THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

FEBRUARY 2002
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- Vrystaat verloor sy voorste versamelaar en filateliese kenner
- new overprint on the stampless air mail letter cards
- The 2002 postal slogan programme
- In search of SA machine meter marks
- Putting together an exhibit
- Motorsport: Where heroes are still heroes

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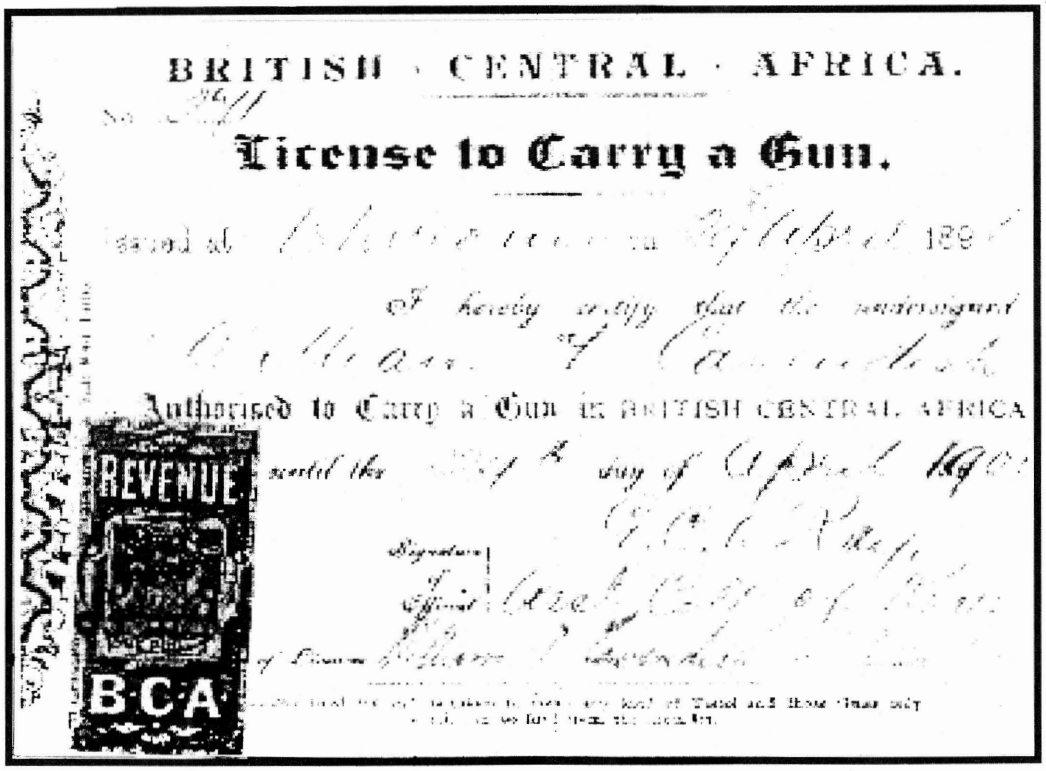

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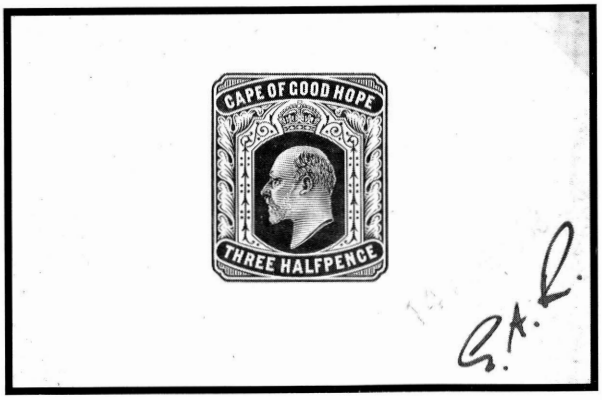

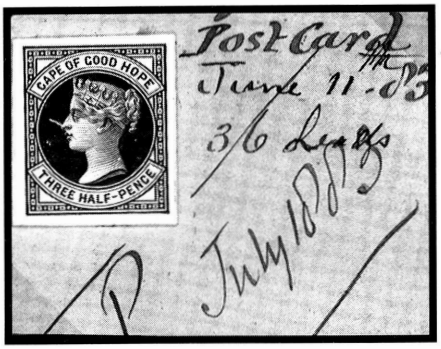

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Redakteur/Editor:
Andries van der Walt, ✉13048, Norkempark, 1631 ☎ (011) 391-4139 (B) (011) 391-4645 (H) Fax: (011) 391-6785
e-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za

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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

With the new year already well under way, it's as good a time as any to take stock of our new year resolutions – or what's left of them. Such resolutions usually have to do with change – how we are going to do things differently, or better.

In wishing all readers of *The SA Philatelist* a happy and prosperous 2002, it is also my wish that your resolutions for this year would have included one to rethink your involvement in philately or stamp collecting. How are you going to make your own collecting activities more exciting, entertaining and enjoyable, and how will you share that with others?

If you had made such a resolution, I hope it's still intact and that you're working at it.In any event, I trust that this is going to be an exciting, entertaining and enjoyable year for *The SA Philatelist* and all its readers. I can't wait to get going!

George Bernard Shaw's maxim: "Some men see things as they are and say, 'Why?' I dream things that never were and say, 'Why not?'" is perhaps something that we can ponder about.

Or we may consider what American sociologist Alex Inkeles once wrote: "Man is endlessly inventive. But his greatest invention is non-invention, the skill of transmitting intact and unchanged from one generation to the next the fundamental ways of doing things which he learned from the generation that preceded him".

Which would be *your* choice?

* * * * *

Die jaar 2002 gaan 'n groot jaar wees vir die filatelie. Dit, altans, is my gevoel. Maar om 2002 'n groot jaar vir ons stokperdjie te maak, sal beteken dat ons sal moet besef dat daar werk is wat gedoen moet word – deur almal wat betrokke is, van klubvlak tot in die hoogste gestoeltes.

Die vraag is natuurlik: Wil of gaan ons betrokke raak of gaan ons maar soos altyd, terugsit en wag dat iemand anders dit doen? 'n Eenvoudige keuse, maar een met vérreikende gevolge. Sterkte daarmee!

Spoon-feeding slur is rejected

A M Rose, secretary: East Rand Philatelic Society, writes: With respect to the letter in the October issue of The SA Philatelist from Mr Gomm, it is apparent that he is under several misapprehensions. As a society, we reject his assertions that we need spoon-feeding. Our record of accomplishments will stand alongside that of any other society.

Additional to having run, in 1994, the most enjoyable and successful congress and Nnational exhibition for many years, the society has, in the past decade, provided philately with two presidents of the Philatelic Federation, four regional vice-presidents, chairmen of vanous standing committees, e.g. management, FIP, audio-visual, publications etc, numerous members of the management committee, overseas commissioners, and currently, the president of the Foundation.

Members have even contributed articles to The SA Philatelist! In competition, our record both nationally and internationally is equally sound, both for the adult society and the juniors. We have also been able to claim three members on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. We feel this belies Mr Gomm's somewhat petty suggestions of spoon-feeding.

Regarding the motion to Congress, had Mr Gomm understood it correctly he might have recognised it for what it was – a cry for help. His suggestion that we make known what we want to see in The SA Philatelist is redundant. The motion states what members wish to see or rather, wish to see less of.

Responding in similar vein to his suggestion, we recommend that instead of writing letters, Mr Gomm gets out and establishes for himself how many members, particularly of the smaller societies, currently read The SA Philatelist, and what they think of it. He states, "the success of The SA Philatelist depends on the support received from readers". On the contrary, the success of any journal depends on the degree to which it satisfies its readers. If they are satisfied, they will support it.

The handicap of The SA Philatelist is that it does not have to satisfy its readers – it has a captive market to which it is delivered without competition. Had it had to fight to maintain its circulation by the variety, appeal and interest of its articles, it would have failed long ago. There is currently a need for change, and that is what the motion was requesting: that Federation be aware of the changing philatelic profile and needs of its members and respond accordingly.

The report at Congress of the regional vice-president for the Western Cape was refreshing in its honesty in exposing the rigidity in thinking currently prevailing within Federation structures. This is illustrated in Mr Gomm's implication that articles for The SA Philatelist should originate only from within the membership. This is outdated thinking. As was pointed out from the floor at Congress, one of the duties of an editor is to find material for his journal. If it is offered, and is suitable, so be it, but he will also hunt, solicit, commission, borrow, bribe, cajole, even threaten, and if need be, write material to maintain an equitable balance of subject matter for his readership. It is this balance that has been lacking in the past, and is in need of redress.

Mr van der Walt's statement of editorial policy in the October issue is a ray of light. He clearly accepts that the journal should be enjoyable and entertaining, as well as instructive, to all his readers, whose diversity he acknowledges. We ask no more, but wish him more power to his elbow in meeting these demands on his skills.

• Before going to the extremes of bribing, cajoling or threatening, the editor is keenly awaiting suitable contributions from the East Rand Philatelic Society and, indeed, all other societies.

Do you know this stamp?



Mike Trigg, P O Box 1004, Meyerton, 1960, writes: Digging through some of my stamps, I came up with this interesting item (unfortunately in a very poor condition). It appears to be British, but perhaps one of your readers can enlighten me further?

Nou lées sy die artikels

Marlene Calitz-Opperman, Springs, skryf: Wat 'n vreugde om ons Nuwe Tydskrif te kry en te lees! Ek is nou maar sowat 18 maande betrokke by die stokperdjie en het sekerlik nog báie te leer. Die vorige uitgawes het ek deurgeblaai en die artikels bo my vuurmaakplek gevind, en die tydskrif maar op die rak gesit om stof te vergaar.

Maar die laaste twee uitgawes het ek eintlik geléés. Alles was interessant en aktueel; bv die outomatiese meter-artikels – dis immers al wat ek daagliks deur die pos kry!

U reik ook na die toekoms met die artikel oor internet-webtuistes. Dié het ek onmiddellik gaan opsoek en reeds toe kon kontak maak met die Mediese Filateliegroep.

Ek wens u en u medewerkers voorspoed toe met die publikasie van 'n puik tydskrif. You can't please all the people all the time – but you have pleased some people some of the time!

Back copies of *SA Philatelist* wanted

Anne Southwood, Pietermaritzburg, writes: At a recent meeting of the 'Maritzburg Philatelic Society it was reported that we possess an almost complete set of *The SA Philatelist* magazine. The suggestion was made that, by publicising the missing issues, we might shake a few trees and, maybe, creep a little closer to perfection.

The librarian reports for the period 1923 to 1991, the society library lacks the following 17 issues only:

1923 February, October, November
1925 April
1926 March
1927 August
1928 March
1929 January
1931 February
1943 July, August, October, November
1944 January
1945 January
1967 March, April

If anyone reading this has a duplicate of any of the above that he or he is prepared to part with, or alternatively has an original he or she is prepared to donate or sell, please contact Anne Southwood (phone, answering machine, and fax: 033 343 4803). Or write direct to P O Box 256, Pietermaritzburg, 3200. It would help enormously.

Incidentally, this society owns quite a few duplicates which it will be happy to swap with, or sell to, interested parties. Most date from the 80s and 90s, but we have May 1951, October 1957, and the year 1960 complete as well. Again, enquiries or want lists to Anne, please.

These magazines are an absolute must for anyone striving to increase his or her philatelic knowledge.

Oh yes, and we have the odd extra *Setempe* too.

Vrystaat verloor sy voorste versamelaar en filateliese kenner

AS STOERE Vrystater was André Bezuidenhout se groot filateliese liefde vir die seëls en posgeskiedenis van die Oranje-Vrystaat, en met sy geesdrif het hierdie 'dooie land' soveel lewe gekry dat hy sy hoofversameling tereg "Vrystaat-vreugde" genoem het. Trouens, hy het die grootste en omvangrykste versameling van die Oranje-Vrystaat opgebou wat nog byeengebring is.

Die aanvanklike versameling van seëls en posstukke, waarmee hy in die begin 1970s gewerk het, het gegroei tot 'n sestal meerdere versamelings wat meermalig as afsonderlike versamelings uitgestal is.

Die versamelings was:

1. Vrystaat-vreugde

Nasionaal bekroon: 1989 goud met D G Crocker-trofee vir posgeskiedenis, 1993 goud en Vrijstaat-trofee, 1994 goud en Vrijstaat-trofee. Internasionaal: 1986 goud en spesiale toekenning, 1998 groot vermeil. Hierdie posgeskiedkundige versameling het ingesluit –

- 'n vroegste geheelstuk vanaf 'n sendingstasie in die oostelike Vrystaat, in 1839;
- seëllose posstukke uit die periode van die Oranjerivier-Soewereiniteit, dws die gebied onder beheer van 'n Britse gesagvoerder 'Smithfield Betaald';
- seëllose stukke van die Vrystaatse republiek, insluitend amptelike pos wat na die onderskeie Vrystaatse presidente verwys en 'n koevert vanaf die Griekwa-hoofman Adam Kok;
- 'n Natalse posstuk wat vanaf Durban die oorland-posroete na Kaapstad gevolg het;
- die gebruik van seëls van Kaap die Goeie Hoop, kombinasiekoeverte met Vrystaatse en Kaapse seëls daarop, 'n kombinasiekoevert van ZAR en OVS;
- koeverte wat posreëlings met naburige lande illustreer;
- pleknaam- en datumstempels, nommerstempels (nommer binne 'n ronde of ovaalraam met 16 balkies, of 11 balkies) en letterstempels;
- die verskeidenheid van spesiale merke op pos, soos "te laat", boete;
- amptelike kantoorstempels en ampsmerke;
- frankeerplakkers van die *Rijdende Dienst Macht* ('n polisiediens) - al drie tipes asook gebruikte eksemplare op briefstuk en koevertgedeelte;
- frankeermerke van die Vrystaatse Artilleriekorps, in drie kleure;
- seldsame posmerke van klein posagentskapkantore, ongewone posroetes en postariewe;
- die verandering van posstempels ná die Britse besetting (die landsnaam OVS is verander of verwyder en later vervang), en talle posstukke en stempels wat die posdiens van die Oranjerivier-kolonie uitbeeld (tot ná Uniewording in 1910).

André het 'n Vrystaatse posstuk gehad wat in 'n skeepsramp betrokke was (die sink van die *SS Mexican* aan die Kaapse weskus in 1901), en versamelaars het soms skertsend gesê "Al wat hy nie het nie, is lugpos in die Vrystaat!" (Die eerste lugpos-vertoonvlug in Suid-Afrika was ná Uniewording, in Desember 1911.)



Wyle André Bezuidenhout

2. Briefkaarte van die OVS

Slegs nie-mededingend uitgestal.

Die Vrystaatse republiek het in 1884 begin met 1d-briefkaarte wat in Londen gedruk is. Daarna het 'n ongewone gebruik gevolg: posseëls van die ter sake waarde is op klein gesnyde stukkies bordpapier geplak, en die drukwerk vir 'n briefkaart is dan bo-oor aangebring, met wapenskild op die seël en met sierraam – en siedaar, die plaaslik geproduseerde poskaart!

So was daar vanaf 1889 vyf verskillende plaaslike drukke van 'n 1d-briefkaart, sommige met verskillende soorte bordpapier, en van 1891 was daar 11 drukke van 'n dergelike halfpenniebriefkaart. Van 1892 was daar sewe drukke van 'n briefkaart vir anderhalf pennie, die buitelandse tarief.

Die moeisame studies wat vorige navorsers oor hierdie menigte briefkaarte aangevoor het, het voltooiing gevind in André se versameling en volledige byskrywing. Van elke enkele een van die uitgawes, drukke en variante van die briefkaarte was daar 'n ongebruikte plus 'n gebruikte eksemplaar.

Dieselfde geld vir ander uitgawes, soos antwoordbetaalde briefkaarte, asook die sewe verskillende settings van die "V.R.I."-opdrukke op 'n verskeidenheid van die pospapier.

Ook was daar van die Kaapse (Cape of Good Hope) poskaarte wat oorgedruk is as Orange River Colony, vyf verskillende drukke, elk met tot vier variante.

Met gefrankeerde koeverte, registrasiekoeverte, koerantomslae en verwante materiaal was hierdie versameling 'n volledige inventaris van die Vrystaatse pospapier wat dusver bekend is.

3. Posseëls van die Oranje-Vrystaat (Modelrepubliek)

Internasionaal bekroon: 1986 silwer met gelukwense van die jurie. Nasionaal: 2000 goud en FAK-trofee vir beste met byskrifte in Afrikaans.

Die seëls was dié van die republikeinse tydperk, 1867–1900, die Britse besetting, 1900–1902, en die Oranjerivier-kolonie, 1902–1910.

Die vroegste drukkersproef van die bekende 'lemoenboom-seël' was gedateer April 1867. Daar was snyblokproewe en kleurproewe, en natuurlik die seëls en hul gebruike (dws, op koevert en vir verskillende postariewe).

'n Kenmerk van hierdie versameling was die uitsonderlike veelvoude, hetsy velle, veldele van 60, of reekse van blokke van vier, posvars sowel as gebruik. Van die 5/- van 1878 was daar 'n middelblok van 48 seëls.

Al die opdrukke vir waarde-veranderings is met afwykings getoon. Daar was veral baie afwykings van die "V.R.I."-opdrukke op Vrystaatse seëls, en ook velle en specimens.

Van die Orange River Colony was daar essays, werksproewe, drukkersproewe, kleurproewe en specimens, en die seëls posvars en gebruik in veelvoude.

Ongewone stukke in die seëlversameling het ingesluit die 1896-opdruk "Halve Peuny" op koevert.

4. Diensseëls van die Oranje-Vrystaat

Nasionaal bekroon: 1987 vergulde sil-

wer.

Dit het seëls behels wat gebruik is vir die invordering van belastings, soos

- Inkomsteseëls
- Bankwissel-seëls (ook Bank Draft)
- Vordering van erfreg (seëls omskep vir hierdie belasting)
- Hospitaalbelasting
- Doeanereg.

Ook seëls ter betaling van dienste van die Poskantoor:

- Telegraafseëls
- Commissieloon-seëls op poswissels.

Derdens, spoorweg-pakketseëls soos uitgereik deur die Oranje Vrijstaatse Spoorwegen en later die Central South African Railways, wat ook oor- en deurdrukke op posseëls van die Oranjerivierkolonie aangebring het.

Die eerste twee uitgawes Vrystaatse inkomsteseëls was op wit of gekleurde papier gebosseleer. 'n Gedrukte vaste reeks van 17 waardes, van een sjieling tot vyf pond, het in 1877 verskyn.

Hierdie aspoestertjie-aspek van die filatelie is 'n boeiende studie in eie reg. Aan die seël-kant was daar talle oordrukke, veral van die TF (Telegraaf) en V.R.I., en boonop was daar 'n AT vir Army Telegraphs.

Aan die gebruikskant was daar inkomsteseëls met posstempels, posseëls met inkomsterojerings, TF-seëls gebruik in besette dorpe in Noordoos-Kaapland tydens die Anglo-Boere-oorlog, en Natal Government Railways-seëls gebruik in die Vrystaat.

Volgens André val die frankeerseëls van die Rijdende Dienst Macht en die Commando Brief-frank eintlik ook onder die definisie van diensseëls.

5. Die ontwikkeling van die spoorwegstelsel van die OVS (en Transvaal) tot 1910

Nasionaal bekroon: 1993 silwer, 2000 vermeil.

Posgeskiedenis is ten nouste verweef met die geskiedenis van spoorverbindings, en die versameling het die verwantskap uit Vrystaatse oogpunt geïllustreer.

Die spoorlyn uit die Kaapkolonie het Bloemfontein in Desember 1890 bereik en teen September 1892 was die Witwatersrand per spoor met die kus verbind. Intussen is die spoorlyn tussen Ladysmith (Natal) en Harrismith in die Oos-Vrystaat in Mei 1892 voltooi. Taklyne het gevolg.

Tot 1897 het die Cape Government Railways die treindiens deur die Vrystaat behartig. Toe is die Oranje Vrijstaat Spoorwegen opgerig, in 1900 gevolg deur die Imperial Military Railways en in 1902 die Central South African Railways.

Talle posmerke van spoorwegkantore het die versameling versier, soos 'Winburg Aansluiting' en 'Schuttesdraai R.O.' (rail office). Daar was ook eksemplare van die seldsame posstempels met OVSS, soos Smaldeel OVSS (OVS Spoorwegen).

Die postrein se reisende poskantoor en sorteerwa het twee merke gehad, RPK NOORD OVS en RPK ZUID OVS.

Die volledige versameling het heelwat nie-filateliese memorabilia bevat en is in 1992 by die eeuviering van die spoorverbinding tussen die Vrystaat en Transvaal uitgestal.

6. Die Vrystaat en die Anglo-Boere-oorlog

Nasionaal bekroon: 1995 goud, Vrijstaat-trofee, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society Cup. Internasionaal: 1998 groot vermeil.

Vrystaatse kommando's het deel gehad in die beskerming van die Vrystaatse wesgrens, die beleg van Kimberley, besetting van Griekwaland-Wes; besetting van dele van Noordoos-Kaapland; en besetting van dele van Noord-Natal en beleëring van Ladysmith.

Foremost Free State philatelist André Bezuidenhout RDPSA passed away during November last year. This tribute, which lists some of his numerous philatelic achievements, was prepared by his long-time friend and fellow philatelist Joh Groenewald RDPSA.

Posgeskiedkundige getuiens hiervan bestaan in die vorm van koeverte aan en van burgers op kommando in die streke, en die gebruik van Vrystaatse seëls met Kaaplandse en Natalse posstempels.

Uitsonderlike stukke in hierdie versameling is die koeverte van die Vrystaatse Roode Kruis en Ambulanskorps, asook die Nederlandse Roode Kruis. Daar is Boere-veldposmateriaal, koeverte van die beleg van Kimberley, krygsgevangenepos, amptelike kantoorstempels en 'n hele veldeel telegraafseëls gebruik in die hooflaer aan die Modderrivier.

Die Commando Brief-frank is in 'n onvolledige vel en daar is koeverte en enkel eksemplare met 'n verskeidenheid stempels op hierdie enigsins geheimsinnige frankeerseël.

Sorgsame navorsing oor die verloop van die Vrystaatse posdiens ná die Britse inname van Bloemfontein in Maart 1900 dui op 'n aantal nood-posroetes. Daar is ook posmateriaal uit die republikeinse regering se oorlogtydse 'verskuifde hoofstede' soos Kroonstad en Heilbron.

* * * * *

Met hierdie groot Vrystaat-versamelings het André veel tot Archie Batten RDPSA se Vrystaatse posstempelstudies bygedra. Sy eie navorsing was werk in die Vrystaatse argief, munisipale en kerkargiewe, opspoor van plekname wat lank nie meer bestaan nie, 'n studie van ou Vrystaatse posroetes, en dergelike.

Belangwekkende, oorspronklike navorsingsartikels is in *The SA Philatelist* gepubliseer. Die belangrikste hiervan is die artikels oor die Rijdende Dienst Macht, die Vrystaatse ambulanskorps in die Vryheidsoorlog, die Vrystaatse artillerie, en die OVSS-stempels.

André het graag sy kennis met medeversamelaars gedeel en sy eie biblioteek vir andere beskikbaar gestel, asook die De Raay-manuskripte. Hy het hierdie 19 oorspronklike, ongepubliseerde manuskripte van die Nederlandse student Leon de Raay in 1984 uit Nederland na Suid-Afrika gebring en so 'n groot diens aan die Suid-Afrikaanse filatelie bewys.

Nog 'n belangstelling was die krygsgevangenekampe van die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog. André se versameling hiervan het posstukke van die interneringskampe in Portugal ingesluit, asook seldsame merke van kortstondige kampe in Indië. Die versameling tussen 1978 en 1982 twee keer by nasionale seëluitstallings bekroon met silwer plus gelukwense van die jurie, en een keer met vergulde silwer. In 1983 het hy dit aan die Oorlogsmuseum van die Boererepublieke in Bloemfontein geskenk.

André het trouens 'n sleutelrol gehad in die stigting van 'n filatelie-afdeling by die Oorlogsmuseum, waar hy 'n ere-kurator vir filatelie geword het. Hy was 'n stigterlid van die "vriende van die Oorlogsmuseum" – deur sy toedoen het byna dertig buitelandse filateliste deur die jare by hierdie museumkring aangesluit.

"Met vier groot bemiddelings deur hom, was André die grootste weldoener wat die museum nog gehad het," sê die direkteur, kolonel Frik Jacobs.

Tussen die onderskeie versamelings het André soms "tema-uitstallings" saamgestel. Een, *Die Vrystaat onder Britse bewind*, is by 1988 se nasionale uitstalling met 'n vergulde silwer medalje bekroon. 'n Ander was 'n heimat-versameling van Harrismith.

André was van 1979 tot 1983 president van die OVS-Filatelistevereniging in Bloemfontein, en van toe af ere-lewenspresident. Vanaf 1978 was hy altesaam tien jaar die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika se vise-president vir die OVS- en Noord-Kaap-streek, en president van die Federasie in 1980/82 en 1995/96, die enigste driedubbele termyn in die laaste halfeeu. Hy was weer die Federasie se vise-president vir die OVS en Noord-Kaap in 1993/94 en 1999/2000. Hy is ook

vir 'n termyn as president van die Orange Free State Study Circle in Brittanje verkies.

Hy was voorsitter van die reëlingskomitee vir die Suid-Afrikaanse nasionale uitstalling *Vrijstaat 81*, waar die Vrystaat-trofee deur sy ywer ingestel is. André word eweneens onthou as die energieke voorsitter van die spesiale uitstalling *ABOPhil* (September 1999 Pretoria, en Oktober 1999 Bloemfontein) wat 100 jaar van die Anglo-Boere-oorlog herdenk het, asook die tweedaagse filatelie-simposium oor die oorlog in Bloemfontein.

In 1989 het die Filateliese Federasie se jaarkongres hom tot die hoogste eer verkies: hy is genooi om die Ererol van Uitgelese Suider-Afrikaanse Filateliste te onderteken.

Ook by die bevordering van seëlversameling was André aktief. Hy was medestigter van die jeugafdeling in Bloemfontein, hy het jare 'n gereelde seëlrubriek in *Die Volksblad* geskryf, hy het die Vrystaatse streekkompetisie begin, uitruilbesoeke tussen Bloemfontein en Kimberley ingestel, en gehelp met die stigting van seëlklubs op Welkom, Bethlehem en Colesberg.

Sy diens aan die Filateliese Federasie sluit in termyne as raadslid van die Filateliestigting, en hy is deur die Poskantoor as lid van die Seëlprogramkomitee aangestel.

Een filatelies-geskiedkundige versameling wat hy byeen gebring het, is die verhaal van Hendrik de Graaf, stigter van *Die Volksblad*, en hoe die koerant *Het Westen* van Potchefstroom uiteindelik na Bloemfontein gekom het om *Die Volksblad* te word. Die versameling is nou die eiendom van Nasionale Pers.

'n Nie-filateliese versameling was *Die Betaalmiddele van die OVS, Transvaal en die Anglo-Boere-oorlog*, synde munte, banknote en geldbewyse.

* * * * *

André Bezuidenhout is op 21 Januarie 1928 gebore en op 24 November 2001 ná 'n kort siekbed oorlede.

Hy was 'n prokureur, tot aftrede in 1994. Lid van die Oranje-Vrystaatse Provinsiale Raad van 1970 tot met die ontbinding daarvan in 1985.

Benewens sy formidabele rekord as filatelis was hy ook lid van talle kultuurorganisasies. Erepresident (1983) van die OVS Numismatiese Vereniging. Kweker van orgideë. Kranige stapper. Grappeverteller.

Sy dood laat nie die filatelie armer nie. Sy familie en ons almal is ryker danksy die herinnering aan die hartlik-aangename, vrolike Vrystater.

– *Joh Groenewald RDPSA*

The 2002 postal slogan programme

THE POST OFFICE released its slogan programme for 2002 on 13 November 2001, too late for inclusion in the December 2001 issue of *The SA Philatelist*. The slogan programme is for use with the ink jet stamp cancelling machines at the Capemail, Durmail, Germiston, Tshwanemail and Witspos mail centres. Since the introduction of the ink jet machines, slogan usage has fallen away at those centres that do not have such machines.

The policy of running most of the slogans for a week at a time, is being continued. A few regulars are run for two weeks, and occasionally, for something special, the period may be longer.

The slogans are aimed mainly at propagating Post Office products and services and at getting the public to post letters more often.

The programme for 2002 is:

31 December 2001 - 6 January 2002: Best wishes for the new year!
7 - 13 January: For quicker delivery, inform the Post Office of your change of address.
14 - 20 January: XPS COURIER - Your link to your business partners.
21 - 27 January: Buy self-seal, postage-included envelopes for additional convenience.
28 January - 3 February: RMS franking machines: For more details contact 0800 111 502.
4 - 10 February: Remember to send a Valentine's card!
11 - 17 February: Use the small parcel service to send lightweight, low-value goods overseas.
18 - 24 February: Stamp booklets - Convenience for you!
25 February - 3 March: Thank you for sending it by post!
4 - 10 March: Need added security? Register your letter!
11 - 17 March: Postcodes on the Internet: (http://www.sapo.co.za)
18 - 24 March: Buy postage-included Fastmail envelopes.
25 - 31 March: Are you aware of the new postal rates? Check at your post office.
1 - 7 April: Are you aware of the new postal rates? Check at your post office.
8 - 14 April: Visit our website: http://www.sapo.co.za
15 - 21 April: Postcodes available toll free at 0800 111 502.
22 - 28 April: Use Faxmail for your urgent communication.
29 April - 5 May: Remember Mom by sending a Mother's Day card.
6 - 12 May: Remember Mom by sending a Mother's Day card.
13 - 19 May: Underpaid articles will be surcharged. Please use the correct postage.
20 - 26 May: Franking machines: Perfect for small businesses. Contact 0800 111 502.
27 May - 2 June: For quicker delivery, use Fastmail.
3 - 9 June: Remember Dad by sending a Father's Day card.
10 - 16 June: Remember Dad by sending a Father's Day card.
17 - 23 June: Stay in touch with distant family. Write a letter!
24 - 30 June: XPS COURIER - If you cannot e-mail it, XPS it!
1 - 7 July: Buy self-seal, postage-included envelopes for additional convenience.
8 - 14 July: Use the international reply coupon service to prepay for responses from abroad.
15 - 21 July: Make someone's day. Send them a letter!
22 - 28 July: Need added security? Register your letter.
29 July - 4 August: Visit our website: http://www.sapo.co.za
5 - 11 August: Thank you for sending it by post!
12 - 18 August: Postcodes available toll free at 0800 111 502.
19 - 25 August: Express yourself in writing!
26 August - 1 September: Use Faxmail for your urgent communication.
2 - 8 September: Buy stamp booklets for convenience!
9 - 15 September: XPS COURIER - Whatever it is, whenever, wherever!
16 - 22 September: Use the Post Office's international mail service - your worldwide connection.
23 - 29 September: For quicker delivery, use Fastmail.
30 September - 6 October: Self-seal, postage-included envelopes - Available at post offices.
7 - 13 October: For quicker delivery, inform the Post Office of your change of address.
14 - 20 October: Post international Christmas mail early for swift delivery.
21 - 27 October: Visit our website: http://www.sapo.co.za
28 October - 3 November: Make someone's day. Send them a letter!
4 - 10 November: Underpaid articles will be surcharged. Please use the correct postage.
11 - 17 November: Stamp booklets - Convenience for you!
18 - 24 November: Post Christmas mail early for quick delivery!
25 November - 1 December: XPS COURIER - Whatever it is, whenever, wherever!
2 - 8 December: When you can't say it in person, post it!
9 - 15 December: Management and staff of the Post Office wish you a happy festive season!
16 - 22 December: Management and staff of the Post Office wish you a happy festive season!
23 - 29 December: May you have a prosperous new year!
30 December 2001 - 5 January 2002: May you have a prosperous new year!

■ MARK PIPER

Cuban Mails in Angola 1975 - 1991 *(Part 4)*

This is the fourth and final in a series of articles by Mark Piper, a property/real estate manager in San Francisco, who has collected and studied Cuban philately and postal history since 1988. In 1995, he and Santiago Portuondo co-wrote the first definitive cataloque of post-1959 revolutionary Cuban postal stationery. An updated version appeared in 2000. The author welcomes inquiries to 482 Joost Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94127-2406.

Mincom Post Office at Luanda, Angola

Mincom dated canceller – (RPA – EMP CUBAT)

In 1985 Mincom established a post office at the Cuban Embassy in Luanda to serve the postal needs of the participants in Angola. Personnel from Mincom in Havana were posted to oversee the operations of this post office and used personnel from the Oficina Económica and CubaTecnica in Angola to operate the Mincom postal office.

The office was equipped with circular dated hand cancellers 35 mm in diameter with the acronyms R.P.A. – EMP. CUBAT. (República Popular de Angola – Empresa de Contratación de Asistencia Técnica de Cuba), People's Republic of Angola – Cuban Technical Assistance Contracting Enterprise.

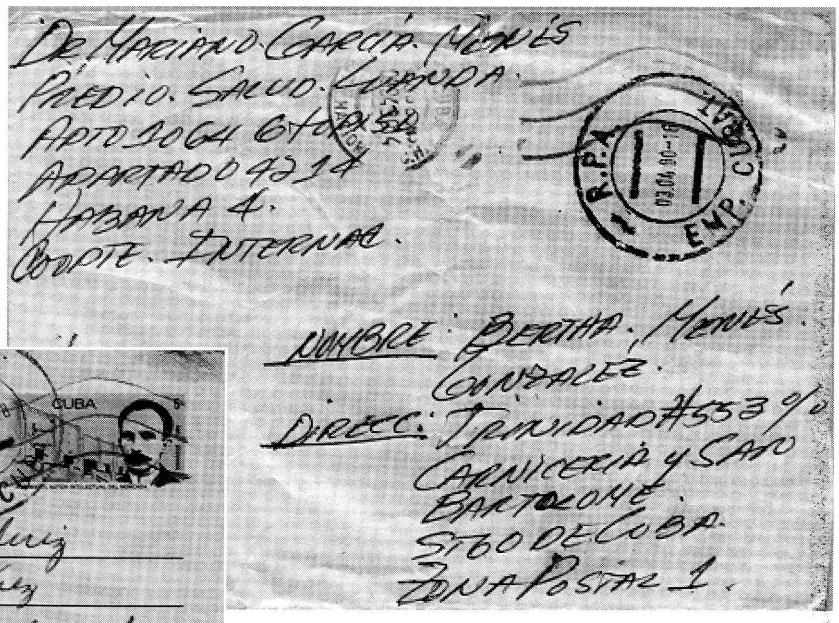
The cancellers were stamped in black. The numerical date on the hand canceller would be read as follows: day, month, year, and a two-digit identifying number of the clerk. These cancellers have been observed with the numbers 07, 08, 11, 15, 16, and 17. The earliest known date for this canceller is 28 January 1985.

The canceller is identical in type to those issued by Mincom beginning in 1982 to post offices in Cuba. It is believed the handstamps were produced in the German Democratic Republic (DDR), at their State Printworks in Leipzig. This opinion is based on the style of the numbers used on the cancellers, which match known DDR canceller number typefaces and a report in Linn's magazine in 1990 which describes a complex printworks in Leipzig which produced such types of cancellers and equipment.

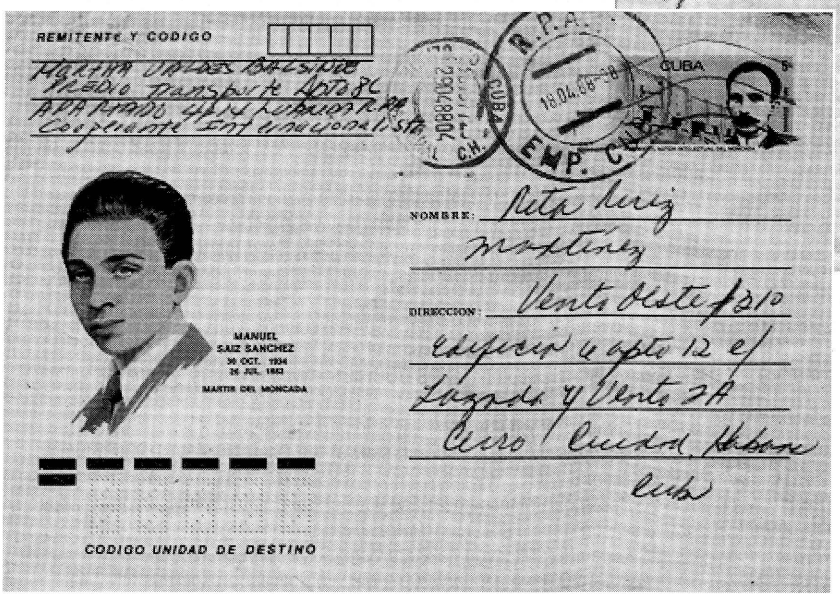
This handcancel was only applied at the Luanda post office to mail directly presented at that office. Generally, mail brought in by couriers from the field was not cancelled. A similar hand cancel is known from the Cuban forces in Ethiopia. Examples studied show the canceller was used to cancel mail and as a franking mark used in lieu of postage.

Cover 18 - This franked 1987 postal stationery envelope was posted by a *cooperante* serving with the Transportation Brigade in Luanda. The envelope bears a Mincom/RPA cancel dated 18 April 1988. The letter was cancelled at the Havana National Classification Centre on 29 April 1988, showing an 11-day transit time.

Cover 19 - This unfranked Cuban

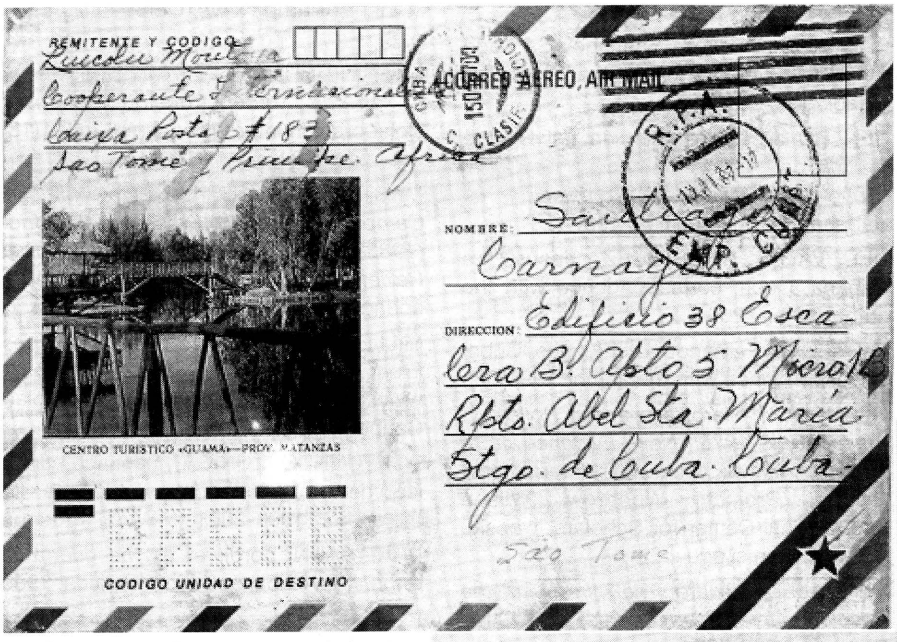


Cover 19



Cover 18

Cover 20



Cover 21



postal stationery envelope was posted by a *cooperante* serving at the Public Health Headquarters in Luanda to Santiago de Cuba. The letter bears a circular Mincom/RPA cancel dated 3 April 1990. The cover was cancelled on 8 April 1990 by the Havana National Classification Centre and backstamped in Santiago de Cuba 10 April 1990. In this instance, the canceller is used in lieu of postage.

São Tomé e Príncipe

São Tomé e Príncipe is a small island nation in the Gulf of Guinea off the coast of the African continent. A former Portuguese colony, São Tomé e Príncipe became an independent nation 12 September 1975. The Cuban civilian participation began in early 1976 with the arrival of a Cuban Medical Brigade. In 1984-1985, 325 *cooperantes* and 100 Military Assistance Forces advisors were stationed in São Tomé e Príncipe. Main areas of Cuban collaboration include medicine, agriculture and education. The Oficina Económica in São Tomé used several post office boxes at the main post office in São Tomé in agreement with local postal authorities to distribute mail to the various brigades in São Tomé e Príncipe. Mail from São Tomé e Príncipe was routed via the Mincom post office in Luanda.

Cover 20 – This cover was posted as free frank mail by a *cooperante* in São Tomé e Príncipe at the Oficina Económica at the Cuban Embassy in São Tome and bears a São Tomé return address. The cover is a 1983/1984 unfranked Cuban postal stationery envelope with an additional design of a star and stripes in the lower right corner.

This type of envelope is thought to have been issued specifically for the use of the *cooperantes* abroad who enjoyed free frank privileges. The cover was routed to the Mincom post office in Luanda, Angola where a Mincom 35 mm circular hand cancel with the inscription R.P.A. – EMP. CUBAT. dated 10 January 1987 was applied in lieu of postage. This particularly rare example clearly documents the routing of mail from São Tome e Príncipe via Luanda. The letter was sent to Havana, where it was cancelled at the Havana National Classification Centre on 5 January 1987, and sent on to Santiago de Cuba for delivery.

After the Cuban withdrawal from Angola in 1991

The victories and achievements Cuba made in Angola were short-lived. In 1992, fighting resumed, which by 1996 had destroyed Angola. The end of Soviet subsidies to Cuba in 1991 marked the end of military participations by Cuba. There are currently plans to send medical personnel with the *Programa de Salud Integral* to Angola.

Cover 21 – On 23 March 1998, Cuba issued a 15-centavo stamp to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Cuban victory over South African forces at Cuito Cuanavale. The stamp shows victorious Cuban military personnel atop a disabled South African tank with the flags of Angola and Cuba to the right. Shown in the lower left corner of the first-day cover is a map of Angola with the location of the battle site indicated with a star, the flags of Angola and Cuba and AK-47 machine guns.

End notes

My interest with the Cuban postal systems abroad began in 1992 when I began receiving covers from collectors in Cuba. Between 1992 and 2001, I studied 650 covers in various collections mailed from Angola between 1976 and 1991 to Cuba. This type of material is considered to be scarce at best, with many items known from only a few examples.

Santiago Portuondo Zúñiga, Héctor Juárez Figueredo, Jesús del Valle Rodríguez, and Santiago Carnago Múñoz,

all prominent philatelists in Cuba, are the intellectual authors of this study. These collectors have pored over periodicals to recreate the history of the Angolan participation, interviewed a number of participants for anecdotal information on the operation of the Cuban postal systems in Angola, and tracked down the examples used to illustrate this article. I am indebted to their work. We consider this an on-going working project.

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■ **LEO CRANDEL** *Transvaal Study Circle*

Die briefkaarte van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (4)

Die spoorwegposkaarte van 1896/1897

MET die uitbreiding van die spoorweë en die toename in vragverkeer was meer van die 'Bericht van aankomst'-poskaarte nodig sodat stasiemeesters vir die geadresseerdes kon laat weet van goedere wat vir hulle aangekom het.

In Januarie 1896 en in Julie 1897 het die Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatschappij (ZASM) van hierdie spesiale poskaarte by Joh Enschedé in Haarlem bestel.

Die produksie

Vir die produksie van die halfpenniekaarte wat bestel is, is dieselfde drukplate gebruik as vir die eenkleur-halfpenniebriefkaarte van 1896.

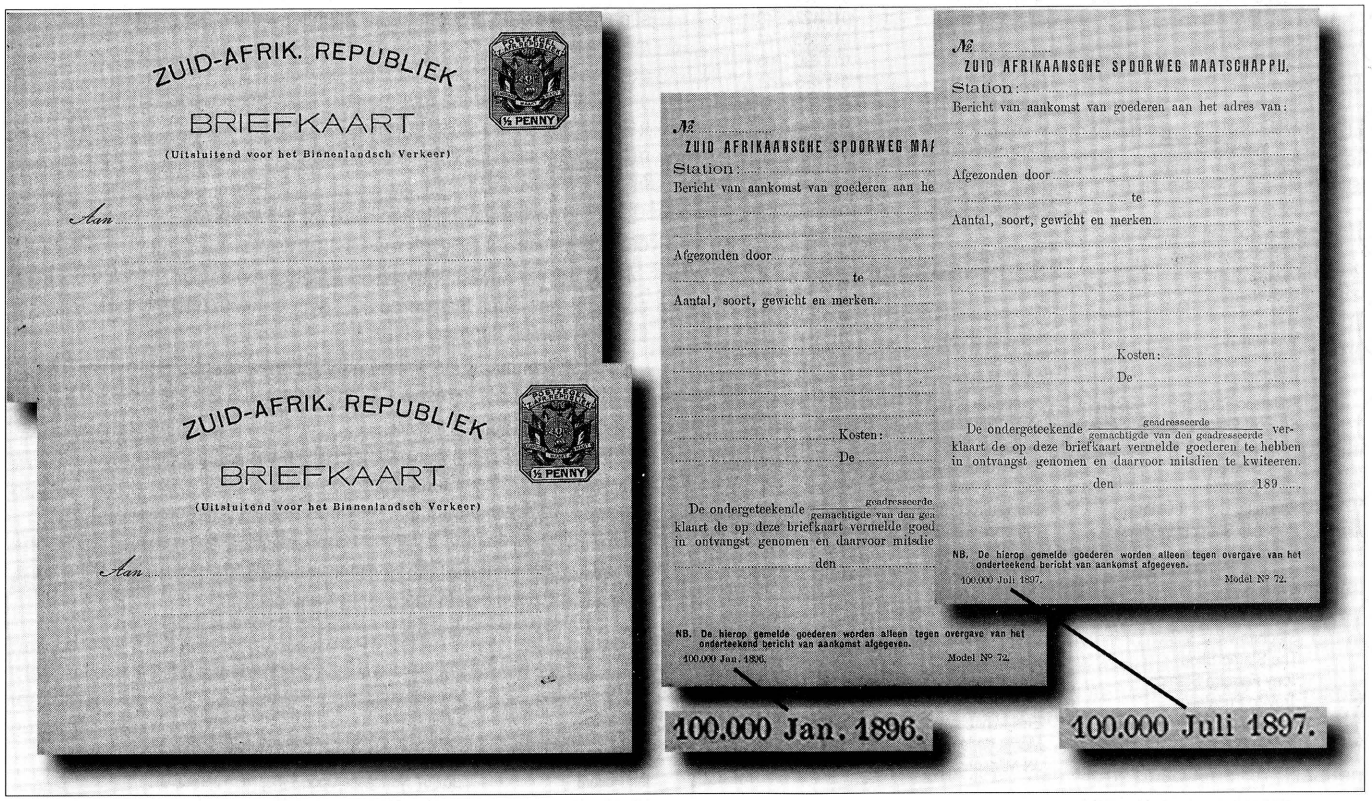
Op die agterkant is die 'Bericht van aankomst' gedruk in dieselfde groen kleur as op die voorkant. Die teks is soos dié van die 1891-poskaarte.

Joh Enschedé het weer nie bestaande briefkaarte van die ZA Republiek gebruik nie, maar heel nuwe oplae gedruk. Van hierdie kaarte is daar geen proewe in die Museum vir Kommunikasie of by Enschedé nie.

In die voorbeeldeboek van die PTT is wel 'n kaart met die boskrif: *Miss. 4 Jan. 1896 116E - Zuid Afr. Spoorweg Maatsch.*

Die tabel gee die besonderhede van die 'Bericht van aankomst'-kaarte wat by Enschedé gedruk is. Agter op die poskaarte word die volgende gemeld:

100.000 Jan. 1896 Model No. 72



Tabel A – Die Spoorwegbriefkaarte van 1/2d van 1896/1897

Datum van bestelling	Produksie-datum	Aantal bestel	Aantal gedruk	Toegevoeg (restant)	Eksemplare versend	Versend-datum	Versend per stoomskip	Restant
Jan 1896	12-02-1896	100 000	108 074	–	100 000	21-02-1896	onbekend	8 074
Jul 1897	05-10-1897	100 000	89 278	8 074	100 000	15-10-1897	per s.s.Pondo	6 352

Kosprys van kaarte
Die kosprys van die weerskante bedrukte kaarte was f2.40 per duisend plus f20 per bestelling

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Robertson Stamp Co	Mike Silberman	031 205 4762
Sandton Stamps & Coins	Raphy Trevis	011 783 8309
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Stamps Unlimited	George Cafetzoglou	011 447 9934
Stephan Welz & Co	Danny Swart	011 880 3125
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5. We will refund, upon written application, a client's money held in trust in respect of any orders that we are unable to execute.

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7. We agree to accept the decision of SAPDA's Executive Committee in the event of any dispute.

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David Morrison		091 520 498 0637
Der Postlaeufer	JM Heimann	092 646 122 2837
Frasers	Colin Fraser	091 212 754 2445
Grosvenor Auctions	J Grist/N Mansell	0944 207 629 9399
Harmers of London	Graham Childs	0944 208 747 6100
Ian Pollard	Box 57 Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE 12 9YQ, UK	
Interstamps	R Morgenegg	094 152 643 5335:
Kutz Experte für Phil	A Kutz	094 940 800 6448
Murray Payne Ltd	Stuart Babbington	0944 193 473 2511
Namib Stamps	B Basson	09264 64 40 5560:
Philaclassica AG	Martin Eichele	094 161 261 7379
Ritchie Bodily	Gerald Bodily	0944 181 940 5171
Spinks	David Parsons	0944 207 563 4072
Stanley Gibbons Ltd	David Crocker	0944 171 836 8444
The Philatelic Exporter	Graham R Phillips	0944 170 726 6331
Vera Trinder Ltd	Vera Webster	0944 171 836 2365
WE Lea Philatelists	Billy Lea	0944 137 246 8263

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100.000 Juli 1897 Model No. 72

Die restant van 6 352 kaarte was in 1907 nog in die pakkamer van die kontroleur van seëldrukwerk in Haarlem.

Origens is daar in Mei 1896 plaaslik, dit wil sê in Pretoria, 'n paar duisend van die gewone halfpenniebriefkaarte wat van Joh Enschedé ontvang is, op die agterkant bedruk met die teks vir 'Bericht van aankomst'.

SUMMARY This last in the series of articles discusses the need for new Railway Lettercards as the railway system of the ZAR expanded. The printers, Joh Enschedé, did not use the existing lettercards, but printed a new order.

It also deals with the correspondence regarding the destruction of 3 385 1891 ZAR lettercards. According to the printers the actual number left was 3 420, showing a shortfall of 35.

Regarding the lettercards of 1896/97 the printers refused to destroy the remainder of ZAR stamps and printing plates after 1902 as the British Government had not yet given any indication of how it was going to pay Enschedé.

Die restante van die ZAR se briefkaarte

Spoorwegposkaarte van 1891

TEEN 12 Oktober 1895 het die kontroleur van seëldrukwerk in Nederland aan die direkteur-generaal van die (Nederlandse) posterye geskryf dat daar nog 3 385 briefkaarte van een pennie (met bedrukte agterkant) voorradig was. Hy het gevra wat daarmee moes gebeur:

In verband met u skrywe van 1 Desember 1894, No 14259 Pz, oorweeg ek om dit by die eersvolgende vernietiging [van ou materiaal] in te sluit.

Volgens 'n opgawe van Enschedé sou daar egter nog 3 420 kaarte oor wees. Dus het 35 ontbreek!

Op 18 Oktober 1895 het die ambassadeur van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek aan die direkteur-generaal geskryf:

Wat betref die huidige voorraad van seëls en briefkaarte volgens die nuwe model, kan dit vir soverre dit bestel was, versend word dog nie ter vermindering van die nuwe bestelling nie. In soverre dit nie bestel was nie, behoort dit vernietig te word, asook enige wat nog daar is van die ou model.

Hieruit kan ons aflei dat die 'ou' spoorwegkaarte wel vernietig sou wees.

Briefkaarte van 1896/1897

Na afloop van die Anglo-Boere-oorlog het J van de Poll, die kontroleur/magasynmeester, op 27 Maart 1903 aan die direkteur-generaal van posterye en telegrafie geskryf:

Betreffende Suid-Afrikaanse seëls en drukplate.

Van die poswaardestukke ens van die voormalige Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek wat alhier by die firma Enschedé gedruk is, is daar nog hoeveelhede by my in die pakhuis, volgens die bygaande staat.

Die firma Enschedé ag dit wenslik dat die waardes en die drukmateriaal nie vernietig word nie vir solank as wat die Engelse regering nog sy sienswyse oor die betaling van die firma se onbetaalde rekening moet bekend maak.

Hoewel ek my met hierdie gevoel kan vereenselwig, het ek egter gemeen om voor my aftrede die aandag op hierdie aangeleentheid te vestig.

Die hoof van die afdeling (eerste afdeling, hoofbestuur van posterye en telegrafie) het in die kantlyn van die brief geskryf:

Hoe kom die kontroleur aan hierdie voorraad, word elke bestelling dan nie terstond afgelewer nie? H.J. Mathieu

Daar bestaan 'n konsepbrief aan Mathieu, met daarin:

Die aanwesige voorraad Transvaalse postwaarde-items sou, indien die firma E. dit verlang, by die eersvolgende geleentheid vir vernietiging [van ou materiaal] voorgelê kan word.

Iemand het toe gevra: *Sou daar nie 'n beter gebruik voor wees as om dit te vernietig nie? In verband hiermee vra ek of dit nie voldoende sou wees om die sin se einde van "voorgelê kan word" te verander tot "voorgestel kan word"?*

Daaronder staan 'n opmerking: *Dienooreenkomstig gewysig, dit is nie vir my duidelik wat F. met die seëls sou kon uitrig nie.*

Die oplossing is weer daaronder geskryf: *Verkoop dit.* Die paraaf is in elk geval van iemand in die hoofbestuur van die P&T.

Die antwoord van die hoofbestuur is gedateer 20 April 1903 en gee die reëling: *Wat die aanwesige voorraad Transvaalse poswaardes betref, kan dit tot die beskikking van die firma Enschedé gestel word.*

Verskil van een

In tabel B word 'n oorsig gegee van die pakhuisvoorraad van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek se briefkaarte volgens die kontroleur, en volgens die opgawe van Joh Enschedé.

Dit is 'n raaisel hoe die kontroleur van die vier eersgenoemde kaarte telkens een meer in voorraad kon hê as wat die telling van Enschedé aandui.

Alle restante van die ZAR se drukopdragte, posseëls sowel as poswaardestukke, is op 29 Mei 1907 deur die kontroleur aan Joh Enschedé in Haarlem oorgedra. Wat daarna met die kaarte gebeur het, is 'n heel ander verhaal: party is verkoop aan die handelaar Mirza Hadi en die res is vernietig.

Tabel B – Oorsig van pakhuisvoorraad van die poswaardestukke van die voormalige Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (bylaag by die skrywe van 27 Maart 1903, nommer 4015)

Soort poswaardestuk	Waarde-indruk	Opgawe van die kontroleur	Opgawe van Joh Enschedé
Enkel briefkaarte	½ pennie	3 412 stuks	3 411 stuks
Dubbel-briefkaarte	½ pennie	5 458 stuks	5 457 stuks
Enkel briefkaarte	1 pennie	35 717 stuks	35 716 stuks
Dubbel-briefkaarte	1 pennie	6 942 stuks	6 941 stuks
Spoorwegkaarte 1896/7	½ pennie	6 352 stuks	6 352 stuks

Dankbetuiging

Ten slotte wil ek my dank betuig aan almal wat my met die samestelling van hierdie artikels gehelp het. Dit gaan om die medewerksters en medewerkers van die Museum vir Kommunikasie in Den Haag (die vroeëre PTT Museum), die Stichting Museum Joh Enschedé en Zonen in Haarlem, en die Algemene Ryksargief in Den Haag.

In search of
South African machine postmarks

By **Neville Gomm** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

THIS is the third article in this series, the previous two having dealt with Acornhoek and Adelaide.

Many of the mail centres that will be featured in this series have also used slogans in their machines. The slogans are being treated in separate articles.

It must be emphasised that the information appearing in this series is far from the last word on the subject of South African machine postmarks. Official records are non-existent and very little information has been recorded in philatelic publications.

The lack of published information on South African machine postmarks makes this series very much a gathering of information exercise. I would therefore appeal, perhaps to a degree of irritation, for help from readers.

A very welcome practice for readers who can afford it, would be to submit photocopies, where originals are suitable, to prove points of information. I preserve such photocopies in my collection.

The nature of this series and the sources from which it is drawn, makes it necessary that each successive article should where applicable be preceded by additional notes that have come to hand concerning those articles that have already appeared. In this context, the following notes can be added to the first two articles.

1 - Acornhoek

No bulk mail machine marks in red ink have been seen from this mail centre.

Information for the Acornhoek article came from the following sources: David Allison, Bergvliet; Danie Wepener, Witrivier (retired Post Office official); author's collection; correspondence with the Post Office. Also the Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies Volume 1, Hale and Putzel, Cape Town, 1986, as well as Official Place Names in the Union and South West Africa. Compiled by the Place Names Committee. The Government Printer, Pretoria. 1952.

If there are readers who sent reaction to my Struben Valley address in the Acornhoek article, I would like to ask them to please write again. That address was supposed to have been amended a long time ago to the following current address: Neville Gomm, 48 Paul Kruger Street, Robertson, 6705, South Africa.

2 - Adelaide

The earliest date of machine usage that I have recorded is 31 December 1977. The latest date is 26 November 1992.

I have only two bulk mail postmarks in red from Adelaide, the earliest dated 31 July 1978, and the latest 21 November 1988.

3 - Alberton

A postal agency was opened at Alberton on 1 June 1905, and it became a post office in 1909. This office moved to new premises in 1978, and the old office became Alberton-noord. Initially, Alberton had Germiston as head office, but later became independent.

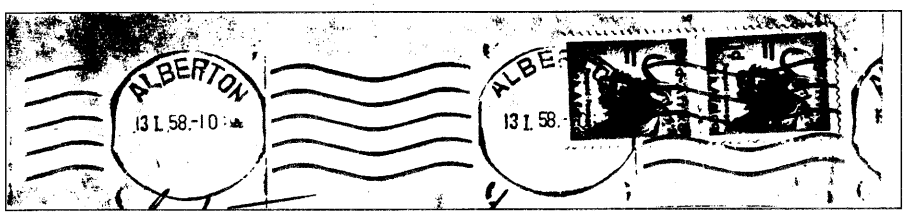
Alberton is named after General Hendrik Abraham Alberts, who had played a leading role in the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902. Alberts was a senior member of a syndicate that bought part of the farm Elandsfontein. Alberton was laid out on this land in 1904. After his death, Alberts was buried in the town. The farm Elandsfontein had been settled in 1845. Alberton is near Johannesburg. It is close to industrial areas and the Newmarket horse racing complex is in the municipal area.

Typology

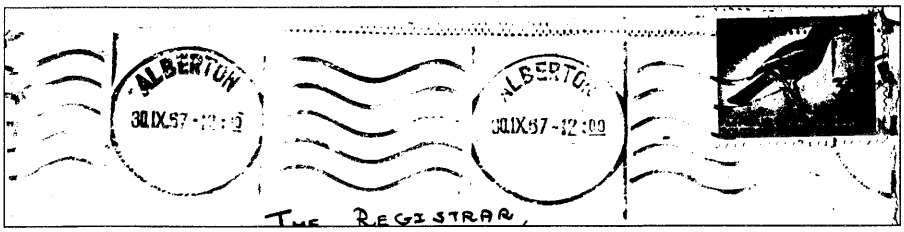
Before giving details of the Alberton machine postmarks, some notes on typology will not be out of place. In this series, type numbers have been allocated only to items that are possible to illustrate or describe accurately from faintly printed specimens. It is quite possible that more types may exist than are illustrated or described. It should therefore be clear that every typology given in this series is subject to amendment. An adequate database for the compilation of sound typologies simply does not exist.

Earliest and latest dates

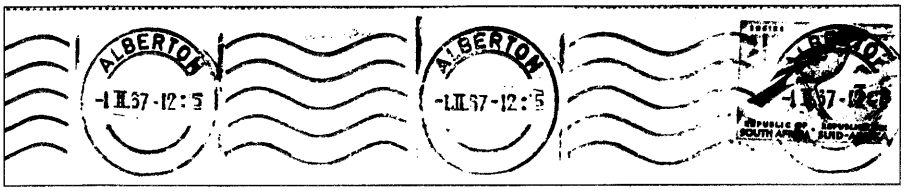
The earliest date recorded for an ordi-



Type 1b – This shows the earliest recorded date.



Type 2b – Can be distinguished by comparing the letters of the name with those of Type 1b. Also, the trough of the wavy lines is deeper than that of Type 1b.



Type 3b – Has obvious differences such as the double circles of the dater.

nary mail machine postmark is 13 January 1958. For bulk mail it is 22 May 1962.

Latest dates are 2 February 1994 for ordinary mail and 3 March 1994 for bulk mail.

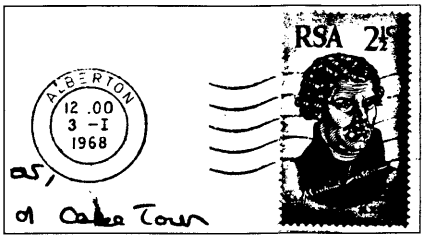
The dates in the preceding two paragraphs are neither official nor final. They were recorded from the sources at the end of this article.

Black or red ink

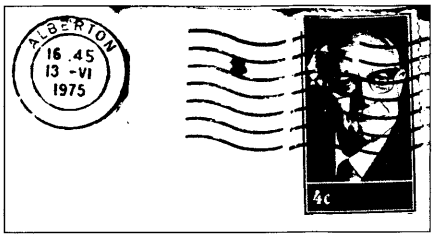
Machine postmarking in South Africa is done with red or black ink. In the normal course of things, items with a black postmark would be those bearing a postage stamp and dropped into a mailing box of the Post Office. Items with a red postmark would normally be those handed in at a post office counter in large quantities without postage stamps. They would be postmarked after a count and postage had been paid.

As an initial step, I have decided to give separate typologies for postmarks in black ink and in red ink. Reference to "Type 1b" would therefore be to type 1 in black ink. Similarly, reference to "Type 1r" would be to type 1 in red ink. Some other system may present itself in time.

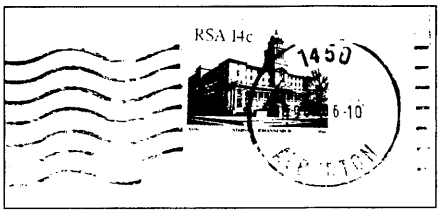
Sources: David Allison, Bergvliet; author's collection; *Suid-Afrikaanse Pleknaamwoordeboek Deel 1,* P J Nienaber. Tafelberg-Uitgewers, Kaapstad, 1971; *Official Place Names in the Union and South West Africa,* compiled by the Place Names Committee, The Government Printer, Pretoria 1952; *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies Volume 1,* Ralph F Putzel, Hale & Putzel, Cape Town, 1986.



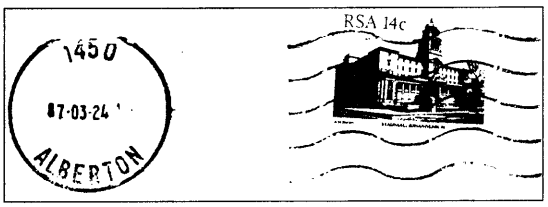
Type 4b – With Type 4b, Alberton did away with its continuous impression machine. The new single impression machine had a smaller dater with the date and time details spread over three lines.



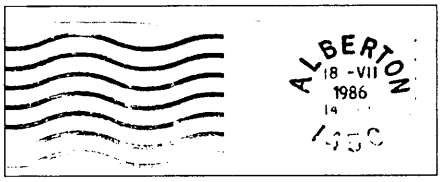
Type 5b – The dater is the same as in Type 4b, but there are now seven broken wavy lines. The section in the middle with the crests of the wavy lines, is a separate little removable plate or slug. The lines can be replaced with a slug engraved PAID BETAAL, making it possible to use the same machine for postmarking bulk mail with red ink.



Type 6b – Back to a single circle of larger size with seven wavy lines. This type has subtypes, one with the wavy lines left of the dater and the other with the lines to the right. A postcode appears in the dater for the first time.



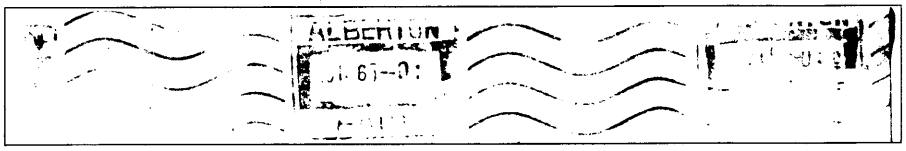
Type 7b – Similar to Type 6b, but the canceller has five wavy lines.



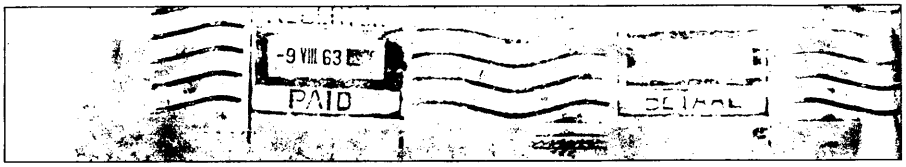
Type 8b – A new dater without a circle distinguishes Type 8b.



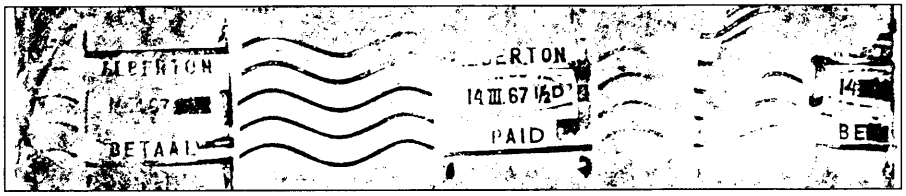
Type 9b – Back to double circles. The time in the dater is indicated only as AM or PM, and the letters RSA replace the postcode.



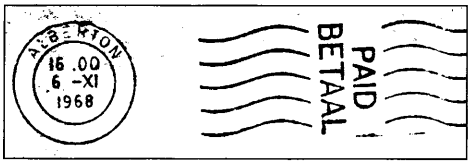
Type 1r – This item with rectangular datestamps is dated 15 April 1963. It has five wavy lines with deep troughs.



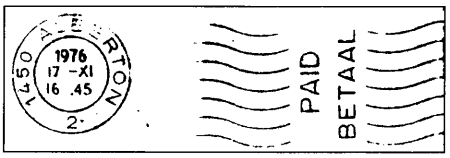
Type 2r – The troughs in the wavy lines of this item are shallow. The daters appear to be the same.



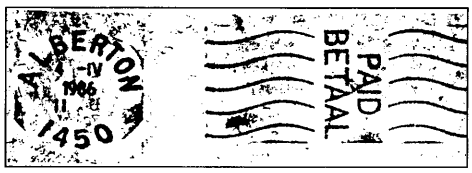
Type 3r – Smaller dater lettering and the currency value ½d in the English dater.



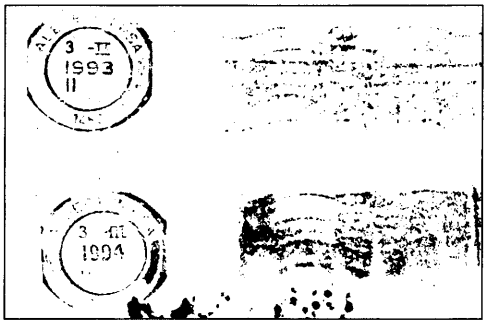
Type 4r – Has the PAID BETAAL slug inserted in the five wavy lines canceller. The dater has two concentric circles.



Type 5r – This cancellerhas seven wavy lines and the PAID BETAAL slug has lettering of a different size to that of Type 4r. Type 5r also has a new dater with a postcode and a numeral 2 in the lower section between the circles.



Type 6r – The dater is characterised by a lack of circles. The canceller is of the same kind as in Type 4r.



Type 7r – The outer circle of the dater has flattened sides and the letters RSA appear behind the name of the mail centre.

PUTTING TOGETHER AN EXHIBIT – 1

This is the first in a series of articles intended to help the novice exhibitor reach decisions on aspects of an exhibit other than the purely philatelic ones. The ideas are not to be taken as "rules" (except where a rule is indicated) but as helpful guides; individual exhibitors may have better ideas of their own. The series will cover the following aspects:

- **What pages do I use for my exhibit?**
- **What method do I use for writing-up an exhibit?**
- **What should I do about illustrations?**
- **Layout of a page or exhibit**
- **Doing an Introductory page**
- **The Prospectus rules. OK?**

By **Richard Knight** *RDPSA*
Chairman: Judging Committee

What pages do I use?

ONE of the first things the novice exhibitor has to decide is what type of page is going to be used for his or her exhibit. There are several things to be considered before one launches into the not inconsiderable expense of buying perhaps 100 sheets.

One of the major decisions is how you propose to write-up the exhibit. Suggestions for writing-up will be covered in a later article, but at this stage it is important to decide whether you wish to do your write-up on a computer or typewriter and print straight onto the page; if so, your pages must be of such a size (usually A4, although depending on the printer, you may be able to squeeze a few extra millimetres in size) that they will fit through your computer printer or typewriter.

If you decide not to print straight onto the page by means of a computer printer, your choice of page size is rather greater, limited only by the maximum size of page which will be accommodated by the exhibition frames. Exhibition prospectuses almost invariably give a maximum height and width available. The standard exhibition frame used in South Africa is designed to take five sheets horizontally, totalling 1220 mm in width (i.e. each 244 mm in width) with a maximum height of 300 mm. The international size frame takes 16 sheets but as the maximum sizes vary slightly, one needs to do careful planning to ensure that sheets will fit the frames at such exhibitions. In general 290 mm in height and a width of about 230 mm is a safe bet, without overlapping.

Your second decision is whether you wish to use pages with a preprinted grid of fine lines (i.e. as in an album sheet) or plain sheets. If you are mounting a lot of stamps, you may feel that the grid of lines makes mounting that much easier – spacing of stamps and getting them exactly straight on the page is simple. But if you are preparing a postal history or postal stationery exhibit, where you have relatively few items to mount on each page, plain sheets may be preferred.

Your third decision is to select a colour for the sheets. It is a rule at exhibitions that sheets should be white or light coloured – black and dark colours are not acceptable. If you are using commercially available sheets printed with a grid, only light colours are probably available, but if you are having the sheets specially printed with a grid or using plain sheets, you have obviously a wider choice in colour.

In selecting the colour of the sheets several factors have to be borne in mind. A plain white can be rather "staring" and trying to look at, while a colour, other than very pale grey, off-white or light cream, tends to be obtrusive and detract from the material.

The colour of the ink used for write-up also has to be borne in mind; a brownish ink used for write-up may be difficult to read on a yellowish sheet. The sheets should enhance and not overpower the philatelic material.

In selecting sheets, one needs to be aware of the weight of the paper if you are going to feed it into your printer. Ordinary 80 gsm paper (i.e. ordinary photocopy paper) does not look good and is difficult to mount unless the protector is stiff and even then tends to flop, while if you are feeding it through a printer thick card wears the printer unduly quickly. I find a weight of around 120 gsm is acceptable to my printer provided I use the printer's manual feed facility, but you need to check your printer specifications before deciding.

Finally, one needs to bear in mind that for exhibition purposes sheets need to be enclosed in transparent protectors and the use of an exotic size in sheets may mean having protectors specially made.

In sum: Exhibition sheets should be of the order of 230 mm wide by 290 mm high, unless you are printing straight on to the sheet in which case the maximum size is determined by the printer specifications, and pale grey, off-white or light cream in colour.

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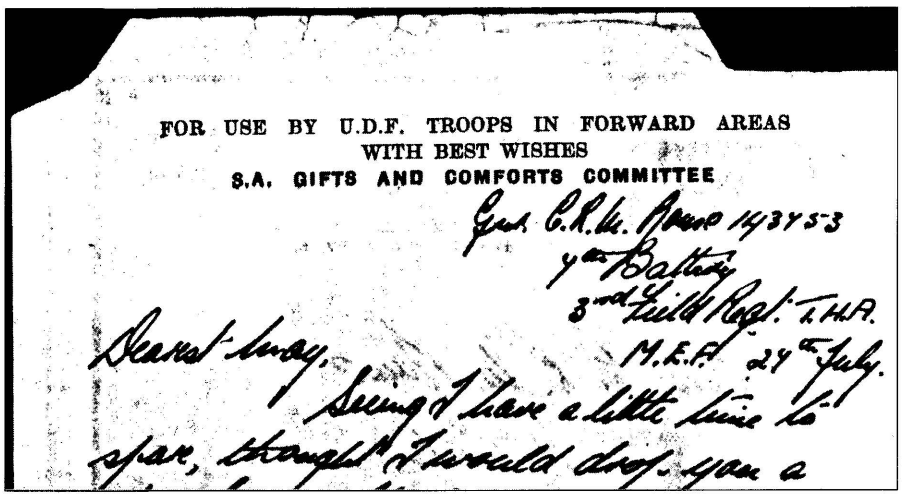
A new overprint on the stampless air mail letter cards

By **Tom Mullins**
Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society


FOR USE BY U.D.F. TROOPS IN FORWARD AREAS
WITH BEST WISHES
S.A. GIFTS AND COMFORTS COMMITTEE

SINCE publication of my monograph entitled *The Stampless Air mail Letter Cards and Air Letters used by South African Troops 1941-1945* as a supplement to *The SA Philatelist* in April 2001, an air mail letter card has come to my notice which bears an overprint apparently not hitherto recorded. The letter card itself is of the standard Gumbley type and there is nothing of particular interest on the front address panel. However, when the letter card is opened, there is printed in blue ink on the top left half of the inside inscription in small block capitals (see illustration). The first two lines are in a font with serifs, and the bottom line without serifs but in a bold type, giving the impression of a darker blue ink.

The specimen shown was written by Gunner C R M Roux 143753, 7th Battery, 3rd Field Regiment T H A (Transvaal Horse Artillery), M E F, and is dated 27 July. The year is not given but is one of a "run" of letters written by the same person to his wife, May, during 1942. Although the letter card shown bears a 3d large war stamp, there is no postmark or other postal marking, and the letter card appears to have been conveyed to the Union by private means.

In his book *The South African Gifts and Comforts Fund* R James Yell (1948), the national secretary of the Fund, states that after the fall of Tobruk (on 21 June 1942), Major Eaton purchased 10 000 "special air mail letter cards" and distributed them to men to advise their relatives of their safety. Major Eaton was the field distributing officer of the Fund in the Middle East, and it is known that he had other printing done on behalf of the Fund, e.g. inscriptions in Bibles.

I was formerly under the impression that the above statement by Yell referred to the active service letter cards with embossed stamps with *Gifts and Comforts* overprints. These were, until now, the only such overprints known to me. However, that statement refers specifically to "air mail letter cards", and I am now of the view that it refers to the stampless "air mail letter cards" which had been overprinted as above.

It is unlikely that Major Eaton would have been able to purchase 10 000 of the embossed active service letter cards in the Middle East, and stampless air mail letter cards were not available in South Africa. Whether all the 10 000 purchased by Major Eaton were overprinted and distributed is not known. Distribution was, according to the overprint, intended for "troops in forward areas", which would primarily have included those units and individuals who escaped from or were in the vicinity of Tobruk. This might account for the scarcity of known copies.

In his monumental work *British Forces Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters* (2nd edit), O R J Lee makes no mention of this overprint, even though the author and others studied many thousands of different printings and overprints of the stampless air mail letter cards. I wonder whether there may not be other specimens of this overprint that have passed unnoticed by collectors as a result of the overprint being on the inside of the letter card. I have without success checked my collection for other examples.

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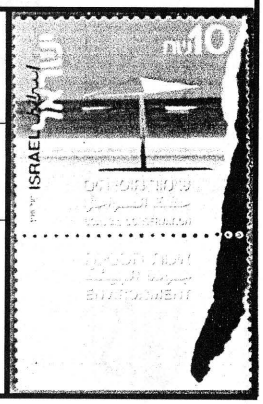


...Then where did Doreen get this card?

By **Lappe Laubscher** *Postmark and Postal History Society*

In his monograph on *The Stampless Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters used by South African troops during World War II* (Supplement to *The SA Philatelist*, Vol 77 no 2, April 2001) Tom Mullins is adamant that "there is no record of stampless air mail letter cards having been made available to civilians in any of the Allied countries, including South Africa" (p 4).

On page 5 Mullins reiterates this point of view when he states: "... they (the air mail letter cards) were not available either to the South African public or to South African troops stationed in South Africa, nor could they be purchased at the Post Office."

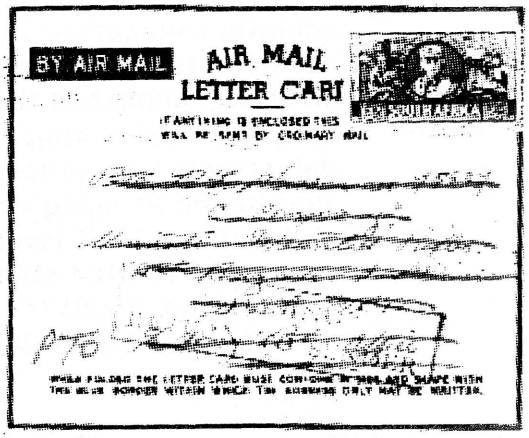
Mullins in the quoted monograph does refer to the notice in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1941 which reads:

"Special letter cards, one of which is available to each Union soldier in Egypt per week at a cost of 3d (which covers postage) have already arrived by air from Egypt, and this month it is expected that they will also be available for use by the public from this to soldiers in N Africa."

Mullins explains the conflicting statements by assuming that the "special letter cards" which were to be made available to the public, referred to the "active service letter cards". These cards were put on sale by the Post Office in 28 July 1941.

The problem that researchers face is that most collections of military mail from World War II that come on the market are those that were kept by a loved one at home. Very seldom does one find a collection of mail from a wife or a darling in South Africa to her soldier "up north".

I was fortunate to acquire some time ago the correspondence of private Percy Swemmer of the Umvoti Mounted Rifles to his wife Doreen in Pretoria. There were two pieces among this collection though that came from his wife. These were air letter cards that were returned to her by the military postal authorities after private Swemmer was captured at Tobruk.



Both these air letter cards carry the boxed cachet "MISSING/RETURN TO SENDER" on the front. On the back both have the EPP 37 datestamp 27 SE. 42.

The first card was a South African active service letter card.

There was nothing unusual about the use of this card. The second card, though, was a British air mail letter card! The card has a Pretoria machine cancellation for 12 June 1942.

The question now is this: If Mullins is correct in stating that "they were not available either to the South African public or to South African troops stationed in South Africa, nor could they be purchased at the Post Office", where did Doreen Baikie get this card? As I only acquired the letters Percy Swemmer wrote home, with the exception of the two Tobruk letters, it was not possible for me to establish whether the Tobruk example of the British air mail letter card was the only one she ever used. I would regard this as highly unlikely.

It would be strange that the wife of a private in the Umvoti Mounted Riffles could be the only person in South Africa to have had access to the use of a British stampless air letter card.

Incidentally, private Percy Swemmer died on 6 February 1944 as a prisoner of war in a hospital in Cracow, Poland. He was a prisoner in Stalag 344 at the time.



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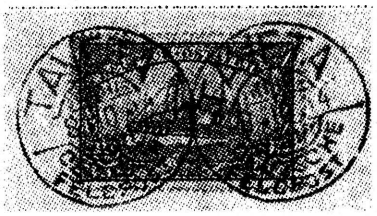

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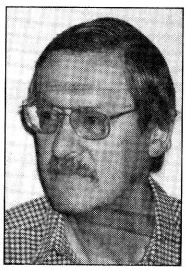
Computers on stamps is a subject that is only about 30 years old. It was first mentioned as a subject for collecting in a 1971 issue of the American philatelic magazine *Topical Time*. The article by R Boos listed 22 computer-related stamps. In February 1973, *Datamation*, a magazine for the computer industry, published the article *A Gallery of Computer Postal Art* by M W Martin which indicated only 23 stamps from 14 different countries related to EDP (electronic data processing). Subsequent letters to the editor that same year mentioned as many as 100 computer-related stamps. An article in the 7 November 1973 issue of *Computerworld* by Lee Kleynhans mentioned 55 computer-related stamps from 34 countries, and the author asks the question "How about the US?" [*see panel for "How about SA?"*]. Since then, the list has grown to well over 2000 items from virtually every country in the world.

CYBERPHILATELY

...how it all began

By Wobbe Vegter



Wobbe Vegter calls himself a cyberphilatelist as he collects and studies the topic of computers on stamps. He works as an IT manager for a large retail group in South Africa. He participated in Egoli 2001 where his exhibit "From Abacus to Internet" was awarded silver.
He is a member of the Bellville Philatelic Society, die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, and the Mathematical Study Unit of the American Topical Association. Currently he is assisting in the preparation of a proposed second volume of the ATA Handbook "Computers on Stamps and Stationery".

Although the first computers date back to the late 1940s, computing devices are much older. The oldest apparatus used for computing was the abacus (Venda 1991, Scott 227). The abacus is a device used for numerical calculations and originated in Babylonia in the Middle East (about 3000 BC). Its concept is fairly simple: the right-hand column indicates the ones, the next one indicates the tens, etc. There is a crossbar across all columns, with two beads on the one side and five beads on the other side. The two beads have a value of 5 each, while the five beads have a value of 1 each. To indicate a number, one shifts beads towards the crossbar. The abacus has been widely used in Europe till a few centuries ago, and even today it is still in use in Asian countries.



The Inca's in Peru developed a different device to keep records. The quipu (Peru 1972, Sc C341) was based on the decimal system and consisted of a stick or cord to which knotted strings of various colors were attached. The knots at the end of the string stood for 1 while those higher up stood for 10, etc.



Other calculating devices are the slide rule, which has been featured on two stamps from Romania (1957, Sc 1159-60) and the adding machine, which was usually powered by a manually operated lever or by electricity. The next development was the calculator. The earliest model was designed by Wilhelm Schickard (1592–1635) in 1623 and was featured on a German stamp (1973, Sc 1123). This was followed by Blaise Pascal's (1623–1662) Pascaline in 1642 and by Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz' (1646–1716) Stepped Reckoner which was built in the early 1670s. This calculator could extract square roots as well as do additions, subtractions, multiplications and divisions. Both Pascal and Leibniz have been portrayed on stamps many times, e.g. Pascal on France 1944 (Sc B181) and Monaco 1973 (Sc 875), Leibniz on Germany 1926 (Sc 360) and 1980 (Sc 1329). Pascal has been honored by having the programming language Pascal named after him.



Leibniz has made major contributions towards the ultimate birth of the computer. He proposed the basis of a language that would allow logical statements to be dealt with mathematically. Its essence was the use of the digit 0 for False and 1 for True. From this Leibniz went on to develop binary arithmetic, the basis for modern-day computing.



Another contributor to the development of the computer was the French weaver Joseph Marie Jacquard (1752–1834) (France 1934, Sc 295) who in 1804 invented a loom in which changes in pattern or material could be programmed by feeding in a set of punched cards. It was the first programmable device, in other words, the first time that a machine could be programmed to do a different task by feeding it a different program, in this case a different set of punched cards. Austria issued a stamp in 1947 (Sc B204) showing the Jacquard loom.



Other contributors worth naming are Babbage, Siemens, Poulsen and Neumann. The English mathematician Charles Babbage (1792-1871) (Great Britain 1991, Sc 1361) designed a Difference Engine, a mechanical computer for producing numerical tables. Due to the excessive costs of manufacturing the thousands of parts required, his machine has never been built. The German Werner von Siemens (1816-1892) (Germany 1952, Sc 9N90) founded a telegraph factory in Berlin in 1847, which later became Siemens AG, a leader in the European computer manufacturing industry today.

The Danish engineer Valdemar Poulsen (1869-1942) (Denmark 1969, Sc 464) registered a patent in 1898 for a telegraphone, an electro-magnetic phonograph capable of registering information by alternating the magnetization of a wire. This concept was later used to design the tape recorder using a plastic tape coated with magnetic material. The telegraphone and subsequent tape recorder led to the magnetic tapes

and disks used in computer systems today.

The mathematician John von Neumann (1903-1957), who was born in Hungary but later moved to the United States, is credited with developing the concept of the stored program whereby instructions and data are both stored in the memory of a computer (Hungary 1992, Sc 3354).

The first electronic computer was the Eniac (Electronic Number Indicator and Calculator) which was built in 1946 (Marshall Islands 1998, Sc 679l). It was a very large computer: 5.5 m high, 24 m long and weighed 30 tons. It used thermionic valves and vacuum tubes as storage elements. It was a rather unreliable machine and its working was fairly primitive as reprogramming had to be done by reconnecting wires, because, at that time, there was no provision for using software to control a digital computer.



When William Shockley (1910–1989) (Antigua & Barbuda 1998, Sc 2183) invented the transistor in 1949, the vacuum tubes were replaced by the much smaller and more reliable transistors and the second generation of computers could be built.

Jack Kilby (1923-) (Marshall Islands 1999, Sc 702o), an electrical engineer by profession, invented the monolithic integrated circuit in 1958 and later the first handheld electronic calculator. His invention would lead to the third generation of computers.

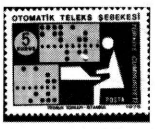


In a separate development, the United States Census Bureau had spent seven years processing its 1880 census. In order to speed up future censuses it held a competition to find better ways of collecting and tallying its census results. Herman Hollerith became the winner with his idea of recording the results in punched cards which could be tabulated by reading them with a machine and sensing the holes electrically. His process was used in the 1890 census and the results took just six weeks to tabulate. Soon his approach was adopted worldwide. When his firm merged in 1911 with two other firms, a new company was formed that would soon become International Business Machines, or IBM. Later IBM acquired the nickname "Big Blue", as their computers in the 60s and 70s all had a distinct blue color.

Although Hollerith has never been portrayed on a stamp, his punchcard, together with its closely related cousin, the punched paper tape, which had evolved from the telegraphy morse tape, would become the input medium for computers in the



1950s, 60s and 70s. Both, punched card and punched paper tape have been shown on stamps many times, e.g. punched card on Netherlands 1968 (Sc 451), Egypt 1969 (Sc 815), punched paper tape on Turkey 1975 (Sc 1997), Denmark 1965 (Sc 420). The featuring of punchcards and paper tapes on stamps happened primarily in the period 1950 – 1980 and was done to project an image of modern technology for the stamp, and thereby for the issuing country.



In the 1970s a new development occurred: the arrival of the mini computer. In the late 60s many bright youngsters, most of them still in their teens, had been tinkering with electronics and were trying to build their own computer. A number of them got together in California and formed the Homebrew Computer Club. Their purpose: to assist each other in building their first mini computer. Amongst its members: Steve Wozniak (1950-) (Palau 1999, Sc 512c), Stephen Jobs (1955-) (Central African Republic 2000), later founders of Apple Computers. In the early 1970s the first mini computers were built and became available commercially: the Apple, Atari, Sinclair, Alto, Commodore, and many others.



Although these mini computers were primarily used for playing computer games (with chess often being the ultimate test: if the machine could play chess, it was deemed to be a computer), the arrival of the spreadsheet program SuperCalc changed that perspective. Its power to do quick tabulations and calculations made the small computers even attractive to big business.

In 1981 the scene changed again, when IBM announced its Personal Computer (PC) and set the de facto standard for PCs. Prior to that, IBM had primarily made its profits from selling hardware (i.e. computers), and therefore they had asked a little start-up company, called Microsoft, to write the operating software (the programs that control the computer) for their new PC. Microsoft complied and developed MS-DOS (MicroSoft Disk Operating System) for the IBM PC. Microsoft's founder and current Chairman Bill Gates (1955-) has been portrayed on quite a few stamps (Kyrgyzstan 1999, Palau 1999, Sc 512k). It wasn't much later that IBM realized its mistake but by then Microsoft had established itself and was on its way to become the giant it is today. The PC not only became an essential business tool, it also didn't take long before people bought one for use at home, be it for work or pleasure.

The 90s saw the growth of the Internet, the Information Super Highway. The Internet, or as it is also called, the World Wide Web, had its founding in the ARPA net (the Advanced Research Projects Agency) and started in 1969 when two computers were linked together and could "talk" to each other. Its original purpose was to link computers together to enable the exchange of information between government departments (especially within the US Ministry of Defense). The network was later expanded to include Universities as well, for the exchange of research information. As more and more organizations climbed onto the Internet bandwagon, the more global the network of computers became. This has also resulted in additional services and facilities being developed specifically for the Internet, like e-mail, electronic shopping, etc. Today the Internet is an essential component of the global village in which we live.



How about South Africa?

THE ONLY South African computer-related stamp is the 2000 Millennium stamp, as its design - although barely noticeable – incorporates "images taken from the design of an electronic motherboard".

In November 2000, the author submitted a proposal to Philatelic Services for the inclusion of a stamp in its Stamp Programme 2002, showing modern computer technology. Apart from a letter acknowledging receipt, no further correspondence on the subject has been received.

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3. *Fire in the Valley* (2nd edition), 1999 – Paul Freiberger & Michael Swaine
4. *The Universal History of Numbers III: The Computer and the Information Revolution,* 1994 – Georges Ifrah
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Motorsport: *Where* HEROES *are still* HEROES

By **Andries van der Walt** *Wits Philatelic Society*

MOTORSPORT may not be as popular as soccer, rugby, cricket or golf, and its heroes may not be as well known. But its history is filled with heroic achievements, exceptional sportsmanship, dramatic finishes and tragedy. In this day and age, Michael Schumacher is hailed as the greatest driver of all time, with four world championships, more *grands prix* wins than any other driver, and most points accumulated.

And we all know the Alain Prosts, Ayrton Senna's, Mika Hakkinen's and Juan-Pablo Montoya's of today's Grand Prix racing.

Motor racing aficionados will argue that the greatest driver of them all was Tazio Nuvolari. Others again will say it was Juan-Manuel Fangio, or Alberto Ascari. Each, however, was a master in his own right.

On these pages we will look at them, but also at the manufacturers, the cars, the tracks and some of the great races.

Motorsport is more than Grand Prix racing and we will also look at the other forms of the sport: Rallying, marathon rallye raids and motorcycles.

It is a fascinating way of combining one's love for stamp collecting with one's enthusiasm for this most exciting sport, whether you agree or not. Stamps affect our everyday lives, and so does the development of cars and engine technology on the racetracks of the world.

Some memorable races

The first motorsport event, the **French Grand Prix**, was held in 1894, a mere eight years after the first motorcar, designed and built by Carl Benz, made its appearance. The first race, from Paris to Rouen, covered a distance of 124 km and was won by a De Dion steamcar.



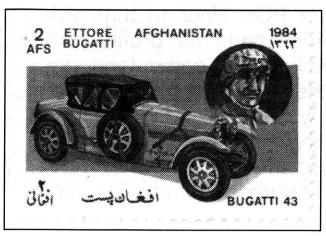
The **Automobile Club de France** organised the first grand prix in 1906 to be entered by manufacturers. The race covered a distance of 64 miles near Le Mans. A Hungarian, Ferenc Szisz, won it driving a 90 hp Renault. Altogether 32 cars started and 11 finished.

The defining race of the pre-World War1 era was the **ACF Grand Prix** of 1914. France, the birthplace of auto racing was finding itself in the doldrums with Alfa Romeo and Mercedes-Benz dominating the racing scene. The 1914 Grand Prix was won by Mercedes after all the French Peugeot cars had to retire. Lautrenschlager was the winning driver.



In 1925 the first **World Racing Championship** was organised including the French, Belgian, Italian Grands Prix and the Indianapolis 500. The championship was between manufacturers rather than drivers. Alfa Romeo won the inaugural year.

Grand Prix racing according to a strict formula based on engine size and weight was abandoned in 1928. In its place came Formula Libre. Major manufacturers and drivers competed. Bugatti dominated this period. The Bugatti race cars were some of the most beautiful cars ever built but suffered from inadequate brakes, which led Ettore Bugatti to say: " I build my cars to race, not to brake." William Grover Williams won the 1929 Monaco Grand Prix driving a Bugatti.



Two great racing events were to start gaining in popularity during the 1920's. The famous **Mille Miglia**. Hundreds of thousands of spectators crowded the route to watch the Mille Miglia that ran for between 16 and 24 hours. The event was abandoned after 1957 when a lack of crowd control saw the death of the Marquis de Portago, his co-driver and ten spectators.

The 1931 Mille Miglia was won by Rudi Caracciola driving for Mercedes Benz. Another epic win was that by Stirling Moss, also in a Mercedes.

The **24-hour Le Mans** is still one of the great race meetings to be held. Wolf Barnato, driving a W O Bentley, dominated the period between 1925 and 1931. He won five times in a row from 1926 and even bought the factory when it ran into financial trouble in order to keep racing. In later years Porsche became the marque to dominate Le Mans, to this day.

Grand Prix racing in the pre-World War II era was completely dominated by Mercedes-Benz and Auto Union. The weight of the cars during this period was limited to 750 kg excluding the driver, and it was thought that only a two-litre engine would fit the car. The Germans, using light-weight materials, managed to build engines of over four litres for a formula that was supposed to limit the speeds.

Mercedes and Auto Union – an amalgamation of four firms: Horch, Audi, Wanderer and DKW – built the fastest racecars. Dr Hans Nibel designed the Mercedes cars and Dr Ferdinand Porsche the mid-engined V6 4,4-litre supercharged Auto Union. Auto Union, driven by Hans Stuck, and Mercedes in the hands of Rudi Caracciola and Bernd Rosemeyer, won just about every Grand Prix in sight in Europe.

In what was dubbed **"the greatest victory of all time"**, Tazio Nuvolari stunned 300 000 German fans, including Adolf Hitler and other high-ranking Nazi officials, by berating the seemingly unbeatable Mercedes and Auto Union teams in his Alfa Romeo P3, in spite of having a power disadvantage of between 50 - 100 bph. He won on the last lap after

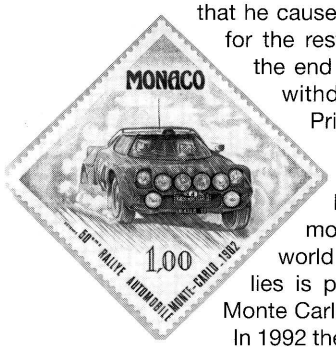
driving like a man possessed.

The so-called **"greatest race of the century"**, the 1953 Grand Prix, was held at Rheims in France. The race is being remembered for the duel between Juan-Manuel Fangio in a Maserati, and the Englishman, Mike Hawthorne, in a Ferrari. For most of the race the two raced wheel-to-wheel, even through the corners.

Not giving an inch even when there was hardly room for one car to pass through a corner, Hawthorne found a way to make space for himself on the grass verge in order to keep his line and keep abreast of Fangio. Fangio, who made his Grand Prix debut in 1950 driving for Alfa Romeo and won his first world championship in 1951, used all his experience, but the young Hawthorne beat him by one second by out-braking Fangio on the last corner before the finish.

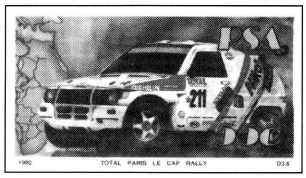
The 1955 24-hour Le Mans will be remembered for the worst race tragedy in history. The race started at 16:00 on 11 June 1955 and soon developed into a battle between Hawthorne in his Jaguar and Fangio in a Mercedes. It looked like a repeat of their 1953 Grand Prix battle at Rheims. At 18:30 it was time for the first pit stop. Hawthorne dove for the pits cutting in front of a slower Austin Healy who swerved left to avoid the Jaguar. He drove right into the path of an on-coming Mercedes driven by Pierre Levegh.

The Mercedes hit the Healy at 130 mph, flew into the air onto the earthen barrier that separated the spectators from the track, burst into flames and disintegrated killing 83 spectators and injuring 100. Hawthorne won, but the tragedy that he caused would haunt him for the rest of his life and at the end of 1955 Mercedes withdrew from Grand Prix racing.



Rallies are as popular as Grand Prix racing. The most famous of all the world championship rallies is probably the Rallye Monte Carlo.

In 1992 the Total Paris Sirte le Cap marathon rally, also known as the Total Dakar, started in Paris and finished in Cape Town. The event was held over a distance of 14 500 km and lasted 23 days going through Morocco, Chad, Mauritania, Central African Republic, Angola, Namibia and South Africa among others. The Dakar is the most gruelling motorsport event, now in its 24th year. The winner in 1992 was Hubert Auriol in a Mitsubishi Pajero.



Some of the legendary drivers

Alberto Ascari enjoyed racing at the front especially while crossing the finish line. In 1952, he won every Grand Prix race that he had entered and claimed his first world title. In 1953 he claimed his second title. During his career he was the only driver who could compete with Fangio on the same level as Stirling Moss.

Jack Brabham, or "Black Jack" as he was called for his dour expressions, won three world championships. He remained competitive even at the age of 43.

Juan-Manuel Fangio, "The Master", won more world championships than any man, five in all. He was as close to perfection as any mortal could be. He was involved in a number of memorable races against Mike Hawthorne, passing him by "straightening out" a series of curves at full speed.



Niki Lauda, unimpressive in appearance even before his Nurburgring accident, was as successful in racing as he was in business. He won three world championships and in the process carved out his own personal history of sport.



Stirling Moss will always be known as the great racing driver never to have won the world championship. But the respect in which his peers held him made him a champion many times over.



Tazio Nuvolari's legend is full of exploits of daring and almost unbelievable courage. At the age of 55 and in ill health he drove his last race, the Mille Miglia, as if he knew that he would never drive again. He drove his Ferrari to pieces, leaving bits of it all over the countryside; even his seat had to be replaced by a bag of oranges. He was leading the race when his brakes failed. He stopped at the side of the track, coughing blood, was lifted out and taken to hospital, never to race again. Dubbed "The greatest driver of all time", Nuvolari won almost 200 major races.



Gilles Villeneuve, in spite of having a short career before he was killed, was one of the two or three most popular drivers ever to have driven for Ferrari. His trademark was speed. He was absolutely uncompromising when it came to driving fast. Wet or dry, good conditions or bad, tough track or easy, for Villeneuve there was no excuse for not going as fast as (and sometimes faster than) possible.

Rudi Caracciola also known as the "ringmaster" for his exploits on the famous Nurburgring racetrack. He was very adept at handling his racing cars in wet weather during a career that spanned four decades.



The cars they drove and raced

Ferrari, the legacy of Enzo Ferrari who started his career with Alfa Romeo, raced his first Ferrari in 1948. Its record in Grand Prix racing stands unequalled. It is by far the most successful racing car ever built, winning more Grand Prix titles than any other manufacturer.

Mercedes-Benz swept all before it in the 1930s when the engineers were able to build engines that were not envisaged at

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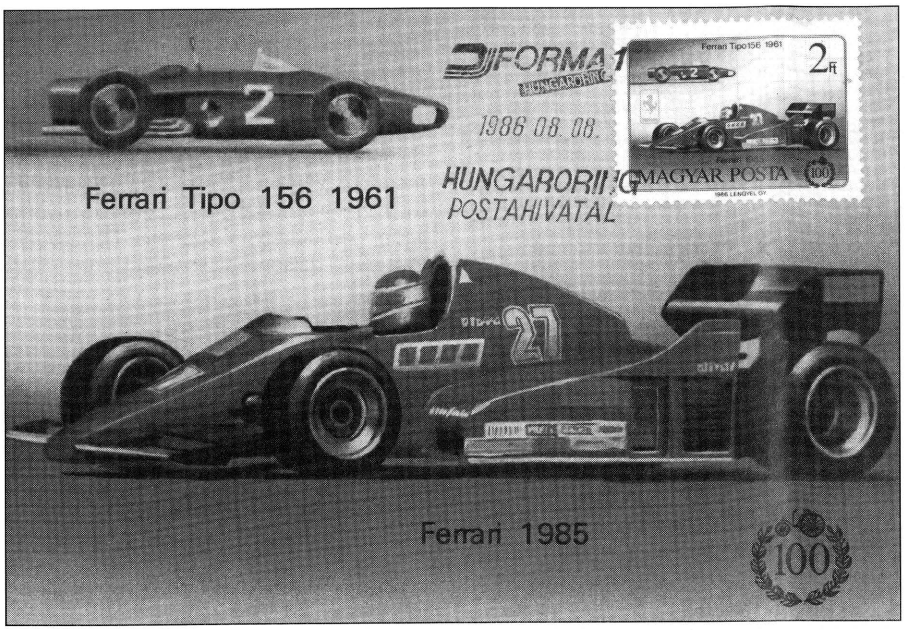
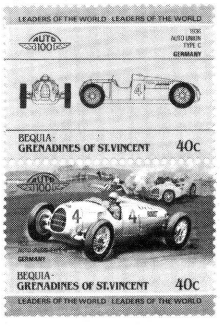


the time. It remained a force until the withdrawal of the marque in 1955 after the disastrous accident during that year's Mille Miglia. Since its return in McClaren in the 1990s it has again been a force to be reckoned with.



Alfa Romeo was at one time called "The giant killer of Grand Prix racing". Even today, while it is no longer competing in racing, this marque is popular among motorsport enthusiasts.



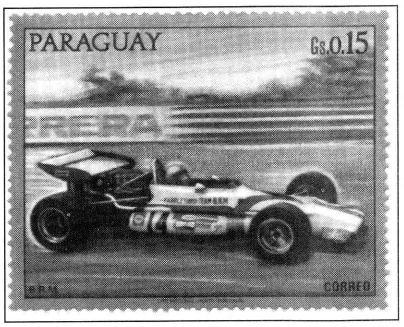


Auto Union, together with Mercedes in the 1930s, were regarded as the real "monsters" of Grand Prix racing. They were developed by the Germans to break the dominance of Alfa Romeo and Ferrari.

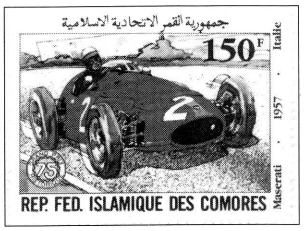
Brabham was the name of the British racing car that helped "Black Jack" Brabham to his three world championship titles.



BRM was another British car and Graham Hill won the 1962 South African Grand Prix, the first to be held in this country, in a BRM.



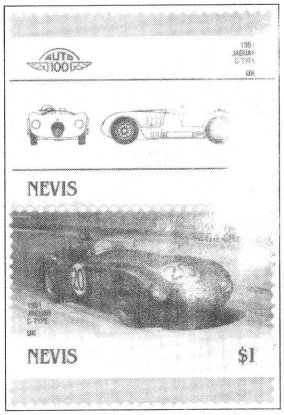
Maserati was the car in which Juan-Manuel Fangio won his fifth world championship.



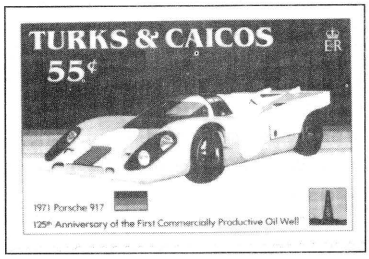
Renault was the car that won the first official Grand Prix in France in 1906. It is as popular today as it was then and is still competing in Grand Prix racing.



Jaguar is famous for its exploits in the 24-hour Le Mans race and is now very much a part of Grand Prix racing. Niki Lauda is now managing the Jaguar team.



Porsche have conquered Le Mans probably more than any other racing car. Designed by Dr Ferdinand Porsche, who is also the "father" of the Volkswagen, Porsche is famous on just about every racetrack in the world.



Bentley, named after its designer W O Bentley, dominated Le Mans during 1920 and 1930. Wolf Barnato, brother of the famous Barney, won Le Mans five times in a W O Bentley.



THEMATICALLY *yours*

By **Rev J Cassie Carstens** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria*

Oops! Sorry.....

- South Africa **did** produce two **Christmas Stamps** – a beautiful baobab covered in glitters and trimmings and an angel cut in half! (But what a pity – the R2 and R3 stamps can only be used for countries in Africa and overseas; it is not usable for inland post. So the Christmas message was not clearly heard or "seen" amongst our own people.)
- Mr S Kirshenbaum's exhibit at EGOLI 2001 was not judged under thematics.
- *Thematics SA* is not yet affiliated to the Federation – its status still has to be debated.

Any theme will do!

That is the slogan of the Standing Committee Thematics – in Afrikaans: *Elke tema is 'n treffer!* Their mission is to promote all facets of thematic philately in Southern Africa.

The members are: Cassie Carstens (Afrikaans Pretoria), Moira Bleazard (East Rand), Charles Rogers (Nigel), Danie Scheepers (Johannesburg) and Marge Viljoen (Centurion).

They have formulated the following objectives for 2002:

- To educate the exhibiting public regarding the rules for thematic exhibits.
- To compile and provide a list of accredited thematic jurors, in co-operation with the Judging Committee and the FIP representative.
- To organise an annual stamp show for the best club thematic exhibits of the previous year.
- To liase with other thematic associations.
- To promote and communicate thematic philately by using the following: the bimonthly feature and a specific thematic article in *The SA Philatelist*, updated information on the website.
- To compile a library (collection of photostats) of all the prizewinning thematic exhibits at national and other shows.

Club theme 2002

To organise an annual stamp show...? Well, Kimberley is the place, the McGregor Museum is the venue, 16-18 May is the date (please note: not 27 April) – all the societies are heartily invited to participate. This one is for the clubs' best thematic exhibit of 2001. Minimum 2 frames, maximum 5 frames. Entry fee = R100 (to be paid by the club). See you in Kimberley!

FIP facts

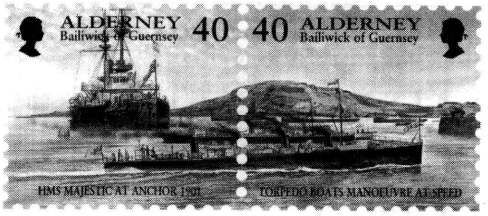
- Thailand's *Surajit Gongvatana* was chosen as president at the FIAP congress = Australasiatic Federation. South Africa is part of that sub-federation of FIP.
- Die Europese Federasie (FEPA) het in Pole vergader. Die Noor Ingolf Kapelrud is na ses jaar vervang deur Pedro Vaz Pereira uit Portugal.
- The FIP-website is www.f-i-p.ch/ .

New issues / Nuwe uitgifte

LES MISÉRABLES is one of the most popular stories of our time. Its original creator, Victor Hugo, is a hugely influential figure in French literature, often referred to as the Shakespeare of his country. For the people of Guernsey he is part of their history. Hugo lived their for 16 years in exile with his family from 1855 to 1870. He had been driven from his beloved but strife-torn France by the fear of dire consequences because of his political views and outspoken opposition to Napoleon III. It was in Guernsey that he finished writing *Les Misérables*.



ALDERNEY'S "harbour of refuge" at Garrison Island, built between 1847 and 1864, was for the benefit of the British Royal Navy. And the very mention of this place, potentially hiding British warships just 24 miles from Cherbourg, was good propaganda, and the navy did use it, albeit never in anger. The four se-tenant stamps show scenes from the Victorian era up to modern times, involving naval ships and personnel. The 40p stamps depict the battleship *HMS Majestic* towering over gunboats and torpedo boats.



Since 1997 New Zealand Post has celebrated the Chinese Lunar Calendar with a stamp issue. For 2002, the **YEAR OF THE HORSE**, they feature six superstars of New Zealand racing. Thoroughbreds first reached New Zealand in 1840 and race meetings were held that year. Since then, they have competed succesfully worldwide, particularly in Australia, contributing to a multi-million dollar export trade.



Harness racing, which had its origins in bygone days when buggy drivers travelling in the same direction began competing, was slower to make its debut. However, New Zealand standardbreds now compete successfully on the harness racing international stage.



THE LORD OF THE RINGS, Peter Jackson's movie trilogy based on the renowned book by JRR Tolkien, was filmed entirely in Aoteroa, New Zealand. Using over 150 different locations, filming stretched from Te Anau to Matamata. The 2 000-strong cast and crew worked solidly through snow, hail, floods, ferocious winds and unrelenting sunshine on New Zealand's picturesque mountains, rivers, lakes and hill country. This stamp issue beautifully presents moments from the film in an intriguing form.





Once upon a time, a lovely princess climbed a tree (actually to sleep in the Treetops Hotel in faraway Kenya). The next day she climbed down as a queen – her father died on 6 February 1952. This year commemmorates her 50th year of accession to the throne. A royal golden jubilee year for Queen Elizabeth II – we salute her!



KELVIN KOALA has invited all his friends to his birthday party. Just like a real children's birthday party, there is something going on everywhere. The delight of this Australian issue is going back to it again and again, noticing something new and amusing each time.



Toe ek nog jonk en romanties was, het ek elke rolprent van **GRETA GARBO** sommer 'n paar keer gaan kyk, en my in die proses stukkend getjank. Nou is ek oud en verstok, maar ai, mens kan darem nog droom, né? En ook 'n bietjie huil oor die lekker ou dae!



Für Dich, vir Jou, for You – a special German Stamp...



...but also my best wishes for a prosperous and thematic fulfilling 2002.

* * *

Remember: Any theme will do!

* * *

Rev J Cassie Carstens
PO Box 52011, Wierdapark, 0149
Tel/Fax 012 653 2279
E-mail: algsin@mweb.co.za

BEGINNERS' CORNER

What shall I collect?

So you've decided to start collecting stamps. One of the most difficult questions many newcomers to the hobby has to answer is: "What do I collect?" The fact is that there are so much that one can collect that you can get lost in trying to come to a decision.

The easiest way of solving the problem is to combine your stamp collecting interest with any other personal interest or pastime you may have. It may help to consider your own personality or character. Many stamp collections is not always about the specific stamps, but rather about the person who collects – who he is, why and what makes him tick.

OK, so where do we start? If you're interested in sport, subjects abound. You may like rugby, soccer or cricket, even golf. That is a start. You may be interested in the arts. Here again subjects are numerous, serious music, pop music, painting, and traditional art subjects such as instruments.

You may have lived in a specific town all your life. That town has a history, which is reflected in its postal system – postmarks, old letters with postal markings etc.

The important thing to remember is that once you have chosen a theme or subject is to first gain as much knowledge about that subject or theme before rushing to the nearest dealer to buy what is available. Without knowledge about your subject, you will not be able to put a collection together that will have a story to tell. It will have no beginning, middle and end.

As with a novel, there must be a plot and the collection must be built around that plot. As we said in our previous issue: A major objective of stamp collecting is to communicate. And to be able to communicate, you must have the knowledge to acquire the right material that will help you tell the story.

Good luck!

Address for contributions

The Editor, The SA Philatelist, P O Box 13048, Norkempark, 1631.
Tel (011) 391-4139 (B), (011) 391-4645 (H). Fax: (011) 391-6785
E-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za

Contributions for publication should preferably be accompanied by a photograph of the author, together with some philatelic biographical details.

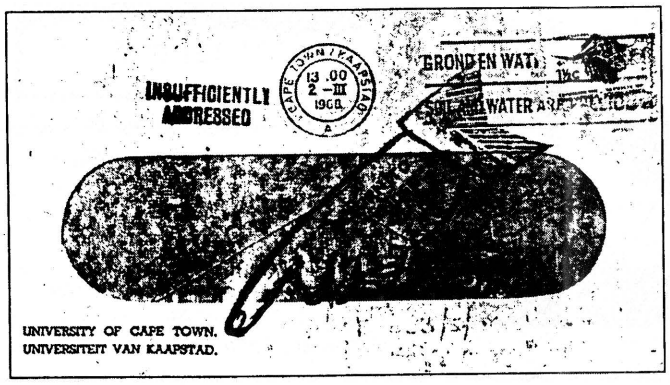
Contemporary philately / Filatelie vandag

By **Neville Gomm** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

Insufficiently addressed

In the August 1999 (p112) issue of this feature the question was posed whether the cachet impressions in the illustration were applied with private or Post Office devices. David Allison of Bergvliet has written: "I think that these two marks are not South African. First, because they are in English only, which would be unexpected at that period. Second, because the 'hand' design seems unknown as a South African mark, while it is commonly used in the United States and I have also seen it used in New Zealand. Third, because of the 1½c stamp, which might of course have been applied in error, but this looks like a first weight step item so that one would have expected a 1c stamp if the address had been within South Africa. Hugh Amoore (our 'rates' specialist) agreed with me, and pointed out that 1c was also at that time the minimum rate for countries within the African Postal Union".

It would be a pleasure to receive more such replies to queries in this feature, addressed either to the author or the editor.



Some handstamp notes

A new series of four daters was taken into use at the Robertson post office on 24 November 2001. Three of the daters have a numeral at the bottom between the concentric circles and they are used on the three counter workstations. The fourth has the word MAIL at the bottom and it is used in the mail handling section. The diameter of the outer circle is 39 millimetres and the daters are of the COLOP PRINTER R40-DATER brand.



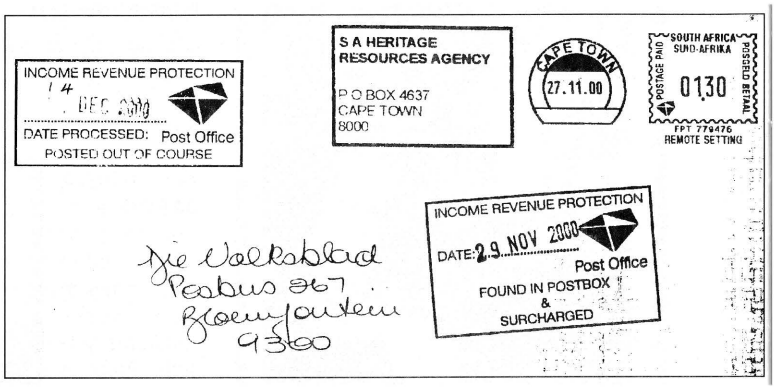


This is the third set of self-inking daters taken into use at the Robertson post office since the introduction of these devices in the early 1990s. This feature included details in October 1994 (p146) of a dater used at the PAVILION post office with the date 1994-03-31. Does anyone have earlier details?

Income revenue protection

The December 2001 (p185) issue of this feature showed an impression, apparently from a self-inking device, concerning the subject of INCOME REVENUE PROTECTION. Information was given that income revenue protection has to do with steps taken to ensure that the Post Office does not lose money. The name INCOME REVENUE PROTECTION contains a tautology, my dictionary giving the same meaning to the words INCOME and to REVENUE.

Another item of this kind has reached me, and the front of the whole envelope is illustrated below. The one cachet impression is of the same type as that illustrated in December 2001, and which deals with surcharging. The new impression is one that deals with posting out of course. It would seem that these impressions were applied at the Capemail mail centre.



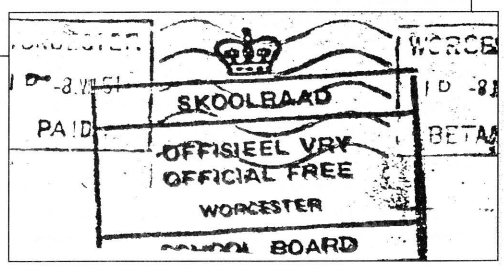
The impressions do not say much for efficiency at Capemail. According to the dates, the letter was delayed for more than two weeks in the revenue protection process. Except for the sender's meter machine date, which could perhaps have been wrong and should perhaps have been 29.11.00, there seems to be no reason for the letter to have been delayed for so long.

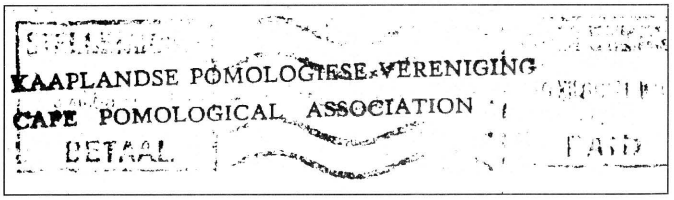
Tematiese versameling

Hier onder is drie illustrasies van items wat deel kan vorm van posgeskiedenis-temas. Hulle spreek vanself. Rugby en verskeie ander onderwerpe is al in vorige uitgawes van die rubriek ingesluit.

By 'n paar geleenthede het ek gevra of daar nie versamelaars van sulke temas is wat vir ons besonderhede kan verskaf nie, maar sover was daar nog geen reaksie nie. Dan is daar mense wat kla dat hulle nie weet wat om te versamel nie!

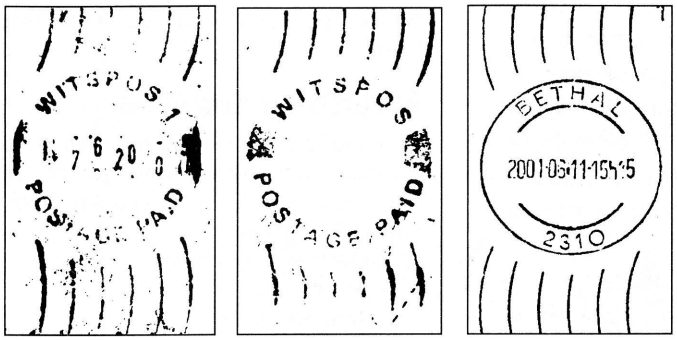






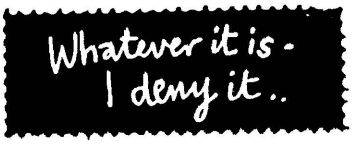
Handroller-rojeerders

Nóg drie van hierdie items word geïllustreer. Dit wil voorkom of iets verkeerd geloop het met die Witspos-roller se datumwieletjies. In 'n afdruk wat vroeg in Junie 2001 ontvang is, is die syfers van die datum nie in lyn nie. In 'n afdruk wat op 20 Junie 2001 ontvang is, verskyn die datum glad nie. Voorbeelde wat later ontvang is, het ook nie 'n datum nie. Die datum en die tyd van die Bethal-item is 2001·06·11·15h45.



Die Aspoestertjies

Twee items word hierby afgebeeld, maar ek is nie seker of ek hulle onder die korrekte titel laat verskyn nie.



Die grappige ontkenning in Engels verskyn in wit op 'n rooi plakker. Dit is in Oktober 2001 uit Engeland aan my gestuur.



Welkom se plakker dateer uit 1991. Daar was ook 'n Afrikaanse weergawe. Ek vermoed dit gaan oor 'n oplewing vir Welkom nadat die stad begin kwyn het weens 'n insinking in die goudmynbedryf as gevolg van 'n lae goudprys. Het enige leser besonderhede?

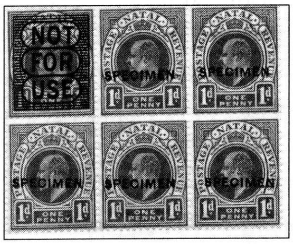
Post Link introduced

In the June 2001 (p74) issue of this feature, details were given of the introduction of the Post Link computer system for post office counters. The last sentence of the second paragraph reads: "The first post office to begin using the Post Link system was Queenswood in Pretoria, which converted from Olipos to Post Link on 30 October 2001". The year 2001 is wrong - it must be 2000.

Sources:
David Allison, Bergvliet
Postmaster, Robertson post office
Strooi Sorour, Bloemfontein
Sebastian Payne, Portsmouth
Product Management, SA Post Office, Pretoria

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:

- **Circular PAID franking stamps of South Africa**
- **The stamp booklets of Natal**



- **Recording the archives of former South West Africa**

Setting the record straight

In the December 2001 issue of *The SA Philatelist* (77:6, 848) the article headed *Unique stamp issuer celebrates half century* was credited to Emil Minnaar. Mr Minnaar points out that he was not the author of the article, but was requested by the United Nations to present the article for publication.

Airmail label study circle

INTERESTED in airmail labels? – Then you should join the recently formed SA Airmail Label Study Circle. The person to contact is:

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A single copy costs R15, and the annual subscription rate in South Africa is R95. In the rest of the world, Africa elsewhere included, the subscription rate is R200, postage included. Overseas readers who wish to receive their copies by air mail pay a subscription rate of R220.

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5 November for December

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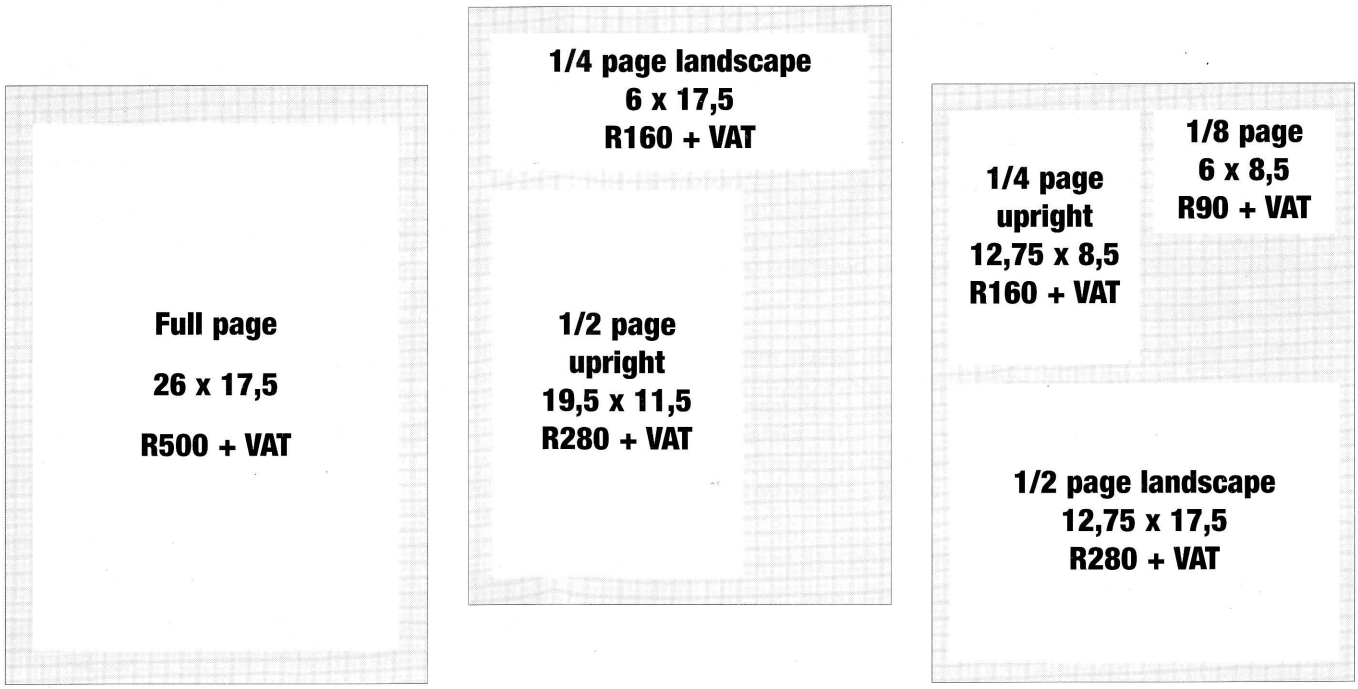

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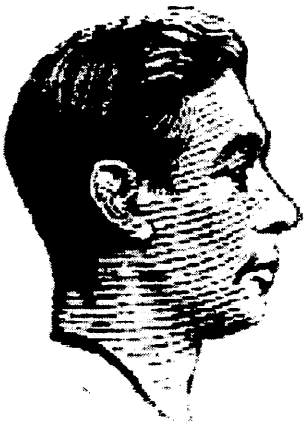

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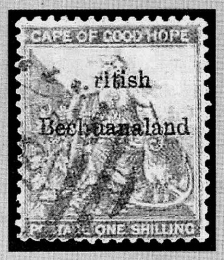
British Empire
Stamps and Postal History
21 March 2002







left: Bechuanaland "B" of British" omitted. Estimate: £8,000-10,000
centre: Stellaland 1d. block imperforate between. Estimate: £3,000-4,000
right: Bechuanaland "o" of "Protectorate" omitted. Estimate: £3,000-3,500

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EXHIBITION DEADLINES:

Provisional Entry: 17th May 2002
Final Entry: 19th July 2002
Deliver Exhibit: 16th Oct 2002

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 Southern Africa *provided that any collection which has since 1st September 1999:*

a) gained a Large Gold Award at any Southern 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 Southern African National or Special National Exhibition shall only be eligible for competitive entry at this exhibition subject to the provisions of Clause 8.3.

For entries from members of societies not directly affiliated to the PFSA, please contact the Exhibits Organiser (see end next page).

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 & British Commonwealth
	(c)	Rest of the World
Class 04		Postal History
	(a)	South Africa, all periods
	(b)	Great Britain & British Commonwealth
	(c)	Rest of the World
Class 05		Thematic & Topical
Class 06		Aerophilately, Maritime & 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

3. ENTRIES & 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. Entries must be the *bona fide* property of the exhibitor/s; the completion of an entry form is deemed to be an implied declaration to this effect.

3.3. A Provisional Entry Form, with the handling fee for each exhibit, must be received before 17th May 2002 to enable the Organising Committee to allocate frames.

3.4. All awards gained by a collection in the previous three years must be listed on the exhibitor's entry form.

3.5. A provisional entry from an exhibitor competing for the first time must be accompanied by a statement from the committee of his/her 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.

3.6. Any number of 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.

3.7. 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.

3.8. For each accepted exhibit, the Exhibits Organiser must receive before 19th July 2002 (a) the Final Entry Form, (b) the prescribed frame fees per Clause 4.4, (c) a description of the exhibit for inclusion in the exhibition catalogue and (d) a photocopy of the exhibit's introductory page outlining the concept of the exhibit. The description in English or Afrikaans must not exceed 100 words; any excess will be truncated. The introductory page may subsequently be amended but the fundamental concept of the exhibit may not be changed.

3.9. 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.

3.10. Exhibits must be received by the Organising Committee not later than 16th October 2002, except for Literature (Class 08) where exhibits are required by 1st September 2002 for judging purposes; delivery instructions will be advised on the Final Entry forms.

3.11. 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 5 vertical columns of 3 sheets each, so the first column will show sheets 1, 2, and 3 from top to bottom, followed by 4 further columns of 3 sheets each.

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.

4.4. The fee per frame or per Literature entry is R75 payable on submission of the Final Entry form.

5. LIABILITY & INSURANCE

5.1. Although every possible care will be taken of exhibits whilst in 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. "All Risks" insurance to cover collections whilst in the custody of the Organising Committee and whilst in transit to and from the owner may be arranged. Details will be advised with Final Entry Forms when despatched; exhibitors must indicate on the Final Entry Form whether or not such insurance is required. If so, the insured value of the collection must be declared and the relevant premium accompany the Final Entry Form.

6. JURY & JUDGING FOR AWARDS

6.1. The Organising Committee has invited a person to chair the jury and to appoint his jury, which will comprise 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 Southern Africa. Not more than four other persons may also be nominated to act as Apprentice Jurors. The names of the jury and Apprentice Jurors will be submitted to the Management Committee of The Philatelic Federation of Southern 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 Southern Africa. While the jury may call in any person/s as a consultant, neither consultant/s nor Apprentice 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. Copied material (photostats 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. The following items shall not be judged: (a) an item purporting to be a flight cover relating to "Vrijstaat 1981" Exhibition, (b) RSA unguillotined interpanneau gutter pairs issued after 14 July 1982, and (c) the Namibia issue of 12 mini sheets released in China in November 1997.

6.7. 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.

6.8. No exhibition page may bear any indication of price or value, nor shall any exhibit in any way be advertised for sale.

6.9. 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.

6.10. 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.

6.11. An exhibitor providing less frames than requested and allocated shall not have that exhibit judged; a frame must be completely filled with relevant material.

6.12. 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" and Class 10 Picture Postcards. *Where exhibitors are uncertain regarding F.I.P. rules, please contact the Exhibition Secretary stating the Class of interest.*

7. AWARDS

7.1. Exhibition Awards will be:

- 7.1.1. Large Gold.
- 7.1.2. Gold.
- 7.1.3. Large Vermeil (Large 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. Exhibition Awards and Certificates awarded to exhibits in Group C will clearly state that they were awarded to an Open Class or a Picture Postcard exhibit.

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 1st September 1999 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 Special Award awarded to an exhibit in Group C will state clearly that it was awarded to an Open Class or a Picture Postcard exhibit.

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. The marking scheme will be as follows:

Knowledge and personal study	30%
Treatment and originality	30%
Relative Condition and Rarity	20%
Presentation, Write-up and Arrangement	20%

10. ACCEPTANCE OF EXHIBITION REGULATIONS

10.1. 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.

11. EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

11.1. Each exhibit will be allocated one copy of the exhibition catalogue. The exhibitor may collect this at the exhibition or it will be included with the exhibit upon its return together with a copy of the Awards Listing.

Additional information as well as further copies of this Prospectus and Provisional Entry Forms can be obtained from:

Mr Rodney Maclachlan, Exhibition Secretary,
P O Box 10886, Linton Grange 6015.
Tel: (041) 3908206 w 3605737 h Fax: (041) 5833187
Email: algoapex@johnson.co.za

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

APRIL 2002

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Vol 78:2 851

- **Ontsluiting van die Fleischack-versameling van die PU vir CHO**
- **The stamp booklets of Natal**
- **Sixth Definitive Series**
- **Recording the archives of former SWA**
- **Posstempels wat ons geskiedenis weerspieël**
- **Writing-up an exhibition**

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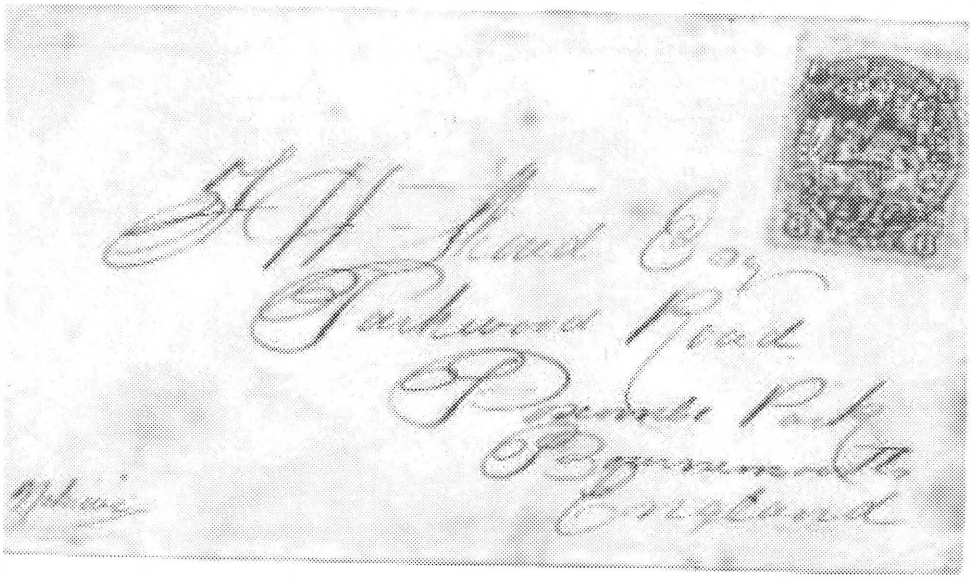

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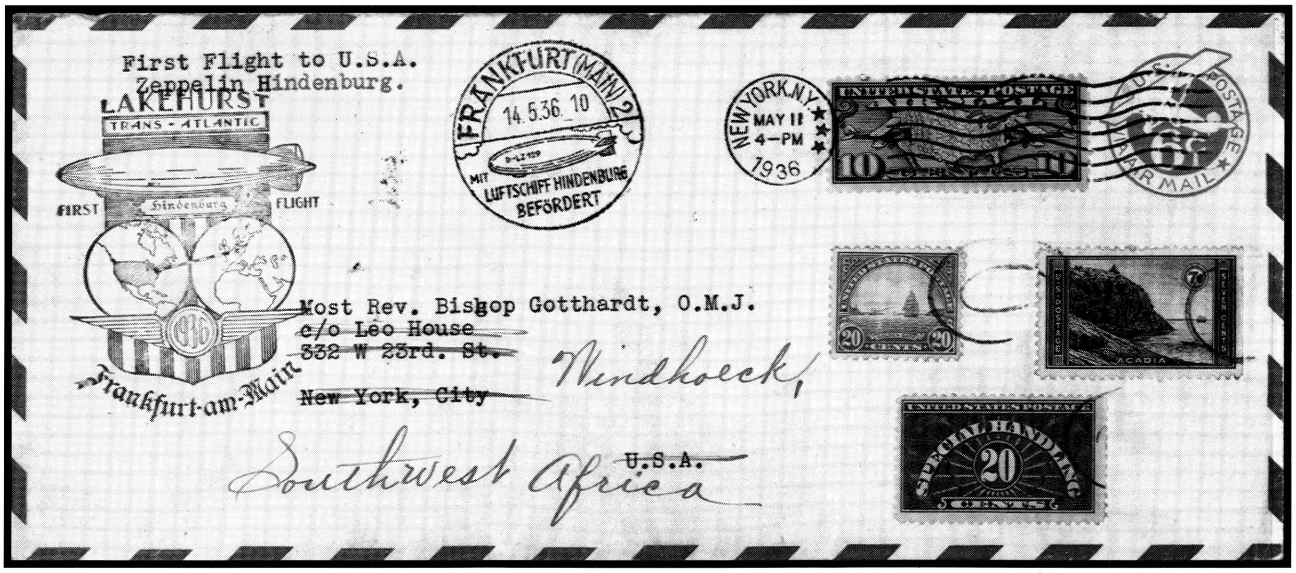

A few examples from some of the fine material appearing in this auction

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Tel 011 391 4139 (B), 011 391 4645 (H)
Fax 011 391 6785
E-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za

Expert Committee/Keurkomitee:
Honorary Secretary/Eresekretaris,
Box/Posbus 304, Montagu, 6720.

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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

JUST WHEN WE THINK we have seen it all and know it all, a new discovery is made that gets the philatelic fraternity all excited. This is the case with the major discovery by Okkie de Jager of the Fleischack documents housed in a museum of the Potchefstroom University.

What makes this discovery even more important and exciting, is the fact that it shows the relationship between socio-economic, historical and postal documents. Too often philatelists tend not to take the historical and socio-economic importance of the postal items that they are studying into consideration in putting a collection together or writing about it.

It should be clear, especially as we read what has been written (see page 44) on the find, unlocking and processing the information is a process that requires that the messages be presented in such a way that they communicate effectively with the readers or viewers of such material.

The so-called "media prophet", Marshall McLuhan, put it this way in an interview with *Playboy* magazine (March, 1969): "All media, from the phonetic alphabet to the computer, are extensions of man that cause deep and lasting changes in him and transform his environment...". As such the discovery made by de Jager, can also change and transform our philatelic environment.

And we have not yet seen the end of discoveries of major philatelic importance being made in future.

* * * * *

ONS geskiedkundige en sosio-ekonomiese aktiwiteite en kennis kan nie geskei word van ons filateliese kennis nie. Die een kan nie bestaan sonder die ander nie. Om dié rede moet versamelaars in hul versamelings seker maak dat hierdie aspekte ook weerspieël word. Anders is hul versameling geensins volledig nie en beantwoord dit nie aan die vereistes vir doeltreffende kommunikasie nie.



Pos-slagspreuke in al elf landstale? – Maklik!

Jan Lessing, Pretoria, skryf: Hier is 'n pleidooi vir die gebruik van alle tale van Suid-Afrika in ons pos-slagspreuke op koeverte. Ek is van mening dat huidige tegnologie die Poskantoor in staat stel om alle ruimte en geleentheid te benut om al elf ons amptelike tale in pos-slagspreuke te gebruik. My argumente rus op my studie van my versameling van Suid-Afrika se slagspreuke sedert 1910, en die metodes waarvolgens dit op briewe aangewend is.

In Suid-Afrika se grondwet is daar elf tale wat aanspraak maak om deur die Poskantoor gebruik te word: Engels, Afrikaans, Zoeloe, Xhosa, Noord-Sotho, Suid-Sotho, Ndebele, Swati, Tswana, Tsonga, Venda. (Die tale van ons ander landsgenote: Boesmans, Khoi, Indiërs, Chinese, en andere van Europese oorsprong word nie genoem nie.) Elkeen van ons elf amptelike tale is sowel geografies gekonsentreerd, terwyl hulle ook wyd deur ons land gebruik word.

Die vroegste pogings van ons Poskantoor om aan verskeie tale van Suid-Afrika erkenning te gee, vind ek in hierdie ou slagspreuke:

1919: *Buy Union Loan Certificates / Koop Unie Lening Certifikaten.*

1922: *Address your mail to private box or street and number. / Adres u mail naar private bus of straat en nommer.*

Hier is 'n mengsel van die destydse woelinge tussen Afrikaanse, Engelse en Nederlandse spelling ingespan om erkenning te verleen aan die tale van die dag. Dit was 'n grootse poging.

Ná 1922 is al ons slagspreuke, met een uitsondering, tweetalig gedruk in Afrikaans en Engels, en wel met die beperkte voorafgegote hulsmetode. Agterna gesien kan dit op verskeie maniere vertolk word, maar die feit is dat twee tale ten minste erken is.

Die Poskantoor se besluit gedurende 1998 om slegs Engels as omgangstaal, op posseëls en in slagspreuke te gebruik, is ongrondwetlik, maar na my mening is dit gedeeltelik verskoonbaar, en net sover dit posseëls betref. Posseëls het beperkte ruimte. Weens ekonomie en ruimte en internasionale erkenning aanvaar ek "RSA" en "South Africa" as nasionale afkorting en as die benaming van ons land op ons posseëls. Om op ons posseëls aan te dring op die bykomende gebruik van byvoorbeeld "Suid-Afrika" sou eensydig wees ten gunste van Afrikaans. En om soveel as elf tale op ons seëls te vertoon sou werklik onmoontlik wees. Dit gee ek toe.

Maar vandag se slagspreuke op koeverte het baie meer vryheid en ruimte vir veeltalige bewoording. Slagspreuke word vandag meestal met die inkstraal-metode op koeverte aangebring as deel van die afstempeling van die posseël. Hierdie nuwe metode bied soveel as twee reëls van tien woorde of 80 karakters elk, op elke koevert. Dis nie meer onderhewig aan vroeëre beperkings van ruimte of tyd vir voorbereiding nie, en die taalgebruik kan dikwels aangepas, omgeruil en afgewissel word. Enige bewoording kan in enige taal te eniger tyd ingetik word in die geheue van die rekenaar van die inkstraalmasjien. Dit kan dan vir 'n bepaalde tyd herhaal word, totdat dit later vervang word met nuwe bewoording. Ons slagspreuke kan dus maklik al ons tale praat.

Ons pos-slagspreuke word hoofsaaklik op binnelandse posstukke aangebring en gerig op ons eie lesers. Derduisende posstukke word daagliks te Witspos, Tshwane, Capemail en Durmail afgestempel vir binnelandse aflewering.

Die Poskantoor stel 'n voorafbeplande skedule van slagspreuke op wat op bepaalde tye gebruik moet word. So 'n program word 'n jaar vooruit beplan en bekendgestel, met latere wysigings soos nodig vir spesiale gebeure.

Hierdie plan vir die jaar 2002 se slagspreuke is byvoorbeeld reeds gedurende Desember 2001 vrygestel. Die 2002-plan bevat 47 slagspreuke waarvan die bewoording bykans weekliks verander. Poskantore deur die land volg dan hierdie voorskrifte. Die slagspreuke kan vroegtydig in enige taal ontwerp word. Dit moet net betyds en korrek in elke possentrum se rekenaar ingetik word. Daarna sal dit herhaaldelik op koeverte gedruk word as deel van die afstempeling. Dis jammer dat 2002 se 47 slagspreuke slegs in Engels beplan is.

Boonop, aangesien sommige van ons elf tale meer gepraat word in sekere gebiede van ons land, kan ons slagspreuke hierdie taalkleurrykheid en die geografiese verspreiding van ons verskillende taalgebruikers weerspieël. Zoeloe kan dus byvoorbeeld gereeld op Durmail se masjiene gebruik word, Xhosa vanuit die Oos-Kaap, Noord-Sotho in die Noordelike Provinsie, en die ander tale soos hul gebruik en voorkoms vereis. Afrikaans en/of Engels kan afwisselend as meegaande alternatiewe tale gebruik word vir dieselfde slagspreuke.

Suid-Afrika se Poskantoor het dit reeds gedoen. Kyk bietjie hierna:

1987: *Breastfeeding / Borsvoeding / Go amusa / Ukuncelisa / Ukuncancisa / Ho nyantsha.*

Hierdie slagspreuk het in Oktober 1987 verskyn en het tot Maart 1994 voortgeduur, vir meer as ses jaar, op baie duisende koeverte. Ses tale is hier verteenwoordig: Engels, Afrikaans, Noord-Sotho, Zoeloe, Xhosa en Suid-Sotho. Die groot merkwaardigheid van hierdie slagspreuk is dat dit met 'n voorafgegote huls, met beperkte ruimte, ontwerp, versprei en gedruk is, lank voordat die veelsydige inkstraalmetode in gebruik geneem is. Dit is 'n duidelike voorbeeld van erkenning aan ons land se ryke veeltaligheid. Ons kan dit beslis weer doen.

Sommige van ons onlangse slag-

Why not 11 languages?

The above letter from Jan Lessing is a plea directed at the South African Post Office to start using all eleven of our constitutionally recognised languages in postal slogan cancellations at the main postal centres of South Africa. Since 1910, our postal slogans have repeatedly reflected many multilingual examples under technically restrictive circumstances. Since 1998, however, the Post Office policy prescribes the use of English only – which is unconstitutional – and in spite of the fact that current computerised inkjet technology allows for great versatility and quick and easy interchangeability of slogan designs. By applying discretion, regional selection, advance planning and imagination, each of the eleven official languages can now be used in postal slogans. Why not? Listen to this: 1987-1994: "Breastfeeding / Borsvoeding / Go Amusa / Ukuncelisa / Ukuncancisa / Ho nyantsha". This pre-cast slug-printed slogan shows 6 out of 11 languages. It ran for six years. Why can we not now show all eleven official languages, in fully worded slogans, periodically intermixed with Afrikaans and English, using the easier technology of the current computerised inkjet system? asks Lessing.

spreuke is met die inkstraal-metode mooi en geheel tweetalig weergegee op posstukke, soos byvoorbeeld:

1995: *South Africa Rugby World Champions 1995. / Suid-Afrika Wêreld-rugbykampioene 1995.*

1995: *Prevent AIDS. / Voorkom VIGS.*

1997: *The South African Post Office - We're working for you. / Die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor - Ons werk vir jou.*

1997: *Homesick? Write a letter and make it better. / Heimwee? Stuur 'n brief weg en maak die hartseer reg.*

1997: *Correspond and with a friend you will bond. / Korrespondeer en maak 'n vriend weer en weer.*

As ons dit tweetalig kon doen, soos hierbo, dan kan ons dit nou ook elftalig doen. My pleidooi is dat slagspreukbewoordings nie net een of twee tale nie, maar ook afwisselend die ander tien tale van ons land aan ons posstelsel kan blootstel. Ons brieflesers gaan daarvan hou!

Die koste van vertaling? Wel, ek glo dat elke taalgemeenskap, en selfs die Pan-Suid-Afrikaanse Taalraad, gratis dienste vir hierdie doel sal verskaf. Dis nie 'n struikelblok nie. Dit behoort net so maklik te wees, en selfs goedkoper, as borsvoeding.

Ek verneem graag enige reaksie.

"Alles sal regkom"

Leo Crandel, Seinestraat 18, 1966 VG, Heemskerk, Holland, writes: The museum of education in The Hague, Holland, asked me if there is or was a South African stamp (issued in 1940?) with the words "Alles sal regkom". As there is no such stamp, it must be a "seal".

The story behind it is this:

There was a girl in the Dutch East Indies who received a letter from South Africa at the start of World War 2. She and her mother and sisters were later sent to a Japanese internment camp. Throughout the war the girl remembered the words on the envelope: "Alles sal regkom". These words helped her a lot. Now, in 2002, she still remembers the words.

The museum asked me if somebody can help them and give them a colour photocopy of that "seal" or from an envelop with the seal on it. There wil be an exhibition in 2003 in which the museum could use that "seal".

I have several "wartime" seals but not that one. Wrote to several South African friends (George van der Hurk, Tom Mullins, Joh Groenewald) but no one could help me. Is there perhaps a reader of *The SA Philatelist* who can help?

Why are they shaded that way?

David Sinclair, Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, writes: Gawie Rousseau brings up some interesting points regarding the variation in design of the 'Buildings' series (4th RSA Definitives) in his letter to the *SA Philatelist* (December 2001, Vol 77:6 p155).

He is quite correct in noting the different methods of shading of the letters RSA and the value. Some information on this matter can be found in past editions of the *SA Philatelist*:

In July 1989 an article by Tony Chilton was published entitled *The 4th RSA Definitives: Buildings, 1982-88*. This article dealt with the identification of the many printings. He noted the shading of RSA and the value as either TR-BR (top right to bottom left) or TL-BR (top left to bottom right).

The Nov/Dec 1990 edition of this publication carried an article by myself entitled *Revisiting the RSA Building Definitives*. Part of this article deals with the identification of this series as single copies as against cylinder blocks, and here the design of RSA and the value becomes highly significant.

The journals of the RSA Study Group of that period are a mine of information which I would also recommend to Gawie Rousseau. At one point a page was published in these journals showing no fewer than 12 different designs of RSA and the value, all of which were used by the printers at one time or another. I have this page but, unfortunately, cannot give an exact reference. I am happy to send on copies of the above articles etc to Gawie Rousseau.

The interesting question which is raised but has never, to my knowledge, been satisfactorily answered, is 'Why' rather than 'How'. I have no idea myself but would, like Mr Rousseau, be delighted to have ideas from any interested readers.

Contact by e-mail:
sinclair@telkomsa.net .

The problem of the double identity

Wobbe Vegter, Bellville, writes: When the Lotto stamp was issued on 02:03:2000, it was the first time in South Africa that stamp sheets carried an identifying barcode. The sheets consisted of ten stamps (two rows of five stamps each) and the identifying barcode (6005655020049) featured twice on the sheet, once in the margin above the top left stamp and once in the margin below the bottom right stamp.

The next stamp issued that year was the Family Day stamp, issued on 05:04:2000. Again the stamps were issued in sheets of ten stamps, and again an identifying barcode was printed twice in the sheet's margin.

However, the use of barcodes on products is based on the principle that each product carries its own unique barcode. Why is it then that the barcode printed on the Family Day sheet carries the same barcode as the earlier Lotto sheet (see illustration)? Was Philatelic Services not yet aware of this basic rule for using barcodes, or should we qualify this anomaly as a "blaps"? The error was not repeated when the next stamps were issued, so



apparently someone noticed the error and took appropriate action (or so I thought).

I raised this issue with Philatelic Services in June 2001 but I never received an explanation or answer to my enquiry.

Strangely enough, the story doesn't end there. The next issue was the three additional values to the 6th Definitive issue (the 5c Lizard, the R1,50 Tawny Eagle and the R2,30 Cape Vulture) issued on 05:06:2000. Each stamp sheet had its own unique identifying barcode, so the problem seemed to have been solved.

However, great was my surprise when a few months later I received the South African World Heritage Sites issue which came out on 22:09:2000. The issue consisted of three beautiful stamps, Sterkfontein, St Lucia and Robben Island, all with denomination R1,30 and issued in the now familiar sheetlets of 10 stamps. In this issue all three sheetlets carried the same barcode (6005655027345).

Well, at least the Post Office can identify the set, but this barcode will not allow them to distinguish between the individual stamps. I haven't seen any further duplication of barcodes, so in the end they got it right.

PS: As a collector of computer-related philatelic material, I'm eternally grateful to Philatelic Services for producing this unique duo. Of the many barcoded stamps in my collection, these are the first, and till now the only, recorded cases where different stamps carry the same barcode. A philatelic first!

Revisiting our constitution: Get involved!

Robert H Harm, Centurion, writes: For some time now, there has been a perception in certain circles of organised philately that the constitution of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is not keeping pace with the changes in modern society. In addition, the perception has been created that the interpretation of certain articles have a negative effect on the autonomy of the stamp clubs/societies in Southern Africa. That this perception may be true, and I think it is, is recognised by the decision of the management committee in Nov 2001 to revisit the constitution. I support this decision wholeheartedly.

As the management committee did not inform each and every club/society of this decision, the clubs/societies may have little influence in decisions about changes to the constitution (or a new one) that may effect (or reduce) their autonomy. Proposed amendments will be considered by the general committee at a meeting in June 2002, after which it will be submitted to congress in October 2002.

This approach persuaded me to use the official journal of the Federation, *The SA Philatelist*, to inform all clubs/societies to take note that this process is happening, and that they still have time to formulate and submit proposals before the meeting in Jun 2002. And it is important that they consider whether they want to be part of the process or not.

You may well ask: Why? Because the situation has been reached that more and more decisions are being made in the management committee, while these decisions should in fact be made in the general committee, as the representatives of the clubs/societies. Management committee can then remain as a small administrative body as elected/appointed by the congress/general committee.

Why should this be so? – The Philatelic Federation is a federation, whereas its affiliated members (the clubs/societies) are autonomous. Annually these autonomous bodies get together in congress to make decisions on organised philately as it may effect their members in the year (or years) ahead. To ensure that these decisions are executed, they send their representatives to the general committee, thereby ensuring that the will of all philatelists/collectors is served.

The general committee will, therefore, be the main decision-making body between congresses. Standing committees of all types should also form part of the general committee and report to this committee. The general committee, as the representatives of all philatelists/collectors, elect the management committee to act on their behalf for the day-to-day administration of the Federation, and to manage the (by congress) approved budget. Specialist functions such as treasurer and secretary may be appointed. This body needs to be small to be effective, and reports back to the general committee whenever the latter is convened.

This means that general committee should meet at least three times between congresses, once shortly after the last congress to formulate the various tasks (including the budget, which should be approved at congress for the year ahead) for the management committee, once shortly before the next congress to ensure that all tasks have been carried out (including the performance against the budget) and all reports have been submitted, and once inbetween these meetings to ensure continuity in the working of the management committee (and ensuring that there is performance against the budget).

The chairperson of the general committee is elected by the members of that committee, and should preferably be the chairperson until the first meeting after the next congress. However, he should not serve for longer than two terms, to ensure that the will of congress always comes to the fore. This prevents that a single person (or persons) become "more royal than royalty". The meeting before congress will also ensure that reports are submitted timely to reach the members before the next congress and that the stipulations of the constitution are complied with.

I implore all philatelists/collectors to get involved in this process, to ensure the autonomy of each club/society, and to ensure that our combined will is carried out.

APOLOGY

Some of our readers may have been somewhat distraught when they received the February issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

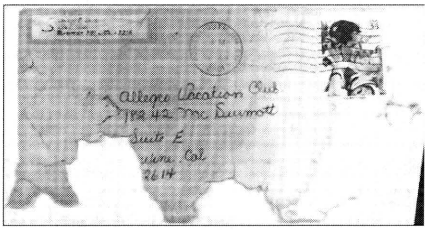
The so-called "printer's gremlins" really took hold of the issue with the result that the printing of the magazine was not up to the required standard, while in some issues pages were repeated.

The matter has been taken up with the chairman of *The SA Philatelist* Standing Committee and your editor has been assured that a different printer is to be used in future to ensure that the print quality of the magazine is improved. – Editor

Unique cover survived WTC attack

Andries van der Walt

THE TERRORIST ATTACKS on the World Trade Center in New York on 11 September last year have produced what could become one of the most valuable covers in the world. It is believed that a badly damaged envelope that fell from the sky in New York City on that day could be the most spectacular and valuable piece of crash mail ever found.



It is believed that the cover came from a mailbag in the cargo bay of the American Airlines Flight 11, when the hijacked aircraft was flown into the north tower of the World Trade Centre.

It is thought that the envelope came from the mailbag as they exploded when the jet burst into flames and disintegrated. An unknown person near "ground zero" who mailed it back to the sender found it.

According to a report in *Linn's News* of 12 November 2001 a woman in New Hampshire mailed the envelope containing a cheque to California the day before the disaster. She now has her envelope back. There have been no other reports, other than one bogus claim, of mail found from the doomed airliners.

In correspondence I have had with collectors in New York, it appears a post office did operate near the World Trade Centre in George Street. This post office was completely destroyed. In a report in its 17 September 2001 issue, *Linn's News* states that the delivery of mail in the US as a result of the disaster was not interrupted and normal mail operations carried on.

The only exceptions were the areas in New York City most severely affected by the demolition of the buildings. As the nationwide air transportation was suspended, an expanded ground transportation network was used to move the mail.

A number of foreign postal administrations have issued stamps in 2001 to remember the attacks of 11 September. These countries include Cayman Islands, the Marshall Islands, Paraguay, St Vincent and Tuvalu.

Recording the archives of former South West Africa

Steven Baker *East Rand Philatelic Society*

STEVEN BAKER is a member of the Witwatersrand and East Rand Philatelic Societies. His main areas of interest are Southern Africa, GB and Empire/Commonwealth and classical philately in all perspectives. He exhibits competitively and in 1999 won the Robert Goldblatt trophy for his thematic exhibit 'An A – Z of South African philately illustrated with philatelic terms'. He has published a selection of philatelic guides under the 'Collectors Guide Series' on Union philately and is in the process of developing a thematic catalogue 'The philately of the birds of Southern Africa', and at the same time recording the archives of the former South West African post office for the period of 1980 – 1990. This article and others to follow are sketches of what is included in the handbook which is soon to be published.

IN 2001 Stephan Weltz & Co was instructed by the Namibian Post to sell its archives of the post office of the pre-independent South West Africa. The sale took place in Rosebank, Johannesburg, on 24 October 2001 and the archives were duly broken up between the successful bidders, mainly South Africa's premier dealers.

On the day following the sale I was invited to examine a part of the archives by my close friend, Jacques Kuun, a prominent Gauteng dealer. When I saw the treasure that was about to be split up for sale I requested the right to record and photograph the material for publication and as we discussed the matter, Jacques got more and more enthusiastic. With the resulting arrangement it has been possible to record the years 1980–1990 in great detail. This will be completed towards the middle of this year (2002). Having approached the other major stockholders with my draft outlay, I was impressed with their willingness to assist, and so the earlier years will also be recorded.

The archives consisted of the original artwork for the stamps, first-day covers and special cancellations for the various definitive and commemorative issues of postage stamps. It also included some fiscal material as well as postage dues and postal stationary.

The Republic administration was the period covered, with the 1961–73 period sparsely represented. From 1973–1990 included all artwork mentioned above and signed proof sheets of the stamps, on the proper paper, with signed authorisation to proceed with production. Initially these sheets were imperforate but later with the introduction of the smaller format panes, perforated.

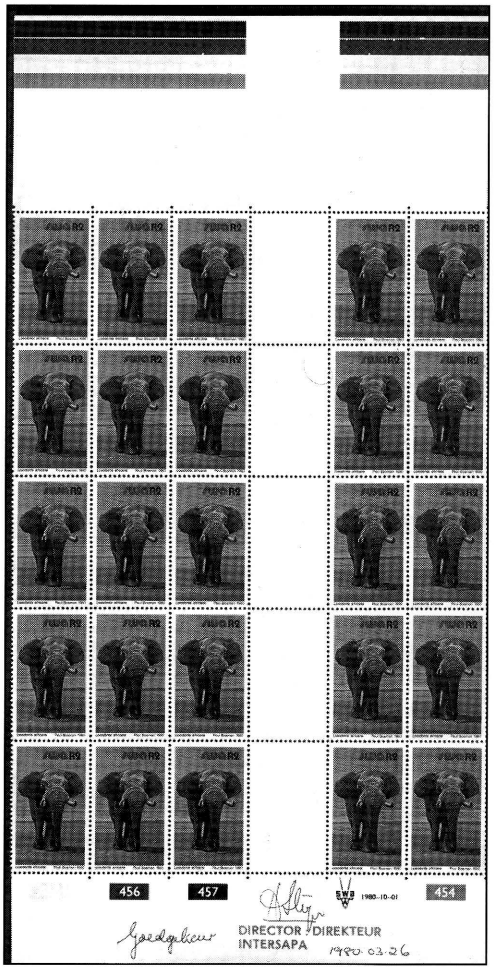
The perforated sheets were full sheets consisting of a varying number of panes per plate, these divided by blank gutter margins perforated through, creating gutter pairs. The very limited quantity of each makes this some of the rarest philatelic material in existence. There are a maximum of 120 gutters in the sheets of 16 panes but only 15 in the case of four-pane sheets.

Finally, there were sets of the finished cut sheetlets, the sheets having being separated into individual panes. The quantities of these being very limited indeed, usually only one sheet divided into panes – some as few as four sets only in existence.

The archives were stored in large green folders. Often little care was taken. There are certain pieces that were torn and repaired with sellotape. In fact, a number of items were attached to the folders with sellotape with disastrous results. The sheets are also well handled, indicating their proof nature and that they were examined for errors etc rather thoroughly.

As the proof sheets are large, difficult to handle and not a practical size for exhibiting, it was decided to break the sheets up into proving pieces, some being the signed sections and the other being unique proving pieces.

Among the very interesting items was a tête-bêche across the gutter sheet for the Schroeder issue and imperf sheets or the first two bird issues. The small format sheets have the already mentioned gutter pairs, the rarity of which is sometimes greater than the imperforated items.



The 'Animals' R2 gutter signed proving piece

The artwork for each of the issues forms another great philatelic asset. The classification of the 1980 Animals definitive and its many reprints was a challenge. To put a set together (only 15 sets exist!) being very difficult, as the stock was bought from and sold to different clients by two dealers.

I only got material for research after the reprints were split and virtually sold out, but eventually identified all the proving markings. This set consists of 78 different stamps of which the first 30 only have 15 complete sets each. The remaining 48 stamps have 45 sets each. These negligible quantities make this very rare material indeed.

When I conducted my scientific research into the papers and adhesives used in the manufacture of these stamps, I found certain contradictions to some of the issued stamps, the proof stamps being on different papers. This helped in the identification of the proof sheetlets!

A method was devised to record the formatting of the various issues to illustrate where the proving pieces occur on the plates, the scientific information and technical data for each issue, the philatelic terminology being illustrated in the introductory section of the handbook.

The archives are far too big to present in one article of this nature and will be presented in future issues of this journal.

6th Definitive Series

Pat Carter *Natal Philatelic Society*

THE Sixth Definitive Series of Threatened Fauna was introduced in September 1993 and was discontinued on 14 November 2000. Originally 18 stamps were issued but the series underwent a change in design, creating new stamps, as well as additional values and formats bringing the final tally of collectable stamps to 201. This article is an attempt to bring up to date this interesting and to my mind an exciting definitive issue.

The first series of stamps, designed by Denis Murphy, incorporates a frame line in the design and the inscriptions at the base of the stamp are in Latin (type 1).

A new value of 85c was added to this original issue on 2 October 1995 and thereafter came a change, at various intervals, in the inscription from Latin to English (type 2). Five new "airmail postcard rate" non value stamps in the form of the Big Five – a white rhino, a buffalo, a lion, a leopard and an elephant – all by the same artist, appeared on 8 May 1996 as did a R20 value on 20 March 1997.

A further three values were soon added with the introduction on 27 August 1997 of a R1,20, a R1,70 and a "standard postage" non-value stamp depicting a leopard seal.

The introduction of Readers Digest strips and uncut sheets thereof produced various settings of imperforations, as did several booklets and their uncut sheets. A rare 20c tete-beche was created from an uncut sheet issued on 13 May 1994.

Type 2 (English inscription) of the standard postage rhino stamp saw a newly designed rhino considerably larger than the original artwork.

The same stamp was printed by both the Government Printing Works and Cape & Transvaal Printers (CTP) creating a die I and a die 2 version. Briefly, the difference can be seen in the typeface and in die 1 the last 'a' and last 'c' in the words Suid-Africa/South Africa are misaligned whilst those of die 2 are perfectly aligned.

For the ultra specialist, a few varieties have been created by use of two types of paper used in the type 2 printings, a Harrison paper giving a distinct green tint to the gummed side of mint stamps and a Coated Papers Ltd paper showing a white finish to the gummed side.

The series was redrawn by Denis Murphy at various intervals from 1997 omitting the frame line (type 3) and in some instances mirroring the depicted animal. Eight values (1c, 2c, 55c, 75c, 85c, standard postage "seal", R1,20c and R1,70c) were discontinued and two new values were added on 24 June 1998 (30c and R3,00). A further two values were introduced on 5 June 2000, these being a R1,50 and a R2,30.

Type 3 was enhanced by the introduction of an antelope series of five standard postage stamps on 18 May 1998. Sheets of 100 stamps printed on a creamy white phosphorised paper, consisting of a blue wildebeest, eland, kudu, impala and a waterbuck were produced bearing the sheet date 03.04.98. These bear the inscription date of 1998.

A reprint using the same multipositive (03.04.98) was executed around August 1998 using a greenish paper with phosphorised front only. A third printing appeared later bearing the sheet date 14.04.99.

The introduction of booklet and rolls of peel-and-stick stamps of the antelope series produced both a type 3 (1998 inscription) and a type 4, which bears the inscription date of 1999.

Variations of these stamps occur due to different printers and phosphor application.

It is worth mentioning the means of distinguishing the variations by means of an ultra violet light.

- Government Printer (GPW)
  no phosphor.
- House of Questa
  L-shaped phosphor frame on the left side and bottom of the stamp.
- Sprintpak Peel & Stick
  L-shape phosphor frame on the bottom and left booklet but following the outside contour of the antelope.
- Sprintpak Peel & Stick
  Phosphor applied as a square frame to antelope roll stamp design.

Paper trials were carried out in May, June and July of 1998 using the plates dated 03.04.98 of the standard-rate definitives featuring the antelope series. Five different qualities of paper were trialed, three of which were internal trials: A 95 gsm Tullis Russel paper, a 89 gsm Platinum paper and a 115 gsm Platinum paper, differing only in quality of paper and are too specialised to mention in this article.

The remaining two were field trials and are remarkable and highly collectable, especially as they, together with the internal trials, were available to the public from Philatelic Services. They consist of a Platinum 115 gsm paper with a vertical 2 mm phosphor bar on the right hand side of the stamp and a Diamond 115 gsm paper with a vertical 4 mm phosphor bar on the right hand side of the stamp. An added imprint appearing in the bottom left hand side of the selvedge 1998-07-27 TPP for the Platinum paper and 1998-07-27 TPD for the Diamond paper can identify the sheets of these stamps.

Some sheets of the trial Diamond 115 gsm with 4 mm phosphor bar are known to exist with the phosphor bar only appearing on rows one to eight. The phosphor bars are completely missing on rows 9 and 10.

A shortage of standard postage stamps resulted in a reprint being executed using, in error, the multipositives of the paper trials bearing both the date 03.04.98 and the bottom left hand side inscription 1998-07-27 TPP.

This creates a desirable collectable as the absence of phosphor tagging results in a sheet with the additional lower inscription minus the 2 mm vertical phosphor bar. These sheets were available from post offices around the country and are known with the imprint 1998-07-27 TPP both underlined (B pane) and not underlined (A pane).

I believe a policy has been adopted by the Post Office whereby new printings will no longer show any distinguishing marks from previous printings but this has been overlooked by the Australian printers of the peel-and-stick stamps who have reprinted both the booklet and roll stamps with a 1999 inscription (type 4).

The use of a Tullis Russell white paper resulted in collectable varieties occurring on several type 3 stamps. This occurs on the 5c value reprints dated 07.06.00 and 04.07.00 as well as on the 10c value reprint dated 27.03.00.

A reprint of the R10 value dated 22.03.00 was printed on two types of paper, one scarcer than the other. The scarcer phosphorised Harrison paper is easily distinguishable from the other paper used in this printing.

I have compiled a list of control blocks required for collectors of these (115) and detail all single stamps (201) per value, format, issue date and variety that specialist collectors would need to acquire for a complete collection.

Happy hunting!

Stamp listing

Type 1 = Latin inscription Type 2 = English inscription Type 3 = Redrawn Type 4 = 1999 inscription
***** = Scarce

Value	Type	Perf type	Date	Format
1c	1	normal	03.09.93	Sheet
1c	1	imperf top & bottom	01.09.95	Readers Digest
1c	2	imperf top & bottom	01.08.96	Readers Digest
1c	2	vertical pair imperf	11.11.96	Readers Digest uncut sheet
2c	1	normal	03.09.93	Sheet
2c	1	imperf top & bottom	01.09.95	Readers Digest
2c	2	imperf top & bottom	01.08.96	Readers Digest
2c	2	vertical pair imperf	11.11.96	Readers Digest uncut sheet
5c	1	normal	03.09.93	Sheet
5c	1	imperf top & bottom	10.03.95	Readers Digest
5c	1	imperf top, bottom & right	01.11.95	Readers Digest
5c	3	normal perf	07.06.00	Sheet
5c	3	normal perf	07.06.00	Tullis Russell white paper
10c	1	normal	03.09.93	Sheet
10c	1	imperf top & bottom	10.03.95	Readers Digest
10c	2	imperf top & bottom	01.08.96	Readers Digest
10c	2	vertical pair imperf	11.11.96	Readers Digest uncut sheet
10c	3	normal	05.02.98	Sheet
10c	3	normal	27.03.00	Tullis Russell white paper
20c	1	normal	03.09.93	Sheet
20c	1	tete-beche	13.05.94	Readers Digest
20c	1	imperf top, bottom & right	10.03.95	Readers Digest
20c	2	normal perf	25.06 97	Sheet
20c	2	security perf	28.05.97	Sheet
20c	2	normal perf variety " dropped inscription"	25.06.97	Sheet *****
20c	3	normal perf	19.03.98	Sheet
30c	3	normal perf	13.03.98	Sheet
40c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
40c	2	normal perf	27.03.97	Sheet
40c	3	normal perf	08.01.98	Sheet
50c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
50c	1	imperf top & bottom	01.11.95	Readers Digest
50c	1	imperf top, bottom & right	01.09.95	Readers Digest
50c	2	ordinary perf	01.07.97	Sheet
50c	2	security perf	01.07.97	Sheet
50c	3	normal perf	23.03.98	Sheet *****
55c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
55c	2	imperf top, bottom & right	01.08.96	Readers Digest
55c	2	vertical pair imperf	11.11.96	Readers Digest uncut sheet
60c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
60c	2	security perf	12.05.97	Sheet
60c	2	security perf variety "raised inscription"	12.05.97	Sheet *****
60c	2	security perf variety "English over Latin"	12.05.97	Sheet *****
60c	3	normal perf	27.08.98	Sheet
60c	3	normal perf variety "growth under belly"	27.08.99	Sheet
70c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
70c	2	normal perf	19.05.97	Sheet
70c	3	normal perf	18.12.97	Sheet
75c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
80c	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
80c	3	normal perf	16.03.98	Sheet
85c	1	normal	02.10.95	Sheet
90c	1	normal	03.09.93	Sheet
90c	1	imperf top	01.12.95	Booklet
90c	1	imperf bottom	01.12.95	Booklet
90c	1	imperf top & right	01.12.95	Booklet
90c	1	imperf bottom & right	01.12.95	Booklet
90c	2	normal perf	18.06.97	Sheet
90c	3	normal perf	19.12.97	Sheet
R1	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
R1	1	imperf top	00.05.97	Booklet
R1	2	normal perf	06.08.96	Sheet
R1	2	security perf	11.06.97	Sheet
R1	3	normal perf	12.12.97	Sheet
R1.20	2	normal perf	04.06.97	Sheet
R1.50	3	normal perf	05.06.00	Sheet
R1.70	2	normal perf	06.06.97	Sheet
R2	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
R2	2	normal perf	23.07.97	Sheet
R2	3	security perf	18.03.98	Sheet
R2	3	normal perf	09.01.99	Sheet
R2.30	3	normal perf	05.06.00	Sheet
R3	3	normal perf	24.03.98	Sheet
R5	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
R5	2	normal perf	18.06.97	Sheet
R5	3	normal perf	17.03.98	Sheet
R10	1	normal perf	03.09.93	Sheet
R10	3	normal perf	28.08.98	Sheet
R10	3	normal perf	22.03.00	Fluorescent White paper
R20	2	security perf	20.03.97	Sheet
R20	3	security perf	26.08.98	Sheet
SP Seal	2	normal perf	02.06.97	Sheet
SP Rhino	1	normal perf Coated Papers	03.09.93	Sheet
SP Rhino	1	normal perf Harrison	17.10.94	Sheet
SP Rhino	1	imperf top Harrison	14.02.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf bottom Harrison	14.02.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf top & right Harrison	14.02.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf bottom & right Harrison	14.02.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf top Coated Papers	30.03.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf bottom Coated Papers	30.03.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf top & right Coated Papers	30.03.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	1	imperf bottom & right Coated Papers	30.03.95	Booklet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	normal perf GPW	01.07.96	Sheet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	security perf GPW	01.07.96	Sheet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	imperf top GPW	09.04.96	Booklet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	imperf bottom GPW	09.04.96	Booklet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	imperf top & right GPW	09.04.96	Booklet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	imperf bottom & right GPW	09.04.96	Booklet
SP Rhino	2 (Die 1)	vertical pair imperf GPW	22.04.97	Uncut Booklet Pane
SP Rhino	2 (Die 2)	normal perf CTP	01.07.96	Sheet
SP Rhino	3	normal perf	10.07.97	Sheet
SP Rhino	3	imperf top	16.01.98	Booklet
SP Rhino	3	imperf bottom	16.01.98	Booklet
SP Rhino	3	imperf top & right	16.01.98	Booklet
SP Rhino	3	imperf bottom & right	16.01.98	Booklet
SP Rhino	3	vertical pair imperf	16.01.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
AP W/Rhino	2	normal perf	08.05.96	Sheet
AP W/Rhino	2	imperf top	'08.05.96	Booklet
AP W/Rhino	3	security imperf top	26.01.98	Booklet
AP W/Rhino	3	security imperf bottom	26.01.98	Booklet
AP W/Rhino	3	vertical pair imperf	26.01.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
AP W/Rhino	3 Phos	imperf top	07.08.98	Booklet
AP W/Rhino	3 Phos	imperf bottom	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Buffalo	2	normal perf	08.05.96	Sheet
AP Buffalo	2	imperf top	08.05.96	Booklet
AP Buffalo	3	security imperf top	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Buffalo	3	security imperf bottom	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Buffalo	3	vertical pair imperf	26.01.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
AP Buffalo	3 Phos	imperf top	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Buffalo	3 Phos	imperf bottom	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Lion	2	normal perf	08.05.96	Sheet
AP Lion	2	imperf top	08.05.96	Booklet
AP Lion	3	security imperf top	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Lion	3	security imperf bottom	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Lion	3	vertical pair imperf	26.01.98	Uncut Booklet pane
AP Lion	3 Phos	imperf top	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Lion	3 Phos	imperf bottom	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Leopard	2	normal perf	08.05.96	Sheet
AP Leopard	2	imperf top	08.05.96	Booklet
AP Leopard	3	security imperf top	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Leopard	3	security imperf bottom	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Leopard	3	vertical pair imperf	26.01.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
AP Leopard	3 Phos	imperf top	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Leopard	3 Phos	imperf bottom	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Elephant	2	normal perf	08.05.96	Sheet
AP Elephant	2	imperf top & right	08.05.96	Booklet
AP Elephant	3	security imperf top & right	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Elephant	3	security imperf top & bottom	26.01.98	Booklet
AP Elephant	3	vertical pair imperf	26.01.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
AP Elephant	3 Phos	imperf top	07.08.98	Booklet
AP Elephant	3 Phos	imperf bottom	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	3	normal perf	18.05.98	Sheet
SP Wildebeest	3 2mm Phos	normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Wildebeest	3 4mm Phos	normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Wildebeest	3	security imperf top	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	3	security imperf bottom	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	3	vertical pair imperf	25.03.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
SP Wildebeest	3 Phos	imperf left	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	3 Phos	imperf right	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Roll
SP Wildebeest	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.98	Booklet
SP Wildebeest	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Roll
SP Eland	3	normal perf	18.05.98	Sheet
SP Eland	3	2mm Phos normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Eland	3	4mm Phos normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Eland	3	Security imperf top	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Eland	3	security imperf bottom	18.05.98	Booklet

SAPDA/SAFHA

South African Philatelic Dealers Association
Suid-Afrikaanse Filateliehandelaarsvereniging

NEXT ROSEBANK SHOW: 3-5 MAY (FRIDAY TO SUNDAY)

Contact details

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Betty Sandilands		082 570 7020
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David Wolpe	David Wolpe	021 7976901
Doreen Royan & Associates		011 803 3237
Eastgate Univ Coins & Stamps	Julian Gecelter	011 616 2705
East Rand Stamp	John & Moira	011 422 2940
Glen Carpendale		012 333 4741
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Jaques Kuun Stamps		011 894 6277
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Klerksdorp Stamps	Ted Reynolds	018 464 1038
Leisure Stamps	Dave R McCabe	011 763 3588
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Mike Deverell		021 4244 609
Mr Thematic	Alan Houghton	011 390 1321
Peter Bale Philatelics	Peter Bale	082 554 7287
Philactica	Erich Hamm	011 826 6952
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SA Post Office Philatelic Services	Alwyn Nel	012 845-2804
Philimpex	Wolfgang Meiss	011 805 5318
RXR Stamps	Xavier Laubscher	083 654 8687
Rand Stamps	Paul van Zeyl	012 329 3157
Randburg Coins & Stamps	Cliff van Rensburg	011 789 2233
Republic Stamps & Coins	Laurence Saitowitz	011 887 1903
Robertson Stamp Co	Mike Silberman	031 205 4762
Sandton Stamps & Coins	Raphy Trevis	011 783 8309
Southern Cape Philatelic Auctions	Ray T Upson	044 871 2286
Stamps Unlimited	George Cafetzoglou	011 447 9934
Stephan Welz & Co	Danny Swart	011 880 3125
The Stamp Shop	Ray E Weare	041 365 2548
Tony Ferreira Stamps	Tony Ferreira	011 768 6006
Trovillo Philatelics	Roland H Davies	011 793 3928
Two Penny Blue	Emil Minaar	011 974 2830
Utopia Stamps	Morne de la Guerra	011 826 6558
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Vera Trinder Ltd	Vera Webster	0944 171 836 2365
WE Lea Philatelists	Billy Lea	0944 137 246 8263

Code of Ethics

Any dealer displaying the SAPDA emblem is a member of this trade organisation and will abide by the following code of ethics:

1. Never knowingly offer counterfeit stamps as genuine, faulty or repaired stamps as perfect, unofficial reprints and forgeries as original, re-gummed stamps as original gum or in any way mislead a buyer as to quantity, quality or specification.

2. Should we, as stamp dealers, or anyone employed by us, or authorised by us to act in our name, supply stamps not according to description, we will accept full responsibility and make replacements or give compensation not exceeding the original purchase price, provided that such mistakes are brought to our attention within four months of the date of sale. Note that if the purchaser decides to submit an item for expertisation at any item prior to the expiry of the four months "guarantee period" he must advise the seller in writing, so that the seller is made aware of a possible time extension in respect of his obligation.

3. When selling any philatelic item, we will supply a detailed invoice on request.

4. We will not publish misleading advertisements purporting to sell items that we do not have, or make offers that we have no intention of fulfilling.

5. We will refund, upon written application, a client's money held in trust in respect of any orders that we are unable to execute.

6. We agree to settle our payment obligations in accordance with good commercial practice. Unless otherwise agreed in terms of a contract, we undertake to pay our debts within 30 days of a written request to do so.

7. We agree to accept the decision of SAPDA's Executive Committee in the event of any dispute.

Deal in confidence through a SAPDA dealer

SP Eland	3	vertical pair imperf	25.03.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
SP Eland	3 Phos	imperf left	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Eland	3 Phos	imperf right	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Eland	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Booklet
SP Eland	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Roll
SP Eland	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Booklet
SP Eland	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Roll
SP Kudu	3	normal perf	18.05.98	Sheet
SP Kudu	3	2mm Phos normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Kudu	3	4mm Phos normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Kudu	3	security imperf top	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Kudu	3	security imperf bottom	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Kudu	3	vertical pair imperf	25.03.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
SP Kudu	3 Phos	imperf left	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Kudu	3 Phos	imperf right	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Kudu	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Booklet
SP Kudu	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Roll
SP Kudu	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Booklet
SP Kudu	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Roll
SP Impala	3	normal perf	18.05.98	Sheet
SP Impala	3 2mm Phos	normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Impala	3 4mm Phos	normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Impala	3	security imperf top	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Impala	3	security imperf bottom	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Impala	3	vertical pair imperf	25.03.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
SP Impala	3 Phos	imperf left	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Impala	3 Phos	imperf right	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Impala	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Booklet
SP Impala	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Roll
SP Impala	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Booklet
SP Impala	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Roll
SP Waterbuck	3	normal perf	18.05.98	Sheet
SP Waterbuck	3 2mm Phos	normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Waterbuck	3 4mm Phos	normal perf	27.07.98	Trial Sheet
SP Waterbuck	3	security imperf top & right	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Waterbuck	3	security imperf bottom & right	18.05.98	Booklet
SP Waterbuck	3	vertical pair imperf	25.03.98	Uncut Booklet Pane
SP Waterbuck	3 Phos	imperf left	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Waterbuck	3 Phos	imperf right	07.08.98	Booklet
SP Waterbuck	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Booklet
SP Waterbuck	3 Phos	peel & stick	18.08.98	Roll
SP Waterbuck	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Booklet
SP Waterbuck	4 Phos	peel & stick	18.10.99	Roll

6th Definitive control blocks

Type 1 = Latin inscription
Type 2 = English inscription
Type 3 = Redrawn (no frame)

1c	Type 1	03.09.93	2439 2440 2441 2442
2c	Type 1	03.09.93	2443 2444 2445 2446
5c	Type 1	03.09.93	2447 2448 2449 2450
5c	Type 1	25.01.96	2792 2793 2794 2795
5c	Type 3	07.06.00	No numbers
5c	Type 3	07.06.00	No numbers Tullis Russel (White) paper
5c	Type 3	04.07.00	No numbers
5c	Type 3	04.07.00	No numbers Tullis Russel (White) paper
10c	Type 1	03.09.93	2451 2452 2453 2454
10c	Type 1	22.11.94	2660 2661 2662 2663
10c	Type 3	05.02.98	3003 3004 3005 3006
10c	Type 3	09.03.98	No numbers
10c	Type 3	01.01.99	No numbers
10c	Type 3	No date	No numbers
10c	Type 3	27.03.00	No numbers
10c	Type 3	27.03.00	No numbers Tullis Russel (White) paper
20c	Type 1	03.09.93	2455 2456 2457 2458
20c	Type 1	18.04.95	2709 2710 2711 2712
20c	Type 2	28.05.97	2931 2932 2933 2934 Elliptical perf
20c	Type 2	28.05.97	2931 2932 2933 2934 Normal perf variety "dropped inscription" *****
20c	Type 2	25.06.97	2963 2964 2965 2966
20c	Type 3	19.03.98	No numbers
20c	Type 3	03.01.99	No numbers
20c	Type 3	24.03.00	No numbers
30c	Type 3	13.03.98	No numbers
40c	Type 1	03.09.93	2459 2460 2461 2462
40c	Type 2	27.03.97	2899 2900 2901 2902
40c	Type 3	08.01.98	2999 3000 3001 3002
40c	Type 3	10.03.98	No numbers
50c	Type 1	03.09.93	2467 2468 2469 2470
50c	Type 2	01.07.97	2967 2968 2969 2970 Elliptical perf
50c	Type 2	01.07.97	2967 2968 2969 2970 Normal perf *****
50c	Type 3	23.03.98	No numbers
55c	Type 1	03.09.93	2471 2472 2473 2474
55c	Type 1	29.10.93	2547 2548 2549 2550
60c	Type 1	03.09.93	2475 2476 2478 2479
60c	Type 1	29.10.93	2551 2552 2553 2554
60c	Type 2	12.05.97	2915 2916 2917 2918 Elliptical perf
60c	Type 2	12.05.97	2915 2916 2917 2918 Elliptical perf Variety "raised inscription" *****
60c	Type 3	27.08.98	No numbers
60c	Type 3	27.08.99	No numbers Variety "growth under belly"
70c	Type 1	03.09.93	2479 2480 2481 2482
70c	Type 1	29.03.93	2555 2556 2557 2558
70c	Type 2	19.05.97	2919 2920 2921 2922
70c	Type 3	18.12.97	2991 2992 2993 2994
70c	Type 3	11.03.98	No numbers
70c	Type 3	24.03.00	No numbers
75c	Type 1	03.09.93	2483 2484 2485 2486
75c	Type 1	29.10.93	2559 2560 2561 2562
80c	Type 1	03.09.93	2487 2488 2489 2490
80c	Type 1	29.10.93	2563 2564 2565 2566
80c	Type 3	16.03.98	No numbers
80c	Type 3	19.10.98	No numbers
80c	Type 3	05.01.99	No numbers
85c	Type 1	02.10.95	2741 2742 2743 2744
NV(Rhino)	Type 1	03.09.03	2463 2464 2465 2466
NV(Rhino)	Type 1	17.10.94	2656 2657 2658 2659
NV(Rhino)	Type 2	01.07.96	2820 2821 2822 2823 Normal perf Gov. Printer
NV(Rhino)	Type 2	01.07.96	2820 2821 2822 2823 Normal perf CTP Printer
NV(Rhino)	Type 2	22.04.97	2927 2928 2929 2930
NV(Rhino)	Type 2	10.07.97	2979 2980 2981 2982
NV (Rhino)	Type 3	16.01.98	2907 2908 2909 2910
AP Big 5	Type 2	28.11.96	No numbers Strip of 5 with Airmail tag
AP Big 5	Type 2	15.05.97	2923 2924 2925 2926 Strip of 5 with Thulamela Tag
AP Big 5	Type 3	26.01.98	3001 3012 3013 3014 Strip of 5 Elliptical perf
NV (Seal)	Type 2	02.06.97	2947 2948 2949 2950
NV (Antelope)	03.04.98		Strip of five (White Gum)
NV (Antelope)	03.04.98		Strip of five (Green Gum)
NV (Antelope)	14.04.99		Strip of five
90c	Type 1	03.09.93	2491 2492 2493 2494
90c	Type 1	18.04.995	2713 2714 2715 2716
90c	Type 2	18.06.97	2959 2960 2961 2962
90c	Type 3	19.12.97	2995 2996 2997 2998
90c	Type 3	02.03.98	No numbers
90c	Type 3	04.09.98	No numbers
90c	Type 3	07.01.99	No numbers
R1	Type 1	03.09.93	2495 2496 2497 2498
R1	Type 1	29.09.94	2648 2649 2650 2651
R1	Type 1	25.10.95	2759 2760 2761 2762
R1	Type 1	03.04.96	2800 2801 2802 2803
R1	Type 2	06.08.96	2857 2858 2859 2860
R1	Type 2	11.06.97	2935 2936 2937 2938 Ordinary perf
R1	Type 2	11.06.97	2935 2936 2937 2938 Elliptical perf *****
R1	Type 3	12.12.97	2987 2988 2989 2990
R1	Type 3	02.03.98	No numbers
R1.20	Type 2	04.06.97	2951 2952 2953 2954
R1.50	Type 3	05.06.00	No numbers
R1.70	Type 2	06.06.97	2955 2956 2957 2958
R2	Type 1	03.09.93	2499 2500 2501 2502
R2	Type 1	29.09.94	2652 2653 2654 2655
R2	Type 1	25.10.95	2763 2764 2765 2766
R2	Type 1	09.02.96	2796 2797 2798 2799
R2	Type 2	23.07.97	2971 2972 2973 2974
R2	Type 3	18.03.98	No numbers
R2	Type 3	09.01.99	No numbers
R2	Type 3	No date	No numbers
R2	Type 3	23.03.00	No numbers (narrow side margin)
R2	Type 3	23.03.00	No numbers (wide side margin)
R2.30	Type 3	05.06.00	No numbers
R3	Type 3	24.03.98	No numbers
R5	Type 1	03.09.93	2503 2504 2505 2506
R5	Type 2	18.06.97	2939 2940 2941 2942
R5	Type 2	18.06.97	2839 2940 2941 2942 Number error *****
R5	Type 3	17.03.98	No numbers
R5	Type 3	10.11.98	No numbers
R5	Type 3	11.01.99	No numbers
R5	Type 3	22.03.00	No numbers
R10	Type 1	03.09.93	2507 2508 2509 2510
R10	Type 3	28.08.98	No numbers
R10	Type 3	22.03.00	No numbers
R10	Type 3	22.03.00	No numbers Harrison (fluorescent paper)
R10	Type 3	11.09.00	No numbers
R20	Type 2	20.03.97	2885 2886 2887 2888
R20	Type 3	26.08.98	No numbers

The stamp booklets of Natal

Brian Trotter and Tony Chilton
South African Collectors' Society of Great Britain

Natal was the third of the South African colonies to have stamp booklets printed and issued. The Cape Colony and the Transvaal, having already gone through the process, had effectively established the format and pricing involved. This included not going to the expense of having a special plate made for the booklets but printing the stamps from the existing plate (ie as prepared for the sheet stamps). This required that half the booklets would have to be stapled at the left, and the other half at the right, to enable the pane margins to be used for the staples (the 12 stamps in each row would be split, with left hand side six going to a left stapled booklet, and the right hand side six going to a right stapled booklet).

Early correspondence

The Natal Postmaster General, prompted by seeing that a booklet was available in the Transvaal, considered a similar measure for Natal. He wrote to his counterpart in the Transvaal on 4 August 1905 asking for a specimen of the stamp book referred to in the Transvaal Post Office Circular No 63 and also the cost of these books. The response was sent on 15 August 1905. On 19 August 1905 Natal asked the Transvaal whether demand for booklets warranted their introduction.

The response on 26 August confirmed that the Transvaal felt it had been warranted and on 29 August 1905 the instruction was given by the Postmaster General of Natal to "prepare a specimen applicable to Natal". The Natal authorities then asked the Transvaal who had printed the booklets, and were advised that they were "obtained by the Crown Agents from Messrs de la Rue" (Reference 1).

Development

The first plan (a handwritten note on 9 September 1905) was to have the Natal Stamp Commissioner obtain 1 000 books; this was changed to 5 000 books in a letter of 11 September 1905 from the Postmaster General to the Commissioner of Stamps. There had in the interim been some debate in Natal about the costs, as de la Rue obviously charged a higher price for printing on the inside of the covers. The Postmaster General finally advised the Commissioner of Stamps on 10 November that printing would be on both inside and outside of the stamp booklet covers.

The Natal Government indent for the 5 000 booklets was sent to the Natal Agent General in London on 22 November 1905 for the Agent General to send on to the Crown Agents, who in turn created their own requisition for the booklets to send on to de la Rue.

The indent sent to the Agent General included a "specimen" cover, which consisted of two typed pieces of paper cut to a size of 16.5 cm long and 13.5 cm high, with on each side the wording required for the outside and inside of the booklet cover (the carbon copies of these are in the Natal Archives).

Relatively little about the development of the Natal booklets appears in the de la Rue records. The first reference in the de la Rue Correspondence Book is 30 December 1905 when the Crown Agents entered a requisition for 5 000 Natal stamp booklets. On 3 January de la Rue responded saying:

"Requisition returned herewith for 5,000 books of 30 1d Postage and Revenue Stamps. We beg to enclose a proof of the cover prepared in accordance with the instructions received from the Colony.

"The total cost of the order will be about £16. Delivery to your Inspector in eight weeks from the date of receiving your final instructions."

There is a note in the Correspondence Book "Taken 11.11.75" and initialled. (meaning that the proof that had been retained by de la Rue was taken from the Correspondence Book pending the sale of archival material through Robson Lowe in 1976). On 5 January 1906 the Crown Agents returned their copy of the proof of the cover which they advised was "correct with the exception of correction noted in red ink". De la Rue wrote alongside this "Noted". This corrected proof copy has not been seen, so it is not known what this correction was.

No further mention is made of this booklet issue in the de la Rue Correspondence Books so presumably these booklets were printed and issued without any further design changes.

Back in Natal, the Commissioner of Stamps distributed the supply of booklets and wrote to the Postmaster General on 14 August 1906 advising that his stock was exhausted. The Postmaster General decided to have the stock in each of the Post Offices checked before ordering any more. Of the 29 Post Offices offering booklets, two had sold none, 16 had "poor" sales and the rest had "fair" sales. It was decided that one of the reasons for the generally poor sales had been lack of public awareness but also that the booklet sold for an unusual amount of money, 2 shillings and 7 pence. It was therefore proposed to sell 29 stamps per book for 2 shillings and 6 pence rather than 30 stamps for 2s 7d. Since much of the original stock had not yet been sold, there was no urgency.

In due course, a further requisition was entered on 7 March 1907 for 20 000 stamp booklets, "each to contain 29 1d stamps". De la Rue noted that the books were to contain 29 1d stamps, and sell for 2s 6d. (The previous printing had contained 30 1d stamps, and sold for 2s 7d, with the extra 1d intended to cover the cost of producing the booklet.) A letter from de la Rue on 9 March 1907 continued:

"It will be impossible to produce the required 1d Books without having a new plate, and the most economical way will be to make it 120 set, at a cost of £42.10s. We assume that the blank space will be filled in with a cross, as in the English stamps.

"As the 120 set sheets would contain one stamp less, the price of the stamps printed from this plate would be augmented accordingly".

De la Rue went on to detail the amount of the augmented cost and explained that their charge for altering the cover of the booklet to show the new selling price of 2s 6d would be 12 shillings. The total cost for the new plate and alteration of the covers would be about £156.

The Crown Agents responded on 11 March, asking de la Rue to quote a price for removing one stamp from each of the stamp booklets to save the cost of a new plate. On 12 March 1907 de la Rue responded that the cost would be 4 shillings extra per 1 000 booklets. However, de la Rue also had an alternative suggestion:

"The better plan in our opinion would be to obliterate the stamp by overprinting as shown below. The necessary over-

print plate would cost £1 and our charges would be 3s extra per 1000 books for the order in question"

The overprint "shown below" was "NOT FOR USE" as illustrated by a specimen booklet page (Fig. 1). This was marked in the Correspondence Book as "Taken for DLR Collection 14/7/68" and initialled; it too was auctioned by Robson Lowe in 1976. The de la Rue reference collection had contained the complete specimen booklet with the front cover handstamped "SPECIMEN" and five booklet pages also handstamped "SPECIMEN", one of which has the "NOT FOR USE" obliteration on the top left corner stamp. On 19 March 1907 the Crown Agents confirmed that de la Rue should go ahead with the changing of the cover to reflect the new selling price and to produce the "NOT FOR USE" overprint plate at the total cost of £1.12s.



Fig. 1 Specimen page showing "NOT FOR USE" obliteration

It is not entirely clear why it was thought appropriate to go to the expense of changing the booklets from the original printing of the previous year simply on the perception that the public would prefer a 2s 6d booklet. In fact, someone in Natal too must have questioned it, as on 23 April 1907 the Crown Agents advised that they had had a note from the Natal Agent General the previous day, stating that the Agent General had received a cable from the Colony asking that the stamp books be made as previously supplied. De la Rue replied on 24 April 1907 saying that the order was practically complete so it was too late to revert to the original booklet configuration.

Material from the de la Rue Records

Striking and Work Books

The Striking Book items are single copies of die proofs stuck into the Book with the work instructions written alongside, often dated, sometimes with both the date the job was placed into the work programme and the date it was completed. Once the job had been completed the die proof usually had a red line ruled across it, designating that the job was now done and had been written up in the Private Day Book. These are among the scarcer of philatelic items as there was only one copy for each plate made. They are usually cut down to stamp size.

The only item for the Natal booklets is the "NOT FOR USE" overprint (Fig. 2) endorsed in manuscript "March 26 42 leads" in black and "May 3rd 07." in red. So, the work order was given on 26 March 1907 and completed and transferred to the Private Day Books for invoicing on 3 May 1907. It required 42 leads to be struck. The plate was 40 set and the extra two were in case of damage in making up the plate. This book item too was sold in the Robson Lowe sale in 1976

Since the normal sheets of 1d stamps were being used to make up the booklets, they would be 240 set (four panes of 60 each). Since the overprint plate was to be used for the page with the obliterated stamp, and half would be stapled at the left and half at the right, the overprint plate had to obliterate the first and the twelfth stamp on every second row (one stamp in six), hence the need for a 40-set plate (four panes of 10).

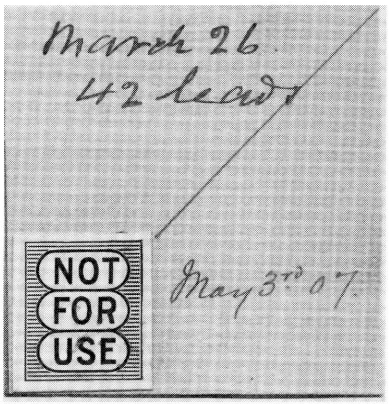

Fig 2 – Striking Book die proof of "NOT FOR USE" overprint

Correspondence Books

Two items emanate from the Correspondence Books. One was the proof of the original cover design of 3 January 1906 (Fig 3). No proof is known of the cover with adjustment of the selling price for the second issue.

The other was the complete specimen booklet referred to above.

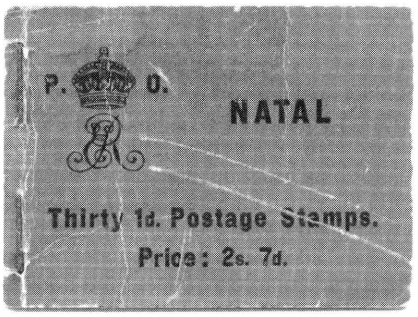

Fig 3 – Proof of the outside covers of the first booklet

The Requisitions

The Colony of Natal had a set of requisition numbers used to request the work from the Crown Agents, and the Crown Agents then used their own type of requisition numbers to designate the work order sent to de la Rue. The numbers used here are those of the Crown Agents.

Requisition No. 117/05, dated 30 December 1905, was for 5 000 booklets of 30 1d stamps. De la Rue produced and shipped 5 170 booklets to Natal. These were marked at a selling price of 2s 7d.

Requisition No. 14/07, dated 14 March 1907, was for 20 000 booklets of 29 stamps of 1d denomination and one overprinted "NOT FOR USE". The requisition included the request for the alteration of the selling price on the front cover to 2s 6d, and a "temporary overprint plate to obliterate stamp" in 40 set. De la Rue produced and shipped 20 580 booklets to Natal.

A further supply was contemplated in 1909. On 25 October 1909 the Postmaster General wrote to the Commissioner of Stamps stating that "before a further supply of these books of stamps is ordered, I shall be obliged if I may be given an opportunity to revise the Postal information printed on the covers which is now out of date in some respects". The supply of booklets was running out but the formation of the Union of South Africa was imminent so none was actually ordered.

The booklets

In summary, the first issue of the Natal booklets consisted of 30 1d stamps and were priced at 2s 7d, the extra 1d being to

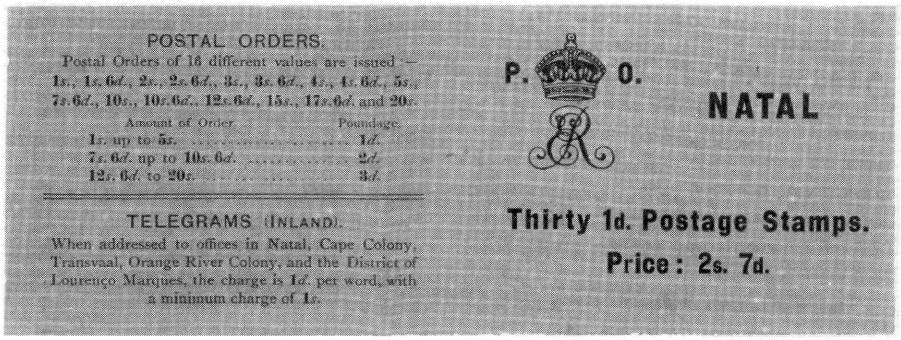

Fig. 4 Front cover of the first issue

offset the cost of the booklet (Fig 4). These were issued during the first half of 1906. Most of the post offices received their booklets for sale on 27 April 1906 but the outlying offices received theirs on 28 April 1906. The Point post office in Durban refers to sales of booklets from 26 March 1906 (either an early release or more likely a typing error, with the date perhaps being 26 April 1906), while the main post office in Pietermaritzburg only offered the booklets for sale from 1 May 1906. The Stanley Gibbons Catalogue erroneously lists the issue date as 1905. The South African Colour Catalogue has just copied the incorrect Gibbons information. There was only one printing of this first issue.

The second issue of the Natal booklets also consisted of 30 1d stamps, one of which was overprinted "NOT FOR USE", and was accordingly priced at 2s 6d, the extra 1d again being to offset the cost of the booklet (Fig. 5). These were issued at the end of 1907. Both Stanley Gibbons and the South African Colour Catalogue erroneously list the second booklet issue date as 1904. There was only one printing of the second issue.

The outside front cover was the only difference on either the inside or outside covers of the two issues. The outside cover was a deep red colour with the wording and Crown over ER in black on the front. The inside of the front cover had the details of inland postage rates. The inside of the back cover had foreign postage information, while the outside had information on postal orders and telegrams. Half the booklets of both issues were stapled at the left and half stapled at the right.

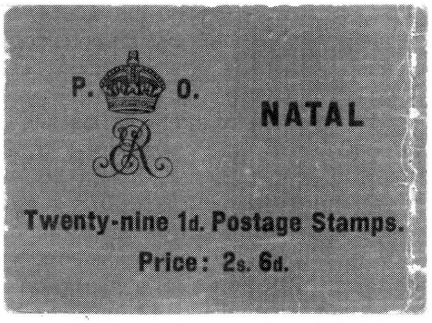

Fig. 5 Front cover of the second issue

The very small quantities of booklets printed make complete booklets very rare. Presently only a single part booklet of the first issue is known. Complete booklets of the second issue are rare, but known, while even part booklets are very difficult to find.

Primary References

1. Natal Government correspondence file NT 181 Stamps 11/1905, National Archives of South Africa, Natal Depot, Pietermaritzburg.
2. De la Rue Records held at the Post Office Heritage in London.

Book review

Splendid work on Natal postal stationery

The Postal Stationery of Natal
by John Dickson and Keith HanmanPublished in 2001 by The Natal and Zululand Study Circle
ISBN 0-9540380-0-2

Spiral bound, fully illustrated, 5 colour plates, 222 pages A4 size, price £24 plus £5.25 postage

Available from John Dickson, Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp, Ilminster TA19 0LJ
or from Study Circle representatives in USA and South Africa

A LARGE VOLUME on the postal stationery of a territory which ceased its separate existence nearly a century ago might at first glance seem to be an over-indulgence, but this splendidly produced book contains far more, and wider reaching, information than its title might suggest.

The text is sub-divided into three sections:

- 96 pages on the actual postal stationery items produced together with background information as to how and why they came to be issued;
- 58 pages on the postal rates and related uses of Natal postal stationery; and
- 66 pages of extracts from government notices and other official documentation relevant to the issue and use of each item of stationery.

Thus, the rates and usage will be of wide importance to collectors of other territories, especially within southern Africa, with which Natal had connections.

The research underpinning this publication is meticulous and the extensive documentation examined comes from both British and African sources. The illustrations cover everything of significance and include a detailed study of the de la Rue SPECIMEN overprints which will facilitate further work on their use generally on colonial postal stationery.

The authors have produced a work which will not only be the standard reference for its specific area of study but will also be seen as the benchmark for corresponding work by other authors.

Fewer and fewer franking meter manufacturers

Andries van der Walt
Postmark and Postal History Society

NEWS form the US is that franking meter manufacturer and distributor Neopost has acquired the Hasler Mailing Systems Division from the Swiss mega-company Ascom. Recently another major franking meter company, Pitney Bowes, acquired the French Secap operation.

These take-overs will have a major effect on the franking meter markets worldwide. Apart from Neopost, Pitney Bowes, Francotyp-Postalia and the Swiss firm of Frama, there are no other major players left in the market. A few small companies like Telefrank and Mail It operate in Germany, but no others are currently known.

The acquisition of Hasler by Neopost was to have been completed by the end of February 2002. As a result of the Hasler takeover, the Neopost-Hasler operation will now control 25% of the world market for franking meters and 16% in the US.

Pitney Bowes, however, remains the number one in the world. It controls 85% of the US market and 61% of the world market. Francotyp is regarded as the third largest in the world, but in terms of market share is regarded as a minor player.

So far I have not been able to establish what the effect of these changes in the franking meter market would have on South Africa, but that it would have an impact is certain.

The interesting fact is that Pitney Bowes is probably the oldest franking meter company in the world. The founder of the company, Arthur A Pitney, invented his first machine in 1902. It was only on 1 September 1 1920 that the American Congress passed an act to legalise the use of Pitney Bowes machines.

Neopost, from the United Kingdom, originally known as Roneo Neopost, had its first four machines licensed for use in the UK on 22 July 1925.

Neopost was the first company to have its franking meter machines licensed in South Africa, in October 1926. Pitney Bowes entered the South African market much later, during the 1950s (the exact date is not known) but soon became a major distributor and remains so in spite of having withdrawn from the country for some years during the 1990s.

Francotyp was introduced in South Africa in May 1920. All of these companies are still active in South Africa.

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Fees charged on LATE LETTERS in Natal 1854–1884

John Dickson *Natal & Zululand Study Circle*

HOW OFTEN are we faced with an unusually high charge on a letter and led to suppose that it was the result of a 'Late Fee'? The following should help to clarify this in respect of letters posted in Natal before 1885.

In a letter of 3 August 1854 (NA/CSO 70) Natal's Postmaster-General Collins addressed the Colonial Secretary on the subject:

I have the honor to request His Honor the Lieutenant Governor's authority for extending the time for receiving Letters at the Post Offices of this City and D'Urban by half an hour beyond the usual time of closing the mails, and also of levying a fine of 6d. each letter so received. It has frequently been represented to me that this arrangement would be a public convenience, and as it will not interfere with the punctual despatch of mails, I trust no object may exist to it.

The endorsements on this letter suggest that sixpence was "a little high"; nevertheless, on 4 August the proposal was approved providing "it does not interfere with the punctual despatch of the mails at the hours prescribed by the Proclamation..." The decision was made public through Government Notice No. 59 of 8 August 1854:

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor directs it to be notified, that from and after this date, letters may be posted at the Post Offices at Pietermaritzburg and D'Urban half an hour beyond the time fixed for closing the respective mails at those offices, upon payment of a fine of 6d. each letter in addition to the postage.

For the next 12 years this notice remained valid but, as it was not included in the Natal Almanacs or Blue Books during this period, it was altered unofficially by the Post Office as evidenced by Postmaster-General Becker's letter of 20 August 1866 (NA/CSO 256) addressed to the Colonial Secretary:

For a considerable time past and under notices issued by my predecessor, the time fixed for posting late letter, upon payment of a fine of 6d. in addition to the postage, was limited to one quarter of an hour beyond the time appointed for closing the mails. I find now that by Govt Notice No. 59 1854, half an hour is allowed.

The number of mails have in the last twelve years so much increased that their despatch would be much retarded if they were all kept open for the full half hour, as was formerly done. I have therefore respectfully to request that the above notice may be cancelled and another substituted limiting the time to a quarter of an hour only as has been the practice.

This was put into effect by a Government Notice of 3 September 1866 as below:

... with reference to Government Notice No. 59 of 1854 ... owing to the great accession of work since the date of that notice in the Post Offices of Pietermaritzburg and Durban, the half hour for the receipt of Letters, beyond the time fixed for closing the respective Mails at these offices, upon payment of a fine of 6d. on each Letter, in addition to the Postage, will be reduced to a quarter of an hour, from and after the 5th instant.

On 14 September (NA/CSO 258 at 22.10.66) the directors of the Natal Chamber of Commerce wrote begging to

... intimate that they consider the fine of six pence now charged on late letters inequitable ... [and] would beg to suggest its being reduced to one penny for the first five minutes, three pence for the second, and sixpence for the remainder of the time after the letter box is closed.

Postmaster-General Becker commented on this proposal in a letter of 17 September:

The ... suggestion of reducing the fine on late letters I do not agree with as the public have enough time between 9 and half past one to reply to their correspondence, moreover with a daily post there cannot be any very great inconvenience.

From this time it was recorded annually in the Natal Almanac that this arrangement applied at the post offices of Pietermaritzburg and Durban. In 1857 the notice read:

A quarter of an hour after the times above specified for closing the Mails will be allowed for Late Letters, upon which there is a charge of 6d., in addition to the postage.

As late as 1883 the notice remained substantially unchanged:

A quarter of an hour is allowed for Late Letters, upon which there is a charge of 6d., to be affixed in stamps, in addition to the postage.

But in 1884 the regulations were substantially changed by Government Notice No. 484, of 27 December:

The following Regulations, sanctioned by His Excellency under Section 4 of the Post Office Law No. 22, 1884, are published for general information.

[Inter alia] *LATE LETTERS: Commencing from the 1st January 1885, the Postmaster-General may make arrangements for the acceptance at any Post Office, after the closing of the ordinary letter-box for any mail, and for transmission by such mail, of any letter or other postal article which may bear, in addition to the ordinary postage, a stamp or stamps of the value of 1d. as a "late fee".*

Thereafter the notice again disappears from the Natal Almanac and there is no evidence of the extent to which the country offices were allowed to charge according to this provision.

In summary, from 1854 to 1884 the late fee was sixpence and applied only at Pietermaritzburg and Durban. From 1 January 1885 the fee was one penny and, in principle, was allowed at the country offices.

Reference: NA/CSO (Natal Archives Depot, Colonial Secretary's Office).

Address for contributions

The Editor, The SA Philatelist, P O Box 13048, Norkempark, 1631.

Tel (011) 391-4139 (B), (011) 391-4645 (H). Fax: (011) 391-6785

E-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za

Contributions for publication should preferably be accompanied by a photograph of the author, together with some philatelic biographical details.

Ontsluiting van die FLEISCHACK- in die argief van die Potchefstroomse

Prof O C de Jager *(PU vir CHO, Potchefstroom)*
Dr H J G Kamffer *RDPSA, PhD (Geskiedenis)*

DIE ARGIEF van die Ferdinand Postma Biblioteek (FPB) van die Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO beskik oor die belangrike versameling van die Ossewa-Brandwag, asook die prokureurslêers van die eertydse kantore van Fleischack, Meyer & Meyer en van Meyer & Gaisfords. Hierdie versamelings is 'n paar dekades gelede aan die universiteit geskenk. In Desember 2001 is toestemming aan prof De Jager gegee om die filateliese belangrikheid van hierdie versamelings te ondersoek, met die Fleischack versameling as die oudste, wat terugdateer na 1860 in terme van aktes (toe A M Goetz, Fleischack se skoonvader, nog aktes in Potchefstroom opgestel het), maar na 1879 in terme van algemene dokumentasie. Die Goetz versameling (ook in die Ferdinand Postma Biblioteek) is egter nog nie ontsluit nie en die omvang daarvan ten tye van die skrywe van hierdie publikasie was nog onbekend.

Aangesien daar geen amptelike riglyne oor die hantering van so 'n versameling is nie, het die eerste outeur lede van die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika genader om met riglyne te help wanneer so 'n geskiedkundige argief ontsluit word. Die boodskap is duidelik dat daar in enige sodanige argief items kan wees wat 'n bydrae tot die geskiedenis van die land kan lewer. Sulke items moet verkieslik vir verdere bewaring in Nasionale Museums geïsoleer word. Bestuurslede van die Ferdinand Postma Biblioteek het derhalwe riglyne van die Filateliese Federasie aangevra en laasgenoemde het nou die taak om eenvormige riglyne vir die ontsluiting van argiewe by universiteite op te stel.

Die filatelis wat so 'n argief ontsluit, het dus die verantwoordelikheid om die filateliese kennis te ontgin, sonder om skade aan die geskiedkundige belangrikheid van die versameling te berokken. Tipies sal gevind word dat so 'n argief belangrike inligting vir historici, asook vir filateliste inhou en daar sal gevind word dat deeglike filateliese kennis ook tot waardetoevoeging vanuit 'n geskiedkundige perspektief tot gevolg het. Hierdie publikasie beskryf die prosedure gevolg deur die eerste outeur tydens die ontsluitingsproses, met leiding van die tweede outeur oor die belangrikheid van die versameling vir beide filatelie en geskiedenis.

Ontsluiting van die Fleischack-argief

Omtrent alle dokumentasie is in 2000+ lêers gerangskik, waar elke lêer 'n persoon of saak verteenwoordig. Verder is daar ook verskeie lêers wat diverse persoonlike dokumentasie van A R Fleischack bevat asook onderwerpe soos die transport van eiendom, boedels, siviele sake, waardasies van eiendomme, prospekteerkontrakte ens. Verder is daar diverse lêers wat algemene (interessante) dokumentasie bevat, wat belangrik vanuit 'n geskiedkundige oogpunt kan wees: 'n brief vanaf M W Pretorius aan S J P Kruger, die opgawe van Potchefstroomse Burgers (met redes) wat teen die 1890's na Suidwes-Afrika verhuis het, oorspronklike foto's van die vroeë opgrawings by Kimberley en die gebruik van verskeie swart arbeiders vir die doel, asook die reisverslag van Fernando da Costa Leal (1870) na Transvaal, sy besoek aan Potchefstroom, Pretoria (M W Pretorius en die Volksraad), New Scotland en Swaziland waarvan die doel onder meer was om 'n posroete tussen Lourenço Marques en die ZAR te implementeer. Dan is daar nog lêers wat korrespondensie met bekende persoonlikhede soos F W Reitz, M K Ghandi, Genl Beyers asook die Eerste Minister se kantoor (1910). Dokumentasie geteken deur persoonlikhede soos Isaac van Alphen, S J P Kruger, Dr W J Leyds, W E Bok, Regters Kotzé en Burgers is ook algemeen. Dan is daar verskeie kwitansies geteken deur krygsleiers vanuit Britse en Boeregeledere gedurende die ABO.

Die vorige bestuur van die Ferdinand Postma Biblioteek het die Fleischack-afdeling as volg gedokumenteer:

1. Dokumente:
1.1 Uitgaande korrespondensie
1.2 Korrespondensie aan Fleischack (bv J F Celliers, Pretoria)
1.3 Persoonlike dokumente (bv aanstellingsbriewe sedert 1879; sertifikate met inkomsteseëls onderteken deur S J P Kruger; kwitansies in verband met oorsese reise waarin die ontwikkeling van invoerbelasting gevolg kan word; getuienis in die Jameson Inval, 1896.)

2. Transportaktes (aktes sedert 24 Feb 1859 insluitend J P Borrius, J H de La Rey, P A Cronjé).

3. Verskillende kontrakte
3.1 Boukontrakte
3.2 Huurkontrakte
3.3 Vennootskappe
3.4 Verbandaktes
3.5 Kontrakte in verband met algemene sake

4. Huwelikskontrakte

5. Testamente

6. Boedels

7. Hofsake
7.1 Siviele en kriminele sake (bv Potchefstroom Stock Exchange Bpk vs Van der Hoff en J P Borrius; M K Gandhi vir Potchefstroom aangeleenthede).
7.2 Hooggeregshofsake (bv. NZASM vs Hoyer, Avent & Kernen)
7.3 Hof van die Spesiale Regskommissaris, Johannesburg
7.4 Diverse hofdokumente
7.5 Waterhof

8. Dokumente in verband met Potchefstroom

Lêers gemerk "kwitansies" is nie in hierdie indekseringsisteem opgeneem nie, maar is baie belangrik vanuit 'n filateliese oogpunt. Een so 'n lêer bevat die kwitansies van Fleischack se eerste vyf jaar in Suid-Afrika. Die inhoud daarvan is gesorteer in die nuwe lêer FPB-I en die inhoud daarvan sal in brëe trekke hieronder bespreek word.

Elke lêer in die Fleischack-versameling is vir filateliese inhoud ondersoek en daar is gevind dat ongeveer 20% van alle lêers items van belang binne die breë definisie van filatelie bevat. Met die sifting van die inligting word die filatelis voortdurend met die volgende keuse gekonfronteer: "*Indien ek hierdie item uithaal – verlaag ek die geskiedkundige potensiaal van die lêer, of bly die geskiedkundige inligting behoue, ten spyte van die verwydering van sekere items?*"

Soos wat die lêers ontgin is, het die riglyne mettertyd duideliker geword: 'n Koevert, telegram, registrasiebewys en sekere kwitansies, dra blykbaar nie tot die geskiedenis by nie, maar kan van onskatbare waarde vir verdere filateliese studie wees, terwyl 'n transportakte, kontrak of brief die kern van die verhaal kan uitmaak en mag dus nie uit die lêer verwyder word nie – nie alvorens meer gedetailleerde dokumentasie plaasvind nie.

Die teendeel is ook waar: Detail filateliese kennis en navorsing kan tot die ontdekking van sekere gebruike lei, wat dan

ABSTRACT *Many years ago, the files of the A R Fleischack Attorneys office (Potchefstroom) were donated to the Potchefstroom University for CHE, with the Ferdinand Postma Library of the PUCHE as the custodians. This collection contains letters, telegrams (from 1881) revenue-related documents, receipts and pre-stamp items in a few thousand files with contents dating between 1860 and 1960. Documentation of this archive started in December 2001 with the purpose of investigating its philatelic and historical importance. The documentation of philatelic items was made, while preserving the historical contents of the collection. Whereas the stamped Transvaal Republican covers must have been removed by stamp collectors as early as 1904, a significant collection of ZAR/Colonial/Union registration receipts (probably the largest collection of ZAR registration receipts and related documentation), official covers (mostly Colonial and Union), and Colonial/Union Returned Letter Office covers with letters to small post offices were found. The actual value in the collection is however in the vast collection of revenue-related documents with a section on the evolution of pre-stamp customs in the ZAR and aspects such as passes and passports during the South African War of 1899-1902 leading to an extensive collection of damage claims on both sides. Even though the highest values in the revenue section are absent (given the limited financial status of the clients in the Potchefstoom District), the continuity and completeness of this collection with respect to transactions performed should make a contribution towards philately in general, such as the discovery of scarce assize-type revenues during the Colonial era. Fleischack correspondence with a number of historical figures of importance is also present. A contribution by Isaac van Alphen, the Postmaster General of the ZAR is also present, but scattered amongst 10 000+ documents and letters. Evidence for the seat of the ZAR Government (in waiting) in Heidelberg just after the First Anglo-Boer War is also present in the Fleischack collection. Most interesting, however, is to see how so-called "unimportant" families may gain importance through social philately. At times the dividing line between philately and non-philately becomes thin in the Fleischack collection, but this is when we have to ask ourselves: What are the guidelines if we are to expand the boundaries of philately in general? It may be easy for the reader to comment on this statement, but it becomes difficult if confronted with the legacy of a notary/attorney who was keen to preserve decades of social and business documents. This article (in Afrikaans) gives a brief overview of the method used to extract the information from the collection, but subsequent papers specialising in certain philatelic aspects will be published in the near future in English (with a paper on the M K Gandhi – Fleischack correspondence the first to follow). The publication of a book on A R Fleischack with chapters on philately, but also general correspondence of importance, is also foreseen.*

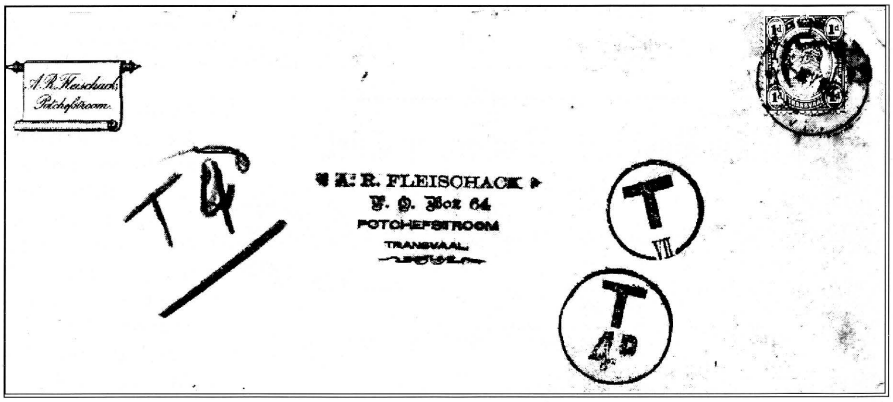
VERSAMELING

Universiteit vir CHO

weer 'n bydrae tot streeksgeskiedenis kan maak, sodat die identifikasie van filateliese materiaal ook essensieel kan wees. Ontginning van die Fleischack-versameling sal mettertyd aantoon dat filatelie as 'n belangrike hulpwetenskap vir genealogie asook sosiale en regsgeskiedenis kan wees.

Die filatelis wat die versameling ontsluit, moet dus bedag wees dat hy/sy vandalisme van verskeie vorme tydens die ontsluiting van die argief kan pleeg: Onoordeelkundige verwydering van items kan skade aan beide die geskiedkundige en filateliese inhoud berokken. Meer bepaald:

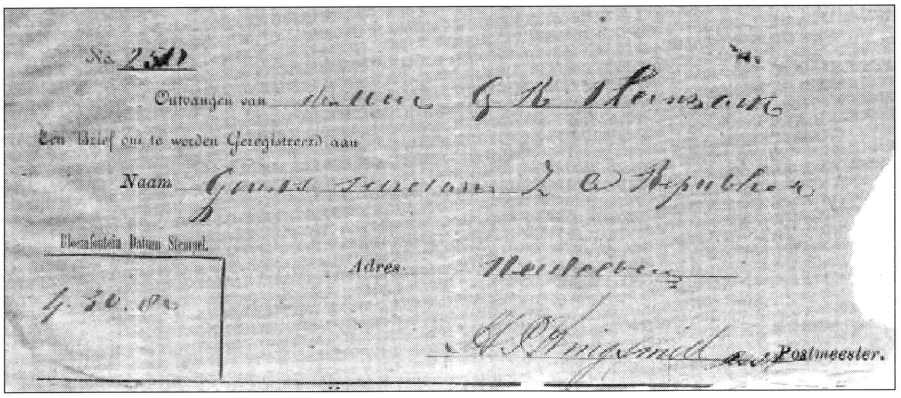
'n Koevert met 'n onduidelike posmerk kan uit 'n lêer verwyder word, sonder dat die poskantoor van herkoms se naam neergeskryf is, gegee die oorspronklike brief wat by die koevert was. Met 2000+ lêers is dit byna onmoontlik om rekonstruksie by nabaat te doen. **Figuur 1** wys 'n interessante boetekoevert wat betreklik vroeg tydens die ontsluitingsproses deur die eerste outeur uit 'n lêer verwyder is, sonder dat die naam van die poskantoor van oorsprong uit die oorspronklike lêer gekopieer is. Die posmerk kan nie gelees word nie, wat die filateliese waarde van die koevert verlaag, al bly die geskiedkundige waarde van die oorspronklike lêer onaangetas. Die boetemerk T-VII dui op 'n Krugersdorpse hersprong, maar die naam van die subposkantoor naby Krugersdorp is onleesbaar.



Figuur 1: Beboete koevert van 7 November 1903. Die posmerk kan nie gelees word nie, maar sou uit die oorspronklike leêr van Fleischack afgelei kon word, indien dokumentering volledig was. Boetemerke verteenwoordig T-VII (Krugersdorp met subposkantore) en T-4d vir 'n onderfrankering van 2d omdat die gewig van die item meer as 1 ons was.

Die Fleischack argief leen hom uitstekend tot sosiale filatelie en indien 'n item uit 'n lêer verwyder word sonder dat die betrokke lêer geïdentifiseer is, kan die verhaal van die item, asook ander filateliese items wat met dieselfde persoon/saak verband hou, nie meer bymekaar gebring word nie. Sulke items word dan tot uitstallings vir gewone posgeskiedenis, inkomsteseëls of aspoestertjies beperk, terwyl sosiale filatelie eintlik op 'n hoër vlak as hierdie ander velde van filatelie kan beweeg. Dit is so omdat 'n sosiale filatelieversameling reeds die kennis, kwaliteit en diepte van die ander gebiede moes bemeester het, terwyl die bindende faktor in hierdie geval die sosiale omgewing, sy mense en hul geskiedenis is. Dit is dan juis binne so 'n omgewing waar die evolusie van die filateliese proses plaasgevind het. Die oop klas gaan nog 'n trappie verder deurdat die uitstaller kan konsentreer op geskiedkundige materiaal sonder om dit met posverwante items te kombineer.

Hierdie definisies gee aanleiding tot verdere riglyne: Wanneer 'n lêer dokumente rondom 'n bekende persoon of saak bevat, is dit beter om geen koeverte, kwitansies of koeverte te verwyder nie (bv. in die geval van Gandhi, Reitz, of regter Kotzé van Pretoria), en die oorspronklike lêer moet as 'n geheel binne sosiale



Figuur 2: Perskleurige registrasiebewys (manuskrip gemerk "4.30.80" in plaas 4.30.81) vanaf Bloemfontein na die "Gouvernements Secretaris" van die ZAR, Heidelberg. Die ZAR Regering was direk na die Eerste Vryheidsoorlog in Heidelberg gesetel. (#11).

filatelie of selfs binne die oop klas bestudeer word. Dit sluit ook lêers van onbekende families/sake in, indien sulke lêers 'n groot verskeidenheid filateliese materiaal bevat, wat op sy eie 'n aparte onderwerp binne een van hierdie klasse regverdig. In laasgenoemde geval word die geskiedenis van 'n onbekende familie/saak deur middel van filatelie belig.

Nuwe lêers FPB-I tot -V is uit onafhanklike items van filateliese belang saamgestel, terwyl die filateliese items binne 'n meer omvattende konteks binnein hul oorspronklike leêrs gelos is soos reeds bespreek. Sulke lêers sal as volledige eenhede ontsluit, nagevors en gepubliseer word, maar alle lêers bly in die besit van die Ferdinand Postma Biblioteek.

Fleischack het tipies amptelike koeverte oopgesny sodat die agterkante as jurielyste, finansiële state en rofwerk gebruik kon word. Hierdie items is opgestapel in "diverse" lêers. Die filateliese belangrikheid van die amptelike koeverte weeg egter swaar en sulke items kon met gemak verwyder, gedokumenteer en geliasseer word as deel van die reeks FPB-n (met n=I, II, III, IV en V). Hierdie koeverte behoort nuwe lig op die gebruik van offisiële stempels te werp.

Die volgende afdeling gee 'n bondige beskrywing van die inhoud van een so 'n lêer (FPB-I): In hul oorspronklike vorm was die inhoud ("kwitansies", soos gemerk deur die vorige bestuur van die FPB) moontlik deur Fleischack self aanmekaar vasgeplak (sykante is geplak met kleefband). Dit is losgewas en chronologies in lêer FPB-I gerangskik. Hieruit ontvou die verhaal van A R Fleischack se eerste vyf jaar in Suid-Afrika (1879 tot 1883) met indrukwekkende filateliese items.

A R Fleischack se eerste vyf jaar in Suid-Afrika (1879-1883)

Die eerste vyf jaar van Fleischack se geskiedenis kan vanuit die 179 kwitansies in lêer FPB-I afgelei word: Arnold Reinhardt Fleischack is in 1860 in Duitsland gebore en in Junie 1879 het hy met die Royal Mail Steamer *Pretoria* in die Kaap aangekom (item #2, FPB - I). Tydens die Eerste Anglo-Boereoorlog het hy in Port Elizabeth gebly, maar poswa-kaartjies (#3 en #4) toon dat hy heelwat rondgery het. Hy het op 1 Oktober 1879 na Smithfield verhuis (#7), en het stelselmatig sy besittings vanaf Port Elizabeth na Smithfield, en daarna na Bloemfontein laat vervoer (betaalde goedere vragbriewe #9 en #10). Hy het vir maande in die Phoenix Hotel in Bloemfontein gebly (#19, #20, #21, #24), maar was welaf sodat hy 'n groot gedeelte van sy huisraad vanaf C E Shertel (Bloemfontein, #14) met een transaksie kon aanskaf (later blyk dit dat hy wel geld geleen het, maar hy was stiptelik met terugbetaling: #118).

Sy oë was gerig op die ZAR wat pas die Eerste Anglo-Boereoorlog (1880 tot 1881) teen Engeland gewen het. Die registrasiebewys in **Figuur 2**, op 30 April 1880 gestuur (skryffout – dit moes "1881" gelees het) na die *Gouvernements Secretaris der ZAR, Heidelberg*, lui die begin van sy loopbaan in die ZAR in.

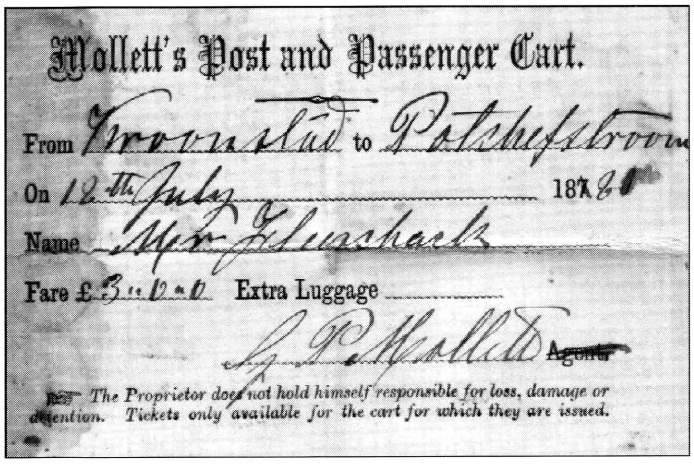
Twee ander perskleurige registrasiebewyse van Bloemfontein (Mei en Junie 1881, #27 en #31) het behoue gebly. Hy het in 1881 'n delwerslisensie vir Olifantsfontein uitgeneem (#32). Sy liefde vir diamantdelwerye het tot die ontdekking van 'n "ASSIZE" tipe gebruik van inkomsteseëls vir edelgesteentes gelei, wat in 'n toekomstige publikasie behandel sal word. **Figuur 3** toon sy eerste lisensie.

Hy het noordwaarts begin trek en het met "Mollet's Post & Passenger Cart" in Julie 1881 in Potchefstroom aangekom (**Figuur 4**). Na 'n paar dae se verblyf in Potchefstroom het Fleischack na Pretoria beweeg, en op 11 Augustus 1881 het hy 'n telegram aan President Brand gestuur (**Figuur 5**).

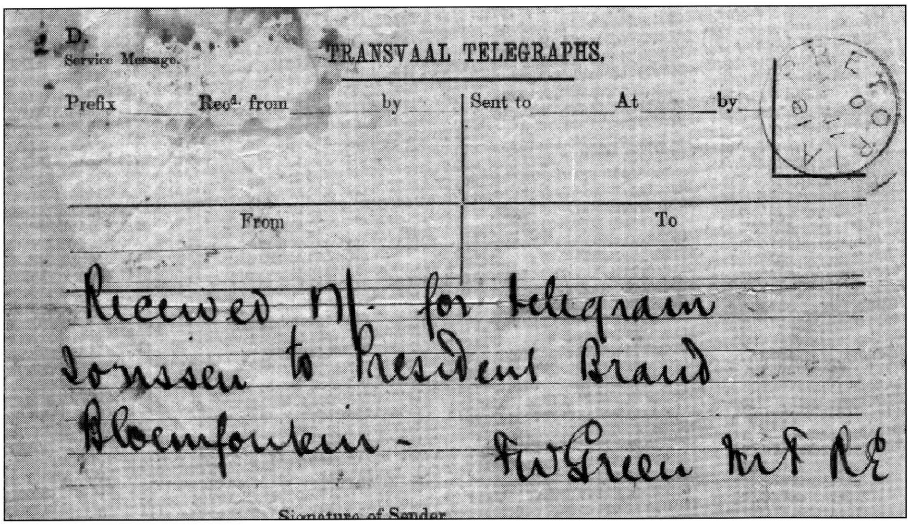
Hierna het Fleischack op Potchefstroom begin konsentreer en sy goedere is vanaf Bloemfontein en Pretoria na Potchefstroom vervoer soos gesien uit verskeie vragbriewe (#42 & #44). In Potchefstroom het sy pad met dié van Isaac van Alphen, wat toe nog die Posmeester van Potchefstroom was, gekruis:



Figuur 3: Fleischack se lisensie om diamante by die Olifantsfontein Delwery (OVS) te kon delf. Tarief, 10/- per maand (#32).



Figuur 4: Posroete tussen Kroonstad en Potchefstroom is teen 1881 deur Mollett's Post and Passenger Cart bedryf. Fleischack se vervoer vanaf Kroonstad na Potchefstroom het £3 gekos (#38).


D.
Service Message.
TRANSVAAL TELEGRAPHS.
Prefix Rec^d. from by Sent to At by
From To
Received m/. for telegram
Sonssen to President Brand
Bloemfontein - fwd Greenwich
Signature of Sender

Figuur 5: Kwitansie vir 'n telegram wat gestuur is: "TRANSVAAL TELEGRAPHS", op 11 Augustus 1881 vanaf Pretoria na President Brand, Bloemfontein, gestuur. Tarief: 11/-. (#41).

Figuur 6 toon 'n registrasiebewys, "FORM D", wat gedurende die Eerste Britse Besetting vir Transvaal gedruk is. Fleischack se deeglikheid het gelei tot die bewaring van verskeie registrasiebewyse van die ZAR, waarvan die meeste vroeëre items deur van Alphen onderteken is – ons kan selfs sien wanneer van Alphen op verlof was! Die totale inhoud van die registrasiebewyse in die Fleischack-versameling sal in die Transvaal Philatelist gepubliseer word.

Fleischack het gereeld na Pretoria gereis, waar hy teen 1882 eksamens geskryf het om tot prokureur in die ZAR toegelaat te word (die vraestelle, wat deur Burgers opgestel is, asook die antwoordstelle, het bewaar gebly!) 'n Publikasie oor die dokumente (transportaktes, sertifikate ens. met inkomsteseëls) in sy kantoor sal elders gepubliseer word. **Figuur 7** toon 'n foto wat hy van homself deur H F Gros (fotograaf en kunstenaar van Pretoria) teen 1882 laat neem het.

Fleischack het die aanstelling as landdrosklerk in Potchefstroom teen 1882 ontvang en hy moes self vir die huur van sy kantoor betaal het. Die meeste van hierdie kwitansies het bewaar gebly soos gelys in FPB-I, wat die tydperk 1882 tot 1883 dek. Die koste was 10/- per maand. Op 21 Maart 1883 het Fleischack weer op reis na Pretoria vertrek, en het hy vir Isaac van Alphen gevra om namens hom as landdrosklerk waar te neem: Item #123 is die kwitansie waar Fleischack £7-3/4 aan Van Alphen vir twee weke se waarneming as landdrosklerk betaal het. Dit is dus duidelik dat die pos van posmeester nogal veelsydig was – verder het Van Alphen ook doeanegelde ingevorder, soos dit blyk uit die primitiewe voorbeeld in **Figuur 8**.

Die noue verbintenis tussen die Poskantoor en Doeanekantoor is duidelik te sien uit die volgende ontdekking van 'n nuwe Potchefstroom-stempel: Op 'n telegram van 1890 sien ons 'n eenlynstempel vir Potchefstroom in sierskrif (ongedokumenteer deur Putzel en Visser) **(figuur 9)**.

Hierdie posstempel is ook op 'n tweede telegram van 14 Maart 1890 gesien (F-4, FPB-III), maar is reeds teen 23 Oktober 1890 deur 'n groter stempel van Potchefstroom (Romeinse skrif) vervang (F-5, FPB-III). Wat het van die sierstempel geword? C M Douthwaite (wat teen 1890 die veldkornet van Potchefstroom Kommando was, #90, FPB-I), het in 1890 ook as doeanebeampte vir Potchefstroom opgetree, waar hierdie sierstempel weer gebruik is (**Figuur 10**). Dit is dus duidelik dat die doeanekantoor die posstempel oorgeneem het! Uit Fleischack se kwitansies kan ons aflei hoe die evolusieproses van invoerbelasting verloop het en die ontwikkeling van hierdie voorseël stadium sal in 'n aparte publikasie behandel word.

Teen Augustus 1883 het J P Ferreira die "Kimberley Passenger and Mail Service" reeds by Erasmus oorgeneem (#167, FPB-I) en Fleischack het met hierdie diens via Pretoria na M W Stroom vertrek, waar hy vir ongeveer vyf maande vertoef het. Ook hier het hy van die posdiens gebruik gemaak: FORM D van die Eerste Britse Besetting het na die Republikeinse VORM D (groot formaat) verander en in die Fleischack-versameling sien ons dat die Britse FORM D so laat as 9 Desember 1882 (#105, FPB-I) in gebruik was, terwyl die eerste gebruik van die groot Republikeinse formaat reeds teen 13 Maart 1883 (#117, FPB-I) plaasgevind het. VORM D is ook deur Fleischack op 25 September 1883 in M W Stroom gebruik, soos gesien in **Figuur 11**. Daar is onder meer 'n aparte lêer in die Fleischack-versameling wat M W Stroom hofsake van 1883 bevat.

Inventaris van filateliese en semi-filateliese items

Die inventaris van die Fleischack-versameling moet gesien word in die lig van moderne bewegings in die filatelie. Laasgenoemde bestaan uit die volgende velde:

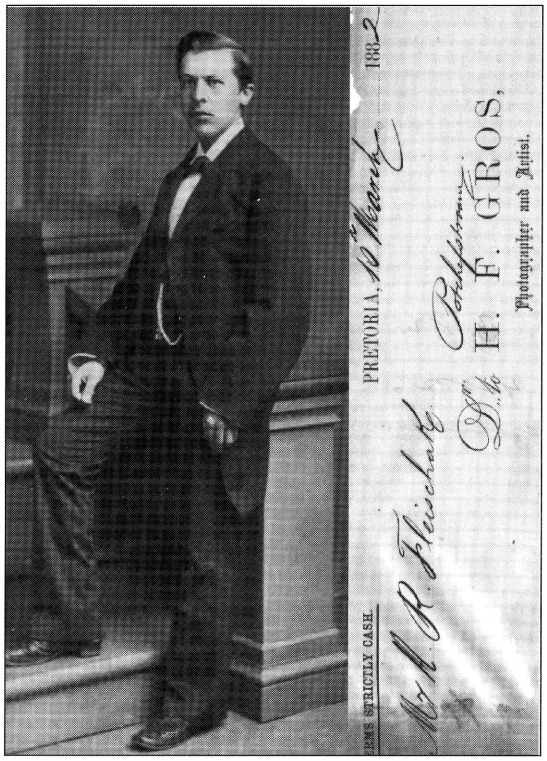
a. Tradisionele filatelie – posseëls,
b. Posgeskiedenis,
c. Inkomsteseëls,
d. Tematiese versamelings,
e. Sosiale versamelings,
f. Poskaarte,
g. Aspoestertjies, en die
h. Oop klas.

Let op dat die ouderdom en wye verskeidenheid van items in die Fleischack-versameling veroorsaak dat die grense tussen die verskeie velde in die filatelie plek-plek vervaag omdat daar primitiewe voorseël-items is wat deel van 'n evolusieproses vorm, totdat meer onderskeibare velde geïdentifiseer kan word.

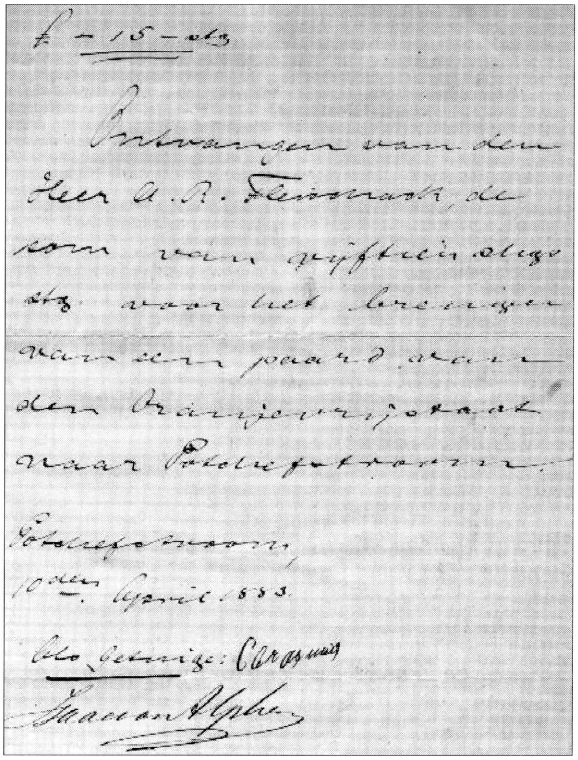
Die volgende items is met die eerste ontsluiting van die Fleischack-versameling geïdentifiseer: Die spoed waarmee daar


No. 159
FORM D.
POSTAL SERVICE, TRANSVAAL.
RECEIVED from Mr. A P Fleischack
Postmaster
a Registered Letter addressed to
Mr. P. Jaans Post Office Christiana
Postmaster.
POTCHEFSTROOM NOV 21 81 TRANSVAAL

Figuur 6: Bewys van registrasie van 'n brief, onderteken deur die posmeester Isaac van Alphen, wat op 21 November 1881 vanaf Potchefstroom na Christiana (ZAR) gestuur is. FORM D wat tydens die Eerste Britse Besetting gebruik is, is tydens die vroeë Tweede Republiek-tydperk ook gebruik (#46).



Figuur 7: Foto van 'n jeugdige Fleischack wat hy van homself teen 1882 deur H F Gros van Pretoria laat neem het. Volgens die meegaande kwitansie vanaf Gros, word Fleischack se adres teen hierdie tyd as "Potchefstroom" aangedui (56).



Figuur 8: Voorloper van doeane belasting: Fleischack het 'n perd van Kroonstad na Potchefstroom ingebring en op 10 April 1883 het hy 15/- invoerbelasting aan Isaac van Alphen betaal (FPB-V).

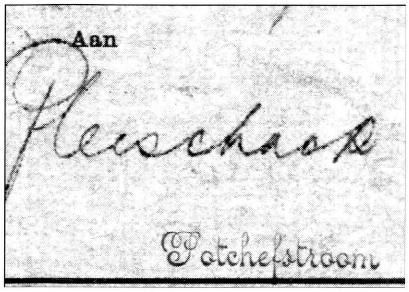
deurgegaan is, kon veroorsaak het dat ander belangrike items oor die hoof gesien is, sodat hersiening noodsaaklik is. Sowat 20% van die Meyer & Meyer- en die Meyer & Gaisfords-versamelings is deurgegaan, maar omdat Izak Meyer eers teen die einde van die Koloniale tydperk begin praktiseer het, is sy materiaal meer "modern", gegee dat die periode vir "moderne" inkomsteseëls eers in 1914 volgens FIP regulasies begin. Die volgende items is in die lêers FPB-I, -II, -III, -IV en -V gesorteer:

Posgeskiedenis:

1. Vrystaatse registrasiebewyse (1880 – 1881): 3
2. ZAR: registrasiebewyse (1881 – 1899): 38 (registrasiebewyse ná 1902 het tipies bewaar gebly maar word nie getel nie).
3. ZAR: kennisgewing vir die afhaal van 'n geregistreerde brief (1887 – 1889): 3
4. ZAR: bewys van huur van 'n posbus (1896 – 1898): 3
5. ZAR: kennisgewing vir die afhaal van 'n beboete brief: 1
6. *Avis de Reception* vorms/kaarte (1919 – 1960): 6.
7. Amptelike koeverte met ovaalstempels vir die betrokke departement (1896 – 1940): 70
8. Amptelike registrasie met ovaalstempels vir die betrokke departement: 6.
9. Boetekoeverte (1903 – 1945): 5.
10. "PAID" koeverte: 8.
11. Koeverte met skaars posmerke: 10.
12. Onafgelewerde briewe (ingeslote registrasie) met hul inhoud (1903 – 1930): 64.
13. Telegramme, telegramkoeverte, onafgelewerde telegramme, "cablegram" (1881 tot 1920's): 40+ (nie almal is getel nie).

Inkomsteseëls:

Die aantal dokumente met inkomsteseëls is nog nie getel nie. Volgens 'n ruwe skatting moet daar meer as 1 000 transportaktes en nog baie meer dokumente met inkomsteseëls daarop wees. Die dokumente dek die tydperk 1860 (voorseël-periode) tot en met 1963. Meer bepaald is die volgende tydperke se dokumente opgemerk: Eerste Republiek (voorseël asook die filateliese tydperk wat in 1875 begin het), Eerste Britse Besetting, Tweede Republiek, maar die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog (ABO) se VRI oordrukke is daar weinig van, aangesien Fleischack in daardie stadium in Johannesburg was terwyl sy aktebesigheid in Potchefstroom gesetel was en hierdie versameling slegs sy Potchefstroom-transaksies bevat. Gedetailleerde persoonlike dokumentasie rondom die ABO het wel bewaar gebly.



Figuur 9: Eenlyn- Potchefstroom stempel, 29 mm (F-3, FPB-III) op 'n telegram van 28 Januarie 1890.

Fleischack se professionele koloniale tydperk begin teen 30 Julie 1902, en loop dan deur tot in die interprovinsiale tydperk van 1911 tot 1913. Sy Unie-reeks begin by September 1913 en loop deur tot by die vroeë Republiek-tydperk rondom 1963 toe sy opvolgers die kantoor bedryf het.

Dit blyk of daar geen skaarste aan inkomsteseëls was nie, hoewel posseëls met sigwaarde so hoog as 1/- op verskeie dokumente gevind is. Hoogste waarde inkomsteseëls is tipies afwesig, aangesien die eiendomme se koopwaardes betreklik laag (in vergelyking met Barney Barnato se koopprys) was, maar tog lê die waarde van die versameling in die groot verskeidenheid van transaksies wat gehanteer is, sodat die versameling diepte aan enige studie verleen. Die moeite is gedoen om die aantal dokumente met inkomsteseëls, wat met BOETE/PENALTY oordruk is, te tel: 6+ sulke items is tussen 1910 en 1960 gevind (F1-6, FPB-II)!

Dit is veral die lêers wat as "Siviele Sake" gemerk is, wat 'n nuwe bydra tot die gebruik van inkomsteseëls op dokumente kan lewer, weer eens as gevolg van die groot verskeidenheid van items. Benewens die inkomstedokumente is die volgende interessante items gevind waar die inkomste na die staat gegaan het, en dus onder "inkomsteseëls" ressorteer. Van hierdie items kan ook as aspoestertjies beskou word, maar die belangrike inligting hierop is die amptelike kantoorstempels wat gebruik is.

1. ZAR invoerbelasting plus vragbriewe (waybills) asook korrespondensie en sosiale prosedures vir invoer (tydperk


Invoerregten Kwitantie.

No. 213

Naam van A.R. Fleischack

Beschrijving van de Artikelen

goederen ter waarde van £200.

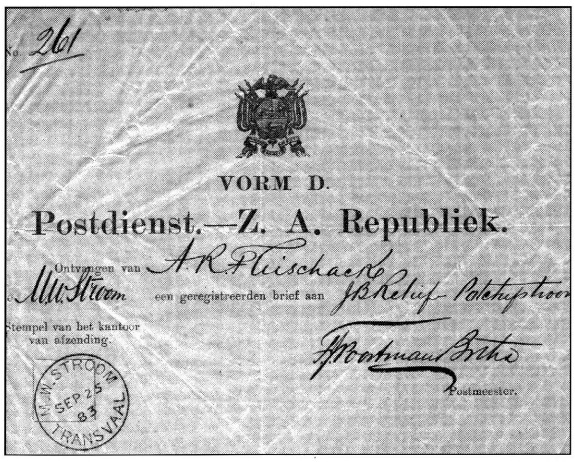
Totaal bedrag £ —. 4.

Naam van den Collecteur.

Potchefstroom

Datum 30/7/80

Figuur 10: ***Invoerregten kwitantie*** *van 30 Julie 1890, onderteken deur C M Douthwaite, gestempel met die 29 mm sierskrif-telegraafstempel van Potchefstroom (FPB-V).*


No. 261

VORM D.

Postdienst.—Z. A. Republiek.

Ontvangen van A.R. Fleischack

M.W. Stroom een geregistreerden brief aan J.B. Relief Potchefstroom

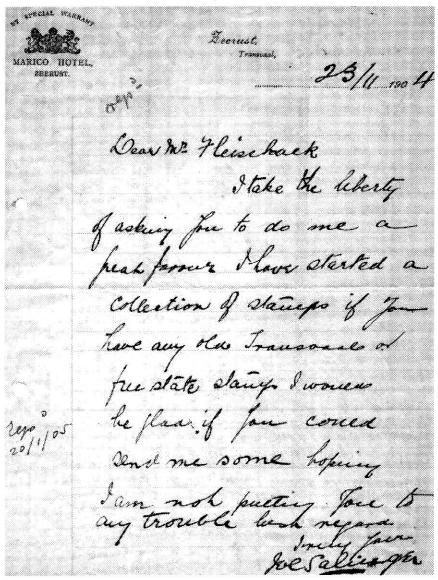
Stempel van het kantoor van afzending.

M.W. STROOM SEP 25 83 TRANSVAAL

Postmeester.

Figuur 11: Registrasiebewys van 25 Sept 1883 vanaf M W Stroom na Potchefstroom. Hierdie formaat verteenwoordig die eerste Republikeinse tipe direk ná die Eerste Britse Besetting (#171, FPB-I).

1883 tot 1897): 200+
2. ZAR paspoorte en permitte (ABO): 7
3. ZAR handelslisensies (ABO): 3
4. ZAR passe vir gekleurdes (1897): 2.
5. ZAR Regering se amptelike poswavervoerkaartjies (1889-1891): 5
6. ZAR hondelisensies (1891 – hergebruik deur die Britse Repatriation Commission): 1
7. ZAR hondelisensies (ABO): 4
8. Britse passe vir gekleurdes (ABO): 6
9. Britse passe vir blankes (ABO): 3
10. Britse persoonlike belastingskwitansies (ABO): 3
11. Britse "Railway Permit for Civilians" (ABO) 1.
12. Britse "Riding and Driving Pass" (ABO): 2
13. Britse handelslisensies (30 Julie 1902 – magtiging vir Fleischack om voort te gaan in vier ampte): 4
14. ZAR en Britse gevegsmag-kwitansies (ABO) vir Repatriasie-kommissie-eise plus verwante regsdokumente rondom hierdie kwitansies: 200+
15. Britse fietslisensie (Koloniaal): 1
16. Britse "Native Pass" (Koloniaal 1902): 4
17. Prospekteerlisensies (Koloniaal): 14
18. Tjeks met inkomsteseëls (1886 tot 1903): 20+
19. Kwitansies (1879 tot 1960): 1000+


MARICO HOTEL, ZEERUST.

Zeerust, Transvaal.

23/11 1904

Dear Mr Fleischack

I take the liberty of asking you to do me a great favour I have started a collection of stamps if you have any the Transvaal or free state stamps I would like please if you could send me some hoping I am not putting you to any trouble with regard

Yours truly

Joe Salinger

Figuur 12: Joe Salinger van Zeerust vra op 23 November 1904 na Transvaalse en Vrystaatse posseëls.

Aspoestertjies:

1. Kaap, Vrystaat en ZAR: Poswa-vervoerkaartjies uitgereik deur kontrakteurs vir posvervoer (1879 – 1883): 10

Die definisie van aspoestertjies is nog vaag en bogenoemde is gelys omdat die geld deur kontrakteurs en nie deur die regering ingevorder is nie.

Waar is Republikeinse koeverte?

Indien Fleischack alle koeverte bewaar het, sou sy hele kantoor dubbeld die volume papier en vloerspasie moes hanteer. Daar is omtrent 10 000+ briewe in die hele versameling, wat elkeen in 'n koevert was. Met die ontsluiting in Desember 2001 is daar egter geen gefrankeerde Republikeinse (ZAR) koeverte gevind nie. Beide outeurs het al in die verlede Fleischack-koeverte gehanteer en elke versamelaar van Transvaalse posgeskiedenis is bewus van die naam Fleischack, of is reeds vir dekades in besit van Fleischack-items, en dit is bekend dat Fleischack-koeverte reeds 'n belangrike bydrae tot ons kennis van die poswese van die ZAR bygedra het. Die volgende brief tussen Fleischack se persoonlike dokumente werp verder lig op hierdie saak:

So vroeg as 1904 het filateliste reeds hul aandag op Fleischack toegespits en in daardie stadium het nog net tradisionele filatelie bestaan (punt (a) onder Afdeling 4), sodat slegs die posseël en nie die koevert nie, as belangrik geag is. Die gevolg is dat duisende koeverte vernietig is, terwyl die meestal waardelose posseëls afgewas is. In 'n brief vanaf Zeerust vra 'n versamelaar na Republikeinse posseëls:

Gevolgtrekking

Terwyl die grootste gewig van die Fleischack-versameling in die inkomsteseël-afdeling gesetel is, maak die oorblywende posgeskiedenis-items 'n belangrike bydrae tot filatelie in die algemeen. Terwyl die hoogste waarde seëls afwesig was (weens die afwesigheid van kliënte soos Barney Barnato), lewer die groot verskeidenheid en kontinuïteit van items 'n belangrike bydrae tot posgeskiedenis, inkomsteseëls, sosiale filatelie, en aspoestertjies. Verder was daar ook korrespondensie met bekende persoonlikhede.

In posgeskiedenis kan ons begin kyk na frekwensies van gebruik, die identifikasiestempels van verskeie staats- en semistaatsinstellings, die hantering van onafgelewerde briewe, terwyl registrasiebewyse ook kan lei tot die identifikasie van geregistreerde Transvaalse Republikeinse Fleischack-items wat reeds in versamelaarshande is.

Verder word daar 'n nuwe bydrae tot die gebruik van koloniale "Assize" tipe inkomsteseëls gelewer, maar die grootste bydrae is moontlik kultuurhistories vanuit 'n sosiale filatelie oogpunt, omdat die verhaal van 'n erf/plaas en die mense wat daarmee geassosieer is, oor verskeie geslagte voortgesit word. Op hierdie manier word inkomsteseëls sterk by sosiale filatelie betrek, sodat streeksgeskiedenis tot sy reg kan kom.

'n Reeks spesialispublikasies word voortaan in Engels in *The Transvaal Philatelist, The Post Office Stone* en *The SA Philatelist* gepubliseer, met die eerste hiervan die Gandhi-Fleischack-korrespondensie in hierdie uitgawe. 'n Samevattende boek kan moontlik die lig sien.

• *Prof De Jager bedank graag die personeel van die Ferninand Postma Biblioteek vir die toegang tot die Fleischack-versameling en die voorreg om te kan voortgaan met die dokumentering daarvan. Lappe Laubscher word ook bedank vir sy insette.*

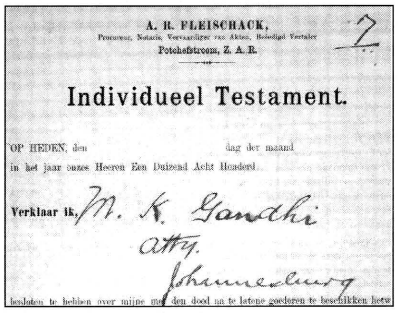
The Fleischack Collection of the PUCHE – 1

The M K Gandhi–Fleischack correspondence (1903-1906)

Prof O C de Jager *Potchefstroom University for CHE*

FOLLOWING the visit of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi to India in 1901/1902, he settled in Johannesburg on 1 January 1903 and opened his own attorney's office in this city. Whereas his political activities are well known (2), less is known about his duties as an attorney in civil cases, which is of interest from a philatelic (revenue) viewpoint. It is not known if Gandhi and A R Fleischack of Potchefstroom (1) knew each other before 1903, but Gandhi selected Fleischack to assist him in a number of legal cases between 1903 and 1906 while Gandhi was still actively involved in legal cases of clients.

A.R. Fleischack opened a file for correspondence from M K Gandhi using ZAR stationery (**Figure 1**) and a number of cases are found among 42 documents and letters from Gandhi's office to Potchefstroom.


A. R. FLEISCHACK,
Potchefstroom, Z. A. R.

Individueel Testament.

OP HEDEN, den dag der maand
in het jaar onzes Heeren Een Duizend Acht Honderd

Verklaar ik, M. K. Gandhi
atty.
Johannesburg

Figure 1: Fleischack used his Republican stationery to open a file for M K Gandhi.

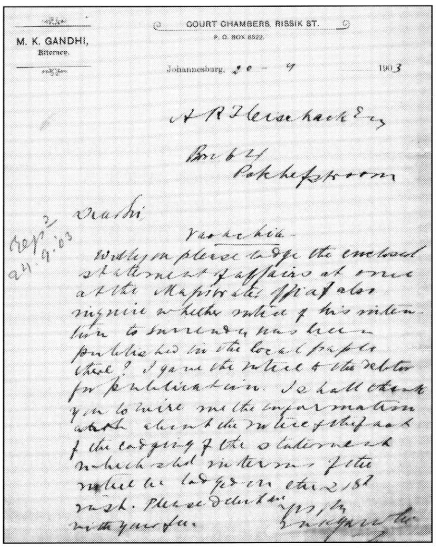
Before we discuss the contents, we first identify a distinctive feature in Gandhi's handwriting: Ninety years after this correspondence, the South African Philatelic Services issued two Gandhi stamps on 2 October 1995, showing the signature of Ghandi (**Figure 2**). The shape of the "d" with the curl at the top is distinctive and is seen in the documents bearing his handwriting. Since this is a philatelic paper, we do not give the details of the legal proceedings, but rather concentrate on philatelic content.



Figure 2: SACC #914 & 915 showing Gandhi's signature.

Case 1: Insolvent estate Hassan Moosa Varachia

On 12 September 1903, M K Gandhi assisted H M Varachia of Potchefstroom with the compilation of a list of creditors in Johannesburg, Potchefstroom, Heilbron, and Bank Station, written by Gandhi, but signed by Varachia in the presence of C Brand, Justice of the Peace in Johannesburg. On 20 September 1903, Gandhi wrote a letter on the state of affairs of Varachia and instructed Fleischack to file the case with the magistrate (**Figure 3**). Fleischack replied on 24 September after which a series of letters, telegrams, cheques and documents were exchanged which includes a claim by M G Patel against Varachia. The former appointed the well-known L W Ritch (Gandhi's partner) to be his proxy.


M. K. GANDHI,
Attorney.
COURT CHAMBERS, RISSIK ST.
P. O. BOX 8522.
Johannesburg, 20 – 9 1903

A R Fleischack Esq
Box 24
Potchefstroom

Varachia

Dear Sir,
Kindly please lodge the enclosed statement of affairs at once at the Magistrate's Office also inquire whether notice of this intention to surrender has been published in the local papers there? If yes the date & the name for publication. You shall oblige me to write me the information which I want the notice of this and of the lodging of the statement which will determine if the matter is to be proceeded with or not. Please do this matter with your usual

Figure 3: Letter from Gandhi to Fleischack dated 20 September 1903.

Fleischack also sent Gandhi a cheque on 17 May 1904 on account of Varachia and others, for which Gandhi returned a receipt dated 18 May 1904 with a 1d Transvaal postage stamp cancelled M K Gandhi in manuscript (**Figure 4**).

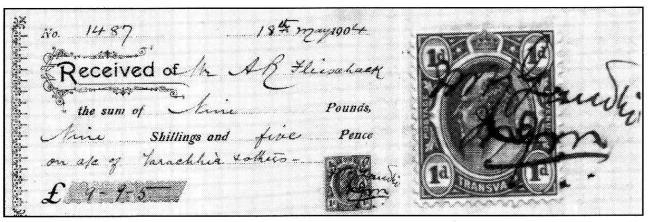

No. 1487 18 May 1904
Received of Mr A R Fleischack
the sum of Nine Pounds,
Nine Shillings and five Pence
on a/c of Varachia & others
£9-9-5
1d TRANSVAAL 1d

Figure 4: Receipt for money received from Fleischack on account of Varachia and others. Transvaal 1d postage/revenue cancelled M.K. Gandhi.

Case 2: Bhugwan vs Moosa

This case shows that there was also a law agent from Ventersdorp involved since Gandhi enquired on 7 October 1903 about the name of this agent. Fleischack replied

OPSOMMING *Die Fleischack-versameling (1) bewys dat M K Gandhi tussen 1903 en 1906 as prokureur in regsaangeleenthede namens lede van die Indiërgemeenskap van die distrik Potchefstroom opgetree het. Gandhi het die hulp van A R Fleischack, prokureur van Potchefstroom, ingeroep en in sommige gevalle het Gandhi ook vir Fleischack as sy plaasvervanger in the Potchefstroomse Hof genomineer. Die Gandhi-dokumente bevat geen dokumente van historiese belang nie, maar verteenwoordig die tipiese korrespondensie tussen twee prokureurs. Hierdie artikel toon Gandhi se gebruik van inkomsteseëls op dokumente kragtens Wet No 12 van 1899, asook 'n telegram na Potchefstroom kort nadat Gandhi sy kantoor in Johannesburg geopen het.*



M. K. GANDHI
Attorney.

25 & 26 COURT CHAMBERS, RISSIK STREET,
(ENTRANCE ANDERSON STREET)
P.O. Box 6522.

Johannesburg, 9th October, 1903

TRANSVAAL TELEGRAPHS.

CA No. of Message 8

An Inland Telegram can be repeated if its accuracy be doubted, on the Receiver's depositing a sum (to be refunded in case of error) equal to one half the amount originally paid for its transmission. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Cablegrams. When the cost of a reply to a Telegram has been prepaid, and the number of words in the reply is in excess of the number so paid for, the Sender of the reply must pay for such excess.

N.B.—This Form should accompany any enquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay £ s. d.

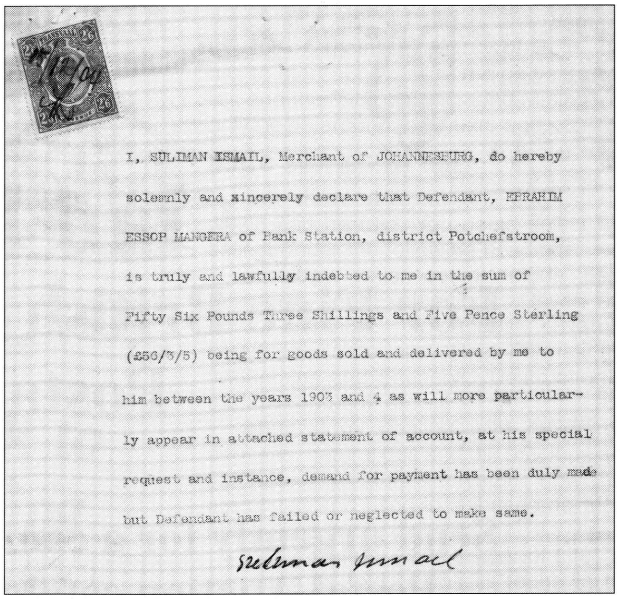
Handed in at the Joburg Office at 5 M. Received here at M.

FROM Gandhi

TO Fleischack

Bhagwan & Moosa please do not proceed

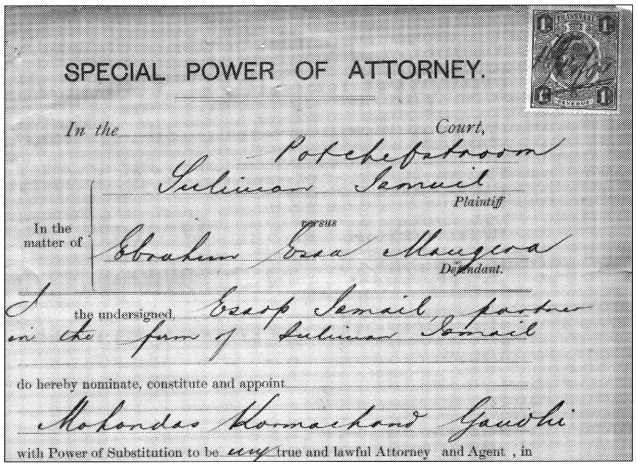
Figure 5: Gandhi to Potchefstroom: Letter dated 9 October 1903 and telegram dated 12 October showing Potchefstroom strike #8 of Putzel & Visser.



I, SULIMAN ISMAIL, Merchant of JOHANNESBURG, do hereby solemnly and sincerely declare that Defendant, EBRAHIM ESSOP MANGERA of Bank Station, district Potchefstroom, is truly and lawfully indebted to me in the sum of Fifty Six Pounds Three Shillings and Five Pence Sterling (£56/3/5) being for goods sold and delivered by me to him between the years 1903 and 4 as will more particularly appear in attached statement of account, at his special request and instance, demand for payment has been duly made but Defendant has failed or neglected to make same.

Suliman Ismail

Figure 6: Sworn declaration by S Ismail in the presence of the Justice of Peace with Transvaal 2/6 stamp duty.



SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY.

In the Court, Potchefstroom

Suliman Ismail Plaintiff

versus

In the matter of Ebrahim Essa Mangera Defendant.

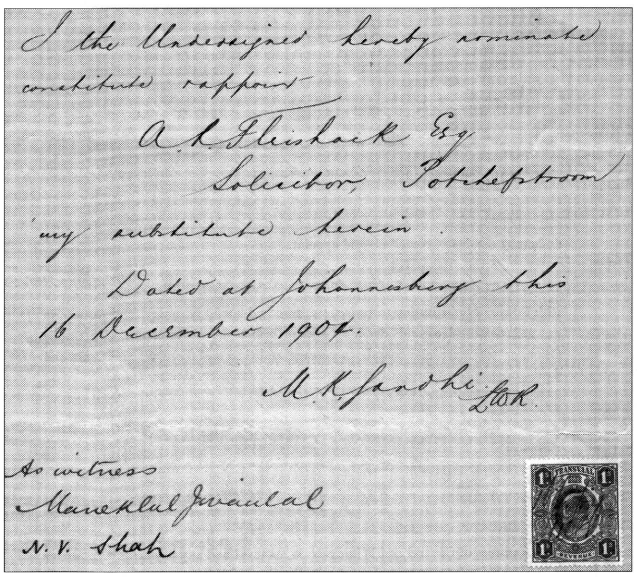
I the undersigned, Essop Ismail, partner in the firm of Suliman Ismail

do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint

Mohandas Karmachand Gandhi

with Power of Substitution to be my true and lawful Attorney and Agent, in

Figure 7: Appointment of M K Gandhi as Ismail's attorney (top section of document). Transvaal 1/- adhesive cancelled 16/12/04.



I the Undersigned hereby nominate constitute rappoint

A. R. Fleischack Esq
Solicitor, Potchefstroom

my substitute herein.

Dated at Johannesburg this 16 December 1904.

M. K. Gandhi LWR

As witness
Maneklal Jivanlal
N. V. Shah

Figure 8: M K Gandhi nominates A R Fleischack as his substitute in the Potchefstroom Court. Transvaal 1/- cancelled "16/12/04 MK". "LWR" refers to L W Ritch, Gandhi's partner.

on 8 October, and on 9 October Gandhi sent Fleischack a sworn statement and ordered Fleischack to issue summons from Potchefstroom. However, on 12 October Gandhi sent a telegram to Fleischack not to issue summons, as shown in **Figure 5**. Fleischack replied on the same day.

Case 3: Ismail vs Mangera

On 15 December 1904, Suliman Ismail from Johannesburg declared before the Justice of Peace (Johannesburg) that Ebrahim Essop Mangera of Bank Station, District Potchefstroom, owed him £56/3/5 for goods purchased (**Figure 6**).

One day later (16 December 1904) Ismail appointed Gandhi to represent him in the Court of Potchefstroom (**Figure 7**). The document was written by Gandhi but signed by Ismail and other witnesses (including the well-known L W Ritch), but Gandhi, on the same day, nominated Fleischack as his substitute in the Potchefstroom Court (**Figure 8**). Republican Law No 12 of 1899 (sections 11 & 13) in force in 1903 (3) prescribed the following relevant stamp tariffs: 2/6 on a Declaration, 1/- on a power of attorney and 1/- for the substitution of power.

Gandhi and Fleischack also handled the case of A Parag vs K Nana, but a detailed study of these cases involving clients from the Potchefstroom District should include the letters and documents sent by Fleischack to Gandhi as well. This material may be found in the Gandhi collection of legal correspondence (if these files still exist).

It should also be known that the Gandhi documents in the Fleischack collection do not contain any letters of historical significance – they represent the typical correspondence between two lawyers intent on serving their clients.

The history of Gandhi is well known, whereas the Goetz/Fleischack Museum in Potchefstroom is only known to a number of informed local individuals. Apart from this file in the Fleischack collection, there is still a wealth of historical/philatelic documents left by his descendants in the care of the Potchefstroom University for CHE, which will be explored in subsequent papers.

References

(1) de Jager, O C & Kamffer, H J G, *Die ontsluiting van die Fleischack-versameling in die argief van die Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO*, S A Philatelist (this issue), 2002

(2) http://www.gandhiserve.com/information/chronology_1903/chronology_1903.html

(3) *Transvaal laws to 1899 in force 1903,* reprint of translated laws by The Colonial Government of Transvaal, 1903

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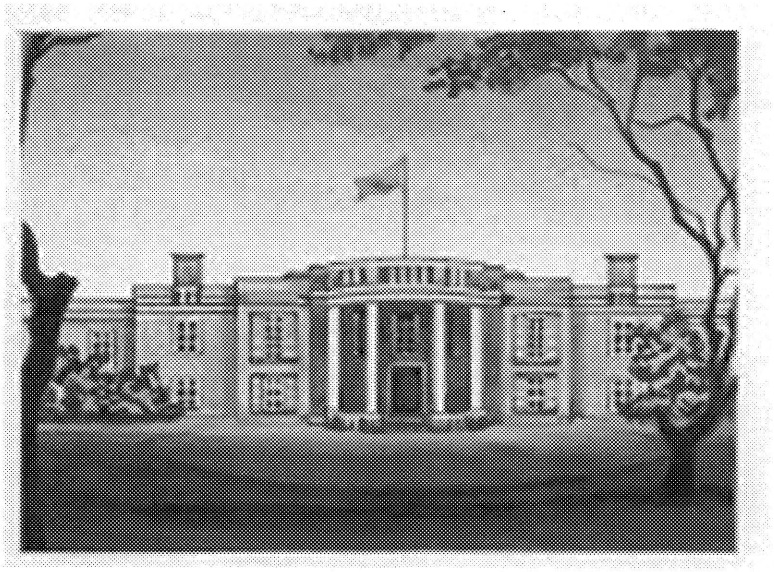



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Minerals, fossils and mining

Going back to the beginning of time

Uli Bantz
SWA Study Group

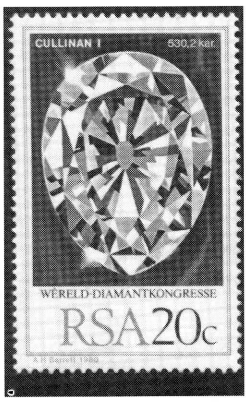
THE MINERAL WEALTH of Southern Africa is legendary and, in many circumstances, quite unique from a geological and economic point of view. The rocks around us contain not only a rich mineral wealth but also the fossilised remains of a vast continuum of organic life, starting at the beginning of geological time some 3 600 million years ago when only single-cell organisms existed. It extends through times when the region was dominated by reptiles that little by little evolved to warm-blooded mammals and ultimately to the dawning, about 3,2 million years ago, of humankind itself. This is shown by the spectacular hominid remains found in and around the world-famous Sterkfontein Caves, north west of Johannesburg. Unesco listed this area, known as the Cradle of Humankind, as a World Heritage Site on 1 December 1999.

"Mineral wealth" brings gold, platinum, diamonds, coal, iron ore readily to our mind. These and other less glamorous minerals have been mined in the Southern African region from pre-industrial times till today. Mining methods ranged from primitive surface diggings to highly sophisticated mechanised mining in the bowels of the earth, nearly 4 000 metres below surface.

All this sounds like bragging, but it is true. It is something that we as South Africans should really be proud of. Overseas collectors are always amazed that we do not have an established group for the study of minerals, mining and fossils on stamps, like the Gems, Minerals and Jewelry Study Group of the American Topical Association (ATA) or the German Study Group for Mining and Earth Sciences (*Bergbau und Geowissenschaften*). Josef Charrach, a geologist working at the Dead Sea Works Ltd at Sdom, summed it up nicely in an e-mail: "I am very surprised that no such group exists. I would have expected that with such a mineral wealth more people including geologists would be interested."

Pause a bit and think about what storytelling opportunities exist by simply using –

- postage stamps, postal stationery, first-day and commemorative covers,
- franking meter marks used by mining companies, societies or museums,
- machine postmarks with slogans like "Save Petrol",
- post office cancellers or private cachets used at conferences on geological or mining matters
- cancellers showing geological features like Kimberley's 'Big Hole',
- cancellations from towns where mining takes or took place or where minerals are processed, like Sasolburg or are shipped from, like Saldanha or Richards Bay or whose name was initially derived from a mineral, like Mica, Chromite, Thabazimbi, Salt Rock; and lastly
- non-philatelic material, like picture postcards, photographs, newspaper clippings, documents, share certificates, letter heads, company logos and business envelopes, labels, maps, bank notes, coins etc.







Material representing the above can be found not only in South Africa (including the previous Homelands), but also at our close neighbours: Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, Rhodesia/Zimbabwe, Botswana and South West Africa/Namibia. Just start by making a list about the stamps which are presently available, use your catalogue and hunt them down.

An example of how the beginning of a geological collection could look like by simply using stamps of Southern Africa has been given by Petra Heath on pages 173/174 of the December 2001 issue of the SA Philatelist in her article "Filateliese argeologie in Suider Afrika".

Geology is described as the science relating to the history and development of the earth's crust with its successive floras and faunas. Petra's article covers this story from 300 million years before our time until 1750 AD. But, if one wants to tell, for example, the "Story of Gold" one has to start about 1 000 million years earlier, and the "Story of Diamond Mining" will only begin around 150 years ago.

More stories to tell

But these are not the only stories which can be told. You could select and collect under the following headings:

Geology, which could include 'Earth Scientists and Exploration', 'Caves and cave animals', 'Volcanoes', 'Natural Disasters', 'Waterfalls', 'Rock Formations', 'Mountains and Scenery', 'Destruction of the Environment' etc.

Mineralogy dealing with rocks, ore deposits, natural gas and oil, precious and semi-precious stones, crystals: how they are mined and used in science and technology and in our daily life.

Paleontology – the "Story of Life" on our earth as told by fossils found in the earth's crust or by images of reconstructed pre-historic animals, including the "Story of Man" (called paleo-anthropology). This could be followed with "Artefacts: the role played by stone, ore and minerals in pre-history, namely the time before written historical records existed".

I am sure you will be richly rewarded for your efforts, learn a lot, make new contacts and widen your horizons.

The following books are recommended to find your story:

- Cairncross, B. & Dixon, R. (1995): *Minerals of South Africa*. – 305 pp.
- MacRae, C. (1999): *Life edged in Stone – the Fossils of South Africa*. – 305 pp.
- Viljoen, M. J. & Reimold, W.U. (Editors) (1999): *An Introduction to South Africa's Geological and Mining Heritage*. – 195 pp.

These books with full-colour illustrations can be ordered from the Geological Society of South Africa: telephone +27 11 492 3370.

The following books, also fully illustrated in colour and published by Struik Publishers, Cape Town, might be obtained from your book store or via the internet.

- Cairncross, B. (2001): *Sasol First Field Guide to Gemstones of Southern Africa*. - 56 pages. – ISBN 1-86872-599-5
- Macintosh, E. K. (1983): *Rocks, Minerals and Gemstones of Southern Africa*. – 120 pages. – ISBN 0-86977-141-8

Appeal

I appeal to all likewise interested readers to contact me in order to establish a sub-group "Minerals – Fossils – Mining" under the umbrella of Thematic Southern Africa. Please contact me, using one of these addresses:

Uli Bantz, P O Box 6913, Westgate, 1734 – Tel 011 766 1495 / 083 409 6969 – ulib@mweb.co.za

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SA PHILATELIST APRIL 2002

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LAR 1	1 division page 300 x 260mm Each	**R12-00**
LAR 2	2 division page Each	**R12-00**
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MED 1	1 division page 265 x 223mm Each	**R8-50**
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MED C	Complete Album: binder with 10 x 2 div + 2 x 1 div (12 pages)	**R150-00**

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Petra Heath
Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria & Tematika SA

TOE ONS KINDERS nog klein was en ek hulle moes help met skooltake, het ek op wyle Wilhelm Grütter se boek *Die geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika* afgekom. Die logiese uiteensetting was vir my 'n duidelike riglyn vir my versameling. Aanvanklik het ek slegs van seëls gebruik gemaak, maar met die aanmoediging van be-oordelaars en handelaars het ek my meer en meer begin toespits op posstempels om die temas beter te illustreer.

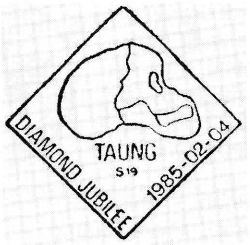
Dit het geweldig baie navorsing en opleeswerk geverg, maar ek het in die proses werklik op uiters interessante feite afgekom wat seker nie aan baie mense bekend is nie. Na die oplees van die teks, lê die groot taak van die soek van spesifieke posstempels voor – met vandag se nuwe tendense van die groter possorteersentrums en die sluiting van die kleiner poskantore en die veranderinge van plekname links en regs raak dit al hoe moeiliker!

Ek deel met ons lesers 'n paar interessante stempels na aanleiding van my hoofstukindeling:

Prehistoriese tydperk

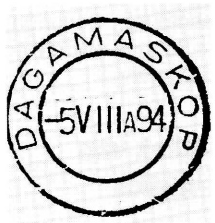
Verskeie voorbeelde kan hier gewys word bv. Van rotskuns, die selekant en die Taungskedel.





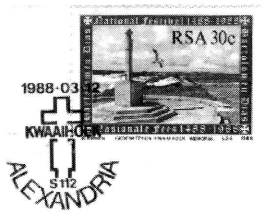
Ontdekkingsreise





Behalwe vir die bekende Poskantoorboom, is daar ook die stempel van die skoen waarin die eerste brief geplaas is.

Da Gama sowel as Dias is vernoem. Ek kon egter nog net 'n baie swak stempel van Diasland kry. (Kan iemand my miskien help?)



By Agulhas is die interessantheid dat die magnetiese noord en die werklike noord presies bymekaar lê. Dias het ook by Kwaaihoek 'n gedenkteken geplant.

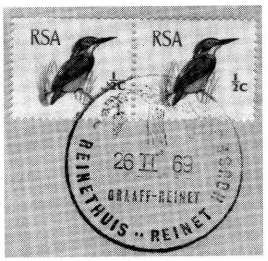
Verder binnelands is verskeie ontdekkingsreisigers vernoem, bv David Livingstone.



Nederlandse bewind

Verskeie dorpe is vernoem na die verskillende goewerneurs en/of hulle vrouens, bv Jan van Riebeeck, Simon van der Stel en Graaff-Reinet.

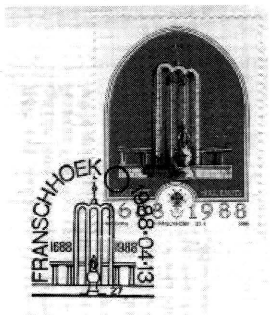








'n Interessante pleknaam is dié van Piketberg, wat die plek aandui waar Goewerneur Goske 'n wagpos moes daarstel teen die plunderende Khoin-khoin (Frans *piquet*, Engels *picket*). Retreat) het sy naam te danke aan die telkense terugval van beide die Hollandse troepe en die Britse soldate tydens die Britse oorname aan die Kaap.



In hierdie tyd het die Franse Hugenote ook hulle stempel aan die Kaap afgedruk met name soos Simondium en Franschoek.

Britse bewind

Tydens die Britse bewind het daar groot uitbreidings plaasgevind en verskeie dorpe het ontstaan soos Cradock, Grahamstad, King William's Town, Alice, Bathurst, Port Elizabeth en Somerset-Oos.







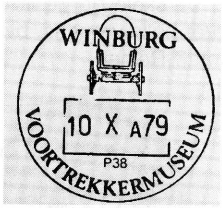
Die Duitse setlaars het ook verkeie dorpe gestig waaronder Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfort, Stutterheim e.a.

Groot Trek

Hier kan name soos Pietermaritzburg, Winburg, Piet Retief, Pietersburg en nog vele ander gevind word. Tydelike stempels van Bloedrivier en ook van verskeie ander monumente kan die tema ryklik aanvul.

Dikwels is sekere gebeurtenisse vernoem. Die swaarkry van die trekkers met peste en plae het tot gevolg gehad dat die plek Lydenburg sy naam gekry het.

Die verhaal is ook nie volledig sonder Gingindlovu nie.

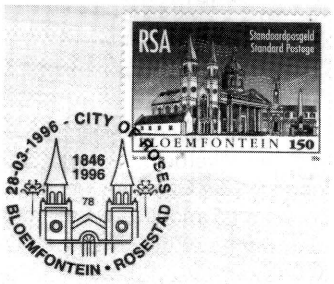






Boererepublieke

Tydens hierdie tyd het Pretoria en Bloemfontein hul name gekry en ook Krugersdorp wat na President Paul Kruger genoem is, maar daar is ook verskeie senior regeringsamptenare vernoem soos Boksburg wat na die destydse Staatssekretaris vernoem is.



Tydens die goudstormloop het plekke ontstaan soos Pelgrimsrus, Sheba en Eureka.



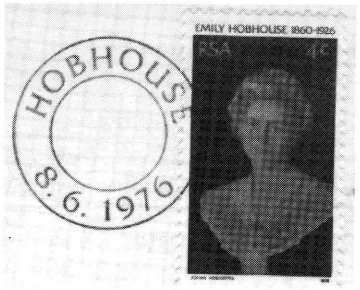




Anglo-Boereoorlog

Hier is twee unieke name ter sprake: Amsterdam was eers Roburnia maar die naam het verander uit dank vir die Nederlandse simpatie teenoor die Boere tydens die Eerste Vryheidsoorlog, en Airlie wat vernoem is na die Graaf van Airlie wat gesneuwel het in die Slag van Diamond Hill.





Mense wat vernoem is sluit onder meer Emily Hobhouse en genl sir Neville Lyttelton in.

Unie van Suid-Afrika

Hier word net 'n paar plekname selektief genoem.
Al die Eerste Ministers is vernoem.





Strydomplein, Verwoerdburg en die lughawe Jan Smuts.

Stigting van die Nasionale Party by De Wildt.

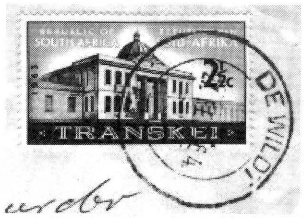
Tweede Wêreldoorlog

Cullinan – militêre kamp, Premierkamp – krygsgevangenes en Danville – vernoem na genl Dan Pienaar

Besondere gebeurtenisse en/of projekte

Sasolburg, Secunda, en Groote Schuur – vir die eerste hartoorplanting.





Republiek van Suid-Afrika

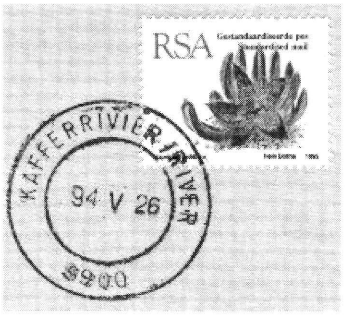
Republiekwording en die onafhanklikheid van die nasionale state.

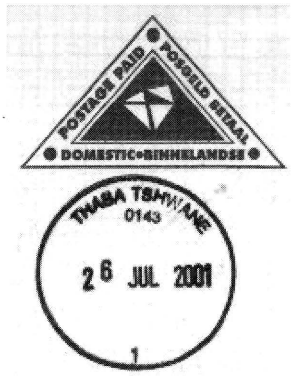


Die Nuwe Suid-Afrika

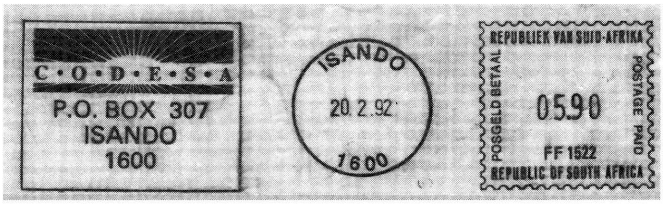
Plekname verander of verdwyn:

Kafferrivier, Voortrekkerhoogte verander na Thaba Tswane en Verwoerdburg na Centurion.

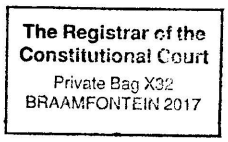


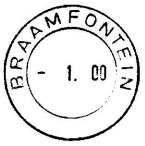


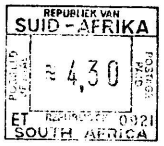
Daar is beding om 'n nuwe verteenwoordigende regeringstelsel by Codesa.



Nuwe instansies het in werking getree:
Konstitusionele hof.



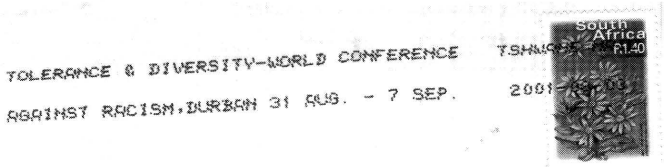




Provinsies het verander.

Verskeie slagspreuke kan gebruik word bv. oor Goud - "Gold is money you can trust"

Rassisme



* * * * * * * * *

MET DIE NUWE METROPOLE in werking en die sprake van naamsveranderinge van provinsies, dorpe en stede is dit 'n geweldige uitdaging om die nuwe sowel as die oue te probeer versamel. Harde lesse het my geleer dat môre beslis nie nog 'n dag is nie en dat 'n mens elke dag moet oplet na veranderinge. Uit 'n versamelaar se oogpunt (en beslis nie uit 'n politieke oogpunt nie) is somige van die naamsveranderinge 'n nuwe veld wat oopgaan om die ander kant van die verhaal ook te vertel.

Ek sal graag met ander versamelaars in aanraking wil kom oor hierdie besondere studieveld en enige voorstelle en inligting is meer as welkom. Kontak my by Wilhelmweg 1008, Eldoraigne X1, 0157 Centurion of by heidelnd@netactive.co.za.

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Circular PAID franking stamps of South Africa

Andries van der Walt *Postmark and Postal History Society*

Circular PAID franking stamps used in South Africa probably pre-date the introduction of the adhesive in the Cape of Good Hope, but very little information regarding the use of these datestamps is available. Apart from a short paragraph or two in Putzel's *The Postmarks of South Africa* (Vol 1, p53, 1992), some cursory references in Goldblatt's *The Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope* (1980), Hart, Kantey and Leon's *The Postal Markings of Natal* (1977), I have been unable to find much information.

This of course is one of the reasons for this article. Somewhere somebody may have more information and could throw more light on the origination and use of these marks. Putzel (*op cit*) states inter alia that "originally (pre-Union) a single line mark was used at Cape Town, but soon after Union various 'Paid' daters were introduced..."

That of course is not entirely correct since Hart, Kantey and Leon (*op cit*) and Putzel note that "Postage Paid" double-circle cancellers were in use in Natal during 1906 to 1908. Mathews *et al* in their work *Transvaal Philately* (1986) make no mention of any paid cancellers used in the ZAR or Transvaal Republic. According to Putzel, these circular paid franking marks were generally used on newspaper wrappers and window envelopes. He states that they are rare and elusive especially on cover. They were almost always applied in red.

As is the case with most other cancellers and machine marks, the circular paid datestamps also underwent various changes. One sees them used as single marks, as machine cancellers and during the late 1930s and early 1940s also as rectangular machine cancellers, while the circular datestamps have survived late in to the 1980s.

Some time ago a selection of these marks came into my possession via a collector in the United States. Looking at them gave rise to some questions: We know that paid stamps, for the pre-payment of postage and newspapers, were introduced in Cape Town in about 1870 (Goldblatt). We also know from Goldblatt that a special Newspaper Branch Office was established with its own cancellers. We also know, as quoted above, that paid cancellers were used in Natal.

What, then, is the history of these cancellers? Was the use of the cancellers during the colonial period just carried over once Union had been established, and for the same purpose? When was the first paid machine cancellers introduced, and



Fig 1 – Cape Town circular PAID franking mark without amount.



Fig 2 – Cape Town circular PAID franking mark with amount paid and no date.



Fig 3 – Same as figure 2, but different rate and no date.



Fig 4 – Cape Town/Kaapstad circular PAID mark with amount between months and year slug.



Fig 5 – A circular PAID mark used in Durban with word PAID and the amount between the month and year slug.

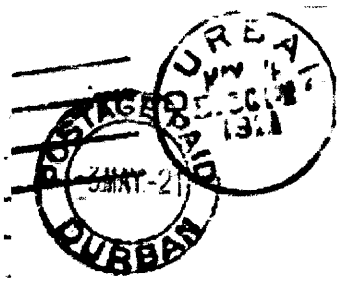

Fig 7 – Circular PAID mark used in Durban. Different design with Postage Paid in top half and Durban at bottom. No rate shown. It seems also to have been franked with an additional Durban PAID machine canceller with the amount in the centre of the mark.

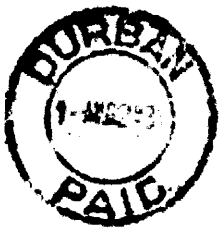

Fig 6 – A Durban circular PAID mark with Durban at the top, PAID in bottom half and the amount between month and year.

Fig 8 – Three circular PAID marks used in Kimberley with Kimberley at the top, PAID in the bottom half the date flush left and the amount flush right. Note the different rates in the pace of four months.









Fig 9 – A circular PAID mark used at Middelburg, Cape Province. Note the use of S.Africa-S.Afrika. The date is centred with the amount to the left of the date.

when did the various design changes take place, i e from circular to rectangular?

Source of income

The fact of the matter is that, even today, postage-paid marks are an important part of the franking process of postal items at the Post Office, a very big source of income and mostly used on bulk postage in recent years rather than for newspaper usage. The use of these marks, given their relative importance as part of the postal system, similar to the use of private franking meter marks, justifies a closer and more detailed study. Especially if Putzel (as quoted) is correct in stating that they are rare and elusive and very hard to find on cover.

Another problem one encounters is that the marks are usually not in a very good condition and of poor quality. Putzel lists most of the circular marks used, although his listing is not complete. He does not differentiate between c.d.s. marks, machine marks and also the franking meter marks, usually rectangular used from the early 1940s onwards. In his overview on p 53 of vol 1 of *The Postmarks of Southern Africa* he does, however, qualify the fact that his listing is incomplete, as it would have made the work too bulky if everything had to be included.

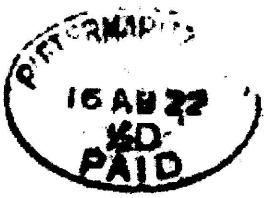

Fig 10 – An oval PAID mark used in Pietermaritzburg in 1922.

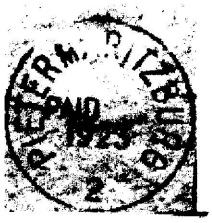

Fig 11 – A circular PAID stamp used in Pietermaritzburg with PAID above the year slug, but no month or amount. In the bottom centre inside the circle is the figure 2.



Fig 12 – A more rounded oval PAID canceller used in Pietermaritzburg.



Fig 13 – Used at Worcester in the Cape Province.



Fig 14 – Another Pietermaritzburg circular PAID canceller, but note the space between 1 and d.

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South African LOCAL GOVERNMENT as a *postmark and postal history theme*

Neville Gomm
Postmark & Postal History Society

THE STORY of local government in South Africa,insofar as it can be applied to a philatelic collection, may be said to have begun with the establishment of the system of "landdrost" and "heemraden" by the Dutch East India Company at Stellenbosch in 1685. The system of landdrost and heemraden was aimed at administering local affairs in settlements away from the main centre of Cape Town.

The landdrost and heemraden system spread to Swellendam in 1745, and to Graaff-Reinet in 1785. In 1795, there were four districts – the Cape, Stellenbosch, Swellendam and Graaff-Reinet. These were divided into areas called field-cornetcies in 1805.

The functions of the system of landdrost and heemraden were adapted through the years. The system was abolished in the Cape at the end of 1827. It was, however, taken northward by the Voortrekkers to the Orange Free State, South African Republic (Transvaal) and Natal.

By 1827, the British administrators at the Cape had started making changes to the system of government. These changes were aimed mainly at separating civil, or administrative, activities from judicial ones.

An important event in the development of local government in South Africa took place on 15 August 1836. This was the date on which the Governor of the Cape enacted Ordinance No 55 which provided for the creation of municipal boards in the towns and villages of the Cape for the better regulation of local affairs.

On 30 March 1847, the governor of the Cape enacted Ordinance No 132 for the creation of municipal boards in the towns and villages of Natal. This legislation resembled closely the 1836 ordinance for the Cape, as both were passed by the same authority.

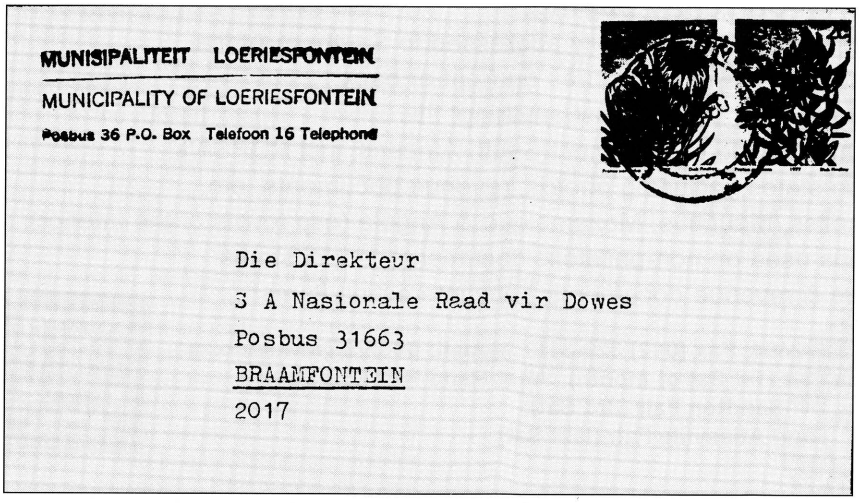
The government (Volksraad) of the Orange Free State was next, when it affirmed and laid down Ordinance No 163 on 15 February 1856. Provision was made for the establishment of municipal boards. Again, the provisions of the Cape municipal ordinance were followed closely.

In the South African Republic (Transvaal), the system of landdrost and heemraden continued until reforms resulted in the confirmation of Act No 3 of 1881. This legislation provided for district councils in the Transvaal. Further provision for the district councils was made by Law No 6 of 14 June 1883. The district council form of government remained in force until the Anglo-Boer War began in 1899. Ordinance No 38 of 1903 provided for the election of members of councils of municipalities, while Ordinance No 58 of 1903 defined the duties and functions of town councils.

This brief introduction to the theme of local government in South Africa indicates



Below: Fig 1 - The municipal detail on this item from Loeriesfontein was applied with a cachet. The postmark date is 6 February 1980. The town is situated north west of Calvinia. It is believed that the town name is derived from that of the lourie (Taracus corythaix), a bird found in the area. Municipal status was obtained in 1958. Wool and wheat are the main products of the Loeriesfontein area.



Above: Fig 2 - Proclaimed as a township in 1931, Empangeni became a borough in 1960. The town is situated near the coast north east of Durban and it is close to the harbour of Richards Bay. One explanation says the town name is derived from the Zulu word "empanga". This means to grab, and originates from the practise that many years ago the Zulu people had to grab their pieces of land to prevent ownership disputes in the fertile area. A second explanation says that the name is derived from that of the "mpange" tree (Treema guineensis) found in the area. Empangeni is a railway centre with industrial, educational and medical facilities and is a focal point for the sugar industry.

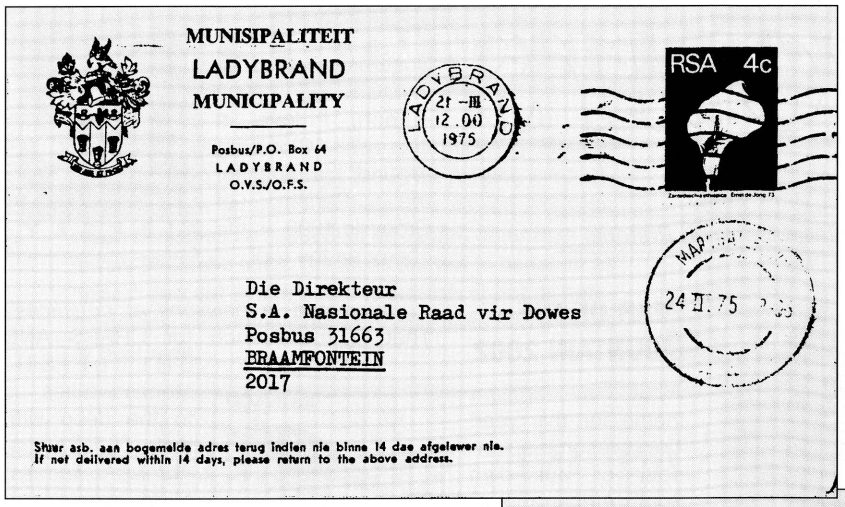


Fig 3 - Founded in 1867, Ladybrand was named after Lady Catharina Brand, mother of the president of the Orange Free State. The town is situated east of Bloemfontein and close to the Lesotho border and to Maseru, the capital of that country. The land on which the town was developed, was originally named Mauwershoek after a famous man who once lived there. Municipal status was obtained in 1904. The district was proclaimed in 1871, and it is known for its wheat and maize production. There are many caves in the surrounding mountains and some of them are known for the rock art found there. Artefacts and fossils have also been found in the area.

that it is a vast subject that can be divided fairly easily to make manageable collections. Collections could be built along geographic lines such as a single local government, a group in a specific region, such as the Little Karoo, or a province. There are also various recognised chronological periods such as the Colonial, Union, Republican and New South African that could dictate the extent of a collection. The latter period since 1994, is perhaps a good one to commence with now.

The history of local government in South Africa is well documented. Finding information in support of a collection is therefore not a problem.

The few items shown in this article are from my own collection. There is one from each of the four provinces of the old South Africa. It would be nice if other collectors of local government material could write to the editor of *The SA Philatelist* with details.

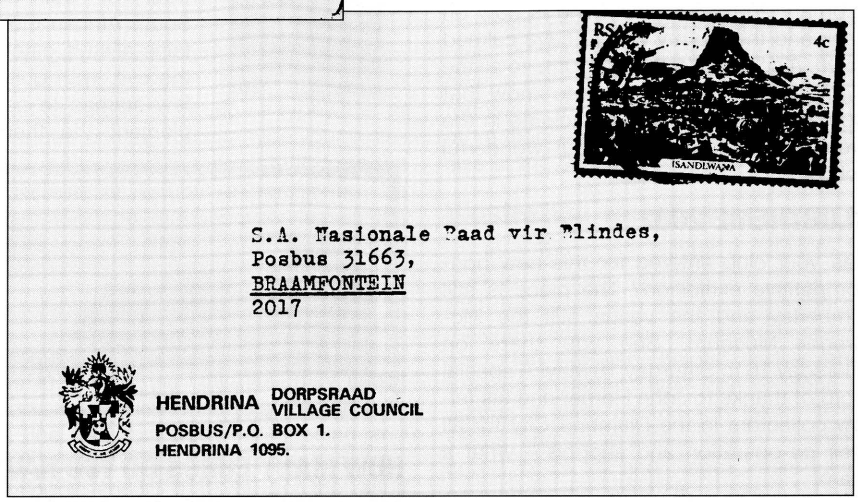


Fig 4 - The postmark date on this item from Hendrina is 18 June 1979. The village is situated in the Middelburg district. It was established in 1914 on a farm called Grasfontein, which belonged to a Mr Gert Beukes. Hendrina was named after Beukes's wife. A health committee was established in 1919. After becoming a village in 1923, a village council came into operation in 1926. The area is known for its maize and coal production and two coal-fired power stations were built there.

References:

1. Author's collection.
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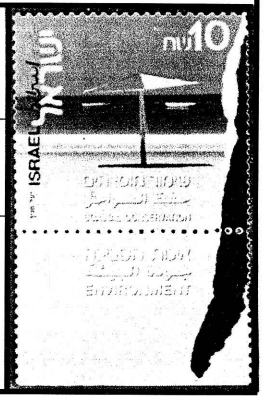


THEMATICALLY *yours*

Rev J Cassie Carstens *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria*

AFFILIATION THEMATICS SA

The application by Thematics Southern Africa to be affiliated to the Philatelic Federation as a "general society" was accepted at the special meeting of the management committee on Thursday 7 February 2002. So, everything is now on track and the stormy waters have calmed down. A special word of welcome to all the members of TSA – it is nice to know that we can take hands and participate in the promoting of thematics in our wonderful hobby!

CLUBTHEME 2002

Has your club entered for this new non-competitive exhibition? The place is still Kimberley and the venue still the McGregor Museum. See you there on Thursday 16 to Saturday 18 May! A special word of thanks to John Horner and his fellow collectors in the Diamond City for all their co-operation and support – what a team!

WHY DO SO FEW EXHIBIT?

Margaret Reynolds (Fish Hoek) has the following reasons: "Most of the exhibitions are held "up north" and we rarely get the chance to view them. I think most exhibitors like to see their entries in the competition and compare with other exhibits. It is also good to get the judges' comments on how to improve in areas. One doesn't get this if the entries are sent away. There is also the cost of the entry, which I thought was a bit much at Egoli, and then the cost to get the exhibit to and from Jo'burg. I did exhibit at the Cape Stamp Show and enjoyed the experience and was able to visit the show more than once and to catch the attention of the judges.

"We have about 10 members in our Society who collect thematics as well as traditional, but several keep these stamps in a stock book or in an album. It is the writing up and acquiring the elements that people don't have the patience for – they just want to collect the stamps. Maybe 'one day' they will put them in an album. Four of our members were encouraged by our president to enter the Cape Stamp Show, only one winning a medal. There was such a lot of bad publicity over low standard of entries that some members would not try again."

Thanks, Margaret, for your comments. What do our other readers have to say about this?



YEAR OF THE MOUNTAIN 2002

What a brilliant theme for this year! The awesome splendour of our own South African mountains always catches the eye, with quite a few stamps to complement the theme.



HOW MANY EUROS DO YOU HAVE?

Yes, no more deutchmark or Swedish kronen or Dutch gulden or French francs in our pockets. From now on we all match the Euro with our pathetic rand – actually quite easy to multiply with ten!



WHO WON THE OLYMPICS?

Somewhere along the line I lost tract of the Winter Olympics at Salt Lake City in the USA. The last news I read was about the "fight" after the pair-skating (which is my favourite item) – the biased Eastern block against the cool-headed Western group. (Yes, I supported the Canadian pair...) But who won the most medals? Did South Africa participate? Will someone please enlighten this ignorant minister!



NEW ISSUES

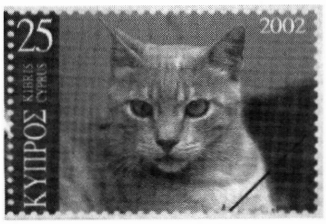


PostEurop settled for THE CIRCUS in 2002 – ooh, I love it! Jersey's "Clowning Around", a float of the Parish of Grouville 1996, is the cherry on the top!

Interested in *poissons et crustacés*? That is the French for CRABS AND SHELLFISH. Monaco takes us to the deep with their *Luria lurida, Anthias anthias, Mitra zonata* and *Macroramphosus scolopax.*



CATS are mammals, carnivorous and they belong to the family of felines. They are animals that have been domesticated since ancient times, and their main characteristics are the round head, with a short nose, strong jaws with sharp teeth and hooked claws. Yes, yes, we all know this...! But did you know that in the 4th



century AD St Helen brought with her to Cyprus a large number of cats with the purpose of ridding the island of various rodents and reptiles? And did you also know that in ancient Egypt the cat was considered as a holy animal and killing cats was punished with the death penalty? That is what thematics is all about.

New Zealand's NATIVE FUNGI is a most colourful set: *Hygrocybe rubrocarnosa* 40c, *Entooma hochstetteri* 80c, *Aseroe rubra* 90c, *Hericium coralloides* $1.30, *Thaxterogaster porphyreus* $1.50 and *Ramaria aureorhiza* $2.00. The one is as beautiful as the other! #8

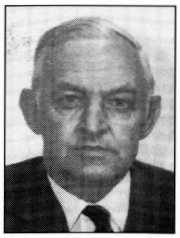


Such a pity that some of us cannot read HEBREW! We would then have understood what David really meant when he sang Psalm 23 and we could have enjoyed the sheer beauty of an acrostic psalm like Psalm 119. I must confess that my Hebrew has rusted away after 30 years in the ministry – I can only imagine what

To next page ➤➤➤

BEGINNERS' CORNER – 1

This is the second in a series of articles by Richard Knight RDPSA, chairman of the PFSA judging committee. They are intended to help the novice exhibitor reach decisions on aspects of an exhibit other than the purely philatelic ones. The ideas are not to be taken as "rules" (except where a rule is indicated) but as helpful guides; individual exhibitors may have better ideas of their own.



Writing-up an exhibit

WRITING-UP an exhibit is one of the aspects which novice exhibitors sometimes find tricky, especially exhibitors who are not by training used to writing.

The amount of write-up will vary slightly with the class of exhibit – an exhibit in the Traditional Class will normally have far less writing than one in the Postal History class, for example. Whereas the write-up in a Traditional exhibit will be limited to details of date of issue, paper and perforations, with short notes for essays, proofs, watermark and perforation varieties, the Postal History exhibit will have to give more details – notes on the postmark, postage rate, possibly the route used and any comment necessary on the various markings on a cover.

Inbetween these two extremes fall Postal Stationery, Thematics and Airmails. Whichever class it is, the write-up should be a combination of knowledge, clear logical thinking and expression and a determination not to be verbose.

The actual writing-up may be done in any way that pleases the exhibitor. Provided it is neat and easy to read, there is no rule about this. Some of us are blessed with the ability to produce immaculate printing or writing, clear and easy to read (and remember that you may be able to read your own writing, but it needs to be legible to others too!)

If you do not have that ability, there are various options open. If you are using a sheet too big to fit through a typewriter or computer printer, you can type your write-up, cut it out neatly and paste it on to the page, with or without a border (but be aware that too much border leaves the impression of a "fussy" and overcrowded sheet).

If you have a sheet which will fit your computer printer, you can set the whole sheet up on your computer and simply print in the normal way. You may find it necessary, however, to play around with the line height, letter/word spacing and other esoteric aspects of your computer printing to ensure that you get the result for which you are looking, especially if you are using a sheet with grid lines – a grid line running straight through the middle of the wording looks odd, to say the least, and may make it difficult to read.

Mounting

Stamps can be mounted using hinges or transparent pochettes (*Hawid strips*) or a suitably coloured backing; the pochettes and backing being cut evenly and close – few looks worse than a backing which is not square. Covers can be mounted using transparent photo corners with or without a backing which is a slightly different colour from the page; this can set off the items nicely provided it is done neatly.

Fancy artwork tends to overwhelm the philatelic material and should be avoided, while maps, although acceptable especially in a postal history exhibit, should be discreetly small consistent with being legible. If you are printing from a computer, you can, with the use of a scanner, print postal markings etc directly onto the sheet if they are not an essential part of the exhibit (as they may be in a thematic, some postal history exhibits or a marcophily exhibit where you may need to show the original postmark.)

While photographs of a stamp or item may be used to show a particular point, bear in mind that it is a rule that any photocopy or photograph must be either not more than 75% or not less than 125% the size of the original.

Illustrating varieties

In a Traditional exhibit it helps to be able to illustrate varieties and so on, so that the viewer can see the point you are making – arrows pointing to a "fly speck" are often not very helpful and a small drawing is better. These can be done by getting a large photograph taken of the stamp and by judicious use of a photocopier, black ink and Tippex, reproducing on a sheet the exact "fly speck" you wish to show.

One needs to be careful about the use of arrows pointing to particular things to which you wish to draw attention - use too many, and the viewer begins to feel he is looking at an exhibit of arrows rather than of philately!

Always bear in mind that with the best will in the world, judges have a limited time to view an exhibit so that the easier you make it for them to grasp the point or points you are making, the better. Legibility and clarity of expression are paramount, while an untidy or grubby (yes, they do occur!) exhibit will earn itself no praise.



joy it brings to be able to read the poems of the German-Jewish poet Heinrich Heine.







SVERIGE... Do you agree with me that Sweden's stamps are the most beautiful in the world? Be it a playful horse, a trip to the South Pole or the 750th anniversary of Stockholm – each stamp is a masterpiece!

PRETHEMA 2002

You are cordially invited to participate in this competitive exhibition in Pretoria on Saturday 15 June this year at the Woolworths Mall, Centurion Centre. Thematics is the password and only one frame needed! Now *that* is a good one! Interested? – Phone Robbie Harm at 082 925 7103.

Make an investment in *KNOWLEDGE*

Andries van der Walt
Postmark and Postal History Society

ONCE you've started collecting stamps and this fact becomes known among your friends, the first questions you would probably be asked are: "You must have a big collection" and "it must be worth a lot of money?"

It is true that some philatelists, with many years of collecting experience behind them, have big collections and that some of their collections are worth a lot of money. That does not mean that they set out for their stamp collecting activities to become that way.

When we start to collect stamps, our main objective is to have a hobby that we can enjoy, that we can have fun with and that will not cost us a lot of money. Like any other pastime, we do it for enjoyment.

Many advanced collectors or philatelists, when asked about the size and value of their collections will probably answer: "I don't know and I don't care." Yes, there are many people with fat chequebooks who have invested heavily in stamps. But many have also lost heavily.

If you want to make an investment in stamps and stamp collecting, start with investing in knowledge first. Having the knowledge you will know when and how to acquire postage material – for stamp collecting embraces more than just stamps – without it costing you an arm and a leg and at times even at bargain prices. If you have a thorough knowledge of your collecting interest and area, you may pick up good material at good prices.

Stamp dealers will be the first to admit that they don't know everything there is to know about certain areas.

Be careful that you don't fall into the trap of "a fool and his money are easily parted".

The late Robson Lowe, one of the doyens of the philatelic trade in the world and himself during his lifetime a philatelist of repute, once said: "Our business has been built upon selling people pleasure and relaxation. If in doing so they have ultimately made a good profit, that is their good luck and judgement. But I have never met a happy and satisfied philatelic *investor*."

Wise words that the beginner or novice collector should take to heart.

Guidelines for a one-frame exhibit

Richard Knight *RDPSA*
Chairman: PFSA Judging Committee

AS THE CONCEPT of the one-frame exhibit has become popular over the last few years in other countries and in this country at club level, the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) is planning to consider the introduction of the genre at international level. It is an aspect of philately which can appeal to novice and expert alike

The organisers of Algoapex 2002 have opted to include a limited number of such exhibits on an experimental, but competitive, basis and what follows is an attempt to give guidelines for exhibitors who enter this class as well as for the judges who will be required to judge the exhibits.

Limited but complete

In concept, a one-frame exhibit involves the creation of a complete exhibit consisting of no more, nor less, than 15 sheets. It may be a thematic, postal history or traditional exhibit, or indeed an exhibit which would normally fall into any one of the recognised philatelic disciplines, but because it must be complete in itself and is limited to 15 sheets the choice of subject is crucial to its success.

In essence, it is necessary to focus the exhibit on a particular subject or theme which can be comprehensively covered in 15 sheets. For instance, *The Postal History of Rhodesia* could not possibly be covered in any adequate way in 15 sheets, but *Rhodesian Postal History in the Anglo-Boer War* being a small aspect, limited in time, might well be made into a successful one-frame exhibit. Likewise a thematic on *Plants* would be completely inadequate in one frame, but *Medicinal Plants used as Stimulants* could be a viable one-frame exhibit.

In both examples, the focussing of the exhibit on a narrow field will probably permit the exhibitor to construct a satisfactory one-frame exhibit.

Well balanced

Having settled on a subject, the exhibitor needs to prepare a plan, as he would do for a multi-frame exhibit, to ensure that within the limited space available he can prepare a well-balanced exhibit. Even the mild over-emphasis of one aspect at the expense of another will be immediately noticeable in the one-frame exhibit whereas in a multi-frame exhibit it would probably be overlooked.

Material shown has to be the subject of the most rigorous selection. Not only must it be in the best available condition but it must be completely relevant – there is no room for material which in a large exhibit would "pass in the dark with a shove" if placed in an obscure corner of a frame. Nor is there room for material which is only marginally relevant – every item has to earn its keep and justify the space it occupies by contributing in full to the subject, story or theme of the exhibit.

Accurate write-up

Likewise, the philatelic or thematic write-up has to be concise and accurate while remaining readable; the exhibitor should avoid the temptation to save space by using a sort of telegraphese shorthand in writing up and leaving the viewer wondering what the exhibitor is trying to say.

The exhibitor must bear in mind that in a one-frame exhibit everything is very exposed; the viewers (judges if it is competitive) can and will concentrate on every item and aspect of the exhibit which is set before them in an area which they can cover in a single glance and where they can follow the entire story or theme without moving significantly from one spot.

• Copies of the documents *The Evaluation of One-frame Exhibits* and *Guidelines for Judging One-frame Exhibits* may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope (220 x 110 mm), to The Chairman, Judging & Ethics Committee, Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, P.O.Box 22592, Fish Hoek, 7974.

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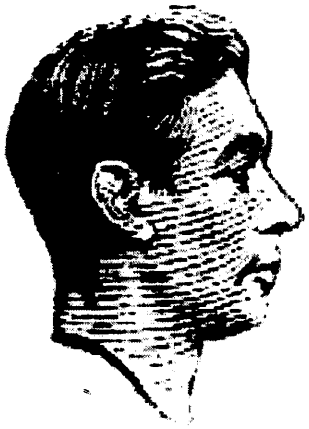

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left: Bechuanaland "B" of British" omitted. Estimate: £8,000-10,000
centre: Stellaland 1d. block imperforate between. Estimate: £3,000-4,000
right: Bechuanaland "o" of "Protectorate" omitted. Estimate: £3,000-3,500

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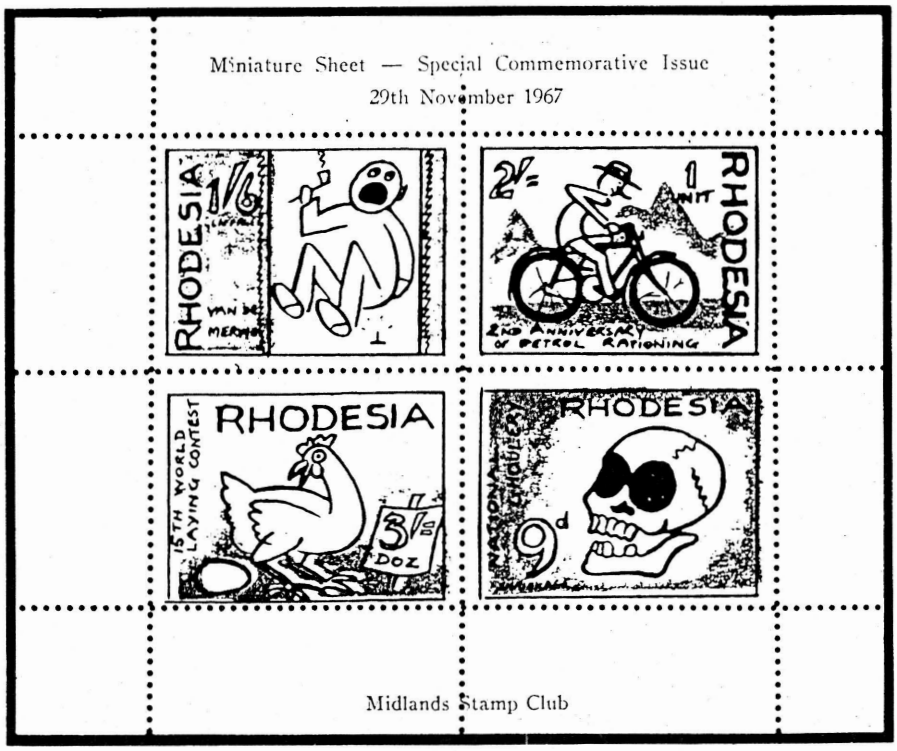

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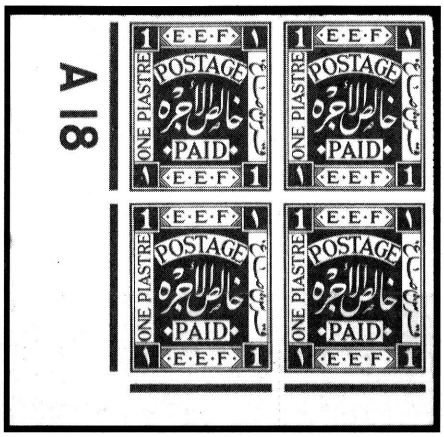





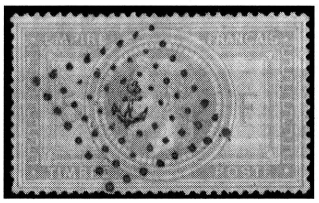







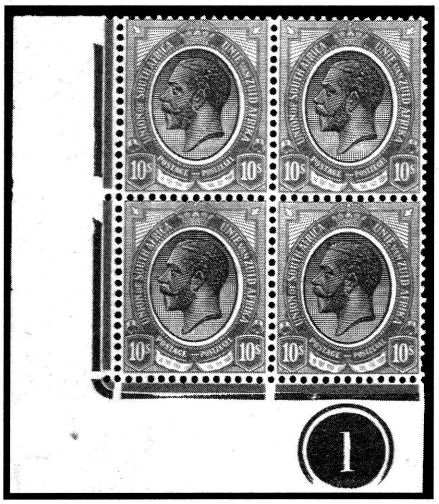





A few examples from some of the fine material appearing in this auction

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Expert Committee/Keurkomitee:
Honorary Secretary/Eresekretaris,
Box/Posbus 304, Montagu, 6720.

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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

AT A RECENT MEETING of the management committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa to discuss proposed changes to the constitution of Federation, one thing soon became clear during discussions: There was a necessity to change the constitution, but the problems facing organised philately in South Africa are not going to be solved by a changed constitution.

The fact is that the hobby can only survive and grow – by some sort of miracle – if philatelists were prepared to play a role in making it happen. The problem of course is that to do this, organised philately has to rely on volunteers to help.

On the one hand, few people are prepared to volunteer. On the other hand, those who do cannot always find the time to do justice to what is expected of them, and then there are those who would like to be on the management committee for the sake of being there.

The truth of the matter is that any person who calls himself a philatelist and benefits from the hobby by being part of the "family" of philatelists, also has a responsibility of giving something back to the hobby. The hackneyed excuse of "I don't have time – too busy" does not always hold water.

Busy people who are adept at managing their time can always find time – time to play golf, to watch Super 12 rugby, to watch South Africa get clobbered by the Aussies. And still have time to collect stamps and do something for the hobby. After all, how much time do you really need to give of yourself in the interest of a hobby that is dear to you?

What will happen to your philatelic endeavours if nobody was available any longer to organise philately – to make exhibitions happen so that you can win awards, improve your knowledge?

It's time for those involved in philately to take stock and get involved. If we don't, why bother about improving a constitution for an organisation that has no future?

✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

ONS STOKPERDJIE is in 'n krisis. Miskien. Feit is dat die dae dat versamelaars kon terugsit en van 'n paar ander werkesels kon verwag om te sorg vir die goeie orde en groei in die filatelie, is verby. Die voortbestaan van ons stokperdjie is afhanklik daarvan dat almal wat daarby betrokke is, hul deel sal moet bydra.

Die klompie vrywilligers wat nog bereid is om hul kant te bring, kan nie meer die las alleen dra nie.

The 'final chapter' was not quite final

Mike Tonking, P O Box 4137, White River, 1240, writes: Since the publication of the monograph *The Union 2d. London Printing – The Final Chapter* by Jack Hagger RDPSA and myself and which appeared as a supplement to the January/February 1990 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, my attention has been drawn to two factual errors which need to be corrected in the light of material which has subsequently come to light.

Recently Mr S Payne in the UK purchased a complete two-pane sheet which the authors have confirmed as being Issue 4a (UHC 24E) – the 'cleaned plate' printing. Mr Payne drew the authors' attention to the fact that in this example the row 8/8 'Split d' and the row 10/7 'Split A' flaw are missing, but the row 10/12 'Windmill flaw' is present. This is contrary to the authors' statement in the monograph, which must now be corrected.

Further examination of a right pane of the 'cleaned plate' in my collection indeed shows the vestige of the 'Winmill' flaw which is just visible and would indicate that there was a gradual wearing away of the flaw during the printing run. Thus at the commencement of the 'cleaned plate' printing, the flaw was indeed present.

A further correction needs to be made. In this case it is stated that the final SWA overprint SG60 appeared on Issue 4 Perforation Group 111 (UHC 24D). Subsequently the authors have seen that the SG60 overprint appeared on the Issue 4 Perforation Group 11 (UHC 24E) about September 1930, which was the last overprint of any type to appear on these stamps.

Thus, after some 12 years, further information on the 2d. London Printings has come to light and maybe the Final Chapter has not yet been finally written!

New overprint on air mail letter cards

Tom Mullins, Port Elizabeth, writes: Since publication of my monograph *The Stampless Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters used by South African Troops 1941-1945* as a supplement to *The SA Philatelist* in April 2001, an air mail letter card has come to my notice which bears an overprint apparently not hitherto recorded. The letter card itself is of the standard "Gumbley" type and there is nothing of particular interest on the front address panel. However, when the letter card is opened up, there is printed in blue ink on the top left half of the inside the following inscription in small block capitals:

FOR USE BY U.D.F. TROOPS IN FORWARD AREAS
WITH BESTE WISHES
S.A. GIFTS AND COMFORTS COMMITTEE.

The first two lines are in a font with serifs, and the bottom line without serifs but in a bold type, giving the impression of a darker blue ink.

The specimen shown was written by Gunner C R M Roux 143753, 7th Battery, 8rd Field Regiment T H A (Transvaal Horse Artillery), M E F, and is dated 27th July. The year is not given but is one of a "run" of letters written by the same person to his wife, May, during 1942. Although the letter card seen bears a 3d large war stamp, there is no postmark or other postal markings and the letter card appears to have been conveyed to the Union by private means.

In his book *The South African Gifts and Comforts Fund* by R James Yell (1948), the national secretary of the fund, it is stated that after the fall of Tobruk (on 21 June 1942), Major Eaton purchased 10 000 "special air mail letter cards" and distributed them to men to advise their relatives of their safety. Major Eaton was the field distributing officer of the fund in the Middle East, and it is known that he had other printing done on behalf of the fund, e.g. inscriptions in Bibles.

I was formerly under the impression that the above statement by Yell referred to the active service letter cards with embossed stamps with *Gifts and Comforts* overprints, illustrations of which appear in my aforementioned monograph as figures 5 and 6. These were, until now, the only such overprints known to me. However, that statement refers specifically to "air mail letter cards", and I am now of the view that it refers to the stampless "air mail letter cards" which had been overprinted as above.

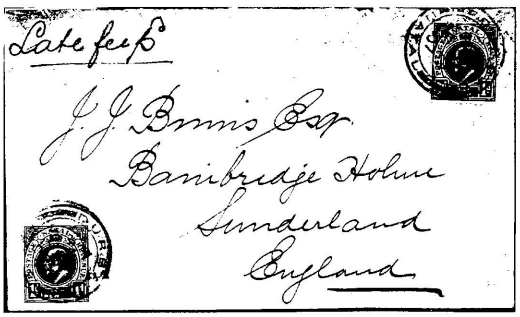
It is unlikely that Major Eaton would have been able to purchase 10 000 of the embossed active service letter cards in the Middle East, and stampless air mail letter cards were not available in South Africa. Whether all 10 000 purchased by Major Eaton were overprinted and distributed is not known. Distribution was, according to the overprint, intended for "troops in forward areas", which would primarily have included those units and individuals who escaped from or were in the vicinity of Tobruk. This might account for the scarcity of known copies.

In his monumental work *British Forces Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters* by O R J Lee (2nd edit), there is no mention of this overprint, even though the author and others studied many thousands of different printings and overprints of the stampless air mail letter cards. I wonder whether there may not be other specimens of this overprint that have passed unnoticed by collectors as a result of the overprint being on the inside of the letter card. I have without success checked my collection for other examples.

'Late fee' is well documented

Canon Jim Draper, Cheshire, UK, writes: I refer to an article in *The SA Philatelist* of June 2000 by Profesor O de Jager entitled *The Sunday Fee for Overseas Mail from Durban and Pietermarltzburg*. Perhaps as a member of the Natal Philatelic Society and also of the Natal & KwaZulu Study Circle I may be permitted a note on Professor de Jager's article.

The "late fee" facility is well documented and known to many Natal collectors, more especially to those who take 1910 as their "cut-off" date. It is not recorded in *The Postal Markings of Natal* by Bill Hart *et al* as it falls outside the scope of that valuable book. The "POSTED LATE" marking is not recorded by Hart. As Professor de Jager postulates, it is probably an "interprovincial" marking. I thank him for his interesting article.



Above is a copy of an envelope in my collection posted from Durban on 21 February 1907 and received on 16 March 1907 by the Sunderland addressee, the same person addressed on Professor de Jager's article.

More on stampless air mail letter cards

Tom Mullins, Port Elizabeth, writes: The note by Lappe Laubscher in your February 2002 issue (page 17) emphasises how careful one must be in making general statements in any article of philatelic research.

When I stated in my article on *The Stampless Air Mail Leffer Cards and Air Leffers used by South African troops during World War II* (supplement to *The SA Philatelist,* Vol 77 No 2, April 2001) that "there is no record of stampless air mail letter cards having been made available to civilians in any of the Allied countries, including South Africa", I intended to convey that I was not aware of any source or system of distribution of such air mail letter cards to civilians in South Africa or other Allied countries, whether through the medium of the post office or otherwise.

I still hold the view that the statement in *The SA Philatelist* of August 1941 that "this month it is expected that they will also be available for use by the public from this end to soldiers in N. Africa" refers to the embossed active service letter cards which were already on sale at post offices from July 1941. I did not intend to suggest that stampless air mail letter cards might not, through some other means, become available to, and be used by, civilians in South Africa.

I know of no specific prohibition in June 1942 against the use of stampless air mail letter cards by civilians in South Africa, provided they were franked with the requisite postage rate of 3d. These letter cards were of similar size and weight to the embossed 3d active service letter cards on sale at post offices since July 1941. However, in this regard Post Office Circular No 1301 dated 31 May 1943 is of importance:

> *"Active Service Letter Cards - Forms similar to the departmental print of Active Service Letter Cards are being printed and sold by commercial firms for use by the public. Stamps are not embossed upon the forms. A Springbok's head and the words 'Springbok Letter Card' are printed thereon. It should be noted that these,* ***and similar cards****, may not be forwarded by airmail at the threepenny "Active Service Letter Card" rate. If these letter cards are not prepaid at 1s.3d each, they should be forwarded by surface mail."* (My bold letters)

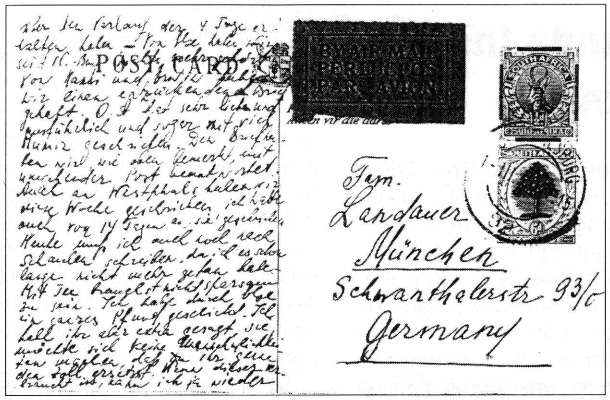
It is clear that the post office intended to allow only the embossed "Active Service Letter Cards" sold by it to qualify for the 3d postage rate, and it may well be that had this instruction been in force in June 1942, the letter card to Private Swemmer would not have been forwarded by air mail, as it presumably was.

I have mint copies of various stampless air mail letter cards in my collection which I sent home from Egypt for my father to keep for me. I would surmise that Private Swemmer sent this air mail letter card to his wife and that she used it to reply to him. Others may also well have done so.

I would certainly be most interested if it could be shown that there was a source within South Africa where these stampless air mail letter cards were made available to the public. They were a free army issue to troops on active service, but who

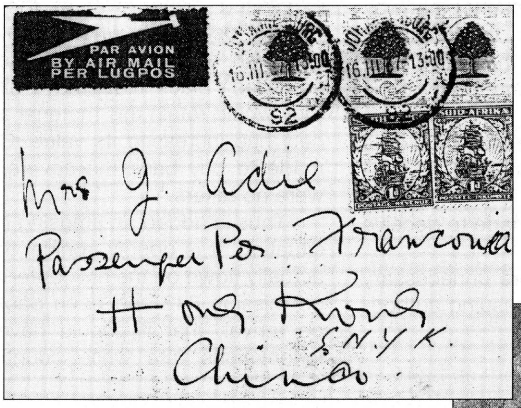
Help sought with postal rates

Bengt Jansson, Savonkedonkatu 5 as 1, FIN 20360 Turku, Finland, writes: I am sending enclosed photocopies of a postcard and two covers with the hope that some more knowledgeable readers might explain what the applicable postal rates were.

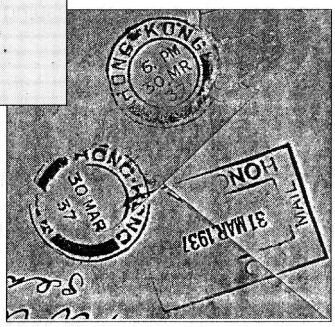


Postcard: ½d pre-stamped postal card with added 6d orange tree stamp, sent from Johannesburg (date stamp: Johannesburg 1 III 35 17:15) to Munich, Germany (no arrival stamp).

Cover 1: sent from Cape Town ?? May 1936 to Calcutta, India, and redirected to England. Cover is franked with pair of 6d, 2d and 1d stamps, total 1/3d (15d).



Backstamps: CALCUTTA 22 MAY 36 D.B.N., CALCUTTA G.P.O. DELY 23 MAY 36 7 - A.M., AMBLESIDE WESTMORELAND (date illegible) P.O. and on the front another CALCUTTA G.P.O. cancel 28 MAY 36 7 - P.M. (front & back illustrated).



Cover 2: sent from Johannesburg to Hong Kong, China, cancels: Johannesburg 16 III 37 13:00 and backstamps: HONG KONG 30 MAR 37 plus another HONG KONG 6. PM 30 MR 37. There is an additional rectangular cancel 31 MAR 1937 HONG KONG on the back. The cover is franked with 3 x 6d plus 2 x 1d, total 1/8d (20d). (front and back illustrated).



would supply them gratuitously to the public in South Africa when ready-stamped active service letter cards costing no more than the postage rate of 3d, had been available at post offices since July 1941?

I am grateful to Lappe for his comments.

Time to undo this blacklisting

Ronald G L Mephius, P O Box 2604, Primrose, 1416, writes: The Aerophilatelic Society committee decision to make "Airphilsa 30" a flight flight cover of 17 July 1981 was presided over by the late Ken Lydall RDPSA. In the statement made by the management committee of the Philatelic Federation of SA on its decision to blacklist this item, was the elucidating remark that it did not object to the buying of the official Vrijstaat 81 covers and overprinting them for the helicopter flight. It did, however, object to the use of the words "Vrijstaat 81" in the cachet that was applied. Curiously enough, this technical "infringement" that led to the blacklisting was surprisingly taken more than three years after the event.

In my opinion, "black blots" should be applied only to major philatelic transgressors, for example:

- Spurious stamp issues made to deceive the collector.
- Commemoratives that are unnecessary and non-relevant to the issuing authority.
- Stamps issued in long sets, or where one issue is deliberately in short supply.
- First-day covers (better described as souvenir covers) issued in high qquantities to appeal to the large majority of inexperienced collectors. Not many countries can claim to be entirely free of this lucrative 'enterprise' by their postal authorities.

These are only a few examples of what may really be considered for blacklisting. By contrast, this item under review could, at most, be classed as a very minor peccadillo. It is also obvious that the distribution of this cover (about 150, sold at only R1 each) does *not* come under the heading of criminal activity. The small profit made on these Airphilsa covers helped to subsidise that excellent publication, the *Aeroletter*. Surely this refutes the idea of it being a money-making gimmick for the personal benefit of anyone.

It is interesting to note that when the ban become public knowledge, the then honorary secretary of the ASSA received over 20 letters from South Africa and abroad, in which every single one expressed disapproval of the embargo. Several people to whom I have spoken and who have admitted possessing this so-called "black blot", have all said that they would retain this material as its notoriety had increased its value. Offers were made to buy back the covers, but there were no takers.

Thus is added an amusing irony to the situation. It is doubly ironical that, having actually flown on the helicopter Alouette III on mission 842 and been back-stamped on arrival, that it should have met this ignominious fate while countless thousands of others around the world purporting to be "flight covers" never even went on board an aircraft.

This blacklisting is now 21 years old and serves no purpose. The time has come to forgive an action which carried no malice aforethought. It reflects unnecessarily on the whole South African philatelic scene, one which has – mercifully – been practically free of undesirable practices. It reflects badly on organised philately in general and on the Aerophilatelic Society in particular, under whose auspices it was conceived. The blacklisting should now be withdrawn without delay.

Cylinders rechromed

Mike Tonking, P O Box 4137, White River, 1240, writes: I am seeking confirmation regardlng the possible rechroming of the cylinders used for printing the 3c and 50c values in the RSA 4th Definitive Building Issue. It is known and has been conf irmed that the 6c, 15c and R2 values were at some stage printed with rechromed cylinders after the original cylinders had been worn or broken. At the time they were printed it was rumoured that the 3c (cylinder S21 dated 87.07.10) and the 50c (cylinder S39 dated 1985.06.21) were also reprinted with rechromed cylinders but I have never been able to find proof of this.

Possibly one of our readers would be able to provide proof and thus solve the problem. I have not been able to obtain a reply from Philatelic Services who ignore my letters.

Mystery stamp was a private label

Chris Mobsby, scribe to the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society and member of the Cinderella Stamp Club of London, writes: The "stamp" illustrated by Mike Trigg in the February 2002 edition of *The SA Philatelist* is one of a set of seven such labels that are reputed to have been produced privately in London in I897 to celebrate the silver jubilee of Queen Victoria. Although each bears a denomination they carried no postal validity and were, it is believed, sold by hawkers in the streets of London.

The three lowest values of the set, the ½d purple brown, the 1d penny orange and the 1½d green are all based on the "von Angeli" portrait of the ageing Queen, pretty much as it appeared on, inter alia, the Indian high values of 1895 while the 2d purple shows a youthful Edward, Prince of Wales as he was also portrayed on the ½ cent olive of Newfoundland of 1897. These four values are all in a smaller format.

The 3d red and the 4d blue, the latter illustrated by Mr Trigg, both incorporate portraits of King Edward VII, who was to ascend the throne in 1901, and Queen



Alexandra. Although transposed and tilted, the portraits are remarkably similar to those used by the American Bank Note Co for the 2-cent carmine of Canada printed in 1908 as part of the set issued to commemorate the Tercentenary of Quebec.

From this latter set, the portraits of King George V and Queen Mary when Prince and Princess of Wales as they were reproduced on the ½ cent sepia appear to have been pre-empted on the top value ot the commemoratlve labels, the sixpenny, also in sepia. The King and Queen as they appear on this issue are noticeably more youthful than in the similar portraiture adopted by Waterlow for the celebrated "double heads" of Rhodesia of 1910.

To their detriment, the labels were produced by lithography as opposed to the recess printing of comparable stamps of the era from other parts of the Commonwealth.

Much of the above information has been drawn from "Phantom Philately" by Fred Melville which was published in 1924 and is still today an invaluable source of reference in the field of bogus stamps. There are a number of issues condemned by the author in his book as "bogus" which, with the passage of time have been reprieved in the light of the proof of genuine, albeit limited postal service. In this category one might include such issues as the Commando Brief of the Orange Free State, the Caye Service of British Honduras and, in Australla, both the Murray River Steam Navigation Co and the Lake Lefroy Cycle Mail. Yet there seems little doubt that, in Melville's own words, the Diamond Jubilee Commemorative stamps were no more than a "private speculation of no philatelic interest".

Why the same number?

S Starkowitz, Pietersburg Philatelic Society, writes: Regarding the Rio del Oro issue (Spain 1900-1902) overprint: *Habilitado Para 05 centimos*, a member of our society, Doug Southon, challenges Stanley Gibbons's statement that each sheet of stamps has different sheet numbers on the back of the stamp. He points out to Spanish collectors that the 1 centimo overprint has the same sheet number as the 4 centimo overprint as shown here:

1 centimo *3 centimo* *4 centimo*



Can any of your readers explain the reason for this, which seems to disprove Gibbons's remarks?

Don't just criticise

Graham Bawden, Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, writes: I was concerned to read an excerpt from Margaret Reynolds' letter in the *Thematics* column (SA Philatelist, April 2002).

What concerned me was this statement: "There was such a lot of bad publicity over low standard of entries that some members would not try again."

I was always led to believe that exhibiting was a way of getting positive criticism and more importantly a way of enjoying the hobby. Whatever happened to "It doesn't matter whether you win or lose – it's how you play the game"?

The future of our hobby lies with the ordinary member in the clubs – not with the perceived old cronies on Federation. Instead of criticising such members for not being up to standard, rather tell them where they need to improve.

I appeal to the older, more experienced members to mentor and pass on some of their experience rather than criticise exhibitors for not being experienced.

Please write to me!

Mrs Sandra Dekkers, P O Box 425, Christiana, 2680, writes: I am a stamp collector and buy a lot of my stamps from Philatelic Services in South Africa, but I'm looking for correspondents in the following countries and territories to whom I can write:

Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Namibia, and the former Venda, Ciskei, Bophuthatswana and Transkei.

news, views & reviews

Strong demand at Welz auction

The South African market for good philatelic material is still very alive and strong. This is the opinion of Danny Swart of Stephan Welz & Associates.

Swart said it was clear that local collectors were still a very important market. This was especially true of Anglo-Boer War and pre-Union material, he said. The February auction realised R2 472 536 and on average all the prices paid were above the catalogue estimates.

The bidding on the Cape Postal History material from the estate of the late Wilhelm Grütter exceeded all expectations and realised about R280 000.

Some other highlights of the auction were the R79 200 realised on lot 353, a Rorkes Drift manuscript cover; lot 497, Rhodesian double-head pair rare shaded which realised R90 000; and lot 626, 1930 tête-bêche double top rows from the sheet that went for R44 000.

A SWA Otto Schroeder miniature sheet with missing black printing fetched R30 800.

PFSA history: Help fill the gaps

AN UPDATED VERSION of the history of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is to be published next year to coincide with the Federation's 75th anniversary. Mr Neville Gomm, responsible for the updating, has appealed to fellow philatelists to help him fill the gaps in the existing history.

The original history, covering the period 1928–1973, appeared as a supplement to the September 1974 issue of *The SA Philatelist* This 18-page monograph contained brief historical notes on the 35 congresses held until then, as well as two appendices giving details from the notes in tabulation form. It was written by Dr T B Berry RDPSA and Mr Jonas Michelson RDPSA FRPSL.

That history was subsequently updated by Mr Michelson and Mr Howard Godwin. Now as a 28-page monograph, it was distributed to delegates to the 50th congress of federation held during the Pietermaritzburg 150 exhibition in 1988. A copy of this history was also mailed to every affiliated society for its library and extra copies could be bought from federation.

The updated version appeared as a reproduction of the original work with the addition of summaries of congresses held from 1974 to the 49th congress at Paarl in 1987. The additional summaries were in the same format as those of the first edition.

Mr Gomm offered to update the history along the lines of the previous work so that it can be published next year as an anniversary project, and his offer has been accepted. He says the history published so far has a number of gaps which he hopes readers will help him fill during this year. Details will appear later.

Book review

Latest volume on postmarks is better

The Postmarks of South Africa (Vol 8) *by Ralph F Putzel RDPSA and Alex T Visser*

THIS VOLUME of *The Postmarks of South Africa*, covering the post offices beginning with the letters O, P and Q, was published recently. It is a great relief to postmark collectors that someone like Alex Visser has taken over this mammoth task from Ralph Putzel. With his motivation and enthusiasm the series will be completed to the letter Z in the not too distant future.

In this volume the author adopted a different approach in that all the variants are described, but only clear illustrations are used. The poorer quality illustrations were left out, thus enhancing the overall quality of the book. In the previous volumes *all* the variations were illustrated and described.

Although one is aware of all the limitations in terms of time available for research, lack of support from collectors and financial constraints, it is a pity that the results of the latest research done over the last two years on the earliest postmarks used in Potchefstroom and Pretoria have not been included. Regarding Potchefstroom, in particular, several articles were published recently in the *Transvaal Philatelist* on the postmarks used in that post office. This will obviously have to be included in an addendum later on.

This is nevertheless another important publication for philately in Southern Africa and worth its money for the serious collector of postmarks. – **Gerhard Kamffer.**

2002 Stamp issuing programme – at last

THE 2002 stamp issuing programme is finally known. Published in the Feb/Mar/Apr issue of *Setempe,* it does carry a qualification: "Please note that this programme is subject to change without prior notice".

Just as well, for it seems the programme has already changed. Therefore one would not be wrong in assuming that the programme published in the quoted volume of *Setempe* is more of a provisional programme rather than the real thing.

According to the announcement the following issues are due out (well, maybe):

Cricket World Cup 2003 (six issues)	Date to be announced
World Summit on Sustainable Development	17 April (2002)
Presidential Coat of Arms	Date to be announced
Anglo Boer/SA War	31 May
Soccer World Cup 2002	June 2
Additional values – 7th Definitive series	19 June
South African Photography	22 July
Phila Korea Philatelic Exhibition	2 August
World Summit on Sustainable Development	24 August
Informal Settlements in South Africa	24 September
Christmas 2002	9 October
Endangered Wildlife/ Junass 2002 National Stamp Show	23 October
Cricket World Cup 2003	31 October
Lunar Year of the Goat	1 November
Education/Literacy	I November
AIDS	29 November

An interesting programme, indeed. The World Summit issue due out on 17 April has at the time of writing (8 May) not yet seen the light of day. The dates for the first issue for the World Cricket Cup have yet to be announced, although a second issue is planned for 31 October.

There will be only one issue for the Soccer World Cup, yet two for the World Cricket Cup. Interesting, since soccer is generally accepted to be the most popular sport in the world! World Stamp Day no longer features, and in its place on that specific day, which is World Stamp Day elsewhere, a Christmas issue is planned.

Another interesting issue is the Endangered Wildlife/Junass 2002 issue. Is there a hidden message in here that philately is also becoming an endangered species?

– Andries van der Walt

Slogans changed

THE POST OFFICE has given notice of an amendment to its slogan programme for use with the ink-jet stamp cancelling machines that was published on page 5 of the February 2002 issue of *The SA Philatelist*. The amendment was brought about by a new implementation date for the annual rates increase, on 22 April 2002. The programme should be amended to read:
25-31 March: *Use Faxmail for your urgent communication.*
1-7 April: *Need added security? Register your letter.*
22 April-5 May: *Are you aware of the new postal rates? Check at your post office.*

Major changes in payment methods

THE SA POST OFFICE has embarked on a major restructuring of the ways in which clients can pay for the postage of letters and other mail matter. The objective of rationalising the payment methods was to consolidate the number of payment methods and at the same time combat abuse or the fraudulent use of certain payment methods.

The new policy is to be phased in over a three-year period. In essence, the options available in future will be the use of stamps; franking meter machines; the purchasing of pre-paid envelopes from the post office; and bulk mail.

As a result, the words "postage paid" will disappear from pre-paid envelopes bought from the post offices. Instead, postage-included envelopes will now show the inscription "Postage included domestic".



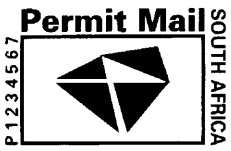
The words "Postage paid" will also no longer be used for bulk mail; the new system of "permit mail" will replace this. The use of "permit mail" gives companies the options of having their own "permit mail" designs made up, or using standard post office permit mail impressions on envelopes.

The words "postage paid" will also disappear from inkjet printers being used at all the major mail centres.

In addition to these changes, all the sales departments and divisions within the SA Post Office Ltd have been restructured into one retail sales department looking after all the payment methods for postal matter. The Philatelic Services Business Unit will now report into this new department.

Permit mail may only be used by customers who lodge a minimum of 1 000 letters at a time. A customer wanting to make use of this service would have to obtain a registration number from the various regional offices of the SA Post Office.

To use the permit mail system, the customer will need to have special envelopes printed, but the design has to be approved by the Post Office. It will consist of an official Post Office insignia and a permit number through which the Post Office can trace the customer.



Standard



Customised

Customers can still buy envelopes from manufacturers with the wording "Postage Paid" printed in the top right hand corner, but these must now be handed in at the counters and may not be posted in post boxes.

It is the intention of the Post Office to replace this postage-paid system before April 2004 with the new permit-mail system. According to the post office this will be a more manageable system and will prevent possible abuse of the postage-paid system.

A spokesman for the SA Post Office says bulk mail is still the most popular system used for the postage of letters. Some 80% of all letters that are posted use this system. The second most popular system is the use of franking meter machines, followed by stamps and the postage-included method.

A special brochure on easy payment methods is available from the Post Office.

CHINESE WORKERS in South Africa

J P D Flanagan *Witwatersrand Philatelic Society*

THE CHANCE DISCOVERY of four Chinese Red Band covers on my travels in Europe a few years back, followed by the kind assistance of Ian Shapiro of Argyll Etkin, London, who has sent me articles and other information on the covers, and general information relating to the Chinese in South Africa has prompted me to share this fascinating part of our history with readers of the *SA Philatelist*. This article is elementary and has been drawn from two sources which I set out as the credited references at the end of the article.

Well versed Transvaal philatelists will, I am sure, be able to add more information and detail. Should this happen and should this article prove to have acted as a stimulus to others with a particular interest in the subject, then my efforts will have been worthwhile.

Chinese workers had travelled as early as 1848 to California at the time of the gold rush and later worked on constructing the USA and Canadian Railways. Other Chinese had set up as merchants all over the world. South Africa was not excluded.

The first cover shown (Fig 1) is illustrative of incoming mail, in 1898, from Canton in China to a Chinese merchant, Kwong Lung Cheung & Co at Box 2506, Johannesburg. The red band cover is franked with a Hong Kong 10 cents Queen Victoria definitive stamp (Hong Kong stamps were legal for use in Canton at the time) and was postmarked Canton – (Sp 9 98). The route took it via Hong Kong – (Sp 10 98) through Aden – (Oc 2 98) and on, presumably via Durban, to Johannesburg, where it arrived on 24 Oct 98 – a journey of some 6 weeks.

Given the language difficulties that must have existed, the address on the cover is well and appropriately dealt with by the sender having affixed a pre-printed label, in English, probably previously sent by the addressee to China, to facilitate the addressing of return mail.

Gold mining had in the mean time been established as a powerful and lucrative industry on the Witwatersrand. On 19th May 1904 the Foreign Labour Department came into existence, when the Labour Importation Ordinance became law in the Transvaal the same year. Chinese labour had been in the service of the Crown since 1860 and the Convention signed by Britain and China provided that Chinese labour for the colonies be embarked at the Chinese Treaty Ports only.

On 30 June 1905 there were on the Witwatersrand and in Durban in transmission 41 303 Chinese labourers or "coolies" as they were known. The additional number of coolies who had sailed for South Africa on 30 June 1906 was 15 108. Of these, 99 had died on the trip and a further 99 were eliminated at Durban for various reasons. A number of Chinese died during the year on the mines – some 3 884 and by the end of June 1906 there were 52 329 coolies available for work on the Witwatersrand Gold Mines.

Drysdall and Davey quoted from the annual report of the Imperial Chinese Post Office of 1905 to the effect that an agreement on a closed mail system between China and South Africa was signed on 27 December 1905. No covers are apparently known from this service. Four covers are however recorded which travelled from China to South Africa in the open mail. The earliest cover Drysdall and Davey record was posted at Changli in Chihli (now Hopei) province on 28 July 1905, at the 10c international rate, via Tangku (29 July), Shanghai (4 August), and Colombo (24 January) arriving in Benoni on 13 September.

The 1906 cover (Fig 2) from Paoting (-January) at the 10c rate, via Shanghai (8 January), Shanghai B P O (same day) and Colombo (24 January) arriving in Benoni on 7 March, has a printed label for the New Modderfontein mine in Benoni.

The other two covers (Fig 3 and Fig 4) both used in 1908 – one from Nanking sub-office (18 March) and the other from Peking – are addressed to the Simmer Deep Mine in Germiston. One is addressed by hand and the other by a printed label printed horizontally. The former is also at the 10c rate via Shanghai (21 March) and Aden (13 April) to Germiston. The latter is rated at 30c with two "R" stamps for the Avis de Reception cover, via Shanghai (14 March) and Colombo (3 April), arriving in Germiston on 9 May.

In South Africa, labourers were housed in cramped wooden huts and were adequately fed by the mine owners using Chinese cooks, but there were many other problems – cries of "Chinese slavery" were raised in Britain and the lack of women led to other consequences – including a Liberal victory in the 1906 British general election.

The Chinese Labour Corp produced pre-printed envelopes that were postage free. It would be easy to assume that the labourers were supplied with labels to stick on mail to family and friends in South Africa. The red band covers were used apparently for various reasons, including sending money and valuables. The doubly registered RR Avis de Reception cover would likely have contained paper money, money orders and/or other important papers. This would most likely have been sent by an agent. It is unlikely that family

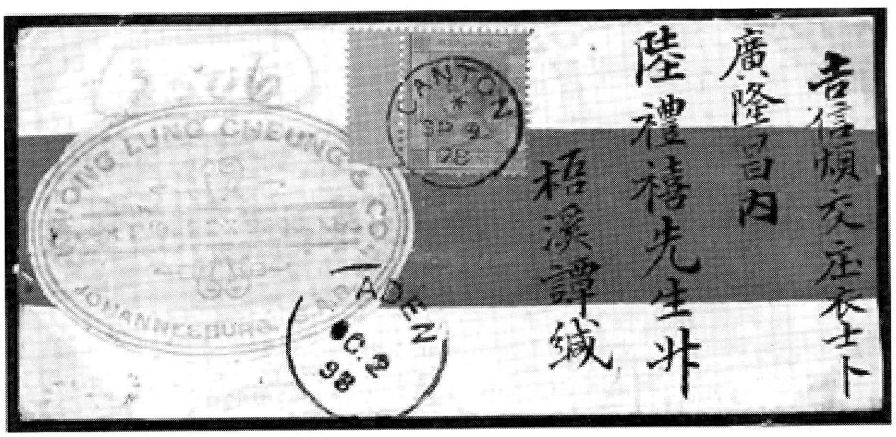


Figure 1

SAPDA/SAFHA

South African Philatelic Dealers Association
Suid-Afrikaanse Filateliehandelaarsvereniging
Box 918, Halfway House, 1685

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Any dealer displaying the SAPDA emblem is a member of this trade organisation and will abide by the following code of ethics:

1. Never knowingly offer counterfeit stamps as genuine, faulty or repaired stamps as perfect, unofficial reprints and forgeries as original, re-gummed stamps as original gum or in any way mislead a buyer as to quantity, quality or specification.

2. Should we, as stamp dealers, or anyone employed by us, or authorised by us to act in our name, supply stamps not according to description, we will accept full responsibility and make replacements or give compensation not exceeding the original purchase price, provided that such mistakes are brought to our attention within four months of the date of sale. Note that if the purchaser decides to submit an item for expertisation at any item prior to the expiry of the four months "guarantee period" he must advise the seller in writing, so that the seller is made aware of a possible time extension in respect of his obligation.

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Figure 2

Figure 3



would have used the labels; it is more likely that an agent had a supply of the labels to facilitate the posting of frequent reports and other correspondence back to the mines.

The Witwatersrand Mines in fact built a holding barracks at Weihaiwei for the labour from the Treaty Ports of Chefoo and Chingwangtao for the labourers to stay in before embarking for the journey to South Africa. This was not successful and the British Government leased the barracks for use by the Chinese Labour Contingent.

It is relevant to note that the use of Chinese labour was widespread. By 1916, the war on the Western Front saw an increased demand for labour. In May 1916 the French and Chinese signed an agreement that was to lead to 120 000 Chinese labourers working in France. The British followed suit and started recruiting labour for the 1st Chinese Regiment. This regiment was actively engaged in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900.

Eventually, the Chinese Labour Corps totalled 96 000 out of a total of 193 500 labourers from 10 different countries, with contingents of 48 000 from India, 22 100 from South Africa down to 800 from the Seychelles and 100 from Fiji. The correspondence of these workers back to their loved ones and the replies is indeed another subject – and yet one that is linked to the correspondence to and from the Chinese Mine Workers in South Africa.



Figure 4

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1 *Hong Kong Study Circle Journal* – Jn.316.3 – Michael Goldsmith
2 Ian Shapiro of Argyll Etkin, London
3 *The Transvaal and its Mines* – LV Praagh (Editor) – Pages 528 to 540

MY BURMESTER

Emil Burmester, the leading goldsmith, jeweller, watchmaker and optician in early Cape Town, could never have imagined that the way in which he handled his correspondence would make a big contribution towards philately in South Africa.



Pauw Steyl
George Philatelic Society

IN THE WORLD OF ART, collectors can become quite excited when paintings of well-known artists like Frans Oerder, Jan Volschenk, Hendrik Pierneef, Gregoire Boonzaaier, Tinus De Jongh, Maggie Laubscher, Irma Stern and others are offered for sale by auction houses and art dealers. They are often willing to pay high prices as long as they can obtain these masterpieces of art.

In philately it is more or less the same; it all depends on how you see it. Our hobby has masterpieces in its own right. Philatelists who can afford it are also willing to put their hands deep into their pockets to obtain these extreme rarities.

I am not in the position to boast possession of an Irma Stern, Pierneef or a Gregoire Boonzaaier. Nor can I say I have a 1d or 2d Cape woodblock block of four postally used on cover or even a "post office" Mauritius!

But I can tell you that I have a *Burmester* in my collection.

As far as I know, Burmester was no artist nor philatelist. Emil Burmester was the leading goldsmith, jeweller, watchmaker and optician in early Cape Town. I am not sure when he arrived in Cape Town, but during 1854 he joined the firm J C A Wagner at 8, Adderley Street as an assistant. Johan Carl Anthony Wagner was an optician and mathematical instrument maker at the time.



Figure 1: 78 Adderley Street circa 1885: The Burmester staff in front of their shop. Presumably one of them is Emil Burmester.

While still connected to Wagner's business, Burmester started to get his business into place. The following advertisement appeared on the front page of the Cape Argus of 4 June 1864:

E BURMESTER
Has just received per Venus, a very large assortment of
Fine Gold Earrings
Fine Gold Brooches
Fine Gold Bracelets
Fine Gold Signet, Keeper, Buckle, Ladies Fancy and Diamond Rings
Watch-hooks, Lockets, Diamond Plus &c.
Albuminized Paper
At Mr J C A Wagner's,
8 Adderley Street

On 19 July 1864 a similar advertisement appeared again on the front page. This time the consignment of goods was received "per Steamer Roman."

After Burmester bought his own property the firm E BURMESTER opened its doors at 23 Adderley Street, Corner of Shortmarket Street at the beginning of August 1864.

By 1924 E Burmester (Cape Town) Limited was still in business. At that time his son Alfred William Burmester owned the business. In 1869 Emil Burmester's home address was 5 Mill Street, Cape Town, and from 1871 his residence was at Myrtle Cottage, Beach Road, Sea Point.

Through the years the façade as well as the street number of the Burmester Building changed. The street address changed from 23 to 56 to 58 to 78 to 86 Adderley Street (fig 1).

By 1901 the postal address was P O Box 609, Cape Town, and the telegraphic address "Burmester". The House of Burmester was known throughout South Africa. From the so-called Burmester correspondence and newspaper advertisements we know that many husbands spoilt their spouses via Burmester Jewellers in Cape Town.

I don't think Emil Burmester could ever imagine that, the way in which he usually handled his correspondence would make a big contribution towards philately in South Africa. Burmester's way of handling his correspondence is clearly illustrated with the following example:

M.Adkins
Wellington June 16th (date dispatched)
Received June 17th
Answered June 1 8th

This manuel inscription was done on the back of every letter he received. In this way Burrnester furnished postal historians with valuable and often essential information to prove the authenticity of a particular cover, hand stamp etc.

Burmester had his correspondence done mainly during the period in which the barred oval numeral cancellers (BONC) were used at post offices and postal agencies throughout the Cape Colony. Letters from the Burmester correspondence are very often proving covers par excellence.

These cancellers were introduced in 1864 when numbers 1 and 2 were allotted

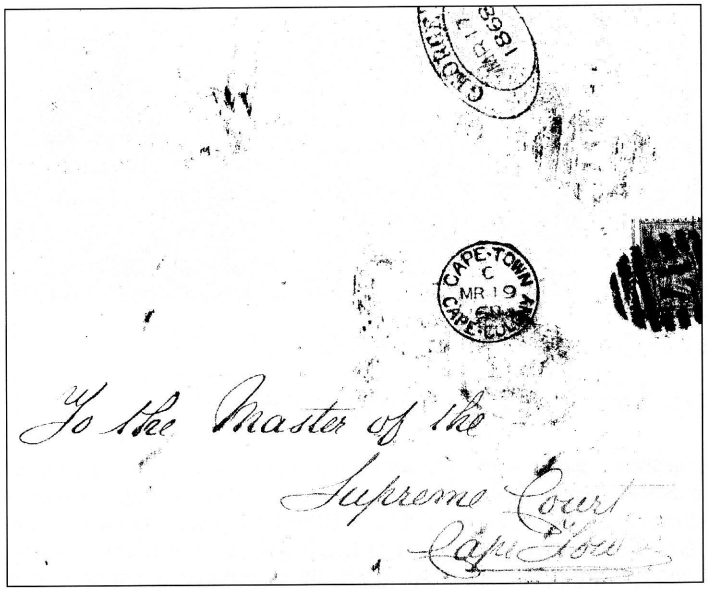

Figure 2: 17 March 1868: The earliest recorded use of BONC 17 at the George Post Office.

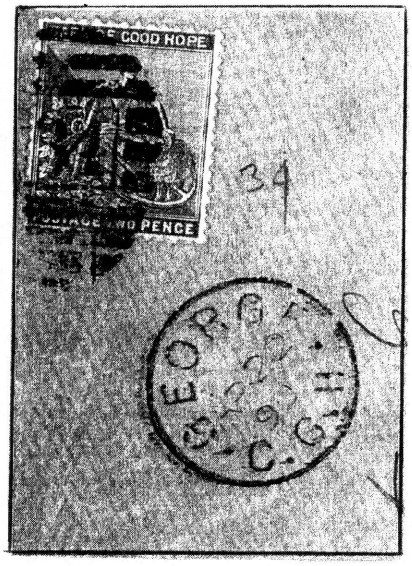

Figure 3: 22 April 1890: The earliest recorded use of BONC 34 at the George Post Office.

to Cape Town and Port Elizabeth respectively. By 1865, some 500 post offices and postal agencies were using them each with a different numeral. The primary function of these cancellers was to obliterate the prepaid adhesives and were normally used in combination with the date stamp of the dispatching post office.

When researching postal history, one often experiences immense difficulties. The introduction of BONC 17 and 34 to the George post office caused problems and questions and has postal historians guessing and suggesting up to this day. Regarding the introduction of BONC's to the George post office, Frescura and Nethersole say:

"The allocation to it (the George post office) of BONCs 17 and 34, at a time when BONC distribution had just begun, is difficult to explain. Both numbers belong to a batch of instruments believed to have been issued between 1864 and 1867, mainly to Divisional Head Post Offices. Current research shows that the use of BONC 34 at George precedes that of BONC 17 by about three years. This, and the fact that a different BONC 34 instrument is recorded to have been used at Wellington in 1875, indicates that BONC 34 was probably dispatched to George some time between June 1864 and 1867 and that within a short time something may have gone wrong with it, necessitating its replacement with BONC 17. BONC 34 was either returned to Stores and recut, or replaced by a new instrument, prior to being reallocated to Wellington."

According to these researchers the earliest recorded dates of use for BONCs 34 and 17 were 1865 and 17 March 1868 respectively (fig 2). No source is however indicated to prove the 1865 use of BONC 34 at the George post office. The 1868 use of BONC 17 was recorded by Welz Auction Catalogue, 25 July 1990 (lot 148), proving cover being in the author's collection.

Seeing that no source is available to prove the 1865 use of BONC 34 at George, a question arises. On what grounds of research do Frescura and Nethersole say "that the use of BONC 34 at George precedes that of BONC 17 by about three years"? In chapter four of their authoritative book regarding the use of the BONCs of 1864, Frescura and Nethersole published a list of post offices with the following heading: "Post Offices removed from previous listings owing to want of corroborative evidence." BONC 34 was *inter alia* dealt with: "BONC 34 George... No supporting evidence discovered since its initial publication in 1944." The only conclusion that I could arrive at was that no substantial evidence exists that BONC 34 was used at the George post office by 1865.

Through the years I was on the lookout for Frescura and Nethersole's "corroborative evidence" regarding BONC 34, but to no avail until... Jopex 1999. At the stand of one of our dealers I was looking through some Cape of Good Hope material. You will know by experience that there is always a chance that one could find some new material to complement your collection.

Well, that Wednesday morning I came across some Burmester correspondence or perhaps I should rather say BONC correspondence. Initially I found BONC 563 of the Millwood postal agency near Knysna, BONC 437 of Uniondale and BONC 284 of Oudtshoorn. And then I couldn't believe my eyes: There in front of me lies a letter, properly addressed to E Burmester Esq, Cape Town, with the adhesive nicely tied to the envelope by BONC 34 used in combination with the George CGH cds dated 22 April 1890 (fig 3).

MY BURMESTER! I can assure you I was over the moon. My search over a period of eleven years finally came to an end. My patience was rewarded. No need to say, I bought the cover.

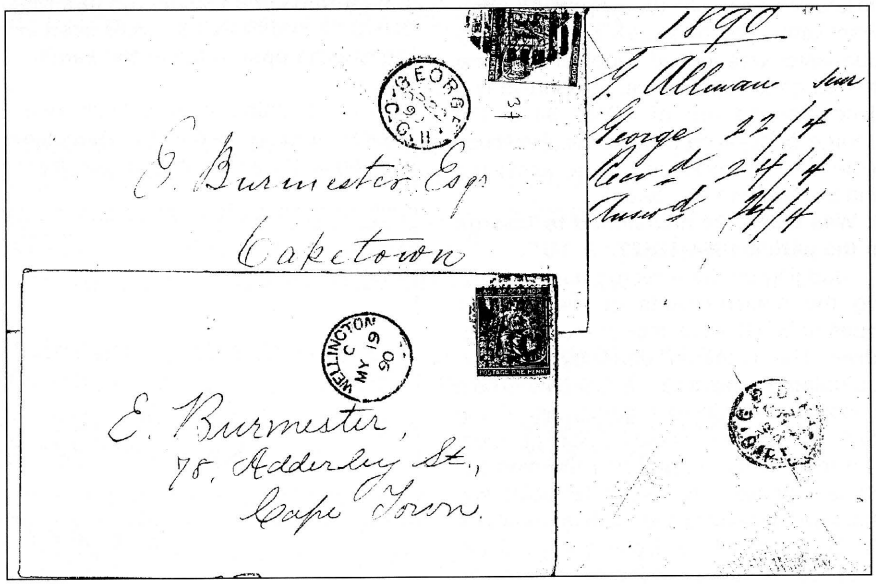

Figure 4: 22nd April 1890/19th May 1890: Proving covers that BONCs 34 were used simultaneously at the post offices of George and Wellington.

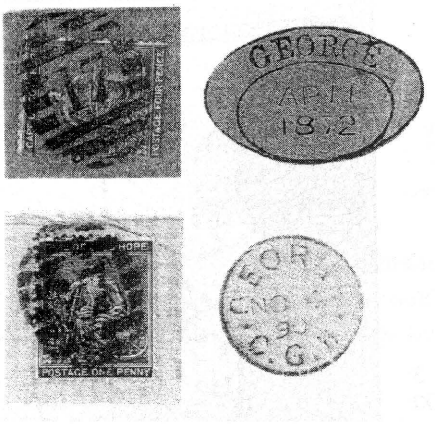

Figure 5: Two different specimens of BONC 17 used at the George post office.

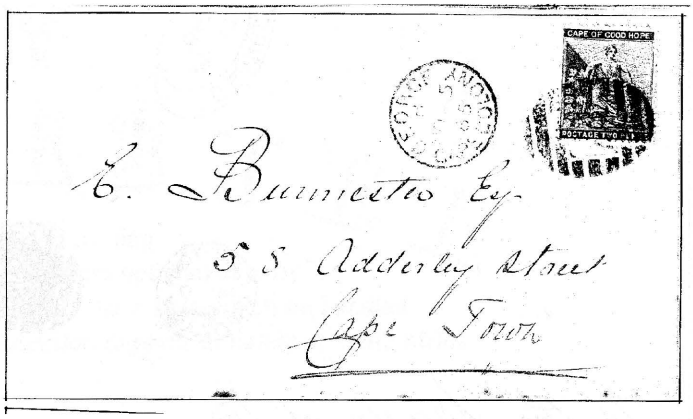

Figure 6: 5 November 1885: Smaller BONC 17 used at George.

What I did not know at that moment was that Old Harry would also have a finger in this pie. That evening in my room, while studying the latest additions to my collection, a thought suddenly struck me. What if your Burmester is a fake? It was Old Harry, sitting behind my ear, and interfering with my newfound joy. At home I scrutinised the cover. I could find nothing wrong. However, Frescura and Nethersole stated that current research shows that the use of BONC 34 at the George post office precedes that of BONC 17 by about three years. The problem now was that the using date on my BONC 34 cover was April 1890, 22 years after the earliest recorded date of use of BONC 17, March 1868.

The BONC 34 mystery deepened. Burmester's manual inscription on the reverse reads:

G.Allman Snr.	**(Sender of letter)**
George 22/ 4	**(Date of dispatch)**
Recvd. 24/ 4	**(Received by Burmester)**
Answered 24/ 4	**(Date answered)**

As I said, I could find nothing wrong. All the dates are in place and the adhesive nicely tied to the cover by BONC 34. Just to make absolutely sure I asked the opinions of two of our most experienced Cape philatelists and with the help of an ultraviolet lamp I got the answer right away: My Burmester was indeed a postal historical item of great significance. Supportive evidence for the use of BONC 34 at the George post office now exists. However, there are still questions to be answered and problems to be solved:

1. Was BONC 34 dispatched to George in the period 1864-1867?

Judging by the research done regarding the measurements of the different types of BONCs the answer must be negative. The research done by Jurgens, Goldblatt, Frescura and Nethersole revealed that different groupings of the thick-bar numerals could be distinguished. The most common group is the nine-bar numeral group. Jurgens and Goldblatt say that by determining the measurements of the oval the date of issue can be fixed. They came to the following conclusion regarding the dates of issue:

21 x 28 mm oval cancellers - 1864/1865
15,5 x 22 mm oval cancellers - approx 1879
21 x 29 mm oval cancellers - approx 1880

Frescura and Nethersole are very carefill to endorse abovementioned approach because over-inked and smudged cancellations can make this approach very unreliable. Careful measuring of BONC 34 shows that it measures 20/21 x 29 mm. This put the introduction of this particular canceller in 1880 and not between 1864-1867.

BONC 17's measurements are 21 x 28 mm and was therefore issued to the George post office *circa* 1867-1868. I think it is quite safe to say that BONC 17 precedes BONC 34 at the George post office and not *vice versa*. Until new evidence to the contrary is recorded, we have to accept this fact.

2. Did BONC 17 replace BONC 34 at the George post office?

Taking into account the abovementioned particulars the answer is negative.

3. Were the post offices at George and Wellington both issued with BONC 34?

The answer is yes! In fact, the two proving covers also confirm that the two cancellers were used at the same time – George (AP 22 90) and Wellington (MY 19 90) (fig 4).

4. How does one explain the fact that BONC 17 and BONC 34 were used in the George post office at the same time?

This question is a difficult one to answer and is liable to speculation. Looking at the information at our disposal I very much doubt if it can be answered satisfactorily. If one compares the use of different BONC 17 postal items with the use of the BONC 34 cover, you'll understand why the question is a difficult one to answer.

It was common cause in those days that BONC instruments became worn more rapidly in those offices in which large volumes of mail were handled. This caused postmasters to apply to the Postmaster General to replace worn BONC instruments. A good example of this is a letter written by Mr C Scholtz, the acting postmaster of Oudtshoorn, to the Postmaster General on 15 August 1868. He applied for a new obliterating stamp. His motivation was: "The one in use being not good as the number cannot mark, it being too low. The number is 20." As replacement for BONC 20, the Oudtshoorn post office was issued with BONC 284.

In those years Oudtshoorn was a much smaller office than George. George was situated on the main postal route to the Eastern Frontier. The post office handled large volumes of mail and I suppose what happened at Oudtshoorn also happened at George. This may be the reason for the use of both BONCs at the George post office.

Frescura and Nethersole hold the view that, during the distribution period 1865-1868, "BONC 34 was sent as a duplicate to George (which had already received BONC 17)".

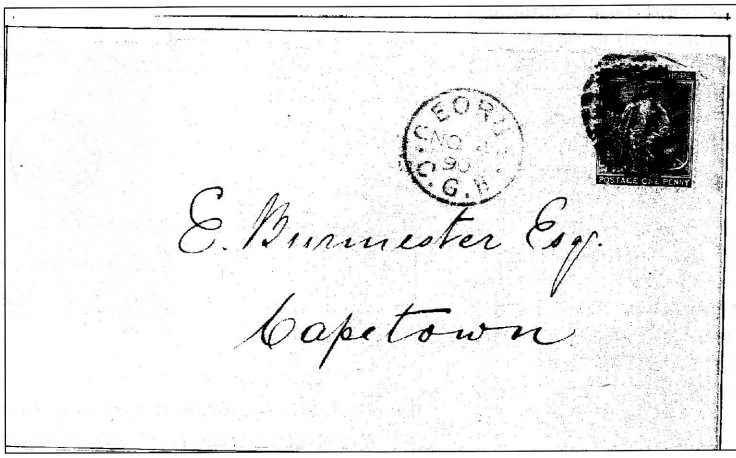

Figure 7: 4 November 1890: After being reported lost on the 1st October 1890, BONC 17 was found and again in use at the beginning of November.

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My research regarding the use of BONCs 17 and 34 at the George post office revealed another very interesting fact: A second BONC 17 was issued to George. The oval is notably smaller than the original BONC 17 and measures 20 x 27 mm (fig 5). The earliest specimen in my collection was used in combination with the George/Cape Colony cds, dated NO 5 85 (fig 6). It is safe to say that the original BONC 17, issued in *c*1867/1868, became worn and was replaced with the new one. In the Cape of Good Hope Post Office Circular No 106 of 1 October 1890 the loss of BONC 17 was reported:

"Item 12: Lost Obliterating Stamp

"An oval Defacing Stamp, bearing the No 17, has been lost from the Post Office George. It is believed to have been dropped into one of the mailbags dispatched from the office. Should it hasvefound its way to any other office in the Colony, it must at once be sent back to the Postmaster at George."

It was recovered within a short time because author has a cover, forwarded from George, bearing BONC 17 and the George CGH cds with date NO 4 90 in his collection (fig 7). BONC 17 was still in use as late as 10 December 1897.

The use of BONC 34 at the George post office in this particular case is very difficult to understand let alone give definitive answers. A letter from Mr George Watson forwarded to E Burmester in Cape Town shows the use of BONC 17 at George on MR 23 90. Two letters from Mr G Allman to E Burmester show the use of BONC 34 at George on AP 22 90 and BONC 17 on MY 8 90 (fig 8). This shows that BONCs 17 and 34 were used in the George post office at the same time.

The reason for this I do not know. I assume that BONC 34 was definitely issued as a duplicate BONC to George. But why is mail matter, dispatched from George and bearing BONC 34 so hard to find? I am afraid the only one who knew the answer would be the late Mr D A McIntyre, postmaster of George at the time!

I want to ask fellow collectors of Cape postal history if there are further specimens of the BONC 34 of George in their collections? If anybody could come up with some answers, other philatelists will be very grateful. Meanwhile I will continue to be on the lookout for other Burmester gems.

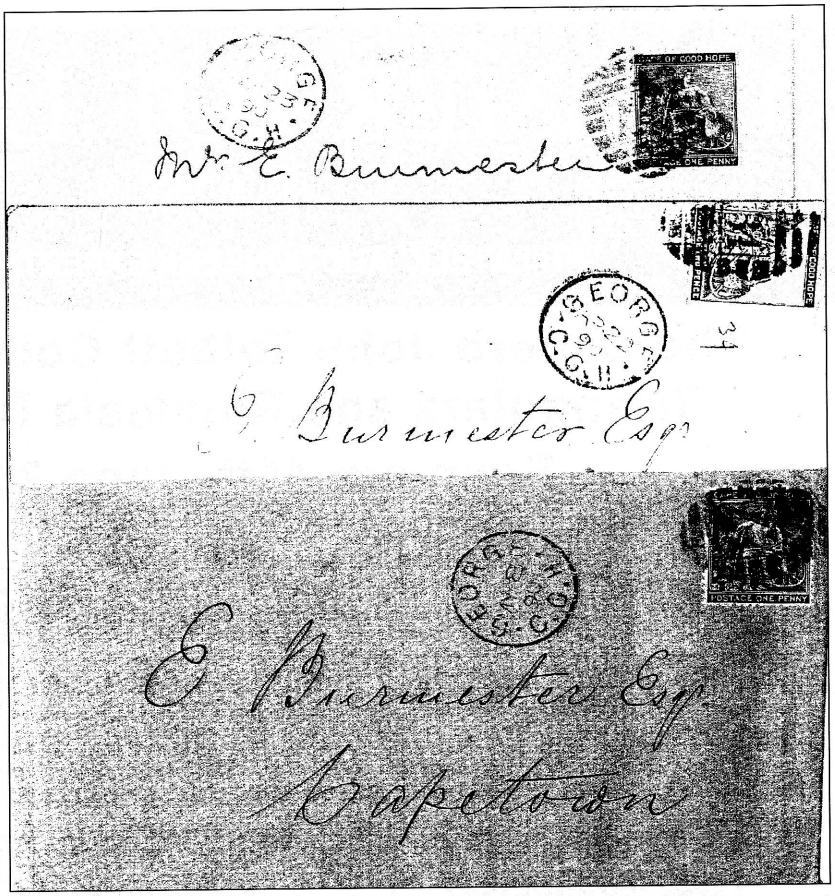

Figure 8: Proving covers that BONCs 17 and 34 were used in the George post office at the same time.

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Archivalia:

Cape Archives: GPO 1- *Incoming Letters from the Country Postmasters to the Postmaster General 1814-1880.* Volume: 1/93(1 868)

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Filateliese versamelings in *openbare besit*

Gawie van der Walt
PFSA Public Collections Committee
cachetap@iafrica.com

Die meeste van dié versamelings is weggebêre in kaste of kluise sonder dat dit gereeld geïnspekteer word. Sommige museums weet nie eens waar hulle filateliese materiaal is nie. Van hulle gee toe, nadat hulle nie hul filateliese materiaal kon vind nie, dat dit moontlik gesteel kan wees.

IN HULLE BOEK *The Care and Preservation of Philatelic Materials* stel Collings en Schoolley-West dit dat elke versamelaar die verantwoordelikheid het om sy of haar versameling so goed as moontlik te bewaar, maak nie saak of hy die versamelaar van 'n paar seëls of die kurator van 'n nasionale filateliese versameling is nie. In filatelie hanteer die meeste versamelaars hulle materiaal met groot sorg.

Maar, sê die skrywers, baie meer as dit is nodig as ons ons filateliese nalatenskap wil bewaar vir die toekoms. Daarvoor sal dit nodig wees dat goeie bewaringstegnieke nou toegepas moet word. Hulle sê verder dat dit aanvaar moet word dat versamelings sal aanhou verweer en agteruitgaan, soos die geval was sedert die verskillende items vervaardig is. Hierdie baie stadige agteruitgang kan nie gekeer word nie, maar ons het almal die verantwoordelikheid om dit so ver as moontlik te vertraag.

Hoewel versamelaars – soos Collings en Schoolley-West dit stel – in die algemeen vir baie korter tydperke as museums en argiewe in besit is van materiaal, is versamelaars baie meer aktief met hulle filateliese items. Hulle is gedurig besig om daarmee te werk, dit op te skryf vir uitstalling en dit na te vors. En in museums, kry filateliese materiaal nog enigsins aandag?

Omstrede onderwerp

Filateliese versamelings wat in museums en biblioteke gehuisves word, is al lankal reeds 'n omstrede onderwerp. Andries van der Walt het reeds in 1985 hieroor geskryf. Van der Walt roer 'n aantal baie belangrike sake aan:

- Versamelings wat aan museums bemaak, geskenk of verkoop word is omtrent altyd verlore vir ander versamelaars (want dit sal nie sommer weer op die mark kom nie), behalwe vir die enkele ernstige versamelaars wat toegang tot die materiaal vir navorsing mag verkry.
- Hierdie versamelings het (met enkele uitsonderings) vergete geraak. Baie van ons weet nie eens van hierdie versamelings nie of waar dit bewaar word nie. As ons daarvan weet, wanneer laas is dit besigtig of is dit iewers vertoon?
- Is dit nie tyd dat die Filateliese Federasie (PFSA) iets omtrent die saak doen nie? Kan daar nie gereël word dat die versamelings "minstens op 'n gereelde grondslag as deel van 'n erehof by 'n nasionale of internasionale uitstalling vertoon word nie?" Sulke versamelings behoort iets te wees om op trots te wees en moet aan die versamelwêreld vertoon word en nie weggesteek word nie.
- Die "huis van filatelie" (wat myns insiens darem nou al té lank net 'n droom is) kan eendag 'n plek wees waar die room van ons versamelings 'n permanente uitstalplek kan kry.
- Hy wou weet of daar iewers 'n inventaris bestaan van filateliese versamelings. Indien wel, waar? Hy vra of die Federasie nie 'n komitee opdrag kan gee om so 'n inventaris saam te stel nie?
- Tesame met die saak van versamelings in openbare besit kan ook gekyk word na watter maatskappye versamelings besit (die voorbeeld van Barclays Nasionale Bank, deesdae Eerste Nasionale Bank) word genoem.

Voorwaar 'n artikel wat sy tyd ver vooruit was, wat baie belangrike en tergende vrae gestel het, en waaraan bitter min aandag (tot onlangs) gegee is.

Huidige stand van sake

Die jaarlikse Rendezvous-kolom vir 1997 lys 'n agttal *Stamp Collections in Museums*. Die getal vir 1999 is sewe. Hoeveel van hierdie versamelings was egter maklik toeganklik in hierdie jare? Miskien vier. En hoeveel van hierdie versamelings is aktief na gekyk en kundig versorg? Miskien een of twee.

Al hoe minder geld wat beskikbaar is maak dat meeste van hierdie versamelings weggebêre is in kaste of kluise, sonder dat dit gereeld geïnspekteer word om die toestand daarvan te bepaal. Sommige museums weet nie eens waar hulle filateliese materiaal is nie (so het 'n vooraanstaande museum vir agt maande gesoek voordat hulle kon vasstel waar in die museum hulle filateliese materiaal is). Sommige museums gee toe, nadat hulle nie hulle filateliese materiaal kon vind nie, dat dit moontlik gesteel kan wees.

By 'n ander instelling (in 'n buurland, waar die regering 'n dekade gelede 'n fortuin in Londen bestee het om 'n belangrike versameling van daardie land op 'n veiling te koop) is die versameling mooi uitgestal in die nasionale posmuseum. Maar onder watse toestande? Die huidige toestande laat enkel- en veelvuldige seëlitems opkrul. Die veelvuldige items staan gevaar om los te raak by die perforasies as die atmosferiese toestande nie aangepas word nie. Dit sal hulle omtrent nutteloos maak as enkelitems. Pogings van 'n paar versamelaars om die owerhede te kry om aandag te gee aan die situasie, was vrugteloos.

Aan die ander kant is daar weer instellings wat gereelde aandag gee aan hulle versamelings. Sulke instellings het gewoonlik 'n bepaalde persoon wat verantwoordelik is vir

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C.G.Stamps, Clinton Goslin, P O Box 11644, Klerksdorp 2570 – Tel 018 4692 385, Cell 083 272 9367
André Stamps, André Dippenaar, P O Box 10895, Strubenvale 1570 – Tel 011 362 2485, Fax 011 433 2666

Updated 09.05.02

Affiliated societies

Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa
Meets third Sat every even-numbered month at 17 Mercurius Rd, Solheim, Germiston.
Sec David Wigston, Box 9394, Cinda Park 1463, tel 011 896 2975 (h), 012 429 6791 (b), fax 012 421 3346, email wigstdj@unisa.ac.za

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Johannesburg
Vergader tweede Saterdag, 14h00, Saal van die Nederlands Sprekende Gemeente van die Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van SA, Hoek van Sherborne/Jan Smuts Lane, Parktown.
Eresekretaris Albert de Jong, tel 011 477 8791, email deja@global.co.za

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria
Vergader Vierde Woensdag 19h00, Teekamer, Patologiegebou, Dr Savageweg, Riviera, Pta.
Sek Ds Cassie Carstens, Box 56221, Wierdapark 0149, tel/fax 012 653 2279, email algsin@mweb.co.za

Bellville Philatelic Society
Meets first Wed, 19h30, Bellville Library Auditorium, Carl van Aswegen St, Bellvile.
Sec Mrs Reanie Janse van Vuuren, Box 641, Bellville 7535, tel/fax 021 919 8336 (h), cell 082 783 5250 – email bellvillephilatelic@lycos,com

Boksburg Philatelic Society
Meets last Saturday, 1400, Impala Park Community Centre, Boksburg. Sec Dean Adriaanse, Box 9202 Cinda Park 1463, tel 082 625 3757, fax 011 821 9106/7; email dean.adriaanse@atlascopco.com

Botswana Philatelic Society
Meets second Tuesday, 20h00, Gaborone Sun Hotel, Gaborone. Sec Ms Lene Bay, Box 502426, Gaborone, Botswana. Tel/fax 3060223, email baybooks@it.bw

Cape Society for Palestine-Israel Philately (CASPIP)
Meets on third Wed, 20h00, "Sukkah", Highlands House, Highlands, Cape Town. Sec Dr Leon Stein, Box 6160, Roggebaai 8012, tel 021 552 4124; leonst@global.co.za

Centurion Philatelic Society
Meets second Wed, 19h30 Auditorium Main Library crn. Cantonments Rd/Unie Av, Centurion. Sec Mrs Val Brown, Box 22055 Lyttelton 0104, tel/fax 012 653 6781 (h); cell 083 961 4807

Cusaf Stamp Club
For details contact Mr W M Scott, Box 166, Richmond 7090

East London Philatelic Society
Meets fourth Thur, 19h30, Langenhoven Hall, Central Library, Gladstone St, East London.
Sec Mrs Joan Muller, Box 925, East London 5200, tel 043 721 0397 (h). Pres Arthur Bush; email bushcato@freemail.absa.co.za

East Rand Philatelic Society
Meets second Mon, 19h30 for 20h00, Benoni Library Theatre, Rothsay St, Benoni.
Sec Dr. Alan Rose, Box 13664, Northmead 1511, tel/fax 011 816 1928; email roses@wol.co.za

Edenvale Philatelic Society
Meets first Wed, 19h30, Edenvale Community Centre, entrance 2nd St off van Riebeeck Av.
Sec Mr KTJ Baillie, 3 Adjutant Rd, Elma Pk, Edenvale 1609, tel 011 454 1340; email keithb@netactive.co.za

Fish Hoek Philatelic Society
Meets first Wed, 20h00, Minor Hall, Civic Centre, Central Circle, Fish Hoek. Sec Mrs Margaret Reynolds, Box 22388, Fish Hoek 7975, tel 021 782 2653.

Germiston Philatelic Society
Meets last Sat, 1400, Impala Park Community Centre, Elizabeth Rd, Boksburg. Sec Mike Jackson, Box 2125, Primrose 1416, tel 011 826 2005 (h), 011 820 5157 (b); email KennethJ@xsinet.co.za

Great Britain Philatelic Society of SA
Meets first Sat in Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec, 14h00 at member's home in Pretoria or Johannesburg. For details contact Secretary Mrs Mary Bromfield, 18 Sir George Grey St, Horizon 1724; tel 011 763 3098

Goudveld Filatelievereniging
Vergader laaste Donderdag, 19h00 Kerksaal NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus. Sek mev Gerrie Conradie, Posbus 209, Odendaalsrus 9480, tel 057 354 2864 Fax 057 398 1104; email pjcon@global.co.za

Highway Philatelic Society
For details contact Dr Angus Pringle, Box 975, Kloof 3640; tel: 031 765 2541 (h); cell 082 485 1956

Kimberley Philatelic Society
Meets second Mon, 19h00, venues in monthly newsletter. Sec John Horner, 11 Diomedes St, Herlear, Kimberley 8301, tel 0531 82 2712 (h), 0531 34 251 (b)

Klerksdorp Philatelic Society
Meets first Thur, 18h30, Lecture Hall, Klerksdorp Library. Sec. Mrs W Ward, Box 712, Klerksdorp 2570, tel 018 462 2671 (h)

Maritzburg Philatelic Society
Meets Mon, 19h30, St Matthews Parish Hall Crn Olsen Rd/Hesketh Dr, Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg. Sec Anne Southwood, Box 476, Hilton 3245, tel 033 343 4803; email hilton@postnet.co.za

Mashonaland Philatelic Society
Meets second Sat 09h00, Country Club, Newlands, Harare, Zimbabwe. Sec Cerin Culliton, Box 2735, Harare, Zimbabwe; tel: 722994; email (Chairman): Adrian de Bourbon bourbon@mweb.co.zw

Nigel Stamp Club
Meets last Mon, 18h30 for 19h00, Methodist Church Hall, Nigel. Secretary Mrs Lesley Leesmann, Box 1015 Nigel 1490, tel 011 814 3377; email: mwleesma@mweb.co.za

Northern Natal Philatelic Society
Meets third Thur, 19h00. For venue details contact Secretary: Frans van Es, Box 8224, Newcastle, 2940, tel 03431 24626

Orange Free State Philatelic Society
Meets fourth Fri (except Dec), 19h00, Anglo-Boer War Museum, Monument Rd, Bloemfontein. Sec Mrs Gerda van Zyl, Box 702, Bloemfontein 9300, tel: 051 447 9609 (b), fax 051 447 6273; email gerda@nasmus.co.za

Paarlse Filateliste
Vergader op die tweede Donderdag, 19h30, Dagsentrum, Huis Vergenoegd, Hoofstraat, Paarl. Eresekretaris J. Kwak, Posbus 60, Paarl, 7620, tel 021 872 2379; email detal@mweb.co.za

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg
Meets fourth Tue, 19h30, Moth Hall cnr 16th Street/2nd Av, Parkhurst. Sec Dr Ian Matheson, Box 131110, Bryanston 2021, tel 011 706 5981, cell 083 455 9501, fax 011 706 0927; email ian.trina@acebet.co.za

Philatelic Society of Kwazulu-Natal
Meets first Wed, 19h30 for 20h00, Berea Bowling Club, Crn Brand/Ferguson Rd, Glenwood. Secretary Mrs Ann White, Box 115, Hyper by the Sea, 4053; tel 0311 563 4124; cell 083 724 3135.

Pietersburg Philatelic Society
Last Tue, 19h30, Pietersburg Bowls Club, Voortrekker St, Pietersburg. Sec Solly Starkowitz, Box 302, Pietersburg 0700, tel 015 297 2723 (h), 015 297 2942 (b), fax 015 297 2122.

Pinelands Stamp Circle
Meets last Wednesday, 20h00, Activities Rm, Public Library, Howard Place, Pinelands; Sec John Stinson, Box 520, Howard Place 7450; tel 021 531 1591; email stinson@mweb.co.za

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society
Meets first Mon, 19h30 for 20h00, Bible Society, 31 Cotswold Av, Port Elizabeth. Sec Rodney H Maclachlan, Box 10886, Linton Grange, PE 6015, tel 041 360 5737 (h), 041 390 8206 (b); email rmaclachlan@xsinet.co.za

Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa
For meeting/venue details contact Secretary Mrs Marge Viljoen, Box 835. Groenkloof 0027, tel/fax 012 460 7339

Pretoria Philatelic Society
Meets first Mon, 19h30, St Alban's College, Clearwater Rd, Lynnwood Glen. Sec Mr Clive King, Box 36473, Menlo Park 0102, tel 012 672 5162; cell 082 411 1043

Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town
Second & fourth Mon, 20h00, Athenaeum, Mariendahl Road, Newlands. Sec Mary Rogers, Box 1973, CT 8000, tel. 021 558 2662 (h), 021 54 3531 (b); fax 021 54 7725; email mary@barkerfw.co.za

Royal Philatelic Society Zimbabwe
Meets third Wed, 19h30, Senior Citizens' Club Bulawayo, 11a Clark Rd, Suburbs, Bulawayo.
Sec Gordon Murray, Box 803, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, tel Bulawayo 2639 71627 (h); 2639 322506 (w); email mrhsurv@telconet.co.zw

Sandton Philatelic Society
Meets first Mon, 19h00/19h30, Moth Hall, Philatelic Ctre, Cnr 16th St/2nd Av, Parkhurst.
Sec Mrs Sheila Heyl, Box 226, Pinegowrie 2123, tel 011 787 5573; cell 083 300 3899; email glidex@icon.co.za

Sasolburg Filatelievereniging / Oilfilat
Vergader op tweede Woensdag, 19h00, Sasolburgse Munisipale Biblioteek. Sek mnr Marius Kriel, Box 353, Vanderbijlpark 1900, tel 016 982 1031, cell 082 808 3038; email marius.kriel@sasol.com

Society of Israel Philately
Meets first Mon, 19h30, Great Park Synagogue, Glenhove Rd. Sec Brian Gruzd, Box 2019, Parklands 2121; tel 011 440 7789 (h); 011 442 3010 (b) Fax 011 442 3096; email brian.gz@icon.co.za

South African Stamp Study Circle
Meets second Sat, 14h00, 124A Buckingham Av, Craighall Pk. Sec Keith Perrow, Box 1795, Bramley 2018, tel 011 882 2744; email keithp@dbthermal.co.za

Southern Philatelic Society
Meets second Wed, 19h30, Alberton City Library. Sec Danny Khoury, Box 260302, Excom 2023; tel 011 435 4434 (h); fax 011 432 4018; 011 493 5900 x 230 (w); email dannykhoury@mweb.co.za

South West Africa Stamp Study Group
For meeting/venue details contact Sec Marge Viloen, 835, Groenkloof 0027, tel/fax 012 460 7339

Springs Philatelic Society
Meets third Mon,19h30, Springs Library Auditorium, Crn Fifth St/Sixth Av. Sec Mr Wim Bosveld, Box 1024, Strubenvale 1570, tel 011 362 4457 (h),

Stellenbosch Philatelic Society
Die derde Dinsdag, 19h30, Lesingsaal, Openbare Biblioteek, Pleinstraat, Stellenbosch. Sek Mr J J Louw, Box 329, Matieland 7602, tel/fax 021 889 5299 (h), cell 083 449 3890; email jjlouw@iafrica.com
Thematics South Africa
For details of meeting/venue contact Secretary Ds Cassie Carstens, Box 52011, Wierdapark 0149, tel/fax 012 653 2279, email algsin@mweb.co.za
Vereeniging Philatelic Society
For details contact Mr G J Scheepers, Box 806, Sasolburg 1947, tel 016 976 9925
Ventersburg Filatelie Vereniging
Meets last Sat, 10 am, at Gereformeerde Kerk Saal, Voortrekkerstraat 28, Ventersburg. Sec Mev Alida van Wyk, Posbus 31, Ventersburg 9450; tel 057 651 4740
West Rand Philatelic Society
Meets third Wed, 19h30, Vossert's Building, Florida Lake. Sec Miss Mary Bromfield, Box 1118, Florida 1710, tel 011 763 3098
Windhoek Philatelic Society
Meets first Sun (excl Dec), 10h00, at the home of Gerd Keding, Avis Rd 10, Windhoek. Sec Mrs Elna Hyman, Box 2285, Windhoek, Namibia, tel 09264 61 26 2179, fax 09264 61 21 7775
Witbank Philatelic Society
Details from Sec John Bird, 8 Karel St, Del Judor, Witbank 1035, tel 013 692 8872 (h), cell 082 665 3436; email jhbird@mweb.co.za
Witwatersrand Philatelic Society
Meets second Wed, 20h00, Country Club, Johannesburg, Napier Rd, Auckland Park. Sec Robin Messenger, Box 528, Florida Hills 1716, tel/fax 011 787 5536. Pres Herbie Schaffler, email haschaff@iafrica.com
Worcester Philatelic Society
For details of meetings contact: President Dr M D de Klerk, 10 Koort St, Panorama, Worcester 6850, tel 0231 28044

Overseas Affiliated Societies
Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society
Meetings as advised in *Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*; usually in South Africa during Congress week. Sec P M Prime, 56 Mount Way, Waverton, Chester, Cheshire, CH37QF, England.
Filatelisten Vereeniging Zuidelijk Afrika
Eresekretaris mnr J Stolk, Postbus 33223, 3005 EE Rotterdam, Nederland. email janstolk@uni-one.nl; tel/fax +31 164 683179. Verteenwoordiger in Suid-Afrika, mnr G D Bresser, Hoggestraat 13, Sasolburg 1947, tel 016 976 5550
Natal and Zululand Study Circle
Two annual meetings in UK, AGM in the Spring; meet in S.A. during Congress week. Sec John Dickson, email johndickson@nzsc.demon.co.uk; Lismore Ho, Great La, Shepton Beauchamp, Som. TA19 0LJ, UK. SA Rep, Roger Porter, 12 Forest Lane, Hilton 3245, tel 033 343 4163, fax 845 1499, email rogport@kznncs.org.za
Orange Free State Study Circle
Meetings/venue advised in OFS Bulletin. Sec Richard Stroud, 28 Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset TA8 1LQ England, tel +44 (0) 1278 782235, email jrstroud@classicfm.net
Philatelic Society for Greater SA
Sec Ron Strawser, 4 Amherst Ct, Midland, Texas 79705, USA, email strauser@iglobal.net SA Rep: Dr Uli Bantz, Box 6913, Westgate 1724, tel 011 766 1495; email ulib@mweb.co.za
Rhodesian Study Circle
Meets quarterly. Secretary Richard G. Barnett, 2 Cox Ley, Hatfield Heath, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. CM22 7ER, UK. Tel (44) 1279 730425.
South African Collectors' Society
Secretary Mr R W Ross, 28 Duddon Drive, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 3TW, UK, Tel 0944 1229 47 4077, email royanne@cwcom.net
Transvaal Study Circle
Sec, Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale St, Chatham ME4 6QH. Tel/Fax (0944) 1474 8604; *Transvaal Philatelist* published quarterly. SA Rep Gawie van der Walt, Box 20022, Noordbrug 2522, Tel 018 294 8027 (H), 018 294 4201 (B), Fax 294 4202, email cachetap@iafrica.com
Southern Africa Post Card Research Group (SAPRG)
Chairman: Archie Atkinson, 8 Scarlett Rd, Castletown, Isle of Man 1M9 1MT, UK. Admin Sec Mr Carol Hardijzer, Box 1270, Rooihuiskraal 0154, fax 011 889 4682

Junior Rendezvous – 2002
Youth Activities Committee
Chairperson/Secretary: Jill Redmond RDPSA (for details see Federation Secretary)
Treasurer/Trophy Master: Mr Rowland Redmond: P.O. Box 9248, Cinda Park, 1463 – Tel (011) 896 2845; Fax 913 0543; Cell 083 769 7596; email pfsasec@mweb.co.za
Newsletter Editor: David Wigston (for details see New Issues Liaison Sub-committee)
Mr YACCY Postal Club/Stamp Packet Service: Mrs Ursula White: Box 1834, Boksburg, 1460 Tel (011) 896 1308 (H); 917 3220 (B); Cell 082 374 1296; email MrYaccy@webmail.co.za
Free State Representative: Mrs Gerrie Conradie: Box 209, Odendaalsrus 9480 – Tel (057) 354 2864; Fax (057) 398 1104; Cell 082 952 6700; email pjcon@global.co.za
Western Cape Representative: Mr David Sinclair: Box 27345, Rine Road, 8050 – Tel (021) 439 2306; Cell 082 357 2341; email sinclair@telkomsa.net
Committee Member: Mr Allan White (for details see Ursula White)

Affiliated Junior Stamp Clubs
Alberton Junior Stamp Club (now Southern)
For details contact Les Lotter, Box11798, Randhart 1457 – Tel (011) 907 4704; Cell 082 448 5018; email leslotter@freemail.absa.co.za
Benoni Junior Stamp Club
Third Saturday, 09:30, Rynfield Primary School, Malherbe St, Rynfield, Benoni – Dave Hunt, Box 11388, Rynfield 1514 – Tel (011) 849 4578 (H); Cell 082 579 5793; Alt: Glynis Wilson, Box 15017, Bredell 1623; Tel (011) 965 0740; email tinshack@freemail.absa.co.za
Centurion Seëlmaats
Eerste Saterdag, 14:00, Eldoraigne Biblioteek, Centurion, Ds Cassie Carstens, Posbus 52011, Wierdapark 0149 – Tel/Fax (012) 653 2279; email algsin@mweb.co.za
De Kuilen Jeugklub
Eerste Maandag, 19h15, Manatokalaan, 23, Kuilsrivier, Dennis Horn, Posbus 471, Kuilsrivier 7579 – Tel (021) 903 3363; Fax 906 2782; email tzberna@iafrica.com
Edenvale Youth Philatelic Society
First Wednesday 18:30 19:30, Community Ctre, cnr. Van Riebeeck Av/2nd St, Edenvale – Steve J Bailie, 62 Karen Rd, Iliondale 1610 – Tel (011) 609 2709 (H), 778 1000 (B) – email steveb@afrifocus.co.za
Flamingo Junior Stamp Club
Third Thursday, 15:00-16:30, 12 Olympus Road, Hill Extension – Marietjie Thornton, Box 1369, Southdale, 2135; Tel (011) 435 4119; email flamink@mweb.co.za
Goldfields Junior Stamp Club
Last Thursday of the month 19:00, Church Hall, NG Moedergemeente, Odendaalsrus – Mrs Gerrie Conradie (see Youth Committee for details)
Highveld Ridge Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of the month 10:00, Secunda Library Auditorium – Colin W Thomas, Box 304, Secunda, 2302; Tel (017) 634 1762 (h); (017) 610 2030 (b) – email cwthomas@mweb.co.za or thomascw@sasol.com
Houtbay Junior Stamp Club
First Fri 15h30, Hout Bay Library, Kenny Joseph, Box 26456, Hout Bay 7872 – Tel (021) 790 4287 (H); 790 5943/4 (B); Fax 790 5745; email ken@philatelicfriends.com
Lepono Land Philately
Tuesday & Thursday 13:15, Lepono Primary School – Mrs Catherine Tsebe, c/o Lepono Primary School, P O Swartbooistad, 0148
Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club
Last Saturday of the month, Hilton Library – Anne Southwood: 15 Sundale Drive, Hilton 3245 – Tel (033) 343 4803; email hilton@postnet.co.za
Nigel Junior Stamp Club
Second Saturday of each month 09:00-12:00, Catholic Hall, Rhodes Avenue, Nigel – Mrs Lesley Leesmann and Charles Rogers, Box 1015, Nigel, 1490 – Tel (011) 814 3377 email mwleesma@mweb.co.za
OVS Jeug Filatelievereniging
Vierde Vrydag, 18:00-19:15, Oorlogsmuseum by Vrouemonument, Bloemfontein – Prof Garry Osthoff, Dept Food Science, UOFS, Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300 – Tel/Fax (051) 401 2216; email OsthoffG@sci.uovs.ac.za
Penny Black Stamp Club
Every Thursday, 16:00, 406 Adelphi Centre, Main Road, Sea Point – Lee Donlin, 406 Adelphi Centre, Main Rd, Sea Point, 8001 – Tel (021) 439 9293; Alt: David Sinclair, Box 27345, Rhine Rd 8050 – tel 021 439 2306; cell 082 357 2341; email sinclair@telkomsa.net
Perf Pals: For details contact Anne Southwood, Maritzburg Junior Stamp Club
Philatelic Society of KwaZulu-Natal Juniors
For details contact Mrs Ann White, Box 115, Hyper by the Sea, 4053 – Tel 01311 563 4124, Cell 083 724 3135
Pietersburg Philatelic Society (Junior Section)
For details contact Mr Solly Starkowitz, Box 302, Pietersburg, 0700 – Tel (015) 297 2723 (H); 297 2942 (B)
Port Elizabeth Junior Stamp Club
For details contact Mr Herwig Kussing, Box 10886, Linton Grange 6015 – Tel (041) 365 4897 (h); email kussing@xsinet.co.za
Postmark and Postal History Society
Third Sat of a month with 5 Saturdays, Impala Park Community Centre, Elizabeth Rd, Boksburg – Marge Viljoen, Box 835, Groenkloof, 0027 – Tel/Fax (012) 329 2464
Pretoria Central Moot Junior Stamp Club
First Friday of the month 15:30, Central Moot Library – Bill Meintjies, 478 24th Avenue, Villieria, Pretoria, 0186 – Tel (012) 331 3138
St Mary's Seëlklub
Eerste Saterdag van die maand 10:30, 17 Bouwer St., Rosemore, George, 6529 – Mev Elizabeth Fernold, Posbus 215, George, 6530 – Tel (044) 875 8229
Mr YACCY Postal Stamp Club
For details contact Ursula White (see Committee).

die versamelings (hoewel hulle gewoonlik nie filateliste is nie en soms net oor 'n beperkte filateliese kennis beskik). Soms is daar plaaslike filateliste wat in die raad van sulke instellings dien of in 'n erehoedanigheid advies gee aan so 'n instelling. Maar hoeveel van hierdie instellings beskik oor die dienste (voltyds of deeltyds) van spesialiste soos papierdeskundiges? (baie belangrik by die bewaring van filateliese materiaal).

Die persoon verantwoordelik vir die filateliese materiaal by 'n groot instelling in Gauteng het openlik aan my beken dat hulle nie die dienste van so 'n persoon het nie en dat sy nie eens weet waar om so iemand te kontak as sy dringend sulke gespesialiseerde advies nodig sou hê nie.

PFSA Public Collections Committee

Dit is in hierdie omstandighede (en nadat die toestand van versamelings in openbare besit vir die soveelste keer by die bestuurskomitee van die PFSA bespreek is) dat die bestuurskomitee besluit het om 'n *ad hoc*-komitee daar te stel om ondersoek in te stel na die saak. Dit is hoe die PFSA Public Collections Committee in die lewe gekom het.

Die taak van die komitee is:

- Om al die aspekte rondom filateliese materiaal in publieke besit in Suider-Afrika te ondersoek.
- Om die versorgers van sodanige materiaal te adviseer oor hoe om die versamelings te bewaar en te beveilig.
- Om aan die PFSA verslag te doen oor die status van hierdie versamelings en voorstelle aan die PFSA te maak oor hierdie versamelings.

Sedert die totstandkoming van die komitee was dit die oogmerk om die vriendskap te wen van die instellings met filateliese versamelings. Vraelyste is aan al die instellings met versamelings gestuur (ook dié wat nie in die Rendezvous-kolom gelys word nie). So kon 'n databasis opgebou word van alle instellings met versamelings. Hierdeur kon die Rendezvous-kolom op datum gebring word, en die inligting is aan die British Library voorsien (wat 'n wêreldwye databasis van sulke versamelings in stand hou). Die inligting is ook op die internet gepos (kyk by http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/gs/museum1.htm) en sal ook later (hopelik binnekort) op die webbladsy van die PFSA verskyn.

Nadat die databasis saamgestel is, is begin om versamelings by instellings te inspekteer. Aangesien lede van die komitee en ander vrywillige filateliste hierdie taak moet verrig, is dit iets wat 'n tyd sal neem. Die inligting wat sover ingewin is, is oor die algemeen nie te bemoedigend nie. Daar is gevind dat in die algemeen (en daar is uitsonderings) die versamelings in 'n baie swak toestand is. Daar is baie werk wat gedoen moet word, deur die instellings self en deur die komitee (wat hulle moet ondersteun en met raad bedien).

Die PFSA Public Collections Committee het by die PFSA se bestuurskomitee-vergadering van 5 Mei 2001 breedvoerig verslag gedoen oor hulle werksaamhede en bevindinge.

Bevindings en oplossings

Soos reeds gesê, is die versamelings in openbare besit oor die algemeen in 'n swak toestand. Daar sal gepoog moet word om dit te verbeter deur advies aan diegene wat dit beheer. Daar kan daaraan gedink word om 'n werkwinkel te reël vir bewaarders van sulke materiaal. Daar kan hulle in tegnieke van bewaring touwys gemaak word. Die databasis van versamelings moet uitgebrei en sover moontlik volledig gekry word. Versamelaars moet ook aangeraai word om nie versamelings aan museums te bemaak nie (omdat daar in die huidige omstandighede nie in die algemeen gewaarborg kan word dat sulke versamelings behoorlik bewaar sal word nie).

Daar is ook aanbeveel dat die werk van die komitee voortgaan en dat filateliste wat belang stel, gevra word om hulp aan te bied by die komitee.

Profetiese woorde

Ongelukkig is daar nie in 1985 ag geslaan op die profetiese woorde van Andries van der Walt nie. Gelukkig is daar in 1999 'n begin gemaak om na hierdie belangrike saak te kyk. En vir 'n verandering is ons die wêreld voor op hierdie gebied. Volgens die sekretaris-generaal van FIP (die internasionale filateliese organisasie) is daar nog nie veel werk op die gebied gedoen nie.

Miskien kan FIP nou begin werk maak daarvan en sommer die Wêreldposunie se samewerking kry (want baie van hierdie versamelings is in poskantoormuseums). Volgens die inligtingsbeampte van die ABPS (Association of British Philatelic Societies) het hulle maar redelik onlangs eers na dié saak gekyk.

Versamelings in museums

Museums op die boeke van die PFSA Public Collections Committee, en die versamelings waaroor elkeen beskik, is:

PRETORIA
Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese Museum
Posbus 28088, Sunnyside, 0132
Visagiestr 149, Pretoria
012 324 6082 / 012 328 5173
Nchm@nfi.org.za
http://home.global.co.za/~nchm/
Groot verskeidenheid van versamelings in meer as 80 albums

Stampwise, Posbus 800, Pretoria, 0001 Paleisstraat, Kerkplein, Pretoria
012 323 5078 / 012 323 4066 / 012 321 1314 *WPU-versameling*
SA voor uniewording
Unie + RSA
Tuislande

JOHANNESBURG
Museum Africa
Posbus 517, Newtown, 2113
Breestraat 121, Johannesburg
011 833 5624 / 011 833 5636
Museum@mj.org.za
Curle versameling (Tvl)
Harvey Pirie versameling (WO II)
PS of J versameling

Transnet Biblioteek
Posbus 3753, Johannesburg, 2000
011 773 9523 / 011 774 3415
Eurikad@transnet.co.za
Harvey Pirie versameling van spoorwegseëls

SA Museum van Militêre Geskiedenis
Posbus 52090, Saxonwold, 2132
Erlswoldweg,Saxonwold, Johannesburg
011 646 5513 / 011 646 5256
Milmus@icon.co.za
Tweede Wêreldoorlog
Anglo-Boereoorlog
Moderne militêre gedenkkoeverte

KAAPSTAD
SA Kultuurgeskiedenismuseum
Posbus 645, Kaapstad, 8000
Kerkplein 17, Parlementstraat, Kaapstad
021 461 8280 / 021 461 9592
Hvollgra@sachm.org.za
AA Jurgens (Kaap)
Barbara Jurgens (Kaap)
SG Rich (Unie)
N White (Unie + RSA)
TB Davie (QE II Kroning)
B Nichols (RSA)
RSA + Tuislande

BLOEMFONTEIN
Oorlogsmuseum, Posbus 704, Bloemfontein, 9300 Monumentweg, Bloemfontein
051 447 3447 / 051 447 0079 / 051 447 1322
Museum@anglo-boer.co.za
J Groenewald - Veldpos
Krygsgevangenepos

NAMIBIË
Nasionale Argiewe, Privaatsak 13250, Windhoek
Luderitzstraat 4, Windhoek
293 4385 21775
Duits SWA
SWA

Vereniging vir Wetenskaplike Ontwikkeling, Posbus 361, Otavi Bahnhofsentrum, Swakopmund
H/v Windhoek & Kaiser Wilhelmstrasse, Swakopmund
402695 / 400763
Museum@iwwn.com.na
SWA
Namibië
(Seëls, posgeskiedenis, poskaarte)

Namibiese Wetenskaplike Vereniging Biblioteek
Posbus 67, Windhoek - Tel 225372
Slegs filateliese literatuur

BOTSWANA
Botswana Postal Museum
P O Box 100, Gaborone, Botswana
Khama Crescent, Gaborone
09267 353131 / 09267 313599
Holmes - Bechuanaland
Kunswerk en proefmateriaal vir Botswana uitgawes

National Museum, Monuments & Arts Gallery Privaste Bag 114, Gaborone, Botswana Independence Ave, Gaborone
09267 374616 / 09267 302797

• As enige versamelaar inligting by hierdie lys kan byvoeg, ontvang ons dit graag. Ek herinner my dat ek met die skryf van die 1985-artikel waarna verwys word, bewus was van Rich se Zoeloelandversameling wat hy aan die Royal Public Library in Pietermaritzburg geskenk het tesame met 'n bedrag van £1 000 om dit in stand te hou. Daar is geen verwysing in die lys daarna nie. Eric Conradie, 'n vorige kurator van die Transnet Museum, het my ook persoonlik meegedeel dat die museum 'n versameling van onttrekte Spoorwegstempels wat vroeër in Kimberley gehuisves was, ook in die museum huisves. – Redakteur.

THE KING OF HOBBIES – even in prison!

Robert Harm* *Thematics Southern Africa*

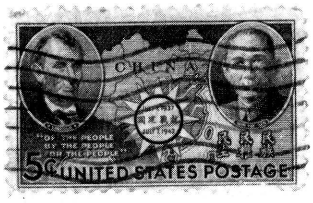
THERE can be no doubt in anyone's mind that stamp collecting still is the King of Hobbies. It was so in the past, and will be in the future. I was more than ever convinced of this when I read Ed Davis's article in the March 2001 issue of *Scott Stamp Monthly* under the title *Penitentiary Philately*. You may well ask how it is possible to collect and exhibit stamps while in jail, but that is exactly what happened. And if it had not been for an unfortunate incident, the 906 Stamp Club might still have been alive today.

This stamp club was formed at the Massachusetts Maximum Security Prison at South Walpole (now known as Cedar Junction), Massachusetts, USA, in 1956. It was called the 906 Stamp Club after the US stamp with Scott number 906, showing the pictures of Sun Yat Sen and Abraham Lincoln. The symbolism was explained by Herman Herst Jr in his book *Nassau Street*. The Club derived its name from the stamp issued in 1944 to honour Chinese resistance against aggression, which inspired the determined inmates to better their lives. Many inmates did in fact succeed, and went on to lead productive lives after being released from prison.

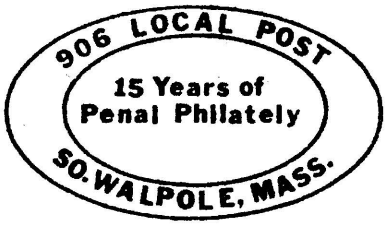
In 1964 the club had 50 resident (or inmate) members, although it was open to associate membership including non-residents or outside members. It was in that year that Ed Davis became a life member of the Club and attended many meetings at the state prison. As part of the membership you received their bi-monthly publication, *Philately 906*, a membership card and an invitation to attend the annual stamps shows in the gymnasium of the prison. Collectors from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York became members, and the annual exhibitions attracted some very prominent philatelists.

The first show took place in 1957 and was a modest effort indeed. The show hosted 50 community philatelists, but rapidly expanded requiring 150 frames at the show on 10 Apr 1965. This show also was attended by some 400 guests.

The show, known as Sipex (Seventh Inmate Philatelic Exhibition) was opened by John A. Gavin, Massachusetts Commissioner of Corrections, who made



The stamp which inspired the name of the stamp club formed in the Massachusetts Maximum Security Prison.



A 906 local post cancellation.

the following introductory remark: "It (Sipex) affords one of the rare occasions when they (inmates) can meet with the general public on virtually equal footing."

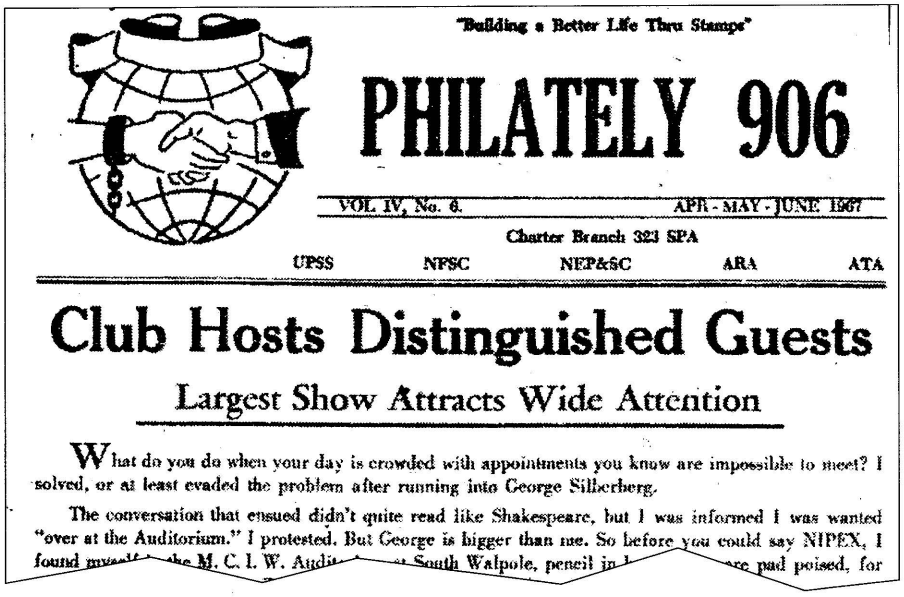
To honour the show, a souvenir sheet and postmarked cover were issued. A number of important guests attended the show, including George J Silberberg (who acted as chief judge and had assisted 906 Stamp Club since it was founded) and Herman Herst Jnr (who was the guest speaker and signed the postmarked cover). The show included an auction, the stock for which was donated by many people.

However, the first meeting open to the public took place in 1964 at the institutional school building at the Walpole State Prison, when members of local stamp clubs were introduced to the activities of the 906 Stamp Club. A total of 28 outside members attended the function, which showed a total of 147 pages, and the first club to meet the 906 Stamp Club was the Slater Stamp Club of Pawtucket, RI.

During that same year Ed Davis produced the first issue of the club's newsletter, *Philately 906*, being Vol 1 No 1, dated Sep-Oct 1964. Ed Davis was a printer by profession and published a trade magazine under the name *Stamp Business*. As a printer he also produced printed certificates for awards made at the various meetings and exhibitions, and the film negatives for the 906 publication, as this was prohibited for inside production by prison regulations.

After the modest beginning of the club, it continued to grow its activities and the annual exhibits took place every year. The club became a charter member of the Society of Philatelic Americans, and its bi-monthly newsletter, *Philately 906*, grew into a magazine. In 1968 a total of 243 frames, encompassing seven categories, made up the stamp show.

It is sad to realise that it has been more than 30 years since the last exhibition took place at Walpole State Prison, having been brought to an end by an unfortunate inci-



"Building a Better Life Thru Stamps"

PHILATELY 906

VOL IV, No. 6. APR - MAY - JUNE 1967

Charter Branch 323 SPA

UPSS NPSC NEP&SC ARA ATA

Club Hosts Distinguished Guests

Largest Show Attracts Wide Attention

What do you do when your day is crowded with appointments you know are impossible to meet? I solved, or at least evaded the problem after running into George Silberberg.

The conversation that ensued didn't quite read like Shakespeare, but I was informed I was wanted "over at the Auditorium." I protested. But George is bigger than me. So before you could say NIPEX, I found myself [illegible] the M. C. I. W. Audit[illegible] South Walpole, pencil in [illegible] pad poised, for

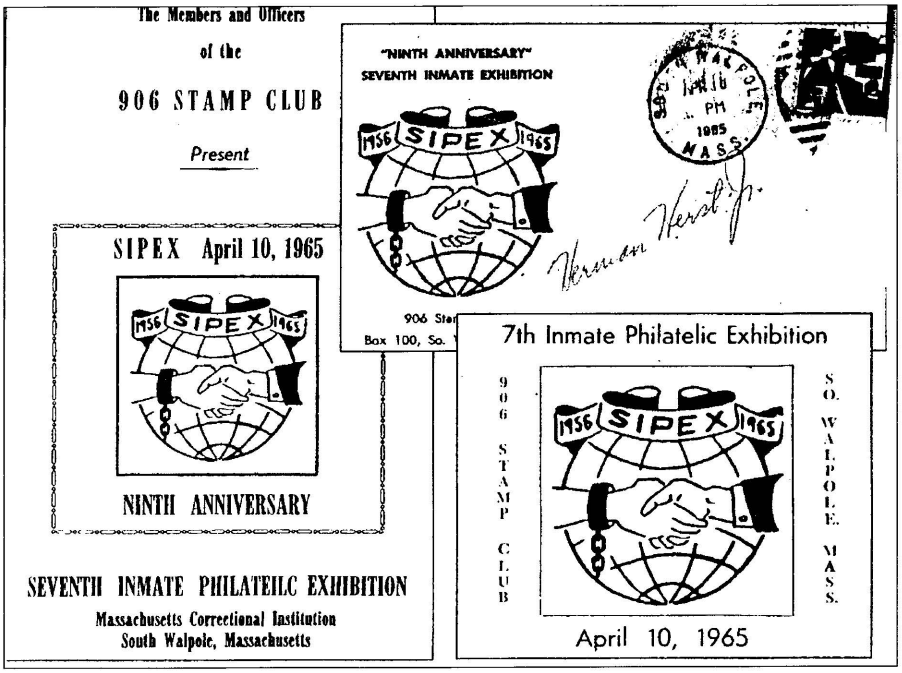
Part of the front page of the bi-monthly newsletter published by the 906 Stamp Club in the Massachusetts Maximum Security Prison, South Walpole, USA.

dent. Even the stamp club was discontinued due to physical attacks on inmate members.

The last exhibition was held on 24 April 1971, which was the 15th anniversary of the penal club. Four exhibits, all of substantial value (reported to be a total of $20 000), sent from the outside disappeared within the prison walls. It was a terrible loss for the exhibitors (as insurance seldom covers disappearance of material at an exhibition to which the public is admitted), but was a fatal blow to the 906 Stamp Club.

The authorities investigated the disappearance of the four collections, but failed to resolve the matter. Naturally the blame was immediately laid on the stamp club members. It is certain, however, that none of them could have managed to move these exhibits outside the prison walls, and that they would have been of little value within the walls. If the material did get out, they were smuggled out, but how and by whom is not known.

Finally it was noted that the collections were received by prison authorities, but what happened thereafter is conjecture. More than 200 supposedly honest citizens left the institution at the conclusion of the evening's programme, and as far as is known, none were searched. Even one or more of the staff members could have been involved in the theft, but this is regarded as highly unlikely. Those collectors and dealers who were regular visitors to the Walpole weekend sincerely hoped that the mystery would be solved, but it never was. Thus ended an unusual chapter in the annals of philatelic history.

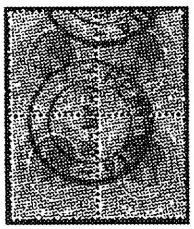


The programme, show label and cacheted cover for the 1965 exhibition. The cover is signed by Herman Herst Jr.

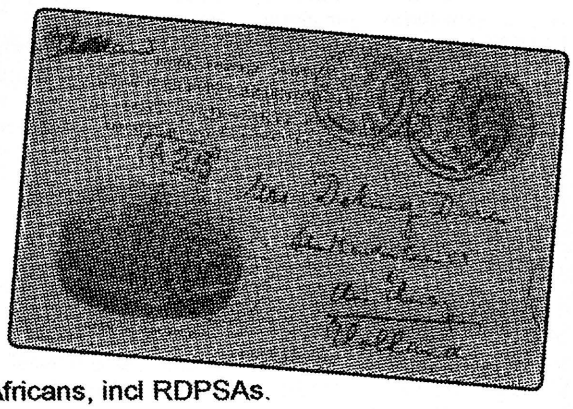
**Robert Harm is the president of Thematics Southern Africa and chairman of the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria. He has been involved in stamp collecting for 35 years, and has been in organised philately for 24 years.*

See: **Rand Stamps = Paul van Zeyl**

for: "totality of philately"



= stamps (classical, primitive, cinderellas, collections)
+ postal history/postmarks
+ postal stationery
+ documents
+ literature.



Looking for...

- Netherlands "classics" on cover, especially addressed to Southern Africa.
- All postal stationery with pictures on front or back.
- Anglo-Boer War: almost anything!!!!
- Autographed documents relating to prominent South Africans, incl RDPSAs.
- Ephemera of African states, including photos; revenue documents, etc.
- Postcards; Belgian Congo, Seychelles, Mauritius, Mozambique & Angola (esp towns of the interior).
- Postage due stamps used on non-philatelic documents, eg customs.
- Transvaal covers & revenue documents - any interesting items!!

S.A.P.D.A. S.A.F.H.R.

Contact us @ Tel (012) 329-2464; Fax (012) 329-3157; e-mail: paulvz@mweb.co.za
Visit us @ Pretoria Fair (1st Sat of month); West Rand Fair (2nd Sat);
Sandton Fair (3rd Sat); and Atlasville Fair (last Sat).



Standard size FASTMAIL envelopes

David Sinclair *Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town*

THE South African Fastmail service was introduced on 1 November 1993. This article attempts to list for collectors the different types of Post Office Fastmail envelopes of the standard size (DL) produced from 1993 to the time of writing (February 2002). The larger sizes of prepaid fastmail envelopes (i e B5, C4 and B4) will be listed in a future article.

The first publication of the Fastmail service was in a colourful A3 size Post Office bulletin in October(?) 1993 and in a similarly undated pamphlet also probably late 1993. Fastmail rates were added to postal rates listed in the April 1994 Post Office rates pamphlet.

The cost for a prepaid envelope was then given as 105c. For a "client's own envelope", it was listed as an extra 90c above the standard postage rate. Thus fastmail users had a choice of using the specially designed Post Office envelope or adding 90c to an ordinary envelope plus the special Fastmail sticker designed for this purpose.

To further facilitate the operation, clients did not have to wait in a queue but were (and are) allowed to go straight to a counter and give the letter to the assistant, serenely bearing the somewhat irritated stares of other people waiting in line. Subsequently, special blue Fastmail pillar-boxes were designed and placed near to some, but not all, post offices.

The first envelope issue stated on the front: "Post at a post office counter – Pos by 'n poskantoortoonbank", but the second issue and all later issues added that envelopes should be posted at a counter or in the special dedicated blue post boxes: "Post at a post office counter or in a dedicated blue fastmail post box – Pos by 'n poskantoortoonbank of in die spesiale blou Fastmail-posbus".

It is interesting to list the costs from 1993 to date for a standard size Fastmail envelope as given in the Post Office pamphlets, and in particular, to note the official Post Office statement regarding the service offered (see Table 1).

To and from Namibia

The Fastmail service is now clearly stated as only being available within South Africa. However, it was available on an experimental basis to and from Namibia from 1 February 1999, and was confirmed as permanent from 1 November 1999. (No other Southern African countries were included).

From Namibia to South Africa, Namib Post used South African Fastmail envelopes with an appropriate Namib Post logo sticker placed over the South African Post Office emblem on the reverse. These letters went by air to Upington and usually bear a Windhoek strike together with a later Upington cancel. The Namib sticker is sometimes missing, and hence the strike is the only way of identifying the origin. The service was more expensive than local South African rates.

The cachet applied in South Africa, if a letter was handed in too late to catch that day's collection, stated "Accepted after final dispatch / Aangeneem na finale versending". There are several collectable types of this cachet. The Namibian equivalent, also in both languages, had the further added ominous comment: "Sender warned/afsender gewaarsku".

Another collectable cachet is: "Irregularly Posted - Onreëlmatig gepos" which is applied when an item for Fastmail is posted into an ordinary box. I have not seen this cachet on Namibian mail.

Table 1: Fastmail cost

Date	Client's Own envelope	P.O. Fastmail envelope	Local letter Rate	Post Office comment
1/11/93	90c	R1.05	(45c)	"You'll see what a difference a day makes"
1/4/94	90c	R1.05	(45c)	"One day faster than economy mail"
1/8/94	95c	R1.05	(50c)	"Faster than regular mail with specific delivery standards"
1/4/95	R1.10	R1.15	(60c)	No comment printed
1/7/95	R1.10	R1.15	(60c)	ditto
1/2/96	R1.10	R1.15	(60c)	ditto
1/4/96	R1.10	R1.15	(60c	ditto
1/7/96	R1.30	R1.33	(70c)	ditto
7/4/97	R1.70	R1.75	(R1.00)	"Two day letter delivery within and between major centres"
14/4/98	R1.80	R1.95	(R1.10)	ditto
1/4/99	R2.00	R2.15	(R1.20)	ditto
1/4/00	R2.15	R2.30	(R1.30)	"Fastmail is the fastest letter service in South Africa with set delivery standards specially designed by the Post Office for business and consumers who have the need for faster delivery of their important mail"
16/05/01	R2.30	R2.45	(R1.40)	"Fastmail is a letter service within South Africa with a two-day letter delivery standard within and between major towns and cities and a three-day letter delivery standard for all other destinations. Fastmail is for clients who have need for faster delivery of important mail."

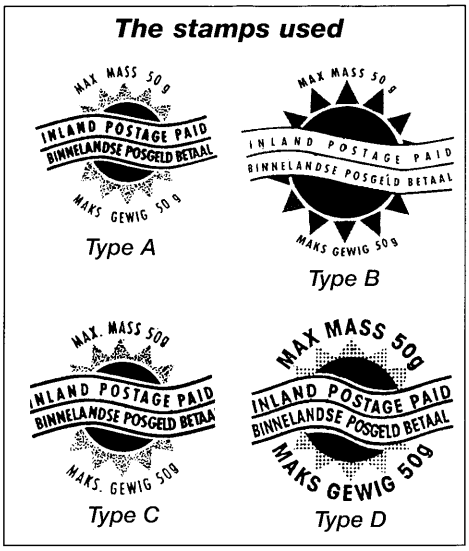
Window envelopes

Window Fastmail envelopes were first mentioned in the Post Office pamphlets available to the public in April 2000 where the rate for a DL Maxi is given as R2,30 with and without a window. However, window envelopes are listed in the 'Quik' catalogue with a questioned issue date of 1996. Certainly, in 1996, window envelopes were used by a well-known bank to notify clients to collect credit cards at their local post office counter and I have also seen usage of window envelopes postmarked during 1996. Earlier dates than 1996 have yet to come to light.

A further collectable variation is the use of the Registered Fastmail service: From Fastmail inception on 1 November 1993 until 30 June 1995 it was permitted to register a Fastmail envelope. This concession was withdrawn when the Track & Trace system was introduced on 1 July 1995. However, there is a twist to this tale.

Never used

A special blue label was prepared for the Track & Trace Fastmail registration





Type 1 front (above) and back (left)



Type 2

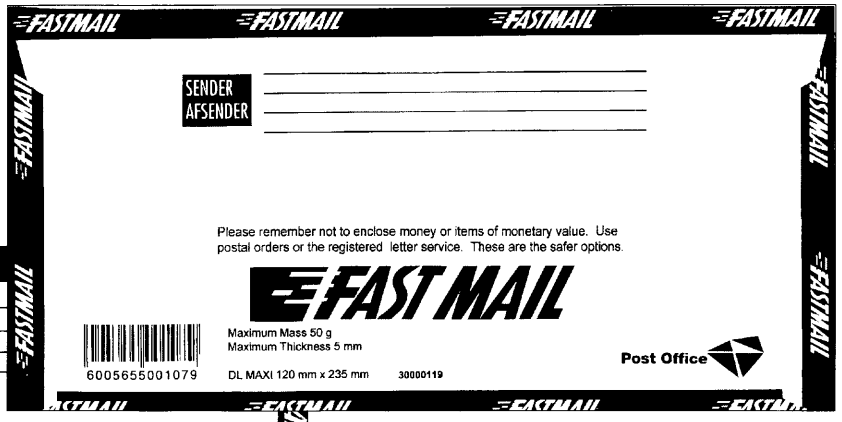


Type 7.1



Type 8.2

Type 9.1



Type 10.2

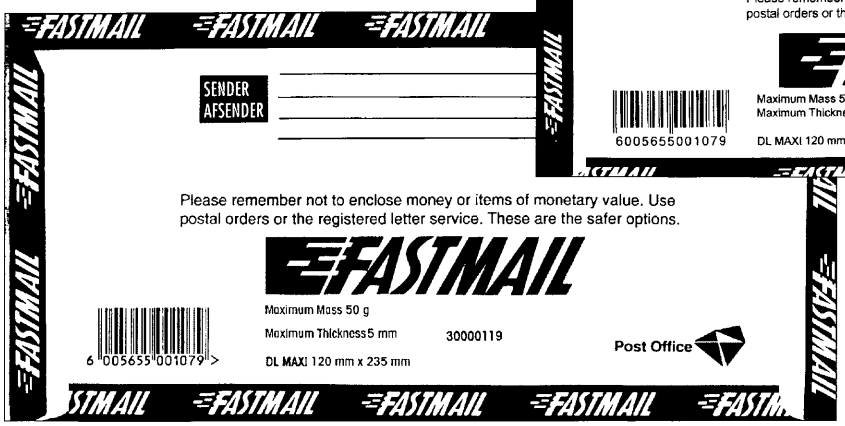


Table 2: Design types

Type A stamp was used for envelope types 1 and 2.	GPW ?
Type B New design applied to types 3,4,5,6 and 9	T3 Merpak T4 No logo T5 Merpak T6 No logo T9 Merpak
Type C was then introduced for the type 7 envelope The design is exactly as the original Type A except that it has been enlarged. Used again for Type 10.	T7 no logo T10 Silveray
Type D introduced for Type 8. As Type C, but enlarged further with the wording regarding mass filled out to use the full space. This stamp appears to be the clearest and best so far. Nevertheless, Type 9 reverted to a Type B and Type 10 reverted to a Type C.	T8 Randvelope

service but became redundant before its official release as the registration of Fastmail was supposed to have ended on 30 June 1995. Although the label was never officially issued, I have a cover, courtesy of Hugh Amoore, that shows the use of this label. Postmarked 20 Jan 1996, it is well beyond the last official day of the supposed registration of Fastmail. Some four covers showing the use of this blue label are recorded but others may be lurking unrecognised in collections.

During June 1994 the Post Office surveyed the usage of Fastmail by the interesting approach of placing in each post office box a postcard, addressed to the South African Post Office, which had the survey questions on the reverse. Many have been saved `unused' but a genuinely used sample must be very scarce.

If it is presumed that the Government Printer (GPW) was (is?) involved with the printing of these issues, then there are also the printers with logos of `MERPAK', `SILVERAY' and `RANDVELOPE' (in blue or red) which are placed on the back of the envelopes, covered by the back flap.

Different printers

It would seem that many of the variations listed are caused by changes of printer or contracts being given at the same time to different printers. There seems to have been a normal progression of printing style and then it appears that a new printer is given a contract, which produces a new type often reverting to an earlier envelope design, as if the earlier envelope has been given to the new printer as a model. It has, thus, been difficult to establish a true sequence.

To illustrate this complexity the stamp design itself can be considered (see Table 3).

Dates of original issue of each type are not fixed and are, necessarily, listed with the question mark added to the date column in the summation chart. Collectors may come across earlier dates which I would be most grateful to hear about. In particular, the earliest date known of Types 1 and 2 are in doubt. Hence, the date of the first Fastmail envelope has yet to be established.

Table 3 is a brief description of each of the identified 10 types with a summation chart (Table 4) added to aid identification.

About the author

** David Sinclair is vice-president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town and member of the British Society of Australian Philately. He also runs two junior stamp clubs and is the Western Cape representative on the PFSA Youth Committee.*

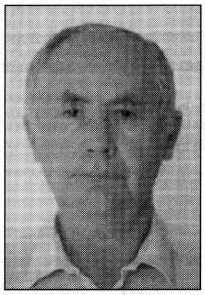


Table 3: Identification chart

No.	Date ?	Stamp type	FASTMAIL printed along top & bottom edges	Printers logo on back under flap	Interior pattern	Address lines on flap	Sender/ Afsender box	Size info printed on back	Instructions printed on back	Barcode & item no. printed on back
1	1994	A	5 times	None	Plain	3	Red	No	No	No
2	1994	A	5 times	None	Plain	3	Red	No	No	No
3.1	1998	B	4 times	None	Plain	4	Red	No	No	No
3.2	1998	B	4 times	MERPAK	Plain	4	Red	No	No	No
4	1998	B	4 times	None	Easipost	4	Blue	No	No	No
5.1	1998	B	4 times	None	Easipost	4	Blue	No	No	Yes
5.2	1998	B	4 times	MERPAK	Easipost	4	Blue	No	No	Yes
6	1996	B	4 times	None	Easipost	4	Blue	No	No	Yes
Type 6 is the only window envelope issued to date										
7.1	1999	C	5 times	None	Plain	4	Blue	No	No	Yes
7.2	1999	C	5 times	None	Easipost	4	Blue	No	No	Yes
8.1	1999	D	5 times	None	Plain	4	Blue	Yes	No	Yes
8.2	2000	D	5 times	RANDVELOPE	Plain	4	Blue	Yes	No	Yes
9.1	2000	B	4 times	None	Easipost	4	Blue	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.2	2000	B	4 times	MERPAK	Easipost	4	Blue	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.3	2000	B	4 times	None	Easipost	4	Blue	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.1	2001	C	5 times	None	Plain	4	Blue	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.2	2001	C	5 times	SILVERAY	Plain	4	Blue	Yes	Yes	Yes

Note: Type 9.3 and Types 10 have `Poskantoor' omitted from the Post Office logo on the reverse

Table 4: Guide to identification

TYPE 1 – Instructions on face: POST AT A POST OFFICE COUNTER / POS BY 'N POSKANTOORTOONBANK
Plain interior; no printers logo
`FASTMAIL' printed 5 times along top of face and 5 times along the top and base of the reverse
"SENDER/AFSENDER" panel next to sender's lines on reverse in RED
Type A stamp
1.1 Lettering in `Sender/Afsender' box thick 1994
1.2 Lettering in `Sender/Afsender' box thin
TYPE 2 – As Type 1, except the instructions on face changed to: POST AT A POST OFFICE COUNTER / POS BY 'N POSKANTOORTOONBANK / OR IN A DEDICATED BLUE FASTMAIL / OF IN DIE SPESIALE BLOU FAST- / POST BOX / MAIL-POSBUS
Plain interior; No printers logo
Type A stamp
Types 1 and 2: Flap depth 35 mm; 3 sender's lines;
2.1 Lettering in `Sender/Afsender' box thin 1994
TYPE 3 – Change of format of instruction on face to:
"Post at a post office counter or in a dedicated blue Fastmail post box / Pos by 'n poskantoortoonbank of in die spesiale blou Fastmail-posbus"
Type B stamp
`FASTMAIL' printed 4 times along top of face and 4 times along the top and base of the reverse
Plain interior – Flap depth 45 mm – Change to 4 sender's lines
3.1 No printers logo 1998
3.2 Red `MERPAK' logo printed on back on right, covered by the flap 1998
Types 1-3: Envelope size 220 x 110 mm
TYPE 4 – *Type B stamp* – Envelope size: 230 x 115 mm – Flap depth 40 mm
"SENDER/AFSENDER" panel changed to blue
Note: The blue rectangle encroaches upon the sender's lines by 1 mm
On the front face the `FAST' of `FASTMAIL' is raised above the level of the logo and `MAIL' so that white notches in design are no longer continuous
`EASIPOST' interior pattern
4.1 No printers logo 1998
TYPE 5 – *Type B stamp* – Added barcode: 6005655001079 size: 33 x 12,5 mm
Item number 30000119 printed centrally on the reverse below FASTMAIL
"SENDER/AFSENDER" panel moved 2-3 mm to left of sender's lines on reverse. Envelope size: 235 x 117 mm – `EASIPOST' interior pattern
5.1 – No printers logo 1998
5.2 Red `MERPAK' logo printed on back at right and covered by the flap 1998 (position of MERPAK variable)
TYPE 6 – Addition of a window. *Type B stamp*
Barcode 6005655020056 size: 33 x 13 mm
Envelope size: 235 x 120 mm
Item number 30001448 printed centrally on reverse below FASTMAIL (larger, clearer lettering than type 5)
6.1 No printers logo 1998
TYPE 7 – New barcode configuration: 6 005655001079 > size: 31 mm x 15 mm
Envelope size: 235 x 120 mm – *Stamp Type C*
FASTMAIL printed 5 times along top of face and 5 times along the top and base of the reverse.
Item number 30000119 printed on the reverse, larger and clearer than type 5 but smaller than Type 6
Width of SENDER/AFSENDER block reduced by 2 mm to 13 mm
No printers logo
7.1 Plain interior 1999
7.2 `EASIPOST' interior pattern 1999
TYPE 8 – *Type D stamp*
Additional information printed in three lines on reverse between the barcode and item number: "Maximum Mass 50g / Maximum Thickness 5 mm / DL MAXI 120 x 235 mm" (this brings the envelope in line with similar information printed on the reverse of white prepaid envelopes)
Printed in red except for dimensions "120 mm x 235 mm" which are in blue
On face: `FASTMAIL' logo thinner, particularly the downstroke of the `F'
Fastmail logos along top and sides now include, for the first time, a white trapezium. The design thus becomes more similar to main logo on face and reverse
Envelope size: 235 x 120 mm
On the reverse: The SENDERS/AFSENDER block has curved edges and the wording is smaller – Barcode unchanged from Type 7 (6 005655 001079 > with size 32 x 15 mm)
Item number 30000119 on reverse, larger and clearer than type 7
Plain Interior
8.1 No printers logo 1999
8.2 `RANDVELOPE' logo under flap on right hand side 2000
TYPE 9 – *Stamp Type B*
Instructions in red added to back of envelope, each line approx 11,5 cm long: "Please remember not to enclose money or items of monetary value. Use postal orders or the registered letter service. These are the safer options."
The information "Maximum Mass 50g / Maximum Thickness 5 mm / DL MAXI 120 x 235 mm" is printed on the reverse but the three lines are not evenly spaced as type 8. The typeset is smaller and the colours of `DL MAXI' and `120 x 235 mm' have been switched. (ie DL MAXI is in blue and 120 x 235 mm is in red).
The rest of the envelope is a reversion to Type 5, including the stamp.
9.1 – No printers logo 2000
9.2 – MERPAK' logo
9.2.1 – Logo left hand side under flap 2000
9.2.2 Logo right hand side under flap 2000
9.3 `POSKANTOOR' omitted from Post Office logo 2000
No printers logo
TYPE 10 – *Stamp type C*
`POSKANTOOR' omitted from P.O. emblem on back
Colour of instructions on back concerning valuables changed to blue, type increased in point size giving an expanded line length of 14 cm.
The information "Maximum Mass 50g / Maximum Thickness 5 mm / DL MAXI 120 x 235 mm" reverts to the Type 8 setting (of Merpak) except that, as Type 9, DL MAXI is in blue and 120 x 235 mm is in red.
Item number and position as Type 8 – Plain interior
FASTMAIL and emblem printed 5 times along top of face and 5 times along top and bottom of reverse as types 1, 2, 7 & 8
FASTMAIL emblems revert to type 8 – Barcode 6 005655 001079 > as type 8
10.1 – No printers logo 2001
10.2 – SILVERAY logo under flap
10.2.1 – Logo left hand side under flap 2001
10.2.2 – Logo right hand side under flap 2001

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W1R 1HF
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NAMIBIA	R75,00	R125,00	R140,00	
GERMANY	R135,00	R225,00	R385,00	
GREAT BRITAIN	R150,00	R245,00	R280,00	R5519(01)-R248,00
AUSTRALIA	R165,00	R325,00	R420,00	R5516(01)-R360,00
NETHERLANDS	R150,00	R250,00	R385,00	
ZIMBABWE	NA	NA	R85,00	
ISRAEL	R130,00	R225,00	R280,00	
SWITZERLAND	R75,00	R115,00	R145,00	
NEW ZEALAND	R220,00	R350,00	R490,00	R5522(01)-R275,00
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In close co-operation with Thematics Southern Africa (TSA), the PFSA Standing Committee for Thematics has contact with the following international thematic organisations and also has access to their regular magazines: American Topical Association (Topical Time), British Thematic Association (Themescene), Nederlandse Vereniging voor Thematische Filatelie (Thema), Belgische Vereniging voor Thematische Filatelie (Themaphila), l'Association Française de Philatélie Thématique (La Philatélie Thématique), Federaçion Española de Sociedades Filatelicas (Temas Filatelicos), Thematic Society of Australia (Themes), Thematics Queensland (Thematically Speaking), Thematic Society of New Zealand (ThemeNZ), Indian Topical Association (Top Phil) and the Indian Thematic Society (ITS Stamps News). *Themes in Print*, a regular briefing in TSA's magazine *ThemNews*, lists all the thematic articles from the above mentioned magazines. Join the TSA and become part of global thematics!

Algoapex 2002

There is still time to enter the thematic section of Algoapex in Port Elizabeth (October 2002). Please contact Richard Johnson at 041-583 3159.

Themes on stamps

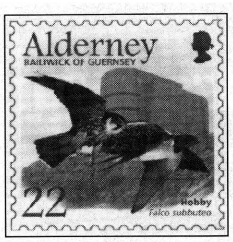
The need for **LIGHTHOUSES** is ancient and practical. Some 3 000 years ago wood-burning beacons were used to guide vessels safely to harbour. Better, more visible lights as well as easier and more economical building techniques were used to improve the function of lighthouses until, at the end of the 19th century, the art and industry of lighthouse construction reached its peak. Since then efforts have concentrated on reducing costs, with unmanned stations and automatic lights. Today we rely on technology to prevent loss of lives and cargo. Lighthouses are unmanned, their operation automated. Yet the romance of lighthouses has survived. The allure of these magnificent guiding lights is timeless and universal.



The history of the **CIRCUS** has its origin in the Roman era. The word circus is Latin and it means circle, a ring. During the roman period, in large amphitheatres, they used to organize shows which included wrestling between people and animals. Following the decline of Rome, this kind of show was downgraded. Groups of wandering "show people" moved from town to town, where impromptu recreational performances were organized, with dances and magicians. In the 17th century, during fairs in Great Britain, shows with magicians and acrobats were very popular, with the participation of trained horses making sensational rounds in a circular ring accompanied by music. Later, the performances were enriched with excellently trained animals. The show begins to become spectacular. Today the circus presents a multifold recreational show for the whole family. People and animals perform their role accompanied by background music. The shows are a mixture of impressive and usually dangerous acrobatic acts, which bring about the admiration but also suspense and fear for the audience. Clowns with their funny costumes spread laughter. All of them together, they create a magical atmosphere for young and old.



BIRDS are the great travellers of the animal world, blessed with the ability to move around at will, in search of climates and terrains which suit them. Location and unspoilt nature play a big part in this regard. Quite nice to have some South African species on Alderney's list of migrating raptors: *Falco subbuteo* (SA 173: European Hobby / Europese Boomvalk), *Milvus migrans* (SA 126: Black Kite / Swartwou), *Pernis apivorus* (SA 130: Honey Buzzard / Wespedief), *Pandion haliaetus* (SA 170: Osprey / Visvalk) and the *Circus aeruginosus* (SA 164: European Marsh Harrier / Europese Paddavreter).



Thailand's **PARROTS** are a fascinating mob! *Psittacula alexandri* (Red-breasted Parakeet), *Psittacula cupatria* (Alexandrine Parakeet), *Psittinus cyanurus* (Black-rumped Parrot) and *Psittacula roseata* (Blossom-headed Parakeet).



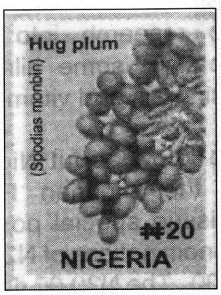


All you horse-lovers! In this Chinese Year of the **HORSE** your collections will expand with gusto!

Some of us like them, some of us avoid them. Some of them are beautiful, others plain ugly and repulsive. Some of them you will touch gently, some of them you will kill instantly. **INSECTS**...!? Jersey try their luck with the Honey-bee (*Apis mellifera*), Seven-spot Ladybird (*Coccinella septempunctata*), Great Green Bush-cricket (*Tettigonia viridissima*), Greater Horntail (*Urocerus gigas*), Emperor Dragonfly (*Anax imperator*) and Hawthorn Shield Bug (*Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale*).



Many **FRUITS** abound in Nigeria. Some, if not all, are medicinal and are therefore useful to human beings. Some are used as fruit. Efforts are therefore made to research into their efficacy in areas of treating some ailments as they contain certain minerals and vitamins. Four fruits are depicted in order to make people know about these natural resources: *Spodias monbin* (Hug Plum), *Chrysophium albidum*



(White Star Apple), *Treculia africana* (African Breadfruit) and *Blighia sapida* (Akee Apple).

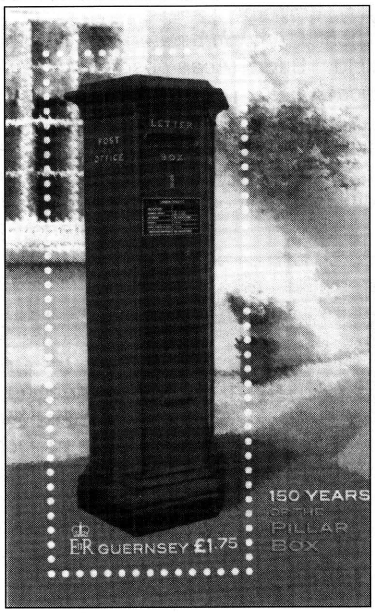
The world-famous Swedish children's author, **ASTRID LINDGREN**, died on January 28, 2002, at the age of 94. Lindgren's literary legacy to all the children of the world remains a beacon of hope that encourages us to create a better world. #8



I love flying by **AEROPLANE**! I prefer to sit right at the back (show me the airliner that reverses into a mountain...), eat all the food and snacks and drink a small Amarula with ice. Who worries about 11 September and hi-jacking and parachutes?

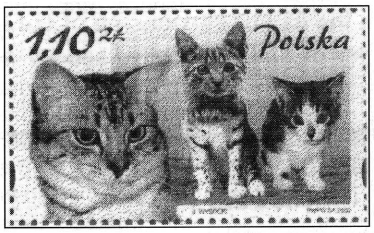


In the 19th century, that time of outstanding progress in so many spheres, some of the keenest minds devoted their attention to the subject of written communication. The result was to envisage the process of putting a stamp and an address on a letter, placing it in a post box, a postal worker collecting it and another postal worker delivering it. By the early 1850s much of the work had been done but one key ingredient was still missing: the ability to post a letter without having to visit a post office. Guernsey was involved in researching the logistics of the idea, and the oldest **PILLAR BOX** in use in the British Isles, installed on 8 February 1853, is still in its original location in Union Street, St Peter Port.

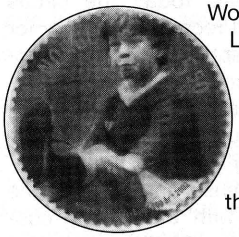




And speaking of **POST** – a special German stamp is designed to raise the general awareness of the medium of the letter among modern generations and to show the special character of the letter as an individual message. A plane is writing the word "post" in a blue sky. The word begins and ends with a line, giving rise to the impression that the plane writing in the sky has flown into and out of the stamp on its way between the sender and the addressee.

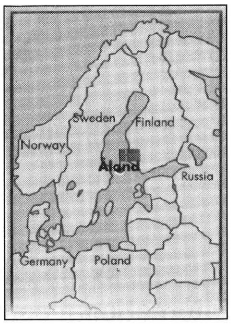


A **KITTEN** or a puppy – heart-warming, cute and adorable! But who has to feed them and clean up their messing...?! Please answer me that!



World Cup **SOCCER**! Let us hold thumbs for the Bafana-Bafana in Korea and Japan. Who knows, perhaps they will make it to the second round!?

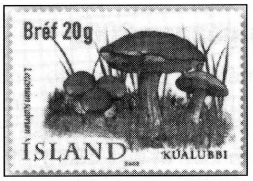
Ever thought of collecting stamps from **ÅLAND**? Where on earth is Åland? It is an autonomous demilitarized island province, situated in the Baltic Sea between Sweden and Finland. The Swedish-speaking Åland has a population of 26 000 and a unique archipelago consisting of more than 6 500 islands and skerries.



MYRRH (*Lavandula stoechas*) belongs to the family of *Labiatae*. It is an aromatic plant growing on rocky slopes, on hillsides, and it is a native plant of the Mediterranean region. It is a perennial shrub with oblong silver coloured leaves and violet flowers. As a herb, it has antiseptic, healing, calming, antispasmodic and spasmolytic properties. Its essential oil is closely related to the history of aromatotherapy. And one of the Wise Men brought it as gift to the newborn Jesus in Bethlehem!



MUSHROOMS – poison or food? In Iceland the brown birch bolete (*Leccinum scabrum*) has a cap of 4-18 cm in diameter and a stem of 15-20 cm. That is a meal in itself!



Address for contributions

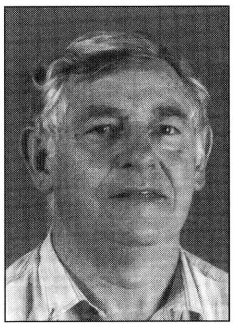
The Editor, The SA Philatelist, P O Box 13048, Norkempark, 1631.

Tel (011) 391-4139 (B), (011) 391-4645 (H). Fax: (011) 391-6785

E-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za

Contributions for publication should preferably be accompanied by a photograph of the author, together with some philatelic biographical details.

Postal measurement marks



by
Neville Gomm
Postmark & Postal History Society

Details of the postmarks defined as postal measurement marks were included in the Contemporary Philately column in the August 1999 (p111) issue of The SA Philatelist. Further details appeared in the same journal in an article by David Allison in the June 2000 (p64) issue. Since the publication of that information, there have been more developments that need recording. This article combines and orders to some extent the information that is available.

IT MAY BE OF VALUE to describe briefly the mail-handling process at the bigger centres. Mail of all sizes is brought to the centre where it goes into what is called a culling machine. This separates the mail into various sizes. Non-standard mail goes for processing by hand, while standard mail goes into a facing machine that faces, or turns, a mail item so that the postage stamp can be cancelled. This is the CFC (culler-facer-canceller) phase, which is called pre-processing.

With all the items facing the same way and all the stamps cancelled, the mail is ready for the next phase of the automatic mail processing chain, which is sorting. It is in this phase that mail is provided with ink jet measurement marks and fluorescent sorting bar codes. After these steps the mail goes to a machine that can sort mail into compartments for various destinations.

An important device in the mail processing chain is the optical character reader (OCR). This device "reads" detail appearing on mail and converts it into electronic signals for facing or for sorting. ILV is the German abbreviation for a combined OCR-video coding machine. A machine with a letters-numeral reference number VCB3 was used at Witspos.

Before giving details of the actual postal measurement marks, the following general information could be of assistance. This information was provided by the Post Office in July 1999:

The postal measurement marks are there purely to provide postal operations with the time and date that a specific bulk mail item (postage paid) was processed on the relative letter-coding machine in the mail centre. It therefore does not fulfil the purpose of a postage stamp cancellation impression as is the case with slogan impressions. These postmarks are therefore applied to bulk mail items for the purpose of internal measurement of items passing through the postal network. (I have also seen them applied to the odd ordinary mail items.)

There is no particular reason for the time being printed on bulk items. The system provides for this facility and it forms part of the initial set-up of the ink jet printer. The time and the date is controlled electronically according to the 24-hour clock format.

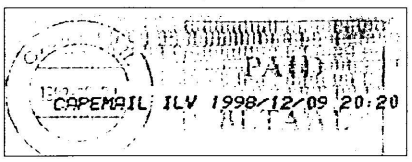
The ink-jet printers that apply the postal measurement marks are separate from those that apply slogans to mail. The machines that apply slogans are generally referred to as pre-processing machines while the ILV, OCR and VCB machines are actual letter-sorting machines and form the next step in the mail processing chain. I have seen postal measurement marks only from Capemail and Witspos.

It is clear that there is much more that can be said about this subject, so no claim to completeness is made. This article was prepared in the spirit of what the late Wilhelm Grütter RDPSA wrote in the June 1998 (p82) issue of *The SA Philatelist*: "Give us knowledge! Write about your own research." I have written what I could extract from material that has come my way. I have recorded details from items provided by the people mentioned at the end of the article. I have also worked through a pile of a few thousand of these items that were accumulated since 1998. Since this is not a sphere of collecting for me, I am no longer accumulating items of this nature because I need to reduce space and activity. Someone else now needs to follow up to make the record as complete as possible and to watch out for future developments.

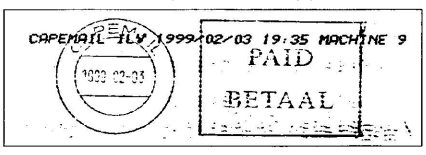
Capemail ILV postmark

The earliest date seen for the Capemail ILV postmark is 9 December 1998.

The early postmarks were made up of the mail centre name, the machine type, the date in year-month-day sequence and the time according to the 24-hour clock with hours and minutes separated by a colon.



In February 1999, the particulars MACHINE 9 appeared after the time. Examples from 2 and 3 February have been seen. It should be mentioned that on 2 February, postmarks with and without the MACHINE 9 particulars appeared.

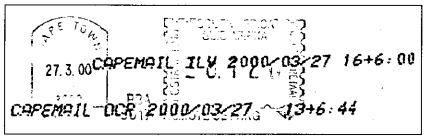


In September 1999, a change was made in the configuration of the ILV time. The earliest date recorded for the new time configuration is 7 September, when the time appeared as 21+6:36.

CAPEMAIL ILV 1999/09/10 21+6:37

With the new time particulars, I have recorded 00+ through to 23+. All the examples I have seen, have a numeral 6 after the plus sign. The two numerals after the colon have ranged from 00 to 59. It would therefore seem that the first two numerals are the hours and the last two the minutes. The reason for the insertion of the characters +6, remains a matter for further research.

Also shown, is an item with two postal measurements marks. Such double postmarking is a fairly frequent occurrence, sometimes with both marks from the ILV machine and sometimes from the ILV and OCR machines.



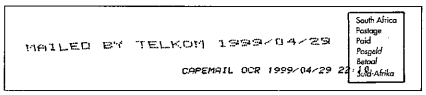
Capemail OCR postmark

The earliest date seen for the Capemail OCR postmark is 8 December 1998.

The layout of the early postmark details is the same as for the Capemail ILV machine.

CAPEMAIL OCR 1998/12/10 15:01

The postmark MAILED BY TELKOM 1999/04/29 was applied by Telkom to its telephone accounts with one of its own machines. This is not a Post Office marking. The mark first appeared on the front of such envelopes, but was later applied to the reverse.



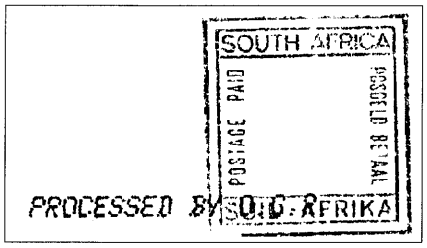
As with the ILV machine, the OCR time configuration was changed similarly in September 1999. The earliest date recorded is 6 September.

CAPEMAIL OCR 1999/09/14 14+6:16

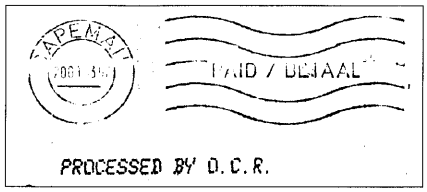
On 5 January 2000 there was a small development, but it is not known for how long it lasted. Two examples from that date show that the machine designation OCR had the numeral 8 added to it to make OCR8. This was the only time that OCR8 was seen.

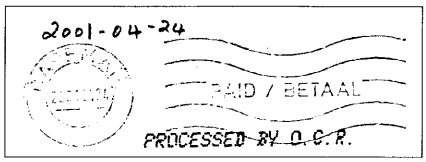
CAPEMAIL OCR8 2000/01/05 20+6:28

The next development occurred when an item with the words PROCESSED BY O.C.R. appeared. David Allison recorded that he received the item on 19 February 2001. The item was probably processed a day or two before the 19th. The normal OCR postmark seems to have been appearing at the same time, and dates of 9, 14, 16, 21, 23 and 26 February have been recorded for the normal mark.

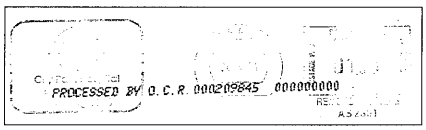


Could one deduce that the use of PROCESSED BY O.C.R. about the middle of February 2001, was by way of an experiment? This postmark was used again on 7 March 2001, and also on 23 and 24 April 2001.





There was a further OCR development recorded in April 2001. On 24, 25, 26 and 30 April and subsequently in May and June, a postmark of the following nature appeared: PROCESSED BY O.C.R. 000209845 000000000. The two groups of numerals consist of nine characters each.



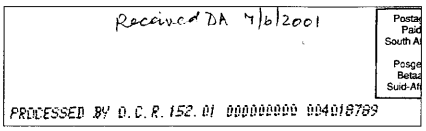
This seems to be a counting exercise, with the first group of nine numerals indicating that the item concerned was number 209845 of a counting period. The second group of nine noughts probably indicates an unused facility of the machine.

The PROCESSED BY O.C.R. postmark with the two groups of nine numerals continued in use into May 2001. On 9 May 2001, another variation was recorded. This time, the second group of nine noughts disappeared to be replaced by a numeral-letter combination such as 16N.

PROCESSED BY O.C.R. 001325571 16N

The three-character combination remained constant as two numerals followed by one letter. Other examples recorded are: 08Y, 09M, 11G, 12A, 12H, 12N, 12Q, 12S, 13C, 13K, 13L, 13M, 13N, 13Z, 14X, 15C, 16K, 17L and 19Y. This usage took place, according to examples that came my way, only in May 2001.

June 2001 was to see another variation. An item received by David Allison on 7 June, had the following postmark applied: PROCESSED BY O.C.R. 152.01 000000000 004020450. A new element in the form of 152.01 was added and other examples seen, are 156.01, 158.01 and 159.01.



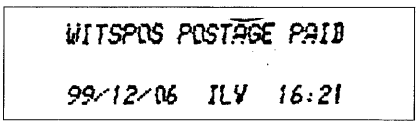
In this variation all the examples had the first group of nine numerals appearing as noughts and the second group of nine with differing numerals. On 13 June 2001, the postmark had reverted to the CAPEMAIL OCR 2001/06/13 12+6:47 layout.

In January 2002, there was another development in the OCR mark from Capemail. The mark began appearing in orange ink similar to that of the coding bars in the lower right segment of the envelope. The earliest mark of this orange type that I have recorded, is the following: OCR 09/01/02 14+6:48 The new mark does not include the name of the mail centre. I have been unable to have one of these marks copied suitably for illustration.

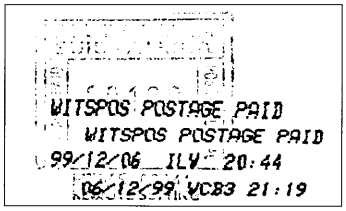
Witspos ILV postmark

The earliest date seen for the Witspos ILV mark is 23 November 1999.

The postmark consists of the words WITSPOS POSTAGE PAID on one line and 99/11/23 ILV 20:39 on a second line.

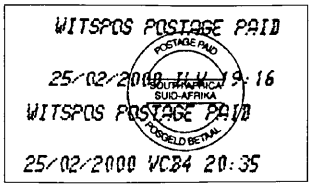


An item from 6 December 1999 shows that it also passed through the VCB3 machine to leave the item with a double postmark. The reason for the double postmark is not known, but I have noticed that a large percentage of such marked items are without phosphorescent sorting bar codes. It can also be mentioned that in all the examples that I have seen with the double postmark, the VCB mark was applied after the ILV mark.



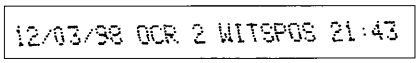
A change in the layout of the postmark appeared on 24 February 2000. As indicated, the date from the start appeared in the sequence year-month-day, with the year in abbreviated form as two numerals. The February 2000 variation has the date

in the sequence day-month-year, with the year in full as four numerals. The full line layout remains date-machine-time.

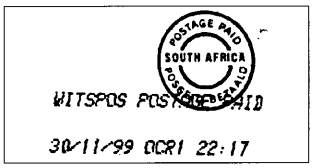


Witspos OCR postmark

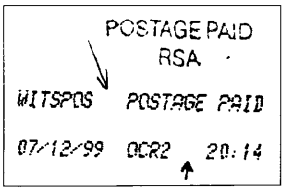
Before dealing with the OCR conventional (if one could call it that) postmark, it is worth recording some information specially provided by David Allison of Bergvliet. He sent photocopies of a postmark that appeared on the reverse of two letters that had been received at the University of Cape Town from England. The postmark is the same on both envelopes and it appears in an unusual position near the lower left corner. They are the only examples of such a postmark that have been seen. Could these marks be part of an incoming mail counting experiment?



The earliest date seen for the Witspos OCR1 mark is 22 November 1999. The postmark consists of the words WITSPOS POSTAGE PAID in one line and 22/11/99 OCR1 22:35 on a second line.



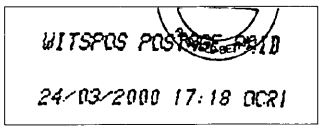
Examples have also been seen with OCR2 in the second line. This mark has a double space between WITSPOS and POSTAGE in the first line and also between OCR2 and the time in the second line.



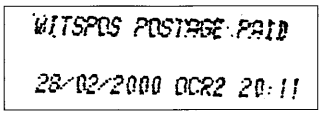
The Witspos OCR2 postmarking seems to have come into effect on or after 26 November 1999, the date on which Witspos was test printing mail with this machine.



A change was made in the sequence of the second line of the OCR1 postmark. An example dated 24 February 2000, shows the date-machine-time sequence changed to date-time-machine. In this variety the year appears as four numerals and not two as previously.



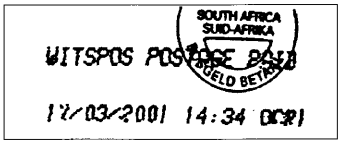
The sequence of the OCR2 was also changed in February 2000. An example of 28 February, shows the year appearing as four numerals and the double space in both lines becoming a single space. The second line sequence remains date-machine-time.



The sequence of the second line of the OCR1 postmark was changed again and an example from 10 July 2000, shows the original sequence of date-machine-time. The year of the date remains as four numerals.



By 17 March 2001, the OCR1 postmark was changed once more. The sequence of the second line reverted to date-time-machine.



The OCR1 second line sequence was changed again. An example of 3 September 2001 has it date-machine-time, the machine and time details having been changed. These details were changed yet again by 1 November 2001, when the machine details appeared at the end of the second line once more.

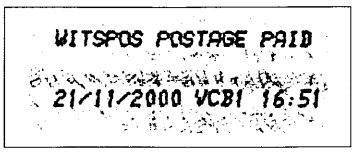


Witspos VCB postmark

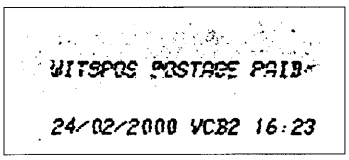
The Witspos VCB postmark has four varieties. They are distinguished by the numerals 1, 2, 3, or 4 behind the letters VCB. The four will be dealt with in numerical sequence.

For VCB1, I have recorded an earliest date of 10 March 2000. The sequence of the second line is machine-time-date with the year as four numerals.

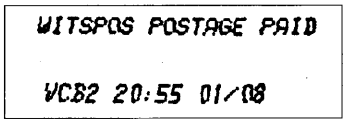
An example from 21 November 2000, shows a second line sequence change with the particulars appearing in the sequence of date-machine-time.



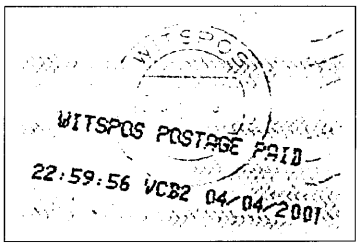
For VCB2, an earliest date of 24 February 2000 has been recorded. The second line sequence is date-machine-time.



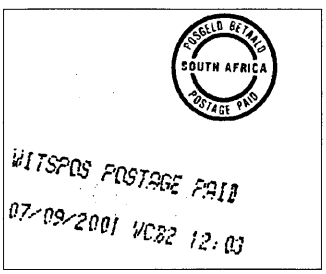
On 1 August 2000, I recorded a change in the VCB2 second line sequence to machine-time-date. The date appears as 01/08 without the year.



By 4 April 2001, the VCB2 second line sequence was changed to time-machine-date. The time appears as six numerals, thus including seconds. The date appears in full with the year indicated by four numerals. For some unknown reason, the VCB2 machine was printing at an angle.

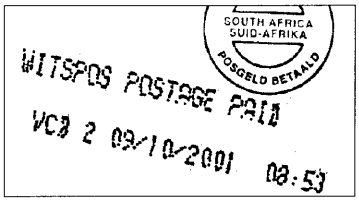


By 7 September 2001, there was another VCB2 sequence change to date-machine-time with the time appearing only in hours and minutes.

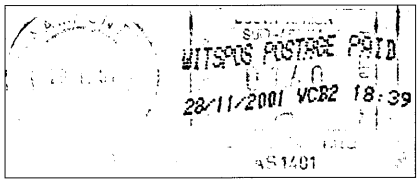


A further VCB2 change was recorded by 9 October 2001, when the sequence became machine-date-time. In this

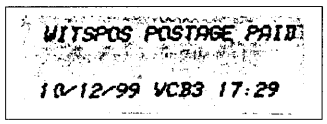
change, a space was inserted between VCB and 2.



By 28 November 2001, the VCB2 sequence had reverted to date-machine-time.



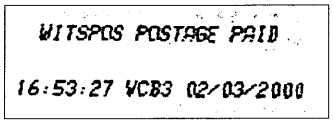
For VCB3, an earliest date of 10 December 1999 has been recorded. The second line sequence is date-machine-time with the year of the date appearing as two numerals.



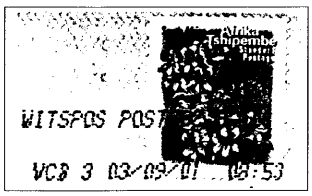
On 13 February 2000, there was a change in the sequence of the second line. The time was placed left, with VCB3 in the middle and the date right. In addition, the time appeared as 08:12:29, the last two numerals indicating seconds.



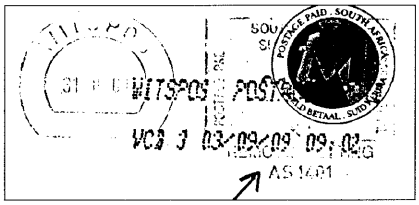
On 1 March 2000, there was again a change in the second line. In the date, the year now began appearing as four numerals.



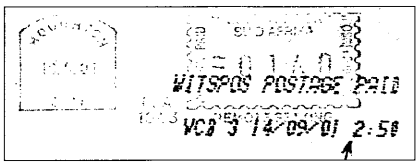
By 3 September 2001, the second line sequence was changed to machine-date-time. The letters VCB were separated with a space from the numeral 3. In the time, the colon and two numerals to indicate seconds, were dropped. In the date, the year was indicated with two numerals.



An example of the preceding sequence has been found with the date appearing as 03/09/09 instead of 03/09/01.

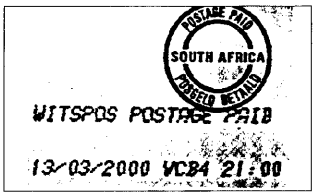


An example of 14 September 2001, has the time indicated as 2:50 instead of the normal 02:50.

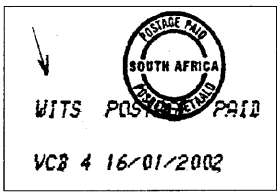


For VCB4, an earliest date of 4 February 2000 has been recorded. The second line detail appears as date-machine-time with the year of the date as two numerals.

By 13 March 2000, there was a change in the second line where the year of the date appears as four numerals.



A VCB4 example from 16 January 2002 has the second line sequence as machine-date without the time and a space between VCB and 4. The mail centre name appears as WITS instead of WITSPOS. This could cause confusion as there is a WITS post office at the University of the Witwatersrand.



Sources:

David Allison, Bergvliet
John Hodgson, Plumstead
John Horner, Kimberley
Strooi Sorour, Bloemfontein
Frank van Rensburg, Nylstroom
Loek van Riet, Rynfield
†Nita Venter, Queenstown

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The *lay-out* of your exhibit

The third in a series of articles for novice exhibitors by Richard Knight RDPSA, chairman of the PFSA judging committee.



YOU'VE NOW SELECTED your sheets, decided on the material to be exhibited and how the write-up is to be done. Now remains the problem of exactly how the items being shown are to be placed on the sheets so as to give the best impression and display the items to the best advantage.

Some exhibitors like to have a "country" heading at the top of each page. While there is no rule against this, it always seems to me to be unnecessary and I find it slightly irritating. After all, the exhibit is one of the stamps of Ruritania - why put "Ruritania" at the top of each sheet?

To a great extent the layout may be decided by the size of the items. It is important to avoid the appearance of a crowded page; if you're showing covers, important covers should be shown on their own, two complementary covers may share a page, but only the direst necessity will excuse three covers to a page.

If you're showing stamps, the tendency is to show full sets. Unless there is a good reason for showing every value, it is better, and acceptable, to show perhaps the high values in blocks of four if they are all of the same design.

A crowded exhibit leaves the impression that the exhibitor is simply throwing everything he possesses into the frames in the hope of baffling the judges with sheer volume. This leaves viewers with the impression that either the exhibitor didn't know which were the important items and which the unimportant, or that he was too lazy to apply his mind to the selection of material.

On the other hand, you should avoid having sheets with large blank areas. Sometimes this can be overcome by putting part of the annotation at the top of the page, the item in the middle and the rest of the annotation in the lower part of the page.

If you can do a mock-up of an exhibit, you could spread each frame on a table or the floor and look at it from a distance – blank areas will usually show up like the proverbial sore thumb and remedial action can be taken. This is something I do whenever I put an exhibit together and it is surprising how often this leads one to rewrite or redesign a page.

Items like essays, proofs and similar archival material are usually larger than individual stamps. Again, these require careful layout to ensure that they are noticeable but do not give the impression of overcrowding or sparseness. Spreading items too thinly leaves the viewer with the impression of "padding"; you need to strike a balance between overcrowding and sparseness of material.

In a multi-frame exhibit, it is better to start a new heading, new issue or new subject at the first sheet of a frame and to avoid starting a new subject towards the end or even a few sheets into a frame. This is not always possible and may be very difficult to achieve when trying to retain chronological order, but you should do your best.

Layout should be neat and covers (in a postal history exhibit) more or less lined up so that when you view a frame, the top edges are generally in line, while stamps should be placed so that the sheet has some "eye appeal". This is something that may take several attempts to get right and again something that may be solved by making up the sheet and then standing back and looking at it critically.

Why you should join a club

FOR A BEGINNER, part of the process of learning about collecting stamps is to join a club. You might ask why?

As we have said before, gaining as much knowledge about stamp collecting as you can, will ensure that you start off right and enjoy what you are doing. Meeting other collectors at club level is one very important way of the learning process.

All clubs have members who are on different levels of collecting. Some are more advanced than others. Some may even be beginners like you. They have also had to start where you are starting. They made mistakes, and in many cases had to learn the hard way.

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Philately is a friendly hobby. Somebody said to me the other day that cycling is an "image" sport and it derives its image from the type of racing cycle you ride. If it is the right brand and cost a lot of money, you are immediately accepted as part of that elite band of cyclists who pride themselves on only using the best and most expensive.

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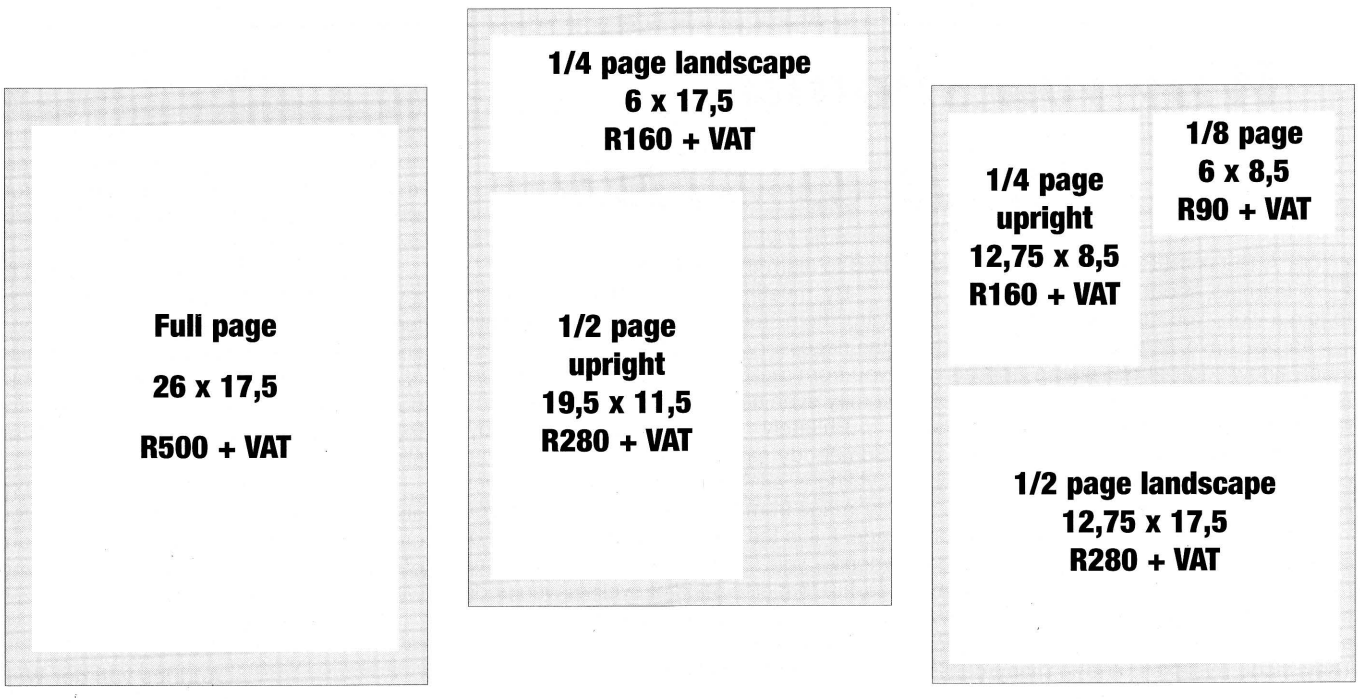

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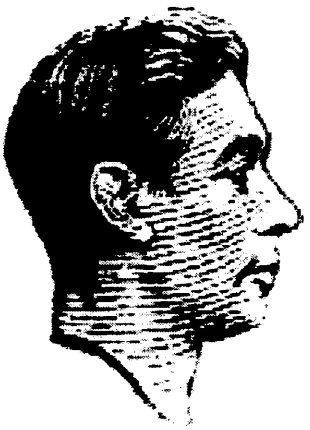

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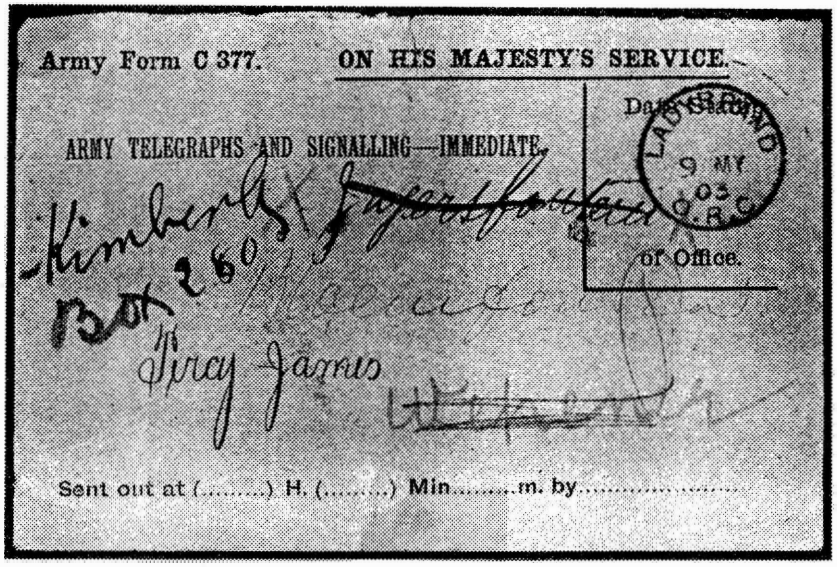

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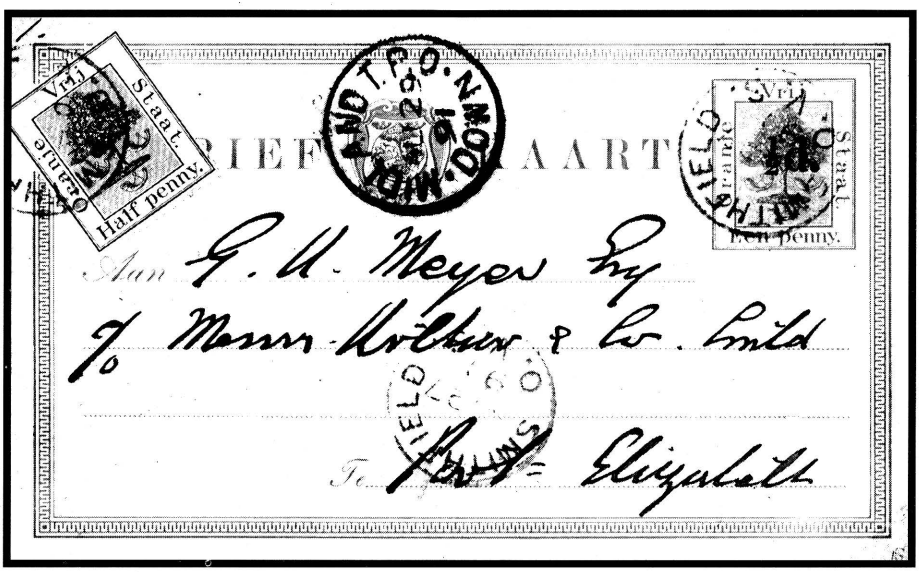

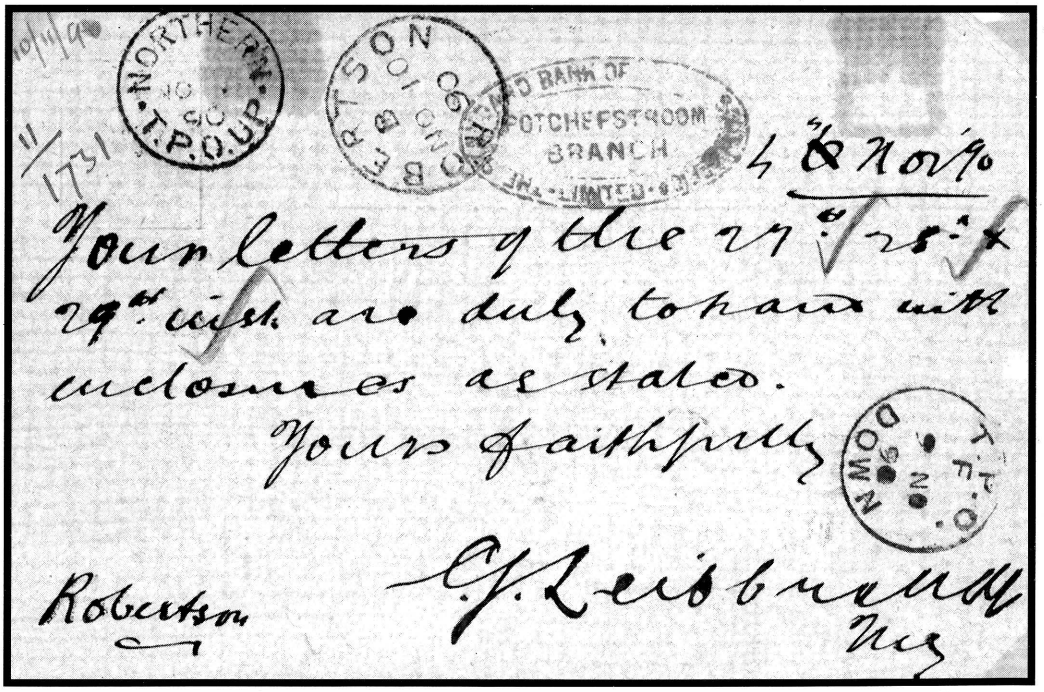

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Tel 011 391 4139 (B), 011 391 4645 (H)
Fax 011 391 6785
E-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za

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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

THE TIME has probably come to take a final decision on the "House of Philately". It has been nearly 20 years since the idea was mooted for the first time.Two decades later we are no nearer the stage where a firm proposal can be put on the table.

If after 20 years organised philately has been unable to make up its mind as to what it wants from a "House of Philately", I fail to see how we will ever be able to do it. It has been the subject of much discussion, yet we are no nearer a solution than we were in the early eighties of the previous century.

Yet a large amount of money remains tied up in the bank account of the Philatelic Foundation, earmarked for a project that may never get off the ground. It was a stillborn idea in any case.

Currently the promotion, growth and sustainability of philately as a hobby in South Africa is a major problem that needs to be addressed. It needs to be tackled with vigour; and to do that, will cost money. It needs people with the necessary enthusiasm and commitment to take on this daunting challenge.

That vigour and commitment is not evident when the "House of Philately" comes up for discussion.

Of course any project or strategy that we might develop to promote the hobby may not succeed immediately. We may encounter failures, but at the end of the day there is no success without failure.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

'n "Tuiste vir Filatelie" is 'n gedagte wat al meer as 20 jaar met die georganiseerde filatelie is. En na 20 jaar het ons eintlik nog niks om daarvoor te wys nie. Tog is dit nodig dat daar met groot erns na die doeltreffende bevordering van ons stokperdjie gekyk moet word, en kragdadig iets gedoen moet word om die groei en voorbestaan van die filatelie te verseker.

Die droom van 'n "tuiste" vir filatelie gaan nie vir bostaande sorg nie. 'n Plan van aksie, gerugsteun deur geesdriftige optrede is wat ons nodig het. Hoe lank gaan daar nog gepraat word?

– Redakteur

Uit die posbus  From the mailbox

Authors must supply full references

Gawie van der Walt, Potchefstroom, writes: IN THE June 2002 issue of *The SA Philatelist* Canon Jim Draper writes "the Natal late fee facility is well documented" but fails to give more details where such information can be found. As a comprehensive index to articles on South African philately does not exist (what a pity!) it is very difficult to determine where such information can be obtained and consulted (by the way, Okkie de Jager's article was concerned with *The Sunday fee for overseas mail from Durban and Pietermaritzburg* and not the *Natal late fee* – Draper fails to mention if this has been documented before).

Which brings me to the question of quoting of references in philatelic articles and books. In this rgar the June 2002 issue of *The SA Philatelist* does not live up to its usual good standard.

In his article *Chinese workers in South Africa* J P D Flanagan mentions that his information "has been drawn from two sources which I set out as the credited references at the end of the article". He then lists three references. However, in the article he quotes "Drysdall and Davey" at least twice without mentioning this source in the list of references (the correct sources would have been *The Chinese Connection* by Alan R Drysdall and Paul N Davey, published in the May 1993 issue of *The Transvaal Philatelist* (two of the items were illustrated in colour!) This article was subsequently followed by more information in the August 1995, February 1996, May 1996 and February 2001 issues of *The Transvaal Philatelist.*

Even my own article (*Filateliese versamelings in openbare besit*) in the June issue was a victim of the printer's devil (or was it the editor's devil?) – the references supplied with this article were not published.

Let's hope that *The SA Philatelist* will return to its high standard regarding references!

The editor replies: *Ouch! I would like to believe that it is incumbent upon authors to ensure that they list all sources referred to in their articles. It is a bit too much to expect the editor to know about everything that has been written on a specific subject, but I do accept responsibility for not picking up the fact that the sources listed in the articles were not listed in the references.*

As regards Mr Van der Walt's own article, we have checked his original document that was e-mailed to me in Word format. We cannot find the references that he states was part of his original e-mail.

In any event I would like to thank him for pointing out these shortcomings and assure him and the readers of The SA Philatelist that I will take better care in future to maintain high standards.

I agree that it is a pity that a comprehensive index of philatelic articles does not exist. However, the South African National Library in Cape Town (previously the State Library in the Gardens) used to publish an annual bibliography of all articles published in magazines. I am not sure when they stopped, but the library does provide a research facility if one is looking for articles on a specific subject. I have made use of it in the past and the service is mentioned on the Library's website. – Editor

Why not in English?

John Ineson writes via e-mail: Having only recently received the February SAP, I was disappointed to see that the obituary about André Bezuidenhout was published in Africans. I know that you had written a short note in the middle of the article in English, but like many other members of the ABWPS and other Southern African Philatelic Societies who knew him well, we would have liked to have been able to read this. I guess you publish the way the articles come to you, and as a long-time subscriber I know this is what happens. I look forward to the day when it is completely published in English!

Why Mossel Bay?

Jill Redmond, Johannesburg, writes: I have had a query about Imperial Airways flight no AN64, 1932, and I wonder of one of our readers can help. The following are the only details available in Peter Wingent's book:

CT		dep 25 May
Jhb	dep 19 May one day late	City of Delhi
Jhb	dep 27 May "	City of Jodphur
Sby	dep 28 May "	City of Karachi
Kisumu	arr 29 May	City of Basra
Kisumu	dep 30 May one day late	City of Swanage
Juba	arr 30 May "	City of Swanage
Khartoum	dep 1 June "	City of Glasgow
W.Halfa	dep 2 June "	City of Glasgow
Cairo	arr 2 June "	City of Glasgow
Alex.	dep 3 June "	Sylvanus
Brindisi	arr 3 June	Sylvanus

An aerophilatelist in England, Brian Stokoe, says the flight left Cape Town at 08:10 on 25 May 1932 and for some reason went to Mossel Bay. Because of bad weather they had to spend the night there, thus arriving in Johannesburg one day late but eventually making up the day before arriving at Croydon. The question is, why did the airline go to Mossel Bay? The only possible way to find the information is if someone in Mossel Bay would be kind enough to investigate details in the local papers of that period!

Airmail postcards: Here are the rates

Hugh Amoore, Claremont, Cape Town, writes: In the previous issue of *The SA Philatelist*, Bengt Jansson of Finland asked about postal rates on some items which were illustrated. Here is the relevant information:

1. Postcard: The airmail postcard rates to the UK and to Europe 1933-1939 were –

Date	Rates to UK	Rates to Europe
1 Oct 1932	5d.	6d.
27 Nov 1934	3d.	6d.
1 July 1937	1½d.	6d.
6 Sept 1939	7½d.	7½d.

The rate to Europe in 1935 was 6d.each, so this postcard was overpaid by half a penny.

2. Cover to India: There were two rates from 1 January 1932 to 18 February 1938:
To Karachi: 1/- per half ounce
Beyond Karachi: 1/3d. per half ounce.
This letter to Calcutta was correctly paid 1/3d. at the single weight, half-ounce rate.

3 Cover to Hong Kong: The rate of 1/8d. per half ounce was set on 23 March 1936 and obtained until 1 October 1938 when it became 1½d. per half ounce.

SA stamps sought

Jim Halsall, 37 La Rochelle, Andries Pretorius St, Somerset West, 7130, writes: After a long period of trouble with my eyesight, I am wanting to get back into stamp collecting and I need help from your readers. I would like to start off with collecting South Africa, and I wonder if someone with a surplus might care to let me have some of those? Any other stamps will also be appreciated – I have nothing at present.

Algoapex fully subscribed – excitement mounts

Algoapex 2002, incorporating Junass 2002 National Philatelic Exhibition, takes place in Port Elizabeth from Wednesday 23 to Saturday 26 October 2002. The venue is the Tsitsikamma Conference Centre at the Boardwalk Casino Complex in Summerstrand. Generously sponsored by Spink of London, the SA Post Office and the Philatelic Federation of SA, the exhibition concides with the 90th anniversary of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society.

With about three months to go, an exciting atmosphere is developing. **Neville Polakow**, vice-president of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society, reports:

I am pleased to report that we are oversubscribed in the entirety of the exhibition. The dealer area (in the plush vestibule of the Centre) is fully occupied with 20 dealers including the SA Post Office/Philatelic Services who have indicated that a postal agency will be fully operational providing the official cancellers of the Exhibition. Three UK dealers will be in attendance.

Almost 500 frames overall (including 26 frames from Australian collectors) will be on show with a reduced Court of Honour due the demand for frames. Ten further entries have been accepted in the Literature Section. David Crocker RDPSA will be chairman of the jury of 17 members (including judges from the USA, UK and Australia), with five apprentice jurors. The Junass jury of seven members (including apprentices) will be chaired by Mrs Jill Redmond RDPSA.

The most popular classes in the Exhibition are Postal History of South Africa, followed by the Traditional Philately Section of Great Britain and the Commonwealth/ Thematic and Topical is the next most popular Class. The Palmares (banquet and award ceremony) will provide further interest as we have secured Mr Kevin Wakeford CEO of SA Chamber of Business as the guest speaker. This will take place at the Skyroof, Protea Marine Hotel on Saturday 26 October. Tickets cost R125 per person.

The Exhibition opens every day from 10h00 until 20h00 and on Saturday from 09h00 until 18h30. Entrance is free. Limited supplied of a very attractive first-day cover will be on sale at the information counter. The SA Post Office intends to issue stamps and/or miniature sheet entitled "Endangered Wildlife" on the opening day.

The Philatelic Federation 64th Congress, to be held on Friday 25 October in the Beach Hotel, will be opened by Mr Justice T M Mullins, a well-known philatelist and author in his own right.

Tickets for the Palmares and further information can be obtained from the secretary, Mr R Maclachan, Algoapex 2002, P O Box 10886, Linton Grange, 6015, or e-mail algoapex@johnson.co.za

News snippets from Federation

Rev Cassie Carstens of the Afrikaanse Filatelieverening and Thematics SA, has been appointed archivist of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. He is also the chairman of the Federation's Standing Committee on Thematics and a regular contributor to this journal.

The upgraded constitution of Federation is being finalised and will be put to Congress 2002 for discussion. One of the changes being contemplated is changing the name of Federation to that of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

At the recent meeting of the General Purposes Committee it was also agreed to allow a motion to be put forward for discussion at Congress 2002 regarding the promotion of philately.

Attending a meeting of Federation for the first time, was **Mr Johan van Wyk** of the SA Post Office. Mr Van Wyk has been temporarily seconded to Philatelic Services. He reported that he had a brief from the chief executive officer of the SA Post Office to develop an effective marketing strategy for Philatelic Services.

He took note of the problems being experienced with the issue of stamps and promised to look into the matters raised.

The Publications Standing Committee reported that it had set itself the following objectives: "
(To) advance interest in stamp collecting and the philately of Southern Africa by (i) the promotion of various types of publications, and (ii) the provision of publication and advertising support to the organisers of regional and national stamp exhibitions".

The Publications Standing Committee has developed key criteria for publications to be considered and all prospective authors have been asked to submit proposed publications to the Committee at an early stage so that the publication process and requirements could be made clear to prospective authors.

The **Witwatersrand Philatelic Society** has offered to organise and host the National Exhibition to be held in 2003.

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa has been approached by the Israeli Philatelic Federation to explore possible co-operation between the two bodies.

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Slogan programme changed

THE POST OFFICE has given details of changes made to the 2002 slogan programme.

The slogan "Postcodes available toll free at 0800 111 502" originally scheduled for the period 15–21 April was replaced by one reading "Remember Mom by sending a Mother's Day Card". The Mother's Day slogan was also run as determined originally from 29 April to 12 May.

In a second change, all the slogans that were to be used from 3 June to 1 September (13 weeks) were replaced by one reading "Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development 26 Aug.–4 Sept. 2002".

Setting the record straight

In the article *The 2002 postal slogan programme* on page 5 of the February 2002 issue of *The SA Philatelist*, the years of the dates of the last item in the programme were incorrect. The dates should be **30 December 2002** and **5 January 2003**. Thanks to David Allison of Bergvliet for pointing out the mistake.

SA newsletter shines in Canada

Only in its second year of publication, *ThemNews*, the bimonthly newsletter of Thematics Southern Africa, was awarded a silver-bronze at Canada's 6th national philatelic literature exhibition, the largest philatelic literature exhibition held in North America. The newsletter class drew 63 entries from around the globe. It was in this class that *ThemNews* was awarded a silver-bronze.

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OBITUARIES

Ralph Putzel RDPSA

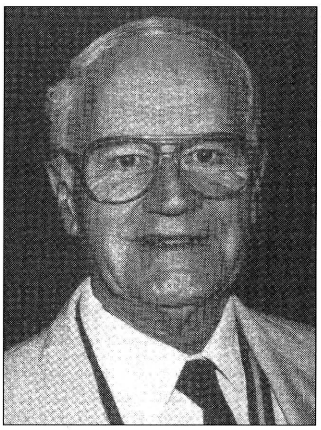
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELY lost a truly great philatelist and researcher when Ralph Putzel passed away on 2 July 2002. He was 82.

Ralph Putzel landed in South Africa from Germany on his 16th birthday in 1936, with his schoolboy stamp collection. Two years later he joined the South African Army, being taken prisoner of war at Tobruk in North Africa.

After the war his interest in stamps revived, not only in German postal history, but also of South and South West Africa. In 1947 he joined the Royal Philatelic Society in Cape Town, where he became known as an avid and serious collector, participating in all the activities of the society and often encouraging the junior members.

Ralph served continuously in the committee of the "Royal" for 25 years, from 1957 to 1982, and was its President in 1962/3. He was elected an honorary life member in 1980. At the limited international exhibition Disa 1979, he was a member of the jury.

He formed a major collection of Zeppelin mail (probably the finest in South Africa at that time) and of Germany, Austria and South West Africa postmarks. During this time he operated a world-renowned philatelic auction house, Collectors Mail Auctions.



In 1977 he published a Handbook of Postmarks of South West Africa under South African Administration 1914-1977. In 1980 followed an amplified English edition of Albert Friedemann's handbook The Postage Stamps and Cancellations of the Post Offices in German South West Africa, translated with the assistance of Peter Morrison. These publishing efforts were recognised: There was a gold medal for literature at the national stamp exhibition Rand77, an international gold medal for literature in Buenos Aires in 1980, and the JH Harvey Pirie Memorial Award for literature in 1981. In 1991 a completely revised and updated The Comprehensive Handbook of the Postmarks of German South West Africa/ South West Africa/ Namibia was published.

Other publishing initiatives were an edition of Stamps of South Africa, the Union handbook/catalogue of the Federation in 1979, the publication in 1980 of a handbook compiled by Aubrey Scott on The Cancellations and Postal Markings of Basutoland/Lesotho.

The four volume Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies was published between 1987 and 1990. This paved the way for The Postmarks of South Africa and Former States and Colonies, as Volume 1 appeared in 1992 (Silver award at Nationals in 1992), and the succeeding volumes appeared at yearly intervals. The compilation of these books were the result of painstaking research, of countless hours in postal archives and the Post Office Museum, indexing and cross-referencing – truly a mission of selfless dedication. The Federation recognised these efforts with the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion for philatelic achievement in 1988, and in 1991 he was invited to sign the Roll of Honour.

We salute Ralph Putzel and his major contributions to South African philately.

– Professor Alex T Visser

Richard Cave Knight RDPSA, FRPSL

ACCLAIMED philatelist Richard Knight passed away peacefully on 5 July this year after a brave struggle against cancer. His invaluable contribution to organised philately in Southern Africa will long be remembered.

Richard, born in Cape Town in January 1934, was best known for his collection on the postal history of the Rhodesias up to 1924, having achieved gold medal awards on three occasions internationally plus a number of outings nationally. His second collection of Zanzibar until 1936 was also shown nationally and internationally.

Richard became interested in stamps in the late 1960s when his younger son David started collecting and was quick to join the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town. He served two terms at the helm as president in 1977/78 and again in 1989/90.

In 1981 he published the book *Between Limpopo and Zambesi: The postal routes of Southern Rhodesia to 1923* and in 1984, together with D A Mitchell, published *The Postmarks, postal routes and principal postage rates of Southern Rhodesia to 1924*.

He wrote regularly for *The SA Philatelist* (see page 124 of this issue) and numerous philatelic journals worldwide with specifically in-depth contributions to



the journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle in the UK, where he was elected president for a three-year term in 1986 and subsequently as life vice-president.

Richard contributed immeasurably to jury work in South Africa and served on local juries virtually unbroken since 1985, accepting the jury chairmanship on three occasions. He was chairman of the judging and ethics committee of the Philatelic Federation for the past 12 years and formulated rules and guidelines for the various disciplines over this period. He also qualified as South Africa's first international philatelic juror in postal history in Finland in 1995 and thereafter also judged internationally in Israel.

He was elected a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society in London and president of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa in 1986 when he was also warded the Manfred Weinstein Memorial Medallion for philatelic achievement. In 1988 Richard was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa.

Richard's other main interests (apart from his family of course) were in scouting and birding. His long association with the scouts movement culminated in four years as national chairman of the Boy Scouts of Southern Africa. He was a founder member of the Cape Town Bird Club in 1947, secretary of the Rhodesian Ornithological Society (during his period of working in that territory) and later became a member of the council of the South African Ornithological Society.

Richard is survived by his wife Gill, daughter Judith and sons Jonathan and David and their respective families. We extend our sincere sympathy to all of them at this sad time.

– Danny Swart

David de Villiers

Prof David Willem de Villiers, 'n gewese dekaan van die teologiese fakulteit aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, is op 15 Mei vanjaar in die ouderdom van 84 oorlede.

Heilige Dawid, soos hy ook bekend was, was 'n groot seël- en muntversamelaar. Sy vrou het hom drie jaar gelede ontval en hy word oorleef deur drie seuns.

Prof de Villiers was meer as 20 jaar predikant voor hy in 1966 as teologiedosent op Stellenbosch aangestel is. Hy het in 1970 professor geword, was hoof van die departement Diakonologie en het twee skofte as dekaan van die fakulteit Teologie gedien – in 1978 en weer in 1980 tot sy aftrede.

Volgens sy seun Pierre de Villiers, van Die Strand, het sy pa se filatelie-belangstelling in 1960 posgevat toe hy tydens sy doktorale studie in Amsterdam 'n versameling ongebruikte Nederlandse seëls van 1948 bekom het. Sedertdien het hy meer gekonsentreer op Suid-Afrikaanse seëls en posgeskiedenis, maar ook veel wyer uitgekring. In sy laaste jare het hy hom toegespits op die Victoriaanse seëls van Brittanje.

Op verskillende stadiums van sy lewe as versamelaar het hy verteenwoordigende versamelings van Stellaland, Nieuwe Republiek Pietersburg, die Oranje-Vrystaat en die Unie van Suid-Afrika opgebou. Hy was tot op die end besonder bedrywig, landwyd, met filatelie-rondsendboekies. Sy oogmerk daarmee was om die stokperdjie te bevorder deur andere te help.

Hy was medestigter van die Stellenbosse Filatelievereniging en voorsitter daarvan tydens die Stelpex 300-uitstalling in 1979. Die gesellige en informele manier waarop hy die vergaderings gelei het en sy opregte belangstelling in sy medemens, gepaard met geesdrif en 'n fyn humorsin, het aansienlik bygedra tot die gesonde groei van hierdie vereniging.

Hy was ook 'n aktiewe lid van verskeie ander filatelieverenigings (Royal, OVS, Johannesburg, Sandton, Pretoria). Hy het ook munte, note en handtekeninge versamel.

Onder sy bydraes tot die filateliese literatuur tel onder meer –

- *Die belegseëls van Schweizer Reneke* in *The S A Philatelist* van Februarie 1982.
- *Die Maltese Kruis en Londense nommers 1 tot 12* in *The S A Philatelist* van Mei/Junie 1990.

Van 1979 tot 2001 het hy aan 'n hele reeks nasionale en internasionale filatelietentoonstellings deelgeneem en verskeie toekennings ontvang, onder meer verskeie vir sy *Pretoria Rotogravure Pictorials* en variasies op hierdie tema. Sy mees onlangse deelnames en suksesse was:

- Pretoria Nasionale Seëlskou, 2000: S.A. Poskantoorskild, FAK trofee en Groot Goud vir *London Pictorials of 1925-1926*
- Paarl Rare Stamp Show, 2000: *Pretoria Typographed Pictorials of the Union of S.A. 1927*
- (*)Belgica 2001 (Brussels) Groot Vermeil vir *London Pictorials of the Union of S.A., 1926.*
- Egoli 2001 (Sandton): (met J C Herselman) Groot Vermeil en FAK trofee vir *Suid-Afrikaanse Boeteseëls*.

– Prof Wilhelm J Verwoerd

Discovery of officially bisected Transvaal revenue stamps for prospecting licences

Prof O C de Jager *(PU for CHE, Potchefstroom)*

TRANSVAAL Ordinance No 66 of 1903 makes provision for the prospecting of precious stones on the Crown Lands of the Transvaal Colony. The Klerksdorp Mining Registration Department issued licences for such prospecting activities in the Transvaal. The author discovered such licences in the file of James Evans in the Fleischack Collection [1]. A total of 25 yellow licences were found in this file, with 2/6 Transvaal bisected revenue stamps (split vertically), which reminds us of the issue of Assize-type revenue stamps (vertically roulette in the middle of the stamp - from top to bottom) for the Union of South Africa.

The vertical splits were created as early as 1903 in the Klerksdorp's Mining Registration Department and the Evans file demonstrates that vertical splits were in use up to at least 16 July 1907, after which relations between the Mining Department and some prospectors turned sour. It is possible that only 3 000 such forms were created for the Klerksdorp Mining Registration Department.

The use of bisects was creative from an administrative perspective, but primitive as seen from a philatelic viewpoint, since the revenue stamps were not perforated or cut vertically and the split was destructive, so that uninformed traditional philatelists would discard stamps washed off from licences as seriously damaged, not knowing the nature of administration 100 years ago!

Figure 1 shows how such bisects were created: A licence form for the purpose of prospecting for precious stones in the Transvaal, issued by the Klerksdorp Mining Registration Department, consisted of two parts: The left part for audit purposes and the right part for the prospector. The rate for one month's prospecting was 2/6, receipted by a Transvaal KEVII 2/6 revenue stamp, stuck in the middle of the form, and straddling the perforation separating the two halves of the licence.

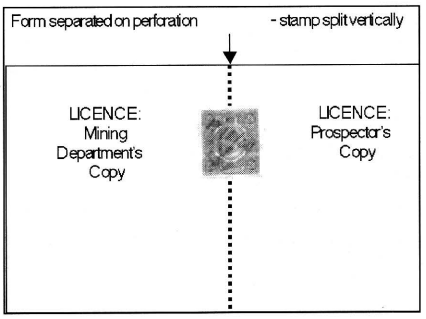


Figure 1: Transvaal 2/6 revenue stamp (for month's prospecting of precious stones), stuck on perforation, then separated, creating two copies of licence.

James Evans, the central figure in this story, was a hotelkeeper near Potchefstroom during the Anglo Boer War. He employed A R Fleischack after the Anglo-Boer War as his attorney on various occasions. They also shared a common love: Prospecting for precious stones. Whereas Evans attempted to make prospecting his life, it was a hobby for Fleischack.

On 17 November 1906 members from the Potchefstroomsche Executeurs Kamer en Waarborg Maatschappy signed an agreement with J Evans, allowing him to prospect for precious stones on the farm Wildebeestpan No 385, situated in the District of Potchefstroom, ward Lower Schoonspruit for a period of six months, free of any charges. The final permission was given on 19 November 1906, and on the same day, the District Registrar of Mining Rights issued licence no 41 under Ordinance No 66 (1903) as shown in **Figure 2**. The form is yellow and is identified by the number 7522 – 10/8/03 – 3000, running parallel to the perforations, indicating a total of 3 000 forms printed in 1903.

The left panel in **Figure 2** shows J Evans's first issue (19 November 1906) rated 2/6 worth a month's prospecting. The revenue stamp was split in two on the perforations and cancelled *DISTRICT REGISTRAR OF MINING RIGHTS, KLERKSDORP DISTRICT, 19 NOV. 1906.*

On 23 November Fleischack wrote a letter (Figure 3) to J Evans indicating that the licence (**Figure 2**, left panel) is being posted on the same day from Klerksdorp and there seems to be no difficulty in pegging the ground. Fleischack also mentioned that he could not wire to Evans since he had been informed that Machavie

OPSOMMING DIE FLEISCHACK-VERSAMELING van die Ferdinand Postma Biblioteek beskik oor die James Evans lêer, wat 'n moontlike nuwe ontdekking van die gebruik van Transvaalse koloniale inkomsteseëls openbaar. Prospekteerlisensies vir edelgesteentes is deur die *District Registrar of Mining Rights* in Klerksdorp vir prospekteerdery op kroongrond in Transvaal uitgereik.

Hierdie gebruik het in werking getree nadat Transvaalse Ordonnansie No 66 van 1903 bekragtig is. Die seëMlreg was 2/6 per maand, wat as 'n inkomsteseël aan weerskante van 'n geperforeerde lisensievorm aangebring is. Die vorm is op sy perforasie geskeur sodat die inkomsteseël ook vertikaal in twee verdeel is, met die regterkant wat na die prospekteerder gegaan het, terwyl die linkerkant deur die Departement behou is.

Altesame 22 sulke lisensies is deur J Evans, E Evans, A R Fleischack en G Armstrong tussen November 1906 en Julie 1907 uitgeneem. Voorsiening is vir altesame 3000 sulke lisensies gemaak, maar die frekwensie van gebruik het vanaf 60 per maand tussen 1903 en 1906, tot slegs vier per maand gedurende die Evans tydperk gedaal, met Fleischack en sy kliënte omtrent die enigste gebruikers van hierdie stelsel gedurende die 1906 tot 1907 periode.

As gevolg van die primitiewe gebruik van hierdie inkomsteseëls kan ons verwag dat selfs gevorderde seëlversamelaars alle gewaste kopieë uit onkunde sou weggooi, tensy daar elders van hierdie geel lisensievorms behoue gebly het. Heel moontlik verteenwoordig hierdie vertikale verdelings van die skaarsste inkomsteseëls van Transvaal.

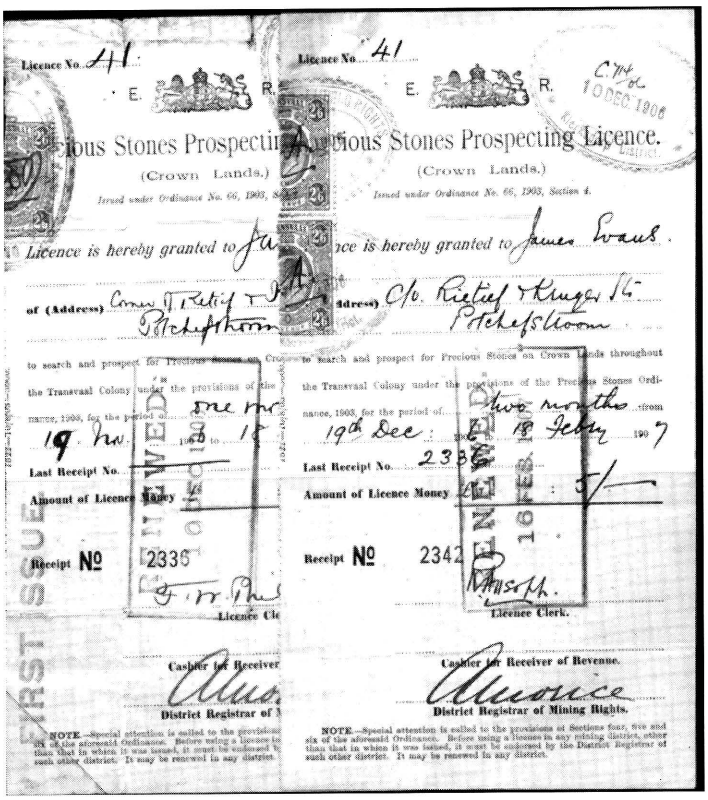


Figure 2: James Evans: first issue of a prospecting licence for precious stones (No. 2336 – left panel) and renewal (No. 2342 – right panel).

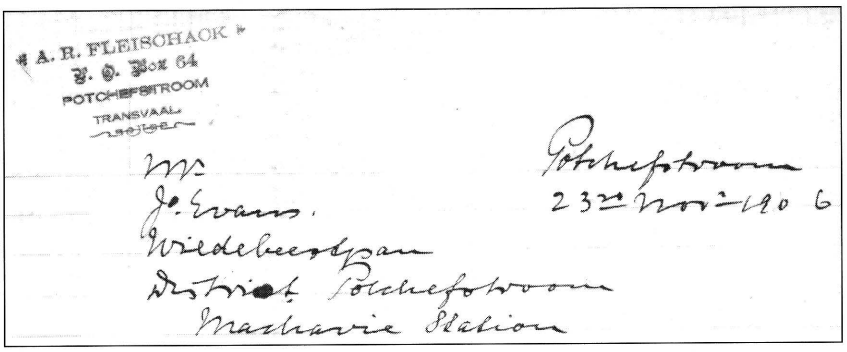


Figure 3 (above): Fleischack letter to J Evans dated 23 November 1906, with address indicated as Wildebeestpan, District Potchefstroom, Machavie Station. This PO was defunct by this time.

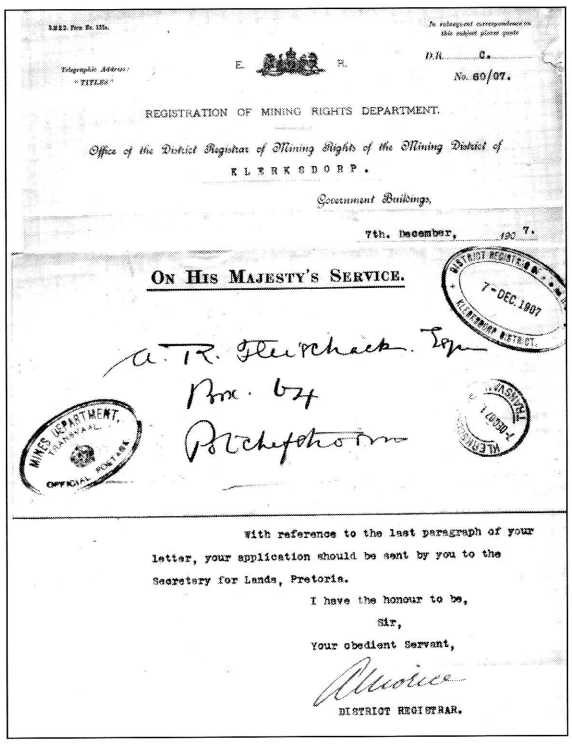


Figure 4 (right): Part receipt (addressed to A.R. Fleischack of Potchefstroom – address not shown) for newly issued licences No. 2342 (Figure 2, right panel) and 2343 (not shown) and the return of No. 2336 (Figure 2, left panel) and No. 2343 (not shown).

Station had been done away with and he had to trust on good luck that the letter would reach Evans somehow. According to Putzel [2] we find that this station was closed between 1904 and 1907, consistent with Fleischack's observation.

Evans's licence expired on 18 December, but received a *RENEWED, 10 DEC 1906* cancel. On the same day a new licence was issued (right panel of *Figure 2*), but rated 2x2/6=5/- revenue stamps, placed the same way on the form, and split vertically as explained in **Figure 1**. The dates of validation are now 19th Dec. 1906 to 18th February 1907 – two months.

A R Fleischack also bought licences for himself, with the first issue (rated 2/6) dated 23 November 1906, and expiring on 22 December 1906 (not shown). Fleischack's last licence (also rated 2/6) was issued on 18 March 1907. All the Fleischack licences also show the same vertical split of 2/6 revenue stamps. Not only did Fleischack act as attorney agent for prospectors, but he also became involved in the process of prospecting.

Figure 4 shows the receipt issued by the Office of the District Registrar of Mining Rights of the Klerksdorp District. This receipt was issued for J Evans (form no 2342) and A R Fleischack (form no 2343), paid up to 18 February 1907 for J Evans (**Figure 2**, right panel) and 22 February 1907 for Fleischack (licence not shown, but franked with 2/6 vertical pair, bisected as in **Figure 2**). Both no 2342 and no 2343 were valid for two months, thus requiring 5/- per licence, consistent with the 10/- receipt for the two licences indicated in **Figure 4**.

Figure 5 also shows two licences, but belonging to George Armstrong of Berg Street, Potchefstroom. The first issue was released on 19 November 1906; with a 2/6 revenue stamp bisected the same way as for J Evans and Fleischack. Armstrong also got a new licence for each month, with each licence rated 2/6 showing the same bisects as before. The last licence for Armstrong was issued on 16 July 1907 – note the absence of a *RENEWED* strike on the right-hand panel of **Figure 5**, indicating that he did not continue with prospecting after this day.

Ernest Evans obtained his first licence on 18 April 1907 – the same day when Fleischack's last licence expired (**Figure 6**, left panel). This licence was again renewed on 17 May 1907. E Evans's last licence was issued on 16 July 1907 (**Figure 6**, right panel) – the same day when J Evans and G Armstrong renewed their licences for the last time. All licences issued to E Evans show the same bisects as observed before.

Prospecting turned sour

The initial agreement signed between James Evans and the Potchefstroom Executeurs Kamer en Waarborg Maatschappy stipulated that Evans could prospect the farm Wildebeestpan No 385 for a period of six months. But by June 1907 J Evans was already on the

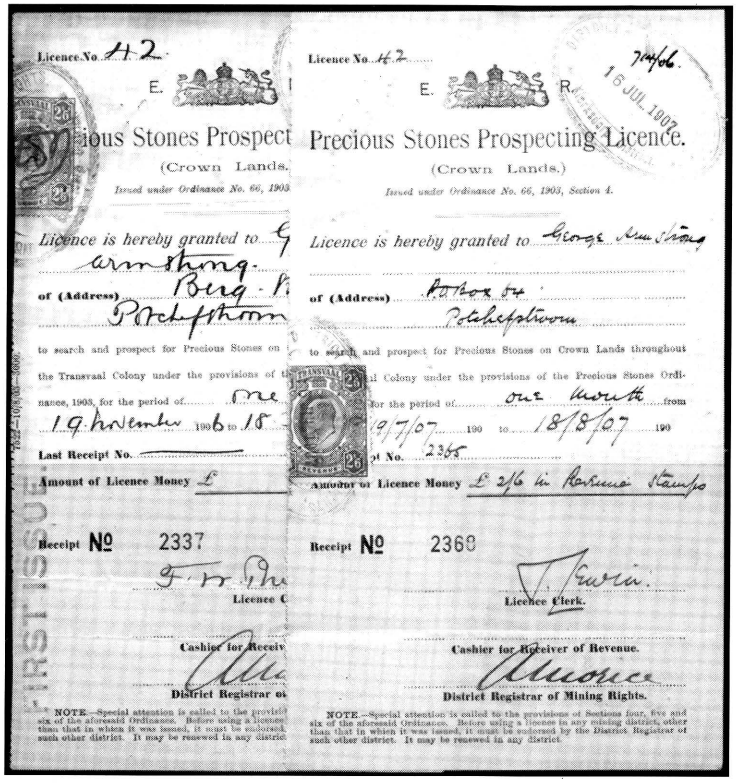


Figure 5: The first (19th Nov. 1906 - left panel) and last (16th July 1907 - right panel) licences of G Armstrong.

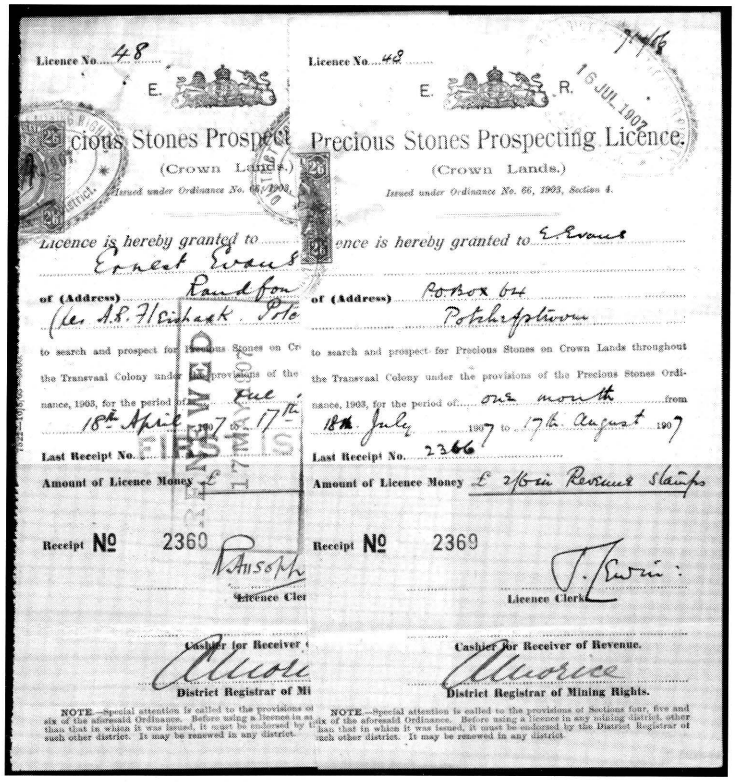


Figure 6: The first (18 April 1907 – left panel) and last (16 July 1907 – right panel) licences of E. Evans.

farm Scalene (between Koekemoer and Machavie Station near Potchefstroom) and reported to Fleischack (letter dated 20 June 1907): "I have every indication of diamonds and perfectly understand the Law [Mining Registration asked James Evans explicitly to declare any discovery of diamonds – consistent with Ordinance 66 of 1903]. I have sunk lots of pits, and being a poor man, I have gone to work at the North Randfontein and put Mr Jock Kilkpatrick, well known in Potchefstroom, and a man to be trusted, to prospect for me… I think that if there were more of my pluck in the Transvaal, it would be better for the Country. I have washed no ground as yet."

On 26 June 1907, the Klerksdorp Registrar of Mining Rights Department wrote to Fleischack acknowledging the information that Evans was prospecting on Scalene, but that the consent of the Commissioner of Lands was required before prospecting could continue. Furthermore, the Government took Scalene back and proposed to sell by auction.

Things turned sour and by 20 July, four days after the last licences of E & J Evans and G Armstrong expired, J Evans wrote a letter from North Randfontein to Fleischack stating: "If the Lands Department are dirty enough to carry out such a thing and the Mines Department backs it up… I shall at once put the facts of the case in the hands of the MP for the mining… They know very well I am prospecting as the Magistrate for Potchefstroom has been on the farm. Someone I suppose with more money than myself wants to get it but they have run up against the wrong man. You can send this letter if you like to the Mining Registration."

Correspondence between Fleischack and the Mining Registration on prospecting rights on Scalene followed until at least 7 December 1907 (**Figure 7**) when the Mining Registration advised Fleischack to submit his application to the Secretary for Lands, Pretoria. Note the official cover and cachet used by the Mining Registration. The wording of the cachets on the licences and official covers are the same, except for the shape of the outer oval: the outer boundary of the cachet on the licences is fancy, whereas the corresponding boundary on the cover is solid.

Relative scarcity and conclusions

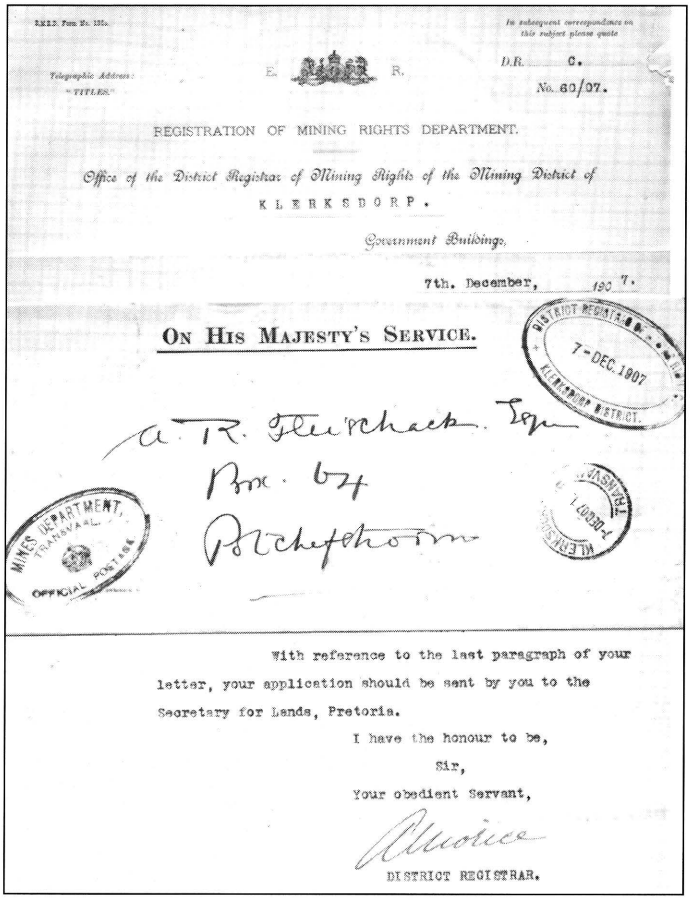
Only 3000 licences were printed on 10 August 1903 under Ordinance No 66 of 1903. Of these, 2 336 were used up to 19 November 1906 and between the latter date and 16 July 1907, the number of issues had grown to 2369. Thus, an average of 60 licences per month were issued between 1903 and 1906, but this average has dropped to only 4 per month between 1906 and 1907, with statistics dominated by Fleischack and his three clients. In fact, there are 25 licences in the Fleischack Collection, whereas the rest of the public paid for only 8 additional licences during the James Evans period of prospecting.

What happened after things turned sour? Mining historians should be able to comment, which should establish the total number of bisects splits produced. It is unlikely that washed-off bisects have survived a century of ignorant philatelists – even the most advanced revenue collec-

tor may throw these bisects with serrated edges away, arguing that the stamps are severely damaged, not knowing that this is the proper way of collecting single stamps from such licences.

Apart from the J & E Evans, Fleischack and Armstrong licences, these bisects may resemble the scarcest Transvaal revenue stamps, collected in half units of 2/6 as the stamp duty per month's prospecting activity.

How do we distinguish between these bisects and faked bisects? Each such stamp should also show the proper cachet of the Mining Registration Department of Klerksdorp. I base this claim on the observation that each of the 25 bisects in the Evans file is tied to the yellow licence form by the official cachet of the Mining Registration Department.



In subsequent correspondence on this subject please quote

Telegraphic Address: "TITLES."

E. R.

D.R. C.

No. 60/07.

REGISTRATION OF MINING RIGHTS DEPARTMENT.

Office of the District Registrar of Mining Rights of the Mining District of

KLERKSDORP.

Government Buildings,

7th. December, 1907.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

DISTRICT REGISTRAR OF MINING RIGHTS 7-DEC. 1907 KLERKSDORP DISTRICT.

A. R. Fleischack. Esqr
Box. 64
Potchefstroom

MINES DEPARTMENT, TRANSVAAL. OFFICIAL POSTAGE

KLERKSDORP TRANSVAAL 7-DEC 07

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, your application should be sent by you to the Secretary for Lands, Pretoria.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

DISTRICT REGISTRAR.

Figure 7: Letter dated 7 December 1907 post free from the Mines Department (Klerksdorp)

References

[1] de Jager, O.C. & Kamffer, H.J.G. 2002, *Die Ontsluiting van die Fleischack Versameling in die Argief van die Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO*, S.A. Philatelist (this issue), Vol. 78:2 (851), p.44.

[2] R.F. Putzel, *The Encyclopedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, Vol. 2.

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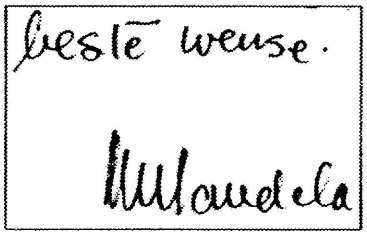
interesting,

from many rands to just a few,

from you!





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Collecting the RSA

First Definitives

Have you ever tried collecting the stamps of the First Definitive Series of the Republic of South Africa and then attempting to sort them out into some logical order? If so, you probably gave up in desperation – as most other collectors have done. Then allow HERBIE SHAFFLER, of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society, to explain a few simple rules – and perhaps you will start again.

FOR THE BENEFIT of non-philatelists: *Definitive stamps* are those issued by the Postal Services over a long period, sometimes many years, for normal postage use. Whilst in circulation, they may be redrawn or have their face values changed, once or more often, as postage rates increase (of course, rates never decrease). The latest animal issues, endorsed "standard postage", are typical examples of definitive stamps as opposed to commemorative stamps, issued normally for only one or a few days to commemorate a particular person's birth, death or achievement, an event, a topic, a theme, a centenary or the like.

A set of 13 stamps known as the *First Definitive Series* was issued on Republic Day on 31 May 1961. These stamps were issued for the next 13 years in various forms with new additions from time to time and were eventually phased out in September 1974. The stamps had no particular theme except that they all depicted typical South African subjects, including animals and birds, crops, flowers and trees, buildings, castles and harbours, industries and gold pouring.

For the first few years they were printed with very fine writing and thereafter redesigned with heavy, bold print. They were issued either on un-surfaced (no reaction under ultra-violet light), Harrison (fluoresces on front & rear under ultra-violet light), Swiss (fluoresces only on front under ultra-violet light) or phosphorescent (fluoresces for 10 seconds or more after exposure to ultra-violet light) papers.

The papers used either had watermarks showing the South African Coat-of-Arms or the RSA (letters RSA arranged in a triangle) or the RSA tête-bêche (alternate upright and inverted) watermarks. To add to the confusion, new designs, amended values on existing and new stamps, colour changes, papers with watermarks inverted, reversed and facing left or right and differing perforation concentrations were issued.

To facilitate sorting of post electronically, the postal authorities then placed phosphorescent frames around the edges of certain stamps and these frames appeared in two different widths. *Without a shadow of doubt, this set of stamps is one of the most difficult in the world to sort out.* Unmounted mint versions (unused with original gum) are a nightmare but possible. Used copies (post-



marked and soaked off envelopes) are extremely difficult.

To start with, you need a few simple philatelic accessories: *A pair of tweezers; a perforation gauge, an ultra-violet lamp, a small black plastic container, benzine, blotting paper, a magnifying glass, and a copy of the South African Stamp Colour Catalogue.* All should be readily available from your friendly stamp dealer.

A methodology to sort the stamps into *nine groups (Groups I to IX), Groups I to III being the original designs and Groups IV to IX being the redrawn designs)* will now be demonstrated. The original design has the printing of "Republic of South Africa / Republiek van Suid-Afrika" in very fine print as shown in the photograph, whilst the redrawn designs have heavy bold writing, a few new subjects, colour changes and amended values.

The first step, by careful examination, is to divide the stamps into those with fine print (the original design) and those with heavy bold print (the redrawn design). Place the original designed stamps on a sheet of ordinary white paper with their faces upwards. In a dark environment, apply ultra-violet light over the stamps. Some will remain black and others will fluoresce. Those remaining black are printed on un-surfaced paper and belong to either Group I or II and the latter on Harrison paper to Group III. Group III are thus identified.

One by one, immerse the Group I or II stamps face down into the small black container filled with benzine to expose the watermark. If the Coat-of-Arms watermark is clearly visible, they belong to Group I and if no black watermark is seen, they belong to Group II. Dry off excess benzine on blotting paper. *We have now sorted out Groups I to III!*

The next step is to sort the re-drawn stamps with the heavy bold lettering. Place all stamps face up on white paper. Apply ultra-violet light and extinguish after 5 to 10 seconds. Remove and store separately those with obvious phosphor frames around the edges and those with after-glow after switching off the light (the frames and after-glow can be clearly seen). Turn the remaining ones face down and re-apply the ultra-violet light. Those fluorescing on the rear belong to Group IV and those remaining black belong to Group V.

As a second check, if Group IV stamps are placed in benzine, an RSA watermark (sometimes difficult to see) will appear, whilst Group V will show an RSA tête-bêche watermark.

The next step is to lay those stamps identified earlier with phosphor frames, face down and apply the ultra-violet light. Those remaining black belong to Group VI and those fluorescing belong to Group VII. The only ones left are those on phosphorescent paper, which glowed after removal of the light. Place these one by one in the plastic container filled with benzine. Those with an RSA tête-bêche watermark belong to Group VIII and those with no watermark to Group IX. *We have now sorted out Groups IV to IX!* Easy when you know how, isn't it?

Having sorted the stamps into nine groups, the most difficult part is complete. The next exercise is to identify those stamps issued as Type I, II or III; colour change to white backgrounds; the interim definitive issues; watermarks to left or right or inverted; coil stamps and perforation differences. Here begins a whole new exercise.

If you would like to know more about this set of stamps or would like assistance in any way with stamps or philatelic material, why not attend a meeting of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society (WPS) at Auckland Park on the second Wednesday of each month (except December, due to the school holidays, on the first Wednesday). Meetings start at 20h00 and are normally over by 22h00.

If you are a philatelist or a stamp collector or just curious to find out what stamps are all about, you are welcome to attend – husbands, wives, children – the whole family. Just let Herbie know that you are coming. This assists with seating and catering arrangements [011 672 7747 (home), 011 373 2397 (work), 082 722 7604 (cell) or e-mail address *haschaff@iafrica.com*].

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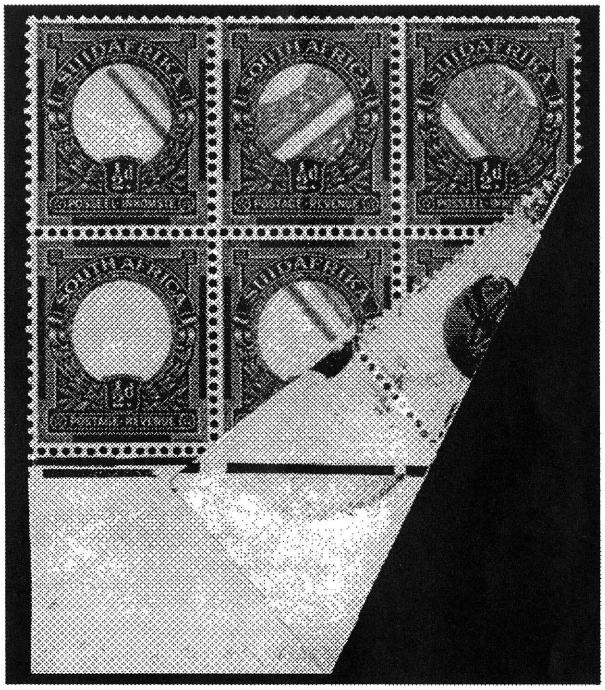
Fine South African Stamps at Auction: Sale to take place 29th August.



1926-27 Pretoria printing 1/2d. block of six showing one stamp with centre omitted, a spectacular variety. Estimate £440

This fine sale will include an excellent range of South Africa with study collections of the 1/2d Springbok, 1d. Ship, errors and varieties (50 lots) and Cape of Good Hope including both triangulars and rectangulars (100 lots). As usual the sale promises to be an excellent opportunity for philatelists with a variety of interests to make superb additions to their collections.

Copies of the superb catalogue are now available. We are also accepting material for our autumn programme of sales. If you have important single items, or a collection valued from £500 upwards, please consult Harmers to see how you could take advantage of the philatelic market's current buoyancy.

Contact us at the address below or speak to our Johannesburg and Gauteng area representative: Herbie Schaffler, Tel: (011) 672 7747 Cell: 082 722 7604 Email: haschaff@iafrica.com

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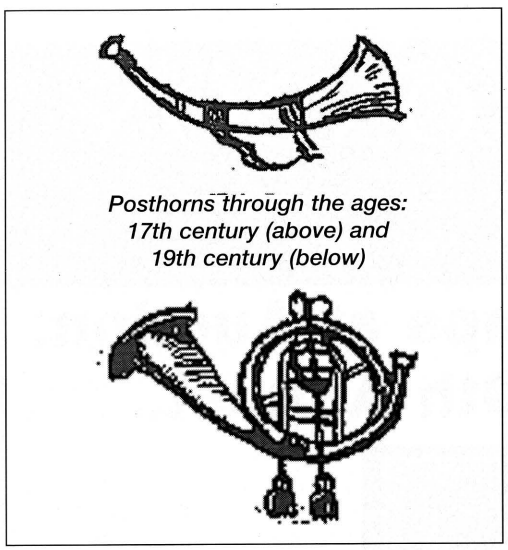


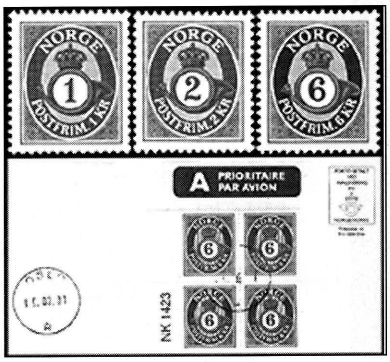
Posthorns through the ages: 17th century (above) and 19th century (below)

The Symbol of the Post

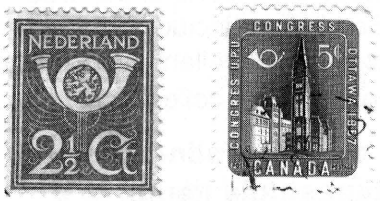
Andries van der Walt
Postmark & Postal History Society



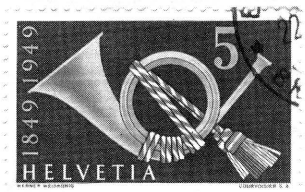
A used copy of the 1871 Norwegian issue.



The redesigned 2001 issue. The stamps were redesigned by Sverre Morken and Enzo Finger.



Left: A 1921 Netherlands special issue. Right: A 1957 14th UPU Congress Canada issue showing the Parliament Buildings and a posthorn.



Special airmail issue by Switzerland to commemorate the La Chaux-de-Fonds-St. Gallen-Lugano flights, showing the posthorn in the design.

THE POSTHORN has been around since about 1490 when its existence was reported for the first time in a publication called "Memminger Cronik". It has been an integral part of the postal system for many centuries.

The Oxford Companion of Music (1970), writes about the Posthorn thus: "A straight or oblong (on the continent of Europe, circular coiled) brass instrument, with no valves or other means of producing any notes but those of the harmonic series. Its name comes from the old-time use by the guards of the mail coaches to announce their arrival in villages and towns on their routes."

The use of the posthorn by mail messenger apparently originated in Southern Germany when the postman approached an inn where a relay messenger was staying, blew on a small horn, in order that the latter could be ready to ride off immediately. At the time it was known as the hunting horn, but many years later a bigger version of the horn also became known as the "coach-horn".

By the end of the 16th century the use of the posthorn was the sole prerogative of the postillions. At the sound of his horn, all other vehicles on the road had to give way, while at night the sounding of the horns signified the imminent arrival of the postillion and the turnpikes and city gates had to be immediately thrown open.

In outlying areas the sounding of the horn warned coach passengers to take their seats, indicated the arrival and departure of post and *en route* served as a summons for those who wanted to hand letters to the postillion. It also helped the postillion if he found himself in danger. At the sounding of the horn, help would immediately come to his assistance.

For centuries the posthorn remained the domain of the postal system and its use by any person other than a postman was prohibited by law.

By 1828 the signals to be blown by postillions were officially established for the first time. Until then, the postillion blew whatever he knew. Now definitive fixed calls were prescribed – for the different posts; for the number of horses and vehicles; and for the emergency call – all of which differed for individual authorities.

If he showed himself to be particularly skilled, in such a manner as to acquire a reputation on the posthorn, then an honorary posthorn with a silver mouthpiece and inscribed with his name, was bestowed on the postillion.

A delightful story is told about the problems the inhabitants of Beaufort West in the Cape Colony had with their mailman. It was during the

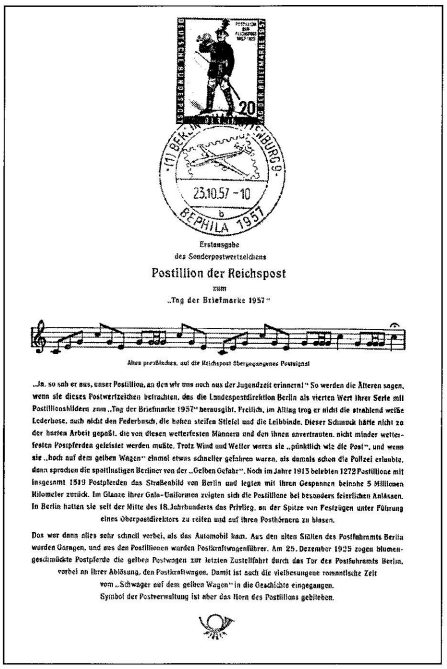


A 1953 East German first day cover issued to honour East German architects showing a post office and the various forms of distributing the post, river boat, postman and mail coach.

1830s that the mailman would arrive at Beaufort West on a Sunday, just as the weekly church service was in progress.

The churchgoers complained to the local postal authority that the loud blowing of the bugle by the mailman to sound his approach to the town, caused a disturbance to the churchgoers and they asked whether he could not come on another day. The postal authorities replied that Sunday was the only day on which he could visit Beaufort West, but undertook to instruct the mailman not to blow so loud on his bugle when nearing Beaufort West.

The posthorn has been the subject of and incorporated into numerous stamp designs over the years. Norway boasts the oldest posthorn definitive series. It was designed in 1871 by Wilhelm von Hanno and issued in 1872. It has undergone various facelifts over the years and a new issue was released in 2001. For nearly 130 years it has survived wars, currency changes and changes in printing processes. ■



A commemorative card issued by West Germany in 1957 as part of International Correspondence Week and Stamp Day showing a German postillion with his posthorn from the years 1897 - 1925. The notes depict the words "Yes, so it is, our mailmen that reminds us of our youth". The card further tells how the postmen delivered their mail in all types of weather and other difficult circumstances. In 1913 there were 1 272 postmen. But alas, the card says, in 1925 it all came to an end when the automobile arrived and in that year for the last time the postmen paraded through the streets of Berlin horses and colourful mail carts. "But the posthorn remains the symbol of our mailmen".



A 1944 "German Reich" Stamp Day issue



A recess-printed 1962 Posthorn coil issue from Norway with the design adapted to suit the printing method. Top and bottom imperf.



A 1947 Deutsche Post pictorial issue used in the Anglo-American zones in 1948 overprinted with posthorns over the whole stamp.

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Stellaland

– skielik 'n stroom seldsame koeverte

Joh Groenewald *RDPSA*

"AS die droogte gebreek word, is dit 'n stortvloed." Inderdaad. Ons weet van 14 koeverte met die seëls van die republiek Stellaland op – skaars soos hoendertande.

Dan, ineens, kom ses van die 14 koeverte binne weke op die mark.

Klink ongelooflik, maar dit het vanjaar gebeur. Op die veiling van Spink (Londen) op 21 Maart 2002 was daar twee Stellaland-koeverte. Toe kom Argyll Etkin op 29 April 2002 met 'n veiling, ook in Londen, met nie minder nie as vier koeverte met Stellaland-seëls.

Al ses koeverte is gelys en beskryf[1] deur dr Alan Drysdall RDPSA.

Stellaland is een van twee Boererepublieke wat in die vroeë 1880s tot stand gekom het. Stellaland was ten suidweste van die Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek en die ander een, die Nieuwe Republiek, was aan die suidoostekant van die ZAR.

Hierdie twee kortstondige republieke het, interessant genoeg, 'n taamlik enerse geskiedenis. Albei is gestig deur Boerekrygers wat swart heersers gehelp het om hul vyande te verslaan, en toe as beloning grondgebiede gekry het.

Albei se krygsleiers het president geword. Die Nuwe Republiek se setel was Vryheid, Stellaland se sentrum was Vryburg. Albei republieke het regeringsdienste op die been gebring, en albei het rudimentêre seëls uitgegee.

Albei se seëls was net binne die republiek geldig. Vir pos elders heen moes seëls bygeplak word – seëls van die ZAR (in albei gevalle) of van Natal (Nuwe Republiek) of die Kaapkolonie (Stellaland). Albei is dus bekend om kombinasiekoeverte, wat die seëls van meer as een land moes kry om die posgeld te betaal.

Die grondgebied van albei republieke is twee maal geabsorbeer. Die Nuwe Republiek is in 1888 by die Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek ingelyf, en die gebied is in 1904 aan Natal toebedeel. Stellaland het in 1885 Brits-Betsjoeanaland geword (die gebied besuide die Molopo), wat op sy beurt in 1895 by die Kaapkolonie ingelyf is.

Van albei lande is daar heelwat ongebruikte seëls in omloop – oorskotte wat later in die handel beland het. Maar egte gebruiktes is 'n ander storie. En op koevert? Dis rariteite.

Gereken teenoor Stellaland, is koeverte van die Nuwe Republiek "volop". In sy studie[2] het dr Gerrit Jonkers RDPSA besonderhede van 88 koeverte van die Nuwe Republiek gelys, plus 10 koeverte met bedrukte seël wat net binne die republiek diens gedoen het - altesaam 98. Ná die publikasie van die opgawe in 1997 het nog 'n koevert of wat aan die lig gekom, so stel die aantal maar op 100.

Daarteenoor het dr Drysdall se sorgsame navorsing slegs 13 koeverte met Stellaland-seëls aan die lig gebring (1992). Nog een het in 1998 op 'n veiling in Johannesburg verskyn (kyk verder).

Die koeverte wat pas aangebied is, word in datumorde gemeld.

Koevert 1 is die vroegste koevert met Stellaland-seëls en is taamlik omstrede. Dit is gerig na Somerset-Oos in die Kaapkolonie. Dit is geregistreer en het 'n gedrukte en getande plakker met die omraamde woord "Registered" teen 'n rooi-oranje agtergrond. Drysdall[1] meld dat daar nie so 'n plakker deur die Transvaalse posdiens uitgereik of gebruik is nie.

Oor die plakker is 'n handstempel "Registered / Transvaal No ..." in 'n reghoekige raam, met die syfer "334" per hand ingeskryf. Jonkers twyfel of so 'n handstempel vir geregistreerde pos ooit in Transvaal gebruik is[3]. Mathews noem die merk, maar illustreer dit nie[4]. 'n Voorbeeld word geïllustreer in *The Runner Post*[5]: dit is op 'n Tamsen-koevert van Nylstroom na Londen in 1891. Hierdie een se handgeskrewe nommer is "324" en die handskrif lyk nogal baie soos die "334" op die Stellaland-item.

Die syfer "334" is ook in rooi kryt voor op die Stellaland-koevert geskryf.

Die koevert het drie 1d-seëls van Stellaland, 'n ZAR 1d en drie ZAR 3d-seëls. Drysdall sê die 10d aan Transvaalse seëls verteenwoordig die brieftarief vir 'n halfons na die Kaapkolonie (4d) plus registrasiegeld (6d).

Die Stellaland-seëls is in manuskrip gekanselleer, een met "½oz" en die ander twee met die datum "5/6/84". Jonkers[3] meld dat hy 50 Stellaland-seëls het wat met die hand gekanselleer is, die meerderheid deur die posbeampte Hartzenberg. Enkeles is geëndosseer deur 'n ander funksionaris, of het net die datum – op geen van hierdie seëls word die gewig vermeld nie. 'n Koevert met twee Stellaland-seëls het die een datum "19-6-85" in handskrif oor albei die seëls (**koevert 5**).

Jonkers sê daar is duidelik gepeuter met die datum op die seël regs bo: eers is "3" geskryf en toe is dit verander tot "5". Drysdall meen dit was eers "2", "'n fout".

Die ZAR 3d-seëls is gestempel met die driering-nommerstempel 6 van Christiana, terwyl die 1d-seël 'n rooi kruisie in handskrif het.

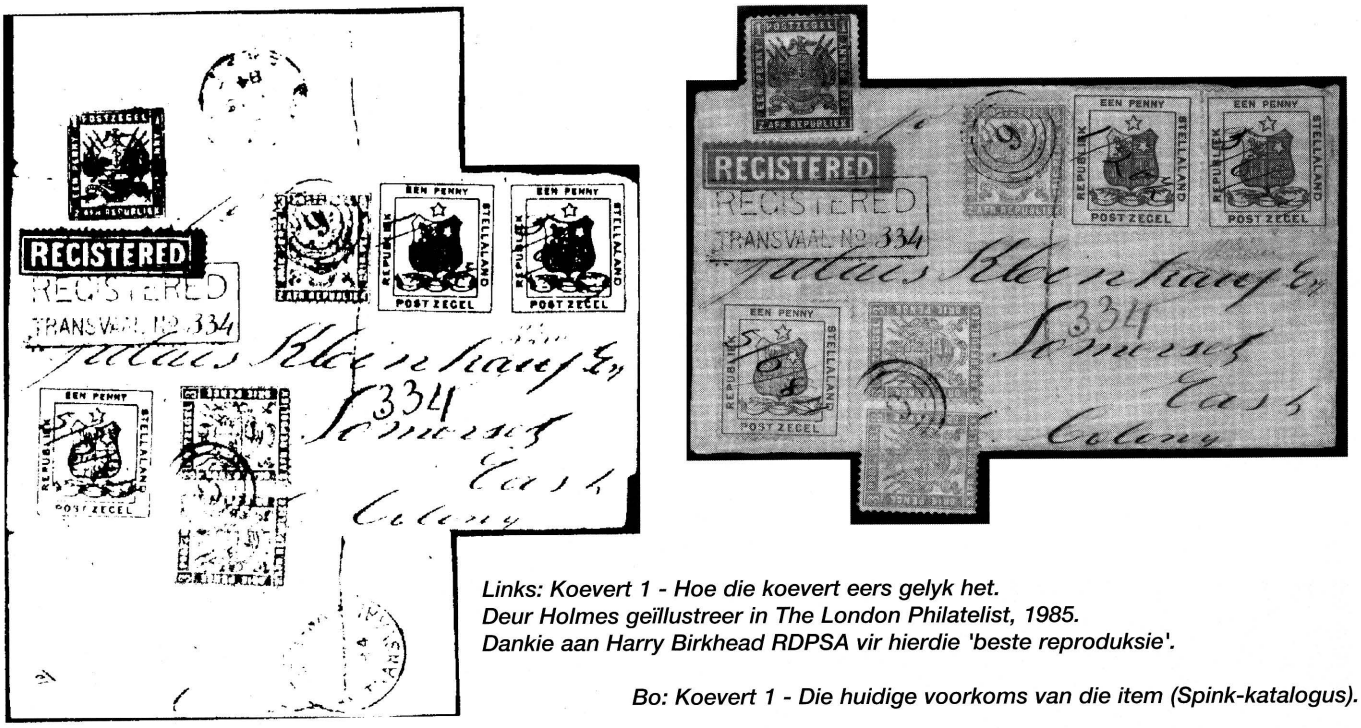
In 1984 het die koevert 'n sertifikaat van egtheid gekry van die keurkomitee van die Royal Philatelic Society, Londen. Toe die koevert daarná met RPS-sertifikaat 127065 teen £12 500 aan Jonkers aange-

SUMMARY In this article Groenewald discusses the sudden appearance of six covers franked with Republic of Stellaland stamps in two separate auctions in London within two months of each other in March and April this year.

Only 14 covers are known to exist of which six were auctioned. Stellaland was a short-lived republic to the south west of the Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek, with Vryburg as its capital.

All the covers have been described by Dr Allan Drysdall (*A Postal History of Stellaland, 1992*). Groenewald describes the covers that were offered on auction.

He notes the estimates and the fact that none of the covers were eventually sold. He comes to the conclusion that the estimated prices for these covers, which form an important part of the development of the political history of South Africa, were "astronomical" and that there also seems to be no demand for Stellaland material.



Links: Koevert 1 - Hoe die koevert eers gelyk het.
Deur Holmes geïllustreer in The London Philatelist, 1985.
Dankie aan Harry Birkhead RDPSA vir hierdie 'beste reproduksie'.

Bo: Koevert 1 - Die huidige voorkoms van die item (Spink-katalogus).

bied is, het hy bedenkinge gehad en met die keurkomitee geskakel en ook met H R (Bob) Holmes RDPSA, outeur van die standaardwerk[6] oor Stellaland/Brits-Betsjoeanaland/Betsjoeanaland.

Die koevert is in daardie stadium gehanteer deur Argyll Etkin[11].

Holmes het onthou dat hy die item tevore iewers gesien het, en toe in 'n skerp artikel[7] die koevert as 'n vervalsing beskryf. Hy wys daarop dat die koevert op twee maniere geïllustreer word. Die eerste is in uitgevoude vorm, in 'n veilingkatalogus van die handelaar Shanahan (Dublin) in die 1950s. Dit toon twee datumstempels: een van Christiana wat slegs as "JU/84" leesbaar is, en een van Somerset East as "Ju 15/84".

Dit beteken 'n reistyd van 10 dae tussen Vryburg en Somerset-Oos. Twee hoekies van die uitgevoude koevert is in vierkante uitgesny. Waarom sou dit wees?

Holmes skryf dat die koevert die waarmerk het van Alberto Diena, die vermaarde kenner van vroeë Italiaanse seëls, "wat min van die possake van Stellaland kon weet".

Die tweede illustrasie van die koevert is sonder die uitvouing, hoewel die seëls wat om die rand van die koevert gaan, uitgevou bly. Dit is hoe die koevert deur Drysdall afgebeeld is en steeds geïllustreer[8] word.

Holmes betoog dat die vervalser Transvaalse seëls regs bo van die bestaande koevert afgehaal het, Stellaland-seëls aangebring het en so 'n nuwigheid vervaardig het. Hy sê dit sou onmoontlik wees om die brief in 10 dae van Vryburg na Somerset-Oos te besorg.

Drysdall[1] sê 'n reistyd van 10 dae is heel moontlik, maar hy meld nie hoe dit kon gebeur nie.

Kyk 'n mens na die vervoertoestande, dan wonder 'n mens. Teen 1884/85 was Kimberley die eindpunt van die spoorlyn vanaf Kaapstad[9]. Daar was 'n posdiens weekliks per poskar (perde of muile) van Pretoria na Potchefstroom en vandaar na Kimberley[10]. [Ná die ontdekking van goud aan die Witwatersrand in 1886 het verbindings verander.] Christiana, waar pos vanaf Stellaland se hoofsetel Vryburg kon aansluit, lê op die trajek van Potchefstroom na Kimberley, waarvoor 'n reistyd van 48 uur toegelaat is.

Van Kimberley kon die posstuk suidwaarts per spoor reis, maar daar was geen gemaklike verbinding tussen die spoorroete en Somerset-Oos nie. Om van bv Kaapstad na die binneland van Oos-Kaapland te kom, sou 'n hele proses wees.

In ieder geval, die Royal-sertifikaat vir die item is in 1985 teruggetrek[11].

Drysdall skryf dat die koevert toe 'n sertifikaat van egtheid van die British Philatelic Association (BPA) gekry het[1].

In die katalogus van Spink word 'n sertifikaat van die American Philatelic Society (APS) genoem, en nie BPA nie[8]. David Parsons, Spink se hoof van filatelie, bevestig dat daar nie 'n BPA-sertifikaat by was nie[12].

Die afslaersraming was £7 000-£8 000. Die item is verkoop vir £5 200 plus 15% koperskommissie, dus £5 980. Op die veilingsdag het dit R95 441 beteken.

Dit was, terloops, die tweede keer dat Parsons die koevert hanteer. Dit was lot 80 in Christies (Londen) se veiling op 26 Mei 1994, waar dit blykbaar nie verkoop is nie[5]. Destyds het Jonkers aan Parsons geskryf dat hy die item behoort te onttrek omdat dit 'n vervalsing is[13].



Koevert 6 - Die mooi koevert na Kanada met die groot blok Kaapse seëls naas Stellaland (katalogus, Stanley Gibbons, 1987).

Koevert 7 is 'n lang blou koevert gerig aan "Col Cotton, Officer Commanding Troops, Sitlagohli" en is gefrankeer met 'n vertikale paar 1d-seëls wat met 'n horisontale streep in blou kryt gekanselleer is. Agterop is 'n aantekening: *This letter came by the despatch riders this day at 3.15 p.m. from Vrijburg, and even delivered to me. Paul Methuen, Col. Command., Setlagoli. June 28 1885. Setlagoli.*

Setlagole is 86 km benoorde Vryburg. Die Spink-katalogus[8] noem 'n RPS-serifikaat (1978) en sê die 2d-tarief was korrek vir binnelandse pos in Stellaland asook pos na die Republiek Goosen, waar Setlagole destyds was.

Die "Land Goosen" was ook 'n klein Boerestaat wat in dergelike omstandighede benoorde Stellaland tot stand gekom het. 'n Samewerkingsooreenkoms tussen Stellaland en Goosen is in 1884 aangegaan[10].

Die afslaersraming was £1 200-£1 500. Parsons sê ná die veiling is 'n aanbod van £800 ontvang[12].

Koevert 9 is na Skotland en het twee 1d-seëls wat nie gekanselleer is nie, vir Stellaland se binnelandse tarief, en 'n 6d Kaap gerojeer met die enkelring "BARKLY/G.W." op 7 September 1885. Rugstempels[1] is vir Kaapstad (9 September 1885), Edinburgh (30 September 1885) en Portobello (1 Oktober 1885).

Net drie van die 14 Stellaland-koevverte was na oorsee.

Argyll Etkin se afslaersraming was £3 500-£4 500.

Koevert 10 is na *De Volksstem* in Pretoria en het 'n ongekanselleerde "Twee" op 4d plus 'n Kaapse 1d paar gestempel op Barkly-Wes op 24 Oktober 1885.

Dit is een van net twee koeverte met die hand-oorgestempelde "Twee" op 4d-seël. Holmes illustreer ook die briefstuk in die Koninklike Versameling met 'n "Twee" naas 'n Kaapse 6d-seël wat soos hierdie koevert nommer 10 op 24 Oktober 1885 op Barkly-Wes gestempel is[6].

Argyll Etkin se afslaersraming was £12 000-£16 000. Op die veilingsdag, 29 April 2002, het dit R189 960-R253 280 beteken.

Koevert 11 is die ander koevert met die "Twee" op 4d en daarby 'n Kaapse 1d-paar met die Barkly-Wes-stempel van dieselfde dag, 24 Oktober 1885.

Die koevert het rugstempels van Kimberley, Burgersdorp en Venterstad. Die raming was ook £12 000-£16 000.

Koevert 13 is militêre pos na Engeland met slegs 'n 1d-seël van Stellaland. Die soldatetarief was 1d en die koevert is deur 'n offisier geëndosseer, maar die seël is nie gekanselleer nie. Langsaan is die stempel van Barkly-Wes se telegraafkantoor op 12 April 1885. Rugstempels is Kaapstad, 15 April 1885, en Derby, 7 Mei 1885.

Dié koevert, van sersant E H Cox van die 1st Cape Mounted Rifles, is effens gehawend. Argyll Etkin se raming was £8 000-£10 000, dws R126 640-R158 300 (op die dag).

Eric Etkin sê nie een van die laasgenoemde vier koeverte is op die veiling verkoop nie[14]. Een versamelaar het later navraag gedoen oor afbetaling.

As 'n mens na die datums kyk, is 'n stukkie historiese perspektief nodig. Stellaland se seëls is gebruik vanaf Februarie 1884, en in September 1884 is 'n formele poskontrak aangegaan vir 'n tweeweeklikse posvervoer tussen Vryburg na Christiana[15].

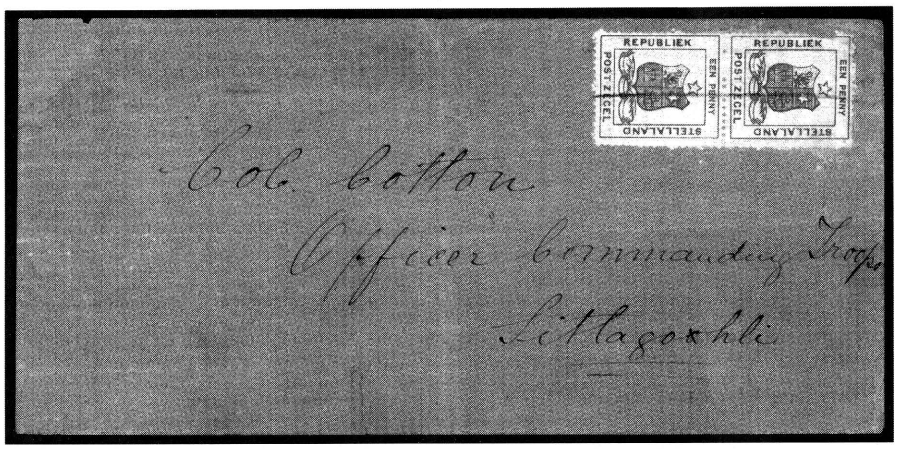
Teen Februarie 1885 is Vryburg betree deur genl Charles Warren met 'n militêre 'ekspedisie' van 4 000 man, en daarna het die republiek opgehou om te bestaan. Warren het ook Mafikeng beset, waar burgers pas tevore die Land Goosen se setel ontruim het[6]. In September 1885 is die grondgebied van die twee republieke formeel tot Brits-Betsjoeanaland verklaar, met Vryburg se hoofsentrum.

Ons kan gerus nog twee koeverte met Stellaland-seëls noem.

Koevert 6 het drie 1d-seëls en daarby 'n blok van 12 Kaapse 1d-seëls. Die seëls is gekanselleer met die handskrif-notering "Vryburg/ 26.6.85/ Stellaland/ F.A.Eaton/ Postmaster". Die Kaapse seëls is daarby op 29 Junie 1885 op Barkly-Wes gestempel, en 'n Kanadese aankomsmerk verbind een van die Stellaland-seëls met die Kaapse veelvoud.

Die adres is agterop die koevert, met daarso ook 'n 2½d-verrekeningsmerk en posmerke van Kaapstad (onduidelik), Londen (21 Julie 1885) en Kanada (7 Augustus)[1].

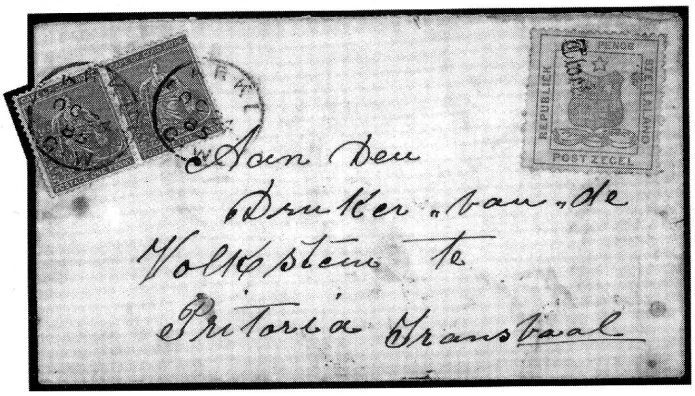
Hierdie koevert is aangebied in veilings van Stanley Gibbons in 1987 (19 Mei) en 1990 (22 Januarie).



Koevert 7 - Plaaslike koevert na Setlagole "in die Land Goosen" (Spink-katalogus).



Koevert 9 - Na Skotland. Teen September 1885 het die suidwaartse pos nie meer oor Christiana in die Transvaalse republiek gereis nie, maar reg suid na Barkly-Wes. (Katalogus, Argyll Etkin.)



Koevert 10 - Die seldsame oordruk "Twee" op 4d op koevert. Pos na Pretoria het ook op Barkly-Wes gaan draai (katalogus, Argyll Etkin).



Koevert 11 - Die ander koevert met die "Twee". Albei koeverte, en die briefstuk in die Koninklike Versameling, het die datum 24 Oktober 1885 (katalogus, Argyll Etkin).



Koevert 13 - Die soldatebrief wat teen die militêre tarief van 1d gefrankeer kon word (katalogus, Argyll Etkin).

Koevert 14 is die 'nuutste' een. Dit is aangebied as lot 160 in die veiling van Stephan Welz & Kie op 25 Maart 1998[16]. Dit is gerig aan "L. Löwenthal Esq/ Diamond Fields/ Kimberley". Die Stellalandse 4d-seël is in handskrif gekanselleer deur "FH" (F Hartzenberg) met datum "25/11/84" en in klein letters daarnaas, in dieselfde handskrif "4d to stamp".

Links onder op die koevert is twee ZAR-seëls, 1d en 3d, met die driesirkel-nommerstempel 6 van Christiana. Op die keersy is die Christiana-datumstempel van 29 November 1884 en die Kimberley-aankomsmerk op dieselfde dag.

Dit is maar die vierde koevert uit die 'suiwer republikeinse tyd'.

Laastens is daar nog 'n uitsonderlike item, 'n groot briefstuk ook in Argyll Etkin se veiling van 29 April 2002[17]. Dit is die linkerkant van 'n koevert, met onder twee Stellalandse 3d-seëls en daarbo die ZAR se 3d en 1d en die Transvaal Koningin Victoria 6d, hierdie drie met twee rojerings van die driesirkel-nommerstempel 6 van Christiana. 'n Rooi horisontale krytstreep is oor die 3d.

Al hierdie items met Stellalandse seëls is kosbare kleinode uit 'n kleine tydjie in ons wordingsgeskiedenis. Maar teen die astronomiese vraagpryse lyk dit nie of daar 'n mark vir Stellaland se top-items bestaan nie.





Bo: Koevert 14 - Die jongste toevoeging tot die kort lys van Stellaland-koeverte wat bekend is (1998) (katalogus, Stephan Welz & Kie).

Links: Die groot briefstuk met Christiana se nommerstempel 6 oor die Transvaalse seëls (katalogus, Argyll Etkin).

Bronnelys

1 Drysdall, Dr Alan R, RDPSA. *A postal history of Stellaland*. The London Philatelist, Maart 1992, vol 101 bl 54.
2 Jonkers, Dr Gerrit H, RDPSA. *New Republic in South Africa 1884-1888*. Derde uitgawe, Oktober 1997. Privaat uitgegee, Schiedam.
3 Jonkers. Brief, 20 Mei 1994.
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5 *The Runner Post*, lyfblad van die Bechuanalands and Botswana Society. Uitgawe 35, Junie 1994, bl 736.
6 Holmes, H R, RDPSA. *The Postage Stamps, Postal Stationery and Postmarks of the Bechuanalands*. Royal Philatelic Society, London. 1971.
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8 Spink, veilingskatalogus vir verkoping op 21-22 Maart 2002, Londen.
9 Helmut Hagen, oorspronklike bronne geraadpleeg, 15 Mei 2002.
10 George van den Hurk RDPSA, oorspronklike bronne geraadpleeg, 16 Mei 2002.
11 Lee, R A G Voorsitter, keurkomitee RPSL Ltd. Brief aan Jonkers, 13 Maart 1985. Intussen het Eric Etkin van Argyll Etkin ook tevore bedenkinge oor die item gehad en dit gemeld in 'n private brief aan die eredakteur van *The SA Philatelist*, 28 Augustus 1984.
12 Parsons, David. e-pos, 10 Mei 2002.
13 Jonkers, brief aan D Parsons, Christies, 17 Mei 1994.
14 Etkin, Eric. e-pos, 2 Mei 2002.
15 Jonkers. *Onderzoeken van Stellaland*. Dokumente en ondersoeke saamgestel deur W J Quik. Filatelistevereniging Zuidelijk Afrika, Rotterdam, ca 2000.
16 Stephan Welz & Kie. Johannesburg. Veilingskatalogus, 25 Maart 1998. Lot 160.
17 Argyll Etkin. Londen. Veilingskatalogus, 29 April 2002. Lot 21.

Eastgate Stamps

In the *Rendeszvous 2002*, published with the previous issue of *The SA Philatelist*, some errors crept in regarding the address details of Eastgate Stamps. The correct entry should have read:

Eastgate Universal Stamps & Coins Pty Ltd: Julian Gecelter, Box 751238, Gardenview 2047 Tel 011 616 2705 (B); 011 882 7583 (H); Fax 011 662 1332. E-mail: eastamp@sastamps.com





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The rise of Afrikaans

By **Robert Harm** *Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria*

It was with surprise that I read the following article in an American stamp magazine. Surprise, tinged with pride because an American had written an article on Afrikaans, showing much insight into the language itself. It is also a pointer to the Afrikaans-speaking community (including the stamp loving community) that we have a language to be proud of, but a language that needs to be used, nurtured and developed. It was that author's insight into our language that left me a bit embarrassed.

The article was written by the late Ralph Walker, in life member #14361 of the American Topical Association (ATA). The article was inspired by the issue of the Afrikaans language stamps in 1975 (SACC 391/2), and was published in issue 156 of Topical Time (the official bi-monthly journal of the ATA) of March/April 1976. That makes the article 26 years old, but still as relevant today as then.

Ralph Walker wrote:

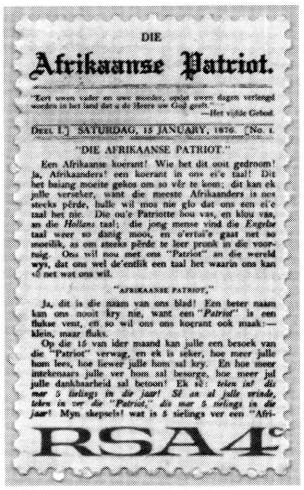
In 1876 schoolteachers, Englishmen and most educated Boers in South Africa considered the Afrikaans language to be "Bad Dutch", "Kitchen Dutch", or "Cape Dutch". The ringing prose of the High Dutch Bible sounded from the pulpits of the Afrikaners, and Afrikaans, the language spoken in homes and fields, was written down only for comic relief. Dutch scholars in Holland solemnly declared that Afrikaans was a pidgin language, developed at Cape Town to make communication easier between the English, Dutch, and Hottentots.

We know better now. We know that Afrikaans was a natural development from High Dutch as the people dropped inflections, added colloquialisms, threw in a little English and used some native African words where they were most appropriate. By 1750, about 100 years after the Dutch settlement was founded at the Cape, Afrikaans was so different from Dutch that it could be called a separate language. But it was ridiculed by the English- and Dutch-speaking South Africans alike. Children who spoke it at home were punished if they spoke it at school. It was usually called simply the Taal ("Language").

Afrikaans is a racy, slangy, expressive form of speech, with a lilt and a rhythm which Dutch doesn't have.

It is a remarkably unified language, without regional dialects. It is much like English, not because of the influence of South African English, but because Old Dutch was a sister language of Anglo-Saxon and because Afrikaans developed from Dutch in much the same way (although faster) that Basic English developed from Anglo-Saxon. Afrikaans-speaking students are said to be able to read Chaucer in the original better than English-speaking students!

It was inevitable that as Afrikaner nationalism increased, the language of the Afrikaners should gain added stature. In 1875 S J du Toit (a descendant of the large group of Huguenots who settled early among the Dutch) founded a society for the promotion of Afrikaans (see Note 1 - editorial addition). In 1876 *Die Afrikaanse Patriot* (first Afrikaans newspaper - Ed) was founded. Books began to be written in Afrikaans; in 1918 it began to be taught in the University; and in 1925 it became an official language, along with English.





The stamp which inspired Ralph Walker's article on Afrikaans (left) and two more stamps issued at the time (below).



It has a flourishing literature, and some of the best writers oppose the policies of the government. The present political isolation of South Africa because of its controversial apartheid laws will probably strengthen rather than weaken it. Languages in the modern world are becoming more and more the symbols of defiant nationalisms (see note 2 - editorial addition). Afrikaans has more native speakers in South Africa than English, although most adult Afrikaners are to some extent bilingual.

Look at your South African stamps and their forerunners of Transvaal and the Orange River Colony Republic, or the Orange Free State. Although some words are spelled differently in present-day Dutch, Dutch was used until 1926, when the Afrikaans *Suid* and *Posseël* replaced Dutch *Zuid* and *Postzegel*. The Afrikaans vocabulary on South African stamps before 1975, it must be admitted by the most nationalistic South African, gives scant support to the general acceptance of Afrikaans as a separate language, since so many of the "elegant" words used are the same in Dutch and Afrikaans, such as Herdenking (commemoration), Hervorming (reformation), and Republiek.

The particular genius of Afrikaans, however, in simplifying what used to be Dutch, is illustrated by the use of *ons* for "we" as well as "us" (Scott 395, SACC 391) and *Te Betaal* ("To Pay") on postage due stamps instead of *Te Betalen*. And now we have a good, earthly sample of colloquial Afrikaans in the 4c stamp of the new Afrikaans language set. This stamp reproduces the first lines of *Die Afrikaanse Patriot*, and is a valuable addition to topical collections on newspapers and language. The tone is tough and lively, written for people close to the farm. At the end of this article I will give a translation. The translation was not hard, despite the use of obsolete spellings and phrases.

In fact, Afrikaans is one of

the easiest to learn of the world's languages. Its grammar is so simple that G M G Hunt, compiler of *A Handy Vocabulary of English-Afrikander and Afrikander-English* in 1901 felt inclined to say "The Taal has no grammar to speak of". Of course, he was wrong; the absence of inflections and verb changes does not mean that a language has no grammar. But the verb is even simpler than the English verb, and there are very few exceptions to the few rules. Double negatives, which were squeezed out of English in horror by unimaginative Latinist grammarians, are common in Afrikaans. Pronunciation is close to Dutch. One has particularly to remember that the doubled vowels, such as *aa* and *oo* (ahhh and ohhh) mean longer sounds, that *eu* sounds like ir in bird, that *oe* is the *oo* in "stoop", that *w* is like English *v*, and that *j* is like *y* in "year".

The future of Afrikaans seems secure so long as the Afrikaners remain in control of the country. If, as some predict, the pressures generated by apartheid and rising expectations of the blacks eventually blow the lid off the cauldron, and African blacks gain control, Afrikaans could become a refugee tongue.

The translated part of *Die Afrikaanse Patriot* appearing on the stamp, reads as follows:

"An Afrikaans newspaper! Who could ever have dreamed of it! Yes, Afrikaanders! A newspaper in our own language! It took much effort to get this far; that I can assure you, as most Afrikaanders are like a jibbing horse, they do not want to believe that they have their own language. The old Patriots hold tight and cling to the Dutch language; the young people find the English language tremendous, and to convince them is almost as difficult as to get jibbing horses to show off in front of the wagon. With our "Patriot" we want to show the world that we have our own language in which we can say what we want to.

"AFRIKAANSE PATRIOT"

"Yes, that is the name of our newspaper! We can never get a better name, as a "Patriot" is an active person, and that is what we want our newspaper to be: – small, but active.

"You can expect a visit from the "Patriot" on the 15th of each month, and I am sure that the more you read, the more you will love it. And the more subscribers you bring, the more you are showing your appreciation! I say: Subscribe! It costs only 5 shillings per year! Tell all your friends, subscribe to the "Patriot", only 5 shillings per year! My creatures! What is 5 shillings for an Afri....."

Notes:

1. Die Genootskap vir Regte Afrikaners (Society for Real Afrikaners) was founded on 14 Aug 1875 by Rev S J du Toit, Arnoldus Pannevis and C P Hoogenhout. Founding included the decision that the translation of the Bible in Afrikaans was essential, in spite of the many practical problems.
2. The author showed particularly good insight, as the emphasis on an own language is being used as a specific lever where population groups aim to obtain their "freedom" from their "oppressors".

.....

**Robert Harm is president of Thematics SA and chairman of the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria (Afrikaans Philatelic Society of Pretoria). This article serves as a reminder of the Afrikaans competition being held from 12 to 17 August this year in the exhibition hall at the Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria, in remembrance of the establishment of the Genootskap vir Regte Afrikaners.*

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The story of the small boxed CMA cachets



Fig 1 – type 1

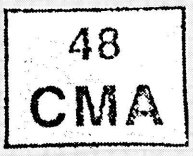


Fig 2 – type 2

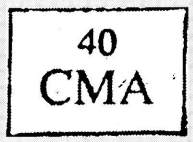
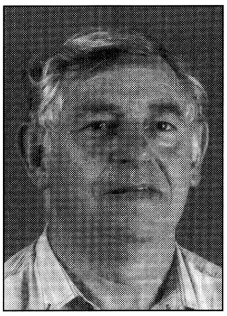


Fig 3 – type 3



Fig 4 – type 4

By **Neville Gomm**
Postmark & Postal History Society



This article is aimed at bringing together in a single source what has been published previously on the small boxed CMA cachets of the Capemail mail centre and also to add some unpublished detail. However, this is still not the final word on the subject and it is hoped that there are other collectors who will take the subject further.

DURING 1997, John Hodgson of Plumstead sent me an example of a new cachet impression with an associated date of 31 December 1996, that was appearing on mail in the Cape Town area. This postmark consisted of the capital letters CMA surrounded by a box, shown in figure 1 and called type 1.

It was decided to include details of that postmark in my *Contemporary Philately* feature in this journal to try to elicit more information.

The next development was a letter from Hodgson that was published in *Setempe*, the journal of the Philatelic Services of the SA Post Office. He asked for help with information on the cachet.

In a footnote to this letter, the editor of *Setempe* wrote that "the cachet CMA is an abbreviation of the words CapeMail. It is used when mail which had been mis-sorted eventually finds its way to the CapeMail sorters. For example, when mail is sent from Pretoria to Bloemfontein, but reaches CapeMail instead, it is stamped with this cachet and redirected to the correct destination. The CMA cachet is also sometimes accompanied by a number, which indicates the number of the staff member who sorted the misdirected mail".

The SA Philatelist subsequently published a letter from Hodgson in which the this explanation was repeated. Hodgson said: "It has taken me some six months to get this! It is interesting to note that the full covers bearing the CMA examples all had the original CapeMail cancellation - also the correct destination postcode!"

Having featured the cachets, it was logical to continue including details of developments in this journal. Developments came in the form of a few changes in the design of the cachets.

From the original bold letters in a box, the next move was to less bold letters with a numeral above and these also surrounded by a box. This is type 2 and it is illustrated in figure 2.

The type with less bold lines was followed by a similar type with letters with serifs. It is illustrated in figure 3, and is type 3.

A further development came with the introduction of a type having a number preceded by the numeral 1 and an oblique stroke. Figure 4 shows this type (type 4).

John Horner of Kimberley wrote that the "cachet is applied to mail where the postcode is incorrect or the correct code is unclear. The examples at hand (32 of them) indicate that the bar-coding for the area code applied in the initial coding process, throws the item out into a miss-sort box, as all the applied bar codes have been crossed out manually with a pen. One can therefore presume that the item is manually placed in the correct location for its destination post office. In addition, items miss-sent to Cape Town are then re-posted and the cachet applied at CapeMail".

I have not been able to establish yet how many of the unnumbered cachets of type 1 are in use. Logically, there should be only one, but can logic be applied in this case? Examples of the unnumbered cachet that have come my way, have the box measuring 23 by 15 millimetres at the outer edges of the box.

The postmark has appeared in a variety of shades of ink. The main colours have been purple, red and black.

The box of type 2 measures 23 by 17 millimetres. This is the type that has the letters CMA without serifs. Material in my collection shows cachets of this type to have numbers from 1 to 13, and again from 41 onwards.

The numbers of type 3, judging from the examples in my collection, begin between 13 and 21, which is where I have a gap. I conclude that the first batch of these numbered cachets that were manufactured, were numbered from 1 to 20.

The next batch to be made (serif type), were numbered 21 to 40. Number 21 in my collection has serifs, as has number 40. From 41 onward, the cachets are again the same in appearance as the first batch.

The last type (so far!) of these cachets, type 4, has two different sizes of box. Does one therefore have to have a type 5? The first numbers, 1/1 to 1/10 it seems, have a box of 19 millimetres square. From 1/11 onwards, the box is 17 millimetres square.

Information in the sources listed at the end of this article and obtained from the records, correspondence and collection of the author, show that impressions of the plainly numbered cachets, which are followed by an asterisk*, have been seen:

1*, 2*, 3*, 4*, 5*, 6*, 7, 8*, 9*, 10, 11, 12*, 13*, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21*, 22*, 23, 24*, 25*, 26*, 27*, 28, 29*, 30*, 31*, 32, 33*, 34*, 35*, 36, 37*, 38*, 39, 40*, 41*, 42*, 43*, 44*, 45, 46*, 47*, 48*, 49*, 50, 51*, 52*, 53*, 54*, 55, 56*, 57*, 58*, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64*, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70.

Of the type with the numeral 1 and an oblique stroke before the number, those with an asterisk * have been seen:

1/1*, 1/2, 1/3*, 1/4*, 1/5*, 1/6, 1/7, 1/8*, 1/9*, 1/10, 1/11, 1/12*, 1/13*, 1/14, 1/15*, 1/16, 1/17*, 1/18*, 1/19*, 1/20*, 1/21*, 1/22*, 1/23*, 1/24, 1/25*, 1/26*, 1/27*, 1/28*, 1/29, 1/30*.

Although I have ended the numbers at 70 and at 1/30, there may be higher numbers that have not yet been recorded.

Hodgson has written in the meantime to say that he has been advised that the cachets are indicative of quality control measures taken at the CapeMail mail handling centre outside Cape Town.

If there are readers who can add to this record, they are invited to write to the editor with details for publication in article form or in the mailbox feature.

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1. *The SA Philatelist* October 1997 p154. *Contemporary philately: Die Poskantoor se rubberstempels*.
2. *Setempe* March/April 1998 p4. *Your views: Meaning of the CMA cachet.* John Hodgson, Plumstead.
3. *The SA Philatelist* April 1998 p30. *From the mailbag: CMA is not a misprint*. John Hodgson, Plumstead.
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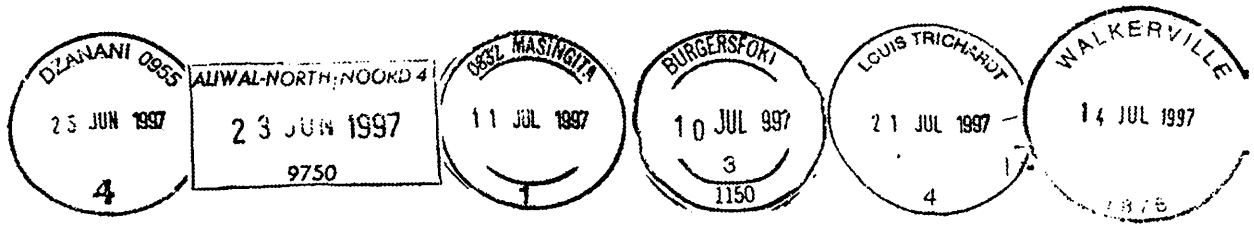
5. *The SA Philatelist* August 2000 p85. *Rubber stamps from Capemail and Witspos.* JN Horner, Kimberley Philatelic Society.
6. *The SA Philatelist* October 2000 p111. *From the mailbag: Comment on Capemail*. John Wannerton, Cape Town.
7. *The SA Philatelist* October 2000 p131. *Contemporary philately: The CMA cachets*.
8. The author's collection and records.
9. Additional help from David Allison of Bergvliet, John Hodgson and John Horner.



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This is to advise that the 340 page Volume 9 of the "The Postmarks of Southern Africa" covering the letters R and S is in its final stages and is due to be published shortly. Alex Visser has also taken over the distribution of the previous volumes as listed below.

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Philately as a social function

AT FIRST GLANCE, a discussion on philately as a social system seems simple enough. However, looking at the subject more deeply from a sociological point of view, it soon becomes clear it is not all that simple at all.

First, one has to decide whether you are going to approach the subject from a purely psychological viewpoint, or from a sociological viewpoint, or a combination of both. In looking at the literature, both psychological and sociological, it seems clear that one can not make a distinction between the two and would have to consider the views expressed in both of these social sciences.

A major problem here is that in neither the discussions by leading sociologists and psychologists, does one find the term "social function" as a specific entity. Rather, and this is especially true in sociology, one finds wide-ranging discussions on "social systems" and "social structures".

In fact, in most cases any discussion on what a "social system" or "structure" is deemed to be, is approached from a structural-functional viewpoint.

In a chapter *An Outline of the Social System*, in *Theories of Society* (1965), Talcott Parsons says: "...there are two essential reference points for this systematic analysis: a classification of the functional requirements of a system... More specifically, the theory of social systems belongs within the more general class of conceptual schemes seen in the frame of reference of action."

MacIver and Page (1957) write: "Our essential theoretical understanding of individual and society, then, is the understanding of a relationship – a relationship involving those processes that operate between man and man and between man and a group in the constantly changing pattern of social life.

"For a system of social relationships grows and changes in accordance with the changing attitudes and interests of its members... Here the system derives its significance from its support of and contributions to the ends – the purposes – of individuals themselves".

They further state "when men recognise a common interest they tend to cooperate toward its achievement".

It should therefore be clear that philately as a social *function*, if it may be called that, could only be studied within the framework of a social *system*. In other words, as a social function it is one of the parts that make up a social system. It is worth noting that much is made of the interrelationship between members of a group as well as of the concept of social action.

Philately as a social function

As we have seen from the above brief overview, it would be very difficult to subscribe to the notion that philately is a social function. At most it could be said to be a subsystem of a social system. As a social function, it cannot exist on its own. It has to belong, and the only place where it finds a home is as part of a social system.

As Parsons (*op cit*) puts it: "Hence as a source of his principal facilities of action and of his principal rewards and deprivations, the concrete social system, exercises a powerful control over the action of any concrete, adult individual.

"However, the patterning of the motivational system in terms of which he faces this situation also depends on the social system, because his own personality structure has been shaped through the internationalisation of systems of social objects and of the patterns of institutionalised culture".

By **Andries van der Walt**
Postmark and Postal History Society



This finally brings us to Vilfredo Pareto (quoted in Timesheff 1963): "If society is a system, it is a whole consisting of several parts; change in some parts affects other parts and the whole. The state of a social system at any given time is determined by the following conditions: first the extrahuman environment; second, other elements exterior to society at the time, including other societies and given a society's previous states; and third, inner elements of the system, namely interests, knowledge..."

This last observation by Pareto comes very close to describing what philately in essence is. Philately is about one's environment, the development of the society in which the philatelist finds himself. It is about the quest and search for knowledge, communication, inter-acting with others, putting together a history of our past.

But if we accept that philately could be described as a subsystem of a social system, then we have to decide what type of subsystem.

In our discussion so far we have also noted that culture or cultural activities form a part of any social system. For this reason then, would we be wrong in stating that philately has a cultural function as part of a social system, rather than having a social function in itself?

Culture

Culture is at the same time a simple, yet not so simple term or activity to define. Depending on whether you are an anthropologist, psychologist or a sociologist, the term culture will have a different, albeit at times, similar sounding meaning.

In short however, it can be said that culture is the total social heritage of mankind. There is a proviso to this. As MacIver (*op cit*) writes: "The relationship between culture and personality involves, on the one side, the total social heritage available to the individual and to which he consciously and unconsciously responds, and, on the other, the integral character of his individual being".

Pitirim Sorokin, (quoted in Timasheff *op cit*), holds that "1) personality as the subject of interaction; 2) society as the totality of interacting personalities... and 3) culture as the totality of meanings, values, and norms possessed by the interacting personalities and the totality of the vehicles which objectify, socialize, and convey meanings."

C Wright Mills (*The Sociological Imagination*, 1973) contends that the boundaries between different social sciences are becoming increasingly fluid. "As each social science advances, its interaction with the others has been intensified."

Culture: A psychological perspective

Against what was said in the previous paragraphs, it is perhaps fitting here to look briefly at what motivates individuals to get involved in cultural activities. Maslow (1970) states that once all the basic needs of a person – food, safety, love and esteem – have been satisfied "... we may still often ... expect that a new discontent and restlessness will soon develop, unless the individual is doing what he, individually, is fitted for.

"A musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write, if he is to be ultimately at peace with himself. What a man can be, he must be. He must be true to his own nature. This need we

may call self-actualisation".

And he adds: "At this level, individual differences are greatest".

Maslow makes a definite distinction between higher and lower needs. One example is that the satisfaction of higher needs is closer to self-actualisation. The pursuit and gratification of the higher needs leads to greater, stronger, and truer individualism.

"Self-actualising people have the wonderful capacity to appreciate again and again, freshly and naively, the basic goods of life, with awe, pleasure, wonder, and even ecstasy, however stale these experiences may have become to others..."

It is part of man's culture that motivates him to do what he does, to pursue leisure and hobbies as pastimes. And it is his personality, his inherited and acquired dispositions that determines what he will do to satisfy his need for self-actualisation and self-esteem. It is in his nature to seek recognition and reward. Hence he will exhibit his collection to be judged by his peers.

Philately as a cultural function

"As a mere animal, cultureless man was one of many, and not of the strongest; with culture, he began, and has continued increasingly, to dominate life on the planet and to control its future". (Alfred Kroeber in *Theories of Society*, op cit)

No man is born a philatelist. But he is born with certain inherited dispositions. These inherited dispositions include creativity, the ability to reason and think, to be innovative, a natural quest for knowledge, to accumulate and preserve his heritage, and most importantly his ability to communicate.

During his lifetime he also acquires abilities. These are his acquired dispositions – that which he learns from his interaction and interpersonal relationships with other individuals and the influence of his environment on him as a person which help to shape his personality and character and build on his inherited dispositions.

In fact, two aspects run through cultural man like a golden thread – his need to communicate and share his knowledge, and his creative ability. As has been stated – a man must be what he can be.

If we analyse philately, we find all the characteristics of culture embodied in the very act. To accumulate that which forms part of our natural heritage, our cultural history, to acquire knowledge about the subject(s) we are collecting, to study that which we are collecting, to creatively arrange and present that which we have accumulated, and finally to communicate the knowledge we have acquired.

It is also educational, it teaches the collector how to do research, find new facts, and to share our knowledge with others.

While I have stated earlier that philately should be seen as having a cultural rather than a social function, but that the cultural function is a sub-system of the social system, and it still therefore falls within what can be called a social system with a social function, then one needs to identify the social aspect or function of philately.

This can be said to be the "social act" as it has been called in sociological literature. "The smallest unit to which sociological analysis is applied is the social act" (Inkeles, 1964.) What is meant by this is the study of "...the smallest unit of directly visible action which has a reasonably clear shared meaning for both the actor and others with whom he is in contact." (*op cit*)

By referring to "the social act", we are also exploring the role of social interaction and social relationships in philately.

One of the basic principles about philately and on which the whole philatelic action is based is the fact that it is an unselfish hobby. As Groenewald, a former chairman of the management committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa wrote: "...dog die werk is eerder 'n pryslied wat die nuweling nooi om met vertroue aan te sluit by die geledere van die vriendelike stokperdjie" (Van der Walt, 1989).

Grütter, former editor of *The SA Philatelist*, writes: "...wat 'n mens bring by the tweede deug wat by 'n filatelis hoort: Dit is mededeelsaamheid." (December, 1996). Dineo Poo, Youth Development Officer of Philatelic Services, comments: "I discovered with surprise that many philatelists and dealers were generous with their time and were actually willing to teach and to guide those with limited knowledge of philately." (1996).

The fact is that nobody, or at least no stamp collector or philatelist, collects stamps in isolation. You become part of that greater body of philatelists who are keen to share, keen to be seen to be part of a group of people " with a clear shared meaning" in their lives.

For this reason, exhibitions play an important part in the social function of philately, the creation of social relationships. "The collector who exhibits is communicating to other collectors his interest and enthusiasm...He is 'talking about' his collection" (Dehn, 1978).

In his book *Versamel Seëls* (1989), this writer wrote: "Sodra jy egter die stap gedoen het om te begin versamel en deel te word van die groter filatelie-familie (want dit is tog wat ons as versamelaars is), rus daar ook die plig op jou om by te dra tot die uitbreiding van die stokperdjie. Moet jou nie afsonder nie. Jy moet uitbeweeg en ook ander, nie-versamelaars, aanmoedig om deel te word van wat jou soveel plesier gee."

The cultural function of philately, being the primary function of collecting stamps, would be useless unless it is underpinned by the social function, being the secondary function of creating social relationships, giving meaning to your philatelic endeavours and sharing the knowledge you have gained with others. As Barzun and Graff (1962) put it: "The position of man is obviously extremely insecure unless he can find out what is happening around him". And, may I hasten to add, also very lonely.

Conclusion

The above has been an attempt to try and give substance to the posed subject: "The social function of philately".

It remains, however, to sound a word of warning. The collecting of stamps, and philately (for it seems that some would like to make a definite distinction between the act of collecting and philately) is and will always remain a pastime, a hobby.

To try and attach some type of scientific methodology to philately, and in the process try and elevate its place in society beyond its basic principles, could lead to confusion and be detrimental to the sustained growth and development of the hobby.

There may be those who would argue that whatever the average philatelist/ stamp collector is doing, he ought to be doing something else. Yet, what that something else is, nobody yet knows. For that reason one should try and learn what the average philatelist, good or ill, for the moment is actually doing.

As Inkeles wrote:" The student of society is easily tempted to conclude that his specialised knowledge qualifies him to be a doctor of society, also its spiritual adviser, perhaps its planner, and even its director".

These may be wise words that philately, and philatelists, in their endeavours to be more than mere "stamp collectors", can certainly take to heart.

"Man is endlessly inventive. But his greatest invention is non-invention, the skill of transmitting intact and unchanged from one generation to the next the fundamental ways of doing things which he learned from the generation which preceded him" (Inkeles, *op cit*).

Let us hope that philately, given the attributes, both culturally and socially, that it possesses, may never stagnate; for society is a dynamic, changing organism, and philately certainly has a specific place in our society.

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The South African Philatelist Vol 72, No 6 (819), December 1996

Setempe (SA Stamp News) Vol 1 No 3 November/ December 1996

THEMATICALLY *yours*

Rev J Cassie Carstens *Chairperson: PFSA Committee Thematics*

Clubtheme 2002

• Kimberley Philatelic the hosts, the McGregor Museum the venue, eight8clubs participating, two stamp dealers doing trade, lots and lots of interested people, lovely weather, marvelous hospitality – that was the recipe for a most successful stamp show from 16-18 May 2002 in the Diamond City!

• Congratulations and thanks to all the club-participators with their thematic exhibits:

1. Kimberley: *A Royal Milestone – Philatelically Speaking* (Richard Oliver)
2. Germiston/Boksburg: *Electricity* (Mike Jackson)
3. Witwatersrand: *Keeping in Touch* (Jill Redmond RDPSA) = winner by public vote
4. OFS Philately: *Polar Regions* (Gerda van Zyl)
5. Goudveld: *Meer as 'n hand vol vere – ontdek die betowerende wêreld van voëls* (Ilze de Kock)
6. Afrikaans Pretoria: *Die Nuwe Suid-Afrika* (Petra Heath)
7. Maritzburg: *Tall Ships* (Geoff Mitchell)
8. Centurion: *A Tribute to Erich Mayer* (Marge Viljoen)

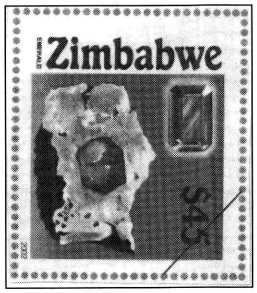
• The following one-frame invited exhibits complimented the show:

7. *Life and Times of Owls* (Richard Oliver: Kimberley)
2. *Man is the Tribe and Tribe is Man* (Judith Horner: Kimberley)
3. *Anglo-Boereoorlog* (Petra Heath: Afrikaans Pretoria)
4. *Boomstories* (Cassie Carstens: Tematika SA)
5. *Vroue op Suid-Afrikaanse Seëls* (Petra Heath: Afrikaans Pretoria)
6. *Die Skepping* (Petra Heath: Afrikaans Pretoria)
7. *Kimberley and Diamonds - A Postcard Collection* (Richard Oliver: Kimberley)

• Thank you John and Judy Horner, Richard Oliver, Paul van Zeyl, Alan Houghton (Mr Thematic) and especially all the friendly visitors from Bloemfontein – next year we go north to Polokwane in the Limpopo Province!

Themes on Stamps

The **EMERALD** is a variety of beryl, coloured green by traces of chromium. The main source of emeralds in Zimbabwe is in the Buchwa greenstone belt; other



sources are the Filabusi and Masvingo areas. The first high-quality gem-stones recorded in Zimbabwe were found in 1956 in the Mberengwa area; this find later became the world famous Sandawana Mine which was named after a mythical animal which was reputed by the local people to bring luck to those who see and greet it.



The worldwide eradication of **HUNGER** is much too important a humanitarian issue for it to be left only to governments. Based on this conviction Dr Binay Sen, the Indian Secretary-General of the United Nations Food and Agliculture Organisation (FAO) called the international "Freedom From Hunger Campaign" into being in 1961. What is the situation after 40 years, especially in Africa? How are we going to address this growing problem in our own country, in Zimbabwe, in Malawi?

This year the most important of prestige **PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS** are the world exhibition in South Korea PhilaKorea 2002 and the international exhibition in Holland Amphilex 2002. The exhibition in Seoul will take place from the 2 to 11 August. In the last two days will take place the 67th Congress of FIP (*Federation Internationale de Philatélie*) – our own Federation will also be represented at the congress. The aim of PhilaKorea is to celebrate this year's XVII World Soccer Championship and the XIV Asiatic Games in Pusan – it is also an excellent occasion to promote Korean culture. The exhibition in Amsterdam will take place from the 30 August to 3 September. It has been organised on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the issuing of the first Dutch stamp





The **PUBLIC SERVICES** International World Congress takes place every five years, with delegates meeting to elect officials, establish policies, and plan for the next five years. It is expected that between 1 000 and 1 200 participants from around the world will gather in Ottawa for this year's conference, which will be held at the Ottawa Congress Center from 2 to 6 September. Canada Post marks the occasion with a single commemorative stamp – a beauty indeed!

Serene, majestic, wild and thunderous – those are the glimpses of the stunning **COASTLINES** from around New Zealand. Papanui Point at Raglin, on the North Island's Waikato coast, is famous for its



black sand beaches, stunning coastal views and relaxed surfing, swimming, windsurfing and boating lifestyle.

A **BATTLE OF FLOWERS?** On Saturday 9 August 1902 the people of Jersey celebrated the coronation of King Edward VII by taking part in a weekend event, the highlight of which was a floral parade along Victoria Avenue. People decorated carriages, landaus and floats – mostly with hydrangeas – and huge crowds went to



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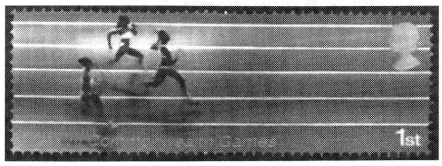
view the spectacular creations. At the end of the parade, flowers were plucked from the vehicles and a gentle flower-fight – the first Battle of Flowers – ensued. One hundred years later, this "one- off" event is still attracting tens of thousand of spectators each year.

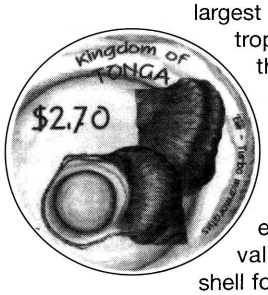


The XVII **COMMONWEALTH GAMES** opened on 25 July in Manchester, was the largest in the history of the event. It was also the biggest sporting event ever staged in the UK. Throughout their 72 years of competition the Commonwealth Games have managed to build an enviable spirit of friendly competition. This year saw over 4 000 athletes from 72 nations competing in 17 different sports over 10 days, with women making up 41% of the competitors. For the first time the 2002 Games also incorporated events for disabled athletes.

BOARD GAMES have been very popular among young and old for many years and are often at the heart of family life. Among them, chess as one of the oldest and most sophisticated of them all, occupies a special place because it is played both at home and in competition in the form of national and international championships with great attention from the public.



Marine snail management is an important programme introduced in Tonga in 1993, in conjunction with the importation of green **SNAILS** from Vanuatu. This programme focuses on the importance of developing and protecting marine resources, ensuring they are utilised in a sustainable manner to safeguard their existence for future generations. The green snail (*Turbo marmoratus*) is the largest herbivorous gastropod and inhabits the shallow coral reef region. This shell may exceed 20 cm and weigh over 3 kg. It has been exploited extensively for its valuable nacreous shell for inlay and handicrafts. Its meat also provides a rich source of protein and is used for exotic seafood dishes or just as a local food source.





The ephemeral **RIVERS** of Namibia – five stamps depicting the unique natural environment of this diverse country. I find the one with the elephants most fascinating.

Some time ago the United Nations approached Australia and proposed that they provide **EAST TIMOR**'s new postal administration with practical start-up help. Australia Post responded with the design and printing of the new nation's first stamp issue. The starnps represent a special piece of philatelic history and mark a momentous time for the East Timorese people. The flag is now the official symbol of the new nation.



The Great Sandy Desert is in Western Australia and the Northern Territory. It covers almost 400 000 square km, or 5,1 per cent of Australia, and is the largest **DESERT** in Australia. The region is located



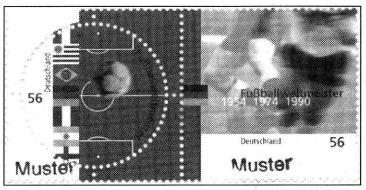
more than 900 km northeast of Perth and is bordered by the Little Sandy Desert, Gibson Desert and Central Ranges in the south, and the Kimberley in the north. The region consists mainly of sand plains and dunes covered with spinifex and patches of desert oak. This landscape is relieved by emergent sandstone hills and chains of ephemeral salt lakes.

Sweden has eleven sites on the Unesco World Heritage List, which Sweden has promised to care for and preserve. One of them is the town of Visby. This town was



put on the **WORLD HERITAGE** list in 1995 as an example of a walled-in Hanseatic town in Northern Europe. It is one of the few remaining towns from the heyday of the Hanseatic League in the 12th to 15th centuries, when Visby was a flourishing trading centre. Both Swedish and Eastern European goods were sold and reloaded here for the European market. The stamp depicts a view of the big square with the beautiful gothic arches of the Saint Catherine Church.

Prost to the **GERMAN SOCCER TEAM** for reaching the final of the coveted Soccer World Cup in Korea/Japan. I was thrilled with South Korea's performance, jubilant over Argentine and France losing in the



first round, expected precisely the sour-grapes reaction of Spain and Italy, bled with England, ignored Brazil and toasted Bafana-Bafana all the way. What a month of super sport!

I am a monarchist, an ardent admirer and supporter of the British **ROYAL FAMILY**. Queen Betsy is my favourite and I sing *God save the Queen* with gusto,. Diana was my sweetheart, Charles should marry Camilla and leave the throne to Prince Harry, while Edward and his Sophie are plain cute. The death of the Queen Mum had me in tears – what a magnificent grand old lady! I salute her!



* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Prethema 2002

A word of hearty congratulations to *Thematics SA* with their successful project PRETHEMA 2002 at the Woolworths Mall in Centurion on Saturday 15 June. Eighteen one-frame thematic entries, a new way of erecting the frames and a well-visited venue – those were the ingredients for a super prizewinning recipe. Keep up the good work, Robbie Harm and teammates!

BEGINNERS' CORNER

Illustrating your exhibit

The fourth of six articles for novice exhibitors by the late Richard Knight RDPSA, chairman of the PFSA judging committee.



By "illustrations" I do not mean simple sketches of a variety in a stamp, or a map illustrating a route, or a postmark – these are in my view part of the write-up of an exhibit, but an illustration such as a photograph of a mail coach, for example, in a postal history exhibit which the exhibitor feels "adds verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative".

The desirability of such items varies slightly according to the class in which one is exhibiting. In a traditional exhibit, it is almost impossible to think of a situation in which a photograph or other illustration should be included, and the same is true of a revenue exhibit, or of a postal stationery exhibit.

In a postal history exhibit, however, there are cases in which an illustration can be included with advantage, though they require careful handling. If one wishes to include an illustration of mail-coach, for example, not only must the illustration be entirely consonant with the text of the exhibit but the illustration should be both original and contemporary, sufficiently small not to overpower the philatelic material and placed in such a position in the frame as to be unobtrusive.

For example, such an illustration may come in useful where one is faced with introducing a new subject on the last sheet of a frame – the inclusion of an illustration at that point enables one to start the new subject at the beginning of the next frame. Preferably, of course, one would have some philatelic item which would be acceptable, but things don't always work out this way!

A similar problem may arise with thematic exhibits, but the principle is the same as that outlined above.

I remember vividly a four-frame postal history exhibit which I saw at an international exhibition. The material was superb, of the best quality and rarity and well-presented. Unfortunately the exhibitor succumbed to the temptation in the third and the final frames of including a number of photographs of personalities involved in the history of the period. These were contemporary photographs but the effect of using perhaps six sheets for photographs was disastrous.

The viewer was left with the impression that the exhibitor did not have enough material to fill the frames and was "padding" by using the photographs. His award was not commensurate with the material in the first two frames, although it reflected an assessment of the whole four frames.

In discussing the exhibit with the owner it was clear that he did in fact have sufficient philatelic material to fill four frames; when it was remarked that he was not writing a book on the subject, (when the illustrations would have been entirely apposite) he took the point and the next time the exhibit was shown, minus virtually all the photographs, it gained a much higher award.

In brief, the best guideline regarding illustrations which are not part of the philatelic write-up is to leave them out; only in quite special cases do they add anything to the philatelic content of the exhibit.

Learn from your peers – and *enjoy* exhibiting

AT SOME STAGE in your collecting activities you will come to a decision to participate in an exhibition. Your first endeavour at exhibiting will be at club level and from there you will progress to national and perhaps even international level.

One of the questions one usually asks is: Why do you want to exhibit? In previous articles we stressed that one of the reasons why one collects stamps and belongs to a club or society is to communicate with other collectors. The same holds true when one decides to exhibit.

Stanley Phillips puts it this way: "Thirdly, you can give people a lot of pleasure by showing them a collection which is arranged with care and method, and can thus add to your own pleasure and possibly make new recruits to the hobby". (*Stamp Collecting*, Sampson, Low, Marston & Co Ltd, London, no date).

In my own publication I wrote: "Dit is hier waar uitstallings 'n rol speel, want hier wys jy waartoe jy in staat is, en sien jy wat die werklike vrug op jou arbeid is. Tog wil ek waarsku dat uitstallings ... nie 'n doel op sigself is nie. Die plesier moet die botoon voer." (*Versamel Seëls*, JL van Schaik, Pretoria,1989).

Roy Dehn puts it very well: "The collector who exhibits is communicating to other collectors his interest and enthusiasm, showing examples which explain it, emphasising where necessary development and differences which may hold the attention of the viewer. He is 'talking about' his collection" (*Philatelic Exhibiting*, Stanley Gibbons, London, 1978).

Having said all that, it is also necessary to understand that to be able to achieve what you set out to do, you need to know how to put your collection together so that it does effectively communicate and achieve your objectives. This you can learn from books, but probably the best place to do so is at club level.

Here you can learn from your peers. You will be able to see how they do it and you will also be in a position to ask questions on how to improve what you have put together, learn and gain knowledge.

Obviously you may not achieve success immediately, but one must always remember that in order to succeed you are going to experience failure along the way. That is part of you learning process.

But don't ever lose sight of the pleasure you will derive from preparing your collection for exhibiting.

– Andries van der Walt

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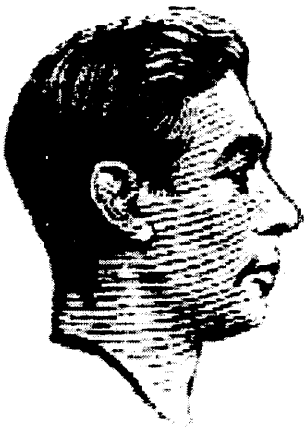

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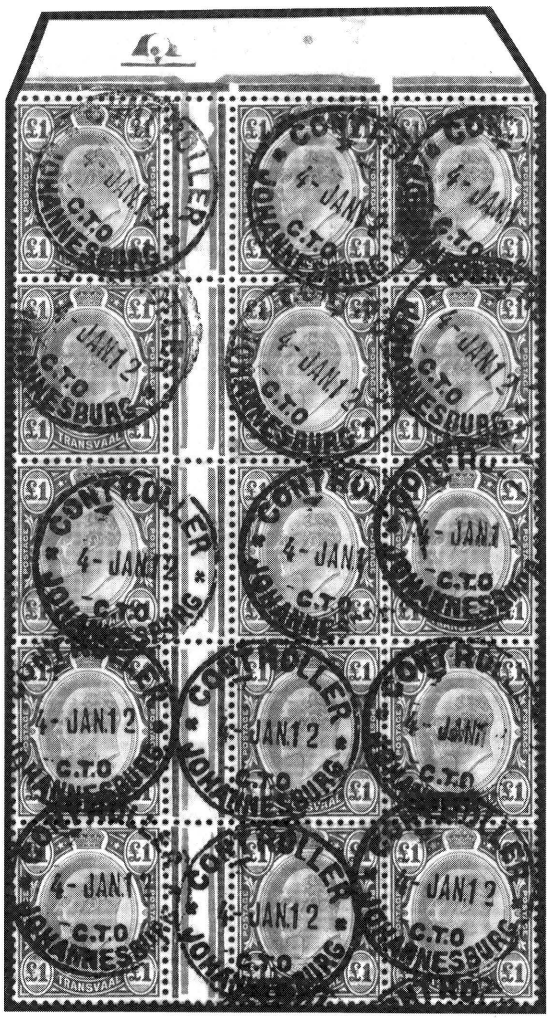

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Expert Committee/Keurkomitee:
Honorary Secretary/Eresekretaris,
Box/Posbus 304, Montagu, 6720.

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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION of South Africa now has an "upgraded constitution". The new constitution has basically achieved two objectives: the first was to streamline it to meet the changing needs of philately in South Africa; and secondly, to simplify the running of the affairs of the Federation, especially as regards its day-to-day management. It will now also no longer be known as the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa – the "Southern" has been replaced by "South".

While the upgraded constitution has gone a long way in satisfying the problems that many societies and members of societies had with the previous constitution, it may not have satisfied everybody. You simply can't satisfy all of the people all of the time.

The challenge facing philately is to make the new constitution work. Most constitutions have the tendency to be put away and gather dust. Whatever the problems are that some people may still have with the constitution, it is important that we keep an open mind, approach the organisation and management of our hobby objectively, and hopefully reap the benefits in years to come.

* * * * * * * * *

DIE FILATELIESE FEDERASIE van Suid-Afrika het pas 'n aangepaste grondwet aanvaar – een wat daarop gemik is om die bestuur van die georganiseerde filatelie in Suid-Afrika meer vaartbelyn te maak, en om die grondwet in pas te bring met die nuwe uitdagings wat die filatelie in die gesig staar.

Dit is so dat die veranderinge nie almal tevrede stel nie – dis haas onmoontlik om almal altyd tevrede te stel. Die uitdaging wat wag, is om te sorg dat die georganiseerde filatelie met die nuwe grondwet na die toekoms kan uitsien. En dit kan alleen geskied as ons ons eie belange ondergeskik stel en objektief die uitbouing van die stokperdjie nastreef.

– Redakteur

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

'It's a racket'

Gerda van Zyl, secretary of the OFS Philatelic Society, writes: At the last OFS Philatelic Society Committee meeting the letter published in *The SA Philatelist* from Mr Ronald Mephius was discussed. It was felt that the organising committee of Vrystaat 81 and the 1982 Philatelic congress had good reasons to request the banning of this cover and that we cannot unban it at this stage. We feel it will result in a large number of these illegally made covers coming on to the market and that this will be bad for organised philately.

An item like this has no philatelic stature and was conceived as a money-making racket involving only a few exclusive people. Time does not change the fact that this was (against the wishes) of the committee at that stage, and that the 1981 Federation congress at that stage saw it in such a bad light that it was blacklisted.

English only? – No!

Robert Harm, Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging Pretoria, writes: I read John Ineson's e-mail letter (*The SA Philatelist*, August 2002) with some annoyance with respect to the reference "I look forward to the day when it (*The SA Philatelist*) is completely published in English". I find the arrogance breathtaking, as if English is the *lingua franca* of South Africa. Mr Ineson would do well to look at the statistics of the use of language in South Africa, and he may well find an article in this journal in Zulu or Xhosa in the future.

It would be a sad day indeed if this journal was published totally in English, and thereby ignoring the many collectors using another language than English. It would be even sadder if this meant the exclusion of so many new collectors that we are trying to woo into the hobby.

I must congratulate the editor (and the authors) on the fine balance with respect to language he has been able to maintain in our magazine. Keep it up!

Non-dieted hospital

Neville Gomm, Robertson, writes: In the October 1989 and the October 2001 issues of the feature "Contemporary philately" there appeared details of a cachet impression emanating from the NON-DIETED HOSPITAL SIMONSTOWN. Michael Wigmore of Montagu wanted to know more about the hospital and its functions. Not being able to find out myself, I referred the item to Dr Jim Findlay, a military mail collector and member of the Military Mail Study Group. He wrote:

"I have had a real job trying to get information on the NON-DIETED HOSPI-



TAL SIMONSTOWN. I have found this very interesting, but not very fruitful. Unfortunately I do not have any of these covers in my collection. Although it is not certain, a couple of medical friends have suggested that this was the period when hospital managers began to realise that many ailments could be managed with specific diets. One of the obvious is diabetes, but there were others such as cholesterol (yes – even as early as the 1910s there was a realisation that too much fat in a diet was bad).

"Particularly fat or obese patients were often put on a diet to make surgery at a later date easier. There is the additional diet factor as demanded by certain religions – Jews and Muslims not eating pork, Hindus not eating beef, as well as vegetarians. To supply these diets incurred extra costs at a hospital.

"It is speculation, but it seems logical that there were many patients from the armed services and private who did not require special diets and were thus easier to manage and run from a food point of view. These were also probably less expensive for the patient or the state. As a result of this, hospitals that did not provide special diets to patients were promoted as such and thus the incorporation of this into the name of the hospital."

It has also been suggested that the military medical establishments of the time in South Africa could have been modelled on British establishments and that answers could possibly be found in publications dealing with the British military medical setup.

Spanish numbers

Carl F Troy writes from the USA: This is in response to the question posed by Mr Doug Southon of the Pietersburg Philatelic Society in your June 2002 issue regarding the sheet numbers on the back of Spanish Africa colonial issues. Having lived and worked in Equatorial Guinea for two years in the late 1980s, I collect former Spanish Guinea, Fernando Po, Elobey, Rio Muni (and legitimate issues of independent Equatorial Guinea) with some degree of fanaticism.

My understanding of the sheet numbers printed underneath the gum on these and other Spanish issues (both colonies and Spain itself) in the first two or three decades of the 20th century is that each sheet of stamps *of each denomination* will have a different sheet number printed on the back of each stamp. For many of the smaller colonies, low sheet numbers (such as the "000,030" shown on two of the three stamps illustrated in the query) is not unusual, given small printing quantities for all but the most commonly used values. Thus, it is conceivable to acquire a "matched set" of all values of a set, each with the same sheet number.

I hope this will help, and I welcome any further correspondence fellow subscribers may wish to enter into with me. Address: Carl F Troy, 2853 Willowmere Woods Drive, Vienna, VA 22180-7080, USA.

A War Effort story

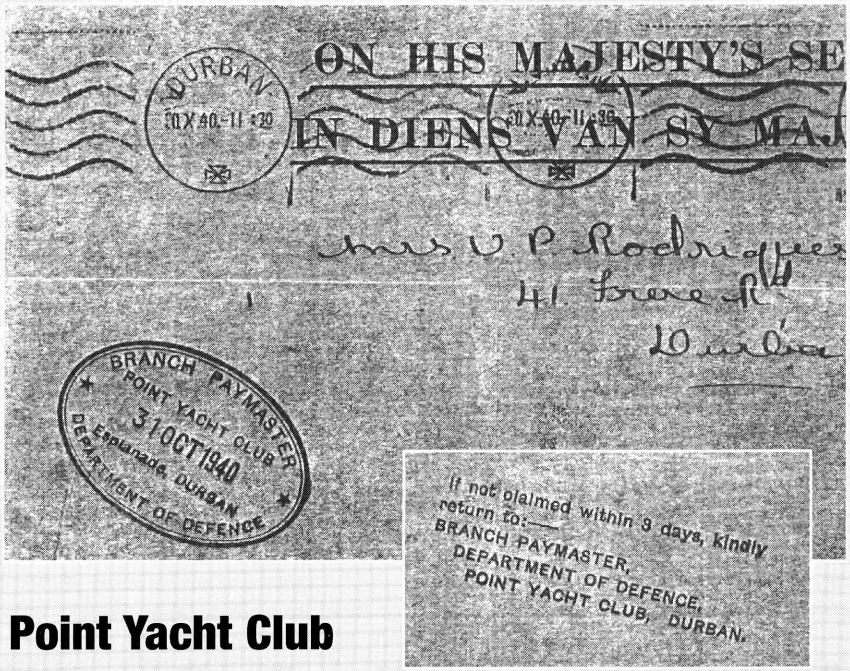
Corrie Post, Varendonk 1, 4907 XL Oosterhout, Netherlands, writes: As a fervent collector of South African War Effort stamps, I duly took part in the Liechtenstein Liba 02 exhibition.

A beautiful country, well organised show and a meeting with the Princely family was all planned, and my 60-page collection was taken there by the Dutch Philatelic Society. Unfortunately on our way to Vaduz I had a nasty bicycle accident in Germany and instead of a fine holiday I landed in hospital with broken ribs and other injuries.

I had to stay 10 days in hospital and the Liba 02 show went by without me – a missed chance, but my Great Silver 1st class with 73 points took some disappointment away.

Needless to say that I received many good wishes from exhibitors,organisers, jury and the general public when they heard about this side of the War Effort story.

winpost@hetnet.nl



Point Yacht Club in World War 2

Jim Findlay, Parklands, writes: I recently came across a stampless cover posted from Durban (30 October 1940) with an oval cachet from the Point Yacht Club, Department of Defence. This also had a cachet for the return address on the reverse (see illustrations).

I thought this was rather unusual that a Yacht Club was associated with the Department of Defence rather than a naval unit. I was very fortunate to make contact with Mr Seton Thompson at the yacht club and he very kindly searched in the club's archives and dug out information from the committee meetings held during the war years. This will be of interest to collectors of WW2 military mail as this appears to be a very scarce cachet.

The Department of Defence rented the entire club except for a single room, "The Sail Room", from 1 August 1940 to 8 February 1946 for £50-0-0 a month. It is not clear which room was "The Sail Room" nor as to its exact purpose, but it would appear that the club members did use it. The members of the Point Yacht Club were given preferential membership reciprocity at The Royal Natal Yacht Club for the duration of this war period for a reduced membership fee of 2 guineas (£2-2-0) a year.

From the cachet (Branch Paymaster), it would appear that the Department of Defence used these facilities for administration purposes, which included the local pay office. I suspect this served the same function, but on a smaller scale, as that which Prinshof Camp (presently the National Department of Agriculture Building, Beatrix Street) in Pretoria served as the army administrative centre.

Mossel Bay deviation

Pauw Steyl, George, writes: Here is the answer to Jill Redmond's question "Why Mossel Bay?" (*SA Philatelist*, August 2002): I was lucky to find the answer in the library of the George Museum. *The George and Knysna Herald* of 1 June 1932 reported:

"The big Imperial Airways liner City of Delhi descended from the skies last Wednesday at Mossel Bay, driven out of her route by terrific weather. She was en route from Cape Town to London and climbed to 14 000 feet to cross the Zwartberg in a gale blowing dead ahead at 90 miles/hr. Ice began to form on the wings and fuselage, and the airship was blown back in the heavy rainclowds. In these circumstances the course was diverted to Mossel Bay where the night was spent. Leaving next morning at 7:20, Port Elizabeth was reached before 10 o'clock where new supplies of petrol were taken aboard."

The normal route from Cape Town to Johannesburg and destinations north of the Union was Cape Town - Victoria West - Kimberley - Johannesburg. A week before flight AN64 departed from Cape Town, on 18 May 1932, a new aerodrome was opened at De Aar, not far north west of Victoria West. Judging by the quoted newspaper report one could assume that the City of Delhi, en route to Victoria West, was driven out of her route to the southern Cape. The pilot was forced to divert the course to Mossel Bay.

The following day the flight was continued via Port Elizabeth, arriving in Johannesburg one day late. I'm not sure along which route the flight was resumed from Port Elizabeth, but I assume the normal route was resumed at Victoria West or Kimberley.

Exchange sought

S Radha Krishna writes from India: I am very keen to have penfriends from African countries. I am a philatelist collecting mint/used stamps, thematics like fauna, birds, space, sports etc. Please write to me at: S Radha Krishna, Box 449, Basavanagudi, P O Bangalore 560 004, India.

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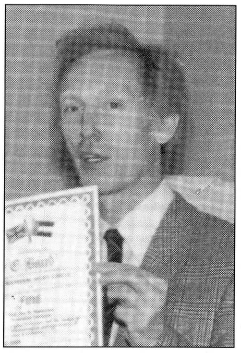
OBITUARY

Tony Chilton FRPSL



WHEN TONY CHILTON died from a heart attack on 17 July this year at Tooting Station in England while on his way to work, South African philately lost a very special friend. Tony *was* Mr SA Philately in the United Kingdom. He was only 51.

I got to know Tony 21 years ago when he and some other English philatelists came over to attend Vrijstaat '81 in Bloemfontein. We soon became good friends and through the years we exchanged numerous visits to each other's countries and homes. After 1986 his visits to SA became less frequent, but he did visit in 1991 and again last year.

Tony was deeply involved with SA philately in the UK. He was chairman of two societies (Transvaal for 19 years, Bechuanaland and Botswana Society) and committee member of two more societies. And for years he handled the postal auctions of almost all the SA societies in the UK.

Tony's collecting interests were varied but his big one was SA booklets, old and modern. Other interest were postal stationery of Southern Africa, Transvaal underpaid mail, postage due markings and labels. He was the author and co-author of many an article in *The Transvaal Philatelist* and *The SA Philatelist* (as recently as this year with Brian Trotter).

He did not show much competitively, but he often showed at study circles and local club meetings. He had a prodigious memory of particular philatelic items that he had seen somewhere. He also had an exceptional ability to chair meetings, often being asked to chair joint meetings of societies in the UK. Perhaps most of all he will be remembered for his dry sense of humor and, of course, the friendship for which he'll be dearly missed.

Our condolences go to his sister Gill and her family.

Rus in vrede, ons sal jou ontsaglik mis!

– Gawie van der Walt

A World Champion Stamp Collector?

By Andries van der Walt

READING the latest issue of *Flash*, official journal of the Féderation Internationale de Philatélie, the international controlling body of philately, one gets the impression that philately could become an officially recognised part of the Olympic Games.

According to two articles in the Nr 80 - 2002 issue of the journal, plans for a "Nations Cup" in philately are well advanced and a trial run was held in Algarve, Portugal, in September. Similarly, a trial run for a "World Stamp Championship" will be held in Singapore in 2004 as part of the FIP world stamp exhibition to be held there from 28 August to 1 September.

According to the article the objective of the Nations Cup "...is a philatelic tournament between teams of different countries. The participants (exhibitors) of a team are selected by the national Federation or through similar competitions between philatelic clubs (National Cup). The winner country will be able to have a team at the competition leading to the Continents Cup".

The way the competition is structured looks very similar to that of the World Soccer Cup with qualifiers, semi-finals and the finals. The guidelines also provides for the competition not to exceed one day, not held in a major city, not connected to any other competitive stamp exhibition, but could be connected to a stamp fair. It must also be an attraction for the general and philatelic public.

Only exhibitors who have gained a gold or large gold medal at a FIP exhibition are eligible to be selected for the competition which will consist of four mandatory classes and six optional classes. The mandatory classes are: traditional philately, postal history, thematic philately and youth philately. The optional classes are: aerophilately, astrophilately, maximaphily, postal stationery, revenue and an open class.

A philatelic quiz will form part of the competition and the points scored in the exhibition will be added to that scored in the quiz to determine a winning team. The winning team will receive the "Nation's Cup" and the competitors will be given a medal/diploma of participation.

According to the guidelines "the name 'Nation's Cup' shall be used for the qualifying contests until a continental winner has won the Continental Cup. The winner of the contest between Continents will receive the World Cup".

The current guidelines, approved by a special meeting of FIP in March 2002, will only be revised in January 2006.

The composition of the World Stamp Championship in Singapore in 2004 are given as follows on the FIP website:

The exhibition/competition will contain between 1 600 and 2 000 frames, lasting five to six days.

All pre-qualifications through the Continental Federations. Deadline for entries expected to be 1 October 2003.

The WSC is anticipated to be conducted as follows:

- Preliminary round.
- Shortlist of six finalists of each class; non-finalists to receive normal FIP medal awards.
- The key items to be flashed on a screen for the six finalists.
- The six contestants to be on the stage and the envelope with the results to be opened for the grand prizes. Ceremony to be like Academy Awards, suitable for television.

It is planned to have a visual record on the public judging in the preliminary rounds for FIP.

It is planned to have 12 competitive classes, concentrating on the three divisions in thematic philately and the three periods in traditional and postal history.

Each continent to have up to 8 participants per class.

The preliminary judging to be similar to present FIP point system.

The following classes will be included in the World Stamp Championship:

- Traditional with the three time periods (around 1900, the intermediate period to WWII, after WWII)
- Postal history with the three time periods (as above)
- Revenue
- Postal stationery
- Aerophilately
- Thematics with the three divisions culture, nature, technology as decided by the Commission

All exhibits will be allotted eight frames uniformly.

All exhibitors should bring their own exhibits and must be present.

Sponsorship for approx. 50% of the amount secured.

The Association of Singapore Philatelists, in co-operation with the FIP, will form an organising committee for the exhibition.

In the steering group there are two philatelists, two from the postal administration, one from the philatelic museum and one lay person.

• *The Philatelic Federation of South Africa has not yet discussed any of the above. One question that arises is which continent will South Africa be part of, since there is no African philatelic federation and South Africa is currently part of the Asian Federation.*

Soccer successes and blunders

By Andries van der Walt
Editor

THE SOCCER WORLD CUP held every four years is billed as one of the biggest sport shows on earth. During the competition millions of fans sit glued to their television stations watching the giants of the football world battling it out.

Each has his favourite and should the favourite lose, it is nothing but a national tragedy. After the 1998 World Cup a player from a South American country committed suicide because his team lost.

The history of soccer dates back to ancient times and it is regarded as the most popular sport in the world. The first World Cup competition under the auspices of the International Soccer Federation (FIFA) was held in 1930 and was won by Uruguay.

The trophy cup awarded from 1930 to 1970 was the Jules Rimet Trophy, named after the Frenchman who suggested the competition. The cup was permanently awarded to Brazil, having won the competition for the third time in 1970. It was subsequently stolen and a new trophy, a replica of the original and called the FIFA World Cup, was put in its place.

Brazil scored its fifth World Cup by beating Germany 2-0 in the final in Japan.



A special stamp to commemorate this feat was issued by Brazil on 2 July and the design of the stamp (shown left) depicts a soccer ball, trophies, five stars and six flags.

The flags shown are those of the countries where Brazil achieved its previous wins: Sweden (1958), Chile (1962), Mexico (1970) United States (1994) and South Korea/Japan (2002).

Literally hundreds of stamps were issued by as many countries to commemorate the World Cup for obvious reasons – they were sure to be money-spinners.

South Africa also announced its own series of stamps to commemorate the World Cup and South Africa's participation. However, these stamps were never issued and according to sources within Philatelic Services, there are no plans in place to do so.

While some of the more fancied teams made their blunders on the playing field, like France, the 1998 champions who were knocked out in the first round, and Italy, who suffered a similar fate, there were some major blunders also on some stamp issues.



Three stand out: San Marino issued a pane of six stamps on 22 March. The stamps reproduce photographs of past matches between the Italian team and other teams. The first stamp in the upper-left-hand-corner depicts the final between Italy, the host team and Czechoslovakia. The score on the stamp shows that Italy won by 4-2, while the actual score was 2-1.

Italy also won the next World Cup in France against Hungary by 4-2, while the score on the second stamp shows the score as being 1-0.

Norway also had its problems. That country issued its first circular stamp to commemorate 100 years of soccer in Norway. Yet the referee pictured on the stamp was not the person they thought. It later turned out that the referee was actually a German and the picture was taken while he was in charge of a local German league game.



In line with a new ruling by Queen Elizabeth II, pictures of living persons could now be depicted on Royal Mail stamps provided they were not instantly recognisable. The Isle of Man, certain that England would do well in the competition, showed pictures of English striker Gary Owen and captain David Beckham, with their faces slightly obscured. Well, we know that England had a miserable outing in the World Cup.

The Irish also had mud on their faces. While the team played their hearts out, their captain, Roy Keane, featured on one of the stamps, was sent home before the start of the tournament while David O'Leary, depicted on another stamp, was sacked as manager of Leeds United during the tournament.

Maybe featuring living persons on stamps is not such a good idea after all!

What other journals report on Southern Africa

The SA Philatelist and *Setempe* are not the only journals around dealing with Southern African philately; a number of specialist societies have very interesting journals dealing with various aspects. The following four are based in England:

The **Transvaal Study Circle** publishes *The Transvaal Philatelist*. In the latest edition of the magazine some of the articles published include: *The Stamps Printed by MJ Viljoen, The pin-rouletted stamps of the First Republic, Potchefstroom Station, Shepstone's Mission to the ZAR* and *Mr Green*. It also has a website:

www.transvaalsc.org.uk

The **Natal and Zululand Study Circle** publishes *The Natal and Zululand Post*. The latest (June 2002) issue carries articles on: *The Union Steam Ship Company's packet service to the Cape – the second contract 1863-1868 (cont), The De La Rue halfpenny Victorian postage stamp of Natal, Zululand – the muddle concerning the 1d revenue stamp.* Their web address is www.nzsc.demon.co.uk

The **Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society** in London publishes *The Anglo Boer War Philatelist*. In the June 2002 issue there is quite an interesting article on *The Relief of Mafeking*. Website:

www.boerwarsociety.org.uk

Orange Free State Study Circle in the UK publishes *The Orange Free State Bulletin*. The June 2002 issue deals with articles such as *A soldier's letter from the Orange River Sovereignty, The Orange Free State Postal Note (Post Noot) - Part 1, An Unusual Hospital Tax Stamp*. No web address is given.

All of these societies are affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and their addresses can be found in the *Rendezvous* published in the June issue of *The SA Philatelist*.

• *See also* ***Archival chatter*** *on page 145*

JONAS MICHELSON:

A lifetime of service to philately

THE 64th congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa in Port Elizabeth this month marks the 50th anniversary of Jonas Michelson RDPSA (84) in organised philately.

Jonas, the honorary life president of the Federation, remembers how it all started, in the first half of 1952. After the successful philatelic exhibition on occasion of the Van Riebeeck tercentenary in Cape Town in April 1952, the Federation named a three-man committee to attend to the future administration of organised philately in South Africa.

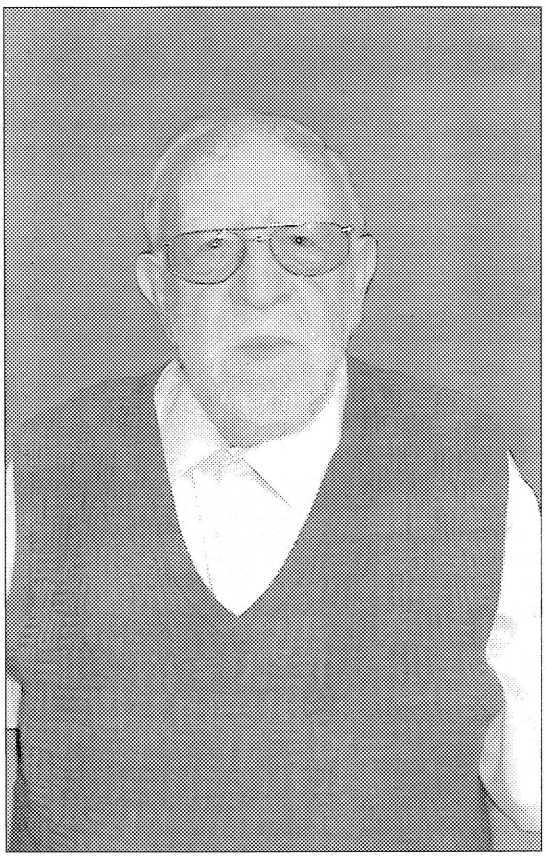
The committee – Ernest Hunt RDPSA, Bill Sheffield RDPSA and William Redford RDPSA – sought an incumbent for the position of treasurer of the Federation, secretary of the Federation, and business manager for *The SA Philatelist*. Jonas was a candidate.

"I was invited for an interview," Jonas says. "For two hours I was questioned, actually grilled, because they wanted to know whether I was fit for the job, and able to do it. I never quite heard what their conclusions were, but I was appointed."

In those days it was a part-time job with a salary of £25 a month. Jonas set about this task with energy, and in 1953 in his personal capacity joined a number of philatelic societies other than his home society, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. (He was one of the longest standing members of the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, over 40 years, before he started 'retiring'.) In 1954 he arranged the Federation's address as "PO Box 375, Johannesburg".

The Federation's finances were precarious, however, and the salary soon ran out. Jonas had the opportunity to venture into a printing business, and carried on with the Federation's work at home. He actually funded the Federation by not charging for postage and costs, and at one stage even had two issues of *The SA Philatelist* printed in a little back-street operation because the Federation could not pay the printer.

Later Fanie Vermaak took over as Federation secretary, and for a time as business manager for the magazine. He in turn was succeeded by Ken Lydall as secretary, while Jonas kept the business going as honorary treasurer. Jonas was



back as business manager as well when the new-look A4 magazine was introduced in 1972, and has been at it ever since.

The 1970s was a growth phase for philately in South Africa, and Jonas' work increased multifold. Assistance came for the handling of the distribution list for *The SA Philatelist*, but Jonas remained the advertisement manager.

The turning point as treasurer of the Federation came at the philatelic congress of 1987 when Jonas was elected as president of the Federation for 1987/88 (the Federation's half-centenary year). At this congress the convenor of a new committee for financial planning, Danny Swart, reported that the committee had been astounded by the volume of work done by Jonas as treasurer.

Howard Green took over as treasurer from 1988, with Jonas continuing the business administration of *The SA Philatelist* (and in the last year also attending to the distribution).

After his presidential year, at the philatelic congress in November 1988, Jonas was unanimously elected honorary life president of the Federation.

Actually, Jonas Michelson's connection with philately goes back not 50 but perhaps 75 years, as a boyhood collector. He was a schoolboy when he viewed the 1936 Empire Stamp Exhibition in Johannesburg (the other half-century stalwarts Bertie Simpkins and Bobbie Oppenheim were there, too).

Philatelically his first love was Latvia, the stamps as well as the postal history. His Latvia gained a silver-gilt award at the 1952 Van Riebeeck exhibition (SATISE/SADIPU), the first of a range of awards. Parts have been shown in Europe, and in 1965 Jonas was invited to sign the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Southern African Philatelists.

Jonas was born in Russia, where his parents and many others from Latvia found themselves later in the First World War. He grew up in Riga, the capital city, which he revisited for the first time in 1995 and again in 1998, in a study tour with the German Latvia philatelic research group.

"This was a wonderful trip – the Germans are really serious-minded students. I spoke German, and Latvian, and Russian in one region which we visited – it all came back to me."

Jonas also materially assisted with two books on Latvian postal history, the English editions of which were produced in South Africa.

In 1977 Jonas was applauded when he attended his 25th congress. Last year his 50th congress was fêted. This year the congress will mark 50 years as a pillar of organised philately. And to this day his work on *The SA Philatelist* continues.

There is another reason why this October is special to Jonas. He will be part of a group visiting Egypt to view the World War II cemeteries where 70 of his compatriots of the Rand Light Infantry lie buried. And on the 60th anniversary of the decisive Battle of El Alamein, Jonas and four fellow RLI servicemen who took part will be at that battlefield.

Not many stamp people know it, but Jonas is an honorary life vice-president of the Springbok Legion, the ex-servicemen's organisation – also editor of their journal, *The Springbok*.

And to tie that back to philately: He is patron of the recently founded South African World War II study group.

Jonas, your friends salute you.

– Joh Groenewald

PRETHEMA – *where new things are tried out*

by Robert Harm*

THE PRETHEMA 2002 EXHIBITION was held on 15 June this year in the Woolworths Mall of the Centurion Shopping Centre. As has been the case over the last two years, this exhibition was well supported by the exhibitors and by the public alike. I use this occasion to tell you something more about the uniqueness of this exhibit, but also tell you about the successes achieved this year.

Looking at the short history of this exhibition, Prethema 2000 was first held under the supervision of the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria (AFP) on 15 to 17 June 2000 in the Sunnypark Shopping Centre in Sunnyside, Pretoria. This was the first one-frame exhibition held in South Africa, and in the absence of any regulations, those of the American Topical Association were used by a panel consisting of five judges and a secretary. Chairman of the panel was Martin East. Eighteen exhibitors, mainly from the Gauteng area, participated.

Part of the exhibition was an invitation to the public to make their own judgment on the best exhibit, in which 220 individuals participated. There were many pitfalls, as the learning curve was steep.

The second exhibition was held on 16 June 2001 in the Woolworths Mall of the Centurion Shopping Centre. It was reduced to a single day, as this was found to be very effective in not overly extending the people helping to set up the exhibition. However, 2001 was the AFP's 50th anniversary, and not enough time was available to spend on Prethema 2001. The result was that fewer entries were received, although the standard was as high as the year before.

The most important aspect of this exhibition was the first-time entries received – not only first in a one-frame exhibit, but the first-ever for the exhibitor. His experiences were published in *ThemNews*, the bi-monthly newsletter of Thematics SA.

Thematics SA affiliated to Federation earlier this year and took over the running of Prethema 2002, once again limiting it to a single day. This time the organisation ran smoothly, the exhibition being advertised through *The SA Philatelist*. Once again 18 entries were received, but this time from as far afield as Kleinmond and the Free State. Once again a number of exhibitors used the opportunity to participate in a philatelic exhibition for the first time, as well as a few juniors.

A panel of three judges under the chairmanship of Danie Scheepers judged the exhibits, using the experimental regulations as published by Federation in the December 2001 issue of *The SA Philatelist*. The guidelines were made available by Richard Knight of the Judging and Ethics Committee. The results were pleasing indeed, as one vermeil, two silver-bronze, seven bronze and eight certificates were awarded. Extensive comments were made available to all the exhibitors. The winners of Prethema 2002 were:

First: Jan Burger, TSA/AFP: *Story of three-pointed star motoring* (vermeil).

Second: Jimmy Mitchell, Boksburg PS: *The conveyance of mail* (silver-bronze).

Third: Richard Oliver, TSA/Kimberley PS: *An endangered species* (silver-bronze).

But what makes Prethema unique? There are the obvious reasons: It is the only exhibition for one-frame exhibits; it is the only exhibition held in the public domain, and the public is invited to participate in the exhibition by selecting their own "best exhibit" with a small cash price; and it is the only exhibition where new things are tried out such as the way the frames are set up, and how the pages are put in the frames.

As far as setting up of the frames is concerned, we have got used to a zig-zag pattern. This may well be space-saving, but it isn't very viewer-friendly. The AFP has been experimenting with the uprights of the frame units bought from Federation and have found that a small modification (adding additional lips to the uprights) allows for the frames to be set up in a different pattern. One of these is in a "star" formation, allowing a centre upright on which four frames are hung in star format. Space taken up amounts to 1,5 x 1,5 m in which eight frames can be displayed.

Another formation is the "U" formation, which can consist of three (six frames), four (eight frames) or five units (10 frames) (or even more, should this be required). In this way one (or more) unit is attached to two units at right angles to it. This formation can be extended to an "H" formation, consisting of as many frames as are safe. This becomes a total new way of setting up an exhibition and has the advantage of becoming more viewer-friendly. At the National Topical Stamp Show 99 held in Milwaukee, USA, the frames were set up in straight rows, allowing far more viewers to view the exhibition at the same time.

Another new approach should not be seen as new, as we are taught from a very young age to read from left to right. We also learn that only the Chinese read from top to bottom, unless you attend a stamp exhibition and find that philatelist also read from top to bottom. Where an exhibit is held in the public domain, it would be senseless to display the pages in that way. At Prethema 2002 the exhibits were set up from left to right, and the public had no problem viewing the exhibits. Mounting them from top to bottom may well be a reason that so few members of the public (unless they have some philatelic background) understand the exhibits they see.

What makes the Woolworths Mall in Centurion so ideal is the lighting, making use of daylight, without direct sunlight on the exhibits. By setting up the frames in a specific way, one can ensure that there is a proper flow of shoppers on either side, but allowing those members of the public wanting to have a look to come inside on "holy ground". It makes the centre relatively quiet in a sea of shoppers.

Prethema 2002 as an exhibition was so successful that Thematics SA has received an invitation to set up exhibition at four other shopping centres in the Pretoria area. An initial study of these centres proves them all to be satisfactory for exhibitions.

Prethema 2003 will be held on 16 June 2003, provisionally in the Woolworths Mall in the Centurion Shopping Centre. It is hoped to extend this exhibition to other centres, so that the King of Hobbies can be shown to the wider public.

* *Robert Harm is president of Thematics SA, which will be holding Prethema 2003. For more information on the exhibition and on Thematics SA, he can be contacted at 082-925-7103, fax 012-654-4694, e-mail robharm@mweb.co.za . Enquiries can also be addressed to Cassie Carstens at 012-653-2279, fax 012-653-2279, e-mail algsin@mweb.co.za .*

Algoapex/Junass

ALGOAPEX 2002, to be held in Port Elizabeth from 23 to 26 October, will be opened officially by Mr Bernard Magabe, the Post Office's senior general manager of International and Philatelic Services. The exhibition, which incorporates Junass, will have a post office with the cancellers of the exhibition logo and an issue to be released on the opening day entitled Endangered Wildlife. Souvenir first-day covers will also be available.

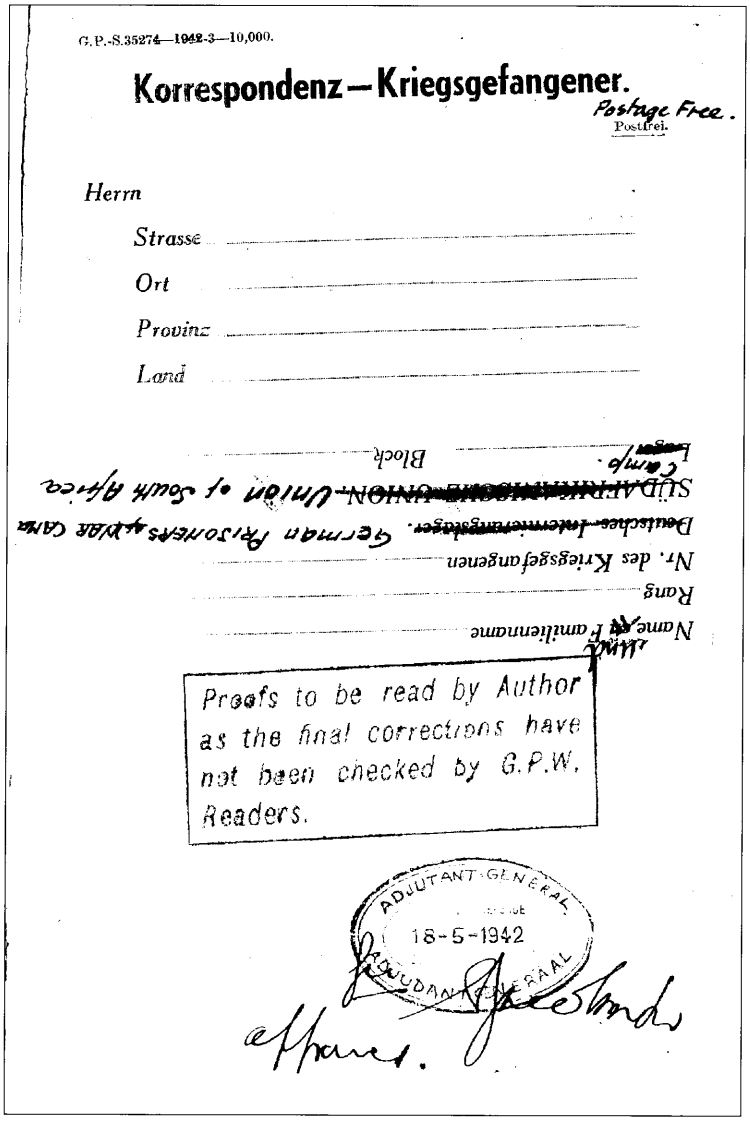
The venue is the Tsitsikamma Conference Centre of the Boardwalk Casino, Summerstrand.

Rare postal item from World War 2:

South African letter sheets for German prisoners of war

By Jim Findlay *Johannesburg Philatelic Society*

DURING WORLD WAR 2 South Africa was requested to accommodate prisoners of war from the German and Italian forces captured in Abyssinia, Somalia and North Africa. The government appreciated that there was a large German community in South Africa, and support for Nazi Germany and an anti-British sentiment in certain comrnunities. To avoid or reduce the impact any internal civilian sympathy for German prisoners or war, the South Arrican government agreed to accept up to 97 000 Italian prisoners of war but to only allow German prisoners of war to be in transit. The majority of German prisoners from East and North Africa went to the camps in Australia, Canada and India.


G.P.-S.35274—1942-3—10,000.

Korrespondenz—Kriegsgefangener.

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Postfrei.

Herrn

Strasse

Ort

Provinz

Land

Block

Camp.

SUDAFRIKANISCHE UNION • Union of South Africa

Deutsches Internierungslager. German Prisoners of War Camp

Nr. des Kriegsgefangenen

Rang

Name und Familienname

Proofs to be read by Author as the final corrections have not been checked by G.P.W. Readers.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL
18-5-1942
ADJUDANT-GENERAAL

Figure 1 – Proof of the German prisoners-of-war letter sheet.

The prisoners would arrive from the various theatres of war in Durban, where a transit camp was established for documentation. Italian prisoners were transferred to Zonderwater Camp near Pretoria, the prisoner of war administration centre, or other camps. The German prisoners who did not continue to the camps in other countries were transferred to the Pietermaritzburg Camp. It is not clear why certain German prisoners were allowed to remain in South Africa. However, it is recorded in the Official Year Book of the Union of South Africa No 23, 1946, under chapter 29 *The Union of South Africa and the War* that there were 2 006 German prisoners held in 1942 and 2 000 in 1943. All of these prisoners had left South Africa by the end of 1943.

Under the agreement with the Italian government regarding letter writing, Italian officers and other ranks were permitted to write one letter of a maximum of 24 lines and one postcard of a maximum of 10 lines per week while in South African prisoners-of-war camps. There was a similar agreement with the German govemment which allowed German officers to write three letters of a maximum of 24 lines and four postcards of a maximum of 7 lines per month, and other ranks were permitted two letters and four postcards of the same lengths per month.

Postal stationery

The South African government had letter sheets (POW 9 stationery) printed in Italian for the Italian prisoners of war. There were seven printings of these and a total of over 8,2 million were printed. In addition, there were three printings of Italian postcards (POW 10 stationery) with a total of 6,4 million printed. Examples of these letter sheets and postcards are fairly common.

Due to the small contingent of German prisoners of war, it became necessary to supply them with either or both letter sheets and postcards. The printing of the letter sheets was initiated in April 1942 with the final proof being approved by the Adjudant General on 18 May 1942 (SANDF Documentation Centre Archives, Pretoria). (see fig 1). There does not appear to be an official German postcard printed for these prisoners of war.

Recently I was fortunate to obtain two examples of the letter sheet as printed by the Government Printer in German and used in June 1943 (see figs 2 and 3). The job number is G.P.-S.38074, the date of printing is indicated as 1942-3 and a total of 20 000 were printed. There is no allocated POW stationery number as for the Italian letter sheets and postcards. All headings are given in German except for "German Prisoners of War Transit Camp. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" in the address and "Postage Free". Both received a passed-by-censor cachet but these are of different sizes.

Comment

These are the first South African letter sheets for German prisoners of war that I have seen. Other military mail collectors to whom I have shown these, agree that they are rare. I would like to hear from other military mail collectors who have similar letter sheets.

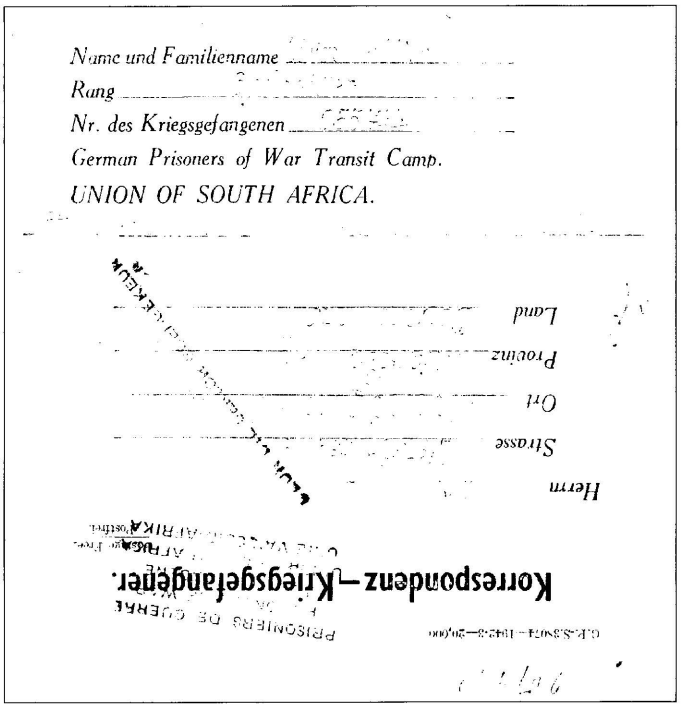

Figure 2 (above) – German POW letter sheet from South Africa to Germany.

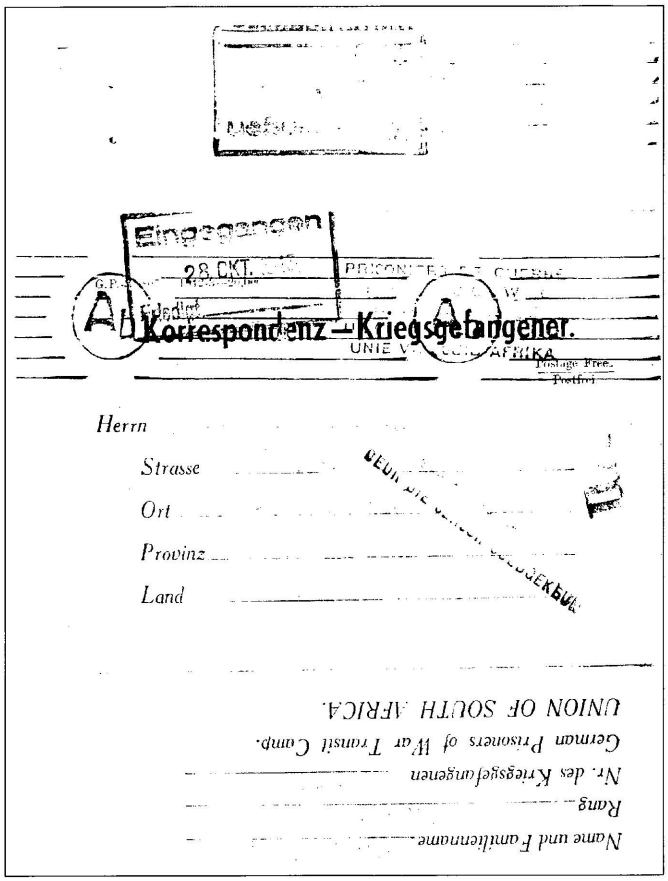

Figure 3 (right) – German POW letter sheet from South Africa to Germany, censored in South Africa and Berlin, Germany.

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Venue: Port Elizabeth's elegant Tsitsikamma Conference Centre (Boardwalk Casino Complex)

Date: 23 - 26 October 2002

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DEAL IN CONFIDENCE WITH A SAPDA DEALER

The De Havilland Comet – 50 years later

By Andries van der Walt
Postmark and Postal History Society

1952 was a watershed year in the development of commercial air passenger transportation for the world. On 2 May of that year, the world's first-ever jet-liner, a De Havilland Comet, arrived in South Africa from Heathrow Airport in London after a flight of 23 hours.

That event inaugurated the jet age in civil aviation. "It was an important day not only for BOAC and De Havilland, but for the British aircraft industry as a whole. A dream had become a courageous venture; once thought to be a wild gamble, it was now seen to be an astonishing success" (Davies, 1964).

The 50th anniversary of that historical flight went by virtually unnoticed in South Africa, but the British Post Office commemorated it with the issue of a series of five values, showing among others the Comet.

The story of the Comet is one of the success stories in the history of civil aviation. Yes, it did have its problems. "In the whole history of air transport no event stands out more vividly than the second crash of a De Havilland Comet in the Mediterranean off Stromboli on April 8 1954" (Davies, op cit).

The plane that went down was a South African Airways Comet, but in spite of the huge loss of life, the crash gave the developers of jet-propelled aircraft new insight into some principles of aircraft engineering. Never before had any aircraft flown at 40 000 feet and water tank testing had never been contemplated. The investigation showed that the cabin had burst as a result of metal fatigue, something unknown to engineers at the time.

But that did not stop the growth of the civil aviation industry; in fact, Comet showed continued expansion and remained the most popular aircraft for many years. It did so by making various changes to the aircraft design and the Comet 4 led the way with support from BOAC and the Royal Air Force. The Comet also became the most popular jet liner.











In many ways the 1954 Comet disaster was likened to the Hindenburg airship disaster as a result mainly of the loss of lives. The major difference between these two disasters was that the Hindenburg was the end of an era, while the 1954 Comet disaster has been described as the beginning of an era.

The De Havilland Comet was designed and built by Geoffrey de Havilland who formed the De Havilland Aircraft Company in 1920. In his lifetime, more than 45 000 De Havillands were manufactured for use, including the Comet. He was also the father of actresses Joan Fontaine and Olivia de Havilland.

The story of the development of jet passenger liners goes back many years before 1952. In the late 1920s a 21-year old RAF officer, Frank Whittle, designed his first turbo-jet engine, but he was rebutted. In 1930 he patented his design and in 1936 set up his own company, Power Jets Ltd.

On 15 May 1941 a Gloster E28/39 propelled by one of Whittle's engines had its maiden flight and by 1944 jet-powered Gloster Meteor fighters were in squadron service in the RAF.

Whittle was later knighted, received the Order of Merit, paid £100 000 in a tax-free gratuity for having being belittled. He died in 1996 at the age of 89.

The stamp issue to commemorate 50 years of jet passenger commercial flights also include the 2002 Airbus, the 1976 Concorde, a 1964 Trident and a 1964 VC10.

Reference:
Royal Mail, Davies, 1964.

For the bookshelf•••••• *Vir die boekrak*

The commemorative and first-day postal markings of Malta 1923–99
Alan Bannister, Malta Study Circle - Paper No 7.
This 40-page paper records and illustrates over 500 handstamp designs from those advertising the British Empire Exhibition of 1924 to the 25th anniversary of the Republic of Malta in December 1999.

They include international historic events such as the first manned balloon flight in 1783, the discovery of X-rays in 1895, the 50th anniversary of V-E day and the Bush-Gorbachev meeting at Malta in 1989.

As would be expected, religious events are to the fore with the 19th centenary of St Paul's Shipwreck (1960), the 400th anniversary of the consecration of St John's Cathedral (1978) and the Pope's visit (1990).

This is an update of the Circle's 1980 paper. It is available from leading philatelic literature stockists in the UK and The Sliema Stamp Shop in Malta. Recommended retail price: £6.
Enquiries: • Supplies of the above paper: Mr M H Lloyd, 61 Dovedale Avenue, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 3HT, U.K.; E-mail: *m.lloyd@messages.co.uk*

Medical botany on stamps
Tom Wilson, with a foreword by George B Griffenhagen – 2001, published by The Medical Philately Study Group. ISBN 0-9532259-1-7 – A4, comb bound, 137 pages with 294 b/w illustrations and an index. Price £12.00 incl postage & packing; plus £3.00 for airmail.
A collection of reprinted articles by the author which have appeared during the past 20 years in philatelic magazines.They include pieces on such topics as the materia medica of different countries, botanist doctors, aromatherapy on stamps, etc.

The articles are interesting for their own sake, as well as providing useful information about plant drugs for philatelists.

To obtain a copy send your cheque for UK£12 to Tom Wilson, 24 Cheriton Court Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3JP, England.

Read all about Freya: For those interested in the history of the Freya postal agency in early Johannesburg, here is some compulsory reading, writes **Neville Gomm, Robertson**. The book deals with early times in Sandton, the northern neighbouring city of Johannesburg. The book is richly illustrated; one photographs shows an envelope with an arrival date-stamp impression of the Freya postal agency on the reverse.

The title of the book is *Wagon-tracks and orchards: Early days in Sandton* by Juliet Marais Louw (Ad. Donker, Craighall Mews, Jan Smuts Avenue, Craighall Park, Johannesburg, 1979 – ISBN 0 949937 22 3).

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SOA

In search of

South African machine postmarks

By **Neville Gomm** *Postmark & Postal History Society*

THE INFORMATION in this series of articles comes from *The Allison-Gomm Collection of South African Machine Postmarks*, claimed to be the most extensive collection of South African machine postmarks in the world. As its custodian, the author knows of no other comparable collection.

In spite of the extent of the collection, it is by far not complete and it is unlikely that it ever will be. Another lamentable fact is that a large amount of information concerning South African machine postmarks never appeared in official publications and important detail is therefore simply unobtainable. The task of recording what information can be gleaned from the heritage being preserved in collections, has come to rest on the shoulders of collection custodians.

An example of what collectors can do is that seen in the additional information for Adelaide below. Thanks to Kevin von Bratt of Knysna for his effort. This information is now preserved in the collection and in this journal for the future.

2 - Adelaide

Fellow philatelist Kevin von Bratt provided updated information on the situation at Adelaide after a visit there in March 2002. The machine, a Pitney Bowes 3920, was still at the post office, but it was no longer in use. No record could be found of when it was first used. The use of the machine for postmarking ordinary mail was discontinued after the hub (Port Elizabeth) and spoke (Adelaide) system came into operation, but the precise date of discontinuation was not known.

The use of the machine for cancelling local bulk mail continued until about October or November 2001. The method of recording earliest and latest dates of usage ascertained from covers by collectors will have to be followed to arrive at some sort of period of usage.

With regard to the museum at Adelaide, Kevin said it was still in business. The principal collection is not glass, but European porcelain and it is the largest collection he has seen in South Africa.

For the philatelist, the Adelaide Museum has three large frames holding an accumulation of Anglo-Boer War concentration camp covers mostly addressed to Ceylon. One wonders whether these philatelic treasures and valuable and important heritage items are being cared for properly and also whether the information that they can provide, has been extracted and recorded.

3 - Alberton

After the appearance of the article on Alberton in the February 2002 issue of this journal, David Allison wrote to point out that I had made a mistake with regard to Type 4r. He said his understanding was that the wording PAID/BETAAL was not a separate slug that could be removed in the case of the five wavy lines. Mostly, where there were five wavy lines, the PAID/BETAAL wording was engraved in the same piece of metal as the wavy lines.

In the case of the seven wavy lines, the PAID/BETAAL wording was engraved on a separate piece of metal that could be alternated with a similar piece of metal with part of wavy lines engraved on it. In this way, the same machine could be used to postmark ordinary mail with black ink as well as prepaid bulk mail with red ink.

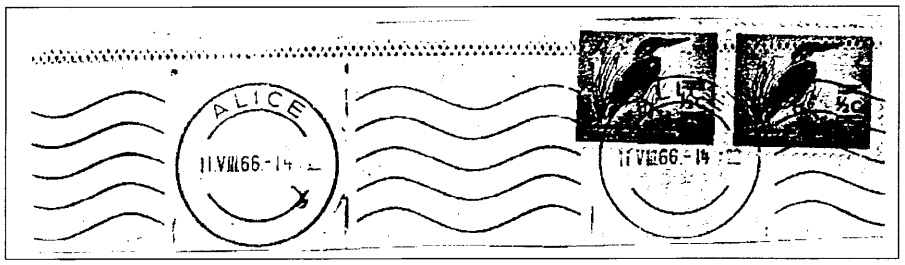
Terminology

In communications with the Post Office, in publications on machine postmarks, and in contacts with other collectors, I have come across a variety of names for the part of the machine that applies the slogans, wavy lines and the PAID/BETAAL indication. These include die, plate, sleeve, machine roller defacer and obliterator. The separate parts that can be placed into the centre of a die, plate, sleeve, machine roller defacer or obliterator have been called slug, insert and plug. There may be other names.

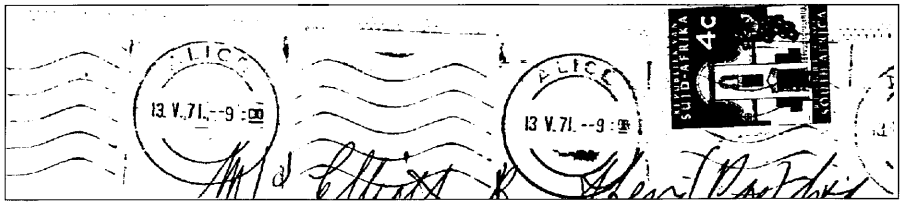
It would seem that the subject of terminology still needs thorough examination for the formulation of a list of standard terms that can be applied consistently.

4 - Alice

The town of Alice in the Eastern Cape Province was named after Princess Alice, second daughter of Queen Victoria of Britain. Alice began as a mission station in 1824 and municipal status was accorded in 1852. The station was named Lovedale after Dr John Love of the Glasgow Missionary Society. A school was started by the missionaries and this was followed by the establishment of various educational institutions in the area. The military built a fort that was named Fort Hare after the Governor of the Cape, Major-General Hare. The University College of Fort Hare was founded in 1916. Alice is also known for the Lovedale Press, which produces educational books.



Type 1b - A continuous impression with five wavy lines.



Type 2b - Similar to Type 1b, but the crests of the wavy lines are markedly pointed instead of rounded. It is not certain whether this is the result of the introduction of new wavy line plates or whether it could have been caused by distortion as the letter passed through the machine.
The earliest date recorded for the continuous impression types is 19 August 1965, and the latest date is 13 May 1971.

Earliest and latest dates

The earliest date recorded for stamp cancelling in black ink is 19 August 1965. The latest date is 10 July 1995.

For prepaid postage bulk mail in red ink the earliest date is 24 June 1966 and the latest date is 13 February 1981.

All these dates have been obtained from items and records in the Allison-Gomm collection and they definitely are not the final word.

The postmarks

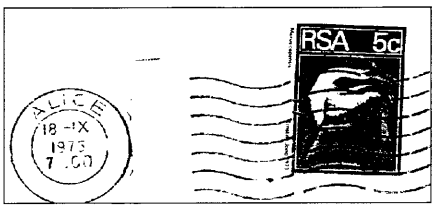
As in preceding writing, I am giving separate typologies for postmarks in black ink and in red ink. Reference to "Type 1b" is therefore to type 1 in black ink and "Type 1r" is to type 1 in red ink.

It may be of interest to note here that the usage of marking bulk mail in red ink has fallen away. I have been unable to put a precise date on the discontinuation of this usage, but have noticed that Capemail had the words PAID/BETAAL removed from the cancellers of its machines and that from October 2001, these machines were being used for cancelling stamps.

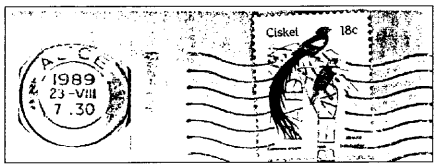
Our local postmaster at Robertson says the machine he was using for bulk mail went into storage in April 2002. Small bulk mailers are being encouraged to buy postage included envelopes and large bulk mailers have to use the permit mail system.

References:

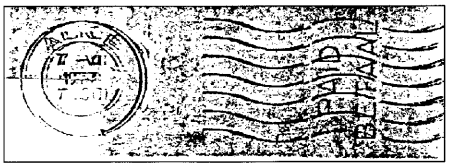
1. The Allison-Gomm collection.
2. David Allison, Bergvliet.
3. *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices & Postal Agencies,* Vol 1, Ralph F Putzel, Hale & Putzel, Cape Town, 1986.
4. *South West Africa,* compiled by the Place Names Committee, the Government Printer, Pretoria, 1952.
5. *Discovering Southern Africa,* TV Bulpin, Treasury of Travel, Muizenberg, 1986.
6. *Standard Encyclopaedia of S Africa*.



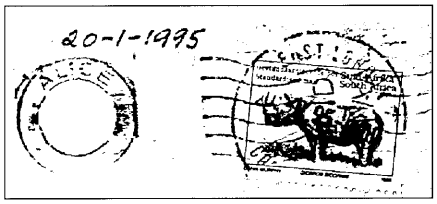
Type 3b - This came from a new single-impression machine with a canceller with seven broken wavy lines. The earliest date recorded for this type is 1 May 1973, and the latest date is 10 July 1995. Note the time gap between the latest date of Type 2b and the earliest date of Type 3b.



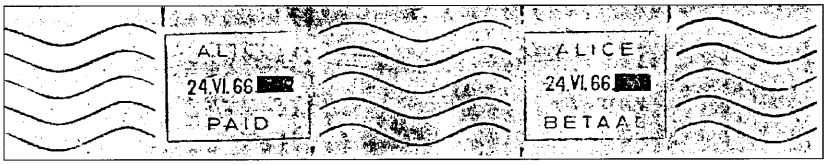
An unusual usage that is encountered often, is where the PAID/BETAAL slug is not replaced with a lines slug when the machine is used for cancelling stamps ink. The example illustrated is in black ink. The reverse also happens often when the lines slug is not replaced for the cancelling of bulk mail in red ink.



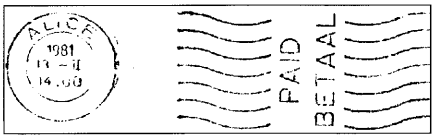
Also illustrated here, is an unusual double impression that shows the two types of removable slugs of the seven-line canceller. The subject of the removable slugs was referred to in the preceding Alberton notes. The impressions in the item illustrated were in red and black ink.



Another unusual usage is the one shown here without the date and time in the dater of the machine. The hub office, East London, applied a hand-stamp impression to provide the item with a date. Examples of this Alice usage were seen in black and in red ink.



For bulk mail in red ink, Type 1r shows the earliest date of 24 June 1966, recorded for the continuous impression machine.



Type 2r shows an impression of a new machine for which the earliest date recorded is 7 June 1977.

Get connected

THE growing popularity of internet technology has not passed philately by. Websites dealing with stamp and stamp collecting have become a very handy source of information and there are thousands of sites to choose from. In forthcoming issues we will feature some of the more interesting sites to visit.

To start with, there is the website of the world's leading stamp weekly newspaper, *Linn's Weekly Stamp News*. The address of the website is www.linns.com and the site features interesting articles about the latest in world stamp news.

It has a section called "Marketplace" which can be used to advertise, buy stamps or books on stamps, news about stamp events and other related stamp links. A reference section includes a link to www.stampsites.com, another website we will look at in the next issue, plus the print content of the newspaper, stamp issues and many others.

There is also an on-line facility to subscribe to Linn's and you can get the newspaper on-line if you want.

The content changes every week. It is fresh and up-to-date. In the 26 August issue, the date of writing this, the main stories featured are "Fifty years of stamps with a European theme", "Sweden honours its chefs", "Vietnam stamp day", "Father of surfing honoured with new stamp" (this has nothing to do with surfing the net!) and "Canadian Tulips designs reappear on sheet, cards".

Linns.com is a very interesting and informative website and worth a visit.

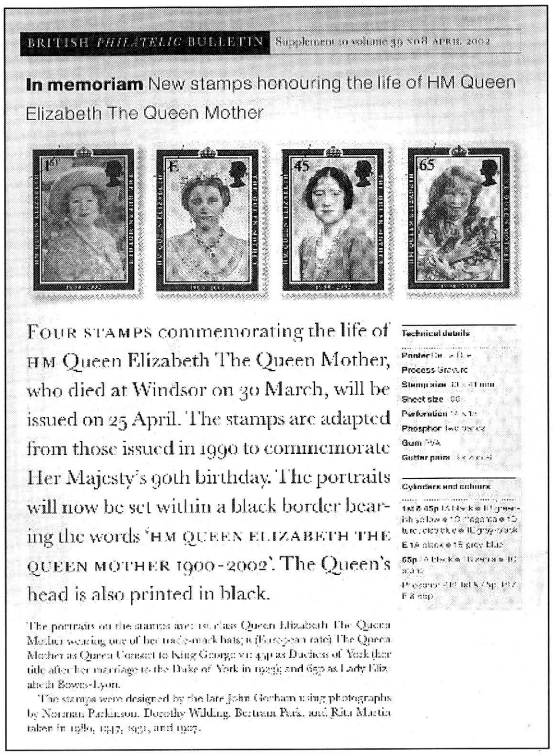
Anglo-Boer War

The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society website is now open at www.boerwarsociety.org , reports **Stuart Duggan**. A further page to contain an illustrated outline of the course of the war will follow shortly.

"We plan later to have a section giving written-up full-size versions of the illustrations from the other pages," says Stuart.

"The whole site will be updated regularly. Meanwhile, if there are any corrections to be made I shall be pleased to hear them; also any suggestions for future additions (especially 'links')."

Tribute to a lovely


BRITISH *PHILATELIC* BULLETIN Supplement to volume 39 no8 APRIL 2002

In memoriam New stamps honouring the life of HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

FOUR STAMPS commemorating the life of HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, who died at Windsor on 30 March, will be issued on 25 April. The stamps are adapted from those issued in 1990 to commemorate Her Majesty's 90th birthday. The portraits will now be set within a black border bearing the words 'HM QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER 1900-2002'. The Queen's head is also printed in black.

The portraits on the stamps are: 1st class Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother wearing one of her trademark hats; 1st (European rate) The Queen Mother as Queen Consort to King George VI; 40p as Duchess of York (her title after her marriage to the Duke of York in 1923); and 65p as Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon.

The stamps were designed by the late John Gorham using photographs by Norman Parkinson, Dorothy Wilding, Bertram Park, and Rita Martin taken in 1980, 1947, 1937, and 1927.

Technical details

Printer: De La Rue

Process: Gravure

Stamp size: 35 x 47 mm

Sheet size: 60

Perforation: 14 x 15

Phosphor: two bands

Gum: PVA

Gutter pairs: No

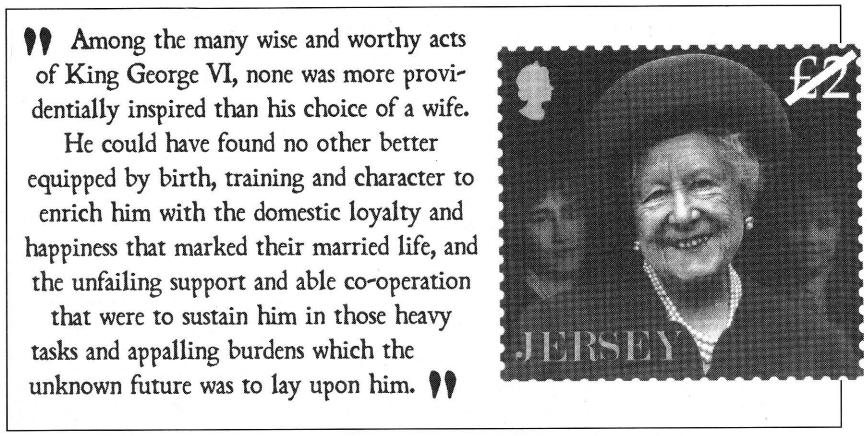
Cylinders and colours

1st & 65p: 61 Cyan, 61 Magenta, 61 Yellow, 15 Black, 15 Magenta & 15 Blue cylinders & 61 Grey-black

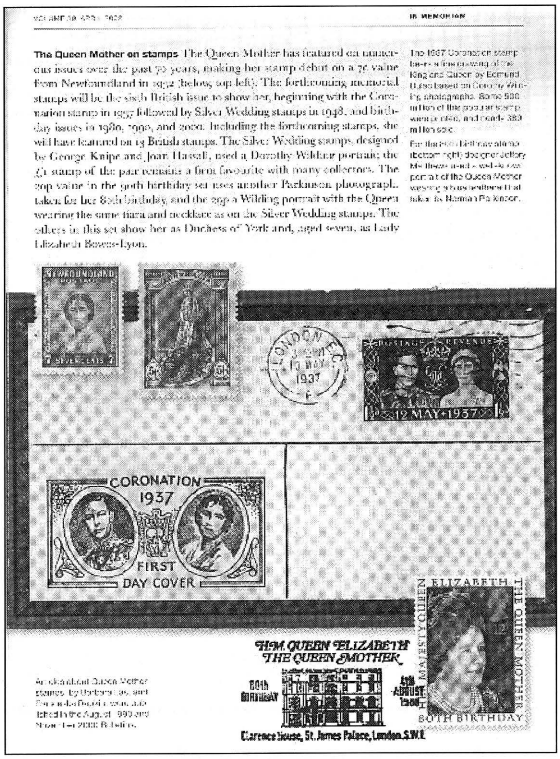
£1 & 40p: 61 Cyan, 61 Magenta, 61 Yellow & 15 grey Blue

65p: As Block 1 (Cylinders 61 and 15)

Printings: 1st & 65p: 1st Day Cover; £1 & 40p



" Among the many wise and worthy acts of King George VI, none was more providentially inspired than his choice of a wife. He could have found no other better equipped by birth, training and character to enrich him with the domestic loyalty and happiness that marked their married life, and the unfailing support and able co-operation that were to sustain him in those heavy tasks and appalling burdens which the unknown future was to lay upon him. "


IN MEMORIAM

The Queen Mother on stamps The Queen Mother has featured on numerous issues over the past 70 years, making her stamp debut on a 3c value from Newfoundland in 1932. Below, top left: The forthcoming memorial stamps will be the sixth British issue to show her, beginning with the Coronation stamps in 1937 followed by Silver Wedding stamps in 1948, and birthday issues in 1980, 1990, and 2000. Including the forthcoming stamps, she will have featured on 19 British stamps. The Silver Wedding stamps, designed by George Knipe and Joan Hassall, used a Dorothy Wilding portrait; the £1 stamp of the pair remains a firm favourite with many collectors. The 20p value in the 90th birthday set uses another Parkinson photograph, taken for her 80th birthday, and the 65p a Wilding portrait with the Queen wearing the same tiara and necklace as on the Silver Wedding stamps. The others in this set show her as Duchess of York and, aged seven, as Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon.

The 1937 Coronation stamps have a fine meaning of the King and Queen by Bertram Park based on Dorothy Wilding photographs. Some 500 million of the popular stamp were printed, and made 380 millionaire.

For the 1948 Silver Wedding issue designer Eric Gill used a 1947 portrait of the Queen Mother wearing a tiara bestowed on her by Queen Mary. Gill's design was based on a 1927 photograph by Marcus Adams.

CORONATION 1937

FIRST DAY COVER

12 MAY 1937

HM QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

80th BIRTHDAY

ABOUSE 1900

80TH BIRTHDAY

Clarence House, St. James Palace, London, S.W.1


Family arrived in Cape Town 17.2.47. Royal 'White' Train preceded by Pilot Train to which specially T.P.O attached (P.O. rep. A.W. Hutchings). King's Flight (Viking, RAF) used at times to transport Family and entourage. On 8.3.47 Family flown to game reserve OFS, Kroonstad, 10.3.

King's Flight founded by H.M. King Edward VIII at Benson, Oxford

O.S.

By Air Mail

THE KING'S FLIGHT 10 MAR 1947 ROYAL AIR

Newspaper wrapper, backstamp with Maltese Cross inserts dated 20.4.47. Arrived Beerviver 5.55 am, 20.4.47; train tour ended on the same day at 10.00 am in Cape Town. Visited Rhodesia 7 to 16.4.47 and Bechuanaland on 17.4.47. Left South Africa on 24.4.47.

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Clarkemont Cape

South Africa

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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lady





By Jill Redmond*

LADY ELIZABETH BOWES-LYON, youngest daughter of the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, was born on 4 August 1900. She was formally betrothed on 17 January 1923 to the Duke of York, Prince Albert Frederick Arthur George, the second son of King George V. They were married in Westminster Abbey on 26 April 1923 by the Archbishop of Canterbury and later had two daughters, Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth), born in 1926, and Princess Margaret, born in 1930.

Following a constitutional crisis lasting eight days, King Edward VIII abdicated on 10 December 1936 and Prince Albert, Duke of York, reluctantly succeeded him as King George VI on 11 December 1936. The Coronation of the King and Queen took place at Westminster Abbey on 12 May 1937.

The King, a shy and reserved person who suffered a speech impediment, was helped tremendously by the love and support of his Queen. Shortly afterwards they made visits to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, France, Canada and New York World's Fair and all were a great success.

World War II was declared on 3 September 1939 and the Queen stayed with her husband and two daughters at Buckingham Palace throughout the greater part of the aerial bombardment; Buckingham Palace was bombed nine times giving rise to the Queen's famous statement that at least they were able to look the East-enders in the eye! The great Victory Parade was held on 8 June 1946.

On 1 February 1947 the King and Queen and their two daughters left Portsmouth for South Africa in the battleship Vanguard, the first visit by a British sovereign to South Africa. They arrived at Table Bay, Cape Town on 17 February, visiting Simonstown on the 19th, Paarl and Stellenbosch on the 20th, returning the same day to Cape Town to open in State the new session of the Union Parliament.

They then went on the Royal Train to Oudtshoorn (ostrich farm); 26, 27 February, Port Elizabeth; Eastern Cape; 5 March, Umtata; 7th, Bloemfontein; 12th, Maseru, Basutoland; 14-16th, National Park by car; 17-24th, Natal and Zululand, then Swaziland; 25th rejoined the train; Pretoria on 29 March; flew to Rhodesia for a visit from 7 to 16 April, Bechuanaland 17th; Kimberley 18th and Cape Town on 20 April - end of the Train Tour. Left 24 April by sea on the Vanguard, arriving in England on 11 May 1947.

On 20 November 1947 Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh in Westminster Abbey and on 28 April 1948 the King and Queen celebrated their silver wedding anniversary, the subject of a popular omnibus stamp issue.

The King, never a strong man, died on 6 February 1952 and his passing was greatly mourned. The Queen Mother spent the remainder of her life supporting her family and carrying out endless royal duties with a quiet dignity and great charm. Her youngest daughter, Princess Margaret, died on 9 February this year and "the Queen Mum", as she was known to thousands of people, died at the Royal Lodge, Windsor on 30 March this year.

The theme of the commemorative cover issued by Great Britain perhaps sums up the grand lady: "A lifetime of joy and devotion".

With acknowledgement to **The Life and Times of King George VI by Odhams Press and **The Special Postmarks and Covers of South Africa** by H O Reisener*





Discovering and recording HISTORY

By Dr Robin Pelteret
Royal Philatelic Society, Cape Town

There is a dignity to history; and when we are gone, history is all that is left. History is about people; not only the biographies of great men, but of those innumerable ordinary folk without whom the great would be nothing. Through a seemingly trivial discovery on my part, Peter Stuart in his small way has contributed to my later understanding of elements of the history of Mafeking, and thereby vastly enriched my free time.

IN THE 1950s Joseph Hurwitz, owner of the Wynberg Trading Company, footwear specialists and outfitters, purchased a portmanteau for £3.00 at an auction held by John Marcus & Sons, Long Street. The plywood portmanteau with metal corners, when stood erect, opened up into hanging space on one side and drawers on the other. Jamming one of the drawers closed was a leather briefcase containing a few personal possessions of one Peter Stuart.

This collection contained Mafeking stamps, illustrated Boer-War postal stationary posted within the town, a compendium of *Mafeking Mail Special Siege Slips*, a Queen's South Africa Medal with the bars "Defence of Mafeking" and "Transvaal", and various handwritten copies of official Mafeking police reports from 1893 to 1901.

Peter Stuart was born in 1868 in Kirkmichael, Bonffshire, Scotland, and joined the Linlithgow County Constabulary on 28 December 1888. He progressed via the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police to an appointment to post no 107 of the Cape Police Corps no 2 Regiment, Kimberley, on 1 February 1892 for "a minimum of 3 years". The Siege of Mafeking occurred between 14 October 1899 and 17 May 1900 and Peter Stuart was there during that time.



Illustration 1: Sergeant Peter Stuart with a malnourished Mafeking child.

It was something other than the stamps, the Mafeking Siege Slips or the Queen South Africa medal that really decided me – being a bit of a pagan – to buy this hotchpotch of memorabilia; for nestling amongst old postcards, grubby newspaper cuttings, congratulatory telegrams, caricature drawings and a life's disorderly detritus, were three "blue-print" photographs.

Now, two famous items were produced in Mafeking on "blue" paper: the famous Mafeking Blues and the £1 siege banknotes. These photographs constitute a third. Here I was looking at someone whom I was to learn later was Sgt Peter Stuart, in uniform, together with an African toddler clearly suffering from marasmic-kwashiorkor; at men scrambling to enter an underground bunker; and a stretcher party removing a wounded man.

These photographs, I speculated, would have been made in a manner identical to the famous 3d Baden-Powell and 1d Sgt-Maj Goodyear stamps of the siege. They were produced from a glass-slide negative by contact printing on ordinary blue-print paper and were developed by washing through successive changes of water.

The paper was a good quality "Croxley" rag paper with a horizontal laid bâtonné character, produced by the Oceana Paper Co, a company of the famous Dickinson & Co (Pty) Ltd in England. It bore one watermark per "foolscap" page reading "Oceana FINE" in outlined characters, the first word being in Old English and the second in Roman capitals. The paper was locally sensitised with potassium ferricyanide smuggled into town and ferric ammonium citrate, a process developed in 1824. On exposure to light, the ferric ammonium citrate changes to a ferrous ion which, on becoming wet, combines with ferricyanide to form Prussian blue.

As only 8% of Mafeking "blues" were said to exhibit the watermark, it must have taken a good deal of effort on the part of Dr K Freund to define and describe its nature. Would there be evidence of the watermark, I wondered? On raising one of the photographs to the light, there it was – the watermark – and all but complete. And as with the Mafeking Siege stamps, it is likely that David Taylor would have been the photographer. A true find!

Peter Stuart went on to become Chief Constable of Mafeking. He had married in community of property Sister Ella Sophia Victor, a nursing sister, at New Somerset Hospital, Mouille Point, on 6 February 1905.

The couple produced two children: Victor Stuart and Violet Stuart.

Peter Stuart died at 30 Clee Road, Observatory, on 2 May 1938, leaving his wife and two children, Victor and Violet. His widow died at the same address on 18 January 1948. The possessions of the Stuarts that I own came onto the market following the death of their daughter Violet Stuart in January 1953.

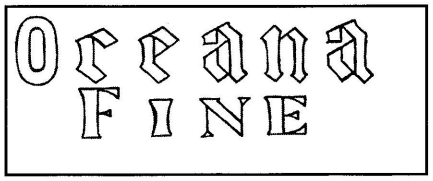

Illustration 2: "OceanaFINE" watermark

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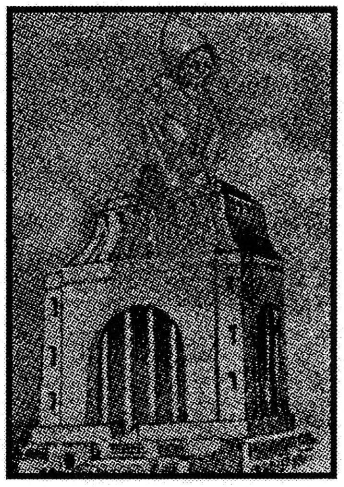

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ORGAN DONORS

By Tom Wilson *Medical Philately Study Group, UK*

THE US POSTAL SERVICE on 5 August 1998 issued a special 32c stamp in aid of the campaign for "Organ and Tissue Donations". The stamp was used on a first-day cover from Columbus, Ohio, in conjunction with The US Transplant Games, 5-8 August '98. Republican Senator Michael De Wine of Ohio had campaigned for two years for such a stamp. His 22-year-old daughter Rebecca was killed in a road traffic accident in August 1993. The senator and his wife were asked to donate her organs and they did so.

One of a pair of "Transplants" stamps from Greece in 1978 (Sc#1271/2), represents a painting by Alonso de Sedano. The picture commemorates the earliest mention of a surgical transplant, based on a legend. The Christian saints Cosmas and Damian were twins born in Syria about 250 AD, who practised medicine in Asia Minor and were martyred under Diocletian in 303. They are famous for their "miracle of the black leg", depicted in the original painting hung in St Mark's Museum in Florence. A patient named Anaghiri lay near death because of gangrene in his left leg. The brothers decided to amputate. Knowing that an African slave had just died they miraculously transplanted the leg of the Ethiopian in place of the one they had dismembered, and Anaghiri made a successful recovery.

At dawn on Christmas Day 1952, Louis Michon, Nicolas Oeconomos and Jean Vaysse took the left kidney and transplanted it into the iliac fossa of her son, where it functioned perfectly. Their success may have been due to a fortuitous tissue match between such close relatives. They led the way for surgical transplants of larger organs of the body. Their achievement has been commemorated on stamps of Austria 1990, and the Netherlands 1978, Sc#580. A set of four multicoloured stamps of Grenada for the 20th Organ Donors anniversary of the WHO in 19678 depicts four different kinds of organs which could successfully be transplanted, namely Kidney, Heart, Lung and Cornea, Sc#286/9.

Alexis Carrel (1873-1944) in 1910 successfully transplanted kidney and other organs in cats. He received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1912 in honour of his technique for splicing blood vessels (anastomosis), essential to his transplant experiments.

Colonel Charles Augustus Lindbergh (1902-1974) the aviator, was introduced to Alexis Carrel in 1930 and they soon began to work together. At the Rockefeller Medical Research Institute, Lindbergh and Carrel invented the Carrel-Lindbergh Pump in 1935. This maintains a continuous circulation of the blood so that resected organs can be preserved. They also developed the world's first artificial heart and published *The culture of organs* in 1938. Carrel's portrait appears on a Swedish stamp of 1972, Sc#987, also Transkei 1993. Lindbergh and/or his airplane are portrayed on stamps from USA 1928, #C10; 1977, #1710 and Fr. Polynesia 1977, #C149.

The first transplant successfully performed on humans was keratoplasty, or transplant of the cornea of the eye. This consisted of replacement of the cornea when damaged by injury or infection with a transparent one. The technique was suggested as a possibility by Erasmus Darwin (1731-1802). The first corneal replacements are said to have been carried out by Arthur von Hippel in 1888, and he was succeeded by the German Eduard Zirm (1863-1944) in 1907. The fundamental advance was due to a Russian eye surgeon, Vladimir Petrovitch Filatov (1875-1956), professor of ophthalmlogy at Odessa from 1911. When he reported that corneas from the dead could be used, he founded the world's first "cornea bank" in 1931 and saved many patients from blindness. Filatov's portrait appeared on a stamp from USSR in 1962 (Sc#2659)and Hungary, 1972 (Sc#2667).

Corneal transplants were performed during the first World War by Harold D Gillies, a New Zealand ophthalmologist. When a donor has left appropriate instructions, the eyeball is extracted within 24 hours of death. After that, the eye bank sees to the removal of the comea, its preservation and transportation to an eye hospital for use.

The first 'eye bank' in the USA was founded at San Francisco in 1938. A cornea bank is commemorated in a set of three from Costa Rica 1981 (Sc#817/9). An eye is featured on the 1col.80 value and the portrait of the founder, Abelardo Rojas, on the 5col. blue.

The success of keratoplasty was due to the fact that the cornea has no blood vessels and therefore the immune system is not involved as otherwise happens in the case of the other organs of the body. It was the elucidation of the (HLA) antigen system and the introduction of immunosuppressive drugs that made organ transplants possible. The American Joseph E Murray was a pioneer in this field and as a Nobel laureate he is portrayed on a stamp of Dominica 1995, SG 2123. His work was on renal transplants but was quickly applied to other organs.

The pioneer work on tissue rejection was done by Sir Peter Medawar (Guyana l995) of Great Britain and the Australian Sir Frank MacFarlane Burnet (Australia SG 598 and Maldives SG 2386), who together shared the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1960.

A pair from South Africa 1969 (Sc#355/6) carries the portrait of Christiaan Neethling Barnard, born 1923, who had studied cardiac surgery at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, and the Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town. He practised at first on dogs and then, in December 1967, at Groote Schuur performed the world's first human heart transplant. The donor was a woman aged 24 who had been killed in a traffic accident and the recipient was Louis Washkansky, aged 55, who was close to death from a failing heart. He made a good recovery but died of pneumonia 18 days after the operation.

Barnard is also portrayed together with Dr Blaiberg, a dentist, who was his second transplant patient, on a set of colourful stamps from the Yemen Arab Republic. These were on sale at post offices for a few days but they were hastily withdrawn when someone alerted the authorities that the patient was Jewish. The unsold surplus stamps appeared on stamp markets at rubbish prices.

Since that time there have been a number of issues relating to transplant surgery; for instance a set of four in 1976 from China PR (SG 2653/2656) featuring the replacement of a severed arm and a corneal transplant. Heart transplant surgery is shown on a 25c stamp of South Africa 1991, Sc#803.

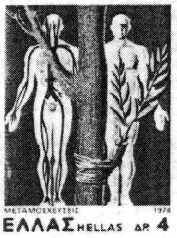
Senator De Wine has repeatedly emphasised that not enough people are carrying donor cards, as there is still a grave shortage of organs for donation. One consequence is that sufferers from kidney disease are subjected to the distressing routines of dialysis when surgeons could enable them to carry on normal living. Austria 1990, celebrated the 27th European Dialysis and Transplant Federation Congress, Vienna, with a 7s. stamp depicting a kidney, a dialysis machine and anatomical diagram, SG 2239.

So far, I have yet to see bone marrow transplants featured on a postage stamp. The technique has been successful in the treatment of leukaemias.

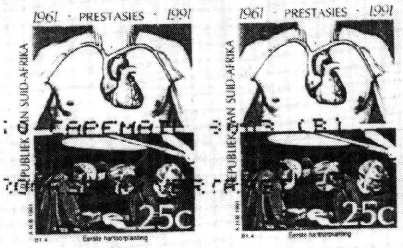
©Tom Wilson.



Dr Chris Barnard with patient Blaiberg... Withdrawn



Cosmas & Damian



Heart transplants



A Carrel





Chris Barnard

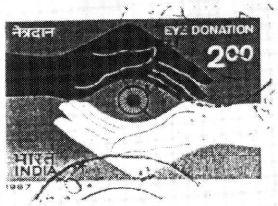


A Carrel

No 5 – Jos B Murray



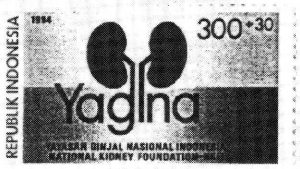
Kidney transplant



Cornea transplants



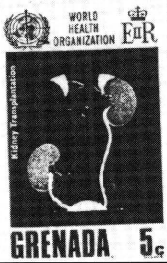
Sir MacFarlane Burnet

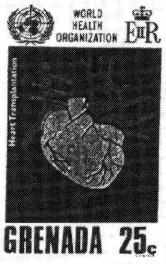


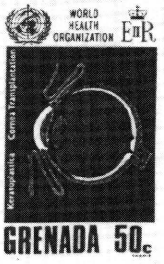
Kidney Foundation



Filatov – eye bank







Transplant surgery

THE MEDICAL PHILATELY STUDY GROUP has more than 200 subscribers in 24 different countries. The group's aims are to foster and encourage contacts, information and exchanges between collectors of medical philatelic materials and to promote general interest in medical philately. Members receive the group's journal four times a year; *MediTheme* usually runs to about 20 pages A5 format, with a wealth of information, news and b/w illustrations.

For more details, write to the membership secretary: Mrs Brenda Harding, Uplands, Green Road, Skelton, Cleveland, TS12 2BQ, England (Tel 0 1287 650246).

Annual subscription is £10 (overseas £12.50).

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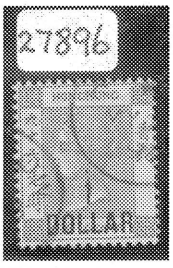

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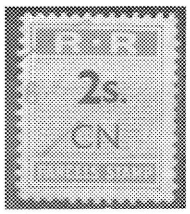

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Archival chatter

By Rev J Cassie Carstens *Honorary archivist for the PFSA*

Mission

What should be the mission of an archivist? Well, in this case to address the effective safekeeping of the archival material of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa and its affiliated societies. I do hope I have the co-operation of all the societies in this regard.

Objectives

As archivist I would like to set the following objectives:

SHORT TERM (up to October 2003)

1. To make a list of all archival matter (macro) in the possession of the PFSA and its officers.
2. To provide guidelines regarding safekeeping of archival material to all the officers in the management committee.
3. To provide guidelines to all the affiliated societies regarding the safekeeping of archival material.

MEDIUM TERM (up to October 2005)

4. To list all the philatelic publications in Southern Africa (in museums and public libraries, at societies, etc).
5. To compile and store all the archival material in possession of the PFSA.
6. To advise and assist the societies regarding the safekeeping of their archival material of 15 years and older.

LONG TERM

7. To complete and maintain a micro-development of all the archival material of the PFSA.
8. To set up a central archive for the PFSA and its affiliated societies.

Newsletters

• Dr Colin Fraser from the USA was the guest speaker at **Witwatersrand** (July 2002) with his highly acclaimed collection of Nyassaland. Have you ever heard of the HMS Mosquito and did you know that a large consignment of penny stamps had fallen into the Zambesi River? You should read this interesting newsletter!

• A total of 17 836 stamps and souvenir sheets were released in 2000, according to Linn's calculations. It would cost $8 876 to purchase all of the worldwide stamps at face value and $35 050 to buy them at catalogue value. Liberia, the war-torn African country from which little mail has been seen in recent years, released a new record number of 771 stamps. Want to know more? Contact **West Rand** (July 2002)

• In *ThemNews* (August 2002), the journal of **Thematics SA**, you will find articles on *Firefighting, Minerals-Fossils-Mining, The Charles Lindberg story, Tennis* and *Pasteur's first anti-rabies treatment,* and also: *What do I need to exhibit my collection?*

• The June 2002 newsletter of the **Southern Africa Postcard Research Group** has the following interesting articles: *The Centenary of the death of Cecil Rhodes* (you either love or hate him!), *G Budriks – Publisher, A Driessen's cocoa and chocolate factories, The Cape Town pier, As time goes by – Main Street, Port Elizabeth, Ostriches, The changing scene at Three Anchor Bay, Barnett's photographs of Market Square, Johannesburg, Anyone for a South Coast holiday? The Pietermaritzburg City Hall – a Victorian Masterpiece, Pretoria's changing skyline, The Sport of Kings* (horse-racing) and *The Somerset Hospital in Cape Town.* Quite a variety!

• *Anti-Semitic Postcards* features in the newsletter of the **Society of Israel Philately** (May 2002) – the "Borkum Lied" (Borkum Song) is portrayed as an example of this blatant racism in the Weimar Republic in the 1920's.

• The Journal of the **Rhodesian Study Circle** is a masterpiece and a source of much information: *Description and illustration of postmark Ttypes and sub-types, Rhodesia: The colours of the Double Heads, Zimbabwe today: Perforations on Zimbabwean stamps April 1980 – April 2001, Destination mail from the Rhodesias and Nyassaland during 1934/1935 via Zeppelin.*

• Want to know how to handle your *Exchange Packet Section*? Ask **Pretoria Philatelic** for their Rules for Buyers (supplement) in *NewsMagazine* July 2002.

• *Ayrshire Mine, Battlefields Mine, Beatrice Mine, Joker Mine, Nelly Mine, Turkois Mine, etc* – these postmarks are all listed in *Jon Barry's Mining-Related Postmarks of the B.S.A. Company Period,* published by **Mashonaland** (May/June 2002).

• The fascinating tale of research and eventually illustrating whales on stamps was told by Christeen Grant at **Maritzburg** (July 2002).

• Do you find crooks and robbers fascinating? Then the article *An 18th century mail robbery* should be part of your bedtime reading – ask **Great Britain Philatelic SA** (No2:2002) for a copy.

• Some thoughts on the way philately is going, and how it is inextricably bound up with the *development of the computer.* Leon David is of the opinion that all major collections, worldwide, would eventually end up being accessible to view on the internet, complete with detailed descriptions. This would allow anyone to study this material in as great detail as was wanted. The net result would be a drift away from stamp collecting to stamp research. Leon's second point related to the ultimate disappearance of the postage stamp as we know it. When one card covers everything including acting as a debit card, the conventional stamp will go. The computer will allow us to design our own stamps and decorate our envelopes. **East Rand** (August 2002) had this interesting (worrying?) subject at their July-meeting.

• *Jordanian King Talal stamps burn following Talal's 1952 abdication* – read about this in the **East London** newsletter (June 2002).

• God's name on a stamp – that is to violate *Halacha.* This most interesting article from the Jerusalem Post – depicting of all things an Israeli stamp! – is published in the **Caspip Bulletin** (May 2002). It reminds us of the 40c stamp in 1987 to commemorate the Bible Society of South Africa; the stamp was summarily withdrawn two days before the scheduled date of issue.

• *John Augustus Roebbling* – he was the architect of the Brooklyn Bridge in New York and no stamp on him were ever issued. But a one-frame exhibit on Roebbling won a Platinum award in the USA (the highest honours for a one-framer)! Robbie Harm gave a lecture on this at **Boksburg/Germiston** (July 2002), showing the layout, material and write up.

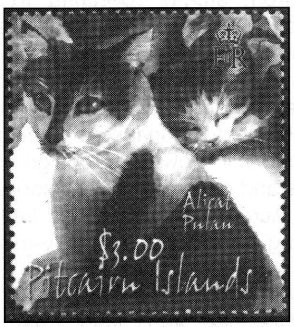
Een van **Afrikaans Pretoria** (Julie 2002) se programhoogtepunte is hulle jaarlikse sjôp-en-sjêrrie-aand in die winter. Verskeie klubs kom as besoekers en bring hulle uitstallings saam – 'n filateliese fees voorwaar!

The Nigel 2002

Nigel Stamp Club will be hosting their first One-Frame Thematic Exhibition at the Nigel Municipal Library on Saturday 9th November 2002. Entry fee R20; 65 frames available. Thematic Dealers and Philatelic Agent will be in attendance. Interested? Contact Lesley (011) 814-3377 or Charles (011) 362-1919.

Themes on Stamps

In 1838, Captain Elliot of *HMS Fly* established Pitcairn's first recorded constitution and laws. Apart from making Pitcairn perhaps the first country to give universal suffrage to both men and women 18 years old and over, these laws included sections entitled *Laws for Dogs, Cats and Hogs.* It was unlawful for a dog to kill a **CAT**, the penalty payable by the dog's owner being $50. At some point after 1840, a law was enacted that provided for the imprisonment of dogs for chasing cats. In 1893 the constitution was revised and the death penalty was prescribed as punishment for dogs chasing cats. During 1904 however, this law was abolished.



New Zealand's 2002 Children's **HEALTH** stamps are all about the benefits of healthy living, and the importance of eating a variety of food from the four main food groups – fruit and vegetables; breads and cereal foods; milk and dairy products; and lean meat, fish, eggs, nuts and pulses. After all, "we are what we eat", and maintaining a balanced diet plays a significant role in ensuring our long-term health. Health stamps raise money for children by an additional 5c surcharge that is donated to Children's Health Camps throughout NZ. New Zealand's seven Children's Health Camps provide a supportive and healthy environment where children and their families can gain long-term skills and confidence through a variety of programmes.



THEMATICALLY *yours*

Rev J Cassie Carstens *Chairperson: PFSA Committee Thematics*

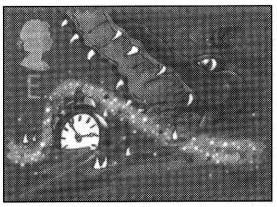
Today's Communications Museum in Berlin is the oldest **POSTAL MUSEUM** in the world. It was founded by Postmaster General Heinrich von Stephan (1831 to 1897), who set up a "planning and modeling chamber" to train postal officials within the post office's premises. In 1893 the building work started on the splendid Wilhelmine building on the corner of Leipziger Strasse and Mauerstrasse. When it opened in 1898, it presented its public with an exhibition on the history of transport and communications that was unique in the world. The building suffered considerable damage during the Second World War. After German Reunification the building was renovated for around DM 60 million and opened in March 2000 with a permanent exhibition on the history of communications.



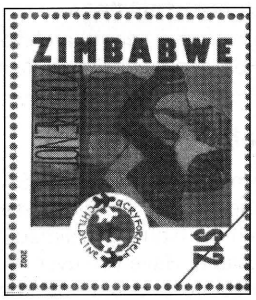
The first Massada **CABLE CAR** was built in 1971 enabling millions of tourists from all over the world to visit the national historical site of Massada. After almost 30 years the cable car system was renewed and today consists of larger cable cars holding up to 80 passengers each. The new position of the upper terminal allows visitors to enter the site by a bridge without having to climb steps. The length of the cable car journey is 900 m with a difference in height between the terminals of 290 m. The Massada cable car is the largest of its kind in Israel. It climbs from the eastern valley of the dead Sea above the Snake Path and ends at the magnificent Herod's Fortress – the site of the last battle in the Great Rebellion of the Jews against the Romans.



PETER PAN or *The boy who wouldn't grow up* was one of the stories inspired by J M Barrie's friendship with the Llewellyn Davies family. With the five boys acting out the adventures, the story finally evolved into the magical tale of Peter Pan, the motherless boy who takes the Darling children – Wendy, John and Michael – on a fantastic journey to Never-Never-Land. When J M Barrie died in 1937 he bequeathed the copyright of Peter Pan to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. A special Act of Parliament now ensures that the Hospital continues to benefit from J M Barrie's generosity. This year the hospital is celebrating its 150th anniversary.

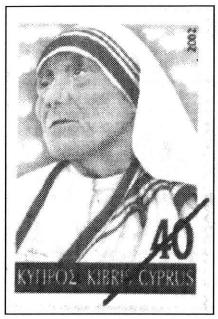


Children-Zimbabwe is the free, confidential multilingual helpline service which, through its unique approach of freepost, freephone and drop-in centre, aims to reach all **CHILDREN** in Zimbabwe regardless of economic circumstances. The organisation was founded in 1997. The illustrations were done by the children themselves.



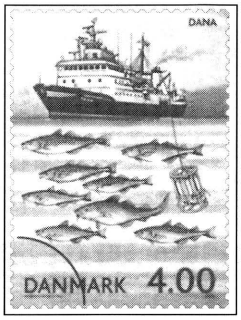
Agnes Gonxha Bejaxhiu, **Mother Teresa of Calcutta**, was born in Skopje on 27 August 1910 of Albanian Catholic parents. She entered the order of the Sisters of Our Lady of Loreto in Ireland at the age of 18 and from there she was sent to Darjeeling, India, to continue her training and novitiate. She took her first vows on 24 May 1931. She became a teacher and eventually principal of St Mary of Loreto High School in Calcutta. She received permis

sion from the Catholic Church to leave the order and began to take care of the poor and sick around Calcutta, followed by other young girls.

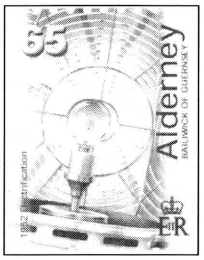


She established the congregation of sisters, called the Missionaries of Charity which received the approval of the Church on 7 October 1950. From 1948 until her death, Mother Teresa opened many houses, clinics and hospitals where her sisters took care of poor marginalised people, drug addicts, children and terminal patients. In December 1979 Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. During her life she received many awards from various countries. She died on 5 September 1997 in Calcutta.

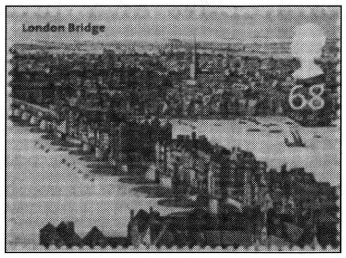
The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) was founded in Copenhagen in 1902 and is still based in the city. Nineteen countries are members and six have observer status. ICES funds research, disseminates information about the world under the surface of the **SEA** and provides member countries' governments with biological advice in the politically sensitive matter of setting fish quotas.



The half-century of the electrification of the Les Casquets **LIGHTHOUSE** on the coast of Alderney is celebrated in 2002. The sea around Alderney is one of the island's greatest assets, having provided a living for many over the years, as well as accounting for much of the charm of the place and its appeal to visitors. It is also a source of danger for shipping, and no area is more hazardous than the group of rocks known as Les Casquets. So many were the wrecks on Les Casquets that it was a group of shipowners who suggested to Thomas le Cocq, the owner of the reef, that he build a lighthouse, suggesting a fee of a halfpenny per ton when one of their vessels passed safely. Technology has moved over the years and the lights on Les Casquets have changed accordingly – from coal to oil burners to metal reflectors to electricity.



"London Bridge is falling down, falling down, falling down..." You know the song?



Address for contributions

The Editor, The SA Philatelist,
Box 13048, Norkempark, 1631.
Tel (011) 391-4139 (B), (011) 391-4645 (H). Fax: (011) 391-6785
E-mail: creativeword@mweb.co.za
Contributions for publication should preferably be accompanied by a photograph of the author, together with some philatelic biographical details.

Glen Carpendale
(Professional Philatelist since 1972)

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do broken frame	R 200
do raised name	R 20
do cylinder block of 4	R1200
7-6-2000 5c Tullis Russel paper	R 30
do imprint block of 4	R 550
10-3-98 40c broken letters row 1-2 S1-2	R 40
27-8-98 60c coated paper	R 350
do imprint block of 4	POR
23-3-2000 R2 De La Rue paper imprint	R 560
22-3-2000 R10 Harrison paper	R 480
do sheet of 10 stamps	R7500
4-9-98 90c De La Rue paper imprint	R 50
Antelope paper trials 4 mm phosphor bottom part of the sheet rows6,7,8 phosphor bands omitted, stamps showing dry print	
rows 9,10 phosphor band and dry print omitted	R4800
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The efforts of the Orange Free State to have its postal material printed at Enschedé

By W J Quik *FVZA, Netherlands*

IN THE COURSE of our earlier research in the Joh. Enschedé Museum we found four illustrations of stamps of the Orange Free State (OFS) together with related correspondence. At the time the aim of our research was a different one and we paid no further attention to this matter. We will now revert to it. The four Vürtheim illustrations are known world-wide, but nobody knows the history attached to them. The correspondence clearly indicates who made the first sketches and drawings.

Acting on complaints from the Government Secretary of the Orange Free State about the high production costs De La Rue charged for the printing plates (these amounted to thousands of pounds sterling), the consul-general of the Orange Free State, Dr Hendrik P Muller, wrote to Enschedé in July 1897 requesting them to investigate the possibility of printing postal material for the OFS. Since the government and the parliament were in two minds about the need to change printers, it took quite some time before a final decision was taken.

There was a considerable difference in the way the various stamp printers arrived at the prices they asked. De La Rue charged substantial sums for the manufacturing of the plates, but what did the additional costs consist of? Also, it is not known whether the base material for the plates was red copper or a softer kind of metal, such as zinc. A plate made of red copper is more expensive, and a greater quantity and better quality printings can be made from it than from a softer type of metal.

Enschedé charged a once-only sum for the printing plate. The costs of the material such as paper and printing ink were charged according to the amount of material used. In addition, a fixed amount was to be paid. We spotted an invoice of Bradbury Wilkinson sent to another postal administration. The amount to be paid was to an extent defined by the value of the stamp. The higher the stamp value, the higher the printing costs. It is clear that it was highly advisable for a postal administration to ask other printers for quotations.

Enschedé replied to this letter on 28 July 1897 announcing that it could quite well deliver at a lower price, and that when the Orange Free State would join the Universal Postal Union on 1 January 1898, it could provide the stamps required in a timely manner.

On 10 August 1897 the consul-general wrote the following letter. In it he supports Enschedé and promises to send it to Bloemfontein with his wholehearted recommendation:

's Gravenhage 4 Groot Hertoginnelaan,
10 Augustus 1897

Mijneheeren!

Ik had de eer Uwe Letteren van 28 Juli jl te ontvangen.

Inderdaad heb ik in last mijne Republiek ingaande 1 Januari 1898, aan te sluiten aan de Algemeenen Postbond.

Natuurlijk ben ik ook gaarne bereid de Nederlandsche nijverheid te steunen en mee te werken tot al wat Nederland nader tot Zuid Afrika kan brengen. Ik zal dus Uw brief naar Bloemfontein opzenden + ondersteunen.

Uw firma is van ouds in Zuid Afrika bekend. Toch acht ik het in het belang der welslaging raadzaam de vraag te stellen, of een eenvoudig aanbod in het algemeen, als in deze brief vervat, waarschijnlijk zal volstaan om den tegenwoordige leverancier te verdringen.

Onvangt, Mijneheeren, de betuiging mijner hoogachting,

De Consul Generaal v/d
Oranje Vrij Staat
Dr Hendrik P Muller.

On 16 August 1897 Enschedé sends a reply to the consul-general. Enschedé states that they print postal values for various foreign governments such as the Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek, Luxembourg and Persia. It is specifically added that, against a certain consideration, the Dutch Government Inspection Office will do a check of all printed matter and that the OFS could also employ its services. It is furthermore pointed out that the company is almost exclusively geared to the printing of money and valuables such as bank notes, bonds as well as postage and revenue stamps. Such printing of course requires an organised control system.

The sum charged for printing in one colour is 17 cents per 1 000 stamps, while the paper per 1 000 stamps costs 5 cents. Furthermore, in view of the very small printing order, a lump sum is charged of 20 guilders. The replacement of worn-out plates is included in this amount. Prices for postcards in one colour are as follows: for a postcard 1.90 guilders per 1 000 plus 20 guilders, for a reply cards 3 guilders per 1 000 cards plus 25 guilders. Cardboard costs are 2.28 guilders per 1 000 cards.

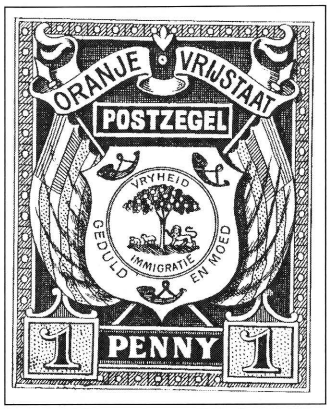
On 21 August 1897 the consul-general sends a postcard to Enschedé and asks for a copy of the letter of August 16 for his archives. This letter is remitted to him. He also asks for some samples of stamps. This request was not honoured as no stamps had been printed for the OFS so far. He voices his disappointment in a subsequent letter.

On 20 October 1897 the consul-general confirms in writing that the letter of 16 August 1897 carries his full support and that it has been sent to his government in Bloemfontein. Thereupon he receives the following letters. The postmaster-general of the OFS on 10 September 1897 writes to the consul that the decision has to be taken by the treasurer-general and that he has forwarded the letter to him with a strong recommendation on his part.

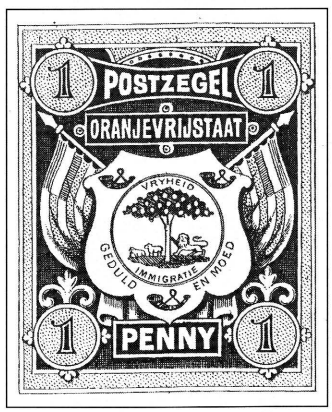
The treasurer-general himself remained indecisive too and forwarded the letter to the government, which on 27 September 1897 replied to the consul-general. The latter took a gloomy view of the end result knowing that the government had been doing business with De La Rue for many years already. De La Rue had already made printing plates of the ½d to 1 shilling stamps and of the post bank receipts ranging from 1 shilling to 1 pound sterling, and this would make it hard for the government to turn to other printers. At this stage no change of printer was considered, although this might be done when new types of stamps were to be introduced. Also it was emphasised that the quality of the material to be printed should by no means be inferior to that produced by De La Rue.

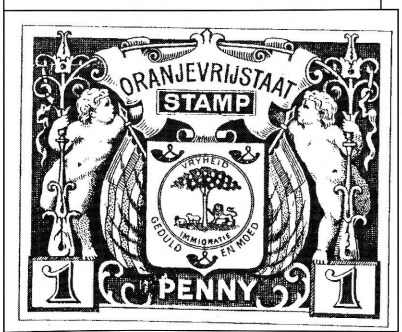
On 23 October 1897 Enschedé sent another letter to the consul-general in which, among other things, the company went more deeply into the ZAR issue. The general opinion in the OFS was that the quality of the stamps issued by the ZAR was lower than that of their own stamps. Enschedé points out that it is not the printer that is to blame but rather the poor design that was sent by the ZAR postmaster-general, I van Alphen. The ZAR design is discussed in the book *The remainders and the reprints of Transvaal 1910-1912*. Below is the complete draft letter that was

The four Vürtheim stamp designs for the Orange Free State over which so much haggling took place and which never saw the light of day, having been overtaken by the Anglo-Boer War.









sent by Enschedé on 23 October 1897.

H P N Muller
Consul-Generaal
Van den Oranje Vrijstaat

Weled. Gestr. Heer

Wij betuigen u in onze welgemeenden dank voor de moeite die ge u wel hebt willen geven in zaken de postzegels enz. voor de Oranje Vrijstaat. Met belangstelling namen wij kennis van uwe uitvoerige mededeelingen te dier zake.

Alhoewel blijkbaar vooralsnog het beoogde doel niet bereikt wordt, mogen wij niet afkeuren dat de Regeering der Republiek een leverancier, die haar tot haar tevredenheid sedert jaren bedient niet zoo maar afdankt. Wij gevoelen te zeer hoe ons zoo iets zoude grieven, dan dat wij daarop willen aandringen. Ook zal wellicht de omstandigheid dat het hier eene keuze tusschen een Engelschen en een Hollandsche industrie zou betreffen de zaak niet gemakkelijker maken. Misschien echter kan juist dit een reden zijn, dat de Regeering besluit hare leverantien in twee gedeelten gelijk waardig papier te verdelen en misschien is dan dit het tijdstip nu er vermoedelijk nieuwe typen b.v. briefkaarten nodig zijn er niet ongeschikt voor.

Eén uitdrukking in den brief van den Gouvernements Secretaris trof ons: de duizenden ponden die voor de platen der postzegels aan de Heeren de la Rue zijn betaald. Wat deze platen aangaat, zoo berekenen wij in den regel behalve de oorspronkelijke gravure die, als het geen portret geldt, op een ƒ600,- à ƒ800,- te stellen is, ƒ120,- voor elke waarde een tegemoetkoming in den aanmaak van de eerste drukplaten en verder niets. Voor duizenden ponden kan dus nog al iets gedaan worden.

De zegels van den Oranje Vrijstaat, die wij wel eens onder oogen kregen, droegen het kenmerk van in een degelijke werkplaats te zijn vervaardigd. Wij twijfelen echter geen oogenblik of wij zijn in staat dat even goed te doen. De fraaiheid van het zegel hangt voor een groot deel af van de teekening.

Deze is ons door de Regeering der Z. Afr. Republiek(lees I. van Alphen) verstrekt geworden en wat de uitvoering aangaat gelooven wij wel dat zij aan alle eischen voldoet.

Met belangstelling wachten wij thans af of wellicht nog nadere berichten te dezer dagen bij u zullen komen, en hopen wij dat uwe gewaardeerde stappen ten slotte nog eenig resultaat zullen hebben.

In elk geval betuigen wij u daarvoor nogmaals onzen bijzonderen dank.

Met de meeste hoogachting
Joh. Enschedé

The consul-general on 21 December 1897 expresses his gratitude for the kind letter of 23 October. He adds that this message had been received from Bloemfontein:

Bloemfontein
28 November 1897.

Naar aanleiding van Ued 's misfive van 29 October jl. heb ik de eer te doen dienen dat het niet gaan zal een 100 vel postzegels bij de heeren Enschedé & Zonen en de andere te Londen te laten drukken. Wat betreft de prijzen der platen waar naar de firma refereert, noemde ik in mijn misfive slechts enkele der zegels die door de firma de la Rue & Co gedrukt werden. Zij maken ook Maatzegels (Revenue Stamps) van een waarde van zes pence tot tien pond sterling.

(get.) De Gouvernement Secretaris.

On 13 February 1898 the consul-Ggeneral informs Enschedé that on 4 January 1898 he had received a letter from the postmaster-general to the effect that the government had decided that De la Rue should continue printing the present OFS stamps. However the postmaster-general will do his utmost to see to it to that future printing orders are granted to Enschedé.

When on 28 May 1898 the consul-general had returned to his native Bloemfontein, he extensively discusses with his government the possibility of changing printers. By exerting strong pressure he hopes to be successful. He again appeals to Enschedé to provide work of good quality and to quote rates cheaper than De La Rue's.

In spite of everything, the government and the parliament remained of the opinion that their stamps were more beautiful than those of the ZAR. One member of parliament had the audacity to express the view that the former ZAR stamps were not colourfast. He referred to the first issue printed by Enschedé when natural paint based inks were used. The mixing of colours was done by eye, which resulted in shades of colour. The second issue of 1894 and all subsequent issues were printed with synthetic pigments that were mixed according to recipe (by number) so that the colours were much more constant.

It is not uncommon for inks not being colourfast. In 1926 the 4d triangle stamp of South Africa and South West Africa was printed by Bradbury Wilkinson. A rich variety of shades exist. When having a closer look at the OFS stamps which, according to their spokesmen were of such a good quality, we see on the Stanley Gibbons that the 1868 1d issue has at least three shades and the 6d even four. The conclusion is that colour shades in the period under discussion are a quite normal occurrence and do not detract from the quality.

The Consul General furthermore states that by the end of August he would be back in The Hague so that orders, if any, would be made through him.

The consul -general on 23 September 1898 mentions that he had just returned to Europe and that he was extremely busy. Fur urgent matters he was most of the time available between 11 and 12 a.m. at the address Kneuterdijk 3, The Hague.

In the next eight months all is quiet and nothing happens. Then the consul-general sends a postcard cancelled on 24 June 1899 but already written ten days before in which he invites Joh. Enschedé on Monday between 10.30 and 11 a.m.

Finally some sort of result appears to have been achieved because on 23 July 1899 Vürtheim Sr. thanks Enschedé for the order, which he accepts, to make a design for the OFS stamp. When accepting this order Vürtheim was almost 91 years old. He

prided himself on keeping up with the times. In 1893 he retired from the company leaving his sons to continue the business. Still, Vürtheim makes the drafts and not his sons or his employees. The lithographic firm of Vürtheim was a fairly large company in its own right employing sufficient personnel to master all activities in the graphic techniques. On 29 July 1899 he writes to Enschedé that next to him is sitting a draughtsman who develops the four drafts on paper. Please see the following letter.

Rotterdam 29 Juli 1899

Weledelgestr. Heeren Mr. Joh. Enschedé & Zonen, Haarlem.

Hooggeachte Heeren,

Vermoedende, dat dit bericht U Weledelgestr. niet onwelgevallig zal zijn, heb ik de eer te melden:

Dat op dit moment mijn tekenaar, naast mij zitttende, bezig is, de door U gevraagde postzegels, naar mijn ontwerpen, in 't fijn te tekenen en dat ik hoop dezelven, na ontvangst Uwen bijval goedkeuring mogen kunnen vinden. Ik stel mij voor, dat de toezending einde der volgende week of in 't begin der daarop volgende, zal kunnen plaats vinden.

Gelukkig voor mij, gevoel ik mij nog in staat, bij mijn compositiën den ouden tijd met den nieuwen in vergelijk te kunnen brengen waardoor "het werk" mij lichter en zelf aangenamer vindt.

Ik heb de eer en beleefde groeten met de meeste hoogachting te zijn,

Uwedelgestr. den dien.

(get.) J. Vürtheim Sr.

On 3 August 1899, together with an accompanying letter, he submits the four drawings together with a photographic copy and a drawing reduced in size. From all the evidence it appears that there was quite some urgency in preparing the drawings. When on 8 August Vürtheim still had not received word from Enschedé he sends a telegram asking Joh. Enschedé for confirmation of receipt. The bottom left corner of the telegram carries this remark:

"Vürtheim Senior, Rotterdam
Parcel received, Mr Joh.absent
Further news after return
Eissanide" ....

Meanwhile, it is 6 September and a highly disappointed Vürtheim writes another letter to Enchedé complaining that he had heard nothing so far.

Rotterdam 6 September 1899

Weledelgestr. Heeren Mr. Joh. Enschedé & Zonen, Haarlem.

Hooggeachte Heeren,

Mijn vermoeden, dat de Uedelgestr. naar aanleiding van uw geacht verlangen den 5e Augustus U toegezonden tekeningen en Uwen bijval niet konden vinden, werd bevestigd, door Uwe volkomen onthouding van enige kennisneming mijner levering.

Ik meende mij te mogen vleien, Uwe goed- of afkeuring te mogen vernemen, na bijna 50 jaren Uwe belangen met hartelijke gevoelens betracht te hebben.

Met alle Hoogachting nemen wij
Uw edelgestr. uw dien.
w.g. J. Vürtheim Sr.

It is quite understandable that Vürtheim was furious now that no reply was forthcoming on his stamp designs. On the other hand, Enschedé was not in a position to give a reply since the OFS had not made up its mind. The OFS was about to be drawn into the Anglo-Boer War, hence the matter of stamp designs was pushed into the background. The state of mind in the ZAR was similar. In August a telegram was sent to Enschedé stating that all deliveries of printed postal matters should be stopped for the time being.

As a result of the long negotiation period in which to decide who would be given future printing orders as well as the greed for territory of the British, it never came to a stamp issue.

Vürtheim sr. died on 19 June 1900. In 1955 his company was taken over by a printing works in The Hague.

References

Joh. Enschedé Museum, Haarlem
The remainders and reprints of Transvaal 1910-1912, W J Quik and Dr G H Jonkers, 1998)

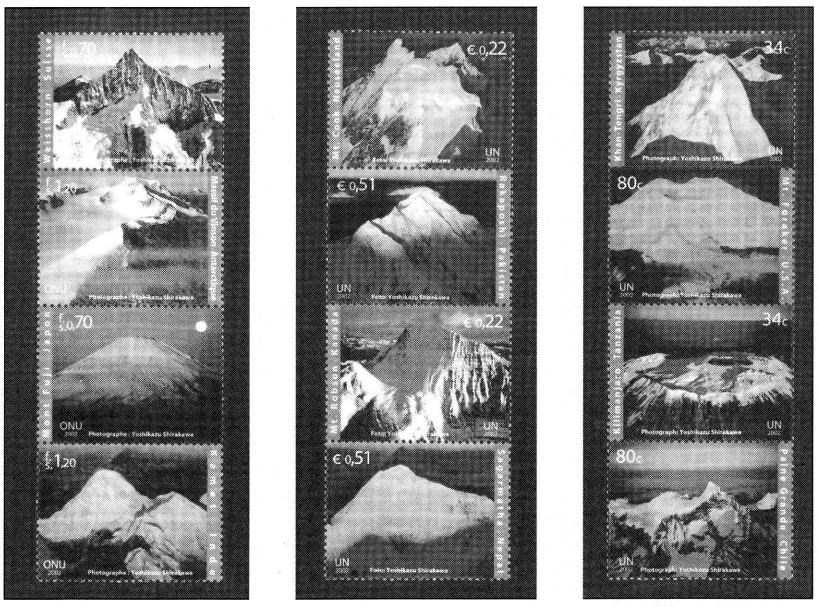
International Year of Mountains

THE UNITED NATIONS General Assembly has proclaimed 2002 the International Year of Mountains (IYM) to increase national awareness of the global importance of mountain ecosystems. And on 24 May 2002, the UN Postal Administration (UNPA) issued a commemorative set of three miniature sheets with 12 stamps each on the theme "International Year of Mountains" (IYM).

Mountains are the source of valuable resources such as water, energy and biological diversity as well as centers of culture and recreation. However, due to globalisation, urbanisation and tourism, mountain communities and the resources they depend on are being threatened.

The 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro placed mountains on an equal footing with climate change, tropical deforestation and desertification as a key issue in the global debate on environment and development.

In the years following the 1992 Earth Summit, a number of processes and activities related to preserving mountains have been initiated. For instance, the global Mountain Forum was founded in 1995 with the purpose of providing mutual support, information sharing and advocacy for mountain peoples and environments.



The following mountains are reproduced on the stamps:
34 cents: Khan Tengri, Kyrgyzstan
34 cents: Kilimanjaro, Tanzania
80 cents: Mount Foraker, USA
80 cents: Paine Grande, Chile
SFr0.70: Weisshorn, Switzerland
SFr0.70: Mount Fuji, Japan
SFr1.20: Vinson Massif, Antarctica
SFr1.20: Kamet, India
$0.22: Mount Cook, New Zealand
$0.22: Mount Robson, Canada
$0.51: Rakaposhi, Pakistan
$0.51: Sagarmatha, Nepal

An issue is born: The Rock formations of SWA – from conception to issue

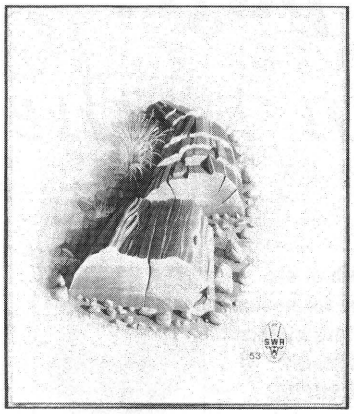
Excerpt from the *SWA Post Office Archives Handbook*
by **Steven Baker** (WPS)
with artwork by **Ismail Kajee** (NPS)

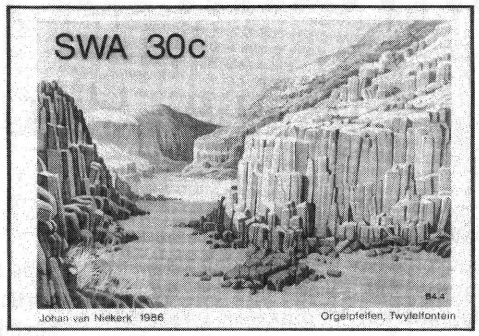
THE HISTORY of the creation of the 'Rock Formations' issue of SWA was recorded in the archives of the Post Office of the former South West Africa from conception to issue. This took the form of original artwork for the stamps, first-day cover and the philatelic bulletin. Then the stamps were proofed in uncut sheets of six panes each. They were sent to Intersapa for approval and were then printed and cut into sheetlets of ten stamps each.

The artwork of the stamps took the form of hand-painted essays, painted by Johan van Niekerk, on board in water colours. They were mounted on board and had overlays of clear plastic on which the wording and values was inscribed. The artworks measured 203 mm x 153 mm, there were four in total for the values 10c, 15c, 20c, and 30c. The scenes portrayed are of rock formations in the Namib desert.

The artwork for the first-day cover was also mounted on board but had no plastic overlay, the post office logo, and issue number 53 being on the artwork itself. The picture portrays a petrified tree and was also painted by Johan van Niekerk, although this was not indicated in any way.

The bulletin was laid out with blank spaces for the pictures of the stamps. Full colour photographic essays and colour transparencies represented these.





Left: Figure 1 – artwork of FDC.
Above: Figure 2 – artwork of 30c stamp.

The postmark (a special date stamp to be used on day of issue only at the Khorixas post office and for cancelling the first day covers) was also prepared.

The stamps were then prepared and printed by lithography, perforated but uncut, leaving horizontal and vertical gutter margins between the panes. The outlay allowed 15 horizontal gutters and eight vertical ones per sheet.

The proof sheets were duly cacheted and signed by Herman Steyn. This was done during 23–29 January 1986. Three uncut sheets were delivered to Intersapa, one sheet per value was signed, the remaining two were unsigned.

Finally the uncut sheets were guillotined into issue-size sheetlets. There were two lots of these sent to Intersapa for the records.

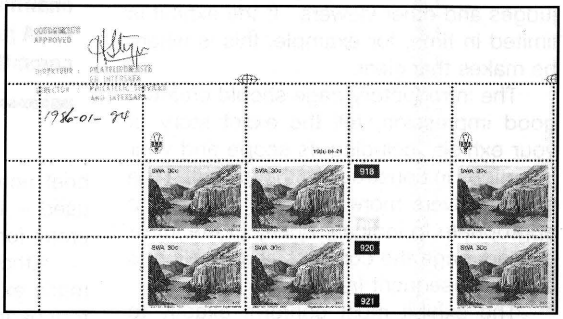
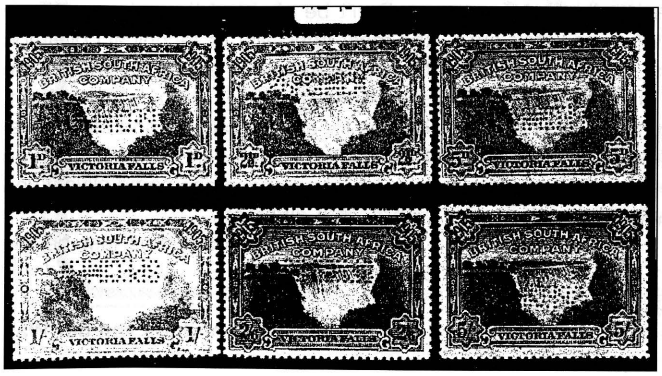


Figure 3 – The proof sheet is signed in the top left hand corner "Goedgekeur/ Approved – signed by H.Steyn 24/01/1986 Direkteur Intersafa/ Director Intersapa". Also illustrated is the gutter control between panes 1 and 2, of the uncut proof sheet. The outer margins were later guillotined when the sheets were cut into counter size panes of ten stamps. Issue date 24/04/1986.

AN UNUSUAL FIND

By Chris Cordes *Johannesburg Philatelic Society*

JUST WHEN you thought it was safe to go back into the water... Earlier this year, Philatelic Friends held one of their mega auctions and tucked away unnoticed amongst the Rhodesia section was a "specimen" set of the 1905 Victoria Falls issue.



So what? was my reaction, and the catalogue gathered dust until the next meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg – my habit is to take along the previous month's haul of auction catalogues to share with the members.

A last-minute flick though the pages (and pages) of black/white photographs and my eye was drawn to the picture of the "common" BSAC 1905 Victoria Falls 5d perforated "specimen". What then dawned on my addled brain was that it was a picture of a 5/= value perforated "specimen", not the 5d! A double take later and I was scanning the pages for the description and there it was – the FULL set perforated "specimen".

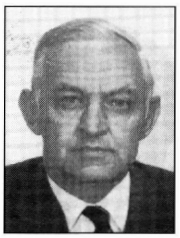
A hasty telephone call to Henk de Lange confirmed my suspicions – a new discovery in the 1905 Victoria Falls issue! So far as I am aware, this has not been previously recorded.

But, again, my luck held until the auction closed, and the lot was mine. The requisite certificate was obtained from the expert committee of the Philatelic Federation and my excitement knew no bounds!

There is a lesson here for all philatelists: We don't know everything and we certainly haven't seen everything! To quote Sherlock Holmes/Conan Doyle: "We see but do not observe".

Introductory page:

The Plan is the Thing



The fifth of six articles for novice exhibitors by the late Richard Knight RDPSA, chairman of the PFSA judging committee

SOME YEARS AGO it was made a requirement at national exhibitions, following the FIP ruling, that all exhibits should have an introductory page. The purpose of this is quite simple. In that page, the exhibitor lays out the parameters of his exhibit for the guidance of the judges and other viewers. If the exhibit is limited in time, for example, this is where he makes that clear.

The introductory page should create a good impression, tell the exact story of your exhibit, including its scope and your intentions in constructing the exhibit. If the exhibit covers more than one frame, it is appropriate to indicate briefly in the introductory page the contents and highlighrts of the subsequent frames.

The exhibit must conform exactly to the introduction; if a time span is specified in the introduction, then the exhibit must not stray beyond that time, nor must it omit material which would fall within the time frame – it is no good the introductory page saying that the exhibit covers the period 1800 to 1900 if the earliest item shown is 1810!

The information in the introductory page should also correspond with the descriptive entry in the exhibition catalogue; it does not have to be the same, but there should be no disparity. The introductory page may (but need not) contain a brief note of the major philatelic sources used – this may help to gain additional credit for knowledge and research.

Although – except in the case of thematic exhibits (see below) – the introductory page is not judged as such, it sets the parameters by which the rest of the exhibit is judged. The jury will read the title page to see what the exhibitor says he is trying to show in the exhibit and judge it on that basis; it is therefore a critical part of an exhibit.

In the case of thematic exhibits, the introductory page is, if that is possible, of even more importance. Normally referred to as *The Plan*, it defines the structure of the exhibit and its subdivisions and covers all major aspects relevant to the title. It should be entirely structured according to thematic criteria and the order of the main chapters and their subdivisions should demonstrate the development of the plan rather than list its main aspects.

The plan and title are evaluated considering the consistency between the plan and the title, the presence and adequacy of the plan page and the correct, logical and balanced structure into divisions and subdivisions and whether, and how adequately, it covers all major aspects necessary to develop the theme. Because of its importance, up to 15% of the total marks for a thematic are allocated to the plan.

The scope for an introductory page is enormous and it may take several attempts to prepare an introductory page which contains all the exhibitor wishes to say in one page. The introductory page is limited to one sheet (unless the exhibitor wishes to risk penalty) and the rigorous editing of one's initial thoughts is essential, particularly if one wishes to include a short bibliography, evidence of research, maps and other items which are acceptable.

At the same time, a successful introduction will make a great contribution to the exhibit, ensuring that the judges understand what the exhibitor is attempting and enabling them to judge how far he has succeeded.

Don't be afraid of the unknown

WRITING about various aspects of getting started in stamp collecting under the heading of "Beginners Corner", can be somewhat misleading. What at the end of the day is a "beginner"? Some may argue that we are addressing young people. Others may say that any person of any age who embarks on collecting stamps is a beginner.

Both statements are true. It may also be true that some of us, who have been collecting stamps for many years, continue to be "beginners". Not all of us collect the same stamps or subject manner for the rest of our lives. We may embark on a new collecting interest and then we become beginners again.

There is the old saying that you are "never to old to learn". When you start out you will make mistakes, and you will be disappointed; but that is all part of your philatelic education. You never stop learning. You must ensure that you always have a good general knowledge and be aware of new developments and changes taking place in the hobby.

And above all, don't ever believe that what you are collecting is ever fully complete. An item or some new information that may change the way in which you have put your collection together could still surprise you.

Don't be afraid of the unknown. Even the most specialist or technical collection that you may come across may have something that you could learn from. Always try and be original and innovative. Even the most mundane subject that you may be interested in can come alive if you approach it differently.

The end may sometimes just be the beginning.

– Andries van der Walt

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- **Robben Island's four centuries of postal history**
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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

Die Redakteur/The Editor

It is probably an inherent part of human nature that, when we think things are starting to go wrong, we get depressed. We give up all hope, and in the process we are no longer able to face the future in a positive way. We may also think that the problems that we have with our hobby are unique.

Not true – I know of other hobbies or pastimes that experience the same or even worse problems than ours.

The 64th annual congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa has come and gone. And during this congress the positives and the negatives were highlighted. Yes, we have major problems. But the fact that clubs' and societies' membership has decreased does not necessarily mean there are fewer collectors or that the future of the hobby may be in jeopardy.

Instead of feeling sorry for ourselves as collectors, the future is one that we can face with determination. It's not a problem; it's a challenge. Perhaps the one positive we have is that we should stop emphasising our problems and rather concentrate on the solutions.

Die feit dat die georganiseerde filatelie in dié land in a krisis verkeer, is geen rede waarom ons as versamelaars mismoedig hoef te word nie. Ja, dit is so dat die ledegetalle van klubs en verenigings afgeneem het, maar dis nie te sê dat daar skielik minder versamelaars in die land is nie.

Feit is dat ons die toekoms en die groei van ons stokperdjie as 'n uitdaging moet sien. As ons dít doen, sal ons vind daar is meer oplossings as probleme. Ons moet verby die negatiewe kyk.

As ons dit doen sal ons geen rede hê om mismoedig te wees nie en sal ons die toekoms met nuwe ywer aanpak. Die versamel van seëls hier en elders is nog ver van dood. Miskien sluimer dit effens, maar ons kan deur positiewe denke en optrede, dit weer nuwe lewe gee.

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

More on the 'rarest stamp issue'

A Leeflang, Veulenkamp 78, 2623 XG Delft, Holland, writes: I was surprised that there was no response by collectors anywhere to the marvellous article by Prof O de Jager and Dr H Kamffer on *The Rarest Stamp "Issue" of the Union of South Africa* (*SA Philatelist* 846, p 65-70). Except for Mr Hagger of course with a few remarks in SAP 848, but no new material was reported.

I enclose copies of some stamps in my *Experimental Vending Machines* collection:

- 6 x one-penny KEVII Kaap de Goede Hoop, guillotined top and bottom
- 1 x six-pence KEVII Transvaal, guillotined top and bottom
- 1 x half-penny KEVII Kaap de Goede Hoop "Cigarette-Duty", guillotined top and bottom
- 1 x 6-pence KEVII Kaap de Goede Hoop, slit along the long sides.



The one-penny Cape stamps in my collection are found with dates from 17 November 1911 until 12 January 1912 and a stray copy of 20 March 1912. This seems to fit with the dates I have of the one-penny Transvaal stamps: 15 January 1912 until 3 June 1912.

All the one-penny Cape and Transvaal stamps are postmarked in Cape Town.

My earliest date for a stamp from the experimental vending machines is, however, a Cape half-penny with 31 October 1911 and my latest is a Transvaal half-penny with 8 June 1912.

The other three stamps (I have no duplicates of those three) are shown because there is possibly much more to learn about this experimental period. The six-pence Transvaal has likely the Cape Town 3 postmark (no date decipherable) and the six-pence Cape has the Cape Town oval registered mark (Putzel 367) with a (19)05 date. The quality of the "Cigarette Duty" is poor.

The six-pence Cape doesn't of course belong to this group (1911–1913), but I have included the stamp because it is cut in such a way that it could be a forerunner of the coil era.

I would appreciate the opinions of Prof de Jager and Dr Kamffer.

bramleeflang~hotmail.com

Eric Etkin recovering

P D Wills, Director: Argyll Etkin Ltd, London, writes: As you may know, Eric Etkin suffered a stroke in June this year and he would be very grateful if you would publish this message: "I would like to thank all my philatelic friends who kindly wrote to me during my illness. I am making good progress, having regained my speech, and the prognosis is that I will be walking by Christmas."

Delayed flights

Bryan E Stokoe FRPSL, 3 St Mary's Square, Horncasatle, Lincolnshire, LN9 5HJ, writes: In your October 2002 issue the letter from Pauw Steyl, of George, came up with the answer to a problem I've been trying to solve for nearly two years (*Mossel Bay deviation,* p 127). Now I have three more related problems which I hope your readers may help solve – especially an old Peterborough, England, acquaintance of mine who now lives in Pietersburg, South Africa:

- AN210 - 1935: Why was the airliner Atalanta delayed at Pietersburg for nearly 24 hours?
- AS254 - 1935: Why was the airliner Almathea diverted to Worcester and delayed there for about 24 hours?
- AN267 - 1935: Again we have Almathea being diverted, this time to Brandt, and again why was the necessary?

Exchanges sought

Miriam Congedo writes from Italy: I am looking for material about turtles and tortoises – mint stamps, souvenir sheets, meter stamps, special cancellations etc. Also the postal history of Schilpadfontein (Transvaal). I am willing to exchange for topical Italian material – mint stamps, topical postmarks etc. Please contact me at miriam.con@email.it .

Ladislas Szegõ writes from Hungary: I found your address on the internet and decided to ask your help. I am now retired and so have more time for my hobby, stamp collecting. I would like to get exchange partners all over the world.

I collect used-single-nice stamps. I will reply to everyone and send as many stamps as I get, at once. My address is:

Ladislas Szegõ
XIV. Ond vezér road 19. I. 3.
1144 Budapest, Hungary.

Miroslav Legat writes: Being a serious philatelist, I am interested in exchanges with philatelists in your country. I can offer any mint stamps in complete sets, FDCs, etc of the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Czechoslovakia.

My e-mail address is:
m-legat@hotmail.com

Hilmar Goldschmidt writes from Leipzig, Germany: I am interested in stamped covers only by real post. I you can help me, please get in touch. My address is:

Hilmar Goldschmidt, Gaußstrasse 26, D-04179 Leipzig, Germany.

E-mail: hilmar.goldschmidt@freenet.de

ROWLAND REDMOND, a familiar figure and friend to all of us involved in organised philately in South Africa, passed away during November this year at the age of 75. Although not a collector himself, Rowland never failed to attend all philatelic gatherings or functions in support of his wife of 28 years, Jill Redmond RDPSA, administrative secretary of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa.

As the proverbial 'backroom boy' he helped in his quiet, unassuming way with administrative and other matters without ever actually intruding in the work done by Jill. He took over the financial running of Junass (the umbrella body for youth philately in South Africa) many years ago and filled the role of treasurer for two national shows on the East Rand in 1990 and again in 1994. His latest project was the stock and sales records of the Federation's publications.

We salute you, Rowland; and our sincerest condolences go out to Jill.

– Danny Swart

NEWS FLASHES edited by Andries van der Walt

Hong Kong 2004 Stamp Expo

The Editor received an interesting communication from the organisers of the Hong Kong 2004 Stamp Expo. The exhibition is to be held from 30 January to 3 February in the Hong Kong Exhibition Centre in Wanchai.

The theme of the exhibition is "Tourism". The organisers expect up to 250 000 visitors (220 000 visitors were recorded in 2001). The fringe programme includes a philatelic symposium, youth corner and a guided tour service to exhibits displayed. In 2001 11 000 people attended the youth corner.

It is being held under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately and it is the 17th Asian International Stamp Exhibition to be presented.

More information can be obtained on the exhibition website www.hongkong-poswtstamps.com.

The number of expected visitors of 250 000 makes one think, doesn't it?

Stanley Gibbons Monthly

The October 2002 issue on the *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* devotes a large section of the magazine to the celebration of the publication's 75th anniversary. Interesting is that in 1890 a Birmingham stamp dealer, Charles James Phillips, bought the business of Edward Stanley Gibbons. The various journals published by the two different companies at the time were amalgamated to form the *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* which, according to the article, is believed to be the world's first house journal. In 1905 a new title was launched alongside the journal – *The Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. The *Weekly's* circulation soon outstripped that of the *Journal* and reached between 13 000 and 14 000 copies by 1908.

But its success also proved its undoing and it was closed on 24 December 1910. The *Journal* re-appeared in January 1911. During the war years from 1914 to 1918 publication was suspended and it did not appear for five years. In September 1919 the *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Circular* made its appearance.

In October 1923 the *Monthly Journal* was resurrected. Despite its popularity with a circulation of 7 000, the magazine made its last appearance in September 1927. The first *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* was published in October 1927.

The name of the journal changed once more in June 1970 when the name "Gibbons" was dropped and it was just called *Stamp Monthly*. The name "Gibbons" returned unannounced in June 1977, the same year that saw the magazine celebrate its 50th anniversary. And it has not changed since.

Prof Harry E Reef

Years ago Prof Harry E Reef, professor in neurology at the Medical School of the University of the Witwatersrand was an active stamp collector in South Africa. In case some people have wondered what has happened to Prof Reef, he is now retired and lives in Perth, Western Australia.

In the latest edition of *Topical Time*, September/October 2002, Whole Number 315, the official journal of the American Topical Association, Dr Reef, as he is now known, is the author of a very interesting article *History of the Calendar*.

Interesting reading!

They're all battling

Don't think it's only the South African Post Office Ltd that is fighting for its economic survival, or that privatisation is the ultimate solution. If we look at the situation in Great Britain where the post office (or Royal Mail as it is once again called) was privatised many years ago, we will be surprised, or perhaps not, to learn that it made a loss of £1,1 billion. The British Post Office is currently looking at various ways of returning to profitability.

But then, in spite of its massive loss, it is spending some £5 million on advertising its philatelic products for 2002/2003. One of the aims of this advertising campaign is to promote the use among members of the public of special and commemorative issues on letters and other postal material. What we would not give to have even just a small slice of that budget!

Part of the recovery plan includes some 17 000 additional job cuts on top of the 13 000 earlier.

On the other side of the Atlantic, the United States Postal Services are also in deep financial trouble, but they have another problem. In hundreds of post offices in America, the postmaster is paid $70 000 per year, but as a result of the role of labour unions, they are not in a position to get rid of postmasters where post offices are no longer that busy.

And did you know that no stamps issued since 1861 by the USPS have been demonetised?

Slogan programme changed

The Post Office has given details of a change to the 2002 slogan programme. The original programme provided for the slogans "Use the Post Office's international mail service - your worldwide connection", "For quicker delivery, use Fastmail" and "Self-seal, postage-included envelopes - Available at post offices" to be used in that sequence in the three weeks from 16 September to 6 October.

These slogans were replaced for the period concerned by one reading "World Post Day - 9 October 2002".

Bedazzled by World Cup issue

In a recent TV interview, Barry Richards, one of the greatest batsmen ever to grace our cricket pitches, said that in order for cricket to remain competitive as a spectator sport, the governing body, the International Cricket Council, would have to take a serious look at introducing changes in the way the game is being played – especially as regards five-day tests.

In the interview, Richards referred to the Kerry Packer circus of some years ago and said Packer set the tone for the development of the one-day limited overs competitions. The one-day game with its brightly coloured clothing, night games, limited overs etc had become the mainstay of cricket, he said.

Looking at the first of the three issues for the World Cup to be played in South Africa from January until the end March in South Africa next year, it seems as if the United Cricket Board has taken a leaf out of Richards's book. The stamps depict an African zebra, dressed it in colourful clothing and made an all-round cricketer out of the animal.

The media release on the issue states: "Designed by Gavin Reddy from the agency TBWA, the mascot known as Dazzler is a caricature of an African zebra found in large groups in many parts of Southern Africa. The name Dazzler is derived from the collective noun for a group of "dazzle" zebra. The mascot represents the colour, vigour and texture of the vibrant African environment and provides a special sense of culture with the friendly, visible image of fun and light-heated cricket". Indeed!

If I did not have this typical advertising buff at my disposal I would never have been able to guess what a zebra and cricket had in common. Now I know. The ICC World Cup is going to be a lot of fun and light-hearted. I would have thought the idea is that it is a World Cup and that the teams competing would take the competition seriously!

One can only hope that the teams will play "dazzling" and entertaining cricket with that special sense of culture. And that the 2003 ICC World Cup will not turn out to be one big joke!

'Let's make the miracle happen!'

Aggressive campaigns to promote stamp collecting amongst all communities, new value-added products and collectibles, and improved relations with organised philately in South Africa – these are among the Post Office Philatelic Services' plans for the new year.

Reporting to the Philatelic Federation's annual congress, Johan van Wyk, acting senior manager of Philatelic Services, outlined a strategic plan which would play a leading part in "that miracle" (of infusing new growth in stamp collecting).

Van Wyk gave the following overview:

Highlights of the past year

• The launch of the Anglo-Boer/South African miniature sheets on 31 May at the Australian High Commission brought to a close the series of stamps issued to commemorate this historic event.

• A stamp was launched on 25 June 2002 to commemorate the establishment of the African Union in Durban. The actual launch was well attended by parliamentarians and a framed set of the stamp was presented to Deputy President Jacob Zuma.

• The biggest highlight of the year was Philatelic Services' involvement with the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. It started with the initial planning for the issue of the first set of stamps, then the actual involvement with the very large Post Office team to get everything in place, the issue of the second set of stamps and the Summit itself, with post offices at the Sandton library and the Ubuntu Village. For everybody involved, this was an experience that they would not forget in a hurry.

• The dust had not quite settled after the Summit when we launched the first of three sets of stamps on 23 September in anticipation of the Cricket World Cup in 2003. Logistically a larger event than the Summit, actions are starting to fall into place to also make this a memorable occasion for the Post Office.

• A double-page spread in the Sowetan of 25 September 2002 introduced stamp collecting to communities that might have previously been excluded from this interesting hobby.

• We attended philatelic exhibitions at the SAPDA exhibition in Rosebank and the Pretoria show. These exhibitions were held very close to the World Summit and had the Philatelic Services team running on all cylinders.

• Four Post Office trucks were used to market postage stamps in the larger cities in the country.

Still to come this year

The following stamps will be issued before the end of this year –

- World Post Day
- Steve Biko
- Algoapex 2002 and Junass
- The last two sets of cricket stamps
- The Year of the Goat
- Christmas stamps
- Aids
- A miniature sheet for the solar eclipse on 4 December

Problems

We have had a number of technical problems this year and we are aggressively addressing these problems. Issues that are receiving urgent attention include the late issue of stamps, the appointment of staff to critical vacancies and a study to print stamps again in South Africa. I ask the forbearance of congress members as we have set ourselves a target date of the end of the year to solve these problems.

The road forward

In the June 2002 edition of *The South African Philatelist*, the editor suggested that the hobby of stamp collecting was in a crisis and that it would only survive and grow – by some sort of miracle – if philatelists were prepared to play a role in making it happen. The strategic business plan being prepared by Philatelic Services and the execution of the proposed actions aim to play a leading part in that miracle.

The opportunities for Philatelic Services in South Africa and the rest of the continent are incredible. Plans that are on the table, but that will only be introduced in the second quarter of 2003, include –

- increased representation by Philatelic Services in Post Office regional offices;
- additional focus on the educational, historical and artistic values of stamps;
- aggressive marketing and communications campaigns to increase the awareness of stamps and stamp collecting amongst all communities;
- new value-added products and collectibles;
- improving relationships with other postal administrations; and
- increased attendance of relevant educational, historical and artistic organisations.

Arrangements for the appointment of the Stamp Advisory Committee are in an advanced stage and will be announced shortly.

Message from

Herbie Schaffler

newly elected president of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa



Firstly, I would like to thank delegates at the 64th annual congress in Port Elizabeth for their confidence in proposing me as president for the year 2002/2003. I shall endeavour to serve the philatelic community to the best of my ability and to promote philately in all its facets. I would like to thank the outgoing president, Richard Johnson, for the hard work and dedication which he put into Federation during his year in office, in addition to serving on the organising committee for the Algoapex Philatelic Exhibition in Port Elizabeth during October 2002. He had a difficult year with a number of problems, which he handled with enthusiasm, commitment, vigour and fairness. He was required to attend an abnormally high number of Federation general and management meetings at which the issues were addressed.

The Philatelic Federation now has a revised constitution, approved at a general meeting in August 2002. Peter van der Molen RDPSA, chairman of the management committee, and his team members are to be congratulated on the hard work, long hours, patience and perseverance put in on a voluntary basis for guiding the changes through a rather lengthy process. I believe that the amended constitution is a vast improvement and will pave the way into the future for philately and stamp collecting in South Africa.

Two constitution changes are worth noting. Firstly, there are five affiliation categories, namely local societies (headquartered in South Africa), junior societies, external societies (not headquartered in South Africa), the Postal Administration and the South African Dealers' Association. Of particular relevance is that specialist societies, study groups, stamp circles and the like now enjoy the same status as normal philatelic societies and stamp clubs.

Secondly, non-home membership of societies and the accompanying affiliation fee as a non-home member are no longer applicable. Each philatelist will be required to select a home society and will affiliate and receive *The SA Philatelist* via that society. Should a philatelist choose to join a second society as an "ordinary" member, no additional affiliation fees will be payable to Federation.

The Algoapex National Stamp Exhibition and Junass 2002 in the Tsitsikamma Conference Centre in Broadwalk, Port Elizabeth during October 2002 were an astounding success. It is doubtful whether a more beautiful venue in such a magnificent setting will be found elsewhere in the country. The organisation of the exhibitions was outstanding and in the main the exhibits were top class. Congratulations to the organisers and to the trophy and medal winners.

As usual SAPDA dealers were represented in force, including a number from overseas. The 64th congress was well attended with adequate participation by delegates. Congratulations go to Jonas Michelson RDPSA, honorary life president of Federation, on his 50th congress attendance, and to John Sandilands and Wikus van Heerden on being invited to sign the Roll of Honour. The Palmares Banquet was a splendid affair, well attended, and with a most eloquent guest speaker.

The National Exhibition in 2003 is to revert back to Gauteng to be held at Melrose Arch during October. It will be under the auspices of the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society with Patrick Flanagan as chairman of the organising committee. Patrick has already outlined a few of his novel ideas for the exhibition, which promised to be a splendid affair. It is hoped that a one-frame class will be introduced. In keeping with international standards in most countries, perhaps we need to consider the introduction of 16-page frames. New frames would of course be required.

Although there are many extremely active and keen philatelists in South Africa, as is evident from the over-subscription at ➤➤➤➤

Congress gives motions the thumbs up

The 64th congress of the Philatelic Federation this year had to deal with three motions. Two of these motions were pre-sanctioned by the management committee to serve before congress and one came from the floor.

The first motion dealt with standing committees and the position of the chairpersons of such committees. At Congress in 2001 a motioned was carried that allowed special interest groups like thematics, postal history, aerophilately, etc to form standing committees. The chairpersons of these groups would then, according to the 2001 motion, each have a seat on the Management Committee.

Dr Alan Rose, a vice-president of the Federation, proposed the motion to revoke the previous decision. It was not clear why this motion was necessary at all because the new constitution adopted by management during September 2002 does not allow chairpersons of standing committees to serve on the Management Committee.

The motion as put by Dr Rose was, nevertheless, tabled by the President, Richard Johnson. Strong opposition came from Captain Robert Harm, representing Thematics, and the Federation's archivist, the Rev Cassie Carstens. The motion as put by Dr Rose was carried by a majority vote.

The second motion asked congress to appoint an ad hoc committee to assist with promoting philately. The motion, proposed by Andries van der Walt, was tabled in his absence since he was unable to attend. There was a concern from the Management Committee that a special committee to assist in promoting the hobby might turn into a 'Trojan Horse'. Eventually the new public relations and promotions chairperson, Pat Flanagan, agreed that he would discuss the contents with Andries van der Walt.

The last motion came from the floor. When the treasurer, Howard Green, presented his report it transpired that the books of Federation was stolen from the car of the auditor. He explained that the financial statement presented to Congress was a reconstruction based on available vouchers.

Capt Robert Harm queried the increase in payments according to the statements. The secretary, Jill Redmond, left the meeting at this stage. Harm explained that he would like the reason behind the increases to be explained to Congress.

The treasurer explained that both the secretary and the editor of *The SA Philatelist* received payments way below what was market related. Lappe Laubscher, representing the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria, then proposed that the Management Committee should be asked to look at payments with the view to bring them in line with market rates. This proposal was supported by Peter van der Molen, chairman of the Management Committee, and was carried by the Congress.



Richard Johnson RDPSA receives the SA Post Office Shield from Mrs Elizabeth Strachan, widow of the late Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society chairman T J Strachan. The award was for the best exhibit: SA philately, entitled "Cape of Good Hope: Postal History of the Eastern Frontier", exhibited by Messrs C and R Johnson.

Congress Awards

Articles in *SA Philatelist*, Jun 2001 – April 2002

June 2001:

1. Prof O C de Jager and Dr H J G Kamffer RDPSA: *The Rarest Stamp 'Issue' of the Union of South Africa*

2. Prof O C de Jager: *The Sunday Fee for Overseas Mail from Durban and Pietermaritzburg*

August 2001 to February 2002:

1. Mark Piper: *Cuban Mails in Angola 1975-1991* (series of four articles)

2. Leo Crandel: *Die Briefkaarte van de Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek* (series of four articles)

October 2001:

Joh Groenewald RDPSA: *When the French fought on the Boer side*

December 2001:

Prof Rory Ryan: *Observations on the Provisionals of British Bechuanaland*

February 2002:

Wobbe Vegter: *Cyberphilately: How it all began*

April 2002:

1. Pat Carter: *Sixth Definitive Series of the Republic of South Africa*

2. Brian Trotter and Tony Chilton: *The Stamp Booklets of Natal*

Regular contributors to *SA Philatelist*

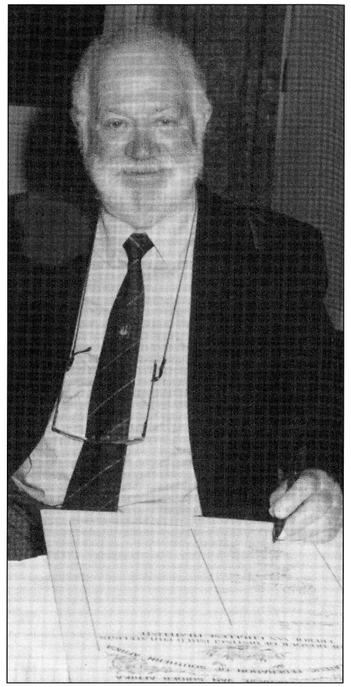
1. Neville Gomm
2. Ds J Cassie Carstens
3. Posthumously: Richard Knight for his series *Beginners Corner*

Other publications

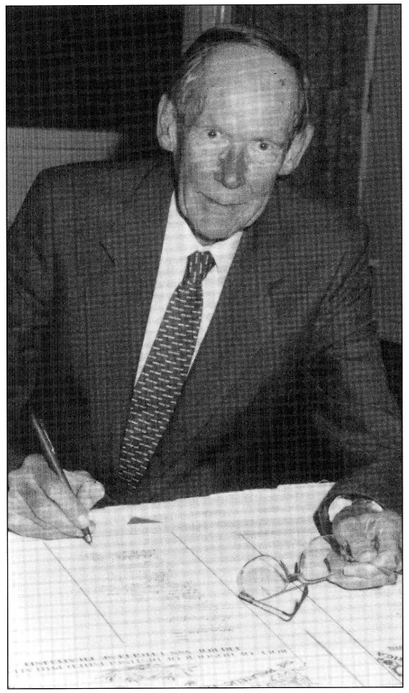
1. Tom Mullins: *The Stampless Air Mail Letter Cards & Air Letters used by SA Troops 1941-1945*; monograph published by the Philatelic Federation as a supplement to *The SA Philatelist*, 77/2, April 2001
2. Brian Trotter and Neville Midwood: *Revenues of Southern Africa: Part 1, The Bechuanalands*, published May 2002 (presented to members of the Bechuanalands & Botswana Society free with *Runner Post*, Issue 55, May 2002.

Federation plaques

1. W A (Bill) Meintjies for his work with youth in the Pretoria area
2. Ds Cassie Carstens for his on-going service to philately in Southern Africa especially for youth and thematics
3. Gawie van der Walt for his on-going service to philately over a broad field especially as past president for outside terrirories and as awards custodian
4. Henry Berneaud for his long years of service to philately in the Western Cape (over 50 years).



Wikus van Heerden signs the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa. His OFS/ORC collection and his very specialised study of OFS Revenues has brought him a number of gold and large gold medals at local and international exhibitions.



John Sandilands can now also write RDPSA after his name, having signed the Roll of Honour. He is best known for his postal history studies of the Anglo Boer War which have brought him a number of top awards at national and international level.

Sandilands and Van Heerden invited to sign Roll of Honour

TWO of the country's foremost philatelists, John Sandilands and Wikus van Heerden, were invited to sign the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa (RDPSA) at Algoapex in Port Elizabeth. They were John Sandilands, president of the Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa, from Pretoria, and Wikus van Heerden, member of the OFS Study Circle.

It was probably not by design that both signatories practised as architects.

John Sandilands has been chairman of the Postmark and Postal History Society for the past ten years. He is best known for his postal history studies of the Anglo Boer War which have brought him a number of top awards at national and international level.

Most noteworthy among these were the Anglo Boer War Trophy and the Postmaster General's grand prix award in Bloemfontein in 1995. He has also exhibited overseas.

His contributions to *The SA Philatelist* and the *Anglo Boer War Philatelist* as well as his excellent research, was recognised at the 2001 Congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa when he was presented with the Manfred Weinstein medallion.

He has also served on a number of national juries.

Wikus van Heerden is a relative "newcomer" to philately as he only started collecting seriously when he was in his forties. His collecting interest was sparked off when he purchased a collection of Orange Free State stamps.

His OFS/ORC collection and his very specialised study of OFS Revenues has brought him a number of gold and large gold medals at local and international exhibitions. He has been a member of the OFS Study Circle since 1972 and contributes regularly to its journal, and a book on the revenues is due for publication.

He has also served as a member of various juries at national exhibitions and as member of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation.

Skinner Cup

Richard Stroud of the United Kingdom and member of the Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society and the OFS Study Circle was presented with the Skinner Cup, the second highest award that can be given by the Philatelic Federation.

Richard is a champion of Southern African philately in the United Kingdom. He edits the Anglo Boer War Society's journal and has been secretary of the OFS Study Circle since 1978. He was the author of *Ceylon/The camps for Boer Prisoners of War 1900 to 1902/Their Postal History* published by the ABWPS in 1989.

W E Lea Cup presented to Emil Minnaar for meritorious service to philately in South Africa, especially as Chairman of the Audio Visual Committee over many years and his more recent application to developing the Federations website and computer systems.

J Harvey Pirie Memorial Award for Literature was awarded to John Dickson and Keith Hanman for their publication "The Postal Stationary of Natal".

Manfred Weinstein Medallion – Tim Bartshe (USA)

Transvaal Study Circle Gold Award went to Prof Okkie de Jager and Dr H J G Kamffer RDPSA for their article on the "Fleischack Versameling" in *The SA Philatelist*, April 2002.

➤➤➤➤ Algoapex, generally members at societies are growing older and numbers are reducing. Up and coming juniors are required to replace them. Jill Redmond RDPSA and youth leaders give up many hours of their free time to assist juniors. According to Jill:

"There is not a shortage of interest amongst juniors. There is a shortage of adults willing to give up a day or two per month to run or help run a youth stamp club." Most disappointing is that there is not a single youth club in Johannesburg. The closest extremely active club is in Nigel, ably run by Lesley Leesman and Charles Rogers. This is an area of philately that needs particular attention if the hobby is to survive, and it will survive.

The "new look" *SA Philatelist*, the official mouthpiece of the Federation, is alive and strong. The consultant editor, Andries van der Walt, is to be complimented on the standard being introduced into the magazine. It contains a mix of articles, not only for the specialist philatelist, but also for the ordinary stamp collector in terms of thematics and popular subjects. Despite personal appeals by the editor, very few philatelists and members of societies volunteer contributions for the magazine. Remember, this is *your* magazine. Please contribute! Perhaps the time is right to relook at the economics of a wider distribution of the magazine or selling the magazine at leading bookstores?

Philatelic Services, under the wing of the acting senior manager, Johan van Wyk, had a busy year with a number of highlights, including issuing of the Anglo-Boer War miniature sheets, the African Union, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the first set of World Cricket stamps and others. Of concern and being addressed is the late issuing of stamps. Philatelic Services plan to introduce a number of opportunities and initiatives, which unfortunately will not be in place until the 2nd quarter of 2003.

Printing of stamps in South Africa once again is being considered. Also to be addressed on an urgent basis is the approval of the Stamp Advisory Committee and the stamp programme for 2003.

On the international philatelic front, South African philatelists performed well in Philakorea 2002 in Seoul and we wish our juniors well in the España 2002 International Youth Exhibition in Salamanca later this month.

Particularly active in philately is *Thematic South Africa (TSA)*, an initiative to promote thematic philately, ably run by Robert Harm, Gerrie Conradie and Rev Cassie Carstens. Thematic philately is certainly catching on in South Africa as it offers a myriad of collecting possibilities at prices substantially less than those for classical stamps. During the past year, TSA sponsored a number of mini thematic exhibitions, mainly at shopping and other centres in the Pretoria area. The highlight of the year was ClubTheme 2002 held in Kimberley. Arrangements are already in place for ClubTheme 2003 in Polokwane (Pietersburg). TSA is to be complimented on their monthly mini-publication, *ThemNews*, promoting thematic philately, the art of philately.

Rev Cassie Carstens is the Federation archivist to address the effective safekeeping of the archival material of the Federation and its affiliated societies. The first bulletin was issued in July 2002. I would request that societies take heed of Cassie's requests as already so much philatelic archival material has gone astray and is lost forever.

Effective communication with members of societies is and has always been an area of concern. The role of the regional vice-presidents is absolutely vital in this regard. It is through these channels that Federation management reaches society members and society members can reach Federation management. Minutes of Federation management meetings are now being circulated to all societies for information. Perhaps they should also be published in the SA Philatelist.

In conclusion, I would like to remind you that the hobby of philately and stamp collecting remains the most popular hobby in the world and it is up to each and everyone of you to promote the hobby and most of all enjoy every minute of it.

– Herbie Schaffler

Jury Report

Firstly I would like to thank the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society as organisers of Algoapex for the superb venue and facilities that they made available for the jury and for the smooth organisation of the show as a whole. Our thanks to the sponsors: The South African Post Office, Spink of London and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa for making the exhibition possible.

My thanks also to all the members of my jury who gave of their time to judge the exhibits and for once again being available to share their knowledge with the broader philatelic community. We are especially grateful to the overseas members of the jury – Tim Bartshe (USA), David Parsons (UK) and Gary Brown (Australia) for sharing their talents with us and helping to expand our judging experience.

I am pleased to report that our apprentice jurors all fared well and I am happy to recommend to the Judging and Ethics Committee that they be accorded full accreditation in their fields:

David Dowie-Dunn
Patrick Flanagan
Brian Fenemore
Louis Kingma
Friedhelm Beck

In accordance with the current guidelines for the continuing re-accreditation of jurors the following jury members exhibited in the Court of Honour. Their exhibits have been deemed, by their peers and the Judging and Ethics Committee, to be of a standard that allows for their accreditation to be extended for a further five-year period.

Emil Bührmann
Coen Slagt RDPSA
Anne Marie Wigmore
Henk de Lange

We were happy to be able to award 7 Large Gold and 13 Gold medals for competitive entries to the exhibition and feel that the general standard of the exhibits at Algoapex was high. Literature entries were of a particularly good quality, whilst the overall level of the Thematic class was disappointing.

The following exhibits were moved from their original classes:

- Frames 66-68 moved from Postal History to Open class
- Frames 139 –144 moved from Postal History to Traditional
- Frames 225-228 moved from Thematic to Open Class

In closing I would like congratulate the PE Philatelic Society on a friendly and successful show in their 90th anniversary year and most of all thank the exhibitors for taking part and sharing their exhibits with us.

– David Crocker RDPSA
Jury chairman

LIST OF AWARDS

FLOATING TROPHIES

The President's Trophy (Grand Prix):
South African Airmails — Polakow, Mr N E
SA Post Office Shield (best exhibit SA philately):
Cape of Good Hope: Postal History of the Eastern Frontier — Johnson, Messrs C & R
SA Stamp Study Circle Award (best SA exhibit after 1910):
The Union 2d Rotogravure Pictorial Stamps 1931-1952 — Tonking, Mr M J H
Anglo-Boer War Society Cup (best Anglo-Boer War exhibit):
The Boer Invasion of the Northern Cape, Sieges and Relief — du Plessis, Mr B L
DG Crocker Cup (best postal history exhibit):
Mozambique - Postal History Prior to Airmail — Wakely-Smith, Mr S R
Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup (best thematic exhibit):
Females Exposed — Olinger, Mr H
Potch 78 Award (best exhibit Post-WWII):
Germany: Allied Occupation, Anglo-American Zone, Bi-Zone — Zinke, Mr R E
FAK Trophy (best with write-up in Afrikaans):
Suid-Afrika en die Tweede Wêreldoorlog — Laubscher, Mnr H P
CED Enoch Trophy (best philatelic research:)
Some Postal Rates, Charges & Fees in the Union Period — Amoore, Mr H T
Vrijstaat Award (best Orange Free State exhibit):
OFS Briefkaarte — Van Heerden, Mr W
Stampcor Trophy (best Pre-Union exhibit):
Cape of Good Hope: Gems of the Handstruck Period — Johnson, Messrs C & R
Jonas Michelson Literature Award (best literature):
The Postal Stationery of Natal — Dickson, J & Hanman, K
Rose Marie Crocker Bowl (best SWA exhibit):
SWA Postmarks and Postal History — *Raehs, Mr C*
Terence Radue Award (best foreign exhibit):
Moçambique - Postal History Prior to Airmail — Wakely-Smith, Mr S R
Dawie Uys Memorial Award (best aerophilately exhibit):
British & Associated Airmails 1936-1946 — Redmond, Mrs J D RDPSA
The Society of Israel Philatelic Award (best Israel / Holy Land exhibit):
Not awarded
The East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy (best First-time exhibit):
Suider-Afrika se Ornitologiese Skatte — Buys, Mnr C
The SAPRG Archie Atkinson Trophy
(best picture postcard exhibit of Southern Africa):
An Early Southern African Maritime Matrix — Flack, Mr G V H
The Total Stampex 95 Trophy
(best exhibit from an area outside SA with at least a vermeil):
Belgian Congo - a Postal History 1872-1960 — Swart, Mr D T RDPSA
The Picture Postcard Thematic Cup (best postcard exhibit not Southern Africa):
The Congo: an example of Africa's distinctive dynamism — van Zeyl, Mr P
David de Villiers Display Trophy (best presented competitive exhibit at the show):
The Boer Invasion of the Northern Cape, Sieges & Relief — du Plessis, Mr B L

NON-FLOATING TROPHIES

Royal Medallion (best British Commonwealth exhibit):
Tasmania - The Sideface Issue 1870 – 1907 — Manning, Mr B
Rhodesia Award (best Rhodesian Eexhibit):
Northern Rhodesia 1924-64 — Polakow, Mr N E
ZAR 100 Award (foreign exhibit of sufficiently high standard):
Belgian Congo - a Postal History 1872-1960 — Swart, Mr D T RDPSA
Rand 77 Award (at the discretion of the Jury):
Revenue Stamps of the Transvaal 1900-14 — Trotter, Mr B J
Die AFV Eretoekenning (at the discretion of the Jury):
Anglo Boer War POW Camps in India — Zerbst, Dr N J
The Ilsapex '98 Award (at the discretion of the Jury):
The Postal Stationery of Basutoland — van der Molen, Mr P W RDPSA
The East London Philatelic Society Trophy
(best thematic exhibit from the Eastern Cape):
Shells: an illustrated guide to a timeless, fascinating world — Colquhoun, Mrs G E
The Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society Prize
(best country exhibit from the Eastern Cape):
Cape of Good Hope: Gems of the Handstruck Period — Johnson, Messrs C & R

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

LARGE GOLD

Johnson, Messrs C & R	Cape of Good Hope: Gems of the Handstruck Period
Johnson, Messrs C & R	Cape of Good Hope: Postal History of the Eastern Frontier
Raehs, Mr C	SWA Postmarks and Postal History

64th congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

Swart, Mr D T RDPSA	Belgian Congo - a Postal History 1872-1960
Wakely-Smith, Mr S R	Moçambique - Postal History Prior to Airmail
Polakow, Mr N E	South African Airmails
du Plessis, Mr B L	The Boer Invasion of the Northern Cape, Sieges and Relief

GOLD

Tonking, Mr M J H	The Union 2d Rotogravure Pictorial Stamps 1931-1952
Cox, Mr A T	Swaziland
Manning, Mr B	Tasmania - The Sideface Issue 1870 – 1907
Polakow, Mr N E	Northern Rhodesia 1924-64
Amoore, Mr H T	Some Postal Rates, Charges & Fees in the Union Period
Zerbst, Dr N J	Anglo Boer War POW Camps in India
Thompson, Mr H G	South West African Postal History 1914 to 1939 - Implementation and Improvisation during a period of change
Trotter, Mr B J	Revenue Stamps of the Transvaal 1900-14
v d Molen, Mr P W RDPSA	The Postal Stationery of Basutoland
du Plessis, Mr B L	Die Draak Steek met Poskaarte in die Anglo-Boereoorlog 1900-1902
Flack Mr G V H	An Early Southern African Maritime Matrix
Dickson, J & Hanman, K	The Postal Stationery of Natal
Frescura, Dr F	The Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1910

LARGE VERMEIL

de Villiers, P & Herselman, J C	The Introduction of the Hyphen to the Roto Pictorials
Wolmarans, Dr D J	The Unhyphenated 1d Ship Rotogravure Stamps of the Union of South Africa - sheet, coil & booklet format
Cronje, Dr J D E	Southern Nigeria
Matheson, Dr I A	Kelantan
1Zinke, Mr R E	Germany: Allied Occupation, Anglo-American Zone, Bi-Zone
Bakker, Mr J A	Early Postal Markings on Prestamp Mail between Holland, France & Great Britain 1706-1852
Redmond, Mrs J D RDPSA	British & Associated Airmails 1936-1946
Bromser, Mr & Mrs C & S	Movers and Shakers of the Millennium
Smith, Mr J R	Out of Africa QEII
Wessels, Mev M C	Op die Bermudas beland – Ds J A van Blerk
Bartshe & Hisey, Messrs RT	Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol 1, The Postage Stamps
B Trotter & N Midwood	Revenues of Southern Africa Part 1 - The Bechuanalands

VERMEIL

Welling, Mnr CF	Transvaal
Minnaar, Mr E J	Bavaria
Colquhoun, Mrs G E	Postmarks of Port Elizabeth
Porter, Mr R N	Postal Stationery of Natal: a Postal History
van den Hurk, Mr G J RDPSA	South Africa at War 1975-1990
Bakker, Mr J A	Early postal markings on Prestamp Mail between Holland & Belgium 1677-1839
Kussing, Mr H E	Germany – The Postal Rates during the Inflation Period from 1919-1923
Kilroe, Mr J G	Aspects of Airmail Development in and between the UK and South Africa
Bantz, Dr H U	Keetmanshoop – a Stroll through its Postal History
Laubscher, Mnr H P	Suid-Afrika en die Tweede Wereldoorlog
Bush, Mr A A	A Depicted Synopsis of Deltiological Jargon
van Zeyl, Mr P	The Congo: an example of Africa's distinctive dynamism
Colquhoun, Mrs G E	Port Elizabeth in Bygone Days
Walker, Mr M J	Three Postcard Journeys
Visser, Prof A T & Putzel, R	Postmarks of South Africa Vol 8 (O,P,Q)
Mullins, Judge T M	The Active Service Letter Cards, Airmail Letter Cards and Airletters used in South Africa, South West Africa and the High Commission Territories during 1939 to 1945
Visser, Prof A T & Putzel, R	Postmarks of South Africa Vol 9 (R & S)
Janse van Vuuren, Mrs R	Philatelic Federation of South Africa Web Site

LARGE SILVER

Schmidt, Mr R	A Study of the Sixth Definitive Series 1993-2000
Duncan, Mr A E	Forerunners of Papua New Guinea
Koyd, Mr M A	Rhodesia: Mardon Definitives 1966-1969
Retief, Dr D J	Togo – Stamps and Postal History
Woolford, Mr J V	Rhodesia to 1924
Cordes, Mr C	Czechoslovakian Stamps issued in 1920
von Grutter, Mr G V	German South West Africa
Gardiner, Mr S E	Forerunner Postal History of Basutoland
Botha, Mev H H	O Die Donkie
Buys, Mnr C	Suider-Afrika se Ornitologiese Skatte
Olinger, Mr H	Females Exposed
Doherty, Mr B	Union of South Africa Postal Cards 1927-1953
Howard, Mr R M	Revenue Stamps & Documents of the Rhodesias
van Heerden, Mr W	OFS Briefkaarte

• ***Continued on next page***



Neville Polakow, chairman of the organising committee for Algoapex 2002, receives the President's Trophy (Grand Prix) for his exhibit "South African Airmails" from Mrs Elizabeth Strachan.



The David de Villiers Display Trophy for the best-presented competitive exhibit at the show went to Mr B L du Plessis for his exhibit on "The Boer Invasion of the Northern Cape, the Sieges and their Relief".

Thompson, Mr H G	South West African Airmails in the 1930s
van Zeyl, Mr P	The Voortrekker Monument Issues: exploring the sould of a nat
Hanson, Mr J D	Postcards of the Channel Islands
Stroud, Mr J R	The Orange Free State Bulletin (Year 2001)
Stroud, Mr J R	The Anglo-Boer Philatelist (Year 2001)

SILVER

Genge, Ms E A	Printer's Dilemma – The 1937 Coronation Issues
Kajee, Mr I	South West Africa
Miles, Mr L	Bechuanaland
Spitzer, Mr T R	The German Reich 1919-1945
Chemanais, Mr J A	The Interprovincial Periods: 161910-31121937
Colquhoun, Mr G E	Shells: an illustrated guide to a timeless and fascinating world
Napier, Mr D	The Pioneer Flights of Africa
Crawford, Mrs M	The Life of Lily Neizel (1900-1910)
Polakow, Mr N E	Aero Letter No 90 (May 2002)

SILVER BRONZE

Cheminais, Mr J A	Railway Posts of the Orange River Colony
van Rensburg, Mr F	Rhino Standardised Mail Stamp Booklets of the RSA
de Jager, Prof O C	Late Fees of the Union of South Africa
Miles, Mr D L	Cape of Good Hope Bar Numerals & Postmarks before 1911
Rogers, Mr C M	Timeless Egypt
Sinclair, Mr D J	Fastmail Envelopes of the Republic of South Africa
Morton, Mr D G	Airmails of Rhodesia & Nyasaland

BRONZE

Barit, Dr L	Decimalisation 1961 and the Protectorates
Gutman, Mr S	The Forgeries of the Suez Canal
Osthoff, Prof G	Deutsche Bundespost 1950-1964
Briscoe, Mrs A R	A Miscellany of Orchids
Bromfield, Mrs J	Discovering South Africa
du Toit, Mej M	Water op Land
McWilliams, Mr D H	Through the eye of a Sea Fish
Reddi, Dr V B	Ghandi on Stamps
Janse van Vuuren, Mrs R	Bellville Philatelic Society Web Site

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Rogers, Mr A	Machin Heads
Botha, Mr D	The History of Tennis

Medal Class

VERMEIL

Kawalsky, D (Penny Black)
with felicitations (research)
Paulson, G (Nigel)
Setter, AJ (Nigel)
Setter, AJ (Nigel)
Setter, L (Nigel)
Verwey, R (Penny Black)
Wilson, N (Benoni)

SILVER

Barit, A (YACCY)
Barit, S (YACCY)
Elk, G (Penny Black)
with felicitations (presentation)
Enslin, L (Nigel)
Fluke, S (Nigel)
Garland, S (St Mary's)
Hall, S (Penny Black)
Haylett, S (Penny Black)
Janeke, A (Centurion)
Monti, J (Penny Black)
Oberholzer, GP (Nigel)
with felicitations (research)
Opperman, J (Nigel)
Osthoff, M (OFS)
Walter, K (Nigel)
Walter, K (Nigel)

SILVER BRONZE

Barit, C (YACCY)
Barit, G (YACCY)
Britz, N (Penny Black)
Enslin, L (Nigel)
Enslin, G (Nigel)
Enslin, G (Nigel)
Enslin, K (Nigel)
Gleeson, D (OFS)
Hatlen, G (Penny Black)
Janeke, A (Centurion)
Leesman, G (Nigel)
Parsons, T (PEPS)
Setter, L (Nigel)
Simons, K (Penny Black)

BRONZE

Li, J (Penny Black)
Taylor, J (Pietermaritzburg)

Star Class

FOUR STARS

Gleeson, E (OFS)

THREE STARS

Mark, D (Penny Black)
Roberts, W (Penny Black)

CLUB CLASS

1. Nigel Junior Stamp Club
2. Centurion Stamp Mates
3. Goudveldse Filatelievereniging

Literature Class

IT IS NOT that common an occurrence to make comment on a competitive class at a national show, but your attention should be drawn to this year's Literature Class entry. Without recourse to the medal levels achieved (individual awards will be found in the published Algoapex results) this year's entries were particularly attractive and warranted special mention in the Chairman of the Jury's report.

All the book entries may be seen as making significant contributions to the development of the philately of Southern Africa: *The Postal Stationery of Natal* by JN Dickson and KD Hanman; *The Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope 1792-1910* by Dr F Frescura; *Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol 1, The Postage Stamps* by RT Bartshe and RW Hisey; plus *The Active Service Letter Cards, Airmail Letter Cards & Airletters used in South Africa, South West Africa and the High CommissionTerritories during 1939 to 1945* by Judge TM Mullins – are all milestone works in their respective fields.

Of no less import are the latest volumes of the Putzel / Visser South Africa Postmark series and a striking new work, *Revenues of Southern Africa, Part 1 - The Bechuanalands* by BJ Trotter and N Midwood. The continued high standards of the journals *The Anglo Boer War Philatelist* (Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society) and *The Orange Free State Bulletin* (Orange Fee State Study Circle) were recognised, as was the *Aeroletter No.90 - 2002* (Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa) in the important role they play in linking collectors around the world and disseminating knowledge.

Watch out for specific reviews of these admirable works in this publication – add them to your philatelic "wish list" – knowledge is power! Finally, look out for the two websites entered in the "electronic media" section: Philatelic Federation of South Africa http://www.philatelysa.co.za and Bellvile Philatelic Society http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com

– Michael Wigmore RDPSA

REVENUE STAMPS/DOCUMENTS
Wanted by collector for cash or exchange

- **Rhodesias**
- **Southern Africa**

Also Required are:

❑ **Rhodesia railway parcel stamps**

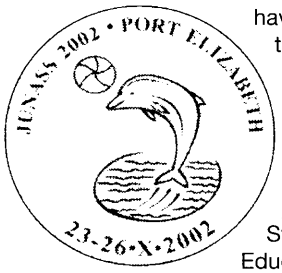
Please send details to:
Sandy Jardine Tel: 082 801 9388
P.O.Box 167498
Brackendowns E-mail: adajardine@hotmail.com
1454
South Africa

Help the young ones!

Jill Redmond
Chair: Youth Committee chair and secretary of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

This is our 21st annual report, the first one being given by George van den Hurk at Port Elizabeth on 11 May 1982, although Harry Birkhead previously gave a report to the General Purposes Committee in March 1982.

Looking at the major objectives, we have now had a regular newsletter, "Stamping Around/Seëls Rondomtalie" since March 1987, the current editor, David Wigston, taking over in 1989 and still maintaining a wonderful standard. After having various Youth Leader seminars over the years, we have now had an annual Youth Leader Forum for three years. An exchange packet system has never been inaugurated due to the lack of a willing body to run the scheme. However, Ursula White does a sterling job in running the Mr Yaccy Junior Postal Stamp Club which she started in 1988. Educational programmes at nationals are still a wish although JUNASS 2000 held a successful "Kids' Korner" and a number of workshops have been held.



The annual Junior National Stamp Show, inaugurated in 1984, was a bonus since the original intention was to have the show every second or third year! For the third time, JUNASS is being held at the same time as the senior national exhibition and I am sure that the junior exhibits will be as delightful as ever.

Philatelic Services have been wonderful supporters of JUNASS since 2000 and their youth officer, Dineo Poo, regularly sells starter packs to schools. We could wish that we received input from that source in the way of new clubs. There are lots of young enthusiasts out there – we just need to know about them – and maybe they need to know about StampMates! The vice-presidents could possibly help to spread the word about all the benefits StampMates have to offer.

The Wits Philatelic Society held their third annual youth meeting in September and the youngsters covered themselves in glory with their charming exhibits. The winner was Lance Setter of Nigel with his exhibit on "Water – a life-giving source" and Wits kindly gave gifts to every exhibitor. The Royal PS of Cape Town also hold an equally successful annual youth evening, organised by David Sinclair, our Cape representative.

On the international scene, exhibits by Ilze de Kock and David Conradie were sent to Korea, Ilze gaining a Silver-bronze medal and David a Vermeil (highest international junior award is a Large Vermeil).

España 2002, a world youth exhibition, will be held in Salamanca 17 to 23 November for which nine South African exhibits have been accepted – we wish them every success. A new FIP junior judging sheet for thematics has recently been proposed and, if accepted, will be used in Salamanca. Basically, the form has been simplified with the four main criteria being Treatment, Knowledge, Material and Presentation, the marking depending upon the age of the exhibitor.

To assist young exhibitors, and also seniors if they so wish, we are in the midst of ordering exhibition sheets which should cost about R1 each, depending on how many we order. We are still attempting to find an inexpensive source for plastic protectors. We hope to issue a new pamphlet during the next year.

The number of clubs remains fairly static at 21 but we are hoping to gain a new Western Cape club in the near future. Folks, it's not an enormous task running a junior stamp club: we have the Guidelines on where to start and how to carry on, including lots of activities plus the quarterly newsletter distributed to every junior member. If you have no junior stamp club nearby, please contemplate spending a couple of hours a month on creating an enthusiastic and happy band of young collectors.

Finally, many thanks to those enthusiastic and dedicated Youth Leaders that we do have who ensure that the hobby is still alive and well and who encourage our youngsters to show their charming exhibits. Also, to my committee members, the late Rowland Redmond, Ursula and Alan White, David Wigston, Gerrie Conradie and David Sinclair – many, many thanks for all your great support during the year.

JUNASS 2002 Trophies & awards

SAM LEGATOR GRAND PRIX: Best exhibit of the show
D Kawalsky – *RSA 6th Definitives* (Penny Black)
DANIE SCHEEPERS TROPHY: Best exhibit 19 – 21 years Not awarded
STAMP MATES: Best exhibit 16 – 18 years
N Wilson – *Man on the Moon* (Benoni Junior Stamp Club)
FANIE VERMAAK SILVER GRAND PRIX: Best exhibit 13 – 15 years
R Verwey – *Great Britain 1834–1952* (Penny Black)
FANIE VERMAAK BRONZE GRAND PRIX: Best exhibit 10 – 12 years
AJ Setter – *Hungry Herbivores* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
WIGMORE TROPHY: Best exhibit 9 years and under
L Enslin – *3-2-1 Blast Off* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
CONRADIE TROPHY: Best traditional exhibit
S Haylett – *The Penny Ship Stamp* (Penny Black)
SETEMPE 2000 TROPHY: Best thematic exhibit
AJ Setter – *Captivating Carnivores* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
EAST LONDON PHILAT SOCIETY AWARD: Best South African exhibit
A Janeke – *Meerdoelige ontwerpte Unie-seëls* (Centurion Seëlmaats)
AERO PHILATELY SOCIETY AWARD: Best Aero Philatelic exhibit Not awarded
DEREK BROWN CENTURION SHIELD: Best exhibit – First time exhibitor
G Elk – *Ecosystems of the Namib* (Penny Black)
HERMAN STEYN TROPHY: Best research shown
G Paulsen – *To Fly or not to Fly* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
DAVID STERN SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY CUP: Best exhibit & cash award
Nigel Junior Stamp Club
RAPPORTRYERSKORPS WIERDAPARK TROFEE: Best exhibit in Afrikaans
K Walter – *My Vakansie in Namibië* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
RATCLIFFE CUP: Awarded at the discretion of the jury for outstanding merit
L Setter – *Water, a life-giving source* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP CASH AWARD: Best SWA / Namibia exhibit
2nd Prize: K Walter – *My Vakansie in Namibië* (Nigel Junior Stamp Club)
GB SOCIETY CASH AWARD: Best GB exhibit
1st Prize: R Verwey – *Great Britain 1834–1952* (Penny Black)
2nd Prize: S Barit – *Errors on the stamps of Great Britain* (YACCY)
ALAN HOUGHTON CASH AWARDS: Most promising thematic exhibit
S Hall – *Errors on Stamps* (penny Black)

SA website gets three stars

THE South African Philatelic Federation's website was awarded a 3-star rating in the 2002 international FIP philatelic website evaluation. The awards are for the best site, top 5%, 3-star and 2-star.

Commenting on the award, Reanie Janse van Rensburg, webmaster of www.philatelysa.co.za, paid tribute to Emil Minnaar for the original design of the site "and, of course, everybody that kept me on my toes with input – positive and negative!"

There were 31 entries received for the evaluation of their sites, a smaller number than previously, from 17 countries.

Exploring the world of Czeslaw Slania's engravings (www.slaniastamps.school.dk) was adjudged to be the best philatelic website entered. The award for the best official website went to the Canadian Postal Archives (www.archives.ca/08/080608_e.htmh).

Amphilex

AMPHILEX, the last international exhibition scheduled to be held in Europe for some time, was unusual in a number of respects. It was open for only five days, from 30 August to 3 September 2002, and then only from 10:00 to 17:00. It was, however, extensive, being spread over three large halls of the Rai Exhibition Centre in Amsterdam, and was certainly well patronised.

One hall was devoted exclusively to dealers and post offices, another almost exclusively to the exhibits and the third, designed principally to entertain the younger generation, included a wide variety of displays and hands-on exhibits, including a demonstration of engraving and printing techniques by Enschedé, a few totally unrelated exhibits and entertainment by assorted stilt-walkers, pirates, etc.

Another unusual feature was that exhibits had to conform to a 12-sheet (4 x 3) format, which necessitated (or should have) some reorganisation of exhibits conforming to the more traditional 16-sheet frame format.

The exhibits featuring the stamps and postal history of the Netherlands were, as might be expected, outstanding. This emphasis on the Netherlands in particular and Europe in general resulted in some imbalance. For example, the traditional class for "overseas except the former Dutch colonies" comprised only seven exhibits, almost half of which had Dutch connotations, e.g. Alan Drysdall's Transvaal (Large Gold Medal), Antonio Bertolaja's Cape rectangulars (Large Gold Medal and special prize), and an unusual exhibit of triangular stamps that included the earlier issues of Cape Colony (Large Silver Medal).

The most popular of the invited exhibits was undoubtedly the selection from the collection of HM Queen Elizabeth II displayed in the Court of Honour. It was also unusual in that the countries and territories represented had all at one time had close associations with the Netherlands. Cape Colony, Transvaal, Orange Free State, New Republic and Stellaland were obvious candidates, the Gold Coast, Mauritius, Ceylon, Van Dieman's Land, Tasmania, New Zealand and British Guiana less so.

The Mauritius 'post office' 1d on cover and the unused 2d inevitably attracted a great deal of attention, but dedicated aficionados recognised that the two unused blocks of four in the Transvaal frame showing the 6d and 1s tété-béche varieties printed by Viljoen, and the unique unused block of six of the 1877 provisional 4d on 6d in the OFS frame were even greater, if less glamorous, rarities. (This was probably the first occasion on which selections from the OFS, Stellaland and New Republic sections of the collection have been shown in public.)

The other exhibits in the Court of Honour were more obviously related to the postal history of the Netherlands, with magnificent displays of early Netherlands and VOC mail, and the postal history and early stamp issues of the Dutch East Indies.

Despite some criticisms the exhibition itself, the attendance and the queues for new issues and special postmarks certainly proved that philately is thriving in the Netherlands.

– Alan Drysdall

Philakorea 2002

THE PHILAKOREA 2002 exhibition was considered generally to have been extremely successful. The standard of the exhibits appeared to be high as evidenced by the award of some 35 large Gold medals. Each of the three Grands Prix went to oriental exhibits or exhibitors.

The following results were obtained by the South African contingent:

Dr Achi Frank - *Canada - The Large and Small Queen Issues*. Large vermeil

Peter van de Molen - *Swaziland Definitive Issues 1889 - 1968*. Large vermeil

Patrick Flanagan - S.Rhodesia - *Admiral & F Marshal Definitives*. Large vermeil

Dawid Conradie (Jr) - *King George VII Issues of SA & SWA*. Vermeil

Ilse de Kock (Jr) - *A Feathered Fantasy*. Silver bronze

Two other exhibitors with strong South African connections deserve mention: Brian Trotter received a Large Gold and Special Prize for his *Revenue Stamps of South Africa 1910 - 1930*, and Dr Colin and Pamela Fraser received a Gold for their *British Central Africa 1891 - 1907*.

– Chris Mobsby

SAPDA/SAFHA

South African Philatelic Dealers Association
Suid-Afrikaanse Filateliehandelaarsassosiasie
Box 918, Halfway House, 1685
Website = www:sapda.co.za

CORPORATE PLANNING

The Association's management wishes to give members' clients and "stakeholders" (the Philatelic Foundation, Philatelic Services and the Philatelic Federation of SA) a clearer perspective on SAPDA's activities. The most recent corporate planning findings can be summarised as follows:

- **Enhancement of local fairs:** A 2nd Rosebank Show has been instituted; and the potential of the Melrose Arch Sunday fair is about to be tested. The promotion of "regional" shows with dealer attendance, eg Windhoek in 2003, is also receiving attention.
- **Website development:** A basic website is in place and is being upgraded in conjunction with the Philatelic Federation of SA.
- **Coordination with "stakeholders":** Structures are in place and dealer representation has been effected to ensure that joint planning can take place.
- **Postal theft:** Some information on important problem post offices and procedures to limit difficulties have informally been circulated.
- **Upholding the Code of Ethics:** The resolution of disputes has demanded much management attention; consideration is being given to the publication of all disputes and findings in the "SAPDA Newsletter".
- **Organisational capacity for dealer shows:** Past high standards were maintained against the background of an increased number of fairs.

Deal with confidence through a SAPDA member

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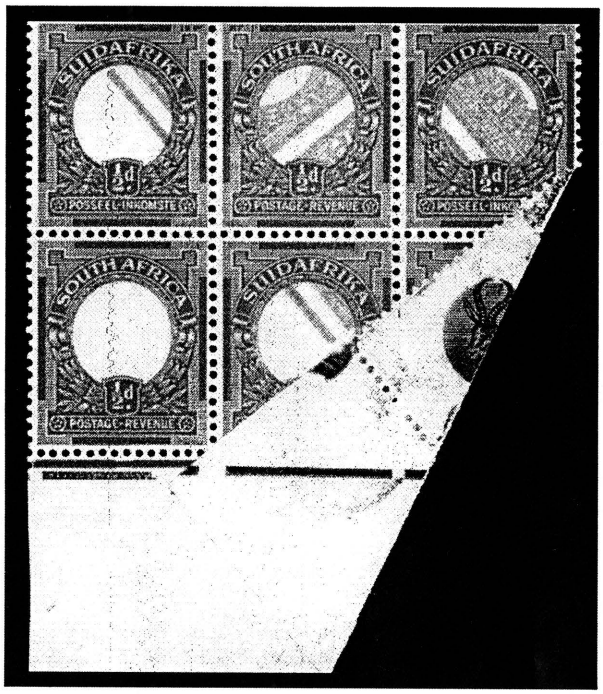
Fine South African Stamps at Auction: Sales taking place throughout the year



1926-27 Pretoria printing 1/2d. block of six showing one stamp with centre omitted, a spectacular variety.

Do you have philatelic material similar to the above?

Harmers hold both specialised and all-world sales throughout the year. The unrivalled expertise of our team ensures that we consistently achieve high prices for our vendors and allows a variety of philatelists to make outstanding additions to their collections. You can be assured that your collection will be left in safe hands and dealt with by philatelists in the true sense of the word.

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For further information and copies of the catalogue for our forthcoming sale, contact us at the address below or speak to our Johannesburg and Gauteng area representative:
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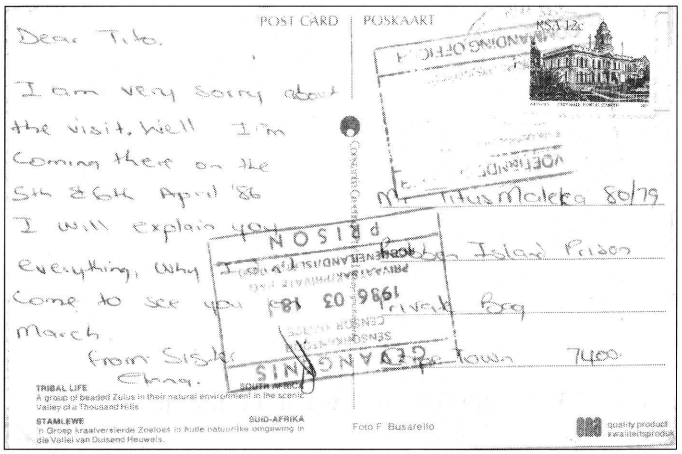
ABA

ROBBEN ISLAND's
four centuries of postal history

Ralph Philipps
Witwatersrand Philatelic Society and Tasmania Philatelic Society



A postcard with Mr Maleka's prison number – 80/97 – and two cachets, an initialled Censor Office cachet and uninitialled Commanding Officer cachet.

ROBBEN ISLAND was originally an outcrop of rock in Table Bay, formed millions of years ago by geological process. At certain times in the distant past, changing sea levels meant that it was periodically part of the mainland.

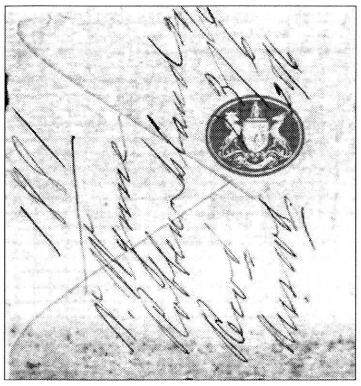
About 12 000 years ago the island was finally cut off by rising seas and it has remained largely unchanged since. It is oblong in shape, situated in Table Bay, 6 km off the South African coast and is just over 3 km long and 1,5 km wide.

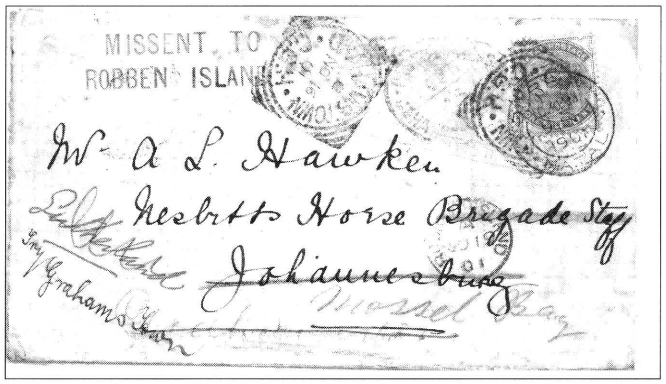
Archaeological diggings are still to provide the answer as to when and how indigenous people used Robben Island in centuries past. It is known, however, that Autshumato, leader of a small Khoikho clan, settled on the island with his people for about eight years in the 1630's. Written records suggest that Europeans first set foot on Robben Island for water, food and grazing in 1488, when early explorers started sailing around the Cape in search of the sea route to India and other parts of the world still unknown to them at the time.

It was at this point that **the first postal system** started devel-



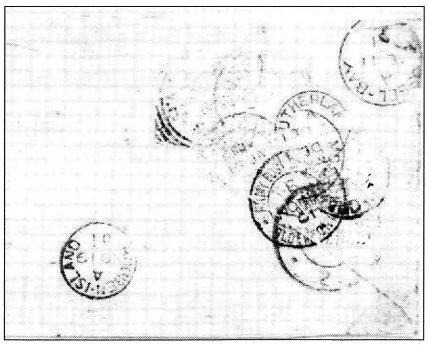
Above: 1881 - This cover was sent by Dr Wynne, surgeon-in-charge of ther infirmary at the time. Letters on public business between civil, naval and military departments were not subject to postage if marked "On her Majesty's Service" and bearing the signature of the officer on duty or authorised person. This envelope was authorised by Dr Wynne above the pre-printed endorsement General Infirmary, Robben Island" thus authorising "Official Free Postage". The cover was cancelled on arrival in Cape Town.
Right: Endorsement on the reverse side of Dr Wynne's cover.





This cover, posted from Durban to Johannesburg, has been readdressed many times in an attempt to find Mr Hawker of Nesbitt's Horse Brigade Staff. The "Missent to Robben Island" cachet is one of the few known covers to exist, one of which is illustrated in Goldblatt's "Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope". A Johannesburg press censor's marking in use during the Anglo-Boer War is illustrated on the cover.

The reverse side of the Hawker cover partly illustrates its travels – from Durban to Johannesburg and then on to the Army Post Office in Bloemfontein, to Mossel Bay, Grahamstown, Robben Island and Sutherland.



oping when the early explorers rounding the Cape placed letters under inscribed stones (referred to as "post office stones") for passing ships. The earliest recorded post office stone was dated 1607 and the last recorded stone was 1662.

The first recorded letters can be dated back to 1611 when nine Flemish shipwrecked sailors handed over some letters they had found, to Mr Cocks, Skiff to John Saris, commander of the *Clove*.

In 1652 the Dutch East India Company decided to establish a permanent settlement at the Cape, starting the colonisation of South Africa. From 1652-1795 the Dutch used Robben Island as a supply base and a prison. Company servants and slaves who broke the harsh laws of the time, as well as local Khoikhoi and Asian exiles that the Dutch regarded as political troublemakers were sent here.

It was during this period that a **Hottentot** by the name of **Harry**, who had been sent to Batavia by Jan Van Riebeck (the first Dutch governor of the Cape), to be educated, took up residency on the Island and in 1662 was appointed the **first unofficial postman**. One of his responsibilities was to receive and deliver letters to passing ships, thus creating a postal system.

After the British assumed control of the Cape in 1795 the island continued to be used as a prison. Many African leaders opposing the rapid colonial expansion of the nineteenth century were sent there, including Stuurman, Makana, Maqoma, Sandile, Langalibalele and Ruyter. The island was also used as a whaling station and place of isolation for sick people.

With the establishment of the infirmary in 1846, missionaries started arriving and **created more frequent post and in 1863 a Mr Reid was appointed as the island's first official postman.** He held this post for nine years until 1872.

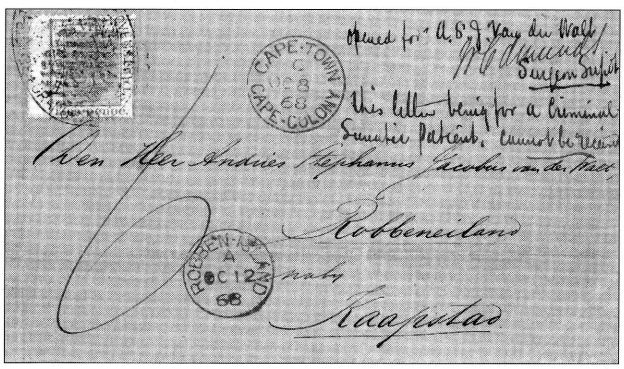
Philatelically this period is illustrated with a letter written by captain Richard Wolfe (commandant of Robben Island) dated 8 February 1839; and several covers addressed to hospital attendants and lunatics. In 1846 three hospitals were established; for lepers, the chronically sick, the poor and the mentally disturbed.

By 1900 the island population numbered some 1500 people.

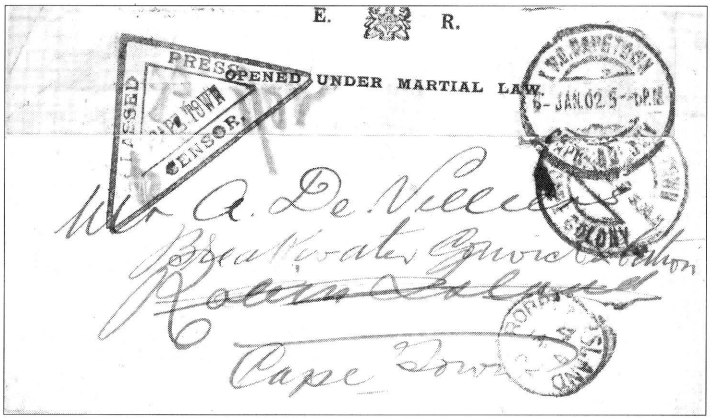
The next defined historical period relating to the island was the outbreak of the **Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902**, which is philatelically recorded with a censored cover.

The leper hospital finally closed in 1931. Except for the Church of the Good Shepherd, the leper hospital buildings were burnt down and Robben Island was more or less abandoned. Only the lighthouse keeper and his family stayed. But, at the start of the World War II in 1939, Robben Island was fortified to protect Table Bay. Several thousand soldiers were sent there, which included black members of the Cape

• ***To next page***



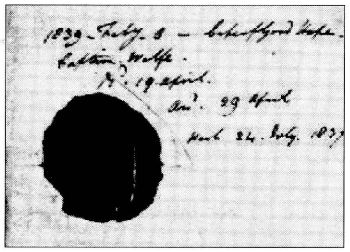
An 1868 cover front sent from Bloemfontein to Robben Island with a Judicial Court Orange Free State handstamp cancellation – one of the earliest known OFS stamped covers.



The Anglo-Boer War period, January 1902: A Cape Town censored cover franked by 1d (covered by a Martial Law label), The cover was posted from Cape Town to a Mr A de Villiers, Robin (sic) Island. Date-stamped (DDS2) on arrival and re-addressed in red manuscript to "Breakwater Convict Station, Cape Town".



Above: A pre-stamped letter sent from Robben Island, 8 February 1839. Envelopes in the modern sense had not yet been invented; all letters were folded into themselves and then sealed. Hence the charges were based on the format which showed the actual size of the page. The letter is rated 1/-in black manuscript with a boxed "INDIA LETTER DEAL" handstamp. The rate of 1/- would have been paid by the recipient.



Left: The reverse side shows the arrival date-stamp of 19 April and is sealed in red wax by the personal seal of Captain Wolfe.



Cancellation showing portion of the REGISTRATEUR DEN HOOGER-HOOVEN hand stamp – the official Orange Free State Judicial Court canceller.

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Corps, women, naval and artillery specialists which was unusual for the time.

Robben Island remained a naval training base until 1959, when the apartheid government decided to build a maximum-security prison. More than 3 000 political prisoners were sent to the island in the next three decades. Nelson Mandela was imprisoned on the island for 18 years. It was this apartheid prison which gave Robben Island its international notoriety. The struggles of its inhabitants turned the island, into the universal symbol of freedom which it is today.

The struggle of these political prisoners is philatelically shown, with the infrequency of mail and censorship.

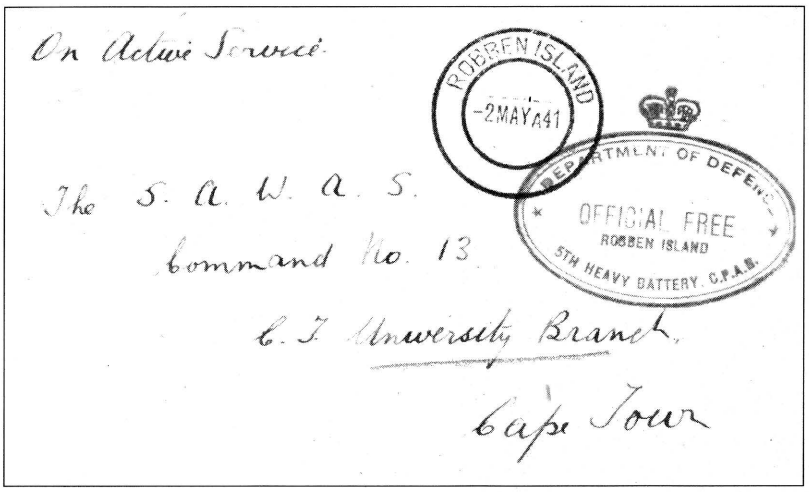
The last political prisoners were released from Robben Island in 1991. With democracy in 1994, came calls for the closure of the prison. In 1996 the last criminal prisoners were removed and the prison was closed.

The first cabinet of democratic South Africa decided in September 1996 that the Island should be redeveloped into a national museum. In 2000 Robben Island was declared a World Heritage Site and became a cultural showcase for South African democracy.

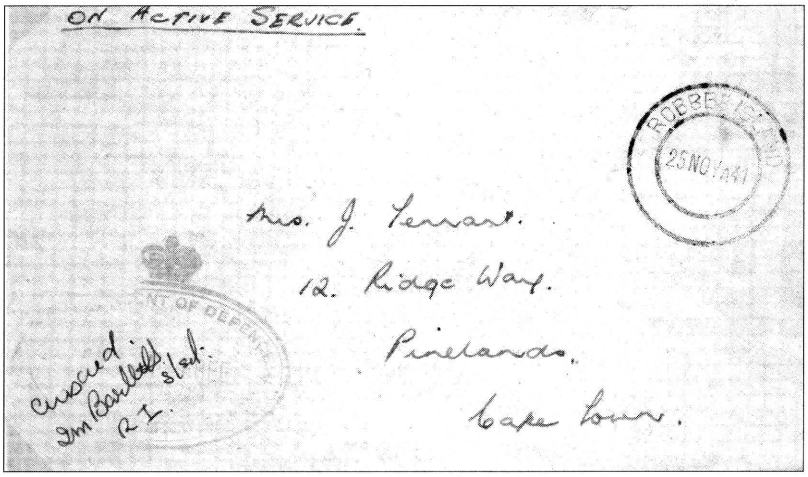
Robben Island has always fallen under the jurisdiction of South Africa, thus initially using interprovincial stamps mainly those of the Cape of Good Hope, but on the odd occasion, other provincial stamps were used.

These provincial stamps were later replaced with South African stamps. **Initially outgoing mail** was deciphered by its allocated **barred oval numeral canceller BONC No 158,** and later by its own Robben Island inscribed canceller.

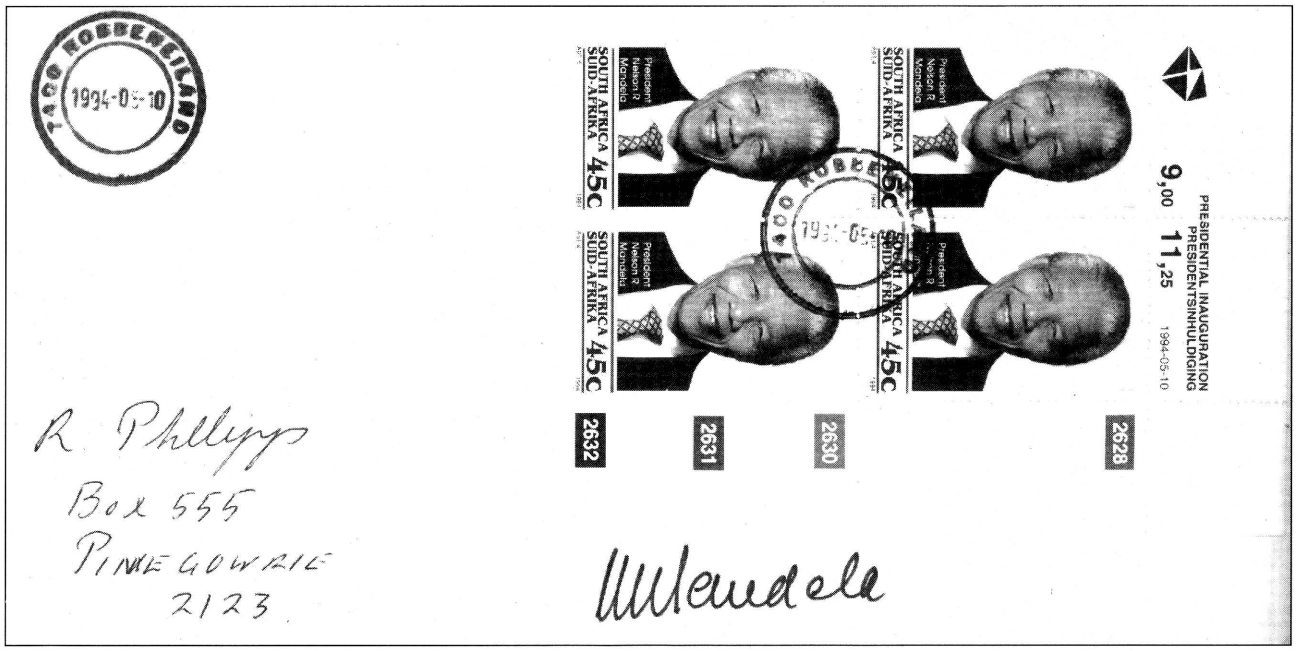
sribbons@global.co.za



2 May 1941 – "On Active Service" cover addressed to the South African Woen's Auxilliary Service Command No 13, with a crowned oval Department of Defence cachet. Cover not censored.



25 November 1941 – "On Active Service" cover with a crowned oval Department of Defence cachet. Hand censored and signed by the Sergeant.



Nelson Mandela was sworn in as South Africa's first black president. This signed envelope was signed on the day of the ceremony. The double-circle postmark shows Robben Island's present-day postal code of 7400.

www.afpretoria.co.za goes worldwide

The Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria (*Afrikaans Philatelic Society of Pretoria*) now boasts its own website. This site is one of the methods of getting into contact with other stamp collectors, while introducing ourselves to the rest of the world.

Although our Society is made up of Afrikaans-speaking people, we place this article in English to enable our readers abroad to be informed about our society. Our members are fluent in both Afrikaans and English as well as in German, Dutch and French.

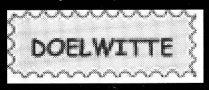


Home: An abbreviated history of the 51-year-old society is set out as well as a list of our honorary members.



Contact: Times of meetings, present members of the management and a route map to venues. All relevant addresses and phone numbers are listed.

Library: the main community library in Centurion administers the AFP's extensive library. Over the years we received a lot of donations and many of our books are considered as irreplaceable and is not on loan. A compete catalogue is available as well as the hours during which the library is open for reference purposes.



Aims: The constitution is accessible to everyone.



Annual programme: Dates of meetings as well as a rough guideline of the events as planned in advance.



Membership: Membership fees per year are indicated and of importance is the application form that can be downloaded.



Juniors: Centurion Stamp Mates is under the auspice of the AFP. They have an own web page and available on it is the necessary information regarding membership, activities and contacts.



Members: We hope to make this the most relevant part of our web site. Members may use this site to submit personal detail (voluntarily) including their fields of interest. We trust that other stamp collectors will make use of our site.

Philatelic review of the Centenary Commemoration of the Anglo-Boer War

Lappe Laubscher
Pretoria Philatelic Society

FROM a micro-historical perspective, the Anglo-Boer War was the most tragic single event in the history of the Afrikaans-speaking section of the South African population. From a broader perspective, it was the last of a long list of wars waged by Great Britain for imperial gain.

The event is still a minefield for historians. Many of the issues surrounding this war are today, a century later, still as emotive as it was then. Among them, two stand out, namely the involvement of black people in the war and alleged war crimes committed on both sides.

At the outset the Anglo-Boer War Centenary Committee announced that the beginning of the war would be commemorated in Bloemfontein, while the end of the war would be commemorated in Pretoria. In the end, only the beginning of the war was commemorated in Bloemfontein. In Pretoria the commemoration was largely ignored by the powers that be.

Against this background the South African Post Office issued six Anglo-Boer War related stamps plus a miniature sheet between 11 October 1999 and sometime in 2002. To this must also be added a special commemorative booklet issued in July 2002.

Then there was also a series of 16 special datestamps that commemorated various important events during the war, four commemorative datestamps and three special requested datestamps. The last three datestamps were all related to special philatelic exhibitions.

Only two personalities were depicted on the 16 special datestamps. They were Col R S Baden-Powell on British side and General J C Smuts on Boer side. In vain you look for personalities like Christiaan de Wet, Louis Botha or Koos de la Rey on Boer side, or Lord Roberts or Lord Kitchener on the British side on the datestamps. It would be interesting to know who decided to depict Baden-Powell on a South African datestamp.

I mention this against the background of the Post Office's decision to use two of the 16 special datestamps to depict black involvement in the war. The Post Office also decided halfway through the series of commemorative datestamps to change the name of the war. The eleven datestamps before 31 August 2000 refer to this war by its internationally accepted name - the Anglo-Boer War. The last five cancellers call the war the Anglo-Boer/S.A. War.

Not a single datestamp depicts the notorious concentration camps. One cannot but be mildly surprised that the emotive and controversial issue of black involvement in the war was used on two datestamps, but the concentration camps were completely ignored.

The 12-page booklet issued by the Post Office during July 2002 shows all 16 special datestamps used during the war. It also contains the six stamps and the miniature sheet used to commemorate the war. Unfortunately it only shows three of the four commemorative datestamps.

While the booklet is a handy record of almost everything the post office issued to commemorate the Anglo-Boer War, its contents leaves much to be desired. On the first page the unnamed author gives an unconvincing explanation why the Post Office (South African Government) decided to change the name of the war to the Anglo Boer/South African War.

On page two the text refers to the centenary of the signing of the Peace of Vereeniging in the future tense. (The booklet only became available in July 2002 – almost six weeks after the event.) On the same page the coat-of-arms of the two Boer Republics is referred to as "shields".

On page 12 the famous and coveted Victoria Cross decoration is described in a caption as the Queen's South African Medal. The QSA was a campaign medal, while the Victoria Cross is Britain's highest decoration for gallantry shown in the face of the enemy. The caption to the Boer *Dekoratie Voor Trouwe Dienst* describes this decoration as the Anglo-Boer War Medal! All a bit messy – and unnecessarily so.

In retrospect, one gets the feeling that the whole commemoration of the Anglo-Boer War was something that *had* to be done, but something that very few had much enthusiasm for.

From a philatelic point of view the highlight of the commemoration was undoubtedly the ABOphil exhibition so ably organised by the late André Bezuidenhout RDPSA with the assistance of Joh Groenewald RDPSA in Bloemfontein during October 1999. Material on view at that exhibition will not be seen again soon in South Africa – possibly never again.

Anglo-Boer/SA War SPECIAL cancels



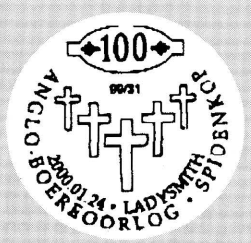
1. Kraaipan: First military contact – 12 October 1899



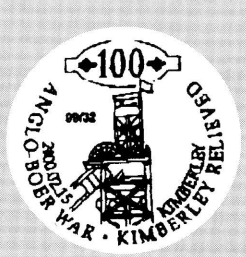
2. Derdepoort: Black involvement – 25 November 1899.



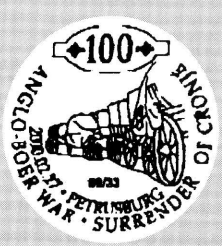
3. Stormberg/ Magersfontein: Black week – 15 December 1899



4. Spioenkop: Bloodiest battle of the war – 24 January 1900



5. Relief of Kimberley – 15 February 1900



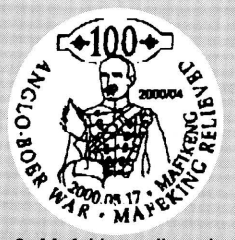
6. Surrender of Cronjé at Paardeberg – 27 February 1900



7. Relief of Ladysmith – 28 February 1900



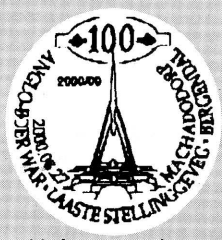
8. British occupation of Bloemfontein – 13 March 1900



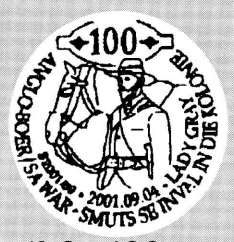
9. Mafeking relieved – 17 May 1900



10. British occupation of Pretoria – 5 June 1900



11. Last set-piece battle: Bergendal – 27 August 1900



12. Gen J C Smuts invades Cape Colony – 4 Sept 1900



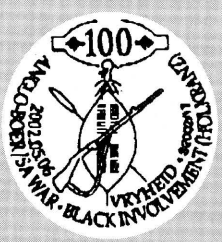
13. Battle of Bakenlaagte – 30 October 1901



14. Battle of Groenkop (Tweefontein) – 25 Dec 1901



15. Victory on horseback: Sannieshof – 7 March 1902



16. Black involvement: Vryheid – 6 May 1902

Commemorative cancels









Specially requested cancels







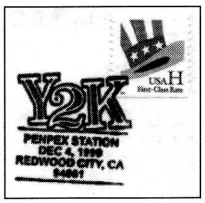
Cyberphilately: The Y2K world scare

'You've only got 500 days left...'

Wobbe Vegter
Bellville Philatelic Society

DURING THE 1990s the acronym "Y2K" became a common expression, especially in the computer industry. It also became a term of ill foreboding, of potential gloom and doom, the more so where the general public had little understanding about what Y2K stood for, what it meant and what caused it. Naturally, the philatelic world also paid some attention to this phenomenon. This article serves to explain the Y2K problem and the philatelic happenings around Y2K.

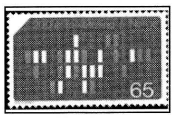
What caused Y2K?



Today's personal computers (PCs) tend to have a memory capacity in the range 32 – 128 Mb, with its upper range increasing each year (1 Mb = 1 megabyte, which means 1 000 000 bytes). In other words, modern PCs have an internal memory (also called RAM) for storing information of up to 128 million characters.

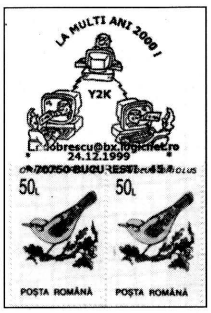
But in the 1950s and early 60s, computers had a very limited memory capacity. It was not uncommon in those days that a large corporate computer had a memory of only 4 000 bytes.

At that time, one of its input media (the method used to get information into the computer) was the punched card which had a limit of 80 characters (although versions of punchcard existed that could hold a different number of characters). Storage capacity was therefore very limited at the time, both in the computer as well as in its prime input medium. To record as much information as possible in the minimum number of bytes / characters, dates were recorded in only six characters: YYMMDD.



It was only during the 1990s that the information technology (IT) industry came to realise that this would create enormous problems with the new millennium coming. When the year was (19)99, adding 1 to it would give the incorrect result of (19)00. It seemed that disaster loomed and a light form of mass hysteria developed. The "year 2000 date problem" quickly assumed its own acronym of Y2K (Y = year, and K = kilo = 1000).

The Y2K bug was a straightforward computer program error – one of gigantic proportions. The IT industry worldwide had to change and correct millions of computer programs which had been written in the preceding decades. Each program had to be checked individually to establish if it was Y2K-compliant (i.e. would it work correctly in the new millennium as well) or not. Billions of dollars had to be spent (and have been spent indeed) to rectify the problem. Appliances and machines which used microchips or microprocessors, like cars, airplanes, lifts, bankvaults, video machines, etc. could possibly stop working when the clock struck midnight, with potentially catastrophic results.



The whole Y2K issue became a mini industry on its own, with seminars, conferences, theories and explanations and the hype soon became the subject of talks by prophets of doom, Y2K-consultants, advisors and talk shows. It also caused the world to hold its collective breath upon the dawn of the new millennium.

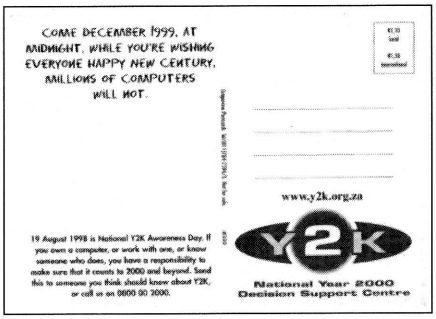
People began stockpiling food items, and some predicted that the world would descend into the digital dark ages. Some wondered: would life as we knew it be able to carry on?

But when the new millennium arrived, all lights stayed on, all planes stayed in the air, all telephones hummed and the computers continued computing. Bar some minor hiccups, the majority of programs had been fixed properly and life carried on as normal. The Y2K bug had been killed.

Cyberphilately

Cyberphilatelically speaking, Y2K was an interesting event. Although the new millennium itself was commemorated by many postal authorities, only a few stamp issues were dedicated to the Y2K problem itself.

Locally, one of the earliest releases (although not a stamp) was a postal card



from the South African National Year 2000 Decision Support Centre, a government-funded organisation to raise the public's awareness about Y2K and the organisation's campaign to eradicate the bug. This card was issued on 19 August 1998, which was South Africa's National Y2K Awareness Day. The front of the card carried the ominous warning: "You've only got 500 days left...".



The first set of stamps dedicated to Y2K was issued on 2 May 1999 (Scott 1847) by Indonesia in the form of a se-tenant pair. Both stamps show a different "bug", one shows a robot-like creature, and one bug looks like having been built from an integrated circuit design. Other countries which depicted the Y2K bug on their stamps was St Kitts which issued two stamps on 29 December 1999 (Sc 470-471) showing a bug-like creature destroying a PC on the one stamp and a world in mourning on the other stamp. Clearly St Kitts was expecting the worst.



Gabon issued a stamp on 16 February 2000 (Sc 985) showing how the Y2K bug had been killed. Apparently in their case a very large hammer had been used. The fact that a PC might not survive such aggressive treatment clearly did not matter.



Liberia did it slightly differently and issued a set of Beetle (as in VW) stamps in 2000, with the term "Y2K" in the margin of each one-stamp souvenir sheetlet, thereby



laying the connotation VW = Beetle = bug = Y2K. The Beetle on the sheetlet illustrated is described as having "a pentium heart and a high-speed modem engine". Obviously a bit more than just a groovy car.

Several countries have used Y2K-related cancellation slogans or pictorial cancels in the run up to the new millennium and two of these have been shown here, one from Romania and one from the United States.

Many postal authorities, including South Africa, found it necessary to change the 2-digit year in their datestamps to a 4-digit year and a number of excellent articles on this subject regarding local datestamps have been published in *The SA Philatelist.*

An enormous effort was spent by the IT industry in the late nineties to change the faulty programs, resulting in a smooth transition into the new millennium. In fact, the transition gave so few problems that many people began to wonder what it was all about. Had it all been a massive hoax? Or was it because the new millennium only began in 2001?

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SWA's 4d triangular stamps 1926–27

An article in** The SA Philatelist **of September 1931 recorded that a total of 3 000 000 stamps were overprinted for South West Africa (now Namibia). It was reported in the February 1926 issue of this magazine that the stamps were first sold at Windhoek.

There was also interest in South Africa regarding these stamps and a philatelist wanted to know more and wrote a letter asking for information. This letter was handed to the printer who answered all the questions. The philatelist filed this letter neatly with his collection which was sold 30 years later.

***The buyer found the letter and gave it to** The SA Philatelist**, where the letter was published. Despite the fact that this has all been published, we are not aware of any reaction to these interesting articles. We assume that most readers overlooked it at that time. What follows, therefore, is another article on the subject, enhanced with details from other issues of** The SA Philatelist.*

W J Quik
FVZA, Netherlands

THE UNION GOVERNMENT issued a printing order for 3 000 000 imperforate stamps (12 500 sheets at 240 stamps). No specific design was available. A reproduction of the old Cape triangular stamp had to be used with the inscription adapted.

Bradbury Wilkinson & Co printed these stamps by rotogravure in sheets of 240 stamps.

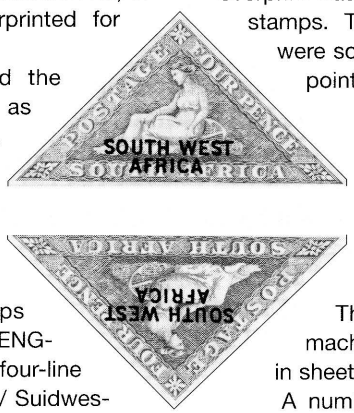
The printing forme consisted of two plates of 120 stamps (10 x 12) each, one with stamps inscribed in Afrikaans and the other with English lettering. The stamps were printed with a fugitive ink, showing great colour variations from dark blue-grey to light greenish-grey.

After the printing was completed, 400 sheets were sent to South Africa with the sheets equally distributed between the Afrikaans and the English text. Another 48 000 stamps were sent to the High Commissioner's Office in London in sheets and envelopes as listed:

125 sheets x 120 stamps Afrikaans = 15 000 stamps
125 sheets x 120 stamps English = 15 000 stamps
75 sheets x 60 stamps Afrikaans = 4 500 stamps
75 sheets x 60 stamps English = 4 500 stamps
75 envelopes x 60 stamps Afrikaans = 4 500 stamps
75 envelopes x 60 stamps English = 4 500 stamps.

150 000 Stamps (625 sheets x 240) of this SA order were overprinted for SWA.

The printer separated the stamps for SA as well as those for SWA by machine. The cutting was done simultaneously on five to ten sheets, but never more than ten. The loose stamps were packed into envelopes of 60 stamps either in AFRIKAANS or ENGLISH. The packs had a four-line text: "60 / 4d / POSSEËL / Suidwes-Afrika" or "60 / 4d / POSTAGE / South West Africa". The stamps with the small white margin can be found only as single stamps, except for the sheets described above.



This print order was dispatched in two batches. The first consignment, about a third of the printing order of 48 000 stamps, of which 24 000 were either in Afrikaans or English, was sent in four parcels with 200 packets of 60 stamps each to SWA. Two parcels contained the stamps with the Afrikaans text and two those with the English text. The balance of the printing order arrived in SWA in March 1926.

According to Dr M L Lewitt, who regularly reported new issues to *The SA Philatelist*, the stamps were not offered for sale in Windhoek before 27 January 1926.

A proof printing was made from the one-line English overprint in August 1926 and the stamps with the small white margins were issued at the end of April 1927. From official information ex Windhoek (SAP) it is reported that only the English overprint was received and no Afrikaans stamps. The 4d triangular stamps were sold out at Windhoek at this point in time.

We can establish from the issue sequence in *The SA Philatelist* that in October 1927 the stamps with wide margins around the stamp design were issued. These were not cut by machine and can thus be found in sheets.

A number of these sheets were perforated by the printers John Meinert of Windhoek in November 1927. This printer was known as an expert in his field, but the perforation of the sheets gave apparently a lot of problems as many perforation variations are known.

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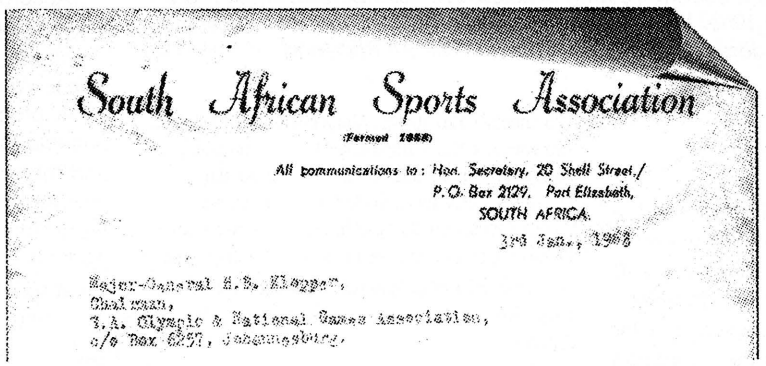
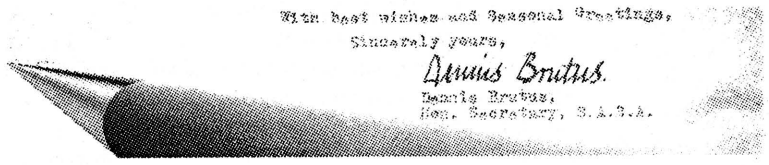

South African Sports Association
(Formed 1958)
All communications to: Hon. Secretary, 20 Shell Street,/
P.O. Box 2129, Port Elizabeth,
SOUTH AFRICA.
3rd Jan., 1968
Major-General H.D. Klopper,
Chairman,
S.A. Olympic & National Games Association,
c/o Box 6257, Johannesburg.

Saturdays are sporting days in South Africa. "Sport" has long had a wider connotation in this country ... for philatelic sport*, see

PAUL VAN ZEYL T/A RAND STAMPS @

- First Saturday of a month: Denis Adami Hall, Queenswood, **Pretoria**
- Second Saturday: Ernest Ullman Centre, Morningside, **Sandton** (note "swop" with West Rand venue)
- Third Saturday: MOTH Hall, **Florida**, West Rand
- Last Saturday: Impala Park Community Centre, Atlasville, **Boksburg**
- Last Sunday: High St, Melrose Arch, (just west of Corlett Drive off-ramp), **Johannesburg** on even months, ie February/April/June/August/October/December

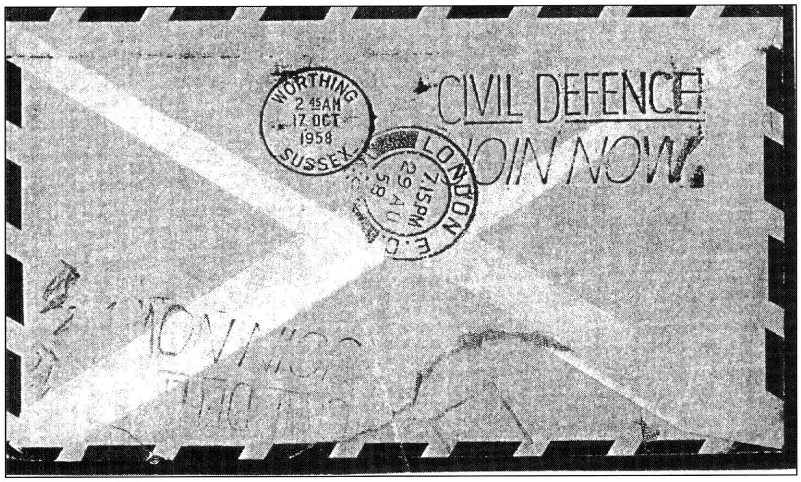

With best wishes and Seasonal Greetings,
Sincerely yours,
Dennis Brutus
Dennis Brutus,
Hon. Secretary, S.A.S.A.

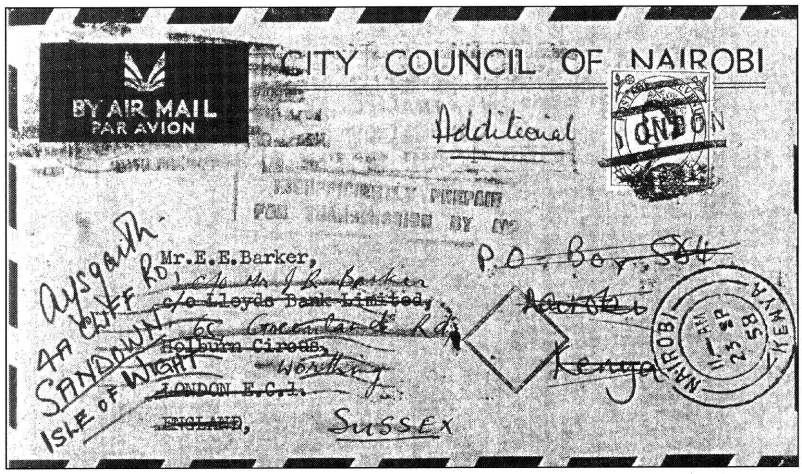


***The totality of philately = stamps; postal history & postmarks; postal stationery; documents (see above!) and literature**

A(nother) well-travelled cover

Chris Board
Transvaal Study Circle





THE PICTURES of the front and back of this "ugly duckling" do not really do justice to this unwanted missive. Let me describe the features:

Envelope:

A "flimsy" airmail envelope headed "CITY COUNCIL OF NAIROBI" addressed and re-addressed as follows:

- *Mr E E Barker, c/o Lloyds Bank, London, England* - typed.
- *Mr E E Barker, c/o Mr J R Banker, Worthing* - manuscript.
- *Mr E E Barker, P O Box, Nairobi* - manuscript.
- *Mr E E Barker, Aysgarth, Sandown, Isle of Wright* - manuscript.

All the re-addresses are in different hands, but the word "Additional" next to the stamp is in the same hand as the Nairobi address.

Postal markings:

Obverse:

- The airmail etiquette has multiple deletions in red ink which appear to have been by the boxed "INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID FOR TRANSMISSION BY AIR" hand stamp. Unfortunately, this obliterates a large part of a misplaced circular machine mark, also in red - one guesses this may be a "neopost" type prepaid machine stamp applied in Nairobi.
- Seven wavy lines and a diamond, being part of a (Worthing) machine cancel.
- Nairobi 23SP58 hand stamp.
- "Blind" London "black barred" hand stamp, cancelling the GB 6d stamp.

Reverse:

- London EC3 29AU58 hand stamps.
- Worthing 17 Oct 1958 "CIVIL DEFENCE/JOIN NOW" machine cancel.
- Part of misplaced pale inverted "CIVIL DEFENCE/JOIN NOW" with a diamond, machine cancel.

Conclusion

The letter left Nairobi on an unknown date and travelled by surface mail to London. The bank re-addressed the envelope to Nairobi and added a 6d stamp -- the back stamp attests that it re-entered the mail system on 29 August 1958. The stamp was cancelled at the time at the London International Sorting Office.

The letter reached Nairobi by surface mail and was re-addressed to Worthing. The Nairobi hand stamp of 23 September 1958 was probably applied on the envelope's re-entry into the mail system.

The letter reached Worthing and was re-addressed to Sandown – the clear Worthing machine cancelled of 17 October 1958 was probably applied on its re-entry into the system on its way to Sandown, Isle of Wight.

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VOC se 400ste verjaardag gaan stil-

Andries van der Walt
Postmark & Postal History Society

Dit was vanjaar, op 20 Maart om presies te wees, 400 jaar gelede dat die *Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie* (VOC) in 1602 gestig is. Afgesien van die feit dat die VOC in Suid-Afrika se geskiedenis 'n besonderse plek beklee, word dit ook algemeen beskou as die eerste maatskappy wat internasionaal handel gedryf het.

Dit was op sy tyd inderdaad 'n koopmansryk wat sy gelyke nie geken het nie – amper soos 'n staat wat oorlog kon voer en plaaslike heersers kon aanstel. Die "Edele Compagnie", soos hy ook bekend was, het lank soos 'n keiser bo alles en almal uitgetroon.

Kort nadat dit bekend geword het dat 'n seeweg om die Kaap die Goeie Hoop na Indië gevind is, was daar 'n groot stormloop om skepe om die Kaap te stuur ten einde die gesogte speserye van Indië te kon bekom. Danksy 'n Zeeuwse koopman, De Moucheron, wat toe reeds handelskontakte aan die ooskus van Afrika gehad het, het die VOC 'n voorsprong op sy mededingers opgebou.

Dit was nie lank nie of die VOC het al sy vernaamste mededingers, veral die Portugese, uit die Indiese Oseaangebied en Asië verdryf en die handel oorheers. Ten einde sy handelsbelange te beskerm het die VOC vir hom 'n handelshoofkwartier in Batavia op die eiland Java gestig.

Van hier het hy begin om handel te dryf met Arabiese lande, Ceylon, Indië, Sjina en Japan. Die VOC het hom as sy belangrikste doelstelling die monopolie van handel in speserye gestel en op dié wyse was die eerste "gebied" wat die VOC in besit geneem het, die eiland Ambon. Dit het egter gou geblyk dat die inwoners van die eilande in die Indiese Oseaan nie veel erg daaraan gehad het om hul kontrakte met die Hollanders na te kom nie.

Dit het tot gevolg gehad dat die goewerneur-generaal, Jan Pieterszoon Coen, die Banda-eilande in die Indiese Oseaan onderwerp het aan die gesag van die VOC. Dit is van hier dat die nuwe basis, Batavia op Java, gestig is en die VOC sy bedrywighede verder kon uitbrei.

Reeds aan die beginjare van die bestaan van die VOC is daar al handel gedryf in die Arabiese lande, selfs in Mekka waar 'n fabriek opgerig is. Die eerste handelspos was in Shirir, aan die suidkus van die Arabiese Skiereiland.

In Japan het die VOC aanvanklik sy basis in Hirado gehad waar nog 'n fabriek opgerig is, maar dit is later verskuif na Nagasaki. Dié stad het spoedig Japan se enigste venster op die buite wêreld geword. Dit is hier waar die latere stigter van die VOC se handelspos aan die Kaap, Jan van Riebeeck, sy eerste ondervinding as werknemer van die VOC opgedoen het. Ook Abel Tasman, die ontdekker van Tasmanië.

In die jaar 1647 vergaan een van die VOC se beste skepe, die *Nieuw Haerlem*, in



Bo, links na regs: Tafelbaai waar die VOC 'n verversingspos in 1652 gestig het; Abel Tasman, 'n werknemer van die VOC afgebeeld op 'n seël van Australië. Tasman is die "vader" van Tasmanië; Jan van Riebeeck was slegs 33 jaar oud toe hy in die Kaap aangekom het om die verversingspos vir die VOC te stig.
Onder: Jan Pieterzoon Coen het die gebiede in die Indiese Oseaan vir die VOC verower; een van die grootste blywende nalatenskappe van die VOC was die boustyl van die talle forte wat hulle op Ceylon (nou Sri Lanka) in stede soos Galle gebou het; Maria van Riebeeck is in Malakka oorlede en begrawe; een van die VOC se handelskepe uitgebeeld op 'n seël van Australië, wat ook deur die VOC ontdek is; olifante het 'n belangrike rol in die bedrywighede van die VOC in Sri Lanka gespeel.

G'n posdiens vir 140 jr

Vanaf die stigting van die verversingspos aan die Kaap deur Jan van Riebeeck in 1652, tot die amptelike stigting van 'n poskantoor in 1791 deur die Here Sewentien van die VOC, was daar geen georganiseerde posdiens nie. Dit was ook slegs vir die amptenare van die VOC beskore dat amptelike pos met skepe van die maatskappy vervoer kon word. Ander burgers in die nedersetting moes hulle verlaat op die goedgesindheid van verbygaande skeepskapteins om hul pos vervoer te kry (volledige beskrywing in Goldblatt (1984) en Rosenthal (1969)).

Vroeë posstukke vertoon die VOC-stempel, maar daar is meningsverskil tussen skrywers en versamelaars van die posgeskiedenis van die Kaap die Goeie Hoop of die VOC-stempel in die Kaap aangebring is, en of dit in Nederland aangebring is. Volgens Goldblatt (1984) word die stempel net aangetref op pos wat vanaf Nederland na die Kaap gestuur is en nie op pos vanaf die Kaap nie.

Die eerste handstempel wat in die Kaap in gebruik gestel is, die *Oval Medallion Post Office Letter Stamp* (Goldblatt MLS 1) is in 1806 in gebruik gestel. Dit is gevolg deur die *Ship Letter* (Goldblatt SL 1) handstempel waarvan die eerste gebruik in 1808 aangeteken is.

stil verby

Tafelbaai. Almal aan boord het egter die ramp oorleef en daarin geslaag om aan die lewe te bly deur groente te kweek van saad wat van die wrak gered is. Die oorlewendes is in Maart 1648 opgepik deur die vaartuig *Conick van Polen* wat op pad terug was na Holland.

Aan boord van dié vaartuig was die jong Jan van Riebeeck. Met hul aankoms in Holland, word daar aan die Here Sewentien, die "direksie" van die VOC, voorgestel dat 'n permanente handelspos aan die Kaap gevestig moes word. Na deeglike oorweging besluit die here om tot die stap oor te gaan en die jong Van Riebeeck word aangestel as die eerste bevelvoerder van die handelspos van die VOC in die Kaap die Goeie Hoop.

Hy was maar 33 jaar oud toe hy die aanstelling gekry het. Tien jaar later is hy deur die VOC na Malakka gestuur waar hy die taak gestel is om die stad weer vir die VOC winsgewend te maak. Dit is hier waar sy vrou, Maria, haar laaste rusplek gevind het. Dit is ook interessant dat een van hul seuns, Abraham van Riebeeck, later aangestel was as goewerneur-generaal van Indië toe dit nog in die besit van die VOC was.

Teen die aanbreek van die agtiende eeu was dit duidelik dat die invloed van die VOC en die houvas wat hy op die handel met die Ooste gehad het, stadigaan besig was om te taan. Die VOC kon nie aanhou om staande te bly teen die toenemende mededinging van die Engelse en Franse nie. Die Vierde Engelse Oorlog van 1780-1784 het finaal die mag van die VOC gebreek en die verlies wat hy aan skepe gely het, was sodanig dat hy sy deure moes sluit.

Daar was egter nog 'n ander oorsaak van die erge verval. Die gevreesde siekte, malaria, het onder die Europeërs wat hulle in die Ooste gevestig het, gemaai. Batavia het die bynaam verwerf as die "Kerkhof van die Europeërs" omdat so baie van hulle daar aan malaria gesterf het.

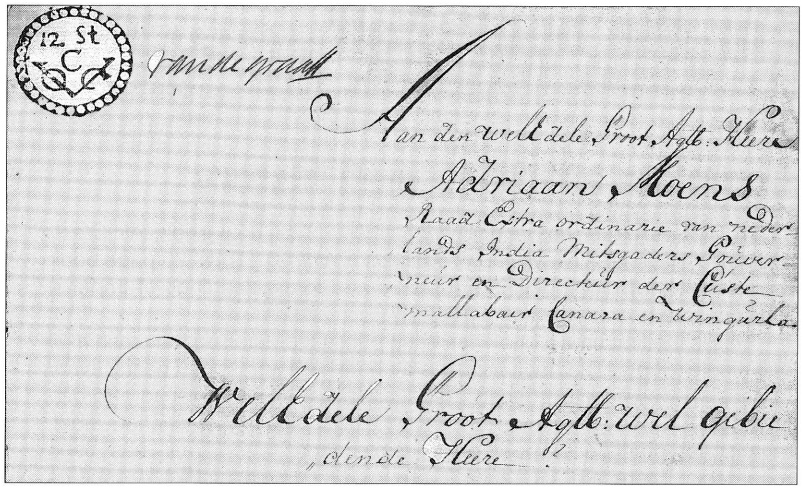
Die VOC het egter in die byna 200 jaar wat hy aktief dwarsdeur die hele wêreld handel gedryf het, 'n blywende nalatenskap gelaat. Dit strek baie verder as die vestiging van 'n kolonie aan die Kaap die Goeie Hoop. Oral waar mens in die wêreld gaan, sal jy voorbeelde hiervan kry.

Tasmanië is na Abel Tasman, 'n VOC-man, genoem. In 1609 vaar die VOC se Henry Hudson met die skip, *De Halve Maen*, in Noord-Amerika met 'n rivier op wat na hom vernoem sou word, die Hudsonrivier. Nieu Amsterdam, nou New York, word gestig op die oewers van die Hudsonrivier.

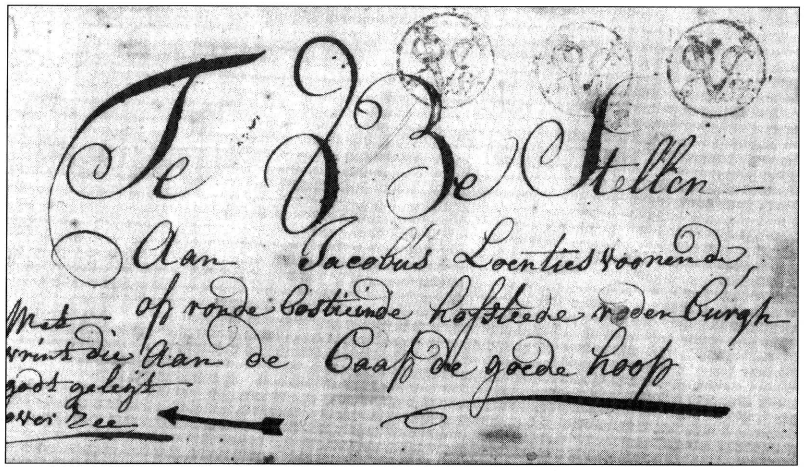
In Ceylon is daar vandag nog pragtige voorbeelde van die Hollanders se bouwerk. Veral die forte wat hulle in die vestingstad Galle gebou het. Kaap Hoorn, berug onder skeepvaarders aan die suidpunt van Suid-Amerika, is deur die VOC-verteenwoordigers so gedoop. In Sri Lanka (soos Ceylon vandag bekend staan) is daar nog tot 400 woorde in die amptelike taal, Singalees, wat van Nederlandse herkoms is. Vandag nog staan die afstammelinge van VOC amptenare in Sri Lanka bekend as "burghers", 'n benaming waarop hulle besonders trots is.

Dit is egter opvallend dat die 400ste verjaardag van die eens magtige "handelsmaatskappy" wie se invloed so ver en wyd gestrek het in Holland, Suid-Afrika en verskeie ander lande, skaars aandag getrek het en geen spesiale seëls uitgegee nie.

Bronnelys:
Goldblatt, R: *Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope,* Reijger Publishers, Cape Town, 1984
Rosenthal, E and Blum, E: *Runner and Mail Coach,* Purnell, London, 1969
Filatelie: Vol 80, July/August, 908, Den Haag

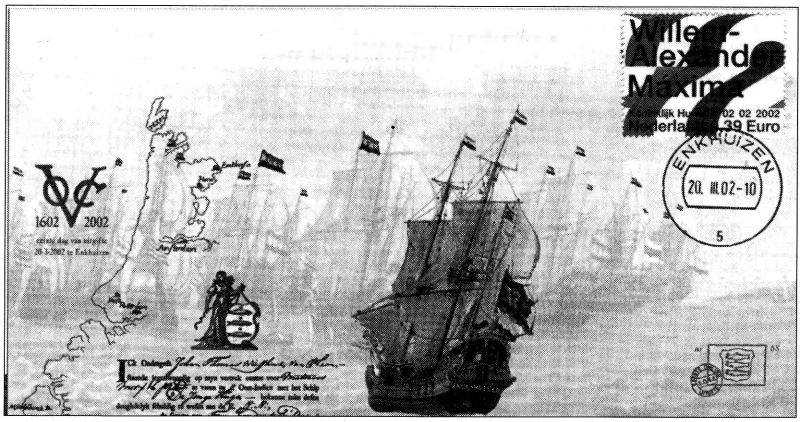


Brief van 'n VOC-amptenaar uit Indië na Holland met 'n VOC-afstempeling.



Bo en onder: Twee briewe vanaf Holland na Kaapstad met die twee VOC-kansellasies wat gebruik is, soos hulle in Goldblatt se boek afgebeeld is.





'n Poskaart wat privaat uitgegee is om die 400ste verjaardag van die stigting van die VOC te gedenk wat saamgeval het met die hou van die Amphilex internasionale uitstalling vroeër vanjaar.

For the bookshelf••••••*Vir die boekrak*

Complete air-crash mail history

The Rossiter Trust has announced an important new book, *Air Crash Mail of Imperial Airways and Predecessor Airlines*. This 225 page book lists all the known crashes, interruptions and forced landings of Imperial Airways and its predecessor airlines.

This is the first time a book has been published detailing the crash mail of a single airline. The book includes a photo or illustration of nearly every Imperial Airways and predecessors' aircraft that crashed or had a forced landing, and shows a cover and every known variety of cachet, label, manuscript marking or post office explanation, where mail has been recorded. There are 187 aircraft photos, 96 covers and 174 cachets shown, plus reproductions of newspaper clippings about Imperial Airways crashes.

The book lists 100 additional crashes and forced landings, and 46 additional cachet varieties not previously recorded by philatelic books and publications.

The same numbering system has been used as in "Recovered Mail" by Henri Nierinck, published in 1992 & 1995.

A pricing guide is included as a separate supplement.

The author plans a CD-ROM version of the book.

The author is taking advance orders for the new book, which will be available by the end of the year, and will cost UK£30,00 or US$46,25 plus postage. Postage will be UK£2,50 – US$3,85 surface, or UK£3,60 – US$5,50 airmail. Order from Ken Sanford, Aerophil,12 Chemin des Tuilots, CH-1293 Bellevue (GE), Switzerland

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Monumental work on post-marks nearing completion

The Postmarks of South Africa and Former States & Colonies

Volume 9 (R and S) by Ralph F Putzel RDPSA & Alex T Visser.

Published by A Visser (Meyerspark Pretoria) 2002.

Hardcover 0-620-29207-5; softcover 0-620-29208-3.

The latest volume of this acclaimed series commences with a fitting tribute to its primary author Ralph F Putzel RDPSA, who passed away in June this year (see obituary: *SAP*, August 2002 (whole # 853) p 100).

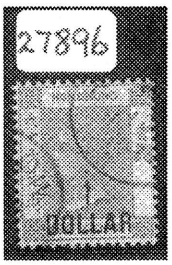
With the release of this volume, offices and agencies from Raadsaal (OFS) to Syndicate (Cape) are listed. Clear and concise notation of data have been a feature of this work from the outset and this standard is maintained under the continued editorship of Alex Visser.

As the publication of this monumental work nears its completion, its importance to this field of Southern Africa philately cannot be over-emphasised. Everyone I've ever talked to about this series of books is grateful to own them and cannot conceive taking on the task of amassing and processing this amount of data into usable form. With volume 9, the reputation grows!

– *Michael Wigmore RDPSA.*

DM PHILATELICS

DEALERS IN STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY



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Ink-jet postmarking *in South Africa*

Neville Gomm
Postmark & Postal History Society

AS WITH other facets of South African machine postmarks, the ink-jet items are attracting little attention among collectors. There was an initial flurry of activity after ink-jet postmarking was commenced, but these days there seems to be hardly any interest. One of the reasons for this series of articles is to try to raise greater awareness of the ink jet postmarks.

At the same time, an important effort is being made to put into writing at this early (or perhaps not so early) stage, as much information as possible. The ink-jet postmarks ought to be spared the problem of other South African machine postmarks where there is a great scarcity of information about early developments.

Ink-jet postmarking was introduced on a trial basis on 9 June 1994, at the Johannesburg mail centre. Full-time ink-jet postmarking commenced on 24 January 1995.

After the ink-jet machines were introduced, there was a period during which they also printed slogans which had been introduced previously for use in the old type machines. In this first instalment of the series, the aim is to concentrate on one of the slogans used in both types of machines.

USE POSTCODES/ GEBRUIK POSKODES

This slogan was first introduced in December 1981. It had been preceded by one reading USE POSTAL CODES in English, the Afrikaans wording being the same. The earliest date of the ink-jet slogan in the Allison-Gomm collection is 17 February 1995, from Capemail. The latest Capemail date is 29 August 1996. The collection contains an item with the date 2 January 1998, but this is believed to be a date adjustment error.

The four printing heads of the two Capemail printers were all used to print the slogan. They were distinguished by the letters (A), (B), (C) and (D).



Fig 1 The Afrikaans slogan on the (A) printing head.

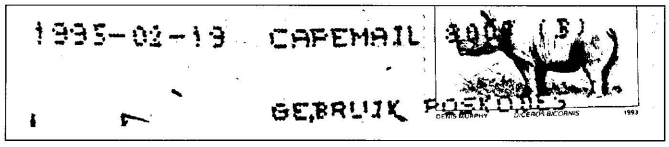


Fig 2 The Afrikaans slogan on the (B) printing head.

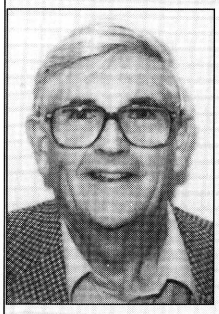


Fig 3 The English slogan on the (B) printing head.



Fig 4 The English slogan on the (C) printing head.

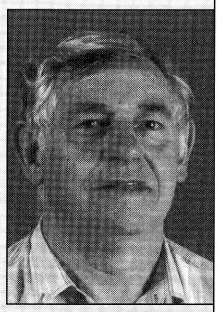
***THIS NEW SERIES** of articles is based mainly on the contents of the Allison-Gomm specialist collection of South African machine postmarks. This collection is now being claimed as the most comprehensive accumulation of South African machine postmarks in the world.*



The collection was commenced in 1944 by David Allison, now of Bergvliet near Cape Town. He kept extensive notes of developments until the 1970s, when the task became too time consuming.

***David Allison** (left) has a long philatelic career, and is an honorary life member of the Postmark & Postal History Society of Southern Africa whose newsletter he edited for several years.*

*In the 1980s, **Neville Gomm** (right) also began collecting machine postmarks. Allison and Gomm began corresponding and exchanging until the 1990s, while continuing their separate collections.*



At this time, Allison decided that he wanted to reduce his philatelic commitments. As a result, he passed the major part of his machine postmarks collection to the care of Gomm.

*Integration of the two collections was then commenced. This process was completed during 2002, after which it was decided to name it **the Allison-Gomm specialist collection of South African machine postmarks**. Allison is still playing an active part in building the collection.*



Fig 5 The Afrikaans slogan on the (C) printing head.



Fig 6 The same slogan as in Fig 5, but with a different layout.



Fig 7 The same slogan, with a date of 2 January 1998. This could be a date adjustment error because by that date the Post Office was running a predetermined programme of slogans that did not provide for GEBRUIK POSKODES on that date.

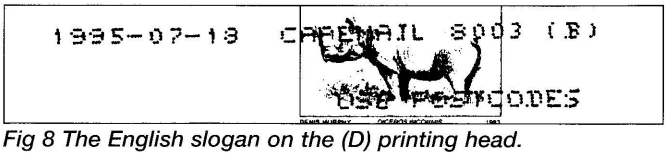


Fig 8 The English slogan on the (D) printing head.

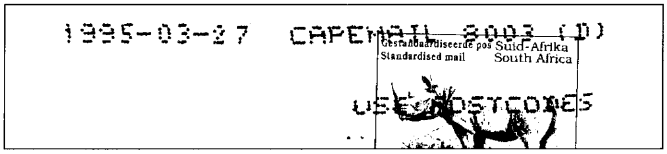


Fig 9 The same as Fig 8, but with a slightly different layout.

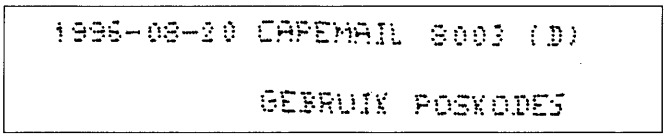


Fig 10 The Afrikaans slogan on the (D) printing head.

It may be appropriate to mention here that mail centres using ink-jet printers normally employ some method to distinguish the postmarks of the different printing heads. It could be in the form of (A), (B), etc, or in the layout of what is printed over two lines.

Another method of identification is by looking at the bottom serif of the letter I. On one head of the ink-jet machine, the left half of the serif is not printed while on the other head, the right half is not printed.

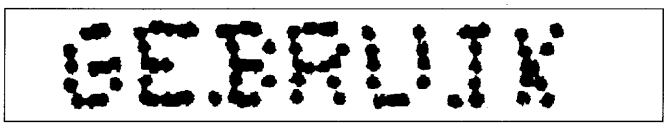


Fig 11 Enlargements of actual examples to illustrate serif identification of printing heads. Most references so far have been to "left serif" and "right serif", depending on whether the single dot is left or right of the vertical stroke of the I.
The slogan was also used in the Pretoria ink-jet machine where the one head printed in English and the other in Afrikaans. The earliest date for Pretoria is also 17 February 1995, and the latest date is 17 February 1997.



Fig 12 The English slogan began with a 6 millimetre gap between the date and the mail centre name.

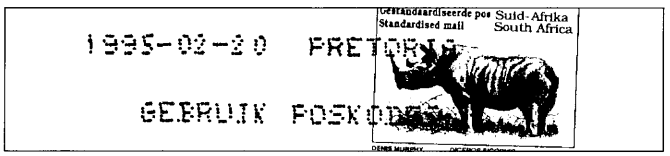


Fig 13 The Afrikaans slogan has the same layout, but the gap is 5 millimetres.



Fig 14 Here a layout change was made, the English slogan appearing with a 49 millimetre gap between the date and the mail centre name.

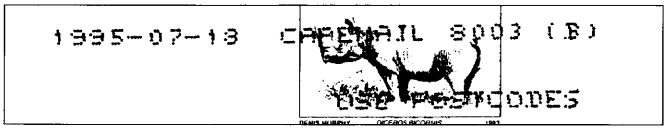


Fig 15 The Afrikaans slogan has the same layout, but the gap is 47 millimetres.

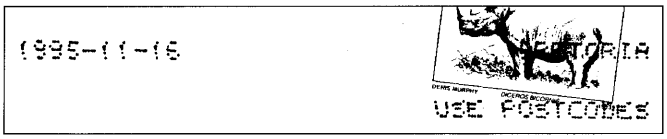


Fig 16 The English slogan with the second S of POSTCODES immediately below the A of PRETORIA.

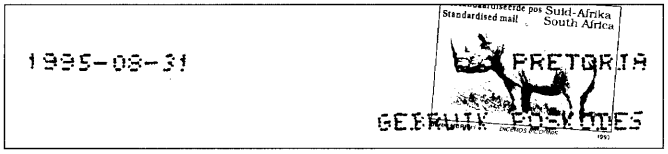


Fig 17 The same happened with the Afrikaans slogan.

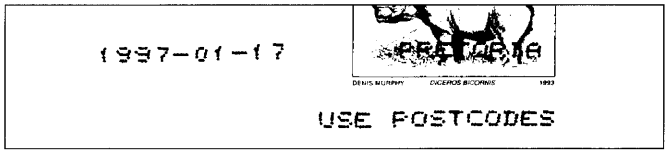


Fig 18 The English slogan with a 15 millimetre gap between the date and PRETORIA.



Fig 19 The Afrikaans slogan has the same layout, but the gap is 16 millimetres.

A possible reason for these layout differences is that they may have come about when the detail was set up differently for alternating periods of usage of the slogan with other slogans.

Witspos mail centre also used the slogan in ink jet form. The earliest date seen for use at Witspos is 23 October 1995, and the latest date is 24 November 1995.



Fig 20 The English slogan with POSTCODES incorrectly spelt as two words. All Witspos examples seen so far, have this mistake.

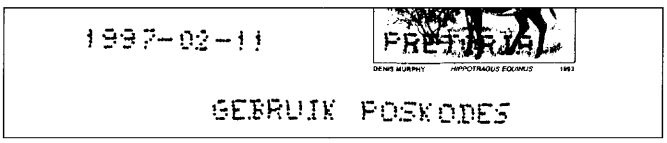


Fig 21 The Afrikaans slogan. The layout of the postmark at Witspos remained constant for the two languages throughout a short period of usage.

References

1. The Allison-Gomm specialist collection of SA machine postmarks.
2. Philatelists: David Allison, Bergvliet; John Hodgson, Plumstead; Jan Lessing, Pretoria; Frank van Rensburg, Nylstroom; Loek van Riet, Rynfield; Teddy Whitlock, Graaff-Reinet.
3. *The Post Office Stone,* journal of the Postmark & Postal History Society of Southern Africa. Vol 26 No 2 November 1994 (p13); Vol 27 No 1 July 1995 (p2); Vol 27 No 2 November 1995 (p19); Vol 28 No 2 November 1996 (p7).
4. *The SA Philatelist* April 1995 (p43); June 1995 (p66); April 1996 (p38); February 1998 (p10).

Archival chatter

Rev J Cassie Carstens *Honorary archivist for the PFSA*

SOCIETY NEWSLETTERS

• **Afrikaans Johannesburg** (Nr 612) maak melding van 'n moontlike afwyking op die 20c Krimpvarkie-seël. Die papier het 'n geel skynsel en die swart ink (20% van die normale hoeveelheid) vertoon grys. Kan iemand dalk help?

• *Philately and Evolution?* The present state of our society is all the fault of philately. Philatelists were traitors to their species in the long march of evolution. While mankind strove towards perfection, the philatelist pursued imperfection. The errors of this fellowmen were the philatelist's one delight. While society aimed for the better, the philatelist hoped for the worst. Society decried poor workmanship, but the stamp collector applauded the flaw and esteemed the blemish. (Got this from Lappe Laubscher in the *Posduif* of **Afrikaans Pretoria**, Nr 473).

• Ever heard of Kromellenboog? And did you know there was an Australian contingent in the Boer War? Read about this in the journal of the **Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society** (Vol 45/1). Other articles are *The Half-Penny QV Jubilee Army Telegraphs Overprints* (Tony Stanford) and *The Anglo-Boer War Memorials, Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich, Suffolk* (John Ineson).

• According to a news cutting presented at **Boksburg/Germiston** (No 31) half a million letters a week are lost in the UK. What will be the case in South Africa?

• "Thematic collections are no longer frowned upon by the pundits, and they are not necessarily cheap. Many contain valuable and costly material, but they can also be put together economically if you use imagination." A wise word spoken at **East Rand Philatelic** (July 2002).

• Got this quiz questions from **Edenvale** (Sep 2002): Which country was the first to issue scented stamps, and when? (Bhutan 1967, Flowers). The 1928 SA definitive 6d depicted a fruit tree -- how many fruits are shown? (22)

• How many people collect St Helena? Or Tristan da Cunha? At **Fish Hoek** (July 2002) Mrs M Crawford from Pinelands showed a most interesting exhibit of St Helena. (She must be a fan of Napoleon!)

• Quite a few years ago "perfins" were very much in the "Cinderella" region of stamp collecting, scorned by the philatelist and generally rejected as "damaged" or "uncollectable." It has changed over the years and at last they are beginning to assume an aura of respectability as more and more people are prepared to admit to collecting them. To the existing perfin collector this is a mixed blessing, since what he once got for nothing now commands a price as demand increases, but so it goes. Read more about this in the newsletter (Oct 2002) of **Great Britain Philatelic Society of SA**.

• **Maritzburg** (Sep 2002) spent an excellent evening with dr Angus Pringle and his RSA 6th Definitive Buildings – quite an interesting topic! Certain basic rules have to be kept to find info on stamps: (1) Look at the actual picture for varieties/shades, and (2) check the printing process. Not so easy, but worthwhile!

• In the *Natal and Zululand Post* (March 2002), the quarterly journal of the **Natal and Zululand Study Circle**, the following articles are worth reading: *The Union Steam Ship Company's packet service to the Cape – the second contract 1863-1868* (John Dickson), *Postmasters of Natal – Francis Spring* (John Dickson), *The Natal 1882 1d (SG99) with inverted watermark* (Peter Whitmore), *Natal train letters – some examples* (John Dickson & Peter Whitmore) and *Royal Mail Service from Natal for Cape ports and England in the early months of the Second Anglo-Boer War* (Richard Stroud).

Any back copies...?

We need three complete sets of *The SA Philatelist* for our archive. We do not even have one! Can you please help us with the following: 1925-1933 (volumes 1-9), 1937 (volume 13), 1945-1947 (volumes 21-23) and 1958 (volume 34) – this is only for a start to compile one set. You can send us any other extras to PO Box 52011, Wierdapark, 0149, or courier to 304 Cotie Avenue, Wierdapark, Centurion, or phone me at (012) 653-2279 so that we can make a plan. Thanks!

• An Irish toast from **Nigel** (132): "Here's to you and yours and to mine and ours, and if mine and ours ever come across you and yours, I hope you and yours will do as much for mine and ours, as mine and ours have done for you and yours!" (We wish them luck with *TheNigel*, their one-frame thematic exhibition on 9 November).

• Want to know how they did it in the Orange Free State in 1892, according to the *Wetboek van den Oranjevrijstaat 1891?* Some examples: "30. The post carts, spanned with four horses, shall be strong and roomy enough to contain the post bags, and shall be able to carry a maximum weight of 800 lbs. 32. The post driver shall be provided with a horn for the purpose of notifying the departure and arrival of the mails... 54. The kinds and colours of the postage stamps shall be determined by the State President..." Read all this, and much more, in the journal of the **OFS Study Circle**, No 186).

• In **Port Elizabeth** (Sep 2002) Herwig Kussing showed a set of 8 stamps of the 1998 standardised mail buck issue of the 6th definitive series, with a pertinent perforation shift. His daughter spotted it at the post office in Vryheid. Anne Roberts is taking over the running of the philatelic counter at the PE post office (Oct 2002).

• The centre pages in colour! That is the big surprise in *ThemNews*, the bi-monthly journal of **Thematics SA**. A handful of interesting articles complement the October issue: *What do I need to exhibit my collection? Part VI* (Gerrie Conradie), *Persoonlikhede van die Anglo-Boere-oorlog* (Petra Heath), *Conveyance of Mail Kaleidoscope* (Hein Friebus), *Stokperdjies van Rykes en Beroemdes* (Lappe Laubscher), *Rugby Thematics: Where are the boundaries?* (Gideon Nieman), *So taai soos 'n ratel* (Cassie Carstens) and *Minerals – Fossils – Mining* (Uli Bantz).

• In *The Transvaal Philatelist* (August 2002), the brilliant journal of the **Transvaal Study Circle**, you will find obituaries of Tony Chilton FRPSL, Richard Knight RDPSA FRPSL and Ralph Putzel RDPSA, plus the following articles: *The stamps printed by MJ Viljoen* (Alan Drysdall), *The pin-rouletted stamps of the First Republic* (Alan Drysdall), *The annexation of the ZAR in 1877 – some documents from the Lys archive* (Fernando Torres and Alan Drysdall) *and Shepstone's mission to the ZAR and Mr Green* (Jeff Woolgar).

• Want to know more about Revenue Stamps? Then you must read the interesting article of James MacKay in the newsletter of the **West Rand Philatelic** (Aug 2002).

• **Witwatersrand** (Sept 2002) annually presents the *Harmers Youth Challenge Cup*, a competition solely for the youngsters on the Rand. This year Nigel stole the show and made a clean sweep. What do other clubs do to promote youth philately?

THEMATICALLY *yours*

Rev J Cassie Carstens *Chairperson: PFSA Committee Thematics*

CONGRESS HATH SPOKEN!

The Standing Committee for Thematics is no more. The 2002 congress of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa has decided to annul the resolution of the previous congress, thereby terminating the committee and underlining the opinion that thematics as a discipline is not for the benefit of Federation and its membership as a whole *(see also congress report and message from the president – p 156/157).*

Thematic philately is now in the hands of a single society – Thematics SA. They will have to formulate all policy on thematic collecting and exhibiting; they will continue to stage stamp shows where thematic collectors (amateurs) can exhibit (like ClubTheme and Prethema); they will stay in contact with other overseas thematic associations; they will try to compile a library of thematic collections and exhibits (photostats); they will advise and help exhibitors to uplift their exhibits to higher levels. All this cannot be in place overnight – it needs time and positive inputs. Will you help us, please?

If you want to become a member of Thematics SA, contact Robbie Harm at 082 925 7103 or robharm@mweb.co.za.

ALGOAPEX 2002

Congratulations to all the thematic exhibitors at Algoapex 2002 in Port Elizabeth – well done! The results were as follows:

* Mr H Olinger (Goldfields): *Females Exposed* – Large Silver (Robert Goldblatt Thematic Cup = best Thematic Exhibit)
* Mnr C Buys (Royal Cape Town): *Suid-Afrika se Ornitologiese Skatte* – Grootsilwer (East Rand Philatelic Society Floating Trophy = best first-time exhibit)
* Mev HH Botha (OVS): *O Die Donkie* (Poskaarte) – Grootsilwer
* Mrs GE Colquhoun (Port Elizabeth): *Shells = an illustrated guide to a timeless and fascinating world* -- Silver
* Mr CM Rogers (Nigel): *Timeless Egypt* – Silver-bronze
* Mrs AR Briscoe (Port Elizabeth): *A Miscellany of Orchids* -- Bronze
* Mrs J Bromfield (Fish Hoek): *Discovering South Africa* -- Bronze
* Mej M du Toit (Paarl): *Water op Land* -- Brons
* Mr DH McWilliams (East London): *Through the eye of a Sea Fish* -- Brons
* Dr VB Reddi (East London): *Ghandi on Stamps* -- Bronze
* Mr D Botha (Goldfields): *The History of Tennis* – Certificate of Merit

CLUBTHEME 2003

The venue is Polokwane (Pietersburg). The date is Saturday 26 April 2003. We invite each society to enter its best thematic exhibit of 2002 – minimum 2 frames, maximum 5 frames. The idea is FUN! Contact Cassie Carstens at (012) 653-2279 or algsin@mweb.co.za.

THEMATIC TOFFEE

A prominent philatelist made this statement at a recent meeting of the East Rand Philatelic Society: ***Modern stamps are to be avoided in thematic collections.*** How do we define "modern"? Is only "old" stuff allowed in thematic collections? My dear friend Petra Heath has an exhibit on *The New South Africa* – she is always on the lookout for "modern" stuff. And now – at last! – a miniature sheet of Steve Biko: it fills a BIG gap in her exhibit and complements an important part of our modern history. But according to the statement she is not allowed to use it; she will have to wait at least 25 years..... Somewhere someone is missing the point – please help me!

THEMES ON STAMPS

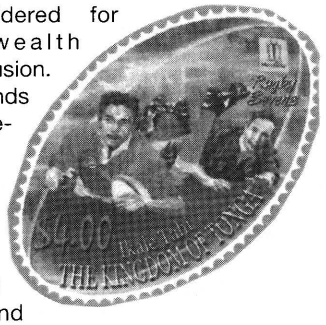
* Team New Zealand's defence of the **AMERICAS CUP** in 2000 was the only successful defence outside the USA in the Cup's 150-year history. Early next year they will be at it again – with full force! Has South Africa ever taken part in this international competition?



* Captain Robert Falcon Scott was one of the world's greatest ever **EXPLORERS**. A crew of 47 scientists and sailors arrived on the HMS Discovery in Antarctica in early 1902. The ship and her crew remained in Antarctica for the next two years, frozen in sea ice until she was finally released on February 14 1904. Scott's base hut still stands today,maintained by New Zealand and protected by the Antarctic Treaty – it is stocked with many of the things the expedition team left behind.



* The International Rugby Board's World **SEVENS SERIES** has lifted the profile and skill of the game and with the series consisting of 10 tournaments a year, it was only a matter of time before it was considered for Commonwealth Games inclusion. Pacific Islands rugby, especially Tonga, Fiji and Samoa has improved markedly over the last decade and this progress has moved into the Sevens game where they are a challenge for the "heavyweights" of the competition – New Zealand, Australia, England and South Africa.



* What makes Lake Thingvallavatn (Iceland) unique in the world is that it sustains four distcnt varieties of **CHARR** – planktivorous, pisciforous, benthivorous and dwarf. Benthivorous charr and dwarf are common on the rock bottom, where smolts feed. Both varieties live mainly on pond snail, but also on the larvae and pupae of lacustrine insects. The deeper shore bottom is a main habitat for stickleback and piscivorous charr. Piscivorous charr preys on stickleback and sometimes on juvenile charr. Planktivorous charr stays mainly in the main body of water where rich phytoplankton and several types of zooplankton are found.

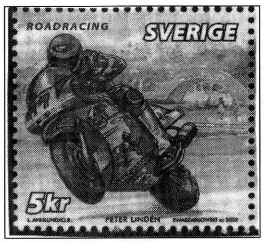


* One of New Zealand's favourite holiday destinations is a small, humble beach **HOUSE** or a holiday home. Known in the north as a "bach" and in the far south as a "crib", these holiday homes, many dating back to the 1930s, are a part of Kiwi culture. The traditional bach is simple in structure, made of the most basic of materials – such as fribrolite, corrugated iron or weatherboard – and often brightly

coloured. Although these humble abodes are not as common as the once were, for many the word "bach" conjures up warm memories of lazy days at the beach or fishing at the lake.



* Speedway, enduro, road racing, motocross and trial – over the years Sweden has amassed an impressive collection of **MOTORCYCLE** sport trophies, including several World Championship titles since the sport achieved its breakthrough in the 1950s. Championship motorcyclists from the 1950s up to today's reigning world champions, such as Tony Rickardsson and Anders Eriksson, are among those featured on this stamp issue.



* Countless **MUSICAL** performances under the baton of the conductor Eugen Jochum, born near Augsburg in 1902 – symphonies by Bruckner, Brahms or Beethoven, Bach's passions and operas – have remained in people's memories to this day. Leader in the early days of radio broadcasting in Berlin, as chief conductor in Hamburg and in Munich, he built up the Symphony Orchestra of the Bayerischer Rundfunk in the post-War period, as well as at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra and the Bamberger Symphonikern.



* 2002 is the year in which Jersey's Caesarea **CAT** Club celebrate their 25th anniversary. The six cats featured on the stamps are British Dilute Tortoiseshell, Cream Persian, Blue Exotic Shorthair, Black Smoke Devon Rex, British Silver Tabby, Usual Abyssinian and British Cream & White Bi-colour.



* Five champion **HORSES** were inducted into Australia's Racing Hall of Fame in 2002. Each of the five designs depicts a different moment in a race, conveying the speed, colour, energy and atmosphere of a race meeting and reflecting the important and special place thoroughbred racing plays in the Australian national consciousness. The five horses are Wakeful (b 1896), Rising Fast (b 1949), Manikato (b 1975), Might and Power (b 1993) and today's champion Sunline (b 1995).



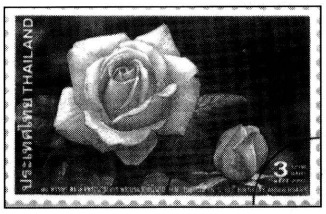
* A mermaid of the sea? I won't say that, but a **DUGONG** surely has charm and it utterly fascinating. The Dugong is the sole member of the family Dogongidae and is found in limited numbers from east Africa to the western Pacific. They will normally live up to 75 years with the females giving birth to a single calf about every 3-7 years. The young are suckled for 18 months and reach sexual maturity at around 10 years. The adults can reach over 3 meters in length and over 400kg in weight. The Dugong swims with its forelegs and powerful fluke having virtually lost the use of its hind limbs. The Dugong is the world's only herbivorous marine mammal, consuming around 30kg of aquatic plants, mainly sea grass, daily. They prefer warm (18°C) tropical and subtropical coastal waters.



* A juggling clown on a slack line and a well-trained elephant are fitting symbols for the modern-day **CIRCUS**, and very different from the original circus of the Roman Empire, where dangerous chariot-racing and gladiatorial combat were followed by wild animals tearing Christians and other condemned persons to pieces.



* Queen Sirikit of Thailand's seventieth birthday is celebrated and commemorated by stamps depicting flowers named after her. Rosa Queen Sirikit is a hybrid tea ROSE, a cross between Colour Wonder and Golden Giant by the German Company R Kordes in 1968. The flower was named after the Queen during the royal visit to Denmark.



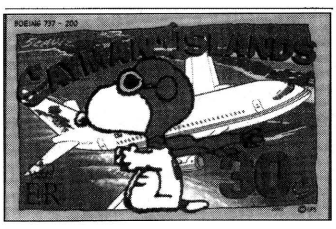
* A Dutch artist illustrating Japan's series of **LETTER WRITING DAY**. Dick Bruna lives in Holland and is a well-known illustrator of picture books. The four designs are My heart beats, Monkey and letter, Flowers and house and Looking forward to hearing from you. Quite cute!



* The **CHURCHES** in the Christmas 2002 issue highlight the whole variety of influences and artistic traditions from Maori to Gothic Revival found in churches around New Zealand. The churches are: St Werenfried's Chruch in Waihi Village, Tokaanu, St David's Church in Christchurch, Masterton's Orthodox Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Palmerston North, Wellington's Cathedral of St Paul and the Cathedral of The Blessed Sacrament in Christchurch.



* **PEANUTS**! Can you believe it? Charlie Brown, Sally, Snoopy, Woodstock, Marcie, Peppermint Patty and Linus – they are all there, on the Cayman Islands!



BEGINNERS' CORNER

Preparing your exhibit:

The prospectus rules, OK?

THE PROSPECTUS issued by the Organising Committee is an important document for the exhibitor.

It sets out the rules of the exhibition, the number of frames you may apply for, the size of the frames and the number of sheets that can be accommodated (15 per frame at a South African national exhibition, 16 at an international), the closing date for applications, the frame fees to be paid and other important information for the exhibitor.

You should read the prospectus carefully and note the various requirements. Sometimes the requirements may seem unduly pernickety, even peculiar, but they have been refined over many years and are there for a purpose.

When you fill in the application form, fill in ALL the required information, and if you are a first-time exhibitor, make sure that you get the required endorsement from your local society.

Take time over the description of the exhibit which is to be placed in the catalogue and ensure that you give a clear and concise description of what your exhibit will contain. Not only do the judges read this, but it helps other viewers to know what they are looking at and the more accurate your description, the more useful it will be to all concerned.



The final of six articles for novice exhibitors by the late Richard Knight RDPSA, former chairman of the PFSA judging committee

Make sure that you have enough protective covers for the exhibit – there is nothing more infuriating to the exhibitor than to get the exhibit ready (usually at the last minute) and then find that you are short of a few protective covers. Bear in mind that the protective covers are there to protect your material from damage when being mounted and from possible loss of a stamp or cover should it come loose from its mount in transport.

Your pages should be numbered in accordance with the instructions received from the organising committee; the numbering will determine the order in which the sheets are placed in the frames.

The organising committee will provide special envelopes, one per frame, in which you place the appropriate sheets.

The rules and procedures set out in the prospectus are there to guide you – "If all else fails, read the instructions!" – but if you still have any queries or doubt as to what you should do, the prospectus will provide a contact address or telephone number. Alternatively, consult an experienced exhibitor of your acquaintance and ask for guidance.

When the time comes, despatch your exhibit to the organising committee at the address given in the prospectus – and may you win – if you're the best exhibitor!

Be happy and have loads of fun!

When one starts out to collect stamps as a hobby, one question that may cross your mind – especially if you are regularly exposed to top-quality collections or in the presence of established collectors – is: "What are the attributes of a good collector or philatelist?"

Funny thing is that if I ask myself that question, after nearly 30 years of active collecting, the only answer I have is "I don't know". What I do know is that it's of no use to compare yourself with others or to even try and emulate them.

What I can say is that a good collector or philatelist is a creative person, somebody who is able to take any subject matter and put together a collection that is completely different from any other because you have put a little more thought and effort into it. And note, I did not say spend more money.

I can also say that you can make a collection interesting by being innovative. Be different. Do your own thing and don't worry too much about being conventional. After all, it is your collection(s).

Know your subject. Read and study about it as much as you can. Make it your own. Don't try and copy other collectors' collections just because you think they are good, or look good.

Enjoy what you are doing. Be happy and have lots of fun. Be on the lookout for the unusual and try and think of things to do with your collection that nobody else may have done before.

Climb the ladder one step at a time. Don't be in a hurry to get everything you need as soon as possible. It may not be possible, and you may just become frustrated.

Finally, whatever you do, and how you do it, must give you satisfaction. Of course you would like to see other people also enjoy it, but that's not the most important consideration. You must enjoy what you're doing; you must see it grow and change and become something good and beautiful.

The answer to the question posed above is probably that a good collector or philatelist is someone who is at peace with himself and his hobby, knowing that what you have put together is part of what you are and who you are.

As the Greek philosopher Plato once wrote: "A pleasant and happy life does not come from external things; Man draws from within himself, as from a spring, pleasure and joy".

– Andries van der Walt

Address for contributions

The Editor, The SA Philatelist,
Box 13048, Norkempark, 1631.
Tel (011) 391-4139 (B), (011) 391-4645 (H). Fax: (011) 391-6785
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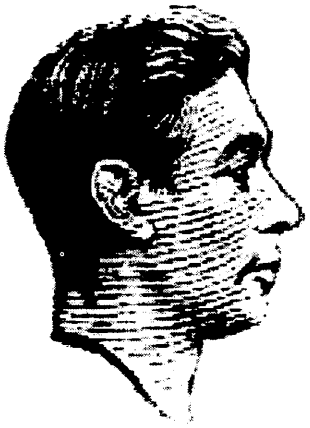

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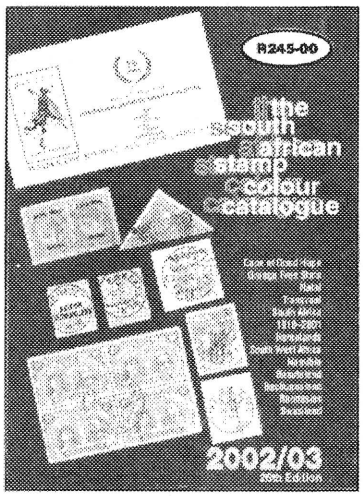

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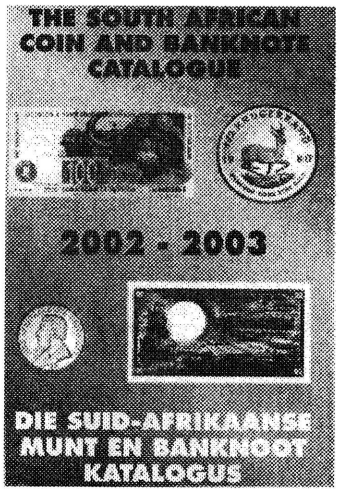

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