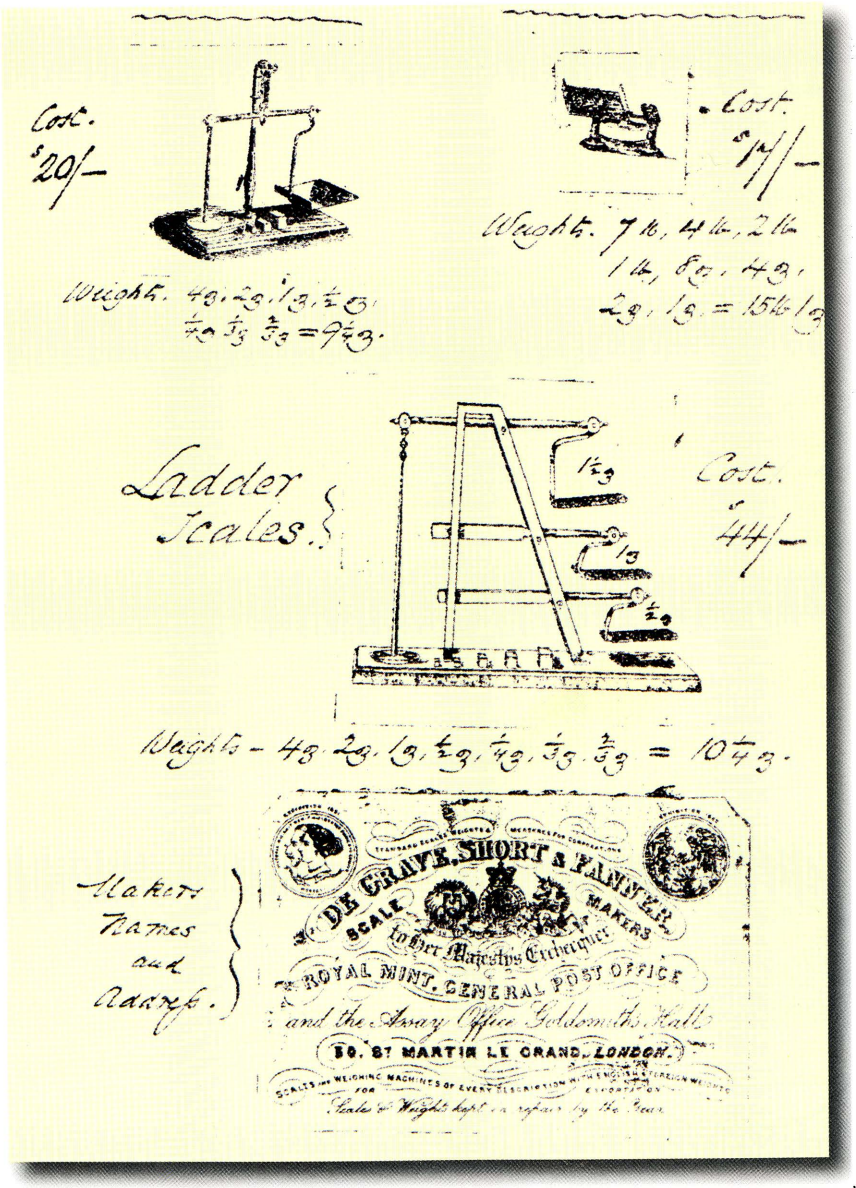
(signed) J Fletcher
Storekeeper

A manuscript endorsement "Order 23.8.72" by the Postmaster General in Cape Town on Page's letter clearly shows that an order was placed on 23 August 1872.

Source:

Cape Archives:

- GPO 3 – letters received from foreign and colonial postmasters 1809-1876 (Volumes 3/1 – 3/8)
- Volume: 3/4 (1872)



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ROLL OF HONOUR OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

Distinguished philatelists, who have made a significant contribution to philately in South Africa, are invited by the Congress of the Philatelic Federation of South 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.

1932:	GJ Allis*, G Blockey*, AJ Cohen*, Sir HL Gorges*, C Hand*, GJ Houbert*, SA Klagsbrun*, J Ritchie*, L Simenhoff*, E Tamsen*
1933:	JH Curle*
1934:	WJ Harrington*
1938:	GN Gilbert*, LA Wyndham*
1939:	CH Thornton*
1948:	(January): WL Ashmead*, AE Basden* PC Bishop*, AA Jurgens*, JH Harvey Pirie*, WM Redford*; (October): A Hylton Sydow*, J Wellsford*
1949:	A Kaplan*, K Freund*
1951:	GK Forbes*, S Legator*
1952:	E Hunt*, A Watson*
1953:	BLR Fox*
1954:	WN Sheffield*
1955:	JHH Chamberlain*
1956:	TB Davie*, W Newlands*
1957:	SJ Hagger
1958:	L Buchen*
1959:	TB Berry*, CED Enoch*
1960:	MF Stern*
1963:	IHC Godfrey*
1965:	JM Michelson*
1966:	M Peisach
1967:	HE Creewel*
1968:	WG Combrink*, JM Weinstein*
1969:	AL Leon*
1970:	G Bûlbring*, KEW Lydall*
1971:	VF Ellenberger*, AL Meyburgh*
1972:	JT Burrell*, SJ Vermaak*
1973:	HJ Raubenheimer*
1974:	R Jeidel*
1976:	H Jeidel*
1977:	HO Reisener*
1979:	IR Goldblatt
1980:	AJ Bakker*, J Groenewald
1981:	AGM Batten*
1982:	N Becker*, H Birkhead
1985:	SP Naylor*
1986:	HM Criddle*, DG Crocker
1987:	MJ Rall*, DT Swart
1988:	NC Combrink*, HR Holmes* RC Knight*, CE Wright*
1989:	A Bezuidenhout*, MJ Nethersole
1990:	Robson Lowe*, C Slagt
1991:	George van den Hurk, Ralph F Putzel*
1992:	Cedric Roché, Gunter von Schumann
1993:	Howard Green, Dr Gerrit H Jonkers*
1994:	Dr JR Frank, Wilhelm Grütter*
1995:	Dr Alan Drysdall, David Stern*
1997:	Philippa McIntosh
1997:	Colin M. Hoffman
1998:	Gerhard Kamffer, Jill Redmond
2000:	Peter van der Molen, Michael Wigmore
2001:	Chris Mobsby
2002:	John Sandilands, Wikus van Heerden
2003:	John Wannerton, Mary Bromfield
2004:	Richard Johnson, Des Hyland
2005:	Dr Ian Matheson, Danie Scheepers

Key (*) Deceased



Dr Ian Matheson signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at Dursapex 2005

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

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- Rest of World Airmail R45.80 per copy including postage

An Invitation to Aspiring Authors

All experienced Philatelists are welcome to submit articles for publication in the South African Philatelist privy to the discretion of the Editorial Committee.

Should any articles be submitted, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- a printed proof copy of the text.
- a printed proof copy of the relevant philatelic items in the article at actual size.
- a corrected final draft of the article in a Word document either on compact disk or emailed to the editor.
- scanned copies of the philatelic items scanned at 100% with a resolution of 300dpi on a compact disk saved as a tiff, high resolution jpeg or the nearest equivalent format, or you can drop by the publishers office in Rosebank, where the team is able to assist you with the scanning of material.



The SAP cover price will undergo an increase from R19.95 to R25.00 from 2006.

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Postcards for Christmas

By Dr Alan Rose, East Rand Philatelic Society

Christmas Greetings Cards, as we know them began to be produced commercially around the middle of the 19th Century. By the turn of the century picture postcard publishers both in GB and on the continent had followed suite and were producing postcards with Christmas themes. After all, a card in an envelope cost ld postage but a postcard could be sent for onlv ½d!

The initial cards were traditional and conservative, having either a simple snow scene (1) or a religious theme (2). The gifts and party aspect of Christmas soon followed with a plethora of cards depicting Father Christmas, Santa Claus, St Nicholas, Sinter Klaas, Grandfather Frost or whoever, according to how he was known in different countries. In general he was shown with his sleigh and reindeer on a snow covered roof-top or dispensing presents to sleeping or more often, eager children. Whilst we know him now as a jolly old man in a red suit he appears in early cards in blue, green or brown robes (3, 4).

Naturally, publishers were forever seeking new designs and ideas for cards to attract the buying public. Most adapted existing types of cards to accommodate the Christmas scenario, as they did also for Easter, New Year, Whitsuntide and other festivals. Presumably this was seen as an easier option to creating totally new designs.

Embroidered cards, although they had been around for many years, really became popular during the first World War when many thousands, produced in France or Belgium, were sent back to their families by troops serving on the Continent. The card shown (5) however, never saw military service. It was produced by a Johannesburg company, Lildene Publishing, for local consumption although not many seem to have survived.

More closely related to the first World War is the card from Ruhleben camp in Germany (6). This was an internment camp for British and allied nationals who were unfortunate enough to be in Germany when war was declared. Not true prisoners of war, they were detained at Ruhleben and received slightly better conditions as non-combatants. The camp, divided into national divisions, was allowed its own internal postal system. At Christmas, cards such as these, designed in-house, published by 'The Ruhleben Camp Magazine' and printed in Berlin by the Germans, were available for communication outside. Was war perhaps a little more civilised at that time?



Fig.1

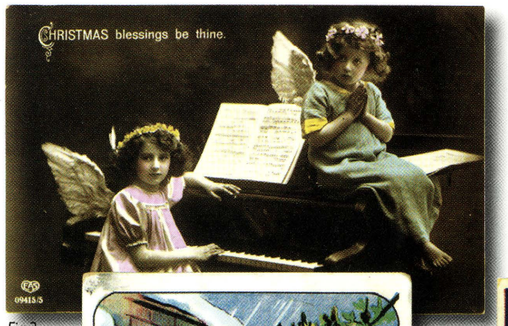


Fig.2



Fig.3

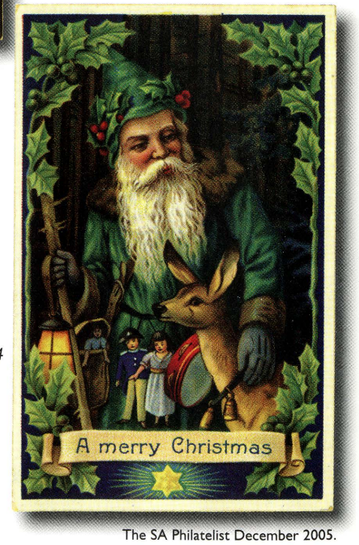


Fig.4

A less common type of card was the HTL or Hold to Light card. At first glance, this showed a normal scene, but under strong illumination from behind showed additional figures or wording. The better cards could show a totally different scene. The card (7a) appears rather dull and uninteresting at first, but the inset shows the colourful scene and additions that appear when illuminated (7b). The publisher of this card is not given but many such cards were produced in Germany.

An easy solution adopted by many publishers was to fall back on the talents of their established artists. Whilst very few of these drew Christmas cards as such, the publishers converted regular cards by the addition of an overprinted or embossed greeting. The Louis Wain card (8) has a printed greeting whilst Rapheal Kirchner's is embossed over the original design (9). Both are from Raphael Tuck & Sons.

James Bamforth, a British publisher of song and comic cards, could not resist the temptation to join the Christmas rush. Two of his comic cards (10. 11) have Christmas themes with mistletoe decoration and appropriate captions. It seems that Christmas activities haven't changed in 100 years. The last card (12) confirms this point. We all write to Santa but not all of us find this sort of present under the tree.



Fig.5



Fig.6

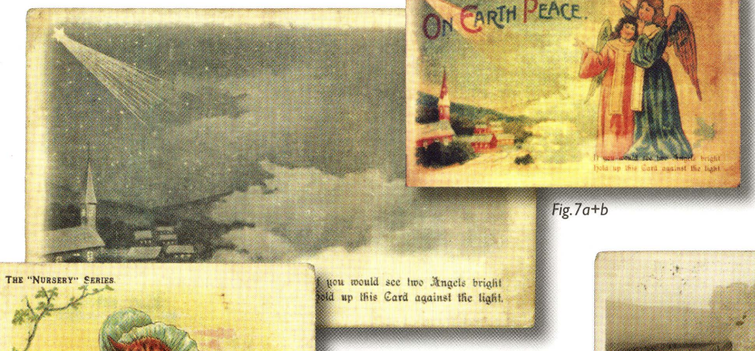


Fig.7a+b



Fig.8



Fig.9



Fig.10

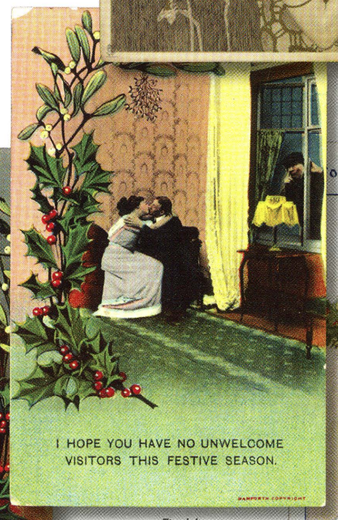


Fig.11



Fig.12

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Was it the First Christmas Stamp?

By Dr J.R. Frank, RDPSA, FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

The answer to the question, in spite of the legend on the stamp, is in the negative. That honour goes to the Austrian Christmas issue of 1937.

The Canadian "Map Stamp" was issued in December 1898 to commemorate the introduction of the Imperial Penny Postage rate. It was Canada's first multicoloured stamp and also the first to be produced by two different printing processes. The wording of "Xmas 1898" denotes that the Imperial Penny Postage rate was introduced on 25 December 1898.

Background to the Map Stamp

"Ocean Penny Postage" was the dream of postal reformers ever since Sir Rowland Hill introduced inland Penny Postage in Great Britain in 1840. Elihu Burritt, the blacksmith-philosopher of New Britain, Conn., published the earliest pamphlet advocating Penny Postage in 1848. The first Canadian petition for this rate reduction was by H.Glass of Sarnia in 1853. Mr. J Henniker-Heaton raised the subject in the British House of Commons in 1885 and subsequently made it his personal campaign.

Several publishers on both sides of the Atlantic produced propaganda envelopes. Mr. (later Sir William) Mulock, Postmaster-General of Canada, was a strong supporter of the Ocean Penny Postage movement and by 1897 felt that this should involve the entire British Empire. Mulock tabled this suggestion at the Imperial Conference on Postal Rates in London in July 1898. Sir David Tennant, Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope seconded his motion, but it proved to be unacceptable to some Colonial governments.

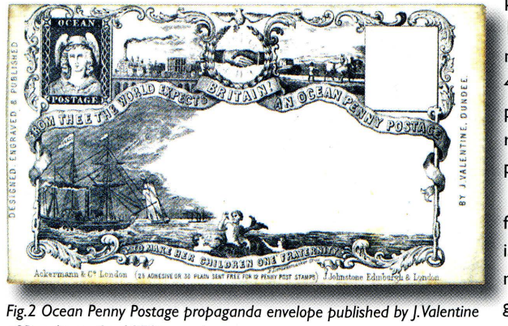


Fig.2 Ocean Penny Postage propaganda envelope published by J.Valentine of Dundee in the 1850s.

Nevertheless Great Britain and Canada agreed to introduce Penny Postage per ounce on 25 December 1898. Many other Colonial governments followed soon after.

Canada issued, at the insistence of Mr Mulock, a special 2 cents (= 1 penny) commemorative to celebrate the event.

The Commemorative Stamp Design

The design was suggested by Mr Mulock himself and produced by a team of designers at the American Bank Note Company, Ottawa, namely G. Hahn, A Howard, R. Holmes and R.Weir-Crouch.

It was engraved by C. Skinner and showed a map of the world in black, with the British Empire indicated in red. The ocean colours were in shades of lavender, greenish blue or blue.

The black parts of the design were recess printed, while the red and ocean colours were added by typography. The stamps were inscribed "XMAS 1898" while the wording at the base was taken from Sir Lewis Morris' "Jubilee Ode." which reads in part: -

"We love not war, but only peace,
Yet never shall our England's might decrease
Whoever rules this realm of state
Let all men know it, England shall be great.
WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN".

Die proofs of the stamp are very rare. Plate proofs of the black parts exist, as well as plate proofs with all three of the ocean colours. These are listed as imperforate issues by the catalogues. It appears that an essay was produced for a postcard, by this was not issued.

Some 19,927,500 stamps were produced from plates 1,2,3 and 5. There is no evidence that plate 4 was ever used. The plates were extensively re-entered during the printing run.

This stamp has been forged, but the forgery is easily recognizable and more highly priced than the genuine product. So much for collector's logic!



Fig.1 Map stamp of 1898



Fig.3 Vertical pair of plate proofs of the recess printed black parts.

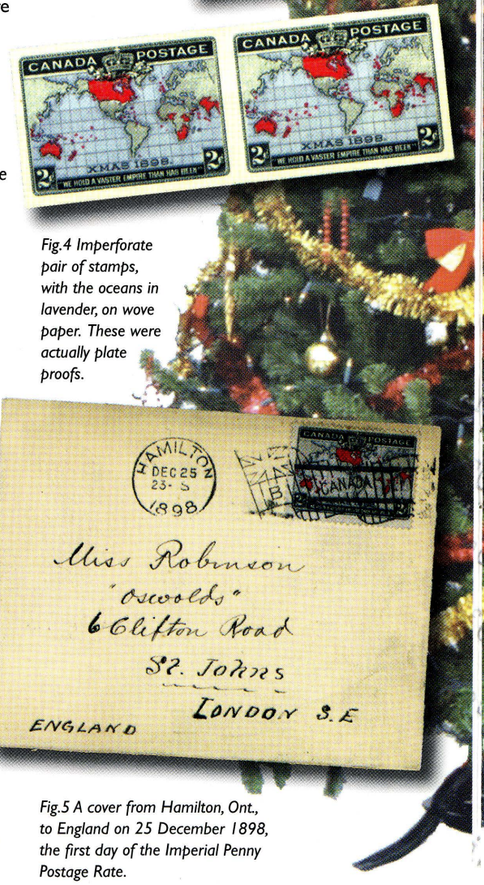


Fig.4 Imperforate pair of stamps, with the oceans in lavender, on wove paper. These were actually plate proofs.

Fig.5 A cover from Hamilton, Ont., to England on 25 December 1898, the first day of the Imperial Penny Postage Rate.



Fig.6 A Domestic Registered cover from Mindemoya, Ont., to Toronto rated two cents postage and a five cents registration fee.



Fig.7 Two cents Postal Stationery cover from Truro, N.S., on 13 June 1901 bearing a Buffalo exposition plagiarism of the Map Stamp. It is inscribed "we invite you to our expostion".



Fig.8 A block of four map stamps individually autographed "W. Mulock".

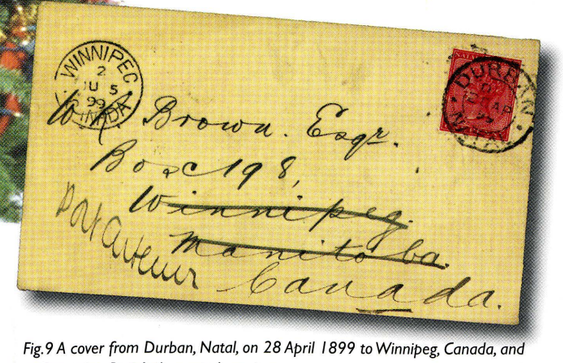


Fig.9 A cover from Durban, Natal, on 28 April 1899 to Winnipeg, Canada, and redirected to Port Arthur, rated one penny.

This striking stamp has also been plagiarised for a publicity label of the 1901 Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, N.Y.

Usage of the Stamp

Although the new rate was to become official on 25 December 1898, it was announced on 3 December 1898 that the commemorative issue was available at post offices throughout the Dominion.

Postmarked examples are known from Kingston and Hamilton, Ont. on 6 December, while the earliest recorded covers emanate from Montreal on 7 December 1898. Covers to foreign destinations on 25 December 1898 are scarce and much sought after.

An interesting anomaly arose when it was found to be cheaper to send a letter to, for example, the United Kingdom or Sarawak than to a domestic destination between 25 and 31 December 1898. The domestic and United States rates were reduced from three to two cents per ounce on 1 January 1899.

A Final Thought

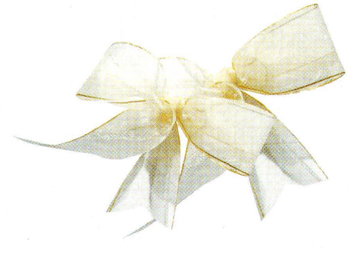
The Hon. Mr. Mulock, who was knighted for his endeavours in postal reform, handed out autographed copies of the "Map Stamp" to his acquaintances. The block of four illustrated apparently carries a genuine signature.

Mulock's contribution was important, as it must have been a boon to Imperial communications and it instantaneously abolished the one-penny Soldier's and Seaman's concessionary rate.

I end this brief survey with a cover from Durban, Natal, sent on 28 April 1899 to Winnipeg, Man., and redirected to Port Arthur Ontario. Imperial Penny Postage had been truly established after fifty years of agitation.

References

- P.Hamilton *"Canadian Stamps"* (1939)
- C.A. Howes *"Canada -Its Postage Stamps and Postal Stationery"* (1911)
- F. Staff *"The Transatlantic Mail"* (1956)
- R.B. Winmill *"The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map stamp"* (1982)



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Season's Greetings from "The Boer Campaign"

By Dr JR Frank, RDPSA, FRPSL, Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

A rather drab-looking privately produced post card mailed at Modderfontein, Transvaal, on 20 January 1901 via Johannesburg to Militia Headquarters at Ottawa, Canada proved to be of considerable interest. The card, from the Headquarters of the South African Constabulary bears an Ottawa receiver of 11 March 1901. Lieutenant King, the sender, wishes the recipient "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Boer Campaign", indicating that the Second Anglo-Boer War was in full swing.

The reverse of the card shows a typically South African veldt scene. Groups of army tents and a soldier thinking about Christmas at home convey the message, as does the caption "Christmas Eve on the Battle Field."

The card was sent by Lt. William Burchall MacCauley King, of St. Catharines, formerly of "C" Battery of the Royal Canadian Field Artillery, who was at the time serving in the South African Constabulary. He landed with the "C" Battery at Cape Town on 21 March 1900 and served with the unit throughout its tour of duty in South Africa. When the Battery returned to Canada on 14 December 1900, Lt. King enlisted in the South African Constabulary for two years.

The temporary headquarters of this force were at Moderfontein Dynamite Factory, some eight kilometers from Johannesburg, from where this post card was mailed. Lt. King served in the "C" Division of the S.A. Constabulary, under Col. F.K. Fair, in the Eastern Transvaal. He was to become a General in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in World War I.

Reference:

Wallace, J. -*"No Colours, No Drums- Canadians in the South African Constabulary"*. (2003).



TSHWANE ONE-FRAMER

The three societies in Tshwane will host the next ONE-FRAMER in 2006. Make a note of Friday 16 and Saturday 17 June 2006, and start preparing your one-frame exhibit. The following categories will be on the floor: Traditional (country), Thematic/Topical, Postal History, Souvenir Covers and Open (social). Now that is quite a spread! Cost is R100. Chairman of the Jury is Howard Green RDPSA. The past one-framer in Bloemfontein had 36 entries – let's go for 50 in Tshwane! For more information, contact rev Cassie Carstens at (012) 653-2279 or dscassie@telkomsa.net

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Imperial Airways Christmas mail to Cape Town - December 1931

By D.G. Morton, Royal PS of Cape Town.

Although the opening of the London - Cape Town service had been fixed for January 20th, 1932, the Postmaster General issued a notice on 30th November, 1931, stating that in order to provide an opportunity for sending Christmas letters and parcels by air to South Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, arrangements had been made with Imperial Airways for the flight due to leave Croydon for East Africa on December 9th, to be extended to Cape Town.

This flight was reported on in detail in Volume 7 of *The South African Philatelist*, in November, 1931 and again on page 143 of the December, 1932 issue.

Ever since Imperial Airways undertook this 'Experimental' flight on the 9th December, 1931, it has been accepted that only a limited amount of mail was in fact carried in the Handley Page Hannibal 45S '*Heracles*', the aircraft piloted by Capt. W. Rogers which flew the first leg of the epic journey from Croydon Aerodrome to Paris. The main mail had been despatched to Paris by an earlier liner and "only mail actually posted at either Croydon Aerodrome Post Office or at Imperial Airways sub-Post Office at Wilton Road", was loaded onto the machine together with 'dummy' mailbags for the purposes of the opening ceremony and press. (Fig.1.).

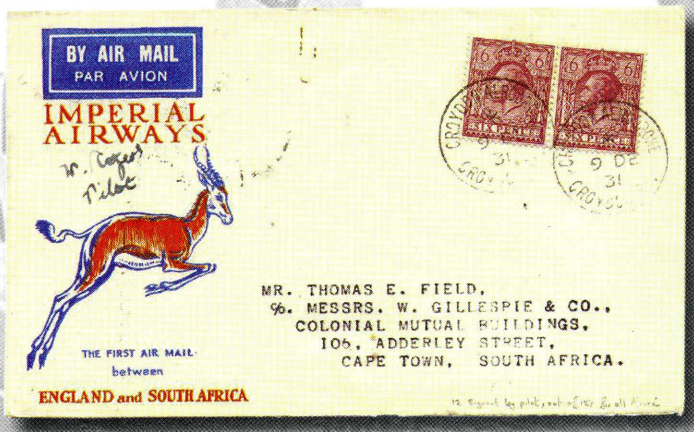


Fig.1. Cover signed by Pilot Capt. W. Rogers with the Croydon Aerodrome cancellation 9 DE 31. Back stamped, Johannesburg 21 DEC 31 3.30 AM and Cape Town 21 DEC 31 8 PM (In manuscript at bottom right - "12 signed by pilot, out of 127 for all Africa").

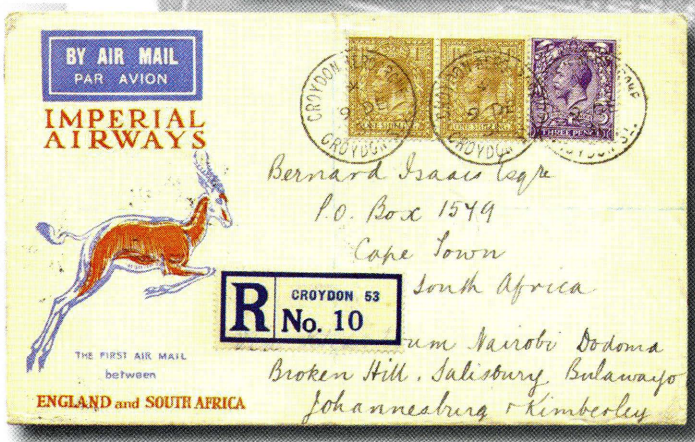


Fig.2. Christmas Mail addressed to T. E. Field, Mpika, N. R., with Croydon Aerodrome date stamp 9 DE 31.

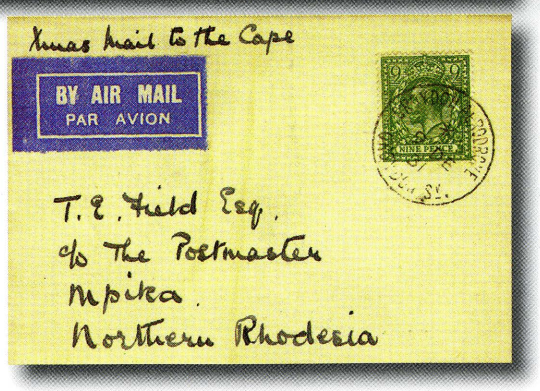


Fig.3. Christmas Mail addressed to T. E. Field, Mpika, N. R., with Croydon Aerodrome date stamp 9 DE 31.

In *The Airmails of British Africa 1925 - 1932* by N. C. Baldwin, it is, inter alia, stated on page 39 and 40 that: -

"Actually this machine carried only 127 letters (including about twelve signed by the pilot), the main mail having been sent to Paris earlier. These 127 letters were those actually posted at Croydon Aerodrome and all bear the despatch postmark of 'Croydon Aerodrome.' It will be obvious that in comparison with the quantities despatched from other points, these are of considerable rarity." (Fig.2 & 3).

According to L.A. Wyndham in his publication *The Airposts of South Africa*, printed by the Cape Times Limited in 1936, (Review by F.J. Field published on page 4 of the January, 1937 issue), it is stated on page 48 that: -

"The most desirable souvenirs of this flight are the commemorative envelopes despatched from Croydon Aerodrome Post Office and flown through to Cape Town, of which approximately 50 exist. Of great interest and rarity also are the special Christmas and New Year Greeting cards with their covering envelopes which Imperial Airways sent to firms in South Africa. The message on the cards is a quote from '*The Travels and Adventures of Pero Tafur, 1435 – 39*', i.e.

> *'And I finally concluded that if I did not fly thither it was impossible to make the journey.'*
>
> *The Travels and Adventures of Pero Tafur, 1435-39.*

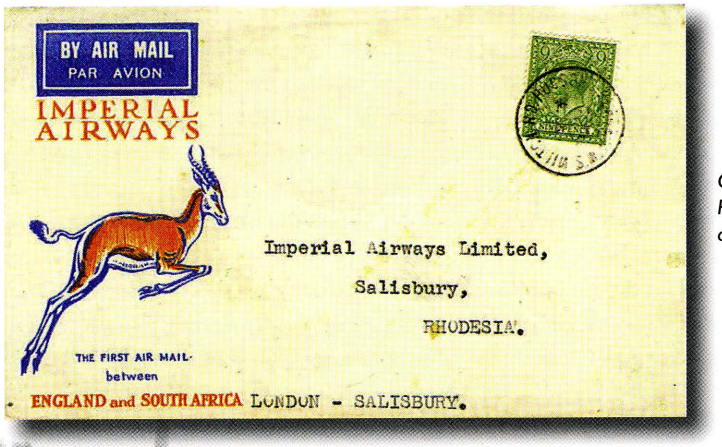
(Size reduced)

The envelopes containing the Christmas cards were posted at the sub-Post Office at Imperial Airways Headquarters and are date-stamped "Wilton Road, Hudson's Place, 9 Dec 31."

Wyndham's comments above were also confirmed on page 71 of '*Par Avion in Southern Africa*' by J.T. Burrell, RDPSA. (Fig.4.).

This Cover which was addressed to Imperial Airways Ltd., Salisbury was probably one of the six envelopes reportedly

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Cover with the Wilton Road sub-Post Office cancellation 9 DE 31

addressed to each of the stops en route from Moshi to Windhoek, including Salisbury and in all probability enclosed a 'Greeting Card' from Imperial Airways Headquarters, in London. A total of 1340 items of mail (including 38 registered) were received at Salisbury on 19th December, 1931. (Fig.5.).

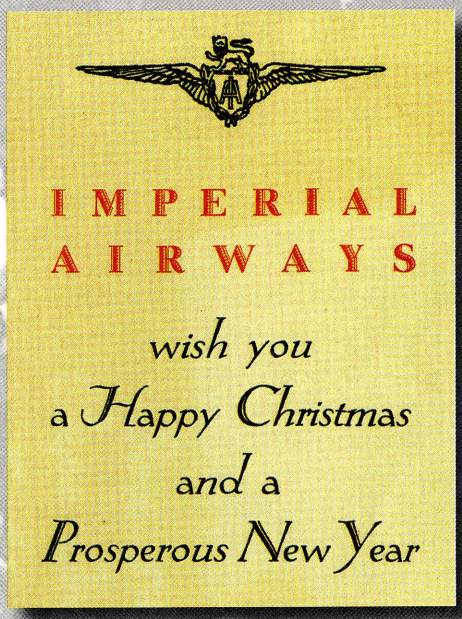


Fig.5. Imperial Airways 1931 Christmas card sent to selected Companies from Wilton Road sub-Post Office. Size Reduced.

What has now come to light, however, is a British G.P.O. memo from the Post Office Archives, which was addressed to the Secretary of the Post Office and signed by the Assistant Controller, J.A. Crawford, on 9th December, 1931, which reads as follows: -

"The Secretary,

In connection with today's first experimental flight to South Africa the Secretary will no doubt be interested in the following rough analysis of the mail and other features mentioned.

The total weight of the mail (despatched from the Foreign Section) was 56 lbs 13 oz. A very large quantity of philatelic correspondence was posted and as this worked out at between 60 and 64 items to the lb. it will be appreciated that the actual amount of correspondence dealt with was considerably greater than is indicated by the weight. Some 10,000 philatelic items were received from Imperial Airways at about 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday. It is estimated that the total amount of this class of matter represented between 40% and 50% of the mail.

Three bags of mails were made up for Nairobi and five bags for Johannesburg. Labelled bundles were made up for Cape Province, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal. Postings in the blue boxes were comparatively heavy. 2,369 items were received with the 7:00 a.m. collection today. Postings for the Supplementary mails were also much heavier than usual. 1,192 items came to hand with the 11:00 a.m. collection. Of these 845 were posted in the K.E.B (King Edward Building) boxes. It was observed that one newspaper item posted by Messrs. Gordon and Gotch was prepaid £1.10. 0.

So far as can be ascertained the number of items (other than the philatelic matter already mentioned) posted at Wilton Road T.S.O. was not substantial, but it is understood that a packet mail for Salisbury and bags for Johannesburg and Cape Town were made up. It is not known why the latter was made up.

An interesting incident in connection with the Supplementary Mails made up at Croydon T.S.O. was the inclusion therein of a film featuring the loading of the plane and other incidents appertaining to the despatch of the "first direct Air Mail to the Cape". This film was not completed until about 12:35 p.m. It was subsequently made up as a parcel and sent forward in the mail. The plane left at about 12:38 (amended in manuscript to 12:41 with the word 'about' deleted) but all the Post Office mails were aboard by about 12:20 p.m.

Seven Supplementary mails were made up at Croydon T.S.O. and weighed about 4 lbs.

The parcel mail comprised eleven bags containing twenty six parcels. (Total weight 147 lbs. 14 oz.)

About 150 items which had been posted in the ordinary city posting boxes came to hand with the 11:30 a.m. B.O. (Branch Office) Collections and it was decided to send these forward in an extra Supplementary Mail by the 2:00 p.m. ordinary service. This mail should reach Brindisi in time for inclusion in the plane.

Signed J.A. Crawford
pp Assistant Controller,
E.C. & F.S.
9th December, 1931."

A copy of the above memo was obtained many years ago and supplied to the writer by Peter Wingent who is an author of several Aerophilatelic publications in the U.K. and is also a member of *The Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa* (A.S.S.A.). Peter has given his permission to reproduce the letter which, to the best of our knowledge, has not officially been published before now.

Based on the arrangements which, according to the above mentioned memo, were introduced by the British General Post Office for the handling of the special Christmas mail flight, John Berridge who is also a U.K. member of the A.S.S.A., has stated that: -

"The question of how much mail was carried on the flight from Croydon to Paris on Wednesday 9 December, 1931, and how much was sent on an earlier flight has bothered aerophilatelists for as long as I can remember."

The following aspects have been highlighted by the G.P.O. memo: -

1. The Post Office made no reference to the despatch of mail by an earlier service but in the last paragraph mentions that about 150 late items were sent on the 2:00pm ordinary service to Paris. If a large amount of mail had been despatched by an earlier service surely it can reasonably be expected that this fact would also have been referred to in the memo?

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2. The memo contains many references as to how the mail was made up and what it consisted of, illustrating that the Post Office were very much aware of exactly how the mail was loaded at Croydon.

3. The exact time of departure was given as 12:38. This time was subsequently amended to 12.41 (which incidentally also accounts for the fact that the flight arrived 15 minutes late in Paris).

4. It was confirmed that seven supplementary mails were made up at Croydon T.S.O. which weighed about 4 lbs. It was also stated that there were between 60 and 64 items of mail to the lb. This fact indicates that some 240 to 256 items of mail and not 127 items, as has been recorded, would have been included in the Croydon supplementary mails?

Taking the above into account, it is difficult to understand how the reference to an earlier despatch of the bulk of the mail came to be accepted as fact. It is also unclear as to where the numbers of what might be referred to as 'rare' covers, i.e. those cancelled with either the Croydon Aerodrome or Wilton Road sub-Post Office postmarks, including the Pilot signed covers, come from?

As has been recorded, a very large number of philatelic covers were carried on this flight and this venture would have required much effort and cost by the various dealers involved at the time. Whilst one should not fall into the trap of perpetuating the problems associated with conjecture, specifically as regards how the number of 127 covers carried on the first flight from Croydon came about, it has been intimated in some quarters that because of the sheer volume of post flight material, supply and demand may have caused some problems to the dealers in disposing of their stock. This may have led to the suggestion that there were only a limited number of some of the covers, without the backing of any official evidence, thus creating a greater scarcity of what were in fact a reasonable number of such items being available? These 'number' errors would naturally have appeared in sales lists and this could possibly have led to the repetition thereof by Baldwin, Wyndham, Burrell and others, in later publications?

No official reports have surfaced which confirm the limited numbers of the 'rare' types of covers which collectors have been led to believe exist.

It would also appear that these 'numbers' have also never been challenged and have generally been accepted as being authentic. In this regard it should be noted that there was an attempt made some years ago by Norman Clowes, a well known collector of African Air Mails, to trace all the Croydon Aerodrome cancelled covers. After a number of years the conclusion was reached that about 200 with the airport cancellation, were flown. It was also Norman Clowes' belief that this number included the Wilton Road and London Foreign Section mail and even though other well known aerophilatelists have confirmed that they agree with these numbers, there is no evidence to confirm or deny this estimate.

To compound the conundrum John Berridge has advised that he has an example in his possession of a cover registered at Preston, UK on 8 December, 1931, which was addressed to the Manager of Barclays Bank, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia and signed by Captain W. Rogers. This cover, which was not cancelled at Croydon Aerodrome, must, therefore, have been flown on the first flight from Croydon to Paris.

It is also interesting to note that for many years it was recorded that all the 127 covers with the Croydon Aerodrome postmark were dispatched by D. Field (no relation or connection to F. J. Field). Over the past 20 years, however, covers with the Croydon Aerodrome postmark have begun to appear which were sent by George King. These have surfaced after his collection was broken up and include two known to Nairobi, a destination which D. Field apparently did not send covers to. Just how many King covers may in fact have been sent is not known but the general view, without adding to the speculation which already exists, is that it would have been minimal and no more than 5 or 6 to each destination.

From the above it is apparent that there is still some conflicting information and it is difficult to believe that F.J. Field dreamed up the story of dummy mail bags and must have been told this by a reliable source.

Notwithstanding the information contained in the G.P.O. memo which has now come to light, however, the question of which mail was in fact flown from Croydon Aerodrome must remain open for further investigation and discussion.

As regards the 'Postings in the blue boxes' (despatched from the F.S.) referred to in the second paragraph of the G.P.O. memo above, it is interesting to note that these special post boxes were first introduced in London on 23 June, 1930, when Great Britain used her first regular 'London F.S. Air Mail' postmark. This service gave an appreciably later posting time and special collections were made by a fleet of Air Mail posting vans which took the mail direct to the Head Post Office in London for sorting and despatch. (Fig.6 & 7.).



Fig.6. Examples of 'London F.S.' Air Mail Post Marks' used between June 1930 and April 1932.

It was some eight years later on 17 August, 1938, that these blue pillar-boxes were demolished as being redundant, for at that time ALL first-class mail was sent by air as the normal means of transport to destinations within the British Empire and Commonwealth at the ordinary rate of postage. By 1934 it is understood that there were some eighteen of the special blue Air Mail posting boxes at either Main or Branch Post Offices in the East Central District, in addition to those situated at:-

- Head Post Office (King Edward Street) E.C.1, and
- Central Telegraph Office (St. Martin's le Grand) E.C.1.

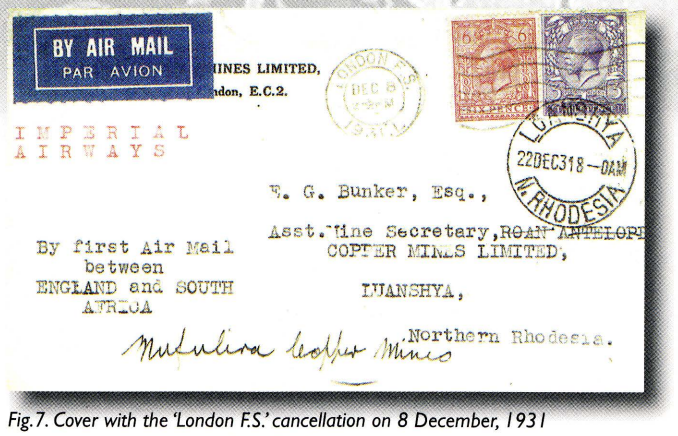


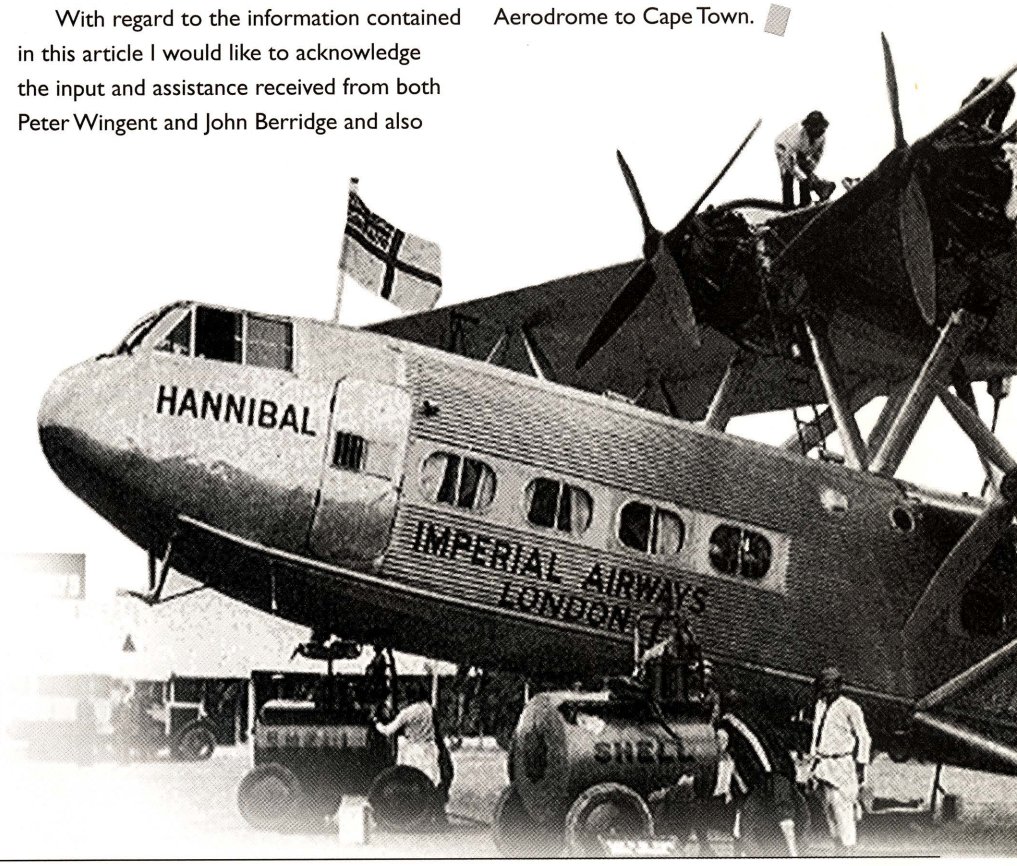
Fig.7. Cover with the 'London F.S.' cancellation on 8 December, 1931 (with acknowledgement to Barry Smith).

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The irony of the situation outlined above is that coinciding with the opening of the Express Air Service to London on 4 December, 1956, the Postal Authorities in South Africa erected the first "(Blue) Air Mail Pillar Boxes" in the heart of Johannesburg's business centre the same day. Mail posted in this particular box was conveyed direct to Jan Smuts Airport, instead of via the local G.P.O., thereby effecting an appreciable saving of time. This innovation was paradoxically considered to be a retrogressive step in Air Post History bearing in mind that the service in Great Britain was discontinued in 1938. (Page 26 of the February, 1957 edition of the *S.A. Philatelist*, refers).

Even though the opinions expressed in this article remain inconclusive, it is the writer's view that the above scenario does highlight the dangers of automatically accepting that whatever information appears in published books is always authentic. Based on the findings highlighted in this article, therefore, it should be borne in mind that even today there remains a need to endeavour, wherever possible, to establish the true facts surrounding an event before randomly reproducing or quoting information gathered from various sources, in ones collection and/or exhibit.

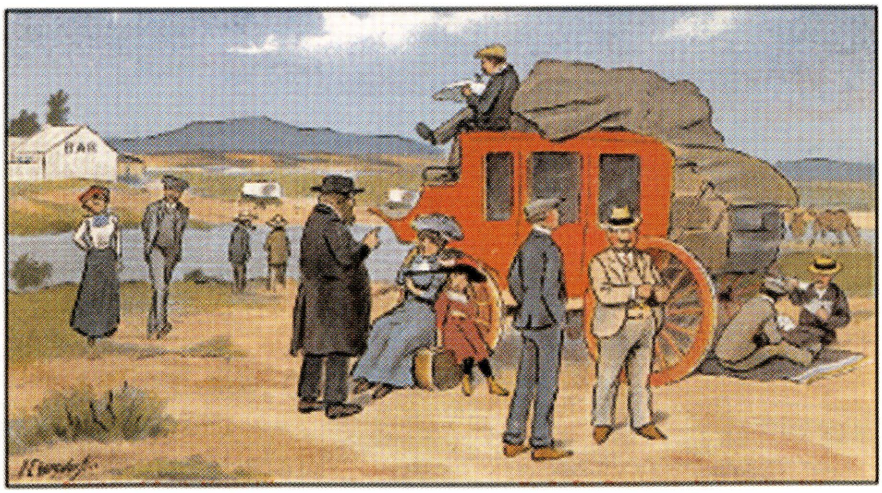
With regard to the information contained in this article I would like to acknowledge the input and assistance received from both Peter Wingent and John Berridge and also to Neville Polakow FRPSL for allowing me to reproduce his copies of the 'Pilot signed' and 'Registered' Covers from Croydon Aerodrome to Cape Town.



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1. Identify PAUL VAN ZEYL t/a RAND STAMP AUCTIONS in this picture;



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2. Contact him to discuss how we can help each other, to get a "win-win" (auction or direct sale) result at:

e-mail: paulvz@mweb.co.za; Tel (012) 329-2464; Fax (012) 329-3157

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A Survey of Postally Used Newspaper Wrappers of African Postal Authorities

By Professor John K. Courtis, Hong Kong

The purpose of the paper is to analyse 362 postally used newspaper wrappers from 16 African postal authorities: British Bechuanaland, British Central Africa Protectorate, British East Africa, Cape of Good Hope, East Africa & Uganda, Egypt, Morocco (& German) Agencies, Natal, Orange River Colony, Southern Rhodesia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South West Africa, Sudan, Transvaal and Zanzibar. The time frame of issues examined spans approximately 1880-1920. This survey may be compared directly with an analysis of Caribbean wrappers.

The sample comprises scans of all post office issues of used wrappers that were listed on the internet site eBay between February 2003 and August 2005. African postal authority wrappers account for 8.9% of a larger database of 4073 scans of used worldwide wrappers. This database is arranged by country and sorted by Higgins & Gage catalogue number. Only postally used wrappers appear in the database.

The analysis first considers the frequency of appearance per country and wrapper type and then calculates approximations of relative scarcity. Frequency of appearance can be used as a crude proxy for relative scarcity. A demographic analysis of destination addresses then follows. Finally, some interesting examples of stamped-to-order wrappers are discussed and illustrated.

Frequency of Appearance

The number of philatelic internet sites continues to increase and eBay is an important part of the overall Internet market. The extent to which the eBay database of used worldwide wrappers can be considered statistically accurate or representative of extant wrappers is unclear. Newspaper wrappers are sold also on other sites and through traditional bourses and auctions, and collectors possess their own holdings. However, until a more authoritative database is available, the 362 wrappers analysed here can serve as a tentative guide to relative scarcity. Table 1 summarizes the frequency of appearance of wrappers per authority.

The top four listed authorities account for 70% of issues: Cape of Good Hope dominating by a clear margin, followed by Natal, Egypt and Zanzibar. By contrast,

Table 1

Frequency of Appearance of Wrappers

Postal Entity	Overall frequency	Percentage
Cape of Good Hope	108	29.8
Natal	59	16.3
Egypt	49	13.5
Zanzibar	35	9.6
South Africa	19	5.2
British Bechuanaland	15	4.1
Morocco Agencies	15	4.1
Transvaal	15	4.1
ORC	11	3.0
Sudan	11	3.0
Southern Rhodesia	8	2.5
British East Africa	7	2.0
BCA Protectorate	4	1.1
East Africa & Uganda	4	1.1
Morocco (Germany)	1	0.3
Sierra Leone	1	0.3
Total	**362**	**100.0**

Sierra Leone and Morocco (German) account for less than 1% with only one wrapper each.

(South West Africa does not appear in the table because only two mint wrappers were listed). South Africa accounts for 5.2%, British Bechuanaland, Morocco Agencies and Transvaal each with 4%, Orange River Colony and Sudan with 3% each. Southern Rhodesia 2.5%, British East Africa 2%, and British Central Africa Protectorate and East Africa and Uganda each with 1.1%. Eight or half of these 16 postal authorities had a frequency of appearance of 11 or less wrappers during this 31 month collection period.

An interesting question is why there are so many extant wrappers from the Cape of Good Hope vis-a-vis other postal authorities. The discovery of diamonds on the banks of the Orange River (1866/67) leading to the establishment of Kimberley in 1873 and, similarly, the start of alluvial mining for gold in the Blyde River at Pilgrims Rest (1870) and the subsequent discovery of gold-bearing quartzite reefs where Johannesburg was to be proclaimed in 1886 both contributed to great economic development and a substantial increase in immigration, especially from England, Holland and Germany.

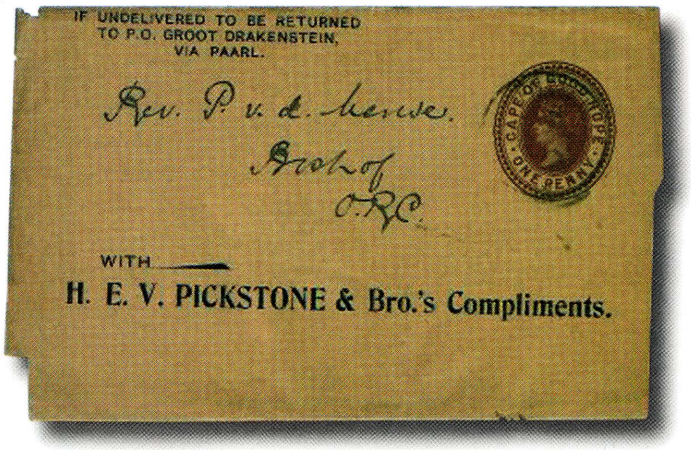


Figure 1: Cape of Good Hope STO (Stamp to order)

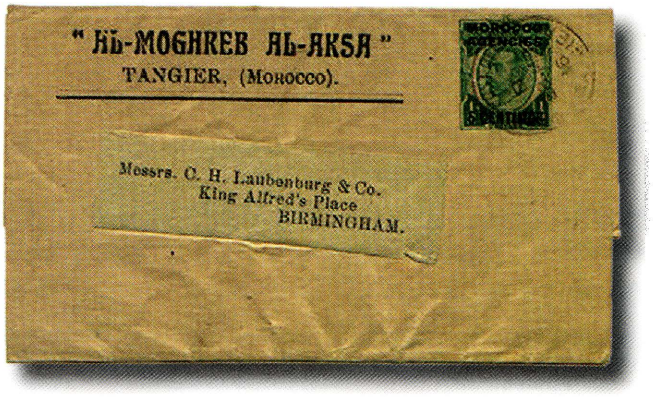


Figure 2: Morocco Agencies STO (Stamp to order)

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This influx was supplemented further by the arrival of those foreign troops that entered the country via Cape Town at the turn of the century to fight for one side or the other in the Anglo-Boer War. A normal reaction for these new settlers and temporary visitors in the Cape and adjoining areas was to send local newspapers back to family and business associates and to take advantage of the much cheaper newspaper postal rate compared with the letter rate. Many of these wrappers would have been retained by families along with their contents and have now found their way to the philatelic market. Another explanation lies in the sending of newspapers to advertising agencies and businesses in London and Berlin as evidence of advertisements placed on behalf of clients. These archived wrappers are now coming to light. More detailed explanations can be found in Courtis (2003, 2004)[1,2].

The six most common wrappers are Cape of Good Hope E1 Queen Victoria 1/2d green (48) and E3 1d red brown oval (30), Natal E1 Queen Victoria 1/2d brown (41), Egypt E1 and E2 sphinx & pyramids 1mil brown (24) and 2mils green (23), and Zanzibar E4 Sultan Seyydid Hamid-bin-Thwain 1 anna carmine (16). These six wrapper types account for 50% of the 362 studied. By contrast, there are 11 types each with only a single appearance and 12 types with two appearances. The remaining 22 types appear between three and 14 times. A profile of the 51 different issues is shown in Table 2.

Estimating the survival rates of most areas of philately is a difficult exercise and one that is fraught with assumption and researcher opinion. Estimating postal stationery survival rates is even more complex because there is little published information about the quantities issued. Table 2 shows a column headed "Proportions" with two numbers each calculated to three decimal places. These proportions represent a first approximation at survival rates against known quantities that have appeared during the period studied. The intended meaning of the two numbers is illustrated with Cape of Good Hope E3.

The first number is the proportion of that issue relative to the sub-population of 362 African postal authority wrappers. In other words, the 23 postally used copies of E3 represent .063 of 362, or just over six per 100 African authorities wrappers that have appeared for sale on eBay. The second number is more stringent because it represents the proportion of Cape of Good Hope E3 that have appeared relative to the worldwide population of 4073 wrappers, namely .006 or approximately six per 1000. A comparison of these two proportions across each of the 51 wrapper types can be used to gauge the relative scarcity of each issue based on what has appeared on eBay over the 31 month window.

Country	H&G Cat #	Number appearing	Proportions of 362/4073
British Bechuanaland	E2	8	.022 .002
	E3	6	.016 .001
	E7	1	.003 .000
BCA Protectorate	E1	4	.011 .001
BEA Protectorate	E3	3	.008 .001
	E4	2	.006 .001
	E5	2	.006 .001
Cape of Good Hope	E1	11	.030 .003
	E3	30	.063 .006
	E4	4	.008 .001
	E5	48	.110 .010
	E6	14	.039 .003
	E7	1	.003 .000
East Africa & Uganda	E1	3	.008 .001
	E2	1	.003 .000
Egypt	E1	24	.066 .006
	E2	23	.063 .006
	E3	2	.006 .001
Morocco Agencies	E4	2	.006 .001
	E6	8	.022 .002
	E7	1	.003 .000
	E12	1	.003 .000
	E14	3	.008 .001
Morocco (German)	E1	1	.003 .000
Natal	E1	41	.113 .010
	E2	14	.039 .003
	E3	2	.006 .001
	E4	2	.006 .001
Orange River Colony	E1	4	.011 .001
	E2	7	.019 .002
Southern Rhodesia	E1	2	.006 .001
	E2	2	.006 .001
	E3	3	.008 .001
	E4	1	.003 .000
Sierra Leone	E1	1	.003 .000
South Africa	E1	11	.030 .003
South Africa	E2	4	.011 .001
	E5	1	.003 .000
	E10	3	.008 .001
Sudan	E1	1	.003 .000
	E2	2	.006 .001
	E3	2	.006 .001
	E4	6	.016 .001
Transvaal	E4	1	.003 .000
	E9	8	.022 .002
	E10	6	.016 .001
Zanzibar	E3	7	.019 .002
	E4	16	.044 .004
	E5	2	.006 .001
	E6	5	.014 .001
	E7	2	.006 .001
	E8	3	.008 .001

Table 2
Distribution of Types per Postal Authority

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Table 3

Demographic Profile of Address Information

Country	Domestic Address	Non-Domestic	Person named	Non-Person	Uprated
British Bechuanaland	0	15	14	1	6
British Central Africa	0	4	3	1	0
British East Africa	4	3	4	3	1
Cape of Good Hope	34	74	73	35	34
East Africa & Uganda	2	2	3	1	1
Egypt	14	35	40	9	14
Morocco Agencies	3	12	8	7	1
Morocco (German)	0	1	1	0	0
Natal	16	43	46	13	7
Orange River Colony	0	11	9	2	3
Southern Rhodesia	4	4	7	1	2
Sierra Leone	0	1	0	1	0
South Africa	2	17	16	3	5
Sudan	3	8	6	5	1
Transvaal	9	6	11	4	1
Zanzibar	14	21	17	18	2
Totals	**105**	**257**	**258**	**104**	**78**
Percentages	**29**	**71**	**71.2**	**28.8**	**21.5**

If the word "common" was an apt descriptor, only the six types listed above would be eligible. If the word "scarce" was appropriate, then 23 types would probably qualify.

Demographic Analysis

This section surveys the addressee characteristics. Two basic divisions are considered: a local (domestic) address or an overseas (non-domestic) one, and the nature of the addressee, i.e., a person or a non-person (e.g., institution or company). Finally, any uprating with additional adhesive(s) is noted. The overall summary is shown in Table 3.

Wrappers addressed to a location within the sender postal authority (domestic or internal usage) accounted for 29% of those analysed, while 71% were addressed to a location outside the sender postal authority. About 60% of those sent outside the African continent were addressed to London and Germany. Others were sent to a variety of countries such as Holland, Switzerland, France, India, Canada and USA. Many non-domestic wrappers that were not sent outside the African continent were addressed to an adjoining postal authority, especially before the Union of South Africa. For example, a Cape of Good Hope wrapper could be sent to South West Africa, or a Natal wrapper could be sent to the Orange Free State.

Wrappers addressed to a named individual accounted for 71.2%, while the other 28.8% was sent to a variety of companies, institutions and libraries, with the highest frequency sent to company addresses in London and Germany.

A little more than one in five wrappers was uprated. A total of 34 Cape of Good Hope wrappers was uprated representing 43.5% of the total. Egypt, with 14 represented another 17.9%. These two authorities thereby account for over 60% of uprated wrappers. Only three authorities had no uprated wrappers which is understandable with such low frequencies of appearance.

Notable Wrappers

Stamped-to-order (or printed-to-private-order) wrappers are popular with collectors because of their interest and relative scarcity. Of the 362 wrappers analysed, only 19 (5%) were of this type, covering four of the 16 authorities; Cape of Good Hope (15), Morocco Agencies (2), Sudan (1) and Transvaal (1). Cape of Good Hope had 14 Cape Argus wrappers with various headings, overall layout and addresses and these have been analysed elsewhere (Courtis, 2005b)[3].

The other Cape STO was "WITH_H.E. V. PICKSTONE & Bro's Compliments" and this is shown in Figure 1. The two Morocco Agencies STO wrappers were both from the Arab newspaper *AL-MOGHREB AL-AKSA* Tangier (Morocco) and an example is shown in Figure 2. Sudan showed one wrapper with SUDAN CHURCH NOTES (Figure 3) and Transvaal showed the newspaper *THE EASTERN TRANSVAAL TIMES* - Proprietor: The Eastern Transvaal Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd., Market Square, Standerton (Figure 4). Undoubtedly others exist but they have not yet come to light on the eBay site.

Summary

The survey analyses 362 used wrappers from 16 African postal authorities sold on eBay between February 2003 and August 2005. The three postal authorities Cape of Good Hope, Natal and Egypt account for approximately 60% of postally used wrappers. British Central Africa, East Africa and Uganda, Sierra Leone, and Morocco (German) account for less than 3% of available wrappers. Six wrapper types can be considered "common": Cape of Good Hope E5 (48) and E3 (30), Natal E1 (41), Egypt E1 (24) and E2 (23), and Zanzibar E4 (16) representing 50% of the sample. By contrast 29 types appear only three times or less.

Estimates of scarcity relative to the African postal authorities and overall databases are shown. The first estimate shows the proportion of appearance of a particular issue against all African authorities' wrappers. The second estimate shows the proportion of appearance of a particular issue against the worldwide database. After the six common types have been removed, the remainder shows that the scarcity estimate on the African authorities sample has 11 types with one per 100 and 12 types with two per 100.



Figure 3: Sudan Church Notes

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Figure 4: Transvaal STO

In the overall population, 37 types have one or less per 1,000.

About 71% of wrappers are addressed to a destination other than the source postal authority, and of these 60% or so bear addresses to UK or Germany. A little more than two-thirds are addressed to a named individual, while the remainder is addressed to companies, institutions, libraries, etc. While related more to postal history than demographics, only 21.5% of wrappers are uprated.

References:

1. Courtis, John K. (2003), Wrappers Bearing Evidence of Advertising, *Philately from Australia*, Vol. 11 No. 4, December, pp. 88-104.
2. Courtis, John K. (2004), Wrappers Signalling Advertising Evidence, *The Collectors' Club Philatelist*, Vol. 83 No. 4, July-August, pp. 221-234.
3. Courtis, John K. (2005b), Cape of Good Hope Stamped-to-Order Cape Argus "Newspaper Wrappers, *Postal Stationery Collector*, Vol. 10 No. 4, Issue No. 40, February, pp. 101-107.

Foreign Exhibitions

Sold Out, Washington 2006 Bourse Waiting List Established

Washington 2006 has established a waiting list for dealers interested in participating in the exhibition, as all designated dealer and postal administration booths have now been committed. So reports bourse chairman Ken Martin on behalf of the international exhibition that runs May 27-June 3 at the Washington, DC Convention Center.

To date, more than 200 dealers have contracted for booth space, either taking their own or sharing with other dealers. In addition more than 100 postal administrations will be on the show floor with their own staffs or represented by agents. The complete listing can be found on the Washington 2006 web site at www.washington-2006.org/wdealers.htm

"Dealer interest has been and continues to be strong," says show operations Executive Director Gordon Morison. "Planned philatelic booth space is now committed, and we are exploring all options to accommodate latecomers on a limited, first-come basis."

New booth applications received in the future will be placed on the waiting list. The few dealers who have reserved space but have not yet finalized their contractual arrangements are being contacted now to complete their transactions or face the risk of being removed from the bourse list.

Martin can be reached by email at kpmartin@stamps.org or by phoning 814-933-3817 during normal business hours.

The Washington 2006 web site continues to be updated on almost a daily basis. A preliminary schedule of events, hotel reservation details, online registration, and full details are online at www.washington-2006.org/

Postal History

An Interesting Combination Cover From Zululand

By Clive Sergay, Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

Great Britain annexed the Kingdom of Zululand on 19 May 1887, in order to prevent the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek from obtaining a direct outlet to the Indian Ocean. This ephemeral Crown Colony was annexed to Natal on 31 December 1897.

Zululand stamps were available in the Crown Colony from May 1888 until 30 June 1898, when they were officially withdrawn. The latter event occurred six months after annexation to the Colony of Natal.

This combination cover from Nkandhia to Johannesburg posted on 13 January 1898, i.e. thirteen days after annexation to Natal, illustrates the fact that, Zululand stamps or a combination of the use of Zululand and Natal stamps were legally valid between 1 January and 30 June 1898 in addition to Natal stamps.

It would appear that the sender had a supply of Zululand stamps and applied the correct 2d. rate to neighbouring colonies within Southern Africa. However, on deciding to register the letter he purchased and added the additional four 1d. Natal stamps from the new stock of Natal stamps at the post office. This resulted in a colourful and rare combination cover, with backstamps of Nqutu, Zululand, and Dundee, Natal.

It is also of interest to note that both the Nkandhia and Nqutu cancellers still showed Zululand as country of origin.

1898, 13 january. A mixed franking cover from Nkandlha to Johannesburg, posted 13 days after Zululand was annexed to Natal.



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Congress Address

Congress this year was opened by Mr Ian Shapiro, MD of Argyll Etkin, the London based dealers. He complimented South African philately on establishing itself in a prominent position in international circles and on having local collectors who could hold their own on the international competition stage. However, as a frequent visitor to the country he was disconcerted to note a diminishing collector base. Unfortunately this was a world wide problem.

He was encouraged by youth philately here, but felt that more could be done at a national by specifically inviting schools to visit, to have competent and interested guides to take the youngsters around to explain highlights of historical and social interest. Stamps were an ideal way to present historical events. Further, we could learn from Stampex in London where visiting youngsters were given goody bags with all the basics for collecting – a packet of assorted stamps, a basic album, hinges and a guide on how to collect.

Another point was the question of publicity – we were poor in this area. By all means rotate the nationals around the country for as many as possible to see them, but there must be adequate publicity to advertise their presence. Local media, the press, radio, posters etc should be employed for maximum exposure, and with exposure will come sponsorship. Use of a celebrity (not a philatelist !) to open the show would guarantee sponsorship.

He reported that philately overseas was booming, but largely at the upper levels. The grass roots were dragging their feet – this was where our effort should be concentrated.

Cape Stamp Show 2005 Awards

•The President's Trophy (Grand Prix) Frames 56 - 60. Union of South Africa. Official Overprints, 1926-1936 by Dr. I. Matheson

•The "SA Post Office" Shield (best Exhibit SA Philately) Frames 296 - 300. Orange Free State Postal Cards - Briefkaarte - 1884 to 1899 by Mr. W. van Heerden, RDPSA

•Claude Malan Trophy Frames 285 - 292. South African Airmails by Mr. B. Smith.

•Dawid De Villiers Display Trophy Frames 301 - 305. The Postal Stationery of Southern Rhodesia - 1924 to 1937 by Mr. JPD Flanagan.

•Die AFV Eretoekenning (at the Discretion of the Jury) Frames 231 - 235. Dutch East Indies Prestamp Mail from 1821 by Mr. J. Bakker.

•Mont Blanc Award (at the Discretion of the Jury) Frames 51 - 55. Zululand by Mr. H. Birkhead, RDPSA.

•The "C.E.D.Enoch" Trophy (best Philatelic Research) Frames 196 - 200. The Postmarks of Zululand by Mr. P.Whitmore.

•The "D.G.Crocker" Cup (best Postal History Exhibit) Frames 231 - 235. Dutch East Indies Prestamp Mail from 1821 by Mr. J. Bakker.

•The "Dawie Uys" Memorial Award (best Aerophilately Exhibit) Frames 285 - 292. South African Airmails by Mr. B. Smith.

•The "F.A.K." Trophy (best with write-up in Afrikaans) Frames 327 - 328. Tafelberg, op die Agtergrond by Mr. G. Hugo.

•The "Jonas Michelson" Literature Award (Best Literature) Schweizer-Reneke 1900-1901 by Mr. H. Birkhead, RDPSA.

•The "Potch 78" Award (best Exhibit Post-WW II) Frames 342 - 344.Swaziland: A Post Independence Miscellanea by Mr. P. van der Molen, RDPSA.

•The "Rand 77" Award (at the discretion of the Jury) Frames 101 - 105. Malta by Mr. B. Franklin.

The "Rhodesia" Award (best Rhodesian Exhibit) Frames 301 - 305. The Postal Stationery of Southern Rhodesia - 1924 to 1937 by Mr. JPD Flanagan.

•The ""Robert Goldblatt"" Thematic Cup (best Thematic Exhibit) Frames 271 - 275. From Abacus to Internet by Mr. W O Vegter.

•The "Rose Mary Crocker" Bowl (best SWA Exhibit) Frames 116 - 120. The De La Rue Georgians of S.W.A. by Mr. M. Tonking.

•The "Royal"" Medallion (best British Commonwealth Exhibit) Frames 106 - 110. Trengganu by Dr. I. Matheson.

•The "South African Stamp Study Circle" Award (best SA Exhibit after 1910) Frames 73 - 77. The London and Pretoria Typographed Printings of the 1d Ship of the Union of SA in sheet, booklet and coil Format by Dr. D. Wolmarans.

•The "Stampcor" Award (best Pre-Union Exhibit) Frames 196 - 200. The Postmarks of Zululand by Mr. P. Whitmore.

•The "Terence Radue" Award (best Foreign Exhibit) Frames 161 - 165. The Free City of Danzig by Mr. D. Crocker, RDPSA.

•The "Vrijstaat" Trophy (best Orange Freestate Exhibit) Frames 181 - 188. Orange Free State and Orange River Colony: Aspects of Postal History: March 1900 to May 1910 by Mr. J. Cheminais.

•The "ZAR 100" Award (Foreign exhibit of sufficiently high standard) Frames 171 - 175. Stamps of the 'Free City of Danzig' 1923-39 by Mr. S. Beck.

•The East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy (best First-time Exhibit) Frames 208 - 210. Postal History of Bahrain up to 1960.

•The Picture Postcard Thematic Cup (Best Postcard Exhibit not Southern Africa) Frames 352 - 356. St Helena Picture Postcards (to 1939) & their Publishers by Mr. M. Crawford.

•The SAPRG Archie Atkinson Trophy (best Picture Postcart Exhibit of Southern Africa) Frames 371 - 378. The First Five Years: A selection of Southern African and Related Picture Postcards - 1896 to 1900 by Mr. G Flack.

•The Society of Israel Philatelic Award (best Israel / Holy Land Exhibit) Frames 247 - 250. The Changing Face of the Gaza Strip by Mrs. M. Bleazard.

•The Tony Chilton Transvaal Award Frames 67 - 72. Transvaal Philately Miscreants by Mr. M. Wigmore, RDPSA.

•The Total Stampex 95 Trophy (best Exhibit from area outside SA) Frames 236 - 241. Germany - Postal Rates during Inflation Period from 1919-1923 by Mr. H. Kussing.

Federation Awards

Recipients were applauded.

• **W E Lea Cup** to Bob (Robert) Allison for his major contribution to South African philately, most notably through his research, writing and exhibits relating to OFS philately.

• **Harvey Pirie Memorial Award** to Albert J C Borgstein for outstanding original research on Railway Covers 1910-2003.

• **Manfred Weinstein Medallion** to Richard Stroud for regular research and publications on the Anglo Boer-War.

• **Transvaal Gold Congress Award** to John Kaupe for his article, *The Vurtheim five pounds – twenty years on* published in the Transvaal Philatelist, 40(20) 154, May 2005, pp 29-56.

• **Transvaal Silver Congress Award** to Joh Groenewald RDPSA for his article, *Die veldposdiens van die ZAR in die 1890s* published in three parts in the SA Philatelist, Vol 80 nos. 4, 5 and 6, pp 104-8, 135-9, 174-7.

• **Federation Plaque:** Herbie Schaffler for the successful management of Witwatersrand PS and general enthusiasm in promoting philately.

Congress Awards

Congress Awards, articles in The SA Philatelist during the period June 2004 to August 2005.

Danie Scheepers	King George V Silver Jubilee issue of S Africa. June 04.
W J Quik	Rotogravure and Planographic Printing Presses of the Government Printer, Pretoria 1930-1990. June 04.
Chris Mobsby RDPSA	My Favourite Local. June 04.
Joh Groenewald RDPSA	Die Veldposdiens van die ZAR in die 1890's. Aug, Oct, Dec 04
JR Frank RDPSA	The Royal Canadian Field Artillery, second Anglo-Boer War. October 04.
Peter vd Molen RDPSA	British Forces' Field Post Offices in Swaziland 1963-1966. October 04.
JR Frank RDPSA	The 'Shipping Postmaster' Postmarks of South Africa February 05
Danie Scheepers RDPSA	Madagascar Intrigue. December 04.
Peter vd Molen RDPSA	The Post-Independence General Revenue Stamps of Swaziland. February 05.
Loek van Riet	Designers All? February 05.
Chris Mobsby	Of Franks 'n Stamps. February 05
Danie Scheepers	Specimen Issues of the 1910 Union Commemorative. April 05
David Mordant	The Rectangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope. Apr, Jun, Aug 05.
Colin Fraser	Waterlow & Sons Ltd, Postage Stamp Printers. April 05.

Regular contributors to the SA Philatelist

Rev J Cassie Carstens	Thematically Yours
Robin Messenger	New South African stamp issues

Two books were deemed worthy of recognition:

Brian Trotter	Edwardian Issues of Southern Africa
Harry Birkhead RDPSA & Joh Groenewald	The Pseudo Siege of Schweizer-Reneke

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Cape Stamp Show 2005 Awards continued

Large Gold

Dr. I. Matheson,	Frames 56 - 60. Union of South Africa. Official Overprints, 1926-1936"
Mr. M. Tonking	Frames 116 - 120. The De La Rue Georgians of S.W.A.
Mr. W. van Heerden, RDPSA	Frames 296 - 300. Orange Free State Postal Cards - Briefkaarte - 1884 to 1899
Mr. G. Flack	Frames 371 - 378. The First Five Years: A selection of Southern African and Related Picture Postcards -1896 to 1900

Gold

Mr. H. Birkhead RDPSA	Frames 51 - 55. Zululand
Mr. M. Wigmore RDPSA	Frames 61 - 66. Natal: The Victorian Era Stamps of Perkins Bacon & De La Rue
Dr. I. Matheson	Frames 106 - 110. Trengganu
Mr. D. Crocker RDPSA	Frames 161 - 165. The Free City of Danzig
Mr. J. Cheminais	Frames 181 - 188. Orange Free State and Orange River Colony: Aspects of Postal History: March 1900 to May 1910
Mr. P. Whitmore	Frames 196 - 200. The Postmarks of Zululand
Mr. J. Bakker	Frames 231 - 235. Dutch East Indies Prestamp Mail from 1821
Mr. H. Kussing	Frames 236 - 241. Germany - The Postal Rates during the Inflation Period from 1919-1923
Mr. W. Vegter	Frames 271 - 275. From Abacus to Internet
Mr. B. Smith	Frames 285 - 292. South African Airmails
Mr. JPD Flanagan	Frames 301 - 305. The Postal Stationery of Southern Rhodesia - 1924 to 1937
Mr. G. Flack	Frames 361 - 368. An Early Southern African Maritime Matrix

Large Vermeil + Fel

Mr. K. Brodovcky	Frames 96 - 100. The Postage Stamps of Southern Rhodesia to Federation: 1924 - 1954

Large Vermeil

Mr. M. Wigmore RDPSA	Frames 67 - 72. Transvaal Philately Miscreants
Dr. D. Wolmarans	Frames 73 - 77. The London and Pretoria Typographed Printings of the 1d Ship of the Union of SA in sheet, booklet and coil Format"
Mr. J. Kilroe	Frames 121 - 126. Great Britain - The King George V Years, 1910 - 1936"
Mrs. A. Wigmore	Frames 242 - 246. A Kitchen Compendium
Mrs. M. Bleazard	Frames 247 - 250. The Changing Face of the Gaza Strip
Mr. D. Hyland RDPSA	Frames 277 - 284. North and North West Africa Airmails 1921-46
Mr. D. Dowie-Dunn	Frames 331 - 338. The Wild Mammal Treasury of Africa
Mr. P. van der Molen RDPSA	Frames 342 - 344. Swaziland: A Post Independence Miscellanea
Mr. M. Crawford	Frames 352 - 356. St Helena Picture Postcards (to 1939) & their Publishers
Mr. M. Walker	Frames 383 - 390. The Railways of the Cape Colony, Natal and Transvaal prior to Union

Vermeil + Fel

Mr. J. Carter	Frames 208 - 210. Postal History of Bahrain up to 1960

Vermeil

Mr. R. Zinke	Frames 155 - 160. Germany: Allied Occupation, Anglo-American Zone, Bi-Zone
Mr. S. Beck	Frames 171 - 175. Stamps of the 'Free City of Danzig' 1923-39
Mr. D. Crocker RDPSA	Frames 176 - 180. Ukraine - The Trident Overprints
Mr. W. Lubbe	Frames 201 - 204. My Heimat - Stellenbosch
Mr. W. Ross	Frames 221 - 225. Postage and Revenue - a Postal History of British Central Africa
Mr. J. Bakker	Frames 293 - 295. Dutch Crashmail
Mr. D. Hyland RDPSA	Frames 306 - 310. The Revenue Stamps of Natal 1846 - 1913

Large Silver

Mr. D. Sinclair	Frames 111 - 115. South African 4th Definitives: The "Buildings" 1982-88
R. Oliver	Frames 135 - 138. Channel Islands Red Cross, POW and Internment Mail 1940-45
Mr. C. Cordes	Frames 166 - 170. Czechoslovakia - Hradcany Issue of 1918-1920
Mr. M. Walker	Frames 205 - 207. The Travelling Post Offices of South Africa
Dr. D. Pocock	Frames 313 - 315. The Railway Parcel Stamps of Rhodesia and Zambia
Mrs. M. Crawford	Frames 321 - 326. Exploring the Lives of Lilly and Carl - 'Til Death Us Do Part
Mr. G. Hugo	Frames 327 - 328. Tafelberg, op die Agtergrond
Mr. M. Murphy	Frames 339 - 341. Cape Colony Ocean Post Office and Ships on which it operated
Mr. P. van Zeyl	Frames 345 - 347. South African Parallels and Involvement with The Irish in their Freedom Struggle to 1923.
Mr. M. Suttill	Frame 351. Roland Hill
Birkhead and Groenewald	The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke

Silver + Fel

Mr. M. Moll	Frames 311 - 312. Unie Poskaart ontwerpe van 1951 en 1958

Silver

Mr. P. Copeman	Frames 81 - 82. A Technical Exhibit of the Uses and Abuses of the 1d Red Commemorative Stamp as issued on 6 September 1895 by the Zuid Afrikansche Republiek
Mr. A. Rogers	Frames 83 - 84. George V
Mr. F. Loteryman	Frames 85 - 90. South West Africa: Study Exhibit 1923 - 1954
Dr. L. Barit	Frames 131 - 134. The 1961 Decimal Overprints
Mr. G. von Grüter	Frames 143 - 146. Overprints in South West Africa
Mrs. H. Botha	Frames191 - 195. 'n Versameling van die Posslagspreuke van die Unie van Suid-Afrika
Mr. B. Goosen	Frames 211 - 215. Republic of Namibia: Postmarks 1990 - 2000
Mr. B. Fenemore	Frames 226 - 229. The Bechuanalands 1861 - 1961
Mrs. R. Janse van Vuuren	Frames 255 - 256. Disney: The first 60 Years
Mrs. G. van Zyl	Frames 267 - 270. The African Savanna
J. Bromfield	Frames 316 - 320. Inventions
Mr. B. Fenemore	Frames 357 - 360. The Postcards of Vryburg, Mafeking and the Bechuanaland
Mr. P. van Zeyl	Frames 369 - 370. Chinese Miners on the Rand 1904 to 1910

Silver Bronze

Mr. A. Mackenzie	Frames 78 - 80. The Coil Machine Stamps of South Africa
Mr. A. Barit	Frame 95. Errors on Stamps
Mr. P. van Zeyl	Frames 348 - 350. The Vatican's Winds of Change
Dr. D. Pocock	Frames 379 - 382. The Picture Postcards of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa

Bronze

Mr. A. Barit	Frames 91 - 94. The Lesotho 1981 Bird Stamps
Mr. M. Walker	Frames 147 - 150. A Tribute to the Works of the Engineers, Personalities and Architects who built the railways of Africa
Mr. W. Drake	Frames 251 - 254. Airquest
Mr. W. Lubbe	Frames 257 - 260. Centenary of Rotary International
Mr. D. Seaward	Frames 263 - 266. Orchids on Stamps

Certificate of Merit

Mr. D. Atkinson	Frames 127 - 130. The Postal History and Stamps of the Isle of Man
Prof. A. Sorgdrager	Frames 139 - 142. SWA 1960 - 1990
Mr. S. Gardiner	Frames 189 - 190. Union Pictorials and their Usages
Mrs. G. Reynolds	Frames 261 - 262. In the Library

ONE FRAME

Diamond

Mr. H. Birkhead RDPSA	Frame 395. Posts of Wolmaransstad and Districts 1899-1902
Mr. H. Birkhead RDPSA	Frame 396. Schweizer-Reneke 1900-1901
Mr. M. Suttill	Frame 399. Great Britain - Early Postal Stationery
Dr. D. Wolmarans	Frame 401. The Darmstadt Trials - Printing Trials of the first 1d Rotogravure postage stamps of the Union of South Africa

Emerald

Mr. J. Bakker	Frame 391. Contact with Home during World War II
Mr. J. Bakker	Frame 392. German Postal Services in Occupied Holland during WW2

Ruby

Dr. L. Barit	Frame 393. The 1954 Basutoland Set and Its Progressions
Mr. C. Cordes	Frame 397. Czechoslovakia - 1930 Airmail Issue

Sapphire

Mr. S. Barit	Frame 394. Errors on the Stamps of Great Britain

Aquamarine

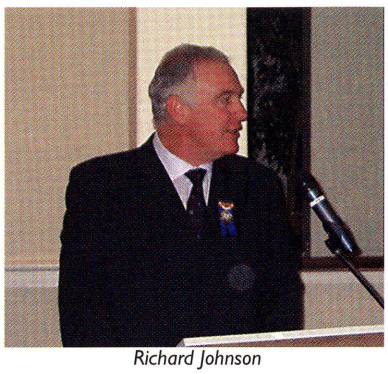
Mr. F. Janssen	Frame 398. "No 1" - the first stamp of European and African Countries
Mr. T. Vlok	Frame 400. The Queen's Beasts
Mr. R. Wood	Frame 402. Permit Mail of the Republic of South Africa

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Jury Report - Cape Stamp Show 2005

By Richard Johnson, RDPSA

Jury: Hugh Amoore, Emil Buhrmann (vice-chairman), Gerrie Conradie, Dr Neil Cronje, Dr JR Frank RDPSA, Colin Hoffman RDPSA FRPSL (apprentice), Richard Johnson RDPSA (chairman), Emil Minnaar, David Parsons, Neville Polakow, Jill Redmond RDPSA, Dr Mervyn Rosenberg (apprentice), Coen Slagt RDPSA, Brian Trotter FRPSL, Carel Welling



Richard Johnson

Firstly, my thanks to the Cape Stamp Show Organising Committee for their invitation to chair this jury. Happily an experienced team had already accepted Hugh Amoore's prior invitation with a good spread between amateur and professional members as well as overseas input from our UK jurors David Parsons, Brian Trotter and Colin Hoffman (apprentice).

I must particularly thank the two Emils... my vice-chairman Emil Buhrmann who contributed significantly pre-exhibition as a sounding board for thoughts and planning and was a rock of support during our judging process. Emil Minnaar - in addition to his jury duties - was invaluable in keeping the computer performing.

On then to the technical issues:

Draft first pages as well as "synopsis" sheets were again requested from exhibitors for distribution to jury members. The concept continues to be an advantageous one from which we were able to better prepare jury teams, library resources and effectively - especially from the synopsis sheets - be given a foretaste of the philatelic banquet upon which we were going to feast!

And feast we did: 4 Large Gold awards and 12 Gold awards from a field of 83 competitive exhibits.

All exhibitors are to be congratulated on providing us with a well-filled hall of around 400 frames. Without question we enjoyed a generally higher than usual standard of exhibit at the middle levels which bodes well for the future. The top end this year was maybe slightly less populated probably due to the exceptional Large Gold awards we have seen in the immediately preceding few years.

Another emerging trend is the appearance of very fine Foreign exhibits that could quite likely be dominating the top awards and prizes in coming years.

Under the guidance of Emil Buhrmann (Emil is the Chairman of PFSA's Judging & Ethics Committee), we endeavoured in this jury to set in motion a process of strictly applying FIP rules and standards across all disciplines. The intention is to work towards a goal of having scores achieved at South African National exhibitions closely approximate to those scores received abroad. As higher points are required for each medal level at overseas Internationals we hope to settle on similar scores, awards being one medal class higher than International.

When scoring exhibits, treatment within the exhibit was examined quite sternly by this jury. We had a number of instances of quite outstanding material in an exhibit just not being done justice by commensurately sound treatment.

This did unfortunately sometimes lead to disappointing award results for exhibitors. However it will make for stronger exhibits when those lovely things appear more properly presented to a future Jury. Organisation and presentation do by their nature count for far more than the points indicated!

Amongst recommendations we will make to Federation will be:

1) Re-assess the current requalification requirement whereby PFSA jurors have to actively exhibit every 5 years. Whilst laudable in principle it will undoubtedly adversely affect our jury pool in the future as the years and other factors take their natural toll on our existing accredited judges.

2) Logistically we need Federation to consider providing a judging sofware system and ideally a skilled secretary to manage only that aspect of the jury's work. This will also have the positive spinoff of opening jury chairman / vice-chairman or secretary positions to those without technical know-how which presently by default is an unwritten requirement.

3) Our two apprentices Dr Mervyn Rosenberg and Colin Hoffman RDPSA were valuable members of our team who contributed actively. Their various team leaders were pleased to recommend that we present their names for accreditation as full national jurors.

In closing I must again thank all of our jury members for their diligent effort. It was heartening to watch them work so very very hard at their particular groups.

Finally to Alicia Wannerton, Des Hyland, the Brians (Franklin & Fenemore) and all the members of the hosting societies that put in such a magnificent effort to ensure the success of this exhibition... thank you for your dedication and especially for your warm Cape hospitality.



The RDPSA achievers of South Africa

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South African Philately and the World

My Personal Impressions

By Lumir Brendl, President of the Union of Czech Philatelists, FIP Director

South African philately is an indivisible part of the organized world philately. And I am very happy that I was able to witness its promising development in the past 10 years.

It all began in December 1995, in Israel, at JERUSALEM 3000 International Stamp Exhibition, where the late David Stern spoke enthusiastically about the proposed International Stamp Exhibition ILSAPEX '98 and kindly invited Czech philatelists to participate. Well, that was my first contact with South African philately and philatelists.

The Union of Czech Philatelists accepted David Stern's invitation with pleasure because it was the very first possibility to introduce Czech exhibits on the African continent. In October 1998, as the Czech Commissioner, I brought eight philatelic exhibits and one title for the Philatelic Literature Class to Johannesburg. I personally handed the exhibits over to Danny Swart, Commissioner General of ILSAPEX '98 in the Cullinan Hotel - an official hotel for the Exhibition commissioners, jurors and guests. Then, I could follow the perfect organization of the Exhibition, starting in the bin room and continuing with the installation of exhibits in frames. I had a chance to talk to many national commissioners and jurors from different countries I had never met before: Cyprus and Greece, Israel and Russia, Egypt and Japan, the United Kingdom and Australia, Singapore and Argentina, France and Italy, etc. I took part in an impressive grand opening (Fig. 1) and the Palmares night.

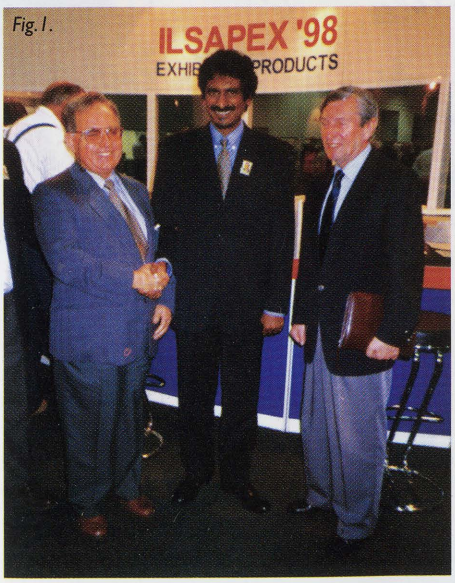


Fig. 1.

The Exhibition atmosphere was very friendly and the fascinating excursions can never be forgotten. ILSAPEX '98 was a truly world exhibition demonstrating that the South African philately became one of solid pillars of the FIP and the world philately.

I am happy that having friends among those SA philatelists who were responsible for ILSAPEX '98 organization and jury work, I am not losing contact with South African philately. In 2000, in Spain, I worked in the ESPANA 2000 Jury with Danny Scheepers - a Jury Apprentice for youth philately; he qualified there as a FIP accredited juror for the youth class. We met again in 2002, in Salamanca, at ESPANA 2002 World Stamp Youth Exhibition. I also met Mrs. Jill Redmond (Fig. 2), "spiritus movens" in South African youth philately, who was there as the Commissioner.



Fig. 2.

She brought a very representative selection of nine SA youth exhibits - the best of them was David Conradie's "King George VI issues of the Union of South Africa and S.W.A. overprints". Thanks to Jill Redmond's perseverance and systematic educational and organizational activity, the SA youth exhibits proved their quality, invention and philatelic knowledge.

At the World Stamp Championship 2004 in Singapore I worked in the Jury with Howard Green, another ILSAPEX '98 organizer and FIP juror. And in the spring 2005, after seven years, I finally met Danny Swart and his wife in Prague, Czech Republic, during their European tour.

We talked a lot about our countries and philately and I believe that if the FIP World Specialized Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 2008 becomes reality, we'll welcome a number of exhibits and exhibitors from South Africa in the Czech Republic.

The Republic of South Africa is not "terra incognita" for Czech philatelists. Some time ago, Mr. Ladislav Dvoracek, former FIP President and now FIP Honorary President, published a very interesting study on the triangular postage stamps of Cape of Good Hope, and then, in the 1980s, a philatelic handbook dealing with this triangular issue in detail. The South Africa "landscape" issues are also very popular here in my country.

After the FIP experiment of One Frame Exhibits appeared, SCF Secretary General, Mr. Jaroslav Malecek, a keen collator and exhibitor of not only the first Czechoslovak "Hradcany" Issue 1918-1920 awarded a Large Vermeil medal at ILSAPEX '98, but also the South Africa landscape ordinary issues, in 2003 showed his "South Africa" one frame exhibit - the first Czech philatelic exhibit dedicated to South African postage stamps. In his One Framer he tries to present in a simple and understandable way the ordinary postage stamps issued in SA between the years 1926-1954, divided in four periods.

It is very promising that South African philatelists also pay attention to the FIP One Frame Exhibits Project, The "Bloem One Framers" Exhibition held in July 2005 in Bloemfontein is a good example. Such exhibitions help to promote the One Frame Exhibits experiment and, eventually, OFEs to be approved as a competitive FIP class by the delegates at the FIP Congress 2006 in Malaga, Spain.

Let me wish all the best to South African philately and the bright future to all African philatelists.



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Nuwe Sensorplakker van ZAR gevind

Deur Nic Zerbst, Oranje Vrystaat Filateliestevereniging

English précis: A new ZAR censor label is recorded, used in September 1900 from Komatipoort. It is similar to the rare Anglo-Boer War censor labels produced by the 'Government Printer in the field' at Machadodorp, but is printed on grey paper.

'n Nuwe sensorplakker wat deur die Transvaalse republiek se 'Staatsdmkkery te velde' geproduseer is, is pas ontdek. Die plakker, met die teks 'Geopend onder Krijgswet', is gedruk op grys papier.

Die bekende klein ZAR-sensorplakker van die Anglo-Boereoorlog is deur die Staatsdrukkery in Pretoria gedruk op pienk papier, en is getand of deels getand.

Na die Britse inname van Pretoria in Junie 1900 is 'n klein eenheid van die Staatsdrukkery in 'n treinwa geplaas en het dit met die regeringstreine uitgewyk na Machadodorp, wat toe die amptelike regeringsetel van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek geword het.

Hierdie 'Staatsdrukkery te velde' op Machadodorp het 'n aantal sensorplakkers gedruk, vir gebruik deur possensors om oopgemaakte briewe weer te verseël.

Die eerste hiervan was in swart letters op pienk papier, gevolg deur een met grys letterwerk op wit papier, en toe groen letterwerk op wit papier.

Die treinwa met die drukkery-eenheid het in die laaste dae van Augustus 1900 van Machadodorp verskuif na Nelspruit, en daarna na Komatipoort. Hierdie nuut ontdekte plakker op grys papier het die letterwerk in dieselfde donkergroen ink, en is moontlik gedruk toe die treinwa op Komatipoort was.

Die grys plakker is op 'n koevert wat op 7 September 1900 op Komatipoort gestempel is (die stempel lees Comatiepoort ZAR hoewel die naam toe al amptelik as Komatipoort gespel is). Oor die grys plakker is 'n rugstempel vir Komatipoort op 8 September 1900.

Ook op die agterkant is voorletters van die sensor, en 'n aankomsmerk vir Lourenço Marques op 10 September 1900.

Ek glo hierdie sensorplakkers van die ZAR, Junie-September 1900, tel onder die seldsaamhede van die Anglo-Boereoorlog.

Dr Nic Zerbst van George is 'n kenner van die Transvaalse en Vrystaatse republieke se possensuur, en van die kampe en ander aanhoudingsplekke van krygsgevangenes in Indie, Ceylon en Portugal.



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- Two monthly Stamp Fair Auctions in Sandton and Boksburg
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- A major new venture will be a web page which will expand the exposure of our business.
- Next year will also see the first Postal Revenue Auctions for this country dedicated to promote and market Southern Africa Revenue's and Labels to the world market.
- The most important part of our business is the awareness of stamps and paper preservation. By these efforts we have already activated old collectors and found a new youth market which has emerged through Thematic interests and school related projects.



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Rev J Cassie Carstens
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria

THEMES ON STAMPS

• **GRASSHOPPERS** are in fact cosmopolitan – they are found in a variety of habitats : mountains, deserts, marshes and temperate forest. About 10 000 species are known and many species are varying shades of green, olive or brown; some are garishly marked with yellows and reds. Grasshoppers have long hind legs to help in jumping, but many of them fly, some of them making a crackling noise in flight. They are almost entirely herbivorous. Females are generally larger than males. In Africa and other certain parts of the world grasshoppers are eaten as food. (Ugh!) They also serve as valuable food for larger birds.



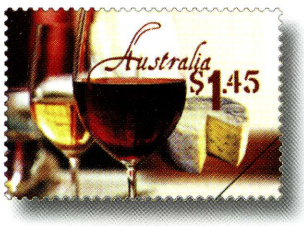
• Queen Victoria instituted the **VICTORIA CROSS** by Royal Warrant on 29 January 1856 to be "awarded to those officers or men that have served Us in the presence of the enemy, and shall have performed some signal act of valour or devotion to their country." The Victoria Cross is, in fact, the highest decoration that a member of the British or Commonwealth Armed Forces can receive. Queen Victoria made the Victoria Cross retrospective so that those servicemen whose actions had fitted the award criteria during the Crimean War could be recognized. It is known that Queen Victoria chose the wording which appears on the Cross – "For Valour" – and there are suggestions that Prince Albert was very much involved in the design.



• The first **SHEEP** were brought to New Zealand by Captain James Cook in 1773. Within 200 years their numbers had soared to 70 million and today the total flock is about 43 million – around 12 sheep for every person with whom they share the land. After much diversification and cross-breeding, the dominant sheep is the Romney, well known for its strong wool and excellent meat. (But I never ever knew the ewe is actually a ram…!?).



• **WINE** production in Australia is a growth industry. Australia is now the world's fourth largest wine exporter – behind France, Italy and Spain – and the single largest exporter of wine outside the European Union. Australia is the number one supplier of wine to the United Kingdom and number two to the United States of America. Wine-grape growing and winemaking are carried out in every State and Territory of Australia. Approximately 1.5 million bottles of wine leave Australia every day, supplying 89 international markets. (Never tasted it in my life. Don't think I want to…!).



• A myth like that of the Ferrari could only arise out of the real passion for **CARS** and **RACING** of a man like Enzio Ferrari. Born on February 18, 1898 in Modena, he founded the "Ferrari Racing Team" in his home town in 1929. In 1950 the Ferrari, with its rearing horse, participated in the first World Championships of Formula One and it is the only team ever to have participated in all the succeeding championships, winning 14 World Champion Automaker medals and 14 World Champion Driver medals (our own South African Jody Scheckter in 1979). Up to the end of 2004 Ferrari has won a total of 182 Grand Prix races. But what went wrong in 2005…?



• The **VICTORIA FALLS** are located on the River Zambezi about 1 000 kilometres from its source. They are Zimbabwe's best known geographical feature and a major tourist attraction. "Scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight" – so wrote Dr David Livingstone, the Scots missionary-explorer when he first saw the falls on 16 November 1855 (150 years ago). The Makalolo interpreters told him that the falls were called by the local people who lived in the area as Mosi-oa-Tunya = "The Smoke that Thunders." Livingstone simply named them after his Queen, Victoria.



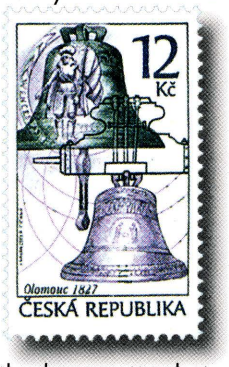
• Of all the stamps on **EINSTEIN**, I like the Israeli one the best! In 2005 the whole world is marking the 100th anniversary of the "miraculous year" (Annus Mirabilis) of Albert Einstein (1879-1955), the most prominent scientist of the 29th century – and perhaps of all times. In 1905, when he was 26 years old and working at a patent office in Switzerland, Einstein published a number of papers which changed the accepted world-views and became the cornerstone of modern physics. The highlight of his work in 1905 was the formulation of the Special Theory of Relativity, which shed new light on the concepts of time and space. He received the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921.



• Bellfounding has a long tradition in this world. The voices of **BELLS** have accompanied our everyday life for almost five thousand years. Even though they are almost hidden from our sight, they measure our time, announce the arrival of holidays, sound the

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alarm, invite for prayers, accompany us also on our last way. Their voice did not change throughout the thousands of years, it still evokes the same emotions in us as it did in our predecessors. The shape of bells did not change either, nor did the old craft of bell-founding. Bells are founded of bronze in the same way as they used to be. A bell sounds with many different, unevenly sonorous tones which have to chime in harmoniously.

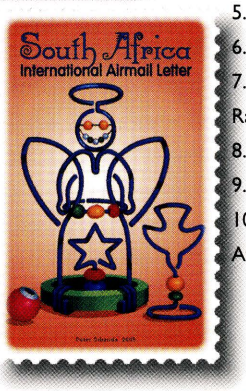


In addition to the musical aspect bells have also an important artistic aspect; they bear inscriptions and plastic decorations of artistic value.

• Blissfully ignorant of the dangers attendant to a life in the wild, they tumble, bounce and roll about in the forests and fields. Though one might be tempted to approach these at-first-blush cuddly creatures, an overly protective and lethal parent probably isn't too far behind. So, be aware of this cute little **WOLF**!



• At last a South African **CHRISTMAS** stamp depicting a more indigenous theme – "draadkuns" (wire art). I really find it appropriate, user-friendly and lekker-local! My compliments to the artist and the New Issues Committee of the Philatelic Services. (But I heard with great sorrow that future Christmas issues are to be withdrawn, because it is impossible to cater for all the different religions in South Africa. What a shame! And then we call ourselves a country with more than 70% Christians…? Eish!).



References

1. SwaziPost, Mbabane, Swaziland
2. Jersey Stamp Bulletin No 134, October 2005
3. New Zealand Post, January 2005.
4. Australian Stamp Bulletin, No 280 : June – August 2005.
5. San Marino Philatelic Bulletin, February 2005
6. Zimbabwe Posts, Bulletin 5 of 2005
7. Israel Postal Authority, September 2005 (via East Rand Stamps)
8. POSTFILA, Prague, Czech Republic
9. Posten Post Stamp, Sweden – August 2005
10. Christmas Issue 2005, Philatelic Services, South Africa.

David Feldman SA
PHILATELISTS • AUCTIONEERS

David Feldman Auction at Geneva

David Feldman's "Rarities of the World" sale, on 2 December 2005, includes Richard Schaefer's "Swiss Combination Covers of the World". A sumptuous catalogue describes this 108 lot sale of wonderful material, ranging from British Guyana Classics on cover to Newfoundland airmails and Second World War concentration camp mail.

Of Southern African interest is an 1857 mixed franking from Paris, bearing an Empire 80 centimes carmine, to the Rev. Dyke at Hermon, Basutoland. It was redirected at Cape Town "via Smithfield" and a lovely deep blue 4d triangular was applied and cancelled there.

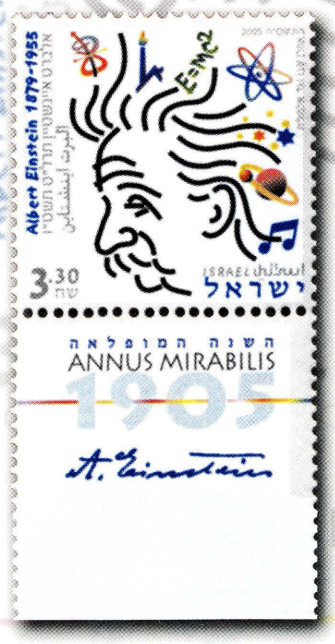
A Madagascar 1894-1895 N.M.S (Norwegian Missionary Mail) 5V value on a domestic cover is a gem. Collections of Ionian Islands, Italian Levant and New Zealand postal history add interest.

The combination covers include a triple country franking of Egyptian, Italian and Swiss origin sent in 1871 from Cairo to Versailles.

The spectacular European items include a striking 1869 Russia-Switzerland franking. However, an 1862 cover from Switzerland, with 90 Rappen postage plus a United States 3 cents to cover domestic postage, to the Utah Territory is rightly considered as the star item of the sale by the auction house.

The address is P.O. Box 81-1213 Onex, Geneva, Switzerland.

To commemorate the World Year of Physics, Israel has issued a stamp honouring Albert Einstein



East Rand Stamps
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De La Rue Printing Errors in the 1870s

Part 3 of a short series looking at Philatelic Mysteries of the Orange Free State

By Robert Allison, OFS Study Circle

For twenty years, from 1856 to 1876, the Orange Free State produced its own revenue stamps. The first issue was embossed on a range of at least nine different coloured papers and fifteen different values have been recorded ranging from 6d to £10[1]. The design was simple with "ORANJE VRY STAAT" at the top and the value in the centre (Fig. 1). A second issue in about 1874, also embossed, had a larger design incorporating the Coat of Arms (Fig. 2). The values 1/-, 1/6d, 3/-, 4/-, 10/- and £1, each on a different coloured paper, have been recorded. Two smaller designs were additionally produced at around this time, one for the 1/- value which is found on both blue and deep rose papers (Fig. 3), and one for the sixpence value, this on yellow paper, (Fig. 4). This design was also used for the one penny value but is known only as an embossed stamp impressed on cheques.

In 1876, with the ever increasing volume in population and trade, and the consequent increase in legal documents requiring stamps to pay for the duty, it was decided that the embossed stamps should be discontinued and new printed stamps should be ordered from De La Rue, the London printers who had already, in 1868, successfully produced the first issue of postage stamps for the republic.

First Issue



Fig. 1

Second Issue Type 1



Fig.2

Second Issue Type 2



Fig.3

Second Issue Type 3



Fig.4

The printers were given nineteen embossed stamps with a request that the designs thereon should be incorporated in the designs for seventeen values of the new stamps. For some unknown reason the 6d value was needed in two different designs, as illustrated in Figure 3 and 4, and the 1/- value was needed in two designs (Figs 2 and 3). Probably the different designs were planned for different uses, one of these possibly by banks. But with such a complicated order it was perhaps inevitable that there were going to be problems! Observant readers will notice the unnecessary hyphen inserted between "ORANJE" and "VRY" in Type 2 of the second issue (Fig. 3). If this embossed stamp was one of the 19 embossed stamps given to the printers it may just have contributed to the cause of the main problem which will be soon explained...

To begin with the embossing was too indistinct for the De La Rue artist to see the detail and, in any case, the cost of producing so many different values in different shapes and sizes would have been prohibitive. It was agreed that a completely new design should be produced which would include the Free State's Coat of Arms and, after considering a number of suggestions (see Fig. 5 for an essay of one example[2]), a final choice was made. The size would be double the normal stamp size and there would be a variation in the design to easily distinguish between the pound values, shilling values and the sixpence. Three printing plates would therefore be made, each to print 120 stamps to the sheet. The value spaces were left blank and these were overprinted from 17 plates, one of each value. These value plates were half the size of the basic plates, overprinting 60 stamps at a time to ensure the correct positioning of the values.

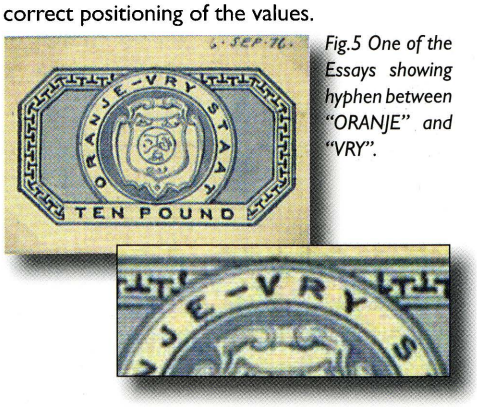


Fig.5 One of the Essays showing hyphen between "ORANJE" and "VRY".

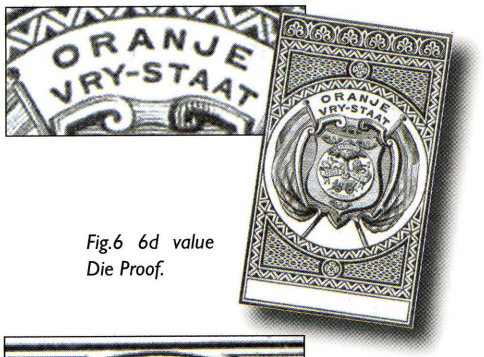


Fig.6 6d value Die Proof.

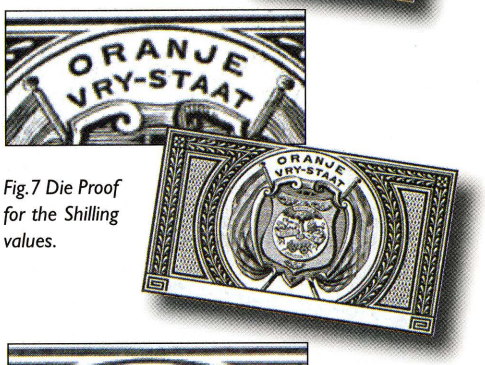


Fig.7 Die Proof for the Shilling values.

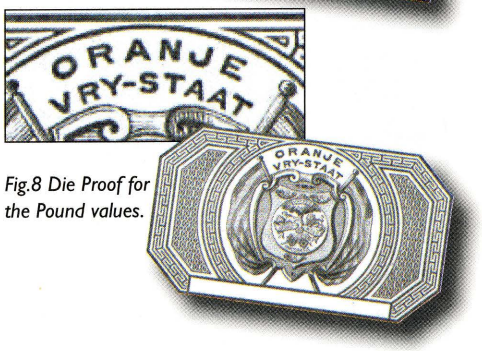


Fig.8 Die Proof for the Pound values.

Error No. 1. The unwanted hyphen.

We do not know the full story of what actually happened but it appears that all was going well, even possibly to the printing of specimen sheets of each value, when someone drew attention to the fact that there was a hyphen between "VRY" and "STAAT" which ought not to be there.

Figures 6 - 8 illustrate the die proofs for the three basic designs, each showing clearly the hyphen between VRY and STAAT. Indeed each of the essays had a hyphen (Fig. 5), but in these cases it was between the ORANJE and VRY! One might wonder why the DLR artist should think it was necessary to have a hyphen at all? The erroneous hyphen between ORANJE and VRY on the embossed Type 2 (Fig. 3) may possibly have influenced the decision. Another possibility is that a reference may have been seen to the description of someone living in the Orange Free State as being a Free-Stater!

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What was to be done? With the printing plates already made the most expeditious way of solving the problem was to file away every hyphen - 120 hyphens on each of the three plates - 360 hyphens in total. One can imagine there was hot air in the printing room! So, was the problem solved? Well, not quite.

A few years ago a member of the Orange Free State Study Circle discovered a five pound value with a hyphen (Fig. 9). Other members searched and found others and the hyphen has now been recorded on examples of the £1, £2, £4 and £5, the only pounds value not having been seen, so far, being the £3. Furthermore, from blocks, it has been established that it occurs on stamp number 5 of the top row of a sheet of 120 (6 x 10). It seems likely that just the one stamp was left with its hyphen in each sheet of the pound values and one cannot help wondering whether this was accidental or, dare we say it, perhaps deliberate, as a mischievous act of exasperation on the part of the man with the file!

The variety is catalogued by Stanley Gibbons[3]. and an explanation of why OFS revenue stamps are catalogued with postage stamps is useful. Most values are listed and the reason is that they have been recorded with postal cancellations (Figs. 10 & 11). No written official authorisation has yet been found to support postal use and the embossed stamps are not similarly listed, although they also are known with evidence of apparent postal use. From 1868 to 1878 the only postage stamp values in use were the 1d, 6d, and one shilling. The 4d and five shillings stamps were introduced in July 1878. Once the diamond mines were being worked from 1869/1870 onwards there was a need to send the uncut diamond stones away by post. J.L. Babe, writing from Pniel in 1870[4], states "You can safely ship diamonds by post from here if you register them, and you can rely upon their being delivered to any part of the colony that you may wish to send them". A well wrapped small parcel of rough uncut diamond stones could easily weigh, say, 5 lbs and the postage on it would be, at 6d per half ounce, £4, or 80 one shilling stamps. The small stocks of stamps held in the post offices would not have been sufficient to cater for such demand and it is fully conceivable that revenue stamps would have seen postal use in such circumstances. Covers bearing revenue stamps have been recorded but they are rare.





Fig.9 £5 Stamp with hyphen.



Fig.10 Jagersfontein postal cancellation.

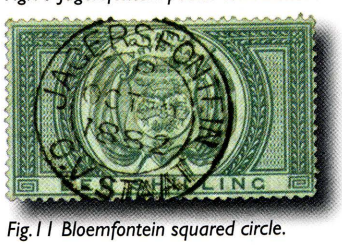


Fig.11 Bloemfontein squared circle.

Error No. 2. The unique double print.

Reference has already been made to the fact that De La Rue used three printing operations for each sheet of stamps printed and the explanation given by DLR, in a postscript to their quotation for printing, is both interesting and unusual, as normally they would not go into such detail in correspondence with customers[5]:

"P.S. Upon reading through this letter, we find that we have omitted to explain the reason why the Revenue Stamps would be so much more expensive than the Postage Stamps which we have supplied to you for some years past. It is this - that the Revenue Stamps are so large that only 120 instead of 240 (as in the Postage) would come in the sheet as it is impossible to overprint the full sheet at one operation, and at the same time ensure the overprinted matter falling truly in the panels left blank for it, we could only overprint half the sheet at a time. This would entail each sheet being printed three times - once from the Key forme and twice from the overprint forme, so that on account of this and some other technical difficulties which we will not attempt here to enter into, the prices above quoted are the lowest at which we could supply this form of stamp. The stamps would of course be cheaper were they printed at one operation, i.e. without an overprint, but this would entail, as we have before explained, having as many Key formes as there are duties,so that although the stamps themselves would be cheaper, the first outlay would be greatly enhanced."

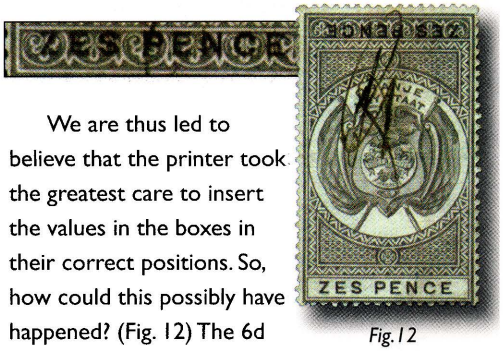


Fig.12

We are thus led to believe that the printer took the greatest care to insert the values in the boxes in their correct positions. So, how could this possibly have happened? (Fig. 12) The 6d value, ZES PENCE, has been printed at each end of the stamp! Presumably a half sheet of 60 stamps was so printed in error. Human error is acceptable, we know, but surely the printer must have been aware of his mistake so why did he choose to ignore it? Another OFS mystery to which we do not know the answer. The stamp has a manuscript cancel and has not been used postally. It is therefore recorded by Gibbons as a note at the end of the revenue catalogue listing[3].

I think this particular double printing of the duty plate error is unique in philately I know of no other in any country, but perhaps readers may know of another in which case I would be most interested to hear from them. De La Rue themselves could not help when I enquired as all their early records to printing errors were destroyed during the London Blitz in 1940.

Today printing errors are pretty common due probably to the high volume of stamps printed. But in the 1870s they were rare. The stamp printers took a pride in their work and went to great pains to ensure their work was perfect, making these two errors all the more interesting!

References:

1. *Stamps of the Orange Free State* by G.D. Buckley & W.B. Marriott Volume 3.
2. Wikus Van Heerden RDPSA. Collection
3. *Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1952, 2004* Edition, Stanley Gibbons Ltd., Ringwood.
4. *South African Diamond Fields* by J.L. Babe, published by David Wesley & Co., New York, 1872.
5. *The De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps 1855 to 1901* by John Easton, published by Faber and Faber for the Royal Philatelic Society London..

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CAPE STAMP SHOW 2005

We missed you in Cape Town - but we hope to see you next year in Pretoria

The Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town organised an attractive and enjoyable National Exhibition
Well done and a sincere **THANK YOU** to our Capetonian friends.

STAMPEX 2006

The South African Philatelic Dealers Association (SAPDA)
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26 - 28 October at the
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The enclosed Guidelines will give you more information about the Exhibition.

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Witwatersrand Philatelic Society

By Chris Mobsby, RDPSA, FRPSL.

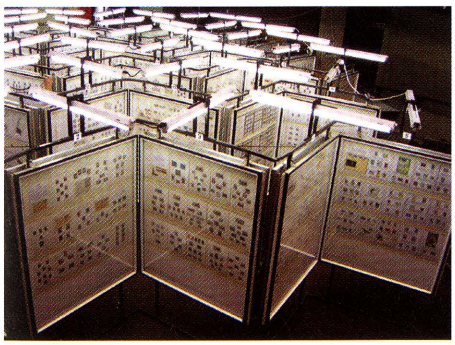
The Society experimented with a new concept at one of their recent monthly meetings at the Country Club in Auckland Park. A one-frame contest was arranged between two teams of five, each under the leadership of a "non-playing" captain who was responsible for the presentation of the exhibits shown and the general adherence by his members to the rules of one-frame exhibiting. Ten volunteers had been enrolled at an earlier meeting and these had been divided into two teams of approximately equal strength that would each be capable of providing five frames of balanced and varied exhibits. No attempt was made to dictate exactly what type of exhibits each team should include although this is now the norm in overseas competitions of this nature. We did not, for instance, demand at least one traditional exhibit, one of postal history, a thematic display and so on although there was some incentive for doing so as additional points were awarded for the balance of the overall display presented by each team.

In order to involve the audience, we invited everyone present at the meeting to judge the exhibits and provided score sheets to help them with their deliberations. Anticipating an inexperienced jury, it was suggested that all exhibits be judged on the following basis: -

- Introduction, including verbal presentation, out of 10 points.
- Overall Impression 20,
- Originality 10,
- Presentation 10,
- Research 10,
- Condition 10,
- Rarity 10,
- Completeness 10 and
- Achievement of Aim 10 giving a possible total of 100 points.

This system of scoring makes no attempt to conform to international or even national standards but was considered appropriate for a club event. In addition, the jurors were invited to allocate a maximum of 100 points to each team for the balance of their overall presentation. On this basis, the result of the contest was remarkably close with Herbie Schaffler's team prevailing over that of Clive Sergay by 5076 points (out of 6600) to 5065. We also invited those present, including the teams and the "jury", to forecast the top individual exhibit and its winning score. This proved to be Harry Birkhead's "Schweizer Reyneke 1900 to 1901" with 89.4% and Les Cowburn won the bottle of wine on offer for this challenge by choosing Harry and forecasting a score of 89.3%. Overall, it proved to be an evening enjoyed by participants and audience alike and could well be repeated, perhaps at inter-society level, in the years ahead.

Well Done Sasolburg



Sasolburg, normally associated with fuel fumes, has been running a most successful stamp club since 1981 when Roeli Botha was elected the first President.

A year later Jules Daneels took over, a real character and great believer in the hobby, and stayed there until he died in mid 2002.

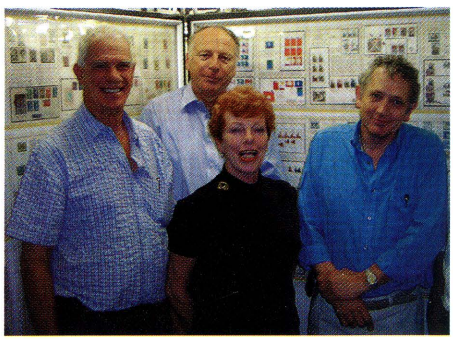
Eddie Pretorius took over - a little apprehensive but dedicated - and he's still there. Annual club competitions have been held from the beginning and in 1987 introduced a second competition for one-framers.

In 1993 the club included Boksburg and Vereeniging in the one-frame competition, thus starting their annual interclub competitions that later included Boksburg, Germiston and Nigel. In 1996 they held their first Mini and from 1997 the local competition was included with the interclub competition, which has been held annually to this day.

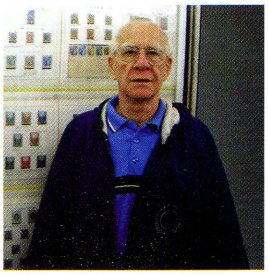
On Sunday, 6 Nov, in celebration of their 12th interclub competition, a team of esteemed judges that included Jill Redmond, Emil Minnaar, Peter van Molen, Ian Laubscher and Kolle Strydom, reviewed the 31 exhibits totaling about 64 frames – brilliant for a competition organised by a local club at their own expense.

The exhibits were a delight to judge and included some really good ideas and material.

As usual, the exhibition was held in the Sasolburg Library for six days, culminating in the prize giving ceremony in the evening of Saturday 12 Nov, a wonderfully social experience and including a dealer or two for afternoon activities. With all the doom and gloom being propagated about the hobby, it is a truly refreshing experience to visit the Sasolburg PS exhibition and see the enthusiasm and hospitality from characters such as Eddie Pretorius, Ian and Marietjie Laubscher, Kolle Strydom, Barbara and Bets.



Above: Kolle Strydom, Peter van der Molen, Jill Redmond and Emil Minnaar.



Left: Eddie Pretorius, President of the Sasolburg Philatelic Society.

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letters continued from page 171

From the Mailbox
Uit die Posbus



Thematic Judging

Dear Editor

At BLOEM-ONE the following scoring was used for the thematic judging: Plan 20 points, Coverage and Development 15, Relevance 10, Elements 4, Creativity 1, Knowledge and Accuracy 15, Research 5, Challenge Factor 5, Quality 10, Rarity 10, Brevity 1 and Presentation 4 = total 100. The combined points, given in hard-copy to the exhibitors, are Treatment and Importance 30, Philatelic & Related Knowledge & Research 35, Condition and Rarity 30, Presentation 5.

I have a few suggestions. Plan 10, Coverage and Development 20, Relevance 10, Elements 10, Knowledge and Accuracy 20, Research 10, Challenge Factor 5, Quality 5, Presentation 10. 20 points for a plan is absurd; coverage, development, relevance and elements are the main issues (40 in total); knowledge, accuracy and research are difficult to judge in thematics (it can become very subjective); challenge and quality are not so very important as in a traditional exhibit (how does the judge know when something is rare, without being an expert on that specific theme?); the presentation is really a challenge, therefore 10. (To work with 1 point is a little bit silly – it means you either get it, or you don't. There is no halfway mark.) May those who have ears, listen to this humble plea!

Kind regards

Rev J Cassie Carstens
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria

Lady Grey

Dear Sir

The village of McGregor, Western Cape, where I live, used to be called Lady Grey. There is another Lady Grey, in the Eastern Cape, and this caused much confusion to the Post Office throughout the 19th century. In 1906 it was finally agreed that Lady Grey, W.C. would change its name to McGregor, honouring the then recently-retired local dominee, Rev. Andrew McGregor. He was one of those Scotsmen who integrated so well into the Dutch Reformed Ministry in the 1800s.

In April 2006 McGregor will stage a small festival to celebrate the centenary of the name-change. We have contacted the Curator of the Post Office archives to find out whether there is any record of that event.

McGregor has a Town Museum and we should also like to find some philatelic material of the Edwardian era which is relevant e.g. covers or datestamps just before, and just after the name change. We felt that such items might best be found by publishing a letter in the SA Philatelist, appealing to the postmark and postal history specialists in our fraternity. We would ask for photocopies or scans of suitable material, which could then be compiled into a small philatelic exhibit in the Museum.

Yours faithfully

Keith Poole
Phil. Soc. of KZN.
PO Box 478 McGregor 6708
k-mpoole@lando.co.za

Obituaries

RD Allen

The sad news of the passing, in the United Kingdom, of Mr RD Allen reached us recently. He was in his 90s and well known for his systematic research into the maritime mails of South Africa. He consolidated and augmented the research of Harvey Pirie and Hilton Sydow on the subject in his book "Maritime Marks of South Africa". He subsequently added a supplement to this. His attention to detail was always meticulous. We extend our condolences to his family.

JRF

Journal References

This column highlights major articles (3 pages or more) on Southern Africa philately and related aspects which have been published recently and which may be of interest to member's; concludes with details of Journals listed.

1. "Swaziland 1942 - 1954 Definitives Perf $13^{1}/_{4}$ x $13^{3}/_{4}$"
by G.A. Clark, *GEOSIX*, no 216, June, 2005, pp 9-12.

2. "Albert Kuit, Postmaster Extraordinaire"
by Garth Kruger, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, no 153, August, 2005, pp 59-62.

3. "Annual Reports of the Transvaal Postmaster-General 1903-09. etc"
information supplied by Joh Groenewald, *The Transvaal Philatelist*, no 153, August, 2005, pp 66-74.

4. "Seychelles 1896 Provisional Values"
by Keith Fitton, *The London Philatelist*, no 1329, October, 2005, pp 291-294.

5. "Usages of the 9d Embossed Issue of Natal"
by Keith Klugman, Martin Eichele and John Dickson, *The London Philatelist*, no 1330, November, 2005, pp 331-334.

6. "The Victorian five shilling postage stamp of Natal"
by John Dickson, *Natal and Zululand Post*, vol 9, no 3 (35), September, 2005, pp 61-71.

7. "The sea-borne mails of Natal"
by John Dickson, *Natal and Zululand Post*, vol 9, no 3 (35), September, 2005, pp 74-87.

•'The London Philatelist'
is the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London; the S.A. representative Dr J.R. Frank RDPSA FRPSL. email frankfam@icon.co.za and John Wannerton RDPSA FRPSL. email wannerton@iafrica.com

•'GEOSIX'
is the Newsletter of the King George VI Collectors Society, Secretary J.L. Shaw, 17 Balcaskie Road, Eltham, London SE9 1HQ, UK.

•'Natal & Zululand Post'
is the Journal of the Natal and Zululand Study Circle based in the UK. S.A. representative is Roger Porter, email rogport@kznwildlife.com

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Local Exhibitions

Pezapex 2007

The Pezapex 2007 logo was presented to Congress at the Cape Stamp Show in October. The logo depicts the rays of light diverging from Port Elizabeth (from its position on the map of South Africa illustrated with the colours of the national flag). The light rays being dispersed through the triangular prism into the seven colours of spectrum or rainbow. (The interpretation of this has been ascribed to the so-called "rainbow" nation of South Africa or another connotation being the various facets of the hobby). The prism is analogous to the pyramid which was erected on the Donkin Reserve in Port Elizabeth in the memory of Lady Elizabeth Donkin after whom Port Elizabeth was named.

The occasion of Pezapex 2007 National Philatelic Exhibition commemorates the 125 years since the opening of the first public telephone exchange in South Africa which took place in Port Elizabeth in 1882. A replica of this telephone exchange exists in the Bayworld Museum Complex in Port Elizabeth. The name Pezapex was selected to incorporate the letters "za" being the signature letters for South Africa used on the internet being the state of the art technology in the field of communication in the 21st century.

Neville Polakow FRPSL
Organising Committee Chairman

Local Exhibitions

Gautheme 06

All the stamp clubs in the Gauteng Province are invited to enter one thematic exhibit (2 -4 frames) in the GAUTHEME 06 provincial exhibition on Saturday 1st April 2006. It is non-competitive and a winner will be appointed by public vote. The venue will be the Adami Hall in Queenswood, Pretoria. Contact rev Cassie Carstens for more information (012 x 653-2279).

Foreign Exhibitions

Washingon 2006 World Stamp Exhibition D.C., USA

27 May to 3 June 2006

Ten applications to exhibit have been accepted. Of those, eight are to exhibit philately, viz. Patrick Flanagan, Frank Friedman, Lutz Heffermann, Dr Ian Matheson, Clive Sergay, Alan Uria, Selwyn Uria and Peter van der Molen. Two Literature entries have been accepted, from Harry Birkhead/Joh Groenewald, and from Prof Franco Frescura. The Washington organisers regretted that because of a significant oversubscription, applications for many fine exhibits had to be declined.

The next international exhibition which will be supported by the PFSA will be the 'Espana 2006' Exhibition to be held at Malaga in Spain, from 7 to 13 October. This is a FIP World Exhibition (i.e. all exhibition classes will be offered) of some 3500 frames; our Commissioner will be Emil Minnaar who can be contacted at emil@minnaar.org"

The South African Philatelist invites the various Philatelic Societies around South Africa to submit a brief and concise history, as well as their current activities, for possible publication.

In future issues of

The South African Philatelist
THE JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER STAMP MAGAZINE

Batum
by Dr Crocker

Fiume
by Jan Bakker

A Letter to Jan Van Riebeeck
by Danie Scheepers

Undercover Mail
by Maurice Daniels

Elements of Federation part 4
by Dr Alan Rose

Stamps for Surcharged Letters
by Clinton Goslin

Thematically Yours
by Rev J. C. Carstens

New Issues 2005
by Robin Messenger

Congratulations

The South African Philatelist congratulates Brian Trotter and Neville Polakow who have been accepted as apprentice jurors for Washington 2006.



SMALLS ADVERTS

Small advertisements are accepted from Federation affiliated members at no charge. Ads can be inserted for two consecutive issues. Maximum 30 words. Material must be typed or printed for clarity, and the home society of the advertiser indicated. (Not necessarily for publication). Dealers and non-affiliated advertisers will be charged for classified advertisements at the rate of R50 per column cm per issue. Copy should be sent timeously - see page 1 box for deadlines and addresses. In all instances insertions will be at the discretion of the Committee.

Exchange: Offer Mint Taiwan 1970s-2000 wanted mint or very fine used airmail, semi postal Europa. Contact Maurice Wang.
Email: maurice1226@yahoo.com.tw
Box 1-12, Taipei 10099, Taiwan

Exchange: Seeking fellow maximaphilists. I am a mamber of "Associaçao Portuguesa de Maximafilia" and collect maxicards from around the world. Contact Rui Dias.
Email: ruicarvalhodias@hotmail.com
Rui Carvalho Dias, Av.Roma Nº 68 4º. B, 1700-350 Lisboa

Exchange: Various Zimbabwe stamps. If anyone would like to write o me, I am prepared to exchange 1 for 1 of other African countries. Contact A.D. MacDonald-Lucas.
Box 671, Musina, 0900

Wanted: Any Rare/Unusual material of Swaziland, covering not only stamps, covers, essays, revenues etc. but also Picture Postcards and any articles/books. Contact P.W. van der Molen.
Email: molens@pixie.co.za
or Tel: 011 849 4822

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STAMPEX SOUTH AFRICA 2006
NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
NATIONAL CULTURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, PRETORIA
26 – 28 OCTOBER 2006

PROVISIONAL ENTRY FORM

SECTION "A" — PERSONAL DETAILS		
TITLE	INITIALS	E-MAIL ADDRESS:
SURNAME		
ADDRESS		TEL (H) (W) FAX CELL PHONE:
POSTCODE	SOCIETY	

SECTION "B" — PROVISIONAL ENTRY FORM

I WISH TO ENTER FOR "STAMPEX SOUTH AFRICA 2006" STAMP EXHIBITION THE EXHIBIT DESCRIBED BELOW. I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES OF THE "STAMPEX SOUTH AFRICA 2006" STAMP EXHIBITION AND ENCLOSE THE SUM OF R75.00 IN PAYMENT OF THE EXHIBIT-HANDLING FEE.

Signature _____ Date _____

This Entry Form must reach the Exhibits Organiser, PO Box13108, NORTHMEAD 1511, not later than 30 April 2006.

TITLE OF EXHIBIT:		
CLASS	NUMBER OF FRAMES REQUIRED	
PREVIOUS AWARDS received by this exhibit since 1st July 2003 at National level or higher		
DATE	OCCASION	AWARD

If not applicable, delete clause below, otherwise obtain signature of Society Chairman or Secretary

I am a first-time exhibitor at National level and per clause 3.5 of the Exhibition Guidelines, my Society hereby confirms that my exhibit is of National standard.

Name and Signature of Society Chairman or Secretary:

THIS EXHIBITION GUIDELINES AND ENTRY FORM IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE FEDERATION WEBSITE PHILATELYSA.CO.ZA.

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STAMPEX SOUTH AFRICA 2006
NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
NATIONAL CULTURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, PRETORIA
26 - 28 OCTOBER 2006

DEADLINES	
Prov. Entry	30 April 2006
Final Entry	30 June 2006
Deliver Exhibit	13 Oct. 2006

EXHIBITION GUIDELINES AND ENTRY FORM

1. STATUS OF EXHIBITION

The Exhibition will be both competitive and non-competitive and open to all members of Societies affiliated to The Philatelic Federation of South Africa provided that any collection which has since 1 July 2003:

a) gained a Large Gold Award at any South African National or Special National Exhibition, or a Gold or Large Gold Award at any International Exhibition shall not be eligible for competitive entry for this exhibition;

b) gained a Gold Award at any South African National or Special National Exhibition shall only be eligible for competitive entry at this exhibition subject to the provisions of Clause 8.3.

2. SCOPE OF EXHIBITION

Group A	**Non-Competitive**
Class 01	Court of Honour – Members of the Jury only
Class 02	Invited Exhibits
Group B	**Competitive Philately**
Class 03	Traditional Philately
(a)	South Africa, all periods
(b)	Great Britain and Commonwealth
(c)	Rest of the World
Class 04	Postal History
(a)	South Africa , all periods
(b)	Great Britain and Commonwealth
(c)	Rest of the World
Class 05	Thematic
Class 06	Aerophilately, Maritime and Disaster Mails
Class 07	Revenues, Cinderellas, First Day Covers, Stationery
Class 08	Literature, including Electronic Media
Group C	**Competitive – Other**
Class 09	'Open' Class – see clause 9
Class 10	Competitive Picture Postcards
Class 11	'One Frame' exhibits –see clause 10

3. ENTRIES AND EXHIBITS

3.1. A charge of R75 per entry to cover handling costs will be due on submission of the Provisional Entry Form. This fee is not refundable.

3.2. The fee per frame is R75 or per Literature entry is R100 payable on submission of the Final Entry form.

3.3. A maximum of three (3) entries per exhibitor will be considered; if more than one provisional entry is submitted, the exhibitor must signify his/her preference if not all can be accepted. No exhibit may be entered in more than one Class.

3.4. A provisional entry from an exhibitor competing for the first time must be accompanied by a statement from the committee of his Society confirming that the exhibit is of National standard. This declaration will automatically enter the exhibit for the ERPS Floating Trophy, which is awarded to a first-time philatelic exhibitor at National level.

3.5. Entries must be the *bona fide* property of the exhibitor; the completion of an entry form is deemed an implied declaration to this effect.

3.6. A Provisional Entry Form, with the handling fee for each exhibit, must be received before **30 April 2006** to enable the Organising Committee to allocate frames.

3.7. All awards gained by a collection in the previous three years must be listed on the exhibitor's entry form.

3.8. The Organising Committee reserves the right to reject any entry or exhibit, in whole or in part, without having to assign any reason for such rejection.

3.9. For each accepted exhibit, the Exhibits Organiser must receive before **30 June 2006** (a) the Final Entry Form, (b) the prescribed frame fees per Clause 3.2, (c) a description in English or Afrikaans of the exhibit for inclusion in the exhibition catalogue; the description must not exceed 100 words; any excess will be truncated, (d) a photocopy of the exhibit's introductory page outlining the concept of the exhibit, which may subsequently be amended, but the fundamental concept of the exhibit may not be changed and (e) a Synopsis page.

3.10. After receipt by the Exhibits Organiser of the Final Entry Forms, special labels or envelopes for submission of the exhibit will be forwarded to all prospective exhibitors.

3.11. Exhibits must be received by the Organising Committee not later than **13 October 2006**, except for Literature (Class 08) where exhibits are required by 1 August 2006 for judging purposes; delivery instructions will be advised on the Final Entry forms.

3.12. Should any doubt or dispute arise as to the eligibility of any entry, the ruling of the Organising Committee shall be final.

4. EXHIBITION FRAMES

4.1. Exhibition Frames accommodate 15 sheets, each with a maximum height of 305mm. The width of the frame is 1150 mm, with 'daylight' size of 1120 mm. **Note that the sheets will be mounted in the sequence of 3 horizontal rows of 5 sheets each, so that the top row will show sheets 1 to 5, left to right, followed by 2 further rows of 5 sheets, below.**

4.2. All exhibitors must provide their album pages with acetate or plastic exhibition covers to ensure the safety of their material; entries will not be accepted without exhibition covers. Sheet numbers must be shown on the front of the sheet at the top right corner, so the numbers are visible when the sheets are mounted to allow the mounting to be checked; numbering is to be sequential within each exhibit, e.g. for a 4 frame exhibit the sheets shall be numbered from 1 to 60.

4.3. For exhibits that previously gained up to a Large Silver Award, or have not been shown competitively at a National Exhibition, up to 5 frames may be applied for. Where an exhibit has been awarded a Vermeil or higher at a National Exhibition, up to 8 frames may be applied for. All frame allocations are however at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

5. LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

5.1. Although every possible care will be taken of exhibits while in the custody of the Organising Committee, such exhibits shall at all times be at the owner's risk. Neither the Organising Committee nor the officers, members and employees of the sponsoring Societies arranging the exhibition, nor any voluntary helpers, shall incur any liability for any loss or damage sustained by an exhibit from any cause or for any reason whatsoever.

5.2. Although there will be no insurance cover, efforts will be made to negotiate with an insurance company. The onus rests with the exhibitor to contact the company to arrange their own cover and pay the premium. Details will be advised with Final Entry Forms when despatched.

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6. Jury and Judging for Awards

6.1. The Organising Committee has invited a philatelist to chair the jury and to appoint his jury, which will comprise of a Vice-Chairman and at least seven other members, all of whom will be on the list of accredited judges maintained by The Philatelic Federation of South Africa. Not more than two other persons may also be nominated to act as Learner Jurors. The names of the jury and Learner Jurors will be submitted to the Management Committee of The Philatelic Federation of South Africa for noting.

6.2. The Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall have full control over the activities of the jury, which shall be subject to the Rules and Bye-laws of The Philatelic Federation of South Africa. While the jury may call in any person/s as a consultant, neither consultant/s nor Learner Jurors shall have any vote in the jury's deliberations.

6.3. In the event of equality of voting on any question, the Chairman of the jury shall have a casting vote.

6.4 The deliberations of the jury are confidential and its decisions, once announced, shall be final and irrevocable.

6.5. Judging for awards will be on material submitted and no further supporting matter will be required or permitted. Colour copied material (Photostats, scans or photographs) used in exhibits must be clearly labelled as such and must be at least 25% linearly larger or smaller than the actual size of the item depicted.

6.6. Competitive exhibits will be judged on their individual merits and not against other collections, except in the case of the Grand Prix and other Special Awards.

6.7. No exhibition page may bear any indication of price or value, nor shall any exhibit in any way be advertised for sale.

6.8. At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibitor's related exhibits may be grouped together with a view to making an award for the whole greater than that which such exhibits might have obtained individually. Such combinations shall not receive a Gold or Large Gold Award.

6.9. At the sole discretion of the jury, an exhibit entered in a particular Class may be transferred to another Class with a view to making an award greater than it might otherwise have obtained.

6.10. An exhibitor providing fewer frames than requested and allocated shall not have that exhibit judged; a frame must be completely filled with relevant material.

6.11. Judging shall be based on current F.I.P. rules for each Class, except for Class 7 Cinderellas and First Day Covers only, Class 9 'Open' Class 10 Picture Postcards and Class 11 'One Frame". Where exhibitors are not clear about F.I.P. rules, please contact the Exhibits Organiser stating the Class of interest.

7. Awards (except for 'One frame' class)

7.1. Exhibition Awards will be:

- 7.1.1. Large Gold
- 7.1.2. Gold
- 7.1.3. Large Vermeil (Silver-Gilt)
- 7.1.4. Vermeil (Silver-Gilt)
- 7.1.5. Large Silver
- 7.1.6. Silver
- 7.1.7. Silver-Bronze
- 7.1.8. Bronze
- 7.1.9. Certificate of Merit

Vermeil and Silver Awards may be given with the Felicitations of the Jury.

7.2. No exhibit may receive more than one Exhibition Award.

7.3. Each entry that is not given an Exhibition Award will receive a Certificate of Participation. All Exhibition Awards and Certificates awarded to exhibits in Group C will clearly state for which Class they were awarded.

8. Special Awards

8.1. In addition to the Exhibition Awards, various Special Awards may be made available to the jury to be awarded within each Exhibition Group.

8.2. Within the Competitive Philately Group, the Grand Prix (the President's Trophy) shall be awarded to the best competitive exhibit of not lower than Gold Award standard and shall take precedence over all other awards. The Post Office Shield shall be awarded to the best exhibit of South African philately of not lower than Gold Award standard. These two exhibits will not be eligible for any other Special Award.

8.3. An exhibit which since 1 July 2003 has gained a Gold Award at any Southern African National or Special National Exhibition will not be eligible for any Special Award unless at this Exhibition it is awarded a Large Gold Award.

8.4. No other exhibit shall be eligible for more than two Special Awards.

8.5. Any Award presented to an exhibit in Group C will clearly state for which Class it was awarded.

9. The 'Open' Class

9.1. The objectives of the Open Class are to provide interesting exhibits which stimulate both the committed and the new collector, to provide a competition for those who wish to exhibit outside the F.I.P. regulations and to permit the inclusion of a certain amount of non-philatelic material, such as labels, picture postcards, numismatic items, telephone cards, documents, pictures, photographs, drawings, newspaper clippings, etc. In addition to all requirements for competitive exhibits, viz. entry forms and fees, introductory page, exhibit description, etc, the only stipulations are (a) no part of the exhibit may exceed 3mm in thickness so it can be mounted in the frames, and (b) the philatelic elements must be not less than 50% of the total area of items shown.

9.2. Entries in the 'Open' Class will NOT be eligible for any of the Special Awards and Trophies unless specifically designated for the 'Open' Class.

10. The 'One frame' Class

10.1. The objectives of the 'One frame' Class are to provide for both new collectors to start exhibiting on a small scale at a National Exhibition and also to give established collectors an opportunity to show material that cannot be treated well in more than one frame or to show new ideas and developments. The 'One frame' exhibit must have an introduction page which lays out the intention and scope of the exhibit. This page may also contain exhibition material.

10.2. The criteria to be applied in judging such exhibits may be obtained on request from the Organising Committee.

10.3. The 'One frame' Class will have 5 awards in the form of a certificate:

10.4.1.	Gold	90 - 100 points
10.4.2.	Vermeil	80 - 89 points
10.4.3.	Silver	70 - 79 points
10.4.4.	Silver-Bronze	60 - 69 points
10.4.5.	Bronze	50 - 59 points

10.4. Entries in the 'One frame' class will not be eligible for any of the Special Awards and Trophies. Entry in this Class will not prevent the Exhibitor qualifying for the ERPS Trophy at a later Exhibition.

11. Acceptance of Exhibition Regulations

The completion and submission of the Final Entry Form shall constitute acceptance of the rules governing the exhibition and indicate the exhibitor's agreement to accept as final the Organising Committee's decision in any matter which may arise but which is not covered by these rules.

12. Exhibition Catalogue

Each exhibit will be allocated one copy of the exhibition catalogue, which the exhibitor may collect at the exhibition or which otherwise will be included with the exhibit upon its return, together with a copy of the Awards Listing.

Further copies of this Exhibition Guidelines and Provisional Entry Forms can be obtained from:

Mr Jan A. Bakker,
PO Box 13108, NORTHMEAD 1511, or contact him on:
Tel (011) 849 7766, Fax (011) 849 0618 or
Email: bakkerexpress@absamail.co.za

This Exhibition Guidelines and Entry Form is also available on the Federation Website philatelysa.co.za.

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